

CRUCIS

Magazine of St. Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church Dundee

April 2013

"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

Come along to the

PARISH LUNCH

in the Lower Hall

Sunday 7 April after the 11 AM Mass

In the Beginning...

Easter is a season, not a single day. It stretches from Easter Sunday to Whitsun, inclusive. With the exception of the latter, Sundays within the Easter Season are known as "Sundays OF Easter". Because of the special theme of its readings, the Fourth Sunday of Easter is commonly known as "Good Shepherd Sunday". We are invited to consider Christ, who is both Lamb and Shepherd – Victim and Saviour.

I've long thought that there is a puzzling aspect to Christ as the Good Shepherd. It derives from Our Lord's parable of leaving the ninety-nine in the flock to go in search of the one sheep that is lost. It's a wonderful story of the Shepherd's diligence, care, and even love, but it is no good example of shepherding! What about the ninety-nine? Left to themselves, the woolly creatures can get into any manner of trouble.

The story is not particularly helpful as a teaching about mission, either – certainly these days. A modern version of Our Lord's story might have the Shepherd sitting in a crumbling sheepfold with one sheep, trying

to figure out where to begin to look for the others. Again, what about the ninety-nine?

It is a good question to keep before us as the Easter Season unfolds. In the readings from the Book of Acts that we hear throughout this period, we see how a small handful of witnesses to Our Lord's Resurrection went out proclaiming it to others who had not seen and heard about God's mighty act of salvation through Jesus Christ. Their church was pitifully small. They were out looking for the ninety-nine.

"What about the ninety-nine?" It's a good question to ask ourselves, not just on the Fourth Sunday of Easter, and not even only throughout the Easter Season, but all the time. We shall see them if we open our eyes. And there is plenty of room in our sheepfold for them.

A Happy Easter to all!

Fr. Clive



VESTRY NEWS

The Vestry met in March to discuss various issues:

The work that the Maxwell Centre is doing in the back garden and Scaffolder's yard is continuing and interest is being shown in the planned allotments.

The new dishwasher for the Rectory is now in place and working well

The Lent programme is being well supported

There is to be a parish lunch after the 11am service on Sunday April 7th

The vestry will meet with Bp Nigel on Monday 8th April as part of the ongoing support we are receiving from our Bishop

Following on from the Lead Your Church into Growth Conference there has been discussion about ways to develop our welcoming and hospitality ministries

Our Diocesan Quota has gone down slightly for this coming year

Due to the recent bad weather there has been some leakage on the south aisle wall which will need to be addressed

The heating for the church is an issue requiring urgent attention and the vestry is looking at ways forward for this both financially and practically

On March 18th a number of vestry members attended a meeting at St Ninian's organised by the diocese to

deal with a number of important issues. Information was provided:

To help charges who wish to apply for Stipend Support or who are already in receipt of this (like ourselves) to fill in the relevant forms. All applications must show evidence of how the charge plans to enable growth in numbers and financial support over the next 1-3 years.

About Building Grants

About new Gift Aid, PAYE and NI requirements

About the importance of complete and timely OSCR submissions

About payment of stipend and quota

About a new bulk buying scheme for churches for the purchasing of e.g. utilities

Please continue to keep vestry members in your prayers as we seek to serve St Salvador's and do ask any of them if you have any questions or concerns you would like raised at a vestry meeting.



HUNT THE GOWK

In bygone days in Scotland, “April’s Fools Day” was sometimes marked by a trick called “Hunt the Gowk”. The prank was to have someone deliver a sealed note to someone else. The recipient would open the note, which read: “Dinna laugh. Dinna smile. Hunt the gowk another mile.” The recipient, on reading it, would say that he could only help the original sender by contacting someone else. He would then send an identical message via the same “gowk” to someone else.

Scotland shares a day of pranks (not always 1st April) with many other countries around the world. In Italy, France and Belgium, the trick is to try to attach a paper fish to the clothing of someone without their noticing, and declare them to be an “April Fish” (meaning “April Fool”). In Spanish-speaking countries, those who are tricked are proclaimed “Inocente!”, which can mean “innocent, gullible or naïve”.

St. Mark’s Day, 25th April, will be the 31st anniversary of Fr. George’s Ordination to the Priesthood.

Upon ordination, Fr. George was Curate and Assistant at St. Mary Magdalene’s Dundee, then Priest in Charge at St. Ninian’s.

From 1985 until his “retirement” in 1998, Fr. George was on the staff of the Cathedral, with special responsibility for All Souls Invergowrie from 1985-88.

Since 1998, Fr. George has been our Honorary Assistant here at St. Salvador’s, which has included two interregna.

May God continue to bless Fr. George and his ministry as we MARK his anniversary of ordination!

**Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

New Service Books and Hymnals

As part of our ongoing review of our life together, the sheer number of items presented to worshippers upon their arrival in church was identified as a potential drawback to making our services “user-friendly”.

We customarily give out a mass booklet, notices, a book of readings, a hymnal, and occasionally other supplementary service material. To a visitor, all this can be quite intimidating!

From Easter we are supplying a mass booklet that is simpler in form, with all the little liturgical extras of the season in it. As well, in the back of the booklet we will have all the Easter hymns we use, plus a few additional and, in some cases, more modern ones, that we can learn. Readings for the day will be on a separate A4 folded sheet, along with the notices.

This means that worshippers will now be presented with only the mass booklet (with hymns in it) and the readings sheet (with notices on it) when they come. We hope this will make our service more accessible to newcomers and regulars alike.

We will keep the books of readings and a few of the service books with their explanation notes in the pews for those who might want to continue to use them.

GOING FOR GROWTH

This is the beginning of a new series in which we look at aspects of our life together and how we may prepare ourselves to grow spiritually and numerically.

When it comes to Church growth, everyone tends to ask the wrong question. Because they try to answer the wrong question, it should therefore come as no surprise when efforts to grow meet with modest and less-than-modest success.

What is often asked is: “How can we improve what we do?” It’s the natural question to ask, but it isn’t the right one. If we start from there, we’ll fail.

“How can we improve what we do” assumes that what we do in the first place suits us well, and, in the second place, simply requires to be tweaked up so that others will come to see just how suitable it is. What follows is a program that tinkers with “churchy” things. It doesn’t adequately consider how they may be viewed from the outside. It is concerned mainly with “keeping the show on the road.” It is the question that may think it is talking about mission, but is in fact a recipe for maintenance.

The right question for mission – the right starting point for true growth – is the question: “Why do we do what we do?” It is this question that goes to the very heart of things. Answering it correctly helps us to move from maintenance to mission.

“Why do we do what we do” is akin to Our Lord’s question to His followers: “Who do YOU say that I am?” It elicits the response of faith – not in a program of well-intentioned maintenance of a congregation and building, but in Jesus Christ Himself and ourselves as His disciples.

So what is the answer to the right question? Why is it that we do what we do? There may be any number of ways of expressing

the answer, but all of them focus on the action of God in the world through Jesus Christ, such as: “*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.*” (John 3: 16, 17 NRSV)

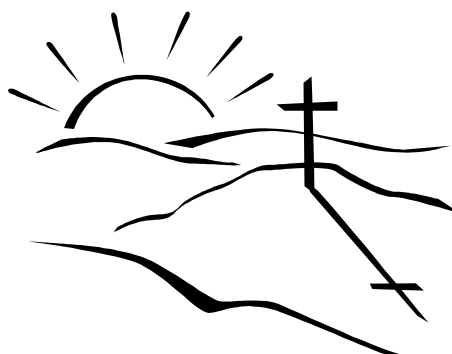
If the answer to the right question remains uppermost in our minds, it will focus us on the important things. Furthermore, if our congregation is reshaped to reflect that answer, it is more likely to be obvious to others – the people we want to bring in to the Church. They can find new friends anywhere – but will they see the loving Saviour here? If He is the reason for everything we do here, they probably will.

Fr. Clive

EARLY MORN

The mighty orb doth manifest his
glyme
A dull reflection in the stygian slime’
But joyous to those who raise their eyes
Heavenward where brightness warms
the skies
Above Gaia’s rich and flourishing
green
A right goodly, peaceful springtide
scene.

F.D. Bowles



Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1906-1945, Martyr



Come Celebrate!

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The Annunciation of the Lord (transferred to 8 April)

Since at least the fourth century, the Church has celebrated on this festival the great day of decision, when the blessed Virgin Mary accepted the role that God had chosen for her in His plan of redemption. From that moment the Holy Child was conceived within her, and the Virgin became the bearer of God the Son, known as 'Theotokos' in the East and translated as 'Mother of God' in the West.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran Pastor, Teacher, Martyr (9 April)

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was born in 1906 into an academic family. Ordained in the Lutheran Church, he became a pastor and lecturer: in Spain, in London, the USA and, in 1931, back in Berlin. Opposed to the growing Nazi influence in Church and State, he was one of the leaders of the Confessing

Church, a movement that challenged the Nazi-dominated established church from 1934. Bonhoeffer headed its seminary for the training of orthodox clergy, until its closure by the authorities in 1937. Banned from teaching, and harassed by Hitler's regime, he bravely returned to Germany at the outbreak of war in 1939, despite being on a lecture tour of the USA at the time. His continuing opposition to the Nazis led to his arrest in 1943. His experiences led him to propose a more radical theology in his later works, which have been influential among post-war theologians. He was executed in Flossenburg concentration camp on this day in 1945.

William Law, Priest, Spiritual Writer (10 April)

Born at King's Cliffe in Northamptonshire in 1686, William Law was educated at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and, after ordination as a deacon, became a fellow of the college in 1711. When George I came to the throne in 1714, William declined to take the Oath of Allegiance, being a member of the non-juror party who believed the anointed but deposed monarch James II and his heirs should occupy the throne. He lost his fellowship, but in 1728 was ordained priest, and in the same year published 'A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life', which much influenced such people as Samuel Johnson and the Wesleys. In it he stresses the moral virtues, a personal prayer life and asceticism. He returned to King's Cliffe in 1740, where he led a life of devotion and simplicity and caring for the poor. He remained there for the rest of his life and died on this day in the year 1761.

St Magnus of Orkney, Martyr (16 April)

At the end of the eleventh century, the Earldom of Orkney was divided between cousins Haakon Paulson and Magnus Erlings-

son, one a war-like Viking chief, the other a devout man of peace. They ruled jointly but uneasily for some years, but eventually Haakon claimed sole sovereignty. A council was called for Easter 1116, but Haakon arrived with an armed force and refused to allow Magnus the option of abdication and exile. Magnus faced death bravely and with faith. The shrine for his remains, Kirkwall Cathedral, was erected only twenty years after his murder.

St Donnan and his Companions, Martyrs (17 April)

Donnan was an Irish missionary of the late sixth century who worked in Galloway, Argyll and the islands of the Inner Hebrides. He established a monastery on the island of Eigg, where he and fifty-two companions were massacred by Viking pirates around the year 617.

St. George, Martyr and Patron of England (23 April)

George was probably a soldier living in Palestine at the beginning of the fourth century. He was martyred at Lydda in about the year 304, the beginning of the persecutions of Diocletian, and became known throughout the East as 'The Great Martyr'.

St Mark, Evangelist (25 April)

Mark went with St Paul on his first missionary journey, along with his cousin Barnabas. He made later journeys with Barnabas alone. He was in Rome with Paul, and with St Peter. His Gospel is believed to be based on Peter's teaching in Rome: its concise, direct and vivid style tells us something of Mark's personality. Tradition dating from the third century says that he founded the Church in Alexandria.



W5: Who, What, When, Where, Why

During Passiontide and at Easter, we hear about anointing, and John Caithness has discovered some interesting information about "spikenard", also referred to as "nard", an ingredient used to perfume oils and incense in the ancient world:

- It comes from a plant grown in India, Nepal, China and the Himalayas.
- It was considered a luxury ingredient, and a pint of it could cost a year's wages.
- As an element of incense, its use was favoured in the worship of the Jewish Temple.
- It was sometimes used to season food and drink in ancient Rome and medieval Europe.
- Its scent attracts cats!
- Lavender was also known as "nard" by the ancient Greeks, after the Sanskrit "narada" or possibly after the Syrian city of Naarada (in modern Iraq).

Food Cupboard Donations

With the cold weather during Passiontide, Holy Week and the Easter weekend, many people appear to have been using more of their resources to keep warm—leaving little left to feed themselves. Our Cupboard would be bare without the contributions we have received of funds and goods from a number of supporters, including Coldside CofS and Holy Trinity Monifieth. Many thanks to all who help us in this ministry. Doreen's soup has been especially welcome by helpers and visitors alike!



Kalendar

Mon., 1 April: Easter Monday:
Mass at 10 AM

Tues., 2 April: Easter Tuesday:
Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 3 April: Easter Wednesday:
Mass at 10 AM

Sun., 7 April: Easter 2: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM

Mon., 8 April: The Annunciation:
Mass at 7 PM

Tues., 9 April: D. Bonhoeffer:
Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 10 April: William Law:
Mass at 10 AM

Sun., 14 April: Easter 3: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM

Tues., 16 April: St. Magnus: Mass
at 7 PM

Wed., 17 April: St. Donnan & Companions: Mass at 10 AM

Sun., 21 April: Easter 4: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM

Tues., 23 April: St. George: Mass
at 7 PM

Wed., 24 April: Feria: Mass at 10 AM

Thurs., 25 April: St. Mark: Mass
at 7 PM

Sun., 28 April: Easter 5: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM

Wed., 1 May: Ss. Philip & James:
Mass at 10 AM

Sun., 5 May: Easter 6: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM

Tues. 7 May: Feria: Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 8 May: Julian of Norwich:
Mass at 10 AM

Thurs., 9 May: ASCENSION DAY:
Mass at 7 PM

Sun., 12 May: Easter 7: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM

Tues. 14 May: St. Matthias: Mass
at 7 PM

Wed., 15 May: Feria: Mass at 10 AM

Sun., 19 May: PENTECOST: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM

Tues. 21 May: St. Helena: Mass
at 7 PM

Wed., 22 May: Feria: Mass at 10 AM

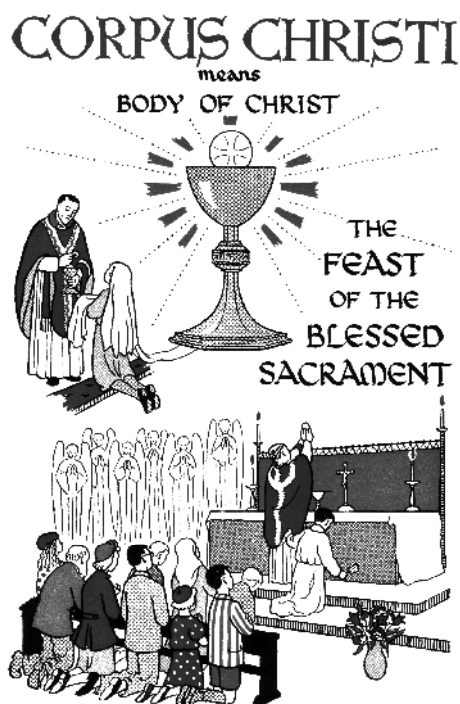
Sun., 26 May: TRINITY SUNDAY:
Masses at 9 & 11 AM

Tues. 28 May: Feria: Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 29 May: Feria: Mass at 10 AM

Thurs., 30 May: CORPUS CHRISTI:
Mass at 7 PM

Fri., 31 May: The Visitation: Mass
at 7 PM



Diocesan Website:
www.brechin.anglican.org

The deadline for the May issue of 'Crucis' is Sunday, 17 April. Please send any material to the Editor (the Rector) by that day. Thank you!

St Salvador's Directory

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Saint Salvador's is a member of the Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC) and is in the Diocese of Brechin. The SEC is part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion headed by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

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Magazine

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