

CRUCIS

Magazine of St. Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church Dundee

March 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 was ordained Priest in St. George's Cathedral, Kingston, Ontario, on 25th March, 1980, the festival of Our Lady Mary's "yes" to God: the Annunciation. Back then, I was at the minimum age for ordination. Forty years on, here I am on the verge of retirement from active ministry.

Fortieth anniversaries of ordination are fairly rare nowadays, as most candidates offer themselves later on in life than I did. I look forward to sharing this important life-event with you before Katie and I leave you.

I was one of five candidates for ordination in Ontario that night – the same day that Robert Runcie was enthroned as Archbishop of Canterbury over here. Of the five of us, one died young, two are retired, one became an army chaplain and later a locum. I believe I'm the only one still in active parish ministry.

It's been an interesting ride for forty years. Sometimes it's been joyful, sometimes disappointing, sometimes frustrating, and always challenging. I've been encouraged by strangers and betrayed by friends. I've lost count of the number of times my heart has been broken by the depths of human sin, folly, and suffering.

Starting as a Curate in a small southern Ontario town, I moved to my first parish that consisted of three low-church rural charges in the back of beyond. Then I went to a suburban Anglo-Catholic mission station near

San Diego. Returning to the UK, I was an assistant in a Farnborough church that had an extremely active children's ministry in an Anglo-Catholic context. Then we came to Scotland, serving in a small congregation in Invergordon, where I was also responsible for the training of clergy in the diocese. Next, I was in charge of a large middle-of-the-road city church in prosperous Aberdeen, and lastly we came here to our challenging neighbourhood and beautiful church in Dundee. I have never been anything other than a traditional Anglo-Catholic in my theological and spiritual orientation.

I'm mindful of how inadequate my ministrations have sometimes been, how damaged I am, and how dependent I have been on God's grace. Sometimes the only thing keeping me going has been the unshakeable conviction that for some reason God called me and has drawn me to wherever I have found myself ministering, and that once, when I was only young – as Our Lady Mary was when God called her – I and she said "yes" to Him.

With love
Fr. Clive



During Lent it is our custom to
provide the church with
“GIFTS IN KIND”.

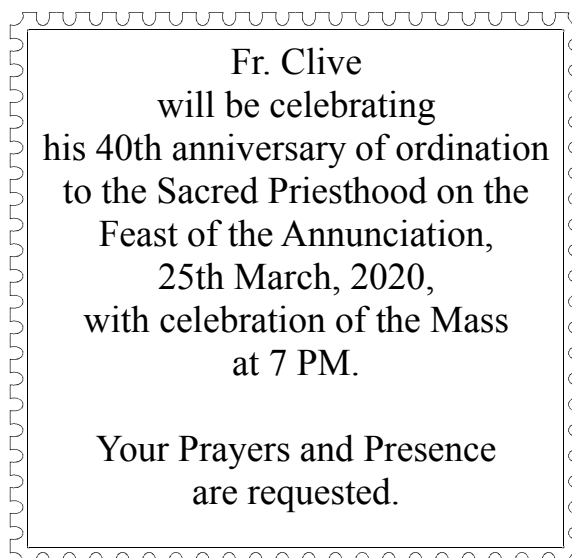
These are donations of things we
use up throughout the year.

You might want to consider giving
this way as part of your
LENTEN SELF-DENIAL and
ALMSGIVING.

We need:
POSTAGE (2nd class)
TOILET ROLL
TOILET CLEANER
GARBAGE BAGS
CAFETIERE COFFEE
INSTANT COFFEE
TISSUES
UHT MILK
KITCHEN ROLL
SURFACE WIPES
HAND SANITISER
SANDWICH BAGS
COMMUNION WINE
(Nobleman Full Cream Sherry
from LIDL)

Please hand in your
GIFT IN KIND
to Fr. Clive.

Many thanks
for your contribution.



ADVANCE NOTICE:

Holy Week begins on Sun. 5 April

OUR HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday: Masses at 9AM
& 11AM; Stations of the Cross at 10
AM; EP at 5 PM

Monday in Holy Week:
Mass at 7 PM

Tuesday in Holy Week:
Mass at 7 PM

Wednesday in Holy Week:
Mass at 10 AM; Tenebrae at 7 PM

Maundy Thursday: Liturgy of the
Lord's Supper and Stripping of the
Altar at 7 PM, followed by Watch un-
til midnight.

Good Friday: Mattins & Litany at 9
AM; Solemn Liturgy at 3 PM and
Stations of the Cross at 7 PM

Holy Saturday: Mattins & Ante Com-
munion at 9 AM; The Great Vigil &
First Mass of Easter at 9 PM

W5: Who, What, When, Where, Why

The religion of ancient, pre-Christian, Rome was regulated by a small select group called the “College of Pontiffs”. Their main responsibility was to maintain the city’s peace with the gods. The most senior of the pontiffs, called the “Pontifex Maximus”, presided over the college, and it was a post that included both political and spiritual authority. Many of the leaders in the late Republican period in Roman history were granted the office, and all the Emperors assumed the title and its powers right up to the fourth century AD. Later, the title of Pontifex Maximus, with both its sacred and political undertones, was assumed by the Bishops of Rome, and it remains one of the Pope’s titles to this day.

The word “pontiff” or “pontifex” has somewhat obscure origins. It means, literally, “a builder of roads and bridges” – a not insignificant role for a functionary in a city on a river – although the word itself is believed to pre-date any of Rome’s original bridges.

It is commonly thought that the spiritual application of the term “pontiff” or “pontifex” came about because those who presided over the religion of ancient Rome smoothed the way between the gods and human beings. A title having to do with maintaining roads and bridges therefore seemed appropriate in a religious sense.

Christians were not slow to see the value of the term as applied to their own leaders of worship – and especially to the Bishop presiding over the Church in the capitol of the Empire.

Would anyone like to donate the Paschal Candle this year? The giving of this special Easter Candle we bless at the Easter Vigil would make a good memorial or thanksgiving offering. It will cost £30. If you want to do so, please see Fr. Clive, who will also be looking for donations of flowers for Easter.



FAST FOOD

Spiritual advisers over the generations have noted that finicky-ness over food is an inversion of gluttony. Declining food is just as fixated on it as wanting more. It’s the pre-occupation with consumption that’s the problem.

The Lenten fast can be like that. We can be over picky about what we are doing without. And we can find ourselves in the ludicrous situation of spending twice as much on meatless and treatless meals as we would on regular fare.

Another of the problems with fasting—and also with dieting, for that matter—is how it can turn into focusing on the here and now. We can lose sight of the goal. So the Lenten fast feels like a chore and a bore, something imposed that we chafe at.

Rather than seeing it as mere rule-keeping, we need to remember that Lenten fasting is not so much about wrestling with our bodies as it is about setting free our spirits. Keep Heaven in mind.

Not everyone can or should change their diets without first seeking medical advice. However, the Lenten fast is in essence about consumption, which is more than food and drink. We need to focus on God, not on what we can acquire or do without.

A Sermon
preached by the Rector
on Sunday, 26 January, 2020

“[Jesus] left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali.” Matthew 4: 13

Nazareth in New Testament times was a mountain village, and it was the place where Jesus grew up. Matthew records that, at the beginning of His ministry, Our Lord withdrew to Capernaum, a fishing village on the Sea of Galilee some 20 to 30 miles to the north-east of Nazareth. Our Lord left home. And following Jesus means leaving home.

We are not all of us called to literally relocate as much as some clergy and people in other professions or jobs do, but all of us who would be disciples of Christ must be prepared to leave behind what is safe, familiar and comfortable. Being faithful to Him involves both risk and sacrifice, as His teaching and earthly life make clear. He didn't come among us – and He doesn't come among us still – to make us feel safe and comfortable, completely at home in this world. Rather, He tells us of the Kingdom, and gives us glimpses of it, creating within us a yearning for it, and a desire to work and even suffer for it. His call to the fishermen of Capernaum and to us is to leave safety and comfort to follow Him – the One who left everything that was safe and comfortable back in Nazareth. For the sake of the Kingdom He placed Himself in His Father's hands, and so must we.

Safety and comfort often seem to get in the way of following Our Lord. Staying at home in that sense makes discipleship very difficult, if not impossible. It creates a rather domesticated, tame Christianity at odds with the uncompromising call of Christ to sacrificial commitment. Moving through an unfamiliar landscape is what

Our Lord is calling us to do. He calls us to live with the uncertainty of everything except that we are following Him. Most of us want rather to stay at home, surrounded by all the familiar things of our religion, perhaps engaging ourselves in the petty in-house disputes St. Paul was addressing in the Church at Corinth. The only Person we should be committed to is Christ, and He is calling us away from the familiar to what is unfamiliar, to the Kingdom.

Love of home is a noticeable feature in the personality of the Celtic peoples. Yet they are also great travellers. One way to get an otherwise very tough Irishman or austere Scotsman abroad dewy-eyed and sentimental is to get them to think and speak of home. When they **sing** about it, they might even cry! St. Andrew's Day and Burns Night are often much more widely and fondly observed by Scots overseas than here in Scotland. The early Celtic saints called their life for Christ abroad “martyrdom”, and so for them it was. Leaving dearly-loved shores was a kind of death for Christ. They did it for love of Him.

As Christians the Celtic saints knew that home is not so much somewhere we leave as somewhere to which we are going. As lovely as the place of safety and comfort that we leave is, there is a lovelier place still to find. If “home is where the heart is” then all those who love and serve Christ must remember that it is His Kingdom that is our true goal and our true home. Our hearts are there. It is to that Kingdom that He calls us, by Baptism, Eucharist and the service of others. All who hear His voice and follow Him leave behind the comfort and safety that would prevent us from joining His fellowship there. We must all of us leave home in order to find our true home.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The World Day of Prayer for 2020 has been written by the Christian Women of Zimbabwe around the theme of “Rise take up your mat and walk”. This year it is the turn of St Salvador’s to host this ecumenical service for our area of Dundee. Come along and worship with our Christian sisters and brothers and learn something of the land, culture and faith of Zimbabwe. The service will begin at 7pm and be followed by refreshments. For more information see Katie, WDP rep.

DIOCESAN SYNOD

The annual Diocesan Synod for the Diocese of Brechin will be held on Saturday March 7th at the Diocesan Centre. A report on the proceedings will feature in next month’s magazine from your alternate Lay Representative, Katie.

FOOD CUPBOARD

The Sunday Afternoon Drop In has been a very busy place in recent weeks. We are now giving out at least 80 bags each week to

our visitors along with any other donated items. Our volunteers work very hard to ensure that our sessions run smoothly and that there are sufficient bags readily available. We are delighted to welcome some new volunteers who have joined us recently, after successfully completing the recruitment process.

We have been blessed with a number of monetary donations recently as well as regular donations of foodstuffs, for which as always we are thankful.

Due to breakages and loss and with more folk wanting a hot drink at the Drop In we are in need of more mugs. If anyone has any spare mugs we would be most grateful for them. Please give them to Father Clive or Katie.

VESTRY NEWS

The Vestry continues to work on your behalf to ensure the smooth running of the Church and its ministries both now and going forward into the Vacancy. Please continue to keep the Vestry Members and Office Holders in your prayers.

Katie Clapson, Vestry Secretary

Come Celebrate!

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John and Charles Wesley, Priests (3 March)

The Wesley brothers were sons of an Anglican clergyman and a Puritan mother. Both of them were noted as students for the seriousness of their spirituality and, after ordination, they served briefly and unsuccessfully as missionaries in the American colony of Georgia. Upon his return to England, John Wesley had a profound religious experience in 1738 that prompted him to begin an itinerant preaching ministry, which recognised no parish boundaries. Such was the power of his sermons, his organisational ability, and his concern for the uneducated and the poor that he initiated real Christian growth and mission in England. Charles shared with his brother John the building-up of early Methodist societies, as they travelled the country. His special concern was that early Methodists should remain loyal to Anglicanism. He married and settled in Bristol, later in London, concentrating his work on the local Christian communities. His thousands of hymns established a resource of lyrical piety which has enabled generations of Christians to rediscover the refining power of God's love. They celebrate God's work of grace from birth to death, the great events of God's work of salvation and the rich themes of Eucharistic worship, anticipating the taking up of humanity into the divine life.

John Wesley died on 2 March 1791 and Charles on 29 March 1788.

St. Adrian and his Companions, Martyrs (4 March)

Adrian, who is said to have been of Hungarian descent, settled with many companions in Fife to evangelise the Picts. This was at the time of fierce Viking raids. An attack by Vikings in the year 875 obliged Adrian and his community to withdraw to the island of May in the Firth of Forth. It was there that the raiders overtook them and slaughtered them all. The island, with a monastery founded later by King David I, became an important centre of pilgrimage in medieval Scotland.

St Kessog, Bishop and Martyr (10 March)

Kessog or Kessock was a missionary bishop

who laboured among the Picts in the lands of Lennox towards the end of the seventh century. He lived in a hermit's cell on Monk's Island, Loch Lomond, and is thought to have been martyred near there around the year 700.

St Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland (17 March)

The son of a clerical family, Patrick was born among the British peoples living in northwestern England and southwestern Scotland in about 385. He was taken captive by raiders and sold as a slave in Ireland when a young boy. There, he worked as a herdsman and his faith was quickened in adversity. Finally escaping, he went to continental Europe, where he became a priest, and, eventually a bishop for missionary work in Ireland. Indefatigable in preaching the faith throughout the country and in organising the Church there, despite opposition, Patrick died in about 461, and was buried at Downpatrick.

St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Teacher (18 March)

Cyril, born in 315, became Bishop of Jerusalem in 348; the Arian controversy was at its height, and he was exiled several times. In his 'Catecheses' he set out the true teaching of Christianity and scripture and the tradition of the Church. He died in the year 386.

St Joseph of Nazareth (19 March)

A simple village carpenter, Joseph, of the lineage of King David, was the husband of the blessed Virgin Mary and guardian of the child Jesus. According to tradition, he was older than Mary, and is often depicted as such in art. It is therefore possible that Joseph may have already had children in a previous marriage, which may account for the brothers and sisters of Jesus mentioned in the New Testament.

The Annunciation of the Lord (25 March)

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.

Kalendar

Sun., 1 Mar.: Lent 1: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; Stations of the Cross at 10 AM; EP at 5 PM

Tues., 3 Mar.: John & Charles Wesley:
Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 4 Mar.: St. Adrian & Companions:
Mass at 10 AM

Sun., 8 Mar.: Lent 2: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; Stations of the Cross at 10 AM; EP at 5 PM

Tues., 10 Mar.: St. Kessog: Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 11 Mar.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM

Sun., 15 Mar.: Lent 3: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; Stations of the Cross at 10 AM; EP at 5 PM

Tues., 17 Mar.: St. Patrick: Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 18 Mar.: St. Cyril of Jerusalem:
Mass at 10 AM

Thurs., 19 Mar.: St. Joseph: Mass at 7 PM

Sun., 22 Mar.: Lent 4: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; Stations of the Cross at 10 AM; EP at 5 PM

Tues., 24 Mar.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 25 Mar.: THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD: Mass at 7 PM (NOTE TIME CHANGE): Fr. Clive's 40th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood

Sun., 29 Mar.: Lent 5: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; Stations of the Cross at 10 AM; EP at 5 PM

Tues., 31 Mar.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 1 Apr.: St. Gilbert of Caithness: Mass at 10 AM & Lent Study

Sun., 5 Apr.: Palm Sunday: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; Stations of the Cross at 10 AM; EP at 5 PM

Mon., 6 Apr.: Monday in Holy Week:
Mass at 7 PM

Tues., 7 Apr.: Tuesday in Holy Week:
Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 8 Apr.: Wednesday in Holy Week: Mass at 10 AM; Tenebrae at 7 PM

Thurs., 9 Apr.: Maundy Thursday: Liturgy of the Lord's Supper and Stripping of the Altar at 7 PM, followed by Watch until midnight.

Fri., 10 Apr.: Good Friday: Mattins & Litany at 9 AM; Solemn Liturgy at 3 PM and Stations of the Cross at 7 PM

Sat., 11 Apr.: Holy Saturday: Mattins & Ante Communion at 9 AM; The Great Vigil & First Mass of Easter at 9 PM

Sun., 12 Apr.: Easter Day: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; No EP tonight

Mon., 13 Apr.: Easter Monday:
Mass at 7 PM

Tues., 14 Apr.: Easter Tuesday:
Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 15 Apr.: Easter Wednesday:
Mass at 10 AM

Sun., 19 Apr.: Easter 2: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; EP at 5 PM

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 3: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; EP at 5 PM

Tues., 28 Apr.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 29 Apr.: St. Catherine of Siena: Mass at 10 AM

Private Confessions may be heard on any day throughout the year (except Good Friday and Holy Saturday).

Please make an appointment with the Rector if you would like to do so. If you need help preparing, or have any questions, he is happy to be of assistance.

Diocesan Website:
www.brechin.anglican.org

After Easter, Fr. Clive will no longer be arranging flowers. If anyone values floral decoration of the sanctuary enough to take over, please tell him. Otherwise, there will be no more church flowers.

The deadline for the next issue of 'Crucis' is Sunday, 22 March. 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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