

CRUCIS

Magazine of St. Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church Dundee

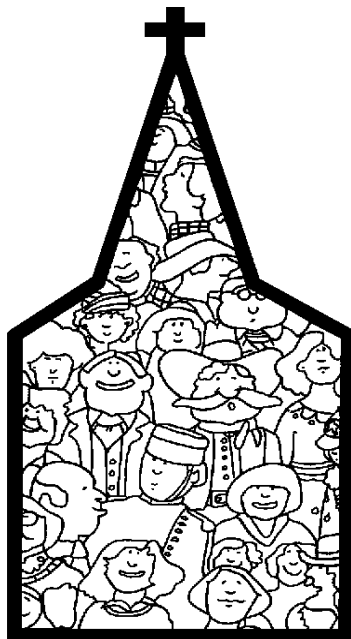
September 2019

"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...

Most of you know that I am an avid watcher of good films – especially those that are particularly well-written, well-directed, and well-performed. I especially like the ones that depict or challenge some aspect of the Gospel message.

Recently I borrowed from a friend the box set of a series called "Band of Brothers". It follows the true account of a single company of American airborne troops from their training in Georgia and England, through Normandy, Arnhem, Bastogne, the crossing of the Rhine, and the occupation of Hitler's retreat at Berchtesgaden. Breath-taking in its historic sweep of World War Two, it never loses the particular stories of the individuals involved. A number of the veterans still alive at the making of the film appear in cameo interviews prior to each episode, underlining the authenticity of the viewer's watching experience.



As the title of the film series suggests, the theme that continually recurs is the relationship forged among those very normal but also extraordinary men. Their shared experience at the forefront of the heaviest fighting in northern Europe during the war created an intimate, precious, and eternal bond. They were, and are, a band of brothers.

This month we will celebrate our annual parish festival on Holy Cross Day. We will also be opening our doors again this year for Doors Open Day, when we share our building and our story with visitors from around the city and even further away.

Each year, on both occasions (which usually fall quite close together in the month of September) I am particularly mindful of the whole body of our Church family, both seen and unseen. How many saints, sinners, eccentrics, fools, and genuine characters have offered their lives to Christ here over more than 160 years! Our shared experience of this place and of each other has forged a bond among us that is intimate, precious, and eternal. We are truly a band of brothers and sisters.

As we approach these two special events this month – that happen to fall on the same day – and reflect upon our shared experience here, I would like to hear more about the stories of the individuals who have worshipped in this place. They remain part of us. They helped to make St. Salvador's what it is. Against the great backdrop of Christ's mission in Dundee their individual stories should not be forgotten.

With every blessing
Fr. Clive

Invitation to Doors Open 2019

On Saturday 14th September
from 10.30am to 4pm

You are invited to come along and share the church you care about and worship in!

Look afresh at the beautiful and intricate detail of the building, so full of mystical and carefully constructed symbolism, which aids our liturgy week by week.

Our church has been open to visitors, on this special weekend showcasing Dundee's finest buildings, ever since the Doors Open weekend started.

We welcome a wonderful mix of visitors both from the local community and further afield, many of whom have some sort of past connection with the church or local area.

Look out for the Doors Open leaflet soon to be available at the back of church. It lists all the buildings open—perhaps you will feel inspired to visit others too!

Come and enjoy sharing this our precious heritage.

K.N. 25.08.19.



Vestry News

The Vestry has been busy on your behalf dealing with various matters around the Church.

Martin has made a great start on clearing the small garden area on the north wall of the church with the help of the newly appointed Garden Project Manager at the Maxwell Centre. Between them they cleared out 3 large bin bags of rubbish and cut down the shrubbery. We eventually hope to have this area cleared completely and made as low maintenance as possible. We are grateful to Martin and Manuela for all their hard work.

Vestry Members ran the Church Stall at the Coldside Fun Day back in July and made about £80. It was a good opportunity to meet local people and a number went in to see the church. It was hard work but worth it to develop our profile in the community

Following a theft from the Church during a recent Sunday morning service the Vestry have taken steps to improve security and they are urging all members and visitors to be vigilant about their personal belongings and not to leave valuables on the pews when going up to receive Communion.

Our treasurer was able to join us for our most recent meeting and reported that by the end of the financial year, 31st Aug, we should just about break even. Our thanks go to everyone who has been able to support us financially over the past year.

Plans are being made to find shelving to help reorganise the Choir Vestry to enable better storage of items donated for the food cupboard.

The Vestry would like to thank everyone who helped with services and with the Food Cupboard whilst the Rector was away on annual leave. Much hard work went on behind the scenes so many thanks for that.

As always please keep your Vestry and your Rector in your prayers as they serve our church family.

Katie Clapson, Vestry Sec.

W5: Who, What, When, Where, Why

Pliny the Younger was governor of the Roman province of Bithynia (on the Black Sea coast of modern Turkey) during the reign of the emperor Trajan. One of his responsibilities was to try the cases of those accused of being Christians – a sect just beginning to get the attention of the authorities at the start of the second century. His letter to the emperor seeking guidance on the subject has survived, and is the earliest non-Christian reference we have to the Church's faith and practice at that time.

In his description to the emperor, Pliny says that Christians meet on a certain day of the week before sunrise where they gather and sing hymns to Christ as to a god. They all bind themselves by oath ("sacramentum"), "not to commit crimes", says Pliny. Rather, he says the Christians pledge *not* to commit any crimes or dishonourable acts, and subsequently share a meal of "ordinary and innocent food".

Pliny's use of the word "sacramentum" to describe the pledge binding Christians together is interesting. It was a term well-known in pagan religious and legal circles. In religious terms, it referred to people or things consecrated to a god. It was an oath given to a god that consecrated the one making the promise. In law, "sacramentum" was a bond given to ensure good faith between parties. There was another term used to describe a promise made to other human beings.

Some seventy years after Pliny's letter, the term "sacramentum" was being used by pagans to describe religious initiation rites – which may be how "sacrament" came to be used by Christians to describe Baptism and other particular Christian practices.

William Scotland wants to thank all those who attended his Confirmation by Bishop Andrew in June.



Food Cupboard Ministry

The Sunday afternoon Drop In has been very busy over recent weeks with numbers averaging 70 most weeks but with a peak of 85 folk on two consecutive Sundays. This has meant that our volunteers have been working even harder to ensure our visitors get their bag of groceries, a share of whatever else is donated and some refreshments. We appreciate all their hard work to ensure the continuation of this important ministry to those experiencing food poverty and social isolation.

Given the larger numbers coming to the Drop In we are using more mugs each week. As we lose some to breakage and some to disappearance we would be grateful for donations of any spare mugs anyone may have at home which could be cluttering up a cupboard or two. If you have any mugs that you could donate please let Katie or Father Clive know.

We are grateful for continuing donations from shoppers at local supermarkets and from local congregations and the Monday morning bagging crew use these donations to make up 96 bags of groceries each week to have enough on hand for each Drop In and also to prepare the teabag packs for distribution. The money donated to the Food Cupboard is used to buy additional groceries, as needed for the bags, and the UHT milk which is distributed separately.

Please keep the work of the Food Cupboard Ministry in prayer and remember before God all those who come week by week, all those who volunteer, those who organise things, and those who support it financially or with donations of food items.

Katie Clapson

Come Celebrate!

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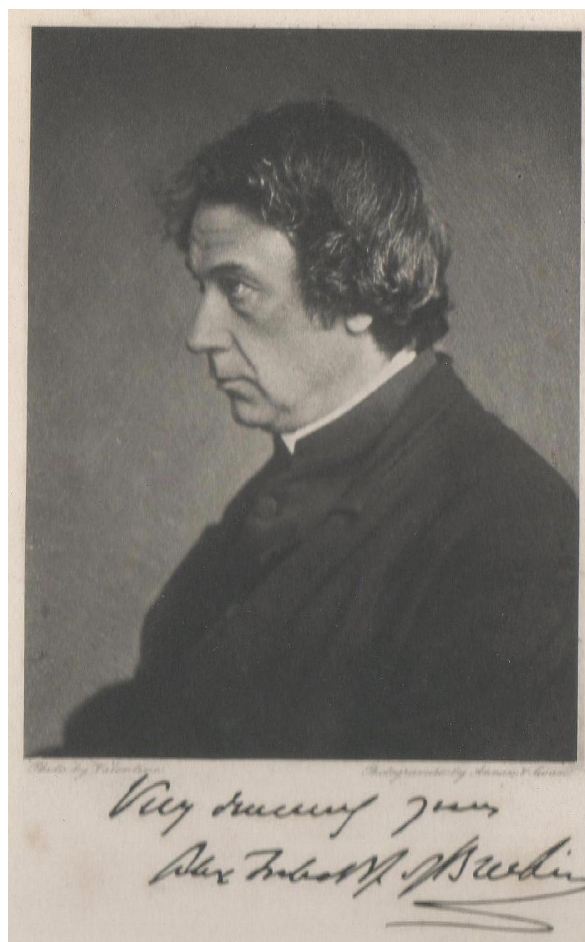
St Gregory the Enlightener, Bishop and Missionary (1 October)

Gregory is called 'the Enlightener' because he brought the light of the Gospel to the people of Armenia towards the end of the third century. Of royal descent, he seems to have become a Christian while in exile in Cappadocia. Returning to Armenia, he eventually converted King Tiridates to the faith, which then became the official religion of the kingdom – making Armenia the first Christian country. Gregory was consecrated Bishop (Katholikos) in Caesarea in Cappadocia, and was succeeded by his son, who attended the Council of Nicaea.

Alexander Penrose Forbes, Bishop (8 October)

Alexander Penrose Forbes was born in Edinburgh, the son of Lord Medwyn, a judge of the Court of Session. He served with the East India Company for three years but returned to Britain on health grounds and studied at Brasenose College, Oxford. There he was strongly influenced by the Tractarian Pusey, who, after Forbes' ordination, appointed him to St Saviour's, a slum parish in Leeds, in 1847. A few months later, aged thirty, he was elected Bishop of Brechin, a diocese of eleven parishes, one of which – in Dundee – Forbes pastored himself. He exercised a notable ministry among the poor and among the victims of a cholera epidemic. He built the present cathedral for his own congregation, and founded several new congregations in the city, including St Salvador's. His doctrine of the real presence of Christ in the eucharist led to controversy and in 1860 to a trial before his fellow bishops, at which he was supported by John Keble. His Trac-

tarian theology had a growing influence upon the Scottish Episcopal Church for the rest of the century. His writings include doctrinal and devotional works, as well as research into the lives of the saints of Scotland. He died in 1875.



St Teresa of Avila, Teacher (15 October)

Teresa was born into an aristocratic Spanish family in 1515. Following her mother's death, she was educated by Augustinian nuns and then ran away from home to enter a Carmelite convent when she was twenty. After initial difficulties in prayer, her intense mystical experiences attracted many disciples. She was inspired to reform the Carmelite rule and, assisted by St John of the Cross, she travelled throughout Spain founding many new religious houses for men as well as women. Her writings about her own spiritual life and progress in

prayer towards union with God include 'The Way of Perfection' and 'The Interior Castle', which are still acclaimed. She knew great physical suffering and died of exhaustion on 4 October 1582. Her feast is on 15 October because the very day after her death the reformed calendar was adopted in Spain and elsewhere and eleven days were omitted from October that year.

St Luke, Evangelist (18 October)

Luke is the author of the Gospel bearing his name, and also of the Book of the Acts of the Apostles. From Acts we learn that he was a gentile convert to Christianity, a doctor, who accompanied St Paul on his second and third missionary journeys, and who stayed in Rome with him while he was in captivity. Eastern Christians credit St Luke with having produced the first ikon. He is thought to have died at the age of eighty-four in Greece.

St James of Jerusalem, Martyr (23 October)

James, 'the Lord's brother', was a leader of the Church in Jerusalem from a very early date, and is regarded as its first bishop. Though not one of the Twelve, St Paul includes James among those to whom the risen Lord appeared before the Ascension, and records that James received him cordially when he visited Jerusalem after his conversion. James was regarded as the leader of the Jewish community when the Church expanded to embrace the Gentiles, and was successful in bringing many of his fellow Jews to faith in Christ. He presided at the Council of Jerusalem. He is thought to have been stoned to death around the year 62.

Ss. Simon and Jude, Apostles (28 October)

Simon and Jude were named among the twelve apostles in the gospels of Matthew,

Mark and Luke. Simon is called 'the Zealot', probably because he belonged to a nationalist resistance movement opposing Roman rule. Luke describes Jude as the son of James, while the Letter of Jude has him as the brother of James, neither of which negates the other. It seems he is the same person as Thaddaeus, which may have been a last name. The two apostles are joined together on 28 October because a church which had recently acquired their relics was dedicated in Rome on this day in the seventh century.

James Hannington, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs (29 October)

James Hannington was born in 1847 of a Congregationalist family but he became an Anglican before going up to Oxford. He was ordained and, after serving a curacy for five years, went with the Church Missionary Society to Uganda. He was consecrated bishop for that part of Africa in 1884 and a year later, with European and indigenous Christians, made a missionary journey inland from Mombasa. The ruler of Buganda, Mwanga, who despised Christians because they refused to condone his immoral practises, seized the whole party, tortured them for several days and then had them butchered on this day in 1885.



A Sermon preached by the Rector on Sunday, 11 August 2019

Jesus said to his disciples: "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." St. Luke 12: 34

I hear that they've erected a helter skelter in Norwich Cathedral. Perhaps we should open a bowling alley: we have a long, wide main aisle! It might attract some attention to us.

In his Gospel, St. Luke was writing to and for Christians only some thirty or forty years after the events he was describing in his Gospel and in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles. Some of those who read or heard his words may well have played a part in those original events or at least have remembered them firsthand. It's remarkable, then, that in the Gospel for this week we see St. Luke including sayings by Jesus emphasising the imminence of the Kingdom. Why do I say that this was remarkable? Already by St. Luke's time, it would seem, the Church needed reminding to stand prepared for the return of Christ and for the bringing in of the Kingdom on earth. Even the first generation of believers, apparently, had to be encouraged to hold on to that promise urgently made by the Lord to them. If this was the case at that time, how much more so 2000 years later for us, who have entered into the same promise by faith and who still await its fulfilment!

Why has the establishment of the Kingdom not happened yet? This is a natural, though perhaps impertinent, question. One answer is to say that Our Lord was a man of his time, which was full of such end-of-the-world speculation, and that He was mistaken. This, however, so reduces His stature that we might well question everything else He said and did. Let's rule that one out – emphatically. Another suggestion is to admit that we cannot penetrate into such mysteries that are with God. Perhaps that's a cop-out. So – what's the answer? Maybe, by His merciful forbearance, we can see that it is God's good pleasure to give every one of us the Kingdom. He is allowing countless millions the opportunity to enter into His promise. If He had brought in the Kingdom 60 years ago many of us here today would not have had that chance to be included.

In the Letter to the Hebrews the writer is listing the biblical heroes who preceded the coming of

Jesus Christ and the ultimate revelation of God as Saviour. The writer says that they looked ahead toward that day of His appearing, and that they were sustained by God's promises. They did not lose heart, even though all of them died before the promise was fulfilled. Their faith made them strangers and pilgrims on the earth, belonging to another homeland, a heavenly one. Their lives reflected another culture than the one in which they functioned. This too is our calling, who have seen the great day of Christ that they longed for and who as yet wait for His reappearing and the establishment of His Kingdom of justice, love and peace.

We are called to live differently from others in the world around us. We must not be afraid to follow that calling. At the end of the day, it is not what the world thinks about us that matters. We have a promise that God's Kingdom will be established in God's time. Like Abraham and the others who came before us, we too may be looking at that day from afar. It doesn't matter; what DOES matter is that the only way anyone else today is going to see the Kingdom is probably through you and me. They won't see it if we only chat to each other tucked away on the margins of life in a clubhouse that we attend in our spare time. They won't see it if the lives we live are indistinguishable from those around us who do not yet belong to the Kingdom.

When will that Kingdom come, on earth as it is in Heaven? Our calling is not to know the hidden mysteries of God; it **is** our calling, however, to act as signs of our heavenly homeland now here on earth. When God will establish it finally here is none of our business; it **is** our business, however, to live the life of the Kingdom in the Church and in the world, with lives that demonstrate that we too are strangers and pilgrims here on the earth. We are the People of God's Kingdom. Our hearts are there, where Christ is, in that alternative culture we share with Him, the culture of the Kingdom. It is there that we must invest the treasure of our lives.

If we are going to be noticed by others, let it be for the difference the Kingdom makes in our lives, – and not for attention-grabbing gimmicks and stunts.

Kalendar

Sun., 1 Sept.: Trinity 11: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; EP at 5 PM
Tues., 3 Sept.: St. Gregory the Great: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 4 Sept.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 8 Sept.: Trinity 12: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; EP at 5 PM
Mon., 9 Sept.: The Birth of Our Lady: Mass at 7 PM
Tues., 10 Sept.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 11 Sept.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sat., 14 Sept.: HOLY CROSS: Mass at 7 PM
Sun., 15 Sept.: Trinity 13: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; EP at 5 PM
Mon., 16 Sept.: St. Ninian: Mass at 7 PM
Tues., 17 Sept.: St. Hildegard: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 18 Sept.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sat., 21 Sept.: St. Matthew: Mass at 11 AM
Sun., 22 Sept.: Trinity 14: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; EP at 5 PM
Tues., 24 Sept.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 25 Sept.: St. Finnbar of Caithness: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 29 Sept.: MICHAELMASS: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; EP at 5 PM
Tues., 1 Oct.: St. Gregory the Enlightener: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 2 Oct.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 6 Oct.: Trinity 16: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; EP at 5 PM
Tues., 8 Oct.: Alexander Penrose Forbes: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 9 Oct.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 13 Oct.: Trinity 17: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; EP at 5 PM
Tues., 15 Oct.: St. Teresa of Avila: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 16 Oct.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM
Fri., 18 Oct.: St. Luke: Mass at 7 PM
Sun., 20 Oct.: Trinity 18: Masses at 9AM & 11AM; EP at 5 PM
Tues., 22 Oct.: Feria: Mass at 7 PM
Wed., 23 Oct.: St. James of Jerusalem: Mass at 10 AM
Sun., 27 Oct.: Trinity 19: Masses at 9AM

& 11AM; EP at 5 PM

Mon., 28 Oct.: SS Simon and Jude: Mass at 7 PM

Tues., 29 Oct.: James Hannington: Mass at 7 PM

Wed., 30 Oct.: Feria: Mass at 10 AM

The deadline for the next issue of 'Crucis' is Sunday, 22 September. Please send any material to the Editor (the Rector) by that day. Thank you!

Diocesan Website:
www.brechin.anglican.org

Please continue to pray for the recovery of Fr. Michael Turner after his heart attack.

Congratulations to Ann and Gary Mackenzie for participating in Kiltwalk Dundee 2019 to raise funds for charity.

Organisers of the event claim that 3000 people joined in the event that involved walking on a meandering route from St. Andrews to Monifieth.

Well done!



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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