

CRUCIS

Magazine of St. Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church Dundee

May 2009

"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...

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. In some Slavic languages it is called "the Great Day/Night", in most Oriental languages "Resurrection Day" or simply known as "End of Fasting"/ "Beginning of Feasting" (in Persian, Maltese, Hungarian et al.). Only the English-speaking world and our German cousins have a name for the greatest of Christian festivals completely unrelated to the celebration.

We call it "Easter"; the Germans call it "Ostern". Both titles are derived from the name of the pagan Anglo-Saxon goddess of Spring, "Eostre". That we two northern Germanic peoples alone among the nations of the world should call the primary Christian festival after an ancient pagan deity is mystifying.

The Anglo-Saxons are also responsible for the pernicious myth of the "Easter Bunny". Based on a German legend, it was exported through emigration to what is now the USA, and from there it has hopped across oceans, deserts and mountains and around the whole world. Indeed, some children in such thoroughly secular countries as ours are beginning to wonder what Jesus has got to do with the Easter Bunny! Well might they

wonder. Perhaps if our culture had rooted Easter by its very name in the great events described in Scripture, instead of a pagan spring festival, this blurring might not have occurred.

There are ever more strident voices around us that would equate Jesus with the Easter Bunny. Both, they would say, are legends or myths. They scoff at believers in the Risen Christ as stupid, ill-informed or deceived, mere intellectual children. Their anti-Christian hatred is increasingly undisguised. It is also increasingly irrational. It fails to consider the evidence, not least the testimony of witnesses — past and present.

No one in their right mind has ever testified to seeing the Easter Bunny. No one has ever been inspired to create a great work of art or literature by the Easter Bunny. No one has ever given their life for the Easter Bunny. The same cannot be said of the Risen Christ.

With prayers for every blessing,
Fr. Clive



Easter is "Pascua" in Spanish.

New CD from *Cantiones Sacrae*

The long-awaited second CD from St Salvador's "resident" vocal ensemble, *Cantiones Sacrae*, is due out this summer. The group: Linda Dallas (Soprano), Lisa Rose (Alto), Jonathan Matheson-Dear (Tenor), and Graeme Adamson (Bass) have been working hard since their concert in December to bring a selection of pieces from their repertoire up to recording standard.

Their last CD was recorded in St Andrews Chapel at Fasque but this time the group wanted to record in the unrivalled acoustic of St Salvador's Church. "The advantage of using the small chapel on the Gladstone Estate at Fasque was that it was so quiet", Graeme explained, "there were no roads nearby so passing traffic was not a problem". He went on, "Recording in St Salvador's was a pure delight from a performance point of view but the amount of extraneous noise is unbelievable when one really listens. Cars passing on the cobbles in St Salvador Street would render a take unusable and the pigeons in the eaves sounded like they were having a party on Saturday evening!"

On the advice of their recording engineer and producer, Dr Kenneth McAlpine of Abertay University, the group didn't begin to record until mid-evening in the hope that the area around the church would be quieter than during the day. So, on the evenings of Friday 17th and Saturday 18th April, *Cantiones Sacrae* met shortly after 8pm to warm up and be ready to record from 9pm. "Recording late in the evening definitely worked", said Graeme, "We were probably at our most productive between about 10pm and midnight and actually managed some pieces in one take".

The next stage in the process is preparing

the recorded music for transfer to a master CD for pressing in quantity. Amongst other things, this involves ensuring the dynamic range and tonal quality of the music is correct . . . and that any passing cars and pigeons have been filtered out!

The CD will contain a wide selection of music including two Mass settings: a *Missa Brevis* by Antonio Lotti and a full Mass by Giovanni Gabrieli. *Cantiones Sacrae* has also recorded some of their favourite motets by Byrd, Gibbons, and Farrant, as well as Nicholas Wilton's *Benediction Set*, and a small selection of Christmas carols including *Away in a Manger* and the *Coventry Carol*.

The CD, with the working title "Renaissance", is due for release in June. The current CD, "A Glimpse of Heaven", is still available to buy with a proportion of its sales going to the St Salvador's Restoration Fund.

G A

Our best wishes to Gregg Moonlight & Kelly O'Sullivan, who are to be married here at St. Salvador's on Saturday, 16th May. Let us pray for every blessing on them in their new life together.

MANY THANKS

The Paschal Candle for 2009 was given by Muriel McKelvie in memory of Margaret & David Hume and Helen T. Jupp. Thank you!

Many thanks also for donations for Easter flowers from Ian Peat and Chris Lawrence.

We are now at last well-stocked with various Altar Linens, thanks to the skills of Pat Kendal.

A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

'The Mission' was for me a most thought provoking film. Set in the year 1750, the film is a fictionalized account of an historical event. Spain and Portugal possessed territories in South America. Portugal allowed slavery, and, although Spain did not, in fact both operated slave trading of the Guarani native Indians. The story involves some Jesuit priests, their bringing Christianity to thousands of the Indians, and the crisis that arose when Portugal was given control over the territory in which the Guarani Indians lived. Actor Jeremy Irons is cast as a tolerant, obedient and submissive servant of the holy mother church of Rome, and Robert de Niro, [who has long been my 'heart-throb'] was as I had not seen him before: firstly as a cruel slave hunter, trader and murderer, then as a penitent, novice, and Jesuit priest. Liam Neeson also stars and the three Jesuits ultimately sacrifice their lives. After a short discussion, our evening's entertainment concluded. I look forward to our next film and have already booked my seat!! On behalf of the others who attended, our thanks to Fr. Clive.

Anne Haldane

Thank you for your donations of food and useful household/family items to our cupboard at the back of the church for those who come to us for assistance.

The giving is by no means all one way. Recently, one of those who came for help noticed the board that sits at our entrance at the moment, making the case for raising funds to save our building. She reached into her pocket and gave us what she had—a 20p coin.....



“They in Glory Shine”

A collection of Sermons by the Rector that profiles various figures from Anglican history.

Available for £6 + £1 (p&p)

All funds raised go to the Restoration Fund.

TREATS FOR EASTERTIDE

Anne Haldane was very busy during Easter Week preparing some wonderfully tempting tasters and confections to sell after our services on Low Sunday, 19th April. As succumbing to such a temptation is less of an issue during the Easter Festival than it would have been in Lent and Passiontide, it is little wonder that £103 was raised among our devout lot for the Restoration Fund!

We hope that Anne might tempt us again... and SOON???

Easter in Ponferrada

Easter Day in Ponferrada, northern Spain, presented us with a dilemma: attend the local church for Sunday Mass or bunk off to go and watch the last city procession – ‘The Procession of the Resurrection’. A clash of times precluded attending both. Finally we decided that having been to the Easter Vigil service the previous evening our duties to the local church were fulfilled, so we proceeded to the Plaza del Ayuntamiento (Council Square), in the old part of Ponferrada, at about 11.30 a.m., where a small crowd was gathering.

The procession was scheduled to start at 11.30, but it was about 11.45 before anything started happening. Participants slowly gathered together in the large square in front of the council building. A large statue of the Virgin with child was brought in, covered with a black cloth and placed on a dais. This was accompanied by many ladies in mantillas, some white and some black. Another part of the procession comprised the Blessed Sacrament displayed in a monstrance and carried under a canopy supported by six vested clergy, and accompanied by thurifer, banners and a brass band. Others, including children wore white robes bearing Templar insignia on their arms (described as nazarenes in white tunics without remnant). I also noticed a group of what looked like council officers wearing uniforms similar to those of beefeaters.

At the appropriate moment the black cloth was removed from the statue, bells were rung and daytime fireworks set off. I was relieved to see the resurrection commemorated in this manner having been a little disappointed by the absence of bells at the Gloria in the Easter Vigil service the previous night.

The procession moved off down a narrow street, followed by the entire crowd, towards the Basilica of Our Lady of the Oak. This is the third church devoted to ‘Nuestra

Señora de la Encina’ to be built on (or near) this site and it was consecrated in 1958. Inside it is very ornate, and it commemorates the discovery by the Knights Templars in about 1200 of a small statue of the Virgin and child inside an oak tree. The statue had originally come from Jerusalem in 450, been kept in Astorga for more than four hundred years, then brought to Ponferrada and hidden in a tree for another three hundred years. (Unfortunately neither the statue in the procession nor the one on display in the church is the original one brought from Jerusalem.)

When we arrived, there was an Easter Mass at the church, which was filled to capacity with only standing room at the back. The priest was very enthusiastic, and, aided by a good microphone system, led the service with evangelical vigour. Unlike our own church this one has its own organ, so hymns were able to be sung with a proper accompaniment.

After the service the procession was due to return to the Council square, but we had had enough by then and returned home for a very late lunch – lamb, of course!

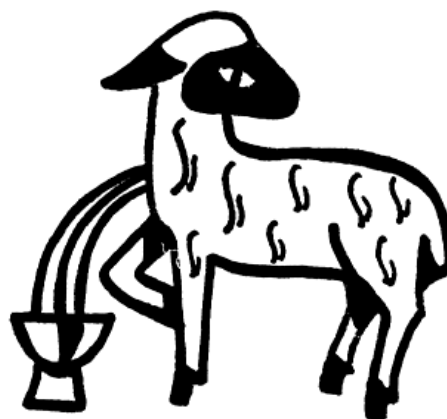
Martin Andrews



W5: Who, What, When, Where, Why

Pentecost is one of the major festivals in the Church's Year. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Disciples and others of Jesus' followers fifty days after His Resurrection, as described in the Book of Acts, chapter 2. At the time, Jerusalem was celebrating the Jewish harvest festival of Shavuot or the day, fifty days after the Exodus, on which God gave the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai. There are connections, historically and theologically, between the Christian and the Jewish festivals. After the passage of Christ from Death to Life at Easter, His People have passed from slavery to freedom, and are given a New Commandment by God the Holy Spirit. For Christians, the coming of the Holy Spirit is regarded as the birth of the Church, and the beginning of the Christian mission to the world.

Pentecost falls seven weeks after Easter – fifty days inclusively, which is where the title "Pentecost" comes from. Among Anglicans, it is commonly called "Whitsun" or "Whitsunday", which recalls that, as a major annual occasion for the administration of Baptism, a white garment was customarily given to the newly-baptised.



Behold the Lamb of God

Welcome to Alan Lockhart and Kirsten Souter and their baby daughter Laura, who have been attending regularly in preparation for Laura's Baptism this month on Whitsunday (31st May) at the 11 AM Mass.

The next FILM NIGHT AT THE RECTORY, on Mon. 18 May at 7 PM, will feature "Babette's Feast (Babettes gæstebud)" by Gabriel Axel (1987). Set in a fishing village in 19th century Denmark, a French housekeeper meets two sisters continuing the work of their late father, who was pastor to a dwindling congregation in an austere, frustrated community. She enters their household, and her warmth and sensuousness gradually has a huge impact on them and the village. It is said to be Archbishop Rowan Williams' favourite "religious" film.

We continue to collect used postage stamps (domestic and foreign) and post cards, as well as old spectacles and (clean) tin foil to raise money for a variety of good causes. Please bring any contributions to church and leave them in the basket at the back. Thank you!

Come Celebrate!

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Ss. Philip and James, Apostles (1 May)

Philip and James merely appear on the list of the twelve apostles in the first three gospels, but in St John's Gospel, Philip has a more prominent role. James is said to be the son of Alphaeus, and is often referred to as James the Less or James the Younger. The two apostles are celebrated on the same day because the church in Rome, where their relics were laid to rest, was dedicated on this day in the year 560.

Thomas Rattray, Bishop (12 May)

Thomas Rattray came of a long-established Perthshire family. He was distinguished while still a layman for his theological writings. As a liturgical and patristic scholar, and drawing on early Eastern liturgies, he exerted a decisive influence on the Scottish Communion Office of 1764 and thus on the eucharistic worship of the Episcopal Church in Scotland and in the USA. He was a leader among those who contended that the appointment of a bishop belonged properly to the clergy of the diocese, with the approbation of the laity. His election as Bishop of Brechin in 1727 was declared void by the College of Bishops. He was later elected Bishop of Dunkeld, and became Primus in 1739. An example of piety and strictness of life, he was one of the most learned bishops of his time. He died in 1743.

St Matthias, Apostle (14 May)

In the choosing of Matthias to replace the traitor Judas, we can see that the author of the Acts of the Apostles differs from St Paul in his understanding of apostleship. The number had to be restored so that they might sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. It was conditional that they

had to have been with Jesus during his earthly ministry and witnesses to the resurrection. The point of being chosen by lot, rather than by election, indicated the choice was God's alone.

St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop (26 May)

Augustine was prior of the monastery of St Andrew in Rome. In 596, at the instigation of Pope Gregory the Great, he was dispatched as the leader of a group of forty monks to re-evangelise the English Church. Augustine appears not to have been a particularly confident person and, in Gaul, he wanted to turn back, but Pope Gregory's firm resolution held the group to their mission. The monks finally landed in Kent in the summer of 597 where they were well received by King Ethelbert whose wife, Bertha, was a Christian. Once established, Augustine returned temporarily to Gaul to receive ordination as a bishop. Pope Gregory would have preferred London to have become the primatial see, but in the event Canterbury was chosen and thus Augustine became the first Archbishop of Canterbury. He died in either 604 or 605.

The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to St. Elizabeth (31 May – observed this year on 1 June)

The celebration of this feast first occurred among the Franciscans in 1263, but quickly spread throughout Europe. Since it recalls an incident clearly described in Scripture, the churches of the Reformation three hundred years later were less inclined to proscribe it than they were other Marian feasts, particularly as it was the occasion for the blessed Virgin to sing her great hymn of praise the Magnificat. The story of the Visitation emphasises the connection between the old covenant and the new, and how the former clearly points to Jesus as the promised Messiah.

Kalendar

Fri. 1 May: Ss. Philip and James: Mass at 7 PM
 Sat. 2 May: Monthly Requiem Mass at 11 AM
 Sun. 3 May: Fourth Sun. of Easter: Masses at 9 & 11 AM; Evensong & Benediction at 5 PM
 Tues. 5 May: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
 Wed. 6 May: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
 Sun. 10 May: Fifth Sun. of Easter: Masses at 9 & 11 AM
 Tues. 12 May: Thomas Rattray: Mass at 7 PM
 Wed. 13 May: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
 Thurs. 14 May: St. Matthias: Mass at 7 PM
 Sun. 17 May: Sixth Sun. of Easter: Masses at 9 & 11 AM
 Tues. 19 May: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
 Wed. 20 May: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
 Thurs. 21 May: ASCENSION DAY: Mass at 7 PM
 Sun. 24 May: Seventh Sun. of Easter: Masses at 9 & 11 AM
 Tues. 26 May: St. Augustine of Canterbury: Mass at 7 PM
 Wed. 27 May: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
 Sun. 31 May: PENTECOST: Masses at 9 & 11 AM
 Mon. 1 June: The Visitation of the BVM: Mass at 7 PM
 Tues. 2 June: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
 Wed. 3 June: The Martyrs of Uganda: Mass at 10 AM
 Sat. 6 June: Feria: Monthly Requiem Mass at 11 AM
 Sun. 7 June: TRINITY SUNDAY: Masses at 9 & 11 AM; Evensong & Benediction at 5 PM
 Tues. 9 June: St. Columba: Mass at 7 PM
 Wed. 10 June: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
 Thurs. 11 June: Corpus Christi: Mass at 7 PM
 Fri. 12 June: St. Barnabas: Mass at 7 PM
 Sun. 14 June: Trinity 1: Masses at 9 & 11 AM
 Tues. 16 June: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
 Wed. 17 June: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
 Sun. 21 June: Trinity 2: Masses at 9 & 11 AM
 Tues. 23 June: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
 Wed. 24 June: Birth of St. John the Baptist: Mass at 10 AM
 Sun. 28 June: Trinity 3: Masses at 9 & 11 AM
 Mon. 29 June: Ss. Peter & Paul: Mass at 7 PM
 Tues. 30 June: Feria: Mass at 7 PM

The deadline for the next issue of *Crucis* is Sunday, 24th May. Please submit all items for inclusion by then. Thank you!

RUSSIAN AROUND!

We were delighted on Saturday, 18 April to welcome a group of approximately 30 members of the Eastern Orthodox community in this part of Scotland to attend the Divine Liturgy in our church, on what was their Holy Saturday. Considering the number present, a very generous donation was received from them for St. Salvador's.

Fr. Mikhail Dudko (himself based in London) and a number of his people travelled a great distance to be there. As is customary, after the beautiful Liturgy food for Easter was blessed in a very happy little ceremony. I got to share in the fun of this the following day, when an elderly gentleman I recognised from the previous day appeared before our main Sunday Mass enquiring whether I might bless some food for him – as he hadn't brought any with him on the Saturday. I was glad to oblige! Ann Noltie got to crack one of the hardboiled eggs dyed red that he had brought – an Orthodox custom representing Christ's bursting forth from the tomb. For her enthusiasm the gentleman greeted her with a Paschal kiss!

It is hoped that we may extend church hospitality again to this Orthodox group at some point in the future.

Fr. Clive



The Bible Study and Prayer group meets at 5 PM at the Rectory on every Sunday of the month except the first Sunday (when there is Evensong at the Church). All are welcome.

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. Dr Idris Jones	Tel: 0141 221 6911 (office)
Diocesan Bishop	The Rt Rev. Dr John Mantle	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
Clergy team	The Rev. George Greig The Rev. Adetunji Adebisi	Tel: 01382 566709 Tel: 07748 234866
Honorary Treasurer	Dr Darron Dixon-Hardy	c/o Rector
Honorary Secretary	Dr Kirsty Noltie	42 Addison Place ARBROATH DD11 2BA Tel: 01241 437739
Lay Representative	Mrs Katie Clapson	c/o Rector
Alt. Lay Representative	Mr Frank Bowles	Tel: 01382 224362
People's Churchwarden & Child Protection Officer	Mrs Muriel McKelvie	Liff Cottage, 12 Church Road, LIFF, Angus DD2 5NN Tel: 01382 580065
Rector's Churchwarden	Mr Martin Andrews	First Floor Flat 10 Brown Constable Street DUNDEE DD4 6QZ Tel: 01382 223465 mhdeta@blueyonder.co.uk
Envelope and Gift Aid Secretary	Mrs J. Cassells	105 Ancrum Road DUNDEE DD2 2HN Tel: 01382 668564
Sacristan	Mrs Evelyn Kelly	Tel: 01382 812475
Flowers	Mrs F. Callaghan & Miss Heather Fairley	Tel: 01382 864363 Tel: 01382 225176
Cantor, Choirmaster & Webmaster	Dr Graeme Adamson	Tel/Fax: 01382 667009

Magazine

Please send comments, corrections and material to the Rector. Note: material may be omitted, or edited for length and suitability. Postal subscriptions £12 p.a. inc. p&p. Also available free as a PDF.