

A close-up photograph of a field of crocuses. The majority of the flowers are a vibrant purple with bright yellow centers. There are also several yellow crocuses scattered throughout, particularly in the lower-left and lower-right areas. The green stems and leaves of the flowers are visible, creating a dense and colorful scene.

Cathedral News

*Happy
Easter!*

The Magazine of Perth Cathedral, St Ninian's

April 2021

Who's Who at the Cathedral

From the Provost

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

Dear Friends,

Firstly, may I wish you all a very happy Easter and may God's blessings, joy and peace be among us.

The cathedral is open again, Alleluia! That's definitely a great blessing! To me it felt like an eternity, waiting for things to improve from Boxing Day all the way till we opened on Palm Sunday.

Re-opening has not been an easy task. We have furloughed our cleaner to help with our finances, and with the building closed and unoccupied for months, the whole place needed to be deep cleaned (everything and everywhere was vacuumed, dusted and disinfected). We only had a small but dedicated team who cleaned for several days - all socially distanced. My deepest gratitude goes to this small group enthused by the prospect of our doors being open once again on a daily basis. Without them we'd still be closed! The bishop has now given us the nod



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to go ahead. Bishop Ian, of course, is charged with making sure all churches in his diocese are properly readied for opening.

You will find this again at the back of the magazine, but I wanted to make sure that we all know the cathedral opening and closing times. Under the present rules and restrictions due to the coronavirus pandemic the cathedral will be open as follows:

For private prayer and devotion: Monday to Thursday, 9.30am - 12.30pm

Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel: Monday to Thursday, 9.30am

Sunday Holy Communion, 11.00am (on certain occasions there may be more than one service and you may be asked to book a place as numbers are restricted to a maximum of 50)

Wednesday Holy Communion, 11.00am

Given our age demographic most of us have had at least the first vaccine for Covid-19 and some have had both. We are told this will give us a certain level of protection, but until the whole country is vaccinated, there are still rules we should adhere to. Please always sanitise your hands as you enter and leave the cathedral and wear a face mask/covering at all times. We need to keep each other safe.

Whatever Easter means to us, and it will mean different things to different people, for most children in our part of the world, even those who come from Christian households, Easter will mean chocolate! Maybe I should also include many adults. I love chocolate too and it has a part to play in my own Easter celebrations.

This year we have the Gospel according to St Mark as our main focus. We all know that Mark's Gospel is different from the other gospels. It is far shorter in terms of chapters and information. For example, Mark has no account of the Virgin birth or any birth at all. Poor Joseph is never named in Mark's account and Jesus is known as the 'Son of Mary.' I think the most significant thing is that after the resurrection, Mark details no appearances of Jesus, following on from the woman who found an empty tomb. A number of endings have subsequently been added especially by the Protestant Churches, endings that the purists among us would say is wrong. However, you can understand why many find this frustrating, when you compare



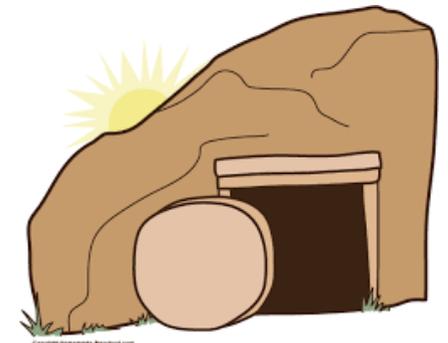
Resurrection light - the view from the Provost's garden gate.

the richness that was added by Matthew and Luke, both of whom used Mark's work as their foundation.

Whatever we feel about Mark's account, resurrection is still the central message of hope. It is a hope we all live with daily, and resurrection happens in many different ways in our lives. It is our hope that as God has created us in love, he will redeem us on the last day of this mortal life, to offer us the new adventure of life eternal promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

With love at Easter and always,
Hunter



Readings and Collects for April

Easter Day - 4 April

Collect: Lord of life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son you have overcome the old order of sin and death and have made all things new in him. May we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, reign with him in glory, who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings: Acts 10.34-43, Psalm 118.1-2,14-24, 1 Corinthians 15.1-11, John 20.1-18

Second Sunday of Easter - 11 April

Collect: Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings: Acts 4.32-35, Psalm 133, 1 John 1.1-2.2, John 20.19-31

Third Sunday of Easter - 18 April

Collect: O God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Readings: Acts 3.12-19, Psalm 4, 1 John 3.1-7, Luke 24.36b-48

Fourth Sunday of Easter - 25 April

Collect: O God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings: Acts 4.5-12, Psalm 23, 1 John 3.16-24, John 10.11-18



Feast of Saint Mark, Evangelist - Monday 26 April

Collect: Almighty God, by the hand of Mark the evangelist you gave to your Church the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. We thank you for his witness, and pray that we may be grounded firmly in its truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings: Isaiah 52.7-10, Psalm 2.7-13, Ephesians 4.7-16, Mark 1.1-15

Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostles - Saturday 1 May

Collect: Almighty God, you gave to your apostles Philip and James grace and strength to bear witness to the truth. Grant that we, being mindful of their victory of faith, may glorify in life and death the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings: Isaiah 30.18-21, Psalm 119.1-8, 2 Corinthians 4.1-6, John 14 (1-5) 6-14

Fifth Sunday of Easter - 2 May

Collect: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Readings: Acts 8.26-40, Psalm 22.24-30, 1 John 4.7-21, John 15.1-8

Diocesan Synod Report

Scottish Episcopal Church. Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane. Diocesan Synod, Saturday 6 March 2021, via Zoom.

The Bishop opened by saying that leading through the pandemic could not have been achieved without the full support provided by the clergy. It has been an exhausting year but we know that there will be a return to normality, hopefully in the near future. All bad things and difficult periods come to an end.

Reports and Accounts 2019/20. These are contained in a report running to 36 pages which is available on request.

Bishop Declaration under Canon 36. It shall be competent for the Bishop with the consent of the majority present in the Diocesan Synod and qualified to

vote to declare that a charge cease to be an incumbency. St Fillans and Kinloch Rannoch charges have requested that the charges should cease and that one should become a pilgrim chapel and the other used for ecumenical work. Both approved by the Bishop and Synod.

Canon 4 Review Group: a consultation on the Election of Bishops.



The Review Group offers two options:

Option One. Electoral Synod. This would offer a significant revision of the present Canon but would retain the Electoral Synod as the key decision-making body. In favour of this option: it retains the long-standing tradition in our church that in the first instance the diocese elects its bishop.

Option Two. Electoral Council which would replace the Electoral Synod. The task will be undertaken by a group of people chosen on the basis of their gifts and experience and who are willing to offer considerable time to the responsibility entrusted to them. Against this option: it departs from the long-established practice that each diocese elects its own bishop.

Drawing on the results, consultation will take place with the General Synod in 2021 and, with the approval of the Faith and Order Board, present a new Canon 4 for reading at the General Synod in 2022.

Young People. The Rev'd Canon Christine Fraser, Kirkcaldy (formerly of St Ninian's), led the discussion. They have young coming from many local areas. The key question is to ask 'what do you want' and then supply their request. The biggest step is to get young people in through the door via a 'reach-out strategy'.

Climate Change. Led by the Rev'd Elaine Garman. Climate has already brought radical change and serious health problems. Air quality in our major cities is a major hazard (much reduced by lockdown). The church has been acting on changes, but we need an audit to highlight the critical changes which are within our control. Much can be achieved by very small numbers of people. Three questions. What can churches be doing now? What would you like help with? Have you seen examples of success in reducing the carbon footprint that would be good to share?

*David Brand
Lay Representative*

A Round Up of Cathedral News

Who would have thought, after the cathedral closed on Christmas Day, that it would be over three months before we'd be allowed to return? But return we did, for the Palm Sunday service on 28 March, and what a great joy it was. Between 40 and 50 of a congregation turned up, all behind masks, of course, all socially distanced, and all with sanitised hands. Geoff Bolton was at the organ console and Alister Allan, with his beautifully rich voice, filled the cathedral with verses of Holy Week hymns and parts of the communion service.

At the start of the service the Provost pointed out that the cathedral had recently been cleaned and disinfected and thanked the small team which had turned out to dust, polish, vacuum and wash the main areas. Some of them successfully avoided the cathedral papparazzi, but for others there was no escape. Many thanks to Maihri, Christopher and others for supplying the following photos. And not forgetting Ted who kindly inspected the newly scrubbed floor tiles in the cloisters!



Diocesan News

Bishop Ian's Charge to the Diocesan Synod, 6 March 2021



This has been a very hard year. Almost immediately following our last Synod the pandemic struck, our churches were closed, our world was in lockdown, and fear and worry were all around. Since then, the months have gone by, with all their attendant uncertainty and loss, loss both of life and of livelihood. The vaccine gives us all reason to hope, but we know that until everyone is vaccinated, nobody is vaccinated. So when your turn comes, please make that appointment.

The year has been deeply stressful and exhausting – the increase in workload, the financial strain, the need to adapt, the online and on-paper worship, the pastoral care at a distance, the loss of familiar patterns, the loss of employment, and too often the loss of loved ones – all caused by the pandemic, and all of it very hard to bear. The year has demanded that we dig deeper into our faith to find inner resources and spiritual strengths.

We will continue to do our very best to support all our clergy and congregations through this time as it continues. But afterwards things will inevitably be different. We don't yet know how, because nobody does. But we know that this time will change us as a Church in good ways and less good ways. Crisis is an accelerator of change – and this crisis will speed up many changes that were already happening, including some that have been much needed.

Someone said, a year ago, 'Wouldn't it be good if people said at the end of this time, "We couldn't have got through it without the Church?"' I hope that could already be said of us, but there is still time to make sure it will be said.

Those are the first and most important things I want to say today as your Bishop. I say them confidently because of your commitment to the work of Christ in each congregation and community, your resourcefulness, and emerging skills, the gifted leadership of our clergy and vestries, and the self-giving service of our diocesan staff

and volunteers.

This is a challenging time to lead and serve, and I ask you to care for our clergy and lay readers, and to be gracious while they cope with change and stress - because ministry in this time is exhausting. We should be gentle in our expectations, because it's at times like this that the fruits of the Spirit are really needed: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

When the pandemic is over, do we really want to return to business as usual? After all, business as usual means loneliness, homelessness, mental illness, unemployment, domestic abuse, inequality and privilege, and environmental destruction. It means offering NHS staff just 1% as thanks for their service, and cutting aid to struggling countries by 50%. As Archbishop Stephen Cottrell said this week, 'Our [moral] compass has slipped; we've allowed ourselves to believe that things can't change, that this is just the way the world is.'

In such a world - a world that needs to change - the Jesus who has sought us out will send us out, to live not for ourselves but for others. To do that we will have to be willing to change ourselves if we want to call others to change. The world facing so many challenges needs a Church that is humbler, simpler, more generous, more hopeful, and more loving. This is God's Church and God is leading us through the pandemic to be something new and beautifully different and yet at its heart, the same.

In our pared-down online Synod we are discussing several things which focus our attention on our post-Covid calling as God's Church serving God's world...

Diocesan Finance: our budget is trying to be responsive to the needs of the future. And although it is a deficit budget, it is a sign of our mutual commitment of congregations to support each other. This is the time for elder sisters and brothers and prodigal daughters and sons to share the fatted calf provided by their rejoicing mother or father (the Gospel at the Synod Eucharist was the Parable of the Prodigal Son, Luke 15.11-32).

Lent Appeal: in this year's Lent Appeal we can all contribute to two projects - Start Up Stirling, and Angus Creative Minds. These are local projects, maybe distant from you, but I hope that in Lent we raise our eyes and 'extend our hands' beyond our own area, to support a local charity elsewhere. [*Take a look at the project*

websites which can be found at startupstirling.org.uk and anguscreativeminds.org - Ed.]

Season of Pilgrimage: a pilgrimage is a journey of faith, of trust, not of certainty. It is a risky stepping forward with God. As we travel through and beyond the pandemic, we are on such a journey, personally and together, and the Season will offer opportunities to learn more about being people who travel in faith.

Canon 4: in the Scottish Episcopal Church we elect our bishops, and the way we do this shows what kind of church we are and what kind of ministry a bishop is called to. The consultation on revising Canon 4 (which governs the process of election) is just that, a consultation. But there are different ways the Canon could be revised, if we decide as a church to do that. Our discussion today will help us understand the options, so that we can involve our vestries and congregations. That, too, is a sign of the kind of church we are.

Young People: our newly established Young People's Committee is there to encourage children and young people and those who support them in the Diocese. They are not the Church of tomorrow, but the Church of today, aged one day or eighteen years they are already our brothers and sisters, and are already on the same challenging pilgrimage of faith as the rest of us. They also have things to say about it, and we will hear from them today.

Climate Crisis: one of the priorities that young people have for the Church is one shared by many others. In December our General Synod committed the SEC not merely to pass resolutions but to take practical steps, over the next decade, that will address this urgent crisis for our planet and all its inhabitants. We've read the journalism, we've seen the science, we've listened to David Attenborough. Now it's time to take action.

I have now been serving as your Bishop for two and a half years, and have grown to love the people, the clergy and congregations, the communities and the landscape of this diverse and distinctive Diocese. Every day I thank God for calling me to serve you here, even as I ask him to show me how to do it better! I thank you for all that you are and all that you want to become, and pray that, by God's grace, and together, we will be what God would have us be.

+Ian St Andrews

Season of Pilgrimage

The Pilgrimage Group has been working towards various Pilgrimages being available over the coming months and years. Of course, they have been hampered by COVID-19 and all pilgrimages have been put on hold. Now that we are in 2021 and the possibility of lockdown easing some of the plans can be tentatively proposed. Below is some information on the two pilgrimages that will take place in 2022. We have two Pilgrimages proposed for the coming months. Details of which are attached.



Scottish Episcopal Church

Diocese of St Andrews PILGRIMAGE

to the HOLY LAND



This Pilgrimage will take place in November 2022 and will be a seven-day trip to the Holy Land. Beginning in Jerusalem and visiting the Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Mt Zion, Pool of Siloam, Haran el-sharif, al Aqsa Mosque and Western Wall, Walk the Via Dolorosa, visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, visit Galilee. Visit the Church of the Annunciation and biblical sites around the Sea of Galilee, Mount of Beatitudes, Cana, Capernaum, Haifa and Tiberias. A visit to Jericho, the Dead Sea and Bethlehem. Costs and further details will be available later this year. A list of those interested in being part of this Pilgrimage is being held in the Diocesan Office. If you would like to note your interest email: pilgrimage@standrews.anglican.org



Scottish Episcopal Church

Diocese of St Andrews PILGRIMAGE

Rochester to Canterbury



Completing the Pilgrimage of William of Perth

A baker by trade and a philanthropist by inclination, William of Perth decided to make the long journey south to make a pilgrimage to Canterbury in 1201, and the sigh of the martyrdom of Thomas Beckett some 30 years earlier.

Rather ironically, his adopted son turned on his generous father and murdered him close to Rochester, disappearing with his father's fortune. William was buried where he died, later to be translated to Rochester Cathedral after several miracles were attributed to him.

The intention of this pilgrimage is to complete William's journey. The 40 mile walk between the two cities takes us through some lovely Kentish countryside and lasts around 5 days with overnight hotel stays along the way. Dates for this pilgrimage will be in 2022. Please email pilgrimage@standrews.anglican.org if you would like to register your interest.



**Scottish Episcopal Church
Season of Pilgrimage
Three Saints Way
Guided Pilgrimage by Car and Bike.**



Monday 6th to Friday 10th September 2021

Killin to St Andrews using National Cycle Routes, other cycle paths and minor roads. It includes spectacular scenery, mountains, rivers, and the sea. And many historical, artistic and religious sites.



Pilgrimage can be many things, but it is a chance to step away from an ordinary busy life:

- and take time to breathe, contemplate, look and see inward and outwith
- make new connections with creation and people,
- explore spiritual and historical sites, sources and routes.

We have adapted 'The Three Saints Way' to be a pilgrimage by car and cycle, and we are planning to launch it with a led, 5 day trip. Each day we will have breakfast, and then travel at a comfortable pace for around 20-30 miles, including lunch and plenty of stops to look at many historical, natural and religious sites. Your small suitcase will be transported for you.

Each evening there will be an optional short talk and retreat materials provided. Accommodation will usually be in a shared room. B&B and Lunches provided.



Evening meals to be bought, either in a local restaurant or at the accommodation. It may be possible to hire bikes, including e bikes. The overnights include Comrie, Perth and Dundee. Car drivers will have time to explore some extra sites such as Cultybraggan, Drummond gardens, Scone, the V&A, and more.... Cost probably around £600, may be less!

Are you Interested?

We are in the early stages of planning this, and so we are trying to gauge numbers, so please let us know if you are curious.



Do you want to come? Can you help? Please contact us.

Ask us – if you have a 'I would come if' question ...we may be able help.
Do you have a bike trailer we could borrow or a van/minibus.

Please contact Revd Gennie Evans rev.gen@btinternet.com or 01764 6500985



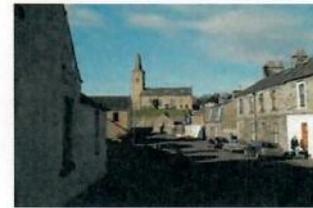
**ST ANDREWS DIOCESAN
PILGRIMAGE 2021**

**Sunday 5th to Friday 10th
SEPTEMBER**



SAVE THE DATES - COVID PERMITTING!

We plan to walk the 64 mile length of the Fife Pilgrim Way from Culross to St Andrews. Our aim is that pilgrims from every charge across the Diocese will walk different sections of the route with us and we will be joined by local Church of Scotland, Roman Catholic and other churches in an ecumenical journey. A core group is walking the entire distance and will act as walk leaders. The Fife Pilgrim Way is fully waymarked and passes through a variety of open countryside, towns and villages. Fife is Scotland's Pilgrimage Kingdom!



We will celebrate our arrival in St Andrews with an ecumenical gathering hosted by Bishop Ian on Saturday 11th September.

Dates and approximate distances of sections:

1	Sunday 5 Sept	Culross – Dunfermline	9 miles
2	Monday 6 Sept	Dunfermline – Lochore	10 miles
3	Tuesday 7 Sept	Lochore – Kinglassie	7 miles
4	Wednesday 8 Sept	Kinglassie – Markinch	9 miles
5	Thursday 9 Sept	Markinch – Ceres	14 miles
6	Friday 10 Sept	Ceres – St Andrews	12 miles

A free Fife Pilgrim Way leaflet is available. For more information and to buy a detailed map and 'The Fife Pilgrim Way' book about the rich heritage of the route, visit <https://fifecoastandcountryside.co.uk/walks/fife-pilgrim-way/>

Christian Aid News

This year, the focus of Christian Aid's work is the climate crisis. And as you may know, the SEC General Synod in December 2020 committed us to work towards becoming carbon neutral by 2030. An extra reason to support Christian Aid this year!

Changing weather patterns are heading us towards climate chaos, one of the greatest injustices we face. It is imperative that we, in the early 21st century, try to stop this crisis.

Especially for people like Rose (*pictured below*), in Kenya, who is caught in a cycle of unpredictable weather. Rose remembers how often the rains would fall, giving fruit to the baobab trees and providing plenty of nutritious food to eat. 'When I was a young girl, there was plenty of food,' Rose says. Now, the rains are totally unreliable. The climate crisis has put Rose's community constantly on edge, living with drought. 'I pray to God that the rainfall will become normal like it used to be.'



Rose, who is over 60, often sets out walking on an empty stomach to collect water for her family. 'Because I am old, I can't walk very fast. When I get home I just rest in the evening. I have no energy to do anything else,' Rose says. Soon she may not have the strength to fetch this water. The nearby earth dam should be a lifeline, but it's not deep enough, and runs out of water very quickly. Despite feeling very

dispirited, Rose says, 'I believe God gives me strength and helps me persevere. I pray that God will help people to help me'.

With a reliable source of water, people like Rose would be able to grow fresh vegetables to eat. And they would be able to protect themselves from the dangers of coronavirus. With such dire need, every last drop of water that falls in Rose's community is precious. We need to fight this climate crisis together.

Christian Aid Week 2021

We are delighted to say that this year the Cathedral and St John's will do their Christian Aid fund-raising together!

The Christian Aid website suggests a challenging sponsored 300,000 steps during the month of May. So we are planning that several of us will do that in the course of several walks during May. We will set up a Justgiving page, which has been used quite successfully for Christian Aid in the past. There will also be the traditional paper forms for those who prefer to donate by cash or cheque.

Meantime, are we willing to stand with people like Rose in Kenya?

(Rose's story has been adapted from the Christian Aid website.)

*Elaine Cameron
St John's, Princes Street*



Lent Course 2021

A huge thank-you to our Lay Reader Lis Burke who, along with John and Maureen Wright, The Rev'd Canon Celia Matthews, Wendy Duncan and the Rev'd Richard Sutton, produced our *Lent at Home* booklet. Much appreciated by all who joined in!

Congratulations!

Many congratulations to Frank and Irene McKenzie who recently celebrated their Diamond Wedding anniversary. They were married in Letham Kirk (Irene's church at that time) on Saturday 18 March 1961, the same day that Luxembourg won the sixth Eurovision Song Contest. It's possible, of course, that Frank and Irene had other things on their mind and didn't watch it that evening.

The photo below shows Irene (holding a congratulatory card from the Queen) and Frank with their son Colin. Their other son lives in Birmingham and was sadly unable to join in the celebrations because of the Covid travel restrictions.



A final comment about the cathedral rood screen which has featured in the last couple of issues of *Cathedral News*. It was designed by the famous Gothic Revival architect, Sir Ninian Comper, who was quite possibly named after St Ninian's Cathedral. It is just speculation, but it so happens that his father, the Rev'd John Comper, was the first to be ordained in St Ninian's. He was made a deacon in the cathedral at the time of its consecration in December 1850.

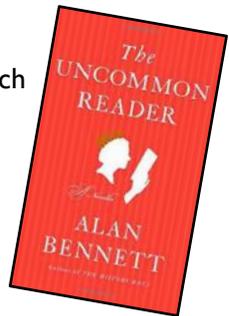
Alison's Book Recommendations

***The Uncommon Reader*, by Alan Bennett**

This novella is a gem, found hiding in a corner of Mr Bennett's other autobiographies, diaries, Talking Heads etc. The beginning sees the Queen, while exercising the corgis, turn a corner of Buckingham Palace and almost stumble into the City of Westminster's travelling library. After some discomfiture on the part of the librarian, HM decides to borrow a book (for politeness' sake) and asks the only other borrower, Norman, a kitchen boy, for a recommendation. After some chat, HM recognizes a name from the shelves, Ivy Compton-Burnett, having made her a Dame, and she duly signs for the book commenting she was the first to do so since 1989. Mr Hutchings, the librarian, privately thinks that the Damehood wasn't necessarily the road to the public's heart.

Having been brought up to finish things she has started – plates of food, cleaning horse tack and the like – HM finishes the book, and the following week returns to the library. Fortunately, she finds the novels of Nancy Mitford (her sister was Mistress of the Robes) and she's off. Eventually, Norman is promoted to a position nearer the Queen and becomes her amanuensis. Gradually, HM realizes that there is a whole world of which she has heretofore not been a part. She has read, of course, but as work. State papers, briefings, itineraries she has mastered, but reading for pleasure is a different thing entirely.

The Queen becomes more and more absorbed in reading, so much so that her staff start to mutter about her being less enthusiastic about opening swimming pools and the like. She starts asking people during walkabouts what they are reading. Then one day she is late setting off for an Opening of Parliament and when she returns to the coach finds her book is missing.



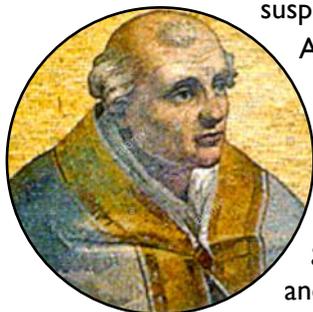
I don't want to spoil the plot, but I will say that the Queen finds out a lot about herself, other people and the joys and challenges of literature, as do we. Has HM read this book? I have no idea what the Queen reads. Should you read this book on a train, I recommend avoiding the silent carriage.

Alison Ballantyne

Our Relation, the Pope

Pope Callixtus II was a great uncle of mine. I can't say I remember him well as technically he was my 26 x great-uncle, who was born in around 1065 and died in 1124. He was not, alas, much remembered after his death: his papacy was short, at just under six years, he launched no Crusades and issued no earth-shattering Bulls. Basically, he was just a bog standard Pope. He did, however, transfer the historic bishopric of Merida in Spain to Santiago de Compostela, so those of you who have walked the Camino de Santiago, the pilgrimage route through France to north-west Spain, probably have my Uncle Callixtus to thank for reducing the total distance by around 25 miles.

The genealogical 'route' to Uncle Cally goes through my great-granny who (I suspect) was banished by the family from her native



Aberdeenshire, along with her illegitimate child, and sent to Dundee (punishment indeed!) where she worked as a domestic servant in a house overlooking the Tay Bridge, the collapse of which, in 1879, she claimed to have seen. She seems to have had no idea that her 4 x great-grandfather was an obscure Aberdeenshire laird whose ancestry can be traced, somewhat tortuously, back to Edward III of England, and from Edward back to Uncle Cally's

brother.

Having claimed Pope Callixtus II as my relation, I must be honest and say that he very probably belongs to everyone in the cathedral congregation as well, hence the word 'our' at the top. Why? Well, a distinguished geneticist has pointed out that statistically it is 'virtually impossible' that a person with a predominantly British ancestry is not descended from Edward III. He has calculated that 'almost every Briton' is 'descended between 21 and 24 generations from Edward III'.

I have occasionally wondered whether having a Pope in the family has influenced me in any particular way and I would have to say no - apart from a certain fondness for the occasional beefburger which I attribute to Uncle Cally's farm. At least, that's where I assume the Papal Bulls were kept...

Jeremy Duncan

From the Farquhar Diaries

6 April 1921. I am afraid the Red Revolution is upon us.

10 April 1921. In the black April of 1918, when the British line, after four years of the most dreadful fighting ever known, seemed to be irretrievably defeated & broken, the Bishop preached one Sunday in the Cathedral and quoted from Gen. Haig's celebrated dispatch:- "Our backs are at the wall!" To-day is almost as black. The miners all over the country are not only out on strike but in some cases they are irretrievably ruining the mines & threatening to ruin them all. Moreover the Railway and Transport men have announced that they are to join them on Tuesday. Thus the very national existence is threatened if the Government do not bow their heads & do what under threat they are told to do. To-day the Bp again preached in the Cathedral, what I consider to be a most wise sermon. Sitting behind the pulpit I could not hear all he said but he seemed to be reminding us that, while we must be ready to find some guidance at the strikers' conduct with regard to wages (at least to suppose it possible that there maybe) we must also be ready to back up the Government in the steps they are taking (i.e. calling out the reserves & asking for volunteers) to protect the nation as a whole and every class in it (i.e. not the miners only) from the ravages of unauthorized force. The situation is such that, if it is not wisely handled, there may be red revolution. Added to what the Bp said, I firmly believe that some evil influences (Russian and German) have agents across trying to use the turn affairs have taken, for their own sinister ends!

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

Did you know...that the former Bishop of Liverpool, the Rt Rev'd James Jones (*pictured right*), spent some of his childhood in Scone and Perth and was a member of the choir of St John's, Princes Street? He tells the story of how, when he first took his seat in the House of Lords, he met up with Baroness Young of Old Scone who had been in his class at Scone's Robert Douglas Memorial School. There cannot be many state primaries who can boast two former pupils, from the same class, in the Lords at the same time!



Eddie the Eagle says...

It was lovely to see so many friendly faces on Palm Sunday! Well, 50% faces, 50% face masks. I've become quite used to working



out who people are from their smiling eyes and hair alone that I wonder, when it's all over, if I'll be saying 'Sorry, I didn't recognise you without your mask on...' Anyway, better times are on their way!



Many thanks to Lis B for sending in this photo of Provost Hunter opening the cathedral for the Palm Sunday service on 28 March. It's sad to see, however, that lockdown has been so stressful for poor Ted who has clearly taken up smoking. Even so, his mastery of blowing smoke rings is impressive.

[I'm not sure what Ted had in his mouth when this photo was taken, but it was cigarette-shaped and lends itself to a little doctoring! Ed.]

Cover Photo

This month's cover photo, as well as those on pages 5 and 6, is courtesy of the Provost who clearly has an eye for a cheery, colourful and uplifting image! Below, some early spring daffodils on Kinnoull Hill.



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	Eucharist	11.00am
Monday	Morning Prayer	9.30am
Tuesday	Morning Prayer	9.30am
Wednesday	Morning Prayer	9.30am; Eucharist 11.00am
Thursday	Morning Prayer	9.30am

Giving

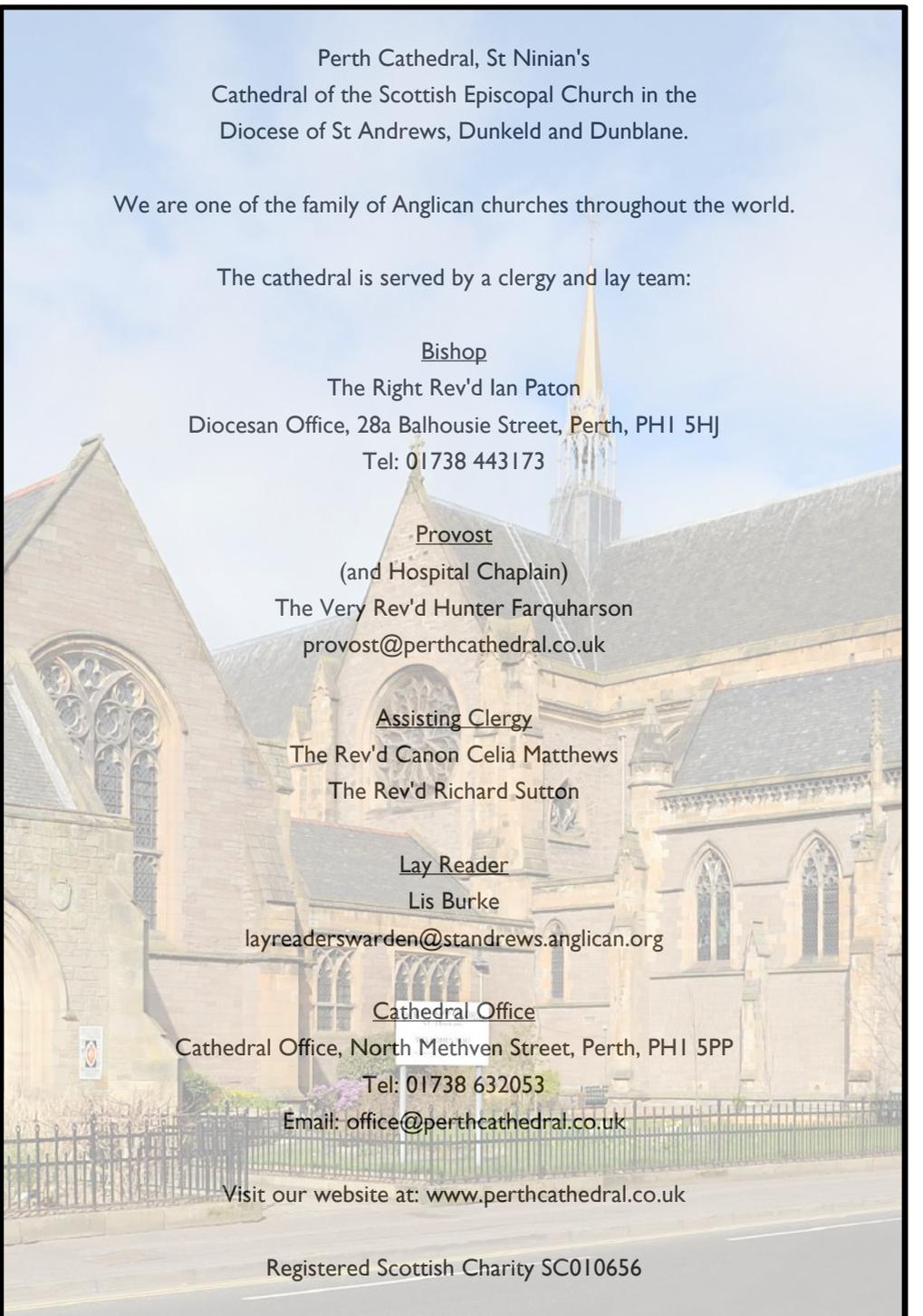
For all committed giving, envelopes and covenants, please contact Liz Gardiner, our treasurer, who will be delighted to advise.

Flowers

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

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 magazine is **18 April**.

A photograph of Perth Cathedral, St Ninian's, a large Gothic Revival church with a prominent spire. The building is made of light-colored stone and features large stained-glass windows. A black metal fence runs along the foreground, and a road is visible at the bottom. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

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:

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(and Hospital Chaplain)
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The Rev'd Richard Sutton

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