

# *Cathedral News*

*The Magazine of Perth Cathedral, St Ninian's*



*December 2021 - January 2022*

## Who's Who at the Cathedral

## From the Provost

Dear friends,

This magazine covers the months of December 2021 to January 2022, taking us into a new year. In terms of church life, we go from the season of Advent to the celebrations of Christmas and then on to Epiphany.



Advent for us marks the start of the Christian year and begins four weeks before Christmas. This is year 'C' in the liturgical calendar, which means we will mainly focus on the Gospel of St Luke. This liturgical calendar has been designed so that we read through most of the Bible in three-year cycles. Most Anglican churches throughout the world follow the same system.

The word Advent means 'arrival' or 'coming'. For Christians it is a season of hope and a period of preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth. In the cathedral we usually have a circle made from evergreen plants with four surrounding candles and a fifth in the centre (representing Hope, Peace, Love, Joy and Christmas). The

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circle reminds us that with God there is no beginning and no end, the evergreen decoration reminding us of God's everlasting love for us. Unlit, the candles remind us of darkness, waiting, anticipation and preparation, with one candle being lit each week, and as the light grows, we grow closer to Christmas when the final candle is lit and the 'Light of Christ' is revealed in the joys of the Incarnation (God come to earth in the form of a baby).

Christmas is an amazing celebration. We decorate the cathedral and our homes, we send good wishes in cards and wrap gifts for each other, and generally surround each other with love. We give thanks that God came among us in flesh and blood, showing us a way of life that has been followed and shared for thousands of years.



The Feast of the Epiphany (6 January) celebrates the revelation of God the Son as a human being in Jesus Christ. This is when the three Magi or Wise Men found Jesus by following a star and laid their precious gifts before him. The following season of Epiphany is a time for us to consider how Jesus fulfilled his destiny, and how we can fulfil our destiny too.

We've had a difficult time over the past two years with our usual patterns of worship somewhat disrupted by a world pandemic. I think, however, that we're beginning to get used to living in different and safer ways. We continue to do everything we can at the cathedral to make sure we worship together in as safe an environment as possible. My thanks to all who have made this possible.

May we all share the love and joy of Christmas with all we meet, and every good wish for the year to come.

Hunter

*Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored our human nature. May we share the divine life of your Son Jesus Christ, who humbled himself to share our humanity, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**Christmas Services 2021**

**19 December at 3.00pm**  
**Carol Service**

**Christmas Eve at 11.30pm**  
**Midnight Mass**

**Christmas Day at 11.00am**  
**Holy Communion with Bishop Ian**

**First Sunday after Christmas: 26 December at 11.00am**  
**Holy Communion with the Provost**

***The Bishop, Provost, Clergy and Vestry wish you every good blessing this Christmas and in the year to come.***

## ***Readings and Collects for December and January***

### **Second Sunday of Advent - 5 December**

**Collect:** Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Readings:** Malachi 3.1-4, Cantic: Benedictus (Luke 1.68-79), Philippians 1.3-11, Luke 3.1-6

### **Third Sunday of Advent – 12 December**

**Collect:** God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming

of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Zephaniah 3.14-20, Canticle: Isaiah 12.2-6, Philippians 4.4-7, Luke 3.7-18

#### **Fourth Sunday of Advent – 19 December**

**Collect:** Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour: now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Micah 5.2-5a, Psalm 80.1-7, Hebrews 10.5-10, Luke 1.39-45(46-55)

#### **Christmas Eve – 24 December (Midnight Mass)**

**Collect:** Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, so bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Isaiah 9.2-7, Psalm 96, Titus 2.11-14, Luke 2.1-14(15-20)

#### **Christmas Day – 25 December at 11.00am**

**Collect:** Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored our human nature. May we share the divine life of your Son Jesus Christ, who humbled himself to share our humanity, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Isaiah 52.7-10, Psalm 98, Hebrews 1.1-4(5-12), John 1.1-14

#### **First Sunday after Christmas – 26 December**

**Collect:** Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** 1 Samuel 2.18-20,26, Psalm 148, Colossians 3.12-17, Luke 2.41-52

#### **Second Sunday after Christmas – 2 January 2022**

**Collect:** God of power and life, the glory of all who believe in you, fill the world with your splendour and show the nations the light of your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Jeremiah 31.7-14, Psalm 147.13-21, Ephesians 1.3-14, John 1.(1-9)10-18

#### **Epiphany – Thursday 6 January**

**Collect:** Eternal God, who by a star led wise men to the worship of your Son, guide by your light the nations of the earth, that the whole world may know your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Isaiah 60.1-6, Psalm 72.1-7,10-14, Ephesians 3.1-12, Matthew 2.1-12

#### **First Sunday after Epiphany – The Baptism of our Lord – 9 January**

**Collect:** Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit, keep your children, born of water and the Spirit, faithful to their calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Isaiah 43.1-7, Psalm 29, Acts 8.14-17, Luke 3.15-17,21-22

#### **Second Sunday after Epiphany – 16 January**

**Collect:** Almighty God, your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world. May your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Isaiah 62.1-5, Psalm 36.5-10, 1 Corinthians 12.1-11, John 2.1-11

#### **Third Sunday after Epiphany – 23 January**

**Collect:** Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10, Psalm 19, I Corinthians 12.12-31a, Luke 4.14-21

### **Conversion of St Paul – Tuesday 25 January**

**Collect:** Almighty God, by the preaching of your servant Paul you caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world. May we who celebrate his wonderful conversion follow him in bearing witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Acts 26.9-23, Psalm 67, Galatians 1.11-24, Matthew 10.16-22 or 19.27-30

### **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany – 30 January**

**Collect:** Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Jeremiah 1.4-10, Psalm 71.1-6, I Corinthians 13.1-13, Luke 4.21-30

### **Presentation of the Lord – Wednesday 2 February**

**Collect:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for you have sent us your salvation. Inspire us by your Holy Spirit to recognize him who is the glory of Israel and the light for all nations, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Readings:** Malachi 3.1-4, Psalm 84, Hebrews 2.14-18, Luke 2.22-40

### **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany – 6 February**

**Collect:** Merciful Lord, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Isaiah 6.1-8(9-13), Psalm 138, I Corinthians 15.1-11, Luke 5.1-11



## ***What's Been Going On?***

### **Art Exhibition**

The Rev'd Canon Celia, who as many of us will know is an extremely talented artist, recently held an art exhibition in the Chapter House (*pictured below*). Running over the course of a week she sold a good number of paintings and in so doing raised over £1500 for the Bishop's Lent Appeal. Very well done, Celia!



### **Diocesan Evensong**

It felt like old times when an estimated 350 people from all over the diocese flooded into the cathedral on Sunday 21 November for the first diocesan evensong since probably 2019. During the afternoon's proceedings, the Very Rev'd Graham Taylor, Rector of St John's, Princes Street, was installed as the Dean of the Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane. Tributes and presentations were made to the retiring dean, the Very Rev'd Kenny Rathband, who has stepped down after 14 years in that role. Two new honorary canons, the above Kenny and our very own Celia, were led to their stalls, as were Honorary Canon Theologian, the Rev'd Professor Trevor Hart, and Honorary Lay Canon, Dr John Ferguson Smith, who has given many years of administrative service to the diocese. Stirring music was provided by organist Geoff Bolton and the cathedral choir which was augmented for the occasion by the choir of Ardvreck School in Crieff. Photos of the event, supplied by Lis Burke and Christopher Dingwall, are on the following pages.



The cathedral choir together with the choir of Ardvreck School and, below, the new dean, the Very Rev'd Canon Graham Taylor, and Celia in her canon's robes.



## Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday was marked on 14 November. Fiona Crighton, wearing her grandfather's medals, laid the wreath at the World War I memorial in the south aisle, the unveiling of which took place almost exactly a century ago (see *this month's Farquhar Diaries extract on page 26*). Dr Fraser Brown from the Black Watch Association laid a wreath at the Boer War Memorial and Lis Burke laid a wreath on behalf of Perth and Kinross Council. There was no bugler for the *Last Post* this year, but Geoff managed to find a suitable stop on the organ. Many thanks should go to Shirley and Hazel for the beautiful and appropriate floral decorations.



Did you know...that there is a distinctly Germanic-sounding surname on the war memorial? Henry W Rasche (the W was for Wellington, a decidedly British counterbalance!), serving with the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles), was killed on 9 April 1917 and is remembered on a memorial at Arras in France. He was the son of Henry and Elizabeth Rasche of Ardmorlie, near Alyth. Henry senior was a German immigrant.

## The Nativity Scene



Many thanks to the Community Payback team who recently put up the nativity scene in the cathedral garden. They were happy to be snapped in action! The scene is now illuminated by LED lighting so the cost of having it on all day and night is minimal.

## The Lantern Parade

The annual lantern parade from the cathedral to St John's Kirk took place on 27 November, a cold but dry Saturday afternoon. After the switching on of the stable light in the cathedral garden, Lis Burke led the gathering in prayer and a carol (pictured below), before setting off for St John's. It was good to see such a large crowd of people attending, particularly when there had been some confusion over the official start time. Some arrived for a 4.30 start and others for 5.00. And having



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locked the cathedral at the end of the event the editor found a young family arriving, ready for a 5.30 start!



The crowds, led by Perth and District Pipe Band, set off from the cathedral (above) and gather outside St John's Kirk (below) where Perthshire Brass accompanied the carol singing.



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## Introducing the Rev'd Peter Higson

I have been asked to write a short piece for *Cathedral News* so that you will know a little bit about me and my wife, Janice. It is not easy to write about yourself and I would far rather be working on a sermon, but this does give me an opportunity to thank you for the very warm welcome we have received since moving to Perth and worshipping with you in the cathedral. I am very grateful to the Provost for 'taking me on' and to Lis for the time she is spending showing me the ropes.

I was born in Chester, a third generation Cestrian (born within the city walls) and attended Chester Cathedral Choir school as a 'non-singer'. There I was trained as an acolyte for weekday services. I then went to a Quaker school in York until the age of 18.

Upon leaving school I joined the world of retail banking, working in many parts of England and Scotland. During my early career I was able to enjoy my other interests of football refereeing and the Special Constabulary - both of which had to be relinquished as my career progressed, they not being considered by my employer to be conducive to further advancement.

I married Janice at Christ Church, St Helens in 1981 and we have two sons, now both with families of their own and living in Dalkeith and Broughty Ferry.

We moved to Helensburgh in 1996 when I took up the post of senior manager at the Glasgow branch of NatWest. I left NatWest in 2000 and spent 15 months working in the leisure sector in Scotland before returning to the banking industry, looking after the commercial lending arm of what has become Santander, throughout Scotland and Northern Ireland.

In 2004, with the support and encouragement of my local congregation of St Michael & All Angels in Helensburgh, I started a period of discernment and study with TISEC and the University of Glasgow. I was licensed as a lay reader in the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway in 2006. I left banking in 2010 and combined a part time job with Marks & Spencer with a Bachelor of Divinity degree course at the University of Glasgow.

In 2013 Janice and I moved back to England, this time to 'God's own County' of

North Yorkshire. I was licensed as reader in the benefice of Middle Esk Moor and spent far too much time, according to Janice, volunteering on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway. This was curtailed when my responsibilities to our four parishes increased during a year-long vacancy.

During 2018, as part of an initiative introduced by Archbishop Sentamu, I took part in a series of explorations and discernments on the role of the distinctive deacon in the Church of England. I was subsequently ordained deacon in York Minster on 13 January 2019, and appointed assistant curate in the benefice of Middle Esk Moor.

During lockdown our first grandchild was born in Dundee and like so many we found the restrictions placed on us by distance difficult. We decided we should move closer to our families and Perth seemed an ideal location. I knew a little of the city from my days in banking and residential weekends and summer schools at Kinnoull.

I am looking forward to joining you as we journey together.

God bless,

Rev'd Peter (*pictured right*)



## Forthcoming Concerts

### Andrew Forbes, Director of Music, Glasgow Cathedral

Perth-born Andrew's organ recital - for Christian Aid - will be given in St John's Kirk on Saturday 4 December at 1.00pm.

### Chansons

Radiant Dawn - Christmas Charity Concert in aid of PKAVS

St Ninian's Cathedral, Sunday 12 December at 7.30pm. Adults £15, children £5.00

## The Cathedral Garden



John Blackie has sent in a lovely photo showing the cathedral garden in its autumnal glory. Below, Wendy and grandchildren Alexander and Eilidh plant bulbs in containers outside The Gateway. Hopefully there will be a bright and cheery display of spring colour in a few months' time!



## Dunkeld Area Council Mini-Gathering

In a move to find new ways of sharing information and encouraging each other across our diocese, each of the four area councils had a mini gathering this autumn. All took the same format, with an opportunity for informal conversations, shared worship and to listen to speakers from within the diocese and learn more about the challenges of climate change and next year's plans for pilgrimages. Two of us from the cathedral joined in our area mini-gathering in St Mary's Church, Birnam (pictured below), where the worship was planned and led by their rector, the Rev'd Lesley-Anne Craddock and by Lesley Whitwood, the lay reader in the Highland Perthshire group of churches, who is also convener of the Dunkeld Area Council. It was great to meet up with friends from churches in Highland Perthshire, East Perthshire, the Strathearn area, Birnam, Stanley, Kirriemuir and Forfar, as well as St John's, Perth.

In conversations about climate change I realised how much congregations can learn from sharing their experiences. We have made great strides forward through being an eco congregation, but it was also exciting to hear people from St Adamnan, Kilmaveonaig, discussing the possibility of generating their own hydro-electricity. We hope there will be more opportunities to meet in this way and learn from each other. In the meantime, you can keep abreast of our area council on the diocesan website. From the home page, click on 'About' and the area councils are the fifth line in the table of links.

Lis Burke



# Unpacking Love: part 4

## Agape Mind

'At every moment you choose yourself.' (Dag Hammerskjold, *Markings*)

This is another step in a journey towards a better understanding of love as agape, the distinctively New Testament word, which I am sketching in as compassion that is unconditional, altruistic, and empathic. Love creates the environment in which the person can grow and flourish. In these small contributions to our magazine, agape love takes us to aspects of the self, facets of who you are. In the first, the self was seen as a network of values, 'what is important to me'. This complex cluster is partly known and open, but much of what each of us experiences as a value is more or less submerged. No one fully knows what actually leads or drives us to behave in particular ways, but it is possible to increase our awareness. In the second, each person was described as the editor of a vast collection of stories. You are the one who is at the centre, telling and adjusting all of your life's tales, and so making meaning out of experience.

Now the focus turns to the will, the Volitional Self. If you are a student of philosophy, or if you have read many of the great classics of the mid-20th century, you will be aware of this theme as existentialism. Sartre and Camus, Kierkegaard and Victor Frankl, reacted to a determinist perception of being human, and found ways of stressing that 'you are what you choose.'

'Between stimulus and response there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our freedom and our growth.' (Frankl, *Man's Search for Meaning*.)

In an environment of agape-love, the Volitional Self grows and flourishes. The tough challenge is to keep yourself on the straight-and-narrow. It is tempting to avoid the implications, but they stare us in the face: you are what you choose. At times it takes a huge effort to endorse this. And there is a sense in which it must be challenged, given the very tough challenges of our past. Some of our stories lead to the conclusion that we are the product of forces (and people) beyond our control. Still you grow and flourish the more you nurture this Volitional Self. And agape love helps you to believe you are worth nourishing in this way.

Here is a practical example from everyday life. 'It makes me really angry when drivers exceed the speed limit through the village.' In other words, the feeling I have - anger - is caused by someone else or something else. I surrender my self to another. Thus the person I become, from moment to moment, is shaped by external forces. But I can begin to grow by holding myself responsible for my own emotions. So when the car speeds through the village, anger is my initial response, but I have not been made to feel angry. The locus of control is within me. Quite possibly, my irritation is related in some way to a value that I hold. For example, I have reason to resent reckless drivers ever since I was injured in an accident. It may be that the speeding driver is rushing to help others in an emergency. So once the first flash of anger settles down, I choose to find alternative reactions. There is possibly no emotion that is wrong in itself, but how I choose to respond, beyond initial reaction, can determine how the responsible self can grow.

The way of agape love, then, is the way of self-responsibility, what has been called the internal locus of control.

I realise that is counter-cultural. We are, as a culture, perhaps a little too happy to 'go with the flow,' to drift, to be passive. For many people the sad, the tragic, passages of life have involved a failure to make a choice sooner rather than later. In the decisive moment, it can seem overwhelmingly painful to decide, and so the easier path is to let things happen. But Aristotle says that 'choice, not chance, determines your destiny.' And Shakespeare has Cassius say, in *Julius Caesar*,

'The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars  
But in ourselves, that we are underlings.'

You have passed through the security check at the airport, and you head towards the waiting lounge. However, your route is through a hallway marked 'Duty Free'. That has a specialised meaning in the economy, but the phrase in itself has some value. We are often caught up in a tension between acting as we feel obliged to, and behaving as we choose to. Agape love is the higher way, according to the New Testament. Agape love leads us to opt for behaviour that enhances self and other, in a way that betters rules and obligations. The more you can be enabled by this love, the more you rebel through goodness! The so-called Golden Rule is seen not so much as the best we can do, but the least. At the very least I can choose to do to and for others as I would like them to treat me. But surely you and I can go

beyond? Reciprocity begins to look a little miserly.

You and I know that there are times when we feel our ability to choose is very limited, seemingly wiped out. And determinism is so very tempting! That's why people are drawn to all the trappings of determinism, such as the horoscope published in many newspapers. At what might seem like the higher end, I know that I am one among many who have undertaken psychological profiling tests. I recently estimated that I have taken almost a dozen serious tests, such as the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. These are all very valuable in their own way, but...

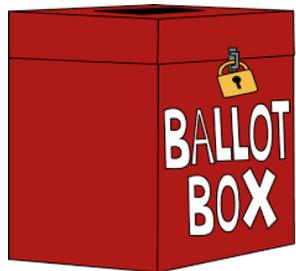
They can become an excuse, justifying ourselves with the idea that this or that test says that how I am today is completely inevitable, because I am Type A, or I fit into Profile B. You see, because the Taylor-Johnson test indicates that I am inclined to be quite impulsive, I can use that insight to commit myself to making plans and setting goals. That is where my Volitional, choosing self grows.

So much more can be said, but this will have to do for the sake of this magazine. In the last two articles, I shall invite you to think about the Behaving Self (Sentences that start with I Can), and the Relational Self (sentences beginning with I Belong,) following this essay, and about sentences starting with I Will.

*Chris Brown*

## Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the congregation will be held in the Chapter House at 12.15 immediately after the service on Sunday 23 January. Please bring a packed lunch if you wish.



There are vacancies on the vestry to be filled. Candidates for election to the vestry must be communicant members and nominations must be proposed and seconded by members similarly qualified, and candidates must have indicated their willingness to stand. Nomination forms will be available from the notice boards in the cloisters and should be submitted to the Provost (in the absence of a vestry secretary) by 10.30am on Sunday 23 January.



## Christmas Cards...



As mentioned last month, the cathedral's own Christmas cards - featuring scenes from three of our stained glass windows - are currently on sale with all proceeds going to the Cathedral Restoration Fund.

Christopher Dingwall points out that there is still much work to do on repairs to the exterior stonework and stained glass. By purchasing cards from the cathedral, you will be contributing towards the funds which are necessary for the next phase of the cathedral restoration. Cards are available for purchase from Christopher.



## Congratulations!

Many congratulations to our Director of Music, Geoff Bolton, on his excellent organ recital in the cathedral on Saturday 30 October. An audience of around 25 was there for the concert which had been arranged by the Tayside Organists Society. The performance was well received, judging by the comments from Geoff's fellow organists. Assistant editor, Eddie, in his prime location between the organ console and the pipes was greatly impressed and indeed thought Geoff was performing a duet with the Invisible Man, such was the torrent of notes pouring out of the organ pipes...



## COP 26: Local Action

Many of the Perth churches of all denominations are eco-congregations, some of very long-standing and some with awards, but by no means all.

The last 18 months have obviously seen little by way of joint activities, but for COP 26 a group of us got together to arrange a few events in Perth so that people could engage with something meaningful locally, rather than having to travel through to Glasgow or stay at home and watch everything on TV.

On a very chilly but mercifully dry Thursday night we held a 'Prayers for the Planet Candlelit Vigil' in the garden of the North Church. It was attended by about 50 people of all ages and got us off to a good start. The garden, of course, is situated opposite the Mill Street bus stances and it was somewhat ironic that our prayers for the environment were almost drowned out by the sounds of stationary buses with their engines running!

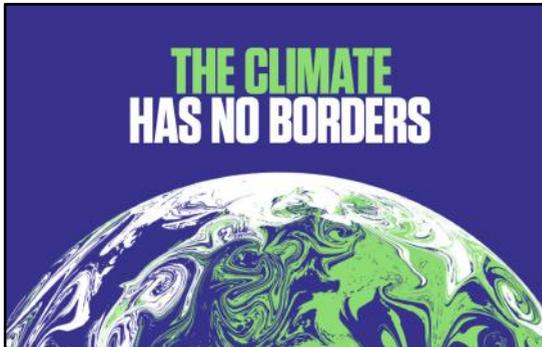
Next we set up a pop-up stall in the High Street from which we handed out packets of wildflower seeds and chatted to passers-by about climate change and their concerns for the future. We had made a prayer tree and offered folk the chance to write a thought or a prayer on paper leaves to decorate it. People were also invited to go into the nearby Kirk to light a candle and take part in prayer and reflection at regular intervals during the day.

For the second week of COP we set up our table and prayer tree in Perth & Kinross Council's Eco-hub (housed in an empty shop in the High Street) where we had the chance to chat with both visitors and staff about the climate situation and what we can do locally to help. Establishing contact with the council's Climate

Change Officer was particularly useful and we hope that future joint activities will be a more effective way of reaching a wider public. Watch this space!

*Wendy Duncan*

*Opposite page, the vigil in the North Church garden and the pop-up stall in the High St.*



## Eco Congregation News

Our new eco corner, at the door to the Gateway in the cloisters, has recently been brightened by some beautiful painting. Many thanks to local artist and sign-writer Frazer Abbot for his skilful work. By way of a reminder, you can leave stamps, spectacles, batteries, blister packs, printer cartridges, milk bottle tops and various other items for recycling, all in the specially labelled boxes there.



## Cathedral Defibrillator Training

As we shall shortly have a defibrillator at the cathedral there will be a training session in its use on Saturday 8 January 2022, between 10.30am and 12.00 noon. The training, in the cathedral, will be led by Dr Ian Morrison and a team of fully qualified members of the Perth & Kinross Order of St John. A coffee morning will also take place from 10.00am - 12 noon. Please do join me for this important event, advising Marion in the office of your intention to attend by phoning 01738 632053 or emailing her at [office@perthcathedral.co.uk](mailto:office@perthcathedral.co.uk). The event will be fully compliant with safety and Covid-19 requirements.

Provost Hunter

## Marjorie Hunter

Many people will be saddened to learn of the recent death of Marjorie Hunter. Marjorie, together with her friend Morag, led the catering team at the cathedral for a number of years and put on very successful congregational events, such as the Christmas and St Valentine's Day lunches, not to mention the monthly community lunches and the post-Sunday service coffees. It was two years ago when Marjorie bade farewell to the cathedral congregation with a brief announcement of her move to Glasgow in the December 2019 magazine.

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

## Summer Opening Bonus!

The congregation will be pleased to hear that when the donations box in the cloisters was opened at the end of the summer opening season in September it was found to contain over £500. Well done to all the summer opening volunteers who inspired such giving!



## Alison's Book Choice...

...will be back in February!



## PACT Carol Service

The annual PACT carol service, a popular event, will take place this year in St Matthew's Church, Tay Street, on Friday 17 December at 7.00pm. With the arrival in Scotland of the new omicron variant of Covid this, of course, may change.

Perth Action of Churches Together



PACT

## Cathedral Cleaning

Well done and thank you to Liz G and Wendy (pictured in action below) who, with some professional assistance, cleaned a large part of the cathedral on 29 November, in readiness for the Christmas season. All the seats in the nave were moved (and cleaned) and the floor washed and vacuumed. It is expected that there will be a memorial service in the near future for the cobweb which has given long service, hanging down from the right-hand side of the rood. Sadly missed.



## From the Farquhar Diaries

**12 December 1921.** We had a notable Service in the Cathedral yesterday i.e. the unveiling & dedication of the Memorial to those members of the congregation (46 in number & about 20 others) who fell in the war. We have taken a long time to get it up and an almost endless number of forms were considered by an almost endless number of committees. A great effort was made in favour of a Crucifix or a Rood Beam, but there was at all events a minority against it and at last we have come down to a brass with list of names, surrounded by a large carved stone frame, designed by Mr F. Pearson. This Service took the place of Matins and the Cathedral was crowded. Sir R. Moncrieffe unveiled the tablet and the Bp dedicated it. The former gave an address and the latter preached at the following choral Celebration, at which there were 78 communicants. The whole Service with Procession of the Choir & Clergy and with the Last Post and the Reveille sounded by a bugler were most impressive and a good many people were in tears.

*Many thanks to Margaret Lye for this extract!*

## Eddie the Eagle says...

I must apologise to members of the Order of the Holy Paraclete who attended a meeting here recently. I seem to have misheard their name. Looking forward to a bit of avian company, I asked them 'Where's all the birds?' and for some reason they weren't amused. They turned out to be very understanding, but not as brightly coloured as I had been hoping.



## 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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>11.00am</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>9.00am</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>9.00am</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>9.00am; Eucharist 11.00am</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>9.00am</b>

### Giving

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

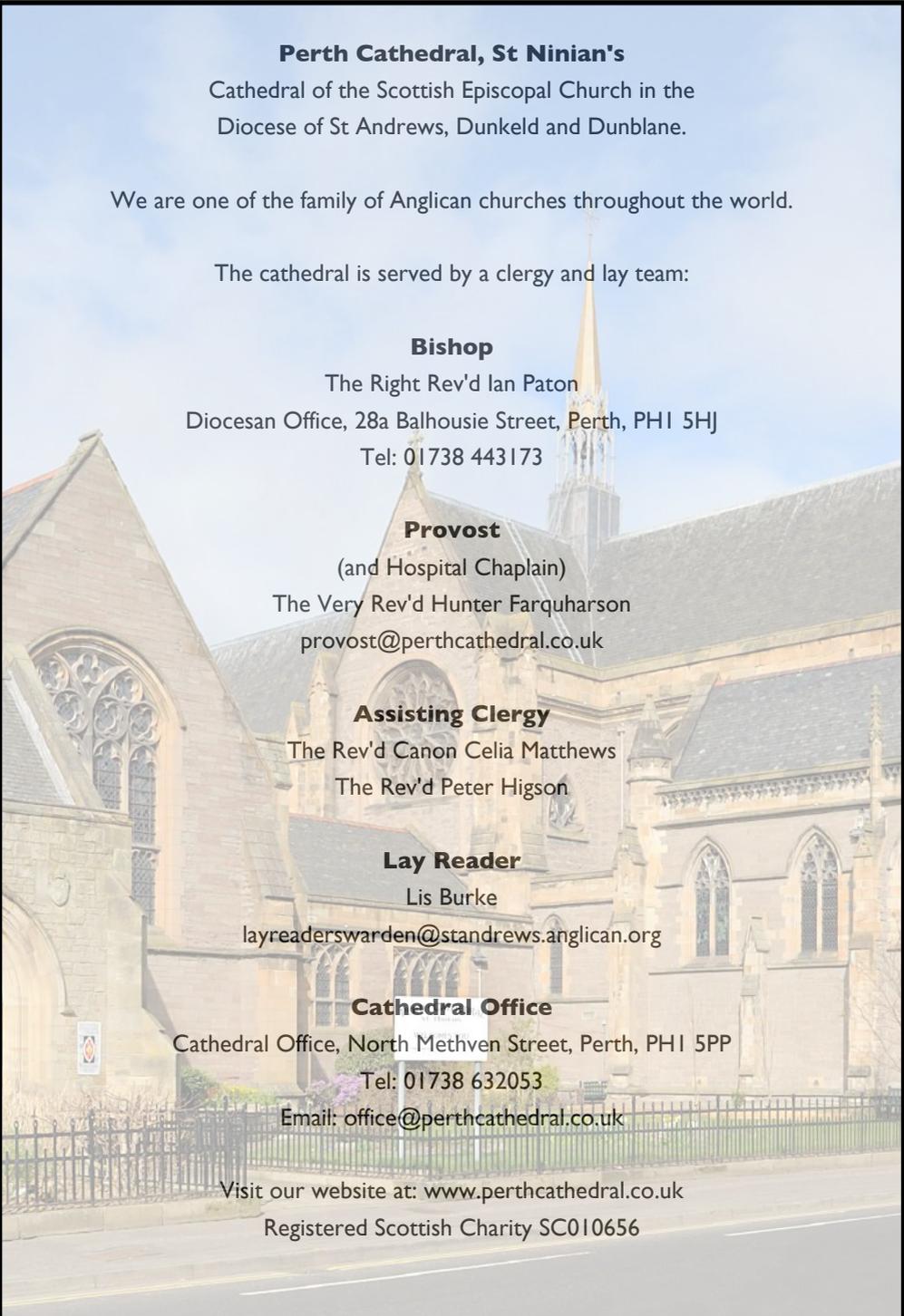
### Flowers

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](mailto:cathedralmagazine@gmail.com).

The closing date for inclusion in the February magazine is **23 January**.

A photograph of Perth Cathedral, St Ninian's, showing its Gothic architecture with a prominent spire and large stained glass windows. The text is overlaid on the image.

## **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 Celia Matthews

The Rev'd Peter Higson

### **Lay Reader**

Lis Burke

layreaderswarden@standrews.anglican.org

### **Cathedral Office**

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