

CRUCIS

Magazine of St. Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church Dundee

April 2015

"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...

Easter is all about new life. In Scotland it is often marked by nature all around us coming back to life after winter, and, in the countryside, by baby lambs frolicking in the fields. It is all too easy to identify the great festival of Easter with new life.

New life is a particularly special theme in the Clapson family this year. Out in Canada our daughter Cecilia gave birth to a baby – our first grandchild – at the end of February. Little Abigail came with surprising speed, before Mum and Dad could get to the hospital. Home births are fairly rare in that part of Canada these days, and those accomplished by first-time parents themselves are even rarer!

Since then, Katie and I have been getting used to babies again, after a hiatus of nearly 30 years. Katie has been out to Abigail, Cecilia, and Matt for a visit and to provide practical help. I'm planning to go out in June. In the meantime, there's Skype.

Abigail seems oblivious to all this activity. Perhaps only a man would say this, but let's be honest: babies just eat, fill nappies, and sleep a lot at this stage in their little lives. It is new life for sure, but to the observer (not the parents of course) it all seems rather low-key and tranquil. The frolicking will doubtless come later.

Christ burst from the tomb with new life to give. His followers became new people, re-born to a new life obvious to everyone.

There is a contrast with that and the life of the Church, where we live in the same atmosphere of Christ's new life, but it usually seems rather low-key and tranquil.

It is said by experts that one learns most of what one will ever know in the first months of life. You wouldn't know that by looking at most infants. But appearances can be deceiving, apparently.

The same may be true of the Risen Christ's new life in today's Church. Perhaps day-to-day and week-to-week, nothing much may seem to be going on. However we are all of us learning the lessons of the Kingdom – most of what we will ever have to know to live happily with God forever.

Blessings for Holy Week and Easter,
Fr. Clive



DIOCESAN SYNOD REPORT: March 2015

Members of Synod gathered together at the Chalmers-Ardler Church on 7th March to begin the proceeding with the synod Eucharist. Bishop Nigel told us that this Synod had three main functions: to enact the business of a Christian charitable organisation, effectively an AGM of the diocese, to look outward and hear about work in our partner dioceses and in the wider SEC and to look forward and learn about the Bishops 2020 vision for the diocese.

The business highlights included the election of a new diocesan secretary, Mr Michael Duncan, and of a new Diocesan Chancellor, Mr Gregor Mitchell, the creation of a Diocesan Council to replace both the Administration board and the Mission and Ministry board, the reception of various reports and the election of members to boards and committees both diocesan and provincial. The budget was accepted and the quota payable by St Salvador's for this year is £8166, slightly down from last year.

A presentation was given, in chat show format, about the recent visit to the annual youth conference of the diocese of Swaziland by representatives of our diocese and the diocese of Iowa. The young people, accompanied by Bishop Alan of Iowa and Mrs Pat Millar representing our bishop, worshipped and learned together about particular issues affecting young people in Swaziland. Our partnership links with the diocese of Swaziland are very important and their Bishop very much appreciates the prayers offered in the monthly cycle of prayer used at each of our Eucharists. The funding, carefully monitored, that we send over is also more necessary now as many Aid Agencies no longer provide funds for feeding children in the orphanages because they are concentrating on longer term research projects.

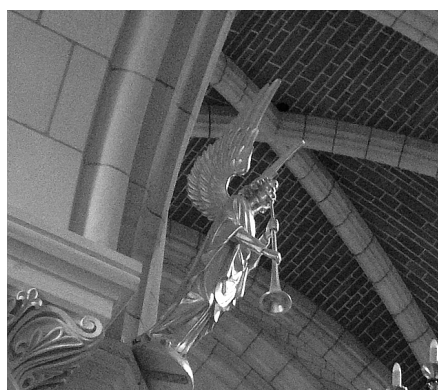
The new Director of Studies in the Scottish Episcopal Institute (which has replaced TISEC), Dr Michael Hull spoke passionately about the work of the SEI in preparing and training people for ministry within the SEC as Lay Readers, Deacons and Priests and how this work needed to be tailored to each individual in order to allow them to grow in discipleship and become reflective practitioners. The Bishops' Lent Appeal is for the work of the SEI.

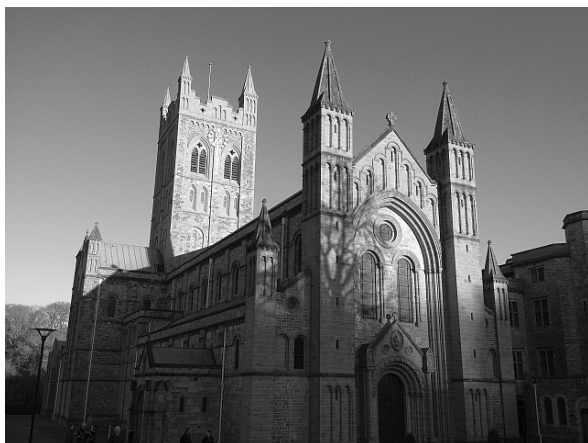
Mrs Elaine Kerr spoke about the continuing care of the Elderly and especially about the work of St Margaret's Home in Dundee of which she is the manager. This home has strong Episcopal Church links, an excellent Care Inspectorate Record and a long waiting list.

The final presentation of the day was from Bishop Nigel and he shared with Synod his thoughts on "towards a diocesan 2020 vision". This vision is something for vestries and congregations to consider as we look to our future as God's people where we have been placed. Our mission and values may be described as "faithful Christians serving others and transforming lives" and to encourage flourishing worship, engagement with individuals and communities and imaginative use of all our resources we as a diocese will need intentionally to create local and diocesan initiatives. We will need to be courageous and imaginative in our thinking, planning and acting and may want to consider pilot projects to move new initiatives along. St Luke's Downfield was discussed as an example of a new way of doing church and of the possibility of other funding partners (the Church Army and Signpost International) playing a role in development.

We need to ask ourselves what the key things are that we are called to do in our communities and how we can develop a strategy to do them. Clear goals and plans can encourage greater giving to support them. We also need to assess what we are doing and celebrate what we do well, even small thing. We all have a part to play in the jigsaw puzzle that is our diocesan family but we need to remember that it is God who can see the ultimate picture he wants us to create.

Katie Clapson, Lay Representative.





Singing at Buckfast; Partying at the Palace *Graeme Adamson*

My first singing trip of the year with the Bartholomew Consort took me to the beautiful Buckfast Abbey (the place that produces the infamous “tonic wine”) on the eastern edge of Dartmoor National Park in Devon. An abbey was established on the site almost one thousand years ago but the history of the current building dates back to 1882 when the site was purchased by a group of French Benedictine monks who began work on a new abbey church in 1907. Having been formally reinstated as an abbey in the early twentieth century, Buckfast continues to operate as a Benedictine foundation today with a community of a dozen monks.

My trip began early on Friday, 13th February with a drive through to Edinburgh airport to catch the mid-morning flight to Exeter which touched down ahead of schedule at just after 11.30. I had time for a coffee before being picked up by one of the other choir members for the 40-minute drive south to Buckfast Abbey. After a light lunch in the abbey’s well appointed restaurant we were then met by one of the staff who showed us to our on-site accommodation in Grangehurst House, a large building which could comfortably accommodate the consort of twenty-eight singers. Having settled in, I went for a wander around the grounds and then into the abbey itself. It is a simply stunning building which has been fully cleaned and restored very recently – both the interior and exterior – meaning that the stonework in particular looks like new. I also investigated the two abbey shops: one a gift shop and the other a monastic shop with a large selection of books and religious artefacts.

A glorious programme of music had been put together by the BC’s musical director, JanJoost van Elburg, who, for the first time in fifteen years, was so unwell that he was unable to travel from The Netherlands to rehearse the choir and conduct the concert. After much panic and searching for a re-

placement at only a few days’ notice one was found in the form of Alexander Chaplain a talented and experienced conductor based in London. Alex really saved the day. What we would have done without him, I do not know.

The plan was to give a concert of two musical halves, as it were, but without an interval. The first half was 16th century Renaissance polyphony; the second half featured music of the early to mid twentieth century by well-known English composers.

Rehearsals began in the Grangehurst House dining room at 5pm, the aim being to run through all the music that evening before working on it more carefully over the weekend in preparation for the concert on Sunday afternoon. After a break for supper, we then moved down into the abbey for an evening practice. What a wonderful space in which to sing. The acoustic reminded me very much of St Salvador’s which I still rate as one of the finest acoustics for vocal music. After a busy evening, we retired to the spacious lounge in Grangehurst House for a glass of wine before heading to bed.

Work on Saturday began after breakfast with rehearsals from 9.30am until 1pm with a mid-morning break. Lunch in the Buckfast café was excellent – mine being an unconventional but very tasty combination of curry followed by carrot cake. Rehearsals continued until six o’clock after which I spent a relaxing evening working on some of the trickier parts of the music before walking down the road to the abbey to attend Compline at 9pm. The monks sing this service in almost total darkness in the choir stalls before processing to the statue of Our Lady in the north transept to conclude the service with the Angelus.

The weekend had gone quickly and a lot had been achieved. It was now Sunday morning and, once again, we got going at 9.30 to continue to polish up the music ready for the performance in just seven hours’ time. Lunch was a very hearty meal of roast beef with all the trimmings. Had I eaten too much to be able sing after lunch, I wondered. I was relieved to find that, when rehearsals began just after 2pm, I was able to sing without any difficulty! Everything was more or less ready and just before four o’clock we headed back to Grangehurst House to change into our concert blacks ready for the performance.

A good sized audience had gathered in the nave and at 4.30pm we filed into the abbey and took up our positions in front of the chancel. The opening work by Orlando di Lasso (1530–1594) was *Inclina Domine aurem tuam (Bow down thine ear)* a nine-part composition with text taken from Psalm 85. This was followed by the first of three sections of a Mass by Tomás Luis de Victoria (1549–1611),

Missa Alma Redemptoris Mater (Loving Mother of our Saviour), an 8-part Mass setting. After the *Kyrie*, the sopranos and altos of the consort sang Francisco Guerrero's (1528–1599) *Sancta et immaculata* (O holy and immaculate virginity). There then followed the next section of Victoria's *Missa Alma Redemptoris Mater* – the Gloria and after this, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina's (1525–1594) beautiful 7-part *Tu es Petrus* (You are Peter) which almost moved our conductor, Alex, to tears – so we must have sung it well! To round off the Renaissance section, we sang the Victoria *Sanctus and Benedictus*.

By way of a division between the two musical ages, our organist played *Four Variations on Balletto del Granduca* by Jan Pieterszoon Sweelink (1562–1621). We then began my favourite part of the programme: the twentieth century music with contributions from Vaughan Williams, Howells, and Harris. It is fantastic stuff.

Ralph Vaughan Williams' (1872–1958) *Lord, Thou hast been our refuge* is a stunning piece for soprano, alto, tenor and bass (SATB) in two choirs: one a larger chorus and the other a semi-chorus of four voices for which I was delighted to have been selected to sing bass. It combines a modal setting of Psalm 90 with a chorale inspired by Isaac Watts's hymn *O God, our help in ages past*. It is a hugely effective and very moving piece which was a joy to perform especially in such a wonderful setting. Most of it is sung without accompaniment but towards the end there is a wonderful organ solo followed by the final section which is sung by both choruses accompanied by organ and trumpet.

It was then the turn of Herbert Howells (1892–1993) and his unusual motet, *The House of the Mind*, which is a setting of a poem by Joseph Beaumont. The music is said to be Howells at his most passionate and most earthly. It is not the easiest piece to sing or to listen to but is a rewarding experience once one gets to grips with it.

Next, it was music by William Henry Harris (1883–1973) who, from 1933 until 1961, was organist at St. George's Chapel in Windsor Castle, and is best remembered for his Anglican church music. His most famous works are the anthems *Faire is the heaven* (1925) and *Bring us, O Lord God* (1959) and we had the great pleasure of singing them both. Both are 8-part, double SATB choir works. *Faire is the heaven* with words from a poem by Edmund Spenser (1552–1599) is counted as Harris' finest work and is one of these pieces which, I think, makes a great impression on the singer. *Bring us O Lord* is Harris' setting of a prayer by John Donne (1572–1631) which is also a beautiful unaccompanied piece and reads:

Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of heaven to enter into that gate and dwell in that house, where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light; no noise nor silence, but one equal music; no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession; no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity; in the habitations of thy glory and dominion, world without end. Amen.

This seemed a fitting way to end the concert. The audience was hugely appreciative of the performance and we were hugely appreciative of Alex's direction and encouragement throughout the weekend especially at such short notice. Goodbyes said, I was fortunate to get a lift back to London from two of the choir members who live there. I had originally intended to head back to Edinburgh from Exeter the following day but I had received a letter shortly before I left for Devon from The Lord Chamberlain which meant a change of plan. It related to an invitation on behalf of Father William Scott who, as you may know, grew up in Dundee and attended St. Salvador's Church. Since being ordained to the priesthood, Bill has fulfilled a number of roles within the church and since 2007 has held significant positions including being Sub-dean of the Chapels Royal and Domestic Chaplain to the Queen at Buckingham Palace. Having recently retired, a party had been arranged for Bill to mark the occasion and I was delighted to have received an invitation to attend. The party was to be held in the Bow Room at Buckingham Palace; a room which was originally intended to be part of George IV's private apartments – the King's Library – but it was never fitted up as such. Instead, it has become another room for entertaining and is where The Queen holds the arrival lunch for a visiting Head of State at the start of a State visit. So, a rather nice venue! More shortly.

On Monday morning, Bill and I went to the midday Eucharist at Westminster Abbey and, after a relaxing lunch, I changed into something smart in anticipation of my trip to Buckingham Palace. When in London, I can never resist the opportunity to go to Choral Evensong and so headed back to the Abbey arriving just after 4pm to wait for the service. Being early means that one has a better chance of a seat in quire





and I was shown to an excellent place in the front row on decani. Being a Monday it was boys' voices and some thirty trebles filled the choir stalls and began with the introit, Vaughan Williams *The Call*. Responses were to plainsong, canticles *Robinson in C* and the anthem Handel's *How beautiful are the feet*. Feeling suitably relaxed and spiritually uplifted I made my way on foot down The Mall towards the Palace arriving just before 6pm. (This was despite some friends suggesting that I should take a taxi for the short journey so that I could utter the words, "Take me to Buckingham Palace"!).

At the gates I presented my invitation and identification to the police who were guarding the entrance and was shown towards the archway which leads into the main courtyard towards the Grand Entrance. A warm welcome awaited from the Palace staff, my coat was taken and I was ushered up the wide staircase towards the Bow Room. Bill was there to greet guests and already a number of folk had gathered. The guests were mainly staff of the Royal Household with whom Bill had worked over the last number of years as well as a few friends who had travelled to share his special evening. There was the opportunity to chat to an interesting selection of folk including musicians who had sung in the Chapel Royal choir, Ladies in Waiting, and Private Secretaries. Partway through the evening there was a speech and presentation to formally thank Bill for his service to which he replied with sincerity and humour. In recognition of his service, Bill has been awarded the C.V.O. (Commander of the Royal Victorian Order) an honour given by The Queen to people who have served her or the Monarchy in a personal way. Not bad for a St. Salvador's lad!

It had been a marvellous trip and come Tuesday morning it was time to head home. After breakfast I took the tube to Liverpool Street station to catch the Stansted Express to the airport. The plane left just before 1pm, just an hour later I was safely back in Edinburgh, and home in Dundee by 3pm. It had been another wonderful weekend of music making and an exciting trip to London. Over the coming months, I'm looking forward to another trip with the Bartholomew Consort (this time to Oxford), a workshop with composer Bob Chilcott at Edington Priory, and then in August the Edington Festival itself. I count myself very fortunate to have been given these various opportunities to be part of glorious music-making in wonderful locations.

Holy Week and Easter Service Schedule

Sun., 29 Mar.: Palm Sunday:

Masses at 9 & 11 AM,

Stations of the Cross at 10 AM

Mon., 30 Mar.: Monday in Holy Week:

Mass at Noon

Tues., 31 Mar.: Tuesday in Holy Week:

Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 1 Apr.: Wed. in Holy Week:

Mass at 10 AM

Tenebrae at 7 PM

Thurs., 2 Apr.: Maundy Thursday:

Mass at 7 PM, followed by

Stripping of Altar & Watch in chapel.

Fri., 3 Apr.: Good Friday:

Mattins at 9 AM; Liturgy at 3 PM;

Stations of the Cross at 7 PM

Sat., 4 Apr.: Holy Saturday: Mattins &

Ante Communion at 9 AM;

Easter Vigil at 9 PM

Sun., 5 Apr.: Easter Sunday:

Masses at 9 AM & 11 AM

W5: Who, What, When, Where, Why

In most parts of the world where Christianity has been established – even as a minority faith – the name for the great festival of the Resurrection in the local language is either related to the Hebrew word "Passover"/"Pascha" (as in French "Paques", Turkish "Paskalya" or Gaelic "Casca") or to an aspect of the observance of the festival. Only the English-speaking world and our German cousins have a name for the greatest of Christian festivals that is pagan in origin.

We call it "Easter"; the Germans call it "Ostern". Both titles are derived from the name of the pagan Germanic goddess of Spring, "Eostre", or "Ostara", whose feast was held on the vernal equinox, around 21 March. The animal associated with her was the spring hare – presumably where the tradition of the "Easter Bunny" came from!

Come Celebrate!

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St Anselm of Canterbury, Bishop and Teacher (21 April)

Born in Piedmont in the year 1033, Anselm entered the Benedictine Order at the monastery of Le Bec in France, where he met Lanfranc, who advised him to embrace monastic life. Anselm had a powerful and original mind and, during his 34 years at Bec (as monk, prior and finally abbot), he taught many others and wrote theological, philosophical and devotional works. When Lanfranc died Anselm was made Archbishop of Canterbury and had to subordinate his scholarly work to the needs of the diocese and nation. Twice he endured exile for championing the rights of the Church against the authority of the king, but, despite his stubbornness, intellectual rigour, and personal austerity, he was admired by the Norman nobility as well as much loved by his monks. He died in 1109.

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.

St Catherine of Siena, Mystic and Teacher (29 April)

Born at Siena in the year 1347, Catherine became a member of the Order of St, Dominic. She was filled with active love for God and neighbour: she strove to bring peace to the quarrelling factions and cities of Italy,

and to restore the rights of the papacy, at that time in exile in Avignon. She was a contemplative and ascetic, and her many writings are remarkable for their spirituality and theology. Catherine died in the year 1380.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

St Salvador's reflected a Bahamian glow on Friday March 6th for the local area World Day of Prayer service. Bright flowers and scarves added a touch of tropical colour and the service itself created a picture of the beauty and concerns of the Bahamas Islands. The service was written by the women of the islands who took as their theme the radical love of God reflected in the action of Jesus when He washed the feet of His disciples. The emphasis was on Jesus' words "Do you know what I have done for you?" and a drama, done in mime, enacted the foot washing to demonstrate the transforming love of God for individuals and situations.

The hymns were upbeat and we learned a Bahamian chorus of hallelujahs. We had a congregation of 27, who all sat at the front which added a sense of immediacy to the service. The offering raised £112. We enjoyed fellowship in the Lower Hall after the service and it was good to catch up with members of our neighbouring churches.

We had readers representing the churches of Coldside, St Peter and St Pauls, Caird Avenue and St David's High Kirk as well as St Salvador's and our worship was accompanied by the keyboard skills of Lynsey Kimmett. Our own Muriel and Norma did the refreshments for us all.

My profound thanks go to all those who helped in any way to make this a lovely evening of praise and prayer Bahamas style!

Katie Clapson

Kalendar

Wed., 1 Apr.: Wednesday in Holy Week:
Mass at 10 AM, Tenebrae at 7 PM
Thurs., 2 Apr.: Maundy Thursday: Mass at
7 PM, followed by Stripping of Altar &
Watch in chapel.
Fri., 3 Apr.: Good Friday: Mattins at 9 AM;
Liturgy at 3 PM; Stations of the Cross
at 7 PM
Sat., 4 Apr.: Holy Saturday: Mattins & Ante
Communion at 9 AM; Easter Vigil at 9 PM
Sun., 5 Apr.: Easter Sunday: Masses at 9
AM & 11 AM
Mon., 6 Apr.: Easter Monday: Mass
at Noon
Tues., 7 Apr.: Easter Tuesday: Mass
at 7 PM
Wed., 8 Apr.: Easter Wednesday:
Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 12 Apr.: Easter 2: Masses
at 9 AM & 11 AM
Tues., 14 Apr.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 15 Apr.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 19 Apr.: Easter 3: Masses
at 9 AM & 11 AM
Tues., 21 Apr.: St. Anselm of Canterbury:
Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 22 Apr.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sat., 25 Apr.: St. Mark: Mass at 11 AM
Sun., 26 Apr.: Easter 4: Masses
at 9 AM & 11 AM
Tues., 28 Apr.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 29 Apr.: St. Catherine of Siena:
Mass at 10 AM

Fri., 1 May: Ss. Philip & James: Mass
at 7 PM
Sun., 3 May: Easter 5: Masses
at 9 AM & 11 AM
Tues., 5 May: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 6 May: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 10 May: Easter 6: Masses
at 9 AM & 11 AM
Tues., 12 May: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 13 May: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Thurs., 14 May: ASCENSION DAY:
Mass at 7 PM
Fri., 15 May: St. Matthias: Mass at 7 PM

Sun., 17 May: Easter 7: Masses
at 9 AM & 11 AM
Tues., 19 May: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 20 May: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 24 May: PENTECOST: Masses
at 9 AM & 11 AM
Tues., 26 May: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 27 May: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 31 May: TRINITY SUNDAY:
Masses at 9 AM & 11 AM

Thank you to Dr. Kirsty Noltie for
her gift of this year's Easter Candle.

Thank you also to Mr. & Mrs. J. Bell
of Kinfauns for their gift of Sanctuary
Candles to burn 24/7 in the church
throughout Eastertide and well be-
yond.

Members of Coldside C of S will be
joining us for our Tenebrae service
here at St. Salvador's on Wednesday
of Holy Week as a witness to our
joint commitment to Our Lord and
His ministry to the disadvantaged in
our area.

WANTED

If you have any spare mugs taking up space
in your kitchen we would be delighted to
add them to our collection of mugs to use
on a Sunday afternoon. Our mug supply has
been slowly reducing over the last little
while due to breakages and disappearance.

Diocesan Website:
www.brechin.anglican.org

The deadline for the next issue of
'Crucis' is Sunday, 26 Apr. 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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