

# CRUCIS

Magazine of St. Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church Dundee

May 2020

"Far be it from me to glory except in the cross of Christ,  
by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world." Galatians 6:14

## In the Beginning...

I changed the 8-day sanctuary light in the church the other day. Hardly earth-shattering news, I know. I've been doing it most weeks for the last 15 years. However, in a lockdown, with the church closed for public worship, what was the point? Who would see it?

The point was/is that Our Lord remains in His Sanctuary, and the little light burning hour by hour is the sign of His Presence. No lockdown or lockout changes that. Churches should be places set aside where God can be encountered, where that which separates this world from God is particularly thin and porous. Christ is everywhere and He is also somewhere. Here.

Everything these days seems to be measured by its use to consumers. The same thinking is applied by some to "religious consumers" as well. Is a church building convenient for community as well as religious activities? Multi-purpose facilities for a Church desperate to show itself a useful community resource are the fashion. Close the churches up tight during this crisis, like they've done in England? Why not? They're only a convenient space for a leisure-time activity for a minority, right?

Here in Scotland we've been allowed at least a little use of our church building these days. We are still giving out food to those who need it. We are still showing them we care about them in Jesus' Name. And we are praying here for all.

I doubt we'd be doing that if we were not especially conscious of that little light flickering but unseen, pointing to the Presence of the One who came to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.

God bless you all and keep you safe,

Fr. Clive

## W5: Who, What, When, Where, Why

Pentecost is one of the major festivals in the Church's Year. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Disciples and others of Jesus' followers fifty days after His Resurrection, as described in the Book of Acts, chapter 2. At the time, Jerusalem was celebrating the Jewish harvest festival of Shavuot or the day, fifty days after the Exodus, on which God gave the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai. There are connections, historically and theologically, between the Christian and the Jewish festivals. After the passage of Christ from Death to Life at Easter, His People have passed from slavery to freedom, and are given a New Commandment by God the Holy Spirit. For Christians, the coming of the Holy Spirit is regarded as the birth of the Church, and the beginning of the Christian mission to the world.

Pentecost falls seven weeks after Easter – fifty days inclusively, which is where the title "Pentecost" comes from. Among Anglicans, it is commonly called "Whitsun" or "Whitsunday", which recalls that, as a major annual occasion for the administration of Baptism, a white garment was customarily given to the newly-baptised.

*(Reprinted from CRUCIS May 2009)*



**Our church website is:  
www.stsalvador's.com  
You can access information and  
tune in to our recorded Sunday  
services there.**

Congratulations to Father George Greig on his 38th anniversary of ordination as Priest last month, on the feast of St. Mark.

**Diocesan Website:  
www.brechin.anglican.org**

Please remember that the church still has bills to cover even with the lockdown. If you can accumulate your weekly offering or write a cheque, and put it through the Rectory door, it would be much appreciated. Of course, it isn't advisable to send cash through the post. Thank you!

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### **Our Different Reality**

Since mid March we have all had to adapt to a very different reality brought about by the Corona Virus pandemic. We are now staying at home and only going out for permitted reasons or we are shielding. We are practicing social distancing when we are outside. We appreciate all those who have to work because they are key workers, and we are finding ways to get through this time of lockdown.

This new reality has affected St Salvador's in different ways and we have adapted.

- We can no longer meet together for worship in our beautiful building but, thanks to technical support from Graeme, we have been able to video, and share on the internet, the simple Eucharist that Fr Clive has been able to offer each Sunday in the Lady Chapel. It has been my privilege to be able to be the congregation and to represent and remember you all at the altar each Sunday morning.
- The Vestry has continued to take care of necessary business by using email to communicate and make decisions.
- Fr. Clive and members of the congregation continue to be in touch with each other by phone, email and social media.
- The Food Cupboard has suspended the Sunday Afternoon Drop-In due to government and church restrictions but is continuing to help those experiencing food insecurity by partnering with the Maxwell Centre who run the local "Community Cupboard" on weekdays. Each morning the Rector puts out up to 50 tins and/or other items from our Food Cupboard alongside what has been donated to and by the Maxwell Centre. They are also putting out fresh produce from their Community Garden when it is available. The items are organised and put outside the church in such a way that they can be taken away in a safe manner.

Donations to the Food Cupboard are still being received and organised by the Rector and we are particularly grateful for the recent donations from the Co-Op, Barnhill, which were delivered by two members of staff following all necessary social distancing measures. We are also thankful for the monetary donations that have been received over the past month.

Katie Clapson, retiring Vestry Secretary