

# Diocese of Brechin: Lockdown News Bulletin

## 29th September 2020

### Michaelmas Ordinations 2020

Two ordinations took place in the diocese this Michaelmas: Rev Roxanne Campbell ordained priest on Saturday 26th September and Gary Clink ordained deacon on Sunday 27th September.

Roxanne has served the last year as curate (a deacon) in St Ninian's church in Mid-Craigie in Dundee, with Dean Fay overseeing her and the bishop acting as training incumbent. She was ordained by the bishop in St Ninian's in a socially-distanced and live-streamed service. The

Rev Tracy Dowling, Rector of Auchterarder, preached at the service. This is the first ordination to take place in St Ninian's church. Roxanne celebrated her first eucharist the following morning at St Ninian's (see photo). She will now change to serve as



curate in St Mary Magdalene, Dundee, with Canon Kenneth Gibson as her training incumbent.

Gary Clink, a native of Montrose, who trained for the ministry in London with the 'St Mellitus' training course, was ordained deacon in the cathedral on Sunday 27th September. Fr Paul McLaren-Cook, Warden of Ascot Priory, preached at the service.



Gary and Bishop Andrew

Gary will serve his curacy, initially as a deacon, with the communities of St Mary's, Arbroath and St Peter's, Auchmithie with the Rev Pete Mead as his training incumbent. Gary is a 'self-supporting minister', who will keep his secular employment in information technology as well as working as a cleric in the charges. The day of Gary's ordination was also his mother Helen's 90th birthday: a wonderful celebration for the Clink family!

Please keep them in your prayers.

### The Rev. Andrew Murphy

Bishop Andrew writes: It is a pleasure to welcome the Revd. Andrew Murphy, who has been warranted in the diocese to provide pastoral care and support to St Salvador's, Dundee in their vacancy. Andrew has been involved in the life of some of our churches already, but will now take on this more formal role. Andrew introduces himself:

"Oh no! Not yet another lawyer-turned-cleric in the diocese!" I hear you murmur. I am really privileged to be assisting at St Salvador's, Hilltown, during the interregnum after Fr Clive Clapson's well-earned retirement.

"Born into a Piskie family, bred and schooled in Glasgow, I went from there to graduate (cum sine laude) in Arts and Law in Edinburgh. My perhaps overlong legal career, qualified at the Bar in Edinburgh and the Middle Temple, London since has taken me far and wide doing cases all over the



Rev Andrew Murphy

UK, Wick to Canterbury, you name it etc, to Germany as an RAF courts martial prosecuting officer and to Hong Kong for some years as Crown Counsel. And yes, I have occasionally, and in the distant past I hastily add, worked in the courts in Dundee – just as well then I can nowadays go shopping about the Nethergate incognito with a Covid mask on!

"When I was a student and altar server at St Bride's in Glasgow, I had seriously considered entering the church and ordination – but strong parental dissuasion of the "there's no money in that, son" variety stalled the calling – for a while. Anyway, sometimes the Holy Spirit won't let you stay put and when the possibility of training for NSM ministry came along in the late 1980's, my rector at Fraserburgh, the Rev Andrew Burnett, it was who put me forward for the local diocesan training course.

"I served a number of years as a "permanent deacon" up North in churches in the Aberdeenshire hin-

terland, but the Holy Spirit doesn't do "permanent", and when my lay profession eventually took me down South to practise as a barrister in London - you've guessed already, it also led on to training for priesthood in the C of E at an Oxford theological college. After ordination I was attached as curate to a quite posh north Hampstead parish. Awesome.

"So here I happily am for the moment in Dundee, almost travelled full circle and looking forward to meeting you at diocesan gatherings and events, or as it is more likely at present, "Zoom- Meetings". May I finally ask for your continued prayers for the good folks of "St Sally's" and the fabulous foodbank outreach they do there all in His holy Name.

"Blessed are you who hunger now, for you shall be filled" Luke 6.21

## **Need a Break? Time in the Glen...**

Why not spend some peaceful, quality time with your family at St Drostan's Lodge in lovely Glenesk?

(NO INTERNET, NO MOBILE PHONE, NO TV!)

**St Drostan's are offering a 20% discount (£20 per person/night instead of £25) for members of Brechin Diocese.** This has now been restricted to match Government Regulations to just one household. The dates available, are from 17<sup>th</sup> September to 20<sup>th</sup> October.

If interested please contact Rev Jane Nelson, [stdrostanbook@btinternet.com](mailto:stdrostanbook@btinternet.com) or telephone 01569 730967

## **Abelour Children's Charity Provides**

### **Urgent Assistance Fund**

Aberlour's Urgent Assistance Fund can provide cash grants to help families with children (aged 21 and under) who are suffering extreme hardship, including the impact of the Coronavirus.

Applications must be endorsed and submitted by a sponsor, acting in their professional capacity. This support is usually via cash grants to assist with a range of needs, such as food, prepay power cards, clothing, bedding, or other essentials. Due to limited funds and high levels of applications, the average grant we give is usually around £50 per child. For more information please visit the following: <https://www.aberlour.org.uk/service-category/urgent-assistance-fund/>

## **Church Life in Lockdown:**

### **Online worship**

The Scottish Episcopal Church continues to offer 'national' worship online even as some live worship starts to become possible: this will continue indefinitely even as we start to plan for physical gatherings. The two services, which are led by SEC clergy and lay readers from around the Province, are:

- Thursday—'Service of the Word' at 6.30pm
- Sunday—Eucharist at 11am

There are more details and downloads of previous weeks' services at: <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship/>

## **Reflection by Bishop Andrew:**

We are entering a strange and difficult time in the life of our country and the wider world. The pandemic is still increasing worldwide and is also, after almost appearing to be halted here, increasing in Scotland. The frustration at being unable to visit family and friends at home is great. Students are struggling to make sense of leaving home to study and being trapped in their accommodation, unable to socialise or even study in a normal way.

We must continue to be careful with each other and with ourselves. The months of lockdown and ongoing constraints to life are very, very hard. Take care of yourself, find time to pray and reflect and rest. Be gentle to those around you, who are also struggling with the world with Covid-19. The pandemic will pass and we will find ourselves in a world that is safer, even if it is changed.

The ways that life has changed, that Christian communities have responded to the pandemic: we need to learn from these changes and how we have been able to connect and support even in dark and difficult times. The church will be trying at national and diocesan level to learn from this time. I encourage you, in church communities, to do just the same. As you pray, reflect and rest: ask how you have remained connected to God. What has helped? What has hindered? How can this focus us on the mission of the church in our many towns and settings?

But above all: trust God to be with us now, in this time of pandemic, and for all time.

## **News to share? Please send to...**

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