

Cathedral News



*The monthly magazine of
Perth Cathedral, St Ninian's*

April 2019

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St Ninian's Cathedral Who's Who



From the Provost

Dear Friends,

We're now in the last few days of Lent and Holy Week. The Lent course this year, based on the six-part drama *Broken* by Jimmy McGovern, was excellent. Some of the scenes were hard to watch and left a number of us in tears! However, the discussions that followed were informative and enriching, as we realised that the circumstances portrayed were really mirrored all around us in our own communities. I really appreciated the short acts of (much needed) prayer after the harrowing events that unfolded within the drama. My thanks to Carrie for organising it.



Having a focus in Lent really helps us to move into Holy Week, when once again we journey with Christ, remembering the last days of his life leading to the Cross. For the disciples to watch their friend and Lord to be hounded and beaten and then nailed to a cross, can only have been devastating. To find that he'd somehow risen and was among them again must have been astonishing. Maybe today in our time we're not so much astounded as truly grateful for the many resurrections we all experience in life.....and simply to thank God for everything that lifts us, restores us and fills us with joy.

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Easter is a time when it's worth thinking about how we praise God for the many joys we experience as individuals and as a congregation. I think praise is to be found in the wonder of all life. Maybe genuine gratitude springs from being present in the moment and being aware of God's blessings. The more blessings we discover, the more we will be filled with praise for the One who provided them!

The tomb may have been emptied, but we fill our hearts this Easter (as always) with prayer for those we know in our cathedral congregation who are unwell or who through infirmity cannot venture far from home. With our building restored may our Easter preparations and celebrations restore us to revel in the blessing and richness of a shared faith in the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, Christ is Risen. He is risen indeed, alleluia!

God bless you this Eastertide and always,
Hunter

Diocesan Synod Report

**First Synod for Bishop Ian as Chairman,
Saturday 9 March 2019**

The restored cathedral was resplendent as the diocesan synod began with the Provost installing two Canons: The Rev'd Graham Taylor of St John's Perth and The Rev'd Christine Fraser of St Peter's Kirkcaldy and of St Mary's & St Leonard's Kinghorn (see *opposite page*). The Bishop presided at the Sung Eucharist with a full choir including choristers from St Ninian's School. In his homily Bishop Ian hoped that the ensuing synod would be an opportunity for everyone to speak heart to heart in working through the agenda.

After a sandwich lunch provided by John and Maureen Wright in the Chapter House the Bishop delivered his Charge to Synod. First he congratulated the Provost on the restoration of the



cathedral and thanked him for his leadership in preserving a beautiful building for the benefit of the diocese. The Venerable Hunter Farquharson in reply made clear to the synod that £1.25 million had been raised by the congregation of St Ninian's alone. He praised Norrie Menzies, a cathedral member who, as clerk of works, checked the repairs from roof to floor, both inside and out, thus ensuring that the work was satisfactory. The Provost then informed synod that he was sorry to hear that Norrie had just died in Cornhill Hospice.

On a happier note the Bishop's Charge was a shot in the arm – he used the analogy of fishing... A meeting was called for people interested in fishing, as a result of which a committee was formed. A motion was put to the members that a club house should be built. So a fund-raising campaign began and a club house was built. An AGM was called to decide on coarse or fly fishing so that the appropriate tackle could be ordered. By then months had passed but without any fishing at all. One day an excited young person entered the club and told the members that she had just caught two trout. The club wanted to know how and she began to teach them how to fish!

Bishop Ian's point echoed Jesus' words to his disciples, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men' (Matt 4:19). Members of synod were urged to try talking about God's love for Jesus' sake. So ended a memorable synod charged to take up the rod by a dynamic, humble and patently caring father in God.

Rev'd Geoffrey Hall

Services in April

Sunday 7th April 2019
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

11.00am: Sung Eucharist

Sunday 14th April 2019
PALM SUNDAY

11.00am: Sung Eucharist with Blessing of Palms

HOLY WEEK

Monday 15th April 2019

7.30pm: Eucharist (Lady Chapel)

Tuesday 16th April 2019

7.30pm: Tenebrae (a reflective service for Holy Week)

Wednesday 17th April

7.30pm: 'Voices in a Mystery' (Paul Mein)
Dramatic readings for Holy Week

Thursday 18th April

MAUNDY THURSDAY

11.00am: Eucharist with Blessing of the Oils of Chrism and Healing

7.30pm: Eucharist of the Last Supper
with Washing of Hands, and the Watch



Friday 19th April

GOOD FRIDAY

10.00am: Holy Communion with the Veneration of the Cross

12noon - 3.00pm: Three Hours Devotion -

'Stations of Pain' – reflections and images with

Bishop Ian, at St John's Episcopal Church, Princes Street . All welcome

Saturday 20th April

HOLY SATURDAY

10.00am - 11.00am: Easter Activities for Children and Families

7.30pm: St John Passion, G. F. Handel

Sunday 21st April

EASTER DAY

11.00am: Easter Eucharist and Confirmation

by the Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane

- with children's Easter egg hunt and hat parade

Sunday 28th April

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

11.00am: Sung Eucharist

Refreshments are served in the Chapter House after the Sunday morning service. For details of our weekday services see www.perthcathedral.co.uk

At St Ninian's we extend a warm welcome to all those who come to share in our worship.



Cathedral Round-Up

The Pancake Party

The annual Shrove Tuesday celebration was another great success and it was good to see so many youngsters from St Ninian's Primary joining us for pancakes and races afterwards. The provost was joined in the kitchen on Tuesday morning by Maihri and Wendy, and together they produced a veritable mountain of pancakes which were enjoyed with a variety of toppings. Later came the races and there was no shortage of people lining up to take part, then pancake-tossing competitions before going home. It was a quick hour but one much enjoyed by everybody.



The photo on the left shows a perhaps over-enthusiastic competitor in the highest-toss competition, which looks rather like a Spot-the-Ball photo from newspapers of a generation ago. The opposite page shows some of those gathered in the Chapter House for the pancakefest, and, below, a very competitive Lacey lines up for a race with a more pensive-looking Lily-Cate (two of or Sunday Live! stalwarts).



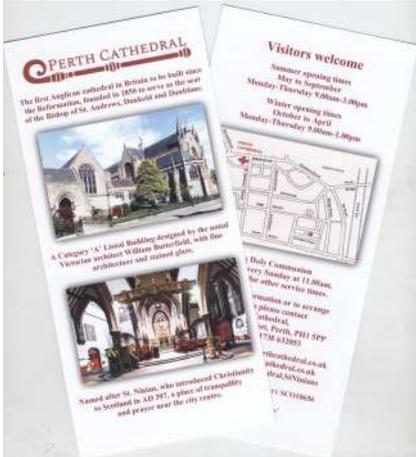
Summer Opening

The summer opening season began again on 1 April and, as we were closed last year because of the restoration work, two briefing sessions were held in March to reacquaint volunteers with procedures and to exchange thoughts and ideas. The new *Brief Guide* was discussed and volunteers took it with them on a tour of the cathedral to help them see it through a visitor's eyes. Wendy Duncan, who led the sessions, gave the good news (over coffee and cake) that following an unannounced inspection by Visit Scotland we had been successful - and by a very safe margin - in keeping our three-star visitor attraction status.

The *Brief Guide* has been based very much on the work and research of Margaret Lye and has already been translated into French, German, Swedish and Italian, with others hard at work on Spanish and Gaelic versions. Anyone with a hidden talent for translating Scottish church history into Russian, Mandarin, Outer Mongolian or any other language should contact Wendy!



New Publicity Leaflet



The cathedral's new publicity leaflet is ready for distribution. We should like to ask everyone in the congregation to help with this process, and to think of local venues where it might be displayed – local shops, post offices, cafés etc. Copies will be available after morning service for you to take away. If you are unable to deliver any yourself but have ideas for potential outlets then please speak to Christopher Dingwall.

Bishop's Lent Appeal

The Bishop's Lent Appeal for 2019 is in aid of two very worthwhile charities: the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group, which provides eye care in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, and Aberlour, the well-known Scottish charity for children. Further information can be found on their websites: stjohnseyehospital.org and aberlour.org.uk.

Eddie the Eagle says...

There was a day last month when a steady thumping from below made me think I must have been making too much noise in my eyrie. Had I been squawking too loudly at the latest Brexit news on the telly? Apparently not. It was just the sound of pancakes hitting the Chapter House ceiling. It was good to see so many youngsters having such a good time - not to mention a welcome break from the daily grind of politics!



PACT News

News from the Churches

The Methodists' Lent Lunches have got off to a great start with a good representation from other churches. Every Thursday in Lent from 12 noon - 1.30pm, with discussion material based on *I Daniel Blake*.

St John's Episcopal Lenten reflections and Compline, every Wednesday evening during Lent at 7.30pm.

Other News

Our Good Friday Walk of Witness this year, on 19 April, is being led by Jaime Lidstone from the Gateway Fellowship. Gather at St John's Kirk for a 10.30am start - please note earlier time.

Our Easter Morning dawn service at Quarrymill on Sunday 21 April at 7.00am will be led by the Rev'd Ken Stott from the North Church and will be followed by breakfast in Scone Old Church Hall.

Plans are being made to mark Pentecost on Sunday 9 June - more information to follow.

Letters of thanks have been received from Mary's Meals, Harbour Counselling Trust, Starter Packs and CATH for the £300 they each received from the donations made at the carol service in December.

A faith event is being planned for November/December as part of the 16 days of activism against gender violence.

Our mission and communication group are planning to update the tourist leaflet, and will be encouraging churches to participate in Doors Open Day in September. We hope to provide a church trail leaflet for this event.

Andrew Ballantyne

From the Farquhar Diaries

8 April 1919. After what the “Scotsman” calls the coldest March for a century, we are having delightful Spring weather and the crocuses are all out in a blaze. I have just read Dean Burgon’s interesting Life of Hugh James Rose in “Twelve Good Men.” The Paris Conference are still wrestling away in secrecy with their plans for the reconstruction of the world. Much impatience is being expressed but how can they go fast? The foul and awful reign of Bolshevism in Russia and elsewhere takes away all pleasure from the victorious end of the war. I have been working away pretty hard at writing my “Reminiscences” for a month or two. But somehow I cannot get my strength quite up and very little visiting have I done for a month.

Apr. 18. This is Good Friday evening. The Wednesday evening Lent Services were miserably attended this year. So also were those all through Holy Week. Perhaps 15 or 20 people were present. The Provost strikes me as being strangely detached from the Christian Year and he makes little or no exertion to get the people out. Also there is certainly a discouraging spate of non-church-going in all denominations this year. However the fore-noon and evening Services on Palm Sunday saw the Cathedral well filled and at the Three Hours to-day there was a fairish turn out. I thought there were about 60 all through. The Provost gave a series of nice addresses. At noon during Holy Week the Bp. had only about nine.

Many thanks to Margaret Lye for another extract from her published edition of The Diary of the Very Rev G T S Farquhar.

Cover Photo

This month’s cover is a depiction of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane by the Chinese artist, He Qi. He is currently a resident of California and has received widespread recognition as a Christian artist. His paintings have been featured on previous covers of *Cathedral News*.

Readings for April

Fifth Sunday of Lent - 7 April

Isaiah 43.16-21, Philippians 3.4b-14, John 12.1-8

Palm Sunday - 14 April

Isaiah 50.4-9a, Philippians 2.5-11, Luke 22.14-23.56 or Luke 23.1-49

Easter - 21 April

Acts 10.34-43 or Isaiah 65.17-25, 1 Corinthians 15.1-11 or
Acts 10.34-43, John 20.1-18 or Luke 24.1-12

Second Sunday of Easter - 28 April

Acts 5.27-32, Revelation 1.4-8, John 20.19-31

Third Sunday of Easter - 5 May

Acts 9.1-6 (7-20), Revelation 5.11-14, John 21.1-19

From the Registers

Marriage

Christopher McLaughlin and Taryn Anderson
24 November 2018

Deaths

John Brennand - 23 October 2018
James Graham - 11 January 2019
John Danter - 1 February 2019
Elizabeth Beats - 20 February 2019
Isobel Lees - 28 February 2019

*Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord,
And let light perpetual shine upon them.*

Times of Services etc

At St. Ninian's we extend a warm welcome to all those who come to share in the worship of God in the name of Jesus Christ.

SERVICES

Sunday	Sung Eucharist	11.00am	
Monday	Morning Prayer	9.00am	
Tuesday	Morning Prayer	9.00am	
Wednesday	Morning Prayer	9.00am	Eucharist 11.00am
Thursday	Morning Prayer	9.00am	

Tea, coffee and chat follow in the Chapter House after the Sunday service.

GIVING

For all committed giving, envelopes and covenants, please contact Liz Gardiner, our treasurer, who will be delighted to advise.

FLOWERS

Flowers greatly enhance our worship. If you can help or donate, please contact Molly or Hazel.

TRAI DCRAFT STALL

In the Chapter House on the first and third Sunday of the month, after the main service - run by members of the Traidcraft/Eco Group.

AND FINALLY...

If you have an article for the magazine or a suggestion for one, please either pass it to the editor, Jeremy Duncan, or email it to cathedralmagazine@gmail.com .

**The closing date for inclusion in the May issue is
26 April.**

**Perth Cathedral, St Ninian's
Cathedral of the Scottish Episcopal Church in the
Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane.**

**We are one of the family of Anglican Churches
throughout the world.**

The Cathedral is served by a clergy and lay team:

Bishop

The Right Rev'd Ian Paton
Diocesan Office, 28a Balhousie Street, Perth PH1 5HJ
Tel : 01738 443173

Provost

(and Hospital Chaplain)

The Very Rev'd Hunter Farquharson
provost@perthcathedral.co.uk

Assisting Clergy

The Rev'd Canon Dr Carrie Applegath
The Rev'd Celia Matthews
The Rev'd Richard Sutton

Cathedral Office

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Visit our website at: www.perthcathedral.co.uk

Other Episcopal churches in the Perth area:
St John's, Princes Street, Perth
St Columba's, Stanley

Registered Scottish Charity SC010656