

CRUCIS

Magazine of St. Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church Dundee
December 2014

"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

St. Salvador's Christmas Services

**Christmas Eve: 24 December
Midnight Mass of the Angels
11.30 PM**

**Christmas Day: 25 December
Dawn Mass of the Shepherds
9 AM
Mass of the Incarnate Word
11 AM**

**St. Stephen: 26 December
Mass at 10 AM**

**St. John: 27 December
Mass at 10 AM**

**Holy Innocents: 29 December
Mass at Noon**

**Naming of Jesus: 1 January
Mass at 10 AM**

In the Beginning...

It's sad, I know, but I have to admit it: I'm a Christmas ad geek. I'm always interested in what companies come up with for their holiday advertisements. Many of them are stupid, sentimental, or banal, and unworthy of our interest. However, a number of advertisements have flair or a certain something. A rare few have real quality, maybe even a kind of genius. They deserve remembering.

Who can forget the 2007 IRN BRU ad that spoofs the Snowman's "Walking through the Air" song, complete with graphics and music that imitate the original, but with a humorous, Scottish twist?

Another one, new this year, is the ad that remembers the unofficial Christmas armistice between British and German soldiers during World War One. Produced in partnership with the Royal British Legion in this centennial year of the Great War's outbreak, Sainsbury's has produced a real gem of an ad.

Based on a true incident, the soldiers on each side become aware that Christmas carols are being sung in both lines of trenches. A British soldier has just received a parcel from home in time for Christmas that includes a large bar of chocolate. The Tommy emerges from his trench and soon both armies are shaking hands, exchanging Christmas greetings, and even playing a football match. When a distant explosion brings them back to the war, and they start to go back to their trenches, the British soldier returns a German's overcoat to him, in which he has slipped his bar of chocolate to share.

Somewhat sentimental, I know, but it is very well done. And you only know that Sainsbury's has produced the ad at the end. There's no crass commercialism.

There is a lot about the excessive spending and general over indulgence to make us cynical at this time of year. However, if we look, there are also hints here and there of a better view of human beings, even in dark times, and our common hope for peace and goodwill.

With every blessing for Advent and Christmas,
Fr. Clive

CANTIONES SACRAE

presents

A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION BY CANDLELIGHT

A glorious fusion of Advent and Christmas music, both old and new, sung a cappella by Tayside's leading vocal ensemble.

Sunday, 21st December at 7.30pm

ST SALVADOR'S CHURCH

St Salvador Street

Dundee, DD3 7EW

(Access off Carnegie Street)

Linda, Lisa, Jonathan, and Graeme are delighted to present their candlelit concert which has become something of an annual fixture on the Sunday before Christmas. By the light of over 200 candles, the group will sing a selection of seasonal music including Renaissance compositions by Byrd, Palestrina, and Victoria as well as popular carols such as Silent Night, In Dulci Jubilo, and O Little Town of Bethlehem.



Tickets (£7) are now available directly from the members of Cantiones Sacrae and also from:

Dundee Rep Theatre

Tay Square

Dundee

DD1 1PB

01382 223530

www.dundeerep.co.uk

All tickets are priced at £7.00 (plus a fee of £1.50 per transaction when tickets are bought from the Rep using a credit or debit card).

There will be a Raffle to raise funds for our Church repairs.

MARGARET GRANT

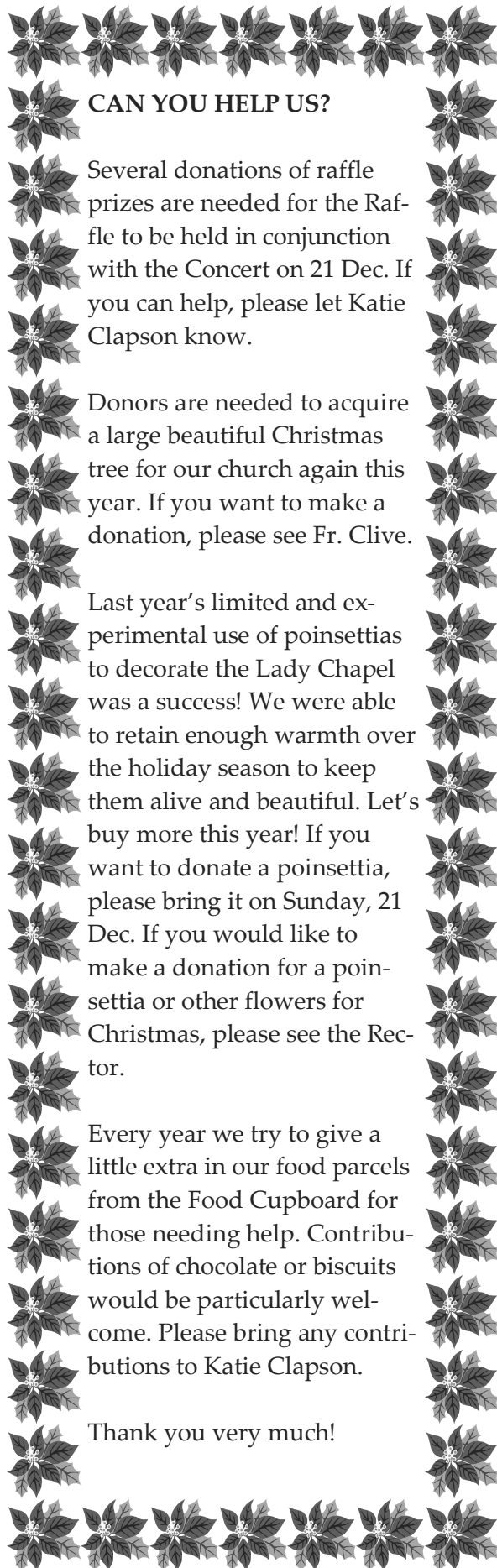
A lifelong member of St. Salvador's and a generous benefactor, Margaret Grant had a fund of stories about events and people associated with our church over a period of several decades. She died suddenly not long after having moved into a nursing home. Margaret's funeral was held in the church on Wed., 12 November.

May she rest in peace.

Do you shop at ASDA?

If you do, and you don't take advantage of their price guarantee, would you please give us your till receipts? We can then get credit for any items you've bought that were cheaper elsewhere on the day you made your purchase. As we regularly buy items for the Food Cupboard from ASDA, this could significantly reduce our shopping bill and make our donated funds go further!

Although we are not doing a "Gifts in Kind" collection again this year during Advent, our need for postage stamps remains! Donations of second-class postage stamps would be particularly welcome. Many thanks!



CAN YOU HELP US?

Several donations of raffle prizes are needed for the Raffle to be held in conjunction with the Concert on 21 Dec. If you can help, please let Katie Clapson know.

Donors are needed to acquire a large beautiful Christmas tree for our church again this year. If you want to make a donation, please see Fr. Clive.

Last year's limited and experimental use of poinsettias to decorate the Lady Chapel was a success! We were able to retain enough warmth over the holiday season to keep them alive and beautiful. Let's buy more this year! If you want to donate a poinsettia, please bring it on Sunday, 21 Dec. If you would like to make a donation for a poinsettia or other flowers for Christmas, please see the Rector.

Every year we try to give a little extra in our food parcels from the Food Cupboard for those needing help. Contributions of chocolate or biscuits would be particularly welcome. Please bring any contributions to Katie Clapson.

Thank you very much!

W5: Who, What, When, Where, Why

"The Holly and the Ivy" is a much-loved traditional Christmas carol. Its lyrics have an interesting mixture of the sacred and the secular.

Holly has always had a strong association with Christmas. Henry VIII wrote a love song "Green groweth the holly" which alludes to holly and ivy resisting winter blasts and not changing their green hue "*So I am and ever hath been/Unto my lady true*". Perhaps reflecting an even more ancient and non-Christian custom, holly and ivy have been a mainstay of the traditional British Christmas since at least the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, when they were mentioned regularly in churchwardens' accounts as church decorations.

The history goes much further back. Holly was sacred to the ancient druids, who associated holly with the winter solstice, and, for the Romans, it was considered the plant of Saturn, whose festival occurred at this time of year. The Church, which has historically taken pagan symbols and infused them with Christian meaning, relates in the lyrics of the carol how the holly flower reflects the purity of Christ and His Mother, and how the holly berry, prickly and bitterness foretell Christ's suffering for the redemption of sinners.

Sir Henry Walford Davies wrote a popular choral arrangement of "The Holly and the Ivy" from the eighteenth century that is often performed at the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols and by choirs around the world. For us, it is now the standard form of the carol. However, it is thought that "The Holly and the Ivy", in an earlier form, was originally a drinking song sung in pubs at Christmas as a kind of contest between men (represented by holly) and women (represented by ivy). This may explain why the image of the holly predominates in the lyrics of the carol as we have it now!

**A Sermon preached
by the Rector
on Gift Day, Sunday, 16 November, 2014**

In most aspects of the Church's life, what we do is rooted in Christ. One of the few exceptions to this general rule is Stewardship, where we tend to look at Old Testament thought (concerning thankfulness or tithing), or we simply say that our Priest needs paying or the roof needs repairing etc. Giving is about doing our duty.

Instead, when it comes to Stewardship, how about looking first at Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith"? We do not give because God is levying a tax on us (tithe), or even as an expression of our gratitude toward Him. We do not give because the Church needs the money to meet its expenses. We give because of what Jesus **said** and what Jesus **did**. If that also meets the Church expenses, that's fine. Our duty as Christians is to follow Christ – nothing more and nothing less.

What Jesus Said

1. To give everything for the sake of the Kingdom.
2. To leave everything and follow Him.
3. To love our neighbour.
4. To give to the poor.
5. To give cheerfully – not because we have to, but because we want to.

Our Response to What Jesus Said

There are many non-Christian organisations with which Christians may share common cause. We may decide to fulfil Jesus' commands by supporting their work.

Giving freely to the Church (not as a tax, or as something we feel we have to do to show our thankfulness) is also a way of helping others, near and far. It is at the same time a way that we can follow, at least

in some measure, Jesus' call to give up something for His sake and that of the Kingdom. How else might we do it, if not through our stewardship? It is a way of self-disciplining ourselves. What is a disciple if not someone who is under discipline? After all, they DO share the same root word.

What Jesus Did

1. Emptied Himself to become as we are.
2. Poured Himself out as a sacrifice for sin upon the Cross.
3. Rose again with new life to give, to make us a kingdom of priests.

Our Response to What Jesus Did

We are called upon to reflect the new life of the Kingdom we already share in the Risen Christ. We are a consecrated People ("priests"). A church building and rectory in poor condition, with an unpaid priest, while we overindulge ourselves, reflect neither the Kingdom nor our citizenship of it. Our stewardship is a way of imposing limits on ourselves, so as not to send out the wrong message as to the life we are living in the Risen Christ.

The self-emptying, sacrificial Christ is reflected by the self-emptying, sacrificial lives of His disciples. We give sacrificially, not because it is required of us (tax, gratitude), but because we are following the self-emptying, sacrificial Lord. How better (as it is within reach of just about all of us) to do that than through our stewardship?

We give, not because the Church needs the money, but because we, as Christians, need to give.

Come Celebrate!

Biographical details are reproduced, with permission, from *Exciting Holiness*, Canterbury Press, unless otherwise credited.

St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland (trans. to 1 Dec.)

Though St Andrew is named among the apostles in the synoptic gospels, it is in St John's gospel that most is learned about him. St Andrew was a Galilean fisherman, a follower of John the Baptist when Jesus called him to follow Him. He then went to find his brother Simon Peter and brought him to Jesus. St Andrew became one of the inner circle of disciples that included his brother and the other pair of brothers, James and John. Together they witnessed all the major events of our Lord's ministry. After Pentecost, tradition has St Andrew travelling on several missionary journeys and eventually being martyred by being crucified on an x-shaped cross. He became patron saint of Scotland because of a legend that his relics had been miraculously brought here in the eighth century.

Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon (2 December)

Born in London in 1592, Nicholas Ferrar was educated at Cambridge and elected a fellow there in 1610. From 1613 he travelled on the continent for five years, trying his hand as a businessman and parliamentarian on his return. In 1625, he moved to Little Gidding in Huntingdonshire, where he was joined by his brother and sister and their families and by his mother. They established together a community life of prayer, using the Book of Common Prayer, and a life of charitable works in the locality. He was ordained to the diaconate by William Laud the year after they arrived. Nicholas died at the beginning of December in 1637, but the community continued until the Puritans broke it up in 1646 and burned all of its founder's manuscripts.

St Francis Xavier, Priest and Missionary (3 December)

Born in 1506, St Francis Xavier was an original member of the Society of Jesus with St Ignatius Loyola – he took vows of poverty and chastity, and committed himself to evangelise the pagans. He is one of the greatest of all Christian missionaries, preaching in India, South-east Asia and Japan – where he landed in 1549. There, he learned Japanese, and formed a Church that endured long drawn-out persecution. He died while on his way to China in 1552. Not only was his preaching effective in drawing people to Christ, but he was able to organise communities so that they could survive when he left them.

The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (8 December)

This festival in honour of the Conception of the Mother of our Lord is celebrated on this day in both the Eastern and the Western Church. This feast, which dates from the seventh century, marks the dawn of the New Covenant, celebrating the gracious preparation by God of his people to receive their Saviour and Lord, putting 'heaven in ordinary' and showing that mortal flesh can indeed bring Christ to the world.

St Stephen, Deacon and Martyr (26 December)

In the Acts of the Apostles, St Stephen is described as one of the first seven deacons appointed to care for the widows in the early Church in Jerusalem. He is the Church's proto-martyr, the first to bear witness to Christ by offering his life. The name 'Stephen' means, appropriately, 'crown'.

St John, Apostle and Evangelist (27 December)

St John was one of the sons of Zebedee, along with James, who followed Jesus. He is described as 'the disciple whom Jesus

loved', and was one of the inner circle of Jesus' followers who witnessed and shared in all the major events of our Lord's ministry. In both the Gospel that bears his name and in the epistles credited to him, the powerful theological concept of the incarnate Word of God is proclaimed. St John is believed to have been the only one of our Lord's disciples to have lived to old age and not to have been put to death for his faith in the One who loved him and the One whom he loved. It is thought that he died in Asia Minor.

The Holy Innocents

(trans. to 29 December)

Although there is no historical evidence outside the Holy Scriptures for the massacre of the children of Bethlehem by King Herod, it is an act consistent with his other misdeeds that are well documented by non-scriptural sources. Today is a particularly appropriate occasion to remember all innocent victims of human cruelty.

Josephine Butler, Reformer (30 December)

Josephine Butler (nee Grey) was born in Northumberland in 1828. She married an Anglican priest in 1852. She became incensed by the way contemporary society treated prostitutes, most of whom were forced into such activity through desperate poverty. From 1869, she campaigned for the repeal of legislation that put all responsibility on the women concerned, and the issue became international after she travelled in Europe addressing meetings in 1874 and 1875. Her campaign succeeded with the repeal of the Contagious Diseases Act in 1883. She was a devout Anglican and a woman of prayer, basing her spirituality on that of St Catherine of Siena, whose biography she wrote. She died on 30th Dec. in 1906.



Vestry News

On Oct 28th the vestry met with Bishop Nigel and Fay Lamont as part of the Bishop's ongoing pastoral support for St Salvador's. Bishop Nigel was given an update on the Maxwell Centre's work, the church's building and fabric issues and the good news that we were about to have a fully functioning heating system. He was apprised of some positive congregational developments, the ongoing work of the food cupboard ministry and of our upcoming AGM and gave helpful advice about vestry membership in relation to our constitution.

Bishop Nigel and Fay were able to provide some advice about possible limited help that might be available to help with our rewiring costs.

Bishop Nigel and Fay made helpful and supportive comments throughout our meeting and Bishop Nigel opined that we are now a calmer, purposeful and outward looking vestry but we need to tell St Salvador's story better throughout the Diocese so that people understand more what we are about.

The vestry has also been much concerned with organising our AGM, the ongoing rewiring work and working towards compliance with newly published Provincial PVG requirements.

As we move into a new church year please keep the Rector and Vestry members in your prayers as they undertake the serious and continuing responsibility of being charity trustees for St Salvador's Church.

K. Clapson, Vestry Secretary

Kalendar

Mon., 1 Dec.: ST. ANDREW, PATRON OF SCOTLAND: Mass at 7 PM
Tues., 2 Dec.: Nicholas Ferrar: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 3 Dec.: St. Francis Xavier: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 7 Dec.: Advent 2: Masses at 9 AM & 11 AM
Mon., 8 Dec.: Conception of the BVM: Mass at noon
Tues., 9 Dec.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 10 Dec.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 14 Dec.: Advent 3: Masses at 9 AM & 11 AM
Tues., 16 Dec.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 17 Dec.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 21 Dec.: Advent 4: Masses at 9 AM & 11 AM; Candlelight Concert at 7.30 PM
Tues., 23 Dec.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 24 Dec.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
CHRISTMAS EVE: Midnight Mass at 11.30 PM
CHRISTMAS DAY: Masses at 9 AM & 11 AM
Fri., 26 Dec.: St. Stephen Protomartyr: Mass at 10 AM
Sat., 27 Dec.: St. John the Divine: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 28 Dec.: Christmas 1: Masses at 9 AM & 11 AM
Mon., 29 Dec.: The Holy Innocents: Mass at noon
Tues., 30 Dec.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 31 Dec.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM

Thurs., 1 Jan.: Naming and Circumcision of Jesus: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 4 Jan.: Christmas 2: Masses at 9 AM & 11 AM
Tues., 6 Jan.: THE EPIPHANY: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 7 Jan.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 11 Jan.: BAPTISM OF THE LORD: Masses at 9 AM & 11 AM
Tues., 13 Jan.: St. Kentigern (Mungo): Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 14 Jan.: St. Hilary of Poitiers: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 18 Jan.: Epiphany 2: Masses at 9 AM & 11 AM
Tues., 20 Jan.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 21 Jan.: St. Agnes: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 25 Jan.: Conversion of St. Paul: Masses at 9 AM & 11 AM

Tues., 27 Jan.: St. John Chrysostom: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 28 Jan.: St. Thomas Aquinas: Mass at 10 AM

GOING FOR GROWTH

Advent—the four weeks leading up to Christmas—is a season for reflection. Christmas itself, of course, is a season for joy. Neither time should be a period of discouragement.

One of the more discouraging things a parish priest hears at this time of year is “Father, I won’t be at church over Christmas because our family/friends will be visiting.”

Why not ask them to come with you to church?

If they are family or friends, they will know you usually go to church anyway. Will they respect you and your faith more if you give it a miss?

If they don’t come with you, at least they might respect you for your convictions. Maybe later on they might actually ask you to share them.

If they do come with you, they will be exposed to one of the most important aspects of your faith revealed in a beautiful way. They may thank you for inviting them to share it.

Don’t presume to know what God is doing in your visitors’ lives. He may well have prepared them for your invitation, whether they accept it or not. Ask them to come.

Diocesan Website:
www.brechin.anglican.org

Private Confessions may be made by arrangement with the Rector. If you have never before availed yourself of this means of deepening your spiritual life, Fr. Clive is happy to discuss it with you and help you to prepare.

The deadline for the next issue of ‘*Crucis*’ is Sunday, 4 Jan. Please send any material to the Editor (the Rector) by that day. Thank you!

St Salvador's Directory

Web: www.stsalvadors.com Registered Charity SC010596 **E-mail:** enquiries@stsalvadors.com

St Salvador's Church, St Salvador Street, Dundee, DD3 7EW (access via Carnegie St)

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.

Primus	The Most Rev. David Chillingworth	Tel: 01738 643000 (office)
Diocesan Bishop	The Right Rev. Dr. N. Peyton	Tel: 01382 562 244 (office)
Rector	The Rev. Clive Clapson SSC	St Salvador's Rectory 9 Minard Crescent DUNDEE DD3 6LH Tel: 01382 221785 father.clive@blueyonder.co.uk
Assisting Clergy	The Rev. George Greig	Tel: 01382 566709
Honorary Treasurer	Dr Craig Cassells	c/o the Rector
Honorary Secretary	Mrs Katie Clapson	c/o The Rector Tel: 01382 221785 vessecstsal@hotmail.co.uk
Lay Representative	Mrs. Katie Clapson	As above
Alt. Lay Representative & Child Protection Officer	Dr. Jennie Parkinson	c/o the Rector
People's Churchwarden	Mrs Muriel McKelvie	Tel: 01382 580065
Rector's Churchwarden	Mr Martin Andrews	Tel: 01382 223465 mhdeta@blueyonder.co.uk
Envelope and Gift Aid Secretary	Mrs J. Cassells	c/o the Rector
Sacristan	Mrs Evelyn Kelly	c/o the Rector
Flowers	Situation Vacant	
Cantor, Choirmaster & Webmaster	Dr Graeme Adamson	c/o the Rector

Magazine

Please send comments, corrections and material to the Rector. Note: material may be omitted, or edited for length and suitability. Postal subscriptions £17 p.a. inc. p&p. Also available free as a PDF.