

CRUCIS

Magazine of St. Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church Dundee

September 2016

"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 surprised myself the other day. I learned something new. I'm not really a "know-it-all" – there are so many things I don't know. However, like most people I can get into a rut that restricts me only to what is familiar and reassuring. My mind got stretched a little bit recently, and I feel the better for it.

Over the summer I've been working on improving our tract rack, which is an extension of our teaching ministry. There is a number of new titles, and some of the old titles have been revised. I have tried to anticipate questions about who we are and what we do, and have attempted to answer basic queries with basic replies.

I'm doing this because it needs to be done. Instruction through sermons and this magazine is limited, and the tract rack adds an-

other string to our teaching bow. As well, I am anticipating visitors at Holy Cross and Doors Open this month.

However, the tracts are not designed just for guests and newcomers. There is always something new we can learn, even about subjects we thought we knew.

And there is clearly a need to learn, even among our most regular attenders. It is interesting how the sermons that have been most favourably commented upon recently have been those that engaged with familiar prayers or liturgical texts we often use but seldom think about.

If you see a title that interests you, or you think might interest someone you know, take it. The tracts are free. And learning something new can be priceless.

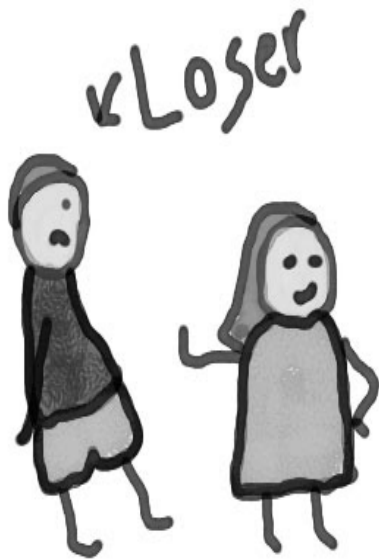
With every blessing
Fr. Clive

HOLY CROSS DAY

Solemn High Mass with Procession
on Wed., 14 September at 7 PM

Celebrant: The Bishop of Brechin
Preacher: The Rev. David Gordon

Choral Music: *Cantiones Sacrae*



Feel like a loser sometimes? Why do bad things happen to good people? Why do good things happen to wicked people? These are questions as old as the Bible – and perhaps much older even than that.

These questions are frequently tackled in the Scriptures. It's the main theme of the Book of Job. In the psalms we read: *"How long shall the wicked, O Lord, how long shall the wicked triumph (Psalm 94:3)?"* It seems to offend our human sense of justice and order when the wicked are not crushed and the good do not prosper.

There are two things we need to consider at the outset:

1. Are the wicked really wicked? Undoubtedly, the words and actions of some people are evil by any standard. Many of them do eventually get their comeuppance in history one way or another. They are forever tainted in the memory. Most people that we might consider wicked, however, may be ordinary people who simply don't like us, or are people we do not like. Their success appals us and their failure cheers us. But does this not say more about us than them? Not everyone loves us; should we be constantly resentful of them and consider them wicked for that?
2. Are the good truly good? Naturally we

think the best of ourselves and our family and friends. But does that make them good? Who among us is not a sinner? No one is perfect. Good people sometimes do bad things. We may well suffer the bad consequences of our words and actions. Why should we assume that we should prosper? And when we do suffer bad things, why are we so quick to complain to God who has also given us all the good things we've forgotten or felt we were entitled to?

Psalm 37 wrestles hard with the whole issue of the prosperity of the wicked and the suffering of the good. Its teaching is clear.

"Do not fret yourselves because of evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong (v.1)."

"Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes. Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil (vv.8&9)." Resentfulness of others can consume us and do our souls great harm. We have a responsibility to care for our own spiritual health; the goodness or wickedness of others is not our responsibility to fret over.

"In a little while the wicked shall be no more; you shall search out their place, but they will not be there (v.11)." *"I have seen the wicked in their arrogance, flourishing like a tree in full leaf. I went by, and behold, they were not there; I searched for them, but they could not be found (vv.37&38)."* Life is transitory and has many ups and downs. Nothing is permanent. Prosperity and suffering are both fleeting. Good and bad things happen to us all.

"The Lord loves justice; he does not forsake his faithful ones (v.29)." *"The deliverance of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble (v.41)."* *"Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him (v.7)."* Both prosperity and suffering are a test of character. They reveal us for who we really are. Good things and bad things happening to us also test our trust in God: is He really the one we trust to direct our lives?

Whatever the fortunes of others, relying on God is the true test of a Christian's life, in good times and in bad.



W5: Who, What, When, Where, Why

Before someone was crucified by the Romans, it was not uncommon for their crime to be inscribed on a piece of wood and paraded with them to the place of execution. Although this “titulus” (“inscription”) provided one last opportunity for a witness to come forward and halt the proceedings, it was mainly for the purpose of acting as an added humiliation for the criminal and as a deterrent to any who might consider following him in his crime.

We know that Our Lord had such a sign inscribed and hung on His Cross, referring to Him as the “King of the Jews”. This “Titulus Crucis”, Latin for the “Title of the Cross”, is claimed as a relic of the Holy Cross by the Church of Santa Croce in Gerusalemme in Rome (above). Indeed, the Church was named for the Holy Cross, and it was “in Gerusalemme” because St. Helena had covered the floor with “holy” earth she brought back with her from Jerusalem.

The “Titulus Crucis” is made of walnut wood, 25 × 14 cm in size, 2.6 cm thick and has a weight of 687 g. It is inscribed on one side with three lines, of which the first one, in Hebrew, is mostly destroyed. The second line is written in Greek letters and reversed script, the third in Latin letters, also with reversed script.

The church where this relic is housed, the

Church of Santa Croce in Gerusalemme, was built about AD 325 by St. Helena (the mother of Emperor Constantine) after her pilgrimage to the Holy Land, during which she is supposed to have located the True Cross and many other relics which she gave to the new church in Rome. The “Titulus Crucis” is alleged to have been among these relics. Sometime before 1145 the relic was placed in a box which has the seal of an early medieval Cardinal associated with Santa Croce in Gerusalemme. Thereafter the “Titulus Crucis” was apparently forgotten until 1492, when it was discovered during restoration work on the church. Since then it has been given a prominent place.

Modern investigation by experts has determined that the text is either remarkably clever for a medieval forgery, or could well be authentic to the first three centuries AD.

Vestry News

The Vestry is

- Continuing to follow up on concerns about the fabric of our building, including the guttering, a recent leak in the choir room and the painting that needs to be done
- Preparing for our patronal festival at Holy Cross
- Glad to have received a letter confirming that the electrical rewiring work done last year has been completed to the satisfaction of the Diocese
- Thankful to all our readers, those who are on the coffee rota and those who undertake welcoming duties as a new rota for these ministries begins
- Hopeful that a number of visitors will come to see our beautiful church during Doors Open Weekend.

Katie Clapson, Vestry Secretary

Come Celebrate!

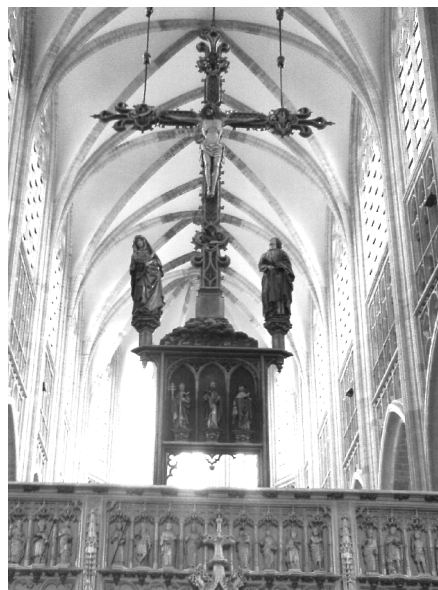
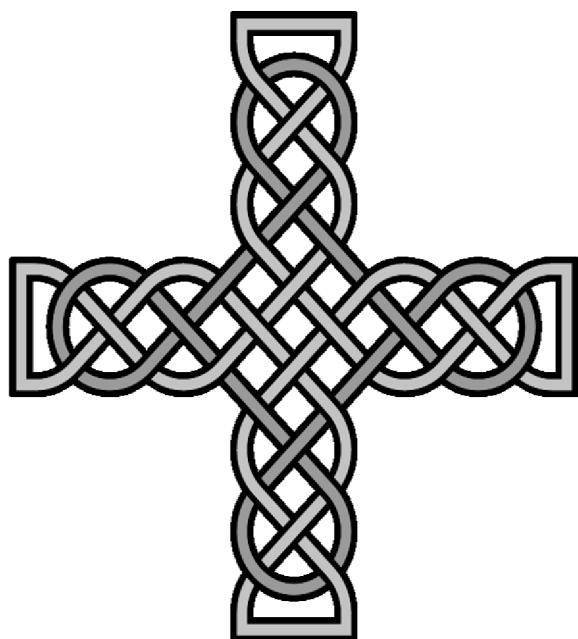
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The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary (8 September)

This festival in honour of the birth of the Mother of God the Son is of long standing, and is celebrated on this day in both the eastern and western Churches.

St Cyprian of Carthage, Bishop and Martyr (13 September)

Born in Carthage in about the year 200, Cyprian was a teacher of rhetoric and a lawyer in the city before his conversion to Christianity. He gave away his pagan library and set his mind to study the Scriptures and the commentaries that were beginning to proliferate. He became a priest and then, in the year 248, was elected Bishop of Carthage. As a bishop, and at a time of fierce persecution, he showed compassion to returning apostates and encouraged his people by word and example. During the persecution of Valerian, Cyprian was first exiled and then condemned to death in 258.



Holy Cross Day (14 September)

The cross on which our Lord was crucified has become the universal sign of Christianity, replacing the fish symbol of the early church. After the end of persecution early in the fourth century, pilgrims began to travel to Jerusalem to visit and pray at places associated with the earthly life of Jesus. St Helena, mother of the emperor, was a Christian and, whilst overseeing excavations in the city, is said to have uncovered a cross, which many believed to be the Cross of Christ. A basilica was built on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and dedicated on this day in the year 335.

St Ninian of Whithorn, Bishop and Missionary (16 September)

Ninian was born in about the year 360, the son of a Cumbrian chieftain who himself had converted to Christianity. It seems that Ninian visited Rome in his youth, where he received training in the faith. He was consecrated bishop in the year 394 and returned to Britain, setting up a community of monks in Galloway at Whithorn, from where they went out on missionary journeys among the southern Picts, as far as Perth and Stirling. His monastic base was called 'Candida Casa' – the White House – a sign and a landmark for miles around.

Ninian died in about the year 432.

John Coleridge Patteson, Bishop and Martyr (20 September)

Born in London in 1827, John Coleridge Patteson was still a scholar at Eton when he came under the influence of the first Bishop of New Zealand, George Augustus Selwyn. Patteson was ordained and, in 1855, he left Britain to begin his life's work among the Islanders of the South Pacific, becoming their first bishop. Christianity spread rapidly. Also working in Melanesia at that time were European pirates called 'blackbirders' who carried off Islanders to forced labour in British and other colonies. When Patteson landed alone on the island of Nukapu on this day in the year 1871, in the hope of showing that not all white men were a threat, he was killed, probably in revenge for the kidnapping of five young men by the 'blackbirders'. His fellow-workers were also attacked in their boat, two of them later dying of tetanus.

St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist (21 September)

Matthew was a tax collector, born at Capernaum, called by Jesus, for whom he left everything and turned to a new life. His Gospel was written in Hebrew originally, for Jewish Christians. Tradition tells that he preached in the East and was martyred there.

St Vincent de Paul, Priest (27 September)

Born about 1580, of a peasant family in southwestern France, Vincent was ordained in 1600. After a conversion experience in 1609, he resolved to devote his life to works of charity. He did much to relieve the sufferings of prisoners held on the galleys, victims of war and other needy people. He founded confraternities of charity for men and women to help with his work among

the sick and the poor. He was also keenly interested in mission work, especially in the countryside, and in the spiritual formation and training of the clergy. A legend in his own lifetime, Vincent died on this day in 1660.

St Michael and All Angels (29 September)

A basilica near Rome was dedicated in the fifth century in honour of Michael the Archangel on the 30th of September, beginning with celebrations on the eve of that day. The 29th of September is now kept in honour of Michael and the two other named biblical angels, Gabriel and Raphael, as well as those whose names are unknown. Michael means 'who is like God?', and he has traditionally been regarded as the protector of Christians from the devil, particularly in the hour of death. Gabriel means 'strength of God' and he announced the birth of Christ to the Virgin Mary. Raphael means 'the healing of God', and he is depicted in the apocryphal Book of Tobit as the one who restored sight to Tobit's eyes.



David Elder 1928-2016

We were sorry to hear about the death of David Elder (88) last month. His health had been failing for some time.

David was an active member of St. Salvador's for very many years. In addition to a number of things he did around here, he was a Vestryman and Church Treasurer. Latterly in his professional life, David worked in the Social Work Department.

David and his late wife Betty were married at St. Salvador's and lived on Hill Street. They had two sons, one of whom survives him.

It was at St. Salvador's that David felt called to the Sacred Ministry, and after training as a Non-Stipendiary Minister from 1975 -79, he was ordained Deacon at the age of 51. The following year David was ordained Priest and served as an Assistant at St. Salvador's until 1993.

In 1993 David was appointed as Priest-in-Charge of our neighbour St. Martin's, where he remained until he retired in 2008. During his time there, the church underwent major renovation work, including the installation of a lift!

Even in retirement, David remained active in ministry, helping out in various local congregations, including St. Margaret's Lochee, where his funeral took place on 23 August, 2016.

Rest eternal, grant unto him, O Lord.

Dundee Doors Open for 2016

Did you know that your church doors will be open once again over the weekend of the 18th and 19th September, during the city wide Dundee Doors Open Event?

This is your chance to have a look at and think about your church from a different perspective perhaps than when you attend Sunday by Sunday.

There are so many fascinating and symbolic details lavished into it by Bodley under the direction of Bishop Forbes and its history within the context of its city is inspiring. This particularly as times often seem as troubled as in the Victorian past, and we may feel in special need of God's blessing and mercy.

We are usually fortunate enough to have a wide variety of visitors over the weekend who can inspire us to take a new perspective on the old familiar – come and see for yourself! Take a leaflet from the back of church too and see where else you could visit in this interesting and historic city of ours.

Kirsty Noltie



Kalendar

Sun., 4 Sept.: Trinity 15: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM
Tues., 6 Sept.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 7 Sept.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Thurs., 8 Sept.: Birth of the Blessed Virgin
Mary: Mass at NOON (note time!)
Sun., 11 Sept.: Trinity 16: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM
Tues., 13 Sept.: St. Cyprian: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 14 Sept.: Holy Cross Day: Masses at
10 AM & 7 PM
Fri., 16 Sept.: St. Ninian: Mass at NOON
(note time!)
Sun., 18 Sept.: Trinity 17: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM
Tues., 20 Sept.: John Coleridge Patteson:
Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 21 Sept.: St. Matthew: Mass
at 10 AM
Sun., 25 Sept.: Trinity 18: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM
Tues., 27 Sept.: St. Vincent de Paul: Mass
at 7 PM
Wed., 28 Sept.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Thurs., 29 Sept.: St. Michael & All Angels:
Mass at 7 PM

Sun., 2 Oct.: Trinity 19: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM
Tues., 4 Oct.: St. Francis of Assisi: Mass at
7 PM
Wed., 5 Oct.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 9 Oct.: Trinity 20: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM
Tues., 11 Oct.: St. Kenneth: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 12 Oct.: Elizabeth Fry: Mass
at 10 AM
Sun., 16 Oct.: Trinity 21: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM
Tues., 18 Oct.: St. Luke: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 19 Oct.: Henry Martyn: Mass
at 10 AM
Sun., 23 Oct.: Trinity 22: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM
Mon., 24 Oct.: St. James of Jerusalem:
Mass at NOON
Tues., 25 Oct.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 26 Oct.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Fri., 28 Oct.: SS. Simon & Jude: Mass
at 7 PM
Sun., 30 Oct.: Trinity 23: Masses
at 9 & 11 AM

CHURCH FLOWERS

Recent donations of flowers have come in from Evelyn Rodger, Jeannette Coutts, Phyllis McIntosh, and the Conlans. Many thanks!

If anyone would like to assist with flower arranging, Fr. Clive is very anxious to hear from you!

Zara McKenzie and Chris Hollis were married by the Rector at the Invercarse Hotel by episcopal permission on Saturday, 20 August, 2016.

Zara is the daughter of Ann McKenzie and granddaughter of John and Gladys Conlan. She was a lovely bride.

Chris is a Corporal in the Royal Air Force and was on a tour of duty in the Falklands during some of the wedding planning stages!

Every blessing to both of them as they start their married life together.

Diocesan Website:
www.brechin.anglican.org

The deadline for the next issue of 'Crucis' is Sunday, 25 September. Please send any material to the Editor (the Rector) by that day. Thank you!

Goodbye

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	Miss J. Coutts	
Protection of Vulnerable Groups Officer	Dr Kirsty Noltie	42 Addison Place ARBROATH DD11 2BA Tel: 01242 437739
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

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