

## 50 years ago

THE TABLET • 3 JUNE 1967

**P**ier Paolo Pasolini is a dedicated Marxist but so steeped in the traditions of the Church – and so impressed by the message of this gospel – that he has made what is certainly the best film on a scriptural subject and arguably the best religious film ever. [The Gospel According to St Matthew] was shot in Southern Italy, with all the players but one non-professionals – the director, indeed, used his own mother as the older Mary – and on an extremely small scale ... The Christ, played by a young

Spanish student (Enrique Irazoqui), is no gentle Jesus but a young reformer with far too little time to carry out his mission. So he talks on the march, throwing words back over his shoulder to his friends. There is no time, in the three short years at his disposal, to mince words, and he hurls his message at obtuse peasants and obstructive authorities until they arrest him and, after the questioning, nail him atrociously to his cross. This one feels is what it must have been like; and the experience is a searing one.

## 100 years ago

THE TABLET • 2 JUNE 1917

**T**he German Emperor has once more addressed his troops on the battlefield – but in terms that are strangely unfamiliar. We miss the old arrogance: the loud rattlings of the sabre are heard no more, and there is not even an allusion to his “destructive sword”. The German Michael is seen no longer standing “in shining armour” pointing the way to victory, but is represented as bearing patiently a burden almost too grievous to be borne. “Our people and army stick firmly

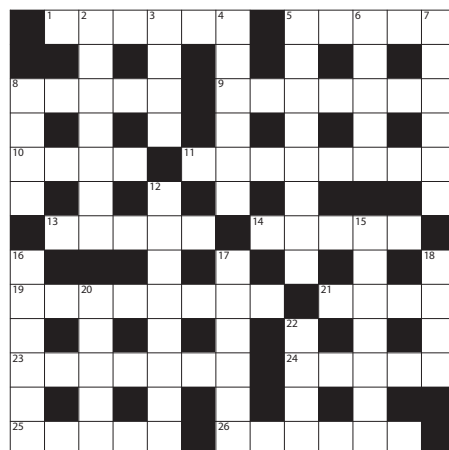
together. How long this war is to last yet God only knows. We must hold out as long as it does last.” Language of this sort from the All-Highest War Lord can only have been regarded as depressing, and discouraging ... The one crumb of comfort which the harassed Emperor was able to give to his troops showed how low his hopes of a military success had fallen. He bade them be of good courage, because their comrades of the Navy were busy cutting the life-vein of Great Britain beneath the sea.

## PUZZLES

### PRIZE CROSSWORD No. 561 | Alanus

#### Across

- 1 National church drink (6)
- 5 A church service returning for teatime (5)
- 8 See 23 Down
- 9 Break in studies of space and time (3,4)
- 10 You as well Brutus according to the Bard in his Roman play (2,2)
- 11 Typical of James! (8)
- 13 Be devastating when a vow with hacker broken (5,5)
- 14 See 13 Across
- 19 Element of David's instrument I swallowed in stomach (8)
- 21 Early Bishop Saint once possessed a carbon top (4)
- 23 Boss in charge of crozier provision? (5,2,5)
- 24 Chap holding everything for an orchestra (5)
- 25 Norman ruler pronouncing sport we follow loudly (5)
- 26 OT Book gift of the Holy Spirit? (6)



#### Down

- 2 Gregorian singer showing bagpipe association (7)
- 3 Argument embraced by 12 across (4)
- 4 A horse with a greeting outside for prophet (6)
- 5 Ah! Rome with personal assistant about to show its old pots (8)
- 6 Yes foreign example with point of attack (5)
- 7 In Rome arranges for wool provision (6)
- 8 Chap embraced by Marist descended from Noah (4)

- 12 Argument between Saints after graduate goes to the dogs (8)
- 15 King of the stage with greeting from Bible (7)
- 16 Saint with relic mangled by bacon-cutter (8)
- 17 Gray knell-toller for day's end (6)
- 18 Long-handled tool in 21 Zephaniah (4)
- 20 Good and Bad at Calvary (5)
- 22 So shut out (4)

#### Please send your answers to:

#### Crossword Competition 3 June

The Tablet, 1 King Street Cloisters, Clifton Walk, London W6 0GY. Please include your full name, telephone number and email address, and a mailing address. Three books – on Augustine, Christianity and Thomas Aquinas – from the OUP's Very Short Introduction series will go to the sender of the first correct entry drawn at random on Friday 16 June.

● The answers to this week's puzzles and the crossword winner's name will appear in the 24 June issue.

#### Solution to the 13 May crossword No. 558

**Across:** 7 Trier; 8 Murillo; 10 Cithara; 11 Ourem; 12 Trespasser; 16 Immaculate; 20 Heart; 21 Wedlock; 23 La Salle; 24 Lehar.

**Down:** 1 Stock; 2 Pieta; 3 Iria; 4 Emmaus; 5 Argonaut; 6 Florist; 9 Of Mary; 13 Recitals; 14 Michel; 15 Embassy; 17 Lawyer; 18 Roche; 19 Skirl; 22 De La.

**Winner:** Stephen James Rollins, of Tywyn, Wales.

### SUDOKU | Beginner

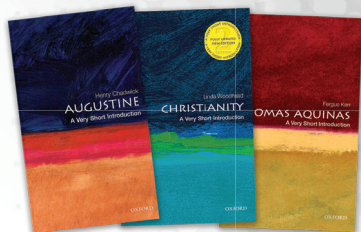
								7
		6			1			8
	1		5	6			9	
	5							
2	7		6		8		1	9
							2	
	9			5	2			4
5			1			7		
6								

Each 3 x 3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9.

1	4	7	2	5	8	3	6	9
5	6	9	7	3	4	8	1	2
8	2	3	6	9	1	4	5	7
6	8	2	4	1	7	9	3	5
3	5	4	9	8	2	1	7	6
7	9	1	3	6	5	2	4	8
9	7	8	5	4	3	6	2	1
2	3	6	1	7	9	5	8	4
4	1	5	8	2	6	7	9	3

Solution to the 13 May puzzle

Win three books on  
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Thomas Aquinas



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