

THE WHITE ROSE

The Parish Newsletter of Old Saint Paul's Church

August 2010.

Scotland's Nazareth?

Festival Masses

Once again the music for this year's Festival Masses will not disappoint. We start the ball rolling on the August 15 with Byrd's 'Mass for five voices'; arguably one of the most beautiful of his mass settings, reflecting upon the religious turmoil of the time. It incorporates some of the earlier compositional traditions of the period, as a mark of his commitment to the catholic liturgy.

On the August 22 the Mass setting is Mozart's 'Spatzenmesse'. It is called Spatzenmesse (the Sparrow Mass) due to violin figures incorporated in the Sanctus and Benedictus, which sound like birds.

Finally on the August 29 is Raymond Monelle's 'Missa Brevis', this is an earlier version of the mass more familiar to the congregation. It is an awe-inspiring conglomeration of different textures and styles, accompanied by a large string orchestra. Unusually, there is no organ part.

Alice McMichael

Festival Evensongs

Each Festival Sunday there will also be a full service of choral Evensong & Benediction at 6.30pm, with canticles by Bairstow, Mathias and Dyson and anthems by Greig, Bach and Shephard.

As always, full details of all the services can be found on the OSP website, www.osp.org.uk. The church is also open daily for private prayer and meditation.



I've now been back for a month after my pilgrimage to Walsingham. The experience was an amazingly rich one, on all sorts of levels. And while the memory has started to fade surprisingly quickly, I'm confident it will leave a good long-term legacy for me (though it's too early to say what this will be exactly!).

There are also two other bits of legacy that are very tangible and concrete - the legacy in cash, about £4000 raised for R & R and Christian Aid so far (many thanks to all who contributed; if you haven't yet done so and wish to, please speak to Nigel Cook); and there's also my video diary, which is still available on line.

Walsingham (known in the Middle Ages as England's Nazareth), is a special place, with its holy well, and long history of pilgrimage, wonderfully revived in modern times. Special, but not unique. Scotland too had its Marian shrines. One of the most important of them was that of Our Lady of Wedale, which is set between the A7 and the River Gala, about half a mile south of Stow village.

On Saturday 14th we all have the chance to experience for ourselves something of the special atmosphere of Marian pilgrimage, at a special ecumenical pilgrimage that has been organised to coincide with the Feast of

Our Lady, which we'll also be celebrating at OSP the following day.

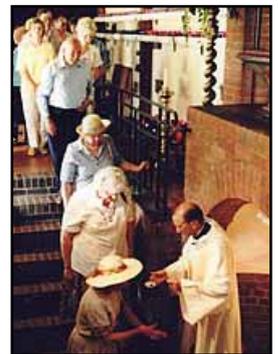
High Mass will be celebrated at 2.30pm, with former OSP Curate Fr. Maurice Houston presiding. The Mass will be

followed by sprinkling at the Holy Well. The usual 12-20 mass and rosary at OSP will be cancelled on that day, as we hope to take a group down to join in the pilgrimage. This I'm sure will prove to be a spiritually rich experience, and an enjoyable day out (we'll aim to assemble and bless the cars around around 11am, so we can have a picnic on the river-bank before mass, and will be back in Edinburgh by 6pm). Try and come along!

Fr Simon

If you wish to take part in the Pilgrimage, contact Barnaby Hawkes on 539 0326 or at: Barnaby.hawkes@blueyonder.co.uk

The Walking to Walsingham diary is available on line at www.fathersimon.org



Top: The well at Stow.
Above: Sprinkling Holy Water after a Healing Service

R&R UPDATE

Where Next ... ?

This is partly a Report and partly a Call to Action!

Walking to Walsingham

Simon's imaginative marathon from Edinburgh to Norfolk was duly completed – although Poppy quite sensibly decided that she would take the train back to Edinburgh when opportunity arose. (Actually she injured her foot and was unable to carry on). This was an amazing undertaking – the pictures of Simon's feet at the end gave some indication of the level of endurance required! Several people may now be suffering withdrawal symptoms from their daily dose of Father Simon's information on Facebook or Twitter – so, the question is – who is going to follow his example and do something equally challenging? (It is not obligatory to grow a beard...) Thank you, Simon – your aching legs have made a splendid contribution to R&R.

Forthcoming Events

Future dates for your diary: Thursday 30 September - Food for Thought; Monday 30 November a St Andrews Night special – details to be revealed; Friday 10 December – Christmas Food for Thought.

Hot Chocolate

Volunteers are still needed to do various tasks, if you can help, please see Kim or email her: vestry@osp.org.uk

Semi- Grand Scheme

The proposers of this scheme offered to donate £500 each to R & R and challenged 8 or more people to do the same. With Gift Aid this scheme would certainly ratchet up our total.

To date 6 others have joined in – thank you – but there is still room for more. It would be good if we could make that 8 up to 12 or even more ... If you are interested please contact Nigel Cook or Sheila Brock.

Hot Chocolate Concerts

This series of late night classical music concerts at Old St Paul's is in aid of the Restoration & Renewal fund. Why not finish off your Festival day with relaxing hot chocolate & an hour of music by candlelight?

Tickets £8 (£5) are available from the Fringe box office or on the door of Old St Paul's, Jeffrey Street from 9.30pm and after High Mass on Sundays. Also online at www.edfringe.com. Hot chocolate is served 9.30 - 9.55 pm

Week 1 : 10 - 13 August

Tuesday 10 August

Festive Fanfare

Popular works by Charpentier, Handel & Stanley
Tom Poulson (trumpet), Carrie Upton (recorder), Calum Robertson (organ)

Wednesday 11 August

Evening Voices

Songs by Mozart, Ravel, Schubert & Vaughan Williams
Jerome & Alex Knox with Philomena Knox (piano)

Thursday 12 August

Music for the Liturgy

including works by Byrd, Elgar & Widor
The Choir of Old Saint Paul's Church directed by John Kitchen with Calum Robertson (organ)

Friday 13 August

Baroque strings

Works by Handel & Purcell, including Purcell Suite from "The Faery-Queen"
Ruth Slater (baroque violin) & ensemble

Week 2 : 17 - 20 August

Tuesday 17 August

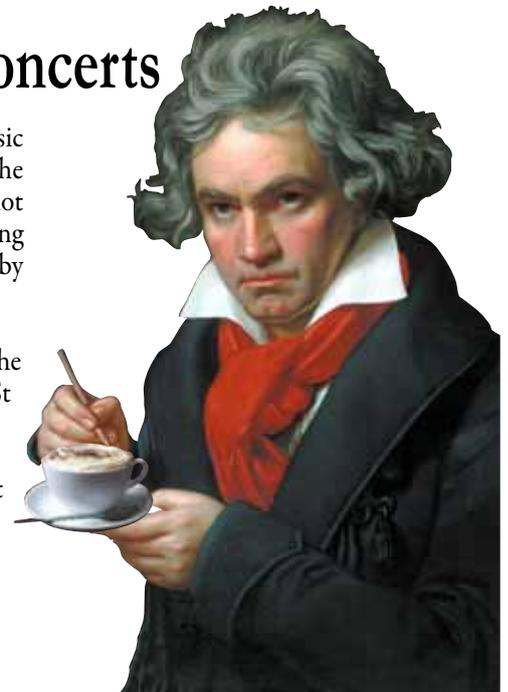
Classical & romantic strings

Quartets by Dvorak & Haydn
Francis Cummings & Paul Jourdan (violins), Kathryn Jourdan (viola), Louise Harper (cello)

Wednesday 18 August

Clarinet favourites

including Adagio from Mozart *Clarinet concerto*
Calum Robertson (clarinet), John Kitchen (organ & piano)



Thursday 19 August

Chansons de nuit

including Ravel: *Chansons Madécasses* for voice, flute, cello & piano
Janet de Vigne (soprano)

Friday 20 August

Classic organ favourites

including Bach *Tocatta & fugue in D minor* & Widor *Tocatta from Symphonie 5*
John Kitchen

Week 3 : 24 - 27 August

Tuesday 24 August

Music for cello & piano

Works by Beethoven, Brahms & Schumann, including Brahms *Sonata for cello in E minor*
Su-a Lee (cello) & Jan Waterfield (piano)

Wednesday 25 August

Baroque masterpieces

including Bach "Coffee" cantata
The Choir of Old Saint Paul's Church & instrumentalists, directed from the harpsichord by John Kitchen

Thursday 26 August

Nocturnal Enchantment

Schubert *Octet in F*, Schubert's largest scale chamber work, for clarinet, bassoon, horn & strings

Friday 27 August

Choral Consort

Works by Britten & Schutz including Schutz *Das ist mir Lieb*
The Calton Consort, directed by Jason Orringe



Catch Them If You Can



In addition to their participation in a number of our Hot Chocolate concerts, not to mention all the special liturgical music during the Festival, John Kitchen and Calum Robertson are involved in a number of other Fringe concerts.

John will be performing in the both the Guitars and Harpsichords at St Cecilia's Hall.

Saturday 14 August 3pm

False Hearts And Broken Vows

Vocal and instrumental music by Blow, Kapsberger, Marais and Monteverdi.

Saturday 21 August 3pm

John Kitchen at St Cecilia's Hall

He will play keyboard instruments on instruments from the recently-gifted Rodger Mirrey Collection, stunning in its breadth and quality. Followed by a reception launching the latest in his critically acclaimed series of recordings on Delphian Records.

Wednesday 25 August 3pm

Arborea Musica plays Vivaldi

Gerry McDonald and John Kitchen contrast the oboe and recorder sonatas (including two newly-discovered works)

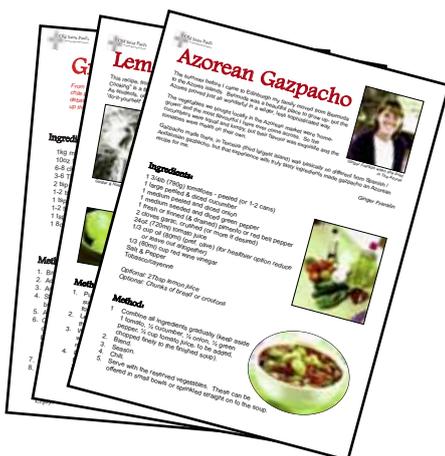
with virtuoso keyboard transcriptions by Bach. Featuring the 1755 Kirckman harpsichord.

Tickets for the St Cecilia's concerts cost £8.00 (£6 concessions) and are available from Fringe Office, 226 0000, the Queen's Hall box office 668 2019, or at the door

He's also giving a *'Festive Flourish'* with Peter Backhouse and Michael Harris at St Giles Cathedral on Sunday 22 at 10.30pm. Tickets £8 from St Giles' Cathedral Shop (0131 226 0673), Fringe Box Office, or at the door.

Meanwhile Calum will be playing with John Bryden (*piano*) at St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place on Tuesday 17 at 1.10pm as part of their free lunchtime concert series. (See page 3 for the full programme of concerts).

Confusingly they will also be at St Mary's Metropolitan Cathedral (RC), Broughton Street, on Thursday 19 August at 1.10pm as part of their free lunchtime concert series. Just make sure you get your dates and cathedrals right if you want to see them!



Food for Thought

Did you miss the launch of the In Due Season recipes? Or not pick up the one you wanted? If so you'll be glad to know that as part of the R&R fundraising effort the recipe cards and binders will be on sale after Mass on Sunday 29 August.

The next tasting session is on Thursday 30 September, if you have recipes that you'd like to share, please contact Ginger Franklin at gingerf@blueyonder.co.uk

Lunchtime Concerts

St Mary's Cathedral (Palmerston Place) are having a series of free lunchtime concerts at 1.10pm, which should last about 40 minutes. Full details are available on their website: www.cathedral.net

Monday 9

Catherine Leonard *piano*

Tuesday 10

Philomusica of Edinburgh

Wednesday 11

Mark Browne *organ*

Thursday 12

Viktor Bijelovic *pianist*

Friday 13

Beth Chen *piano*

Saturday 14

Ben Kearsley *classical guitar*

Monday 16

Miyuki Kato *piano*

Tuesday 17

Calum Robertson *clarinet*, John Bryden *piano*

Thursday 19

Susan Tajra *piano*

Friday 20

Nick Wearne, John Bryden *piano duets*

Saturday 21

Alba Brass

Monday 23

Catherine Pope *mezzo soprano*, Paula Fischer *piano*

Tuesday 24

Barbara Misiewicz *cello*, John Bryden *piano*

Wednesday 25

Aura Go *piano*

Thursday 26

Gareth Treseder *tenor*, Douglas Stevens *piano*

Friday 27

The City of Edinburgh Music School

Saturday 28

Andrew Tipple *bass*, John Bryden *piano*

Monday 30

Marianne Diessner *cello*, Chris Baxter *piano*

Tuesday 31

Jenny Rust *soprano*, Anna Yang *piano*

Festival of Spirituality & Peace

FoSP Music

The Festival of Spirituality & Peace has a large and varied musical element, we have picked 3 to give a flavour, full details of these and their world cafe listings can be found at www.festivalofspirituality.org.uk

A Celebration Of Faith Through Music £3 (£2)

Thursday 12 7-8pm St Columba's, 14 Johnston Terrace (venue 4)

Bringing people together to promote peace, dialogue, understanding, love and friendship through music, from Bollywood Singers to Jewish choirs and from Muslim singers to Sikh drummers. All profits from the evening going towards FISCAF a charity helping to fight poverty across the whole of Scotland. Tickets are only available from the Mission and Discipleship office on 0131 225 5722

Ancient Healing Harmonies To Sweeten The Soul Free (by donation)

Wednesday 18 & Tuesday 24 2-3pm in the chapel St John's (venue 127)

From the foothills of the Caucasus, trio "Akvani," led by Nana Mzhavnanadze, bring you exquisite pre-Christian polyphonic harmony healing songs from the Georgian women's tradition. Songs to appease the "Batonebi" Spirits and heal sick children. Join us in a soundbath of harmony, by donation in aid of humanitarian work in Georgia.

Tashi Lhunpo Monks £7.50 (£6.50)

Sunday 22 4-5.15pm St John's (venue 127)

Far from a silent, meditative world, the Tibetan monastery is filled with the chanting of Buddhist texts, the recitation of mantras, the ringing of bells, the clashing of cymbals, the booming of the great long horns and the beating of drums. Eight Tibetan monks offer a dramatic presentation of their unique sacred dances, music and prayers, with colourful traditional costumes and ceremonial masks. The performances offer a rare opportunity to witness a unique and endangered culture.

Tibetan Sand Mandala

Monday 9 - Saturday 14 St John's Church (chapel) 9am - 3pm Free (donations please)

During the first week of the Festival, the Tashi Lhunpo Tibetan Monks will create an intricate Sand Mandala in the chapel of St John's.

The making of a sand Mandala is a Tantric spiritual practice for Tibetan monks and a Mandala is a representation of the deities described in the Tantric texts. When the Mandala is completed and prayers finished, the deities are respectfully requested to leave the Mandala. In the spirit of impermanence and non-



attachment the Mandala is then ritualistically dismantled.

Celibacy: Gift Or Curse? £6 (£4)

Friday 20 2-3.00pm St John's (venue 127)

In some religious traditions celibacy is seen as a sign of devotion and a commitment to holiness and purity. Others see it more problematically. Some have argued that celibacy in the Catholic priesthood is damaging to the individual and the institution. Abbot Lama Yeshe of Samye Ling Monastery, Fr Chris Boles SJ and Rabbi David Rose explore different faith perspectives with John Armes.

In Search Of The Sacred ... £8 (£6)

Saturday 21 2-3.15pm St John's (venue 127)

In his books William Dalrymple introduces us to holy men and mystics, people past and present who have lived out their faith in extraordinary ways. Here he discusses the human search for meaning with Norman Drummond, whose lifelong quest has been to help people realise their 'inner greatness'.

Old Religion & New Society: Divorce Or Couple Counselling? £8 (£6)

Mon 23 5.30-6.45pm St John's (venue 127)

Richard Holloway, former Bishop of Edinburgh, looks at the place of religion in the modern world, asking if religions necessarily lock us into the cultural norms of distant, mainly patriarchal, cultures. Can religion and society cohabit - or will they inevitably go their own ways?

So Much For The Rule Of Law £6 (£4)

Saturday 28 noon-1pm St John's (venue 127)

The rule of law is much trumpeted, as the means of protecting citizens against abuse. Philippe Sands QC argues that the West has recently flouted its own principles. Can we regain a commitment to the rule of law treating other people, other nations as we would like to be treated? In conversation with Aamer Anwar, a prominent Scottish human rights lawyer.

Inter-Faith Prayers For Peace

During August St John's, West End, (venue 127) are having Inter-Faith prayers & meditations for peace on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 5.30pm - 6.30pm. Come nourish your heart! Enjoy an oasis of stillness and sanctuary to encourage peace and harmony for us all. Join them in any or all of these ways to reflect.

Taizé music & silence
(Wednesdays 11, 18 and 25 August)

Dances of Universal Peace Chants from different faith traditions
(Thursdays 12, 19 and 26 August)

Time for Rest and Silence
(Fridays 13, 20 and 27 August)



Is There Any Place For Reconciliation In The Midst Of Violent Conflict? *Free* Thursday 12 noon-1pm St John's (venue 127)

Robi Damelin lost her son in the Israeli-Arab conflict and Seham Ikhlal lost her brother and her other brother spent four years in an Israeli prison. They are members of Parents Circle-Families Forum, a grassroots organization of 500 bereaved Palestinians and Israelis. Together they promote reconciliation and non-violence as an alternative to hatred and revenge through many educational and artistic projects

Introduction to Transmission Meditation Thursday 12 7:30-9pm, Theosophical Society, 28 Great King Street, *Free*

Transmission meditation is a simple form of group meditation that provides both a dynamic service to the world (Karma yoga) and a powerful technique for personal growth (Laya yoga). As a result of transmission meditation, many people find that their mind is more stimulated and creative. Some people receive healing, spontaneously, during the transmissions. Everyone welcome. No previous experience required.

Do Unto Others... Thornlie School & Their Pal Datuna *Free (by donation)* Saturday 21 7-9pm St John's (venue 127)

When the children of Thornlie Primary school in Wishaw opened their door to welcome in a small disabled Georgian in urgent need of medical treatment, he ceased to be a charity case and became a friend. The children became passionate

Japanese Tea Ceremony

Tuesday 17 & Wednesday 25 4 - 5pm St John's (venue 127) *Free (by donation)*

The Japanese Tea Ceremony, "Cha-no-Yu: Way of Tea", originated in 16th century Japan. The 4 principals of the Tea Ceremony are Harmony, Respect, Purity and Tranquillity. It synthesizes the arts of elegant Kimono, flower arrangement, calligraphy, pottery and philosophy into a way of life. After the great popularity of last year's Tea Ceremony at the Festival of Spirituality and Peace, qualified professor of Urasenke Mio Shapley warmly invites

advocates on his behalf and their efforts changed not only his life, but also their own. In this Datuna Benefit event, the children tell their story, via an inspirational film, singing his country's Georgian harmonies and inviting you to help them to fundraise for an operation to save his life. All the more remarkable because 5 years ago, this small social priority school had the worst school exclusion rates in the whole of Scotland.

Festival Open Day At The Synagogue Sunday 22 12-4pm, Salisbury Rd Synagogue

Tours of the synagogue will also be available for those interested in the Jewish faith and the history of the congregation in Edinburgh.

Muslim Women: Images And Realities Sunday 22 4-5.30pm Edinburgh Central Mosque (venue 48) *Free*

Rehana Saddiq shares her experience as a Muslim woman and analyses the various challenges faced in contemporary Muslim and secular societies.

Do, Don't, Or Leave Well Alone: How The Law Determines Our Ethical Decisions Friday 27 11.30am-12.30pm St John's (venue 127) *Free*

A cross-party panel of Parliamentarians discuss the role of legislation in restricting or permitting our behaviour towards each other. With the Scottish Parliament and Westminster passing dozens of pieces of legislation each year more and more of our daily activities have become subject to law.



you once again to come and share a cup of peace and simplicity.

Art, Craft & Music

Every year St Martin's hosts an Art & Craft Exhibition showcasing the work of local artists and craftspeople in Gorgie & Dalry. Last year there were 35 artists represented and over 150 works of art, including photography, painting, glasswork, woodwork, knitting, quilting and upholstery.

This year's theme '*Journeying Together*' marks an important stage in the life of our Partner Churches - the ecumenical covenant was signed by St Martin's, St Colm's, St Michael's and Gorgie Parish in March 2010. This agreement shows our joy and commitment to work and grow together as churches in Gorgie and Dalry. However, the theme also reflects many parts of life in our communities and our world.

This year we are delighted that local musicians have offered their talents for concerts every night. The concerts are free, and last between 30-60 minutes. St Martin's church, 232 Dalry Road, is on the corner of Murieston Crescent, opposite Dalry cemetery just after the road bridge and garage as you come out of town.

The Art Exhibition is open 12-7.00pm Monday to Friday and 10.00am-12.30pm on Saturday 21st August, with free concerts every day at 5.30, Monday to Friday

Monday 16: 5.30pm concert
John Longley - *Piano*, Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition

Tuesday 17: 5.30pm concert
Chris Johnson - *Organ*, works by G. F. Handel, J. Rheinberger, C. Franck and L Boellmann

Wednesday 18: 5.30pm concert
John Marsall - *Tenor* in concert

Thursday 19: 5.30pm concert
Elizabeth Day - *Organ*, works by J.S. Bach, T.G. Albinoni and T Dubois

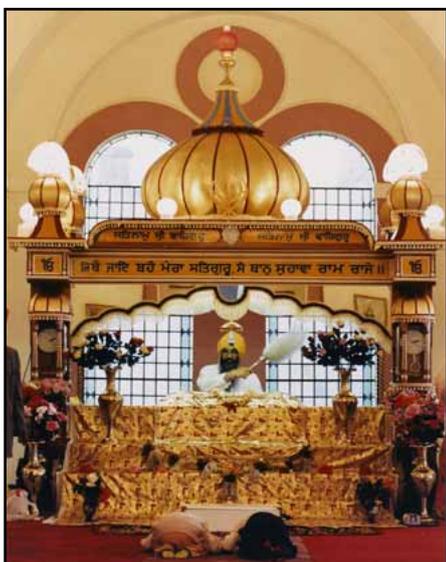
Friday 20: 5.30pm concert
The Parc Quartet - Beethoven's String Quartet No 74 "The Harp"

Saturday 21: 10-12.30am Coffee Morning
Karen Jones, Folk Musician & Singer

XY Interfaith Visits



Left: The Interior of the Synagogue, taken from the Ladies Gallery. **Above:** The Ark, & the exterior. **Below:** Interior of the Sikh Temple, & the Inauguration of the Temple



The recent XY (young adults) programme which has just finished consisted of a number of discussions and visits on the theme of 'Sea of Faith - interfaith relations'. As with all XY events, any interested members of the congregation were invited to attend - and quite a few did.

Several inquisitive souls visited each of the places of worship of four world faiths - a Sikh temple, a Buddhist temple, a synagogue and a mosque. We also met twice with the Humanists, once in a pub and on another occasion in the Friends' Meeting House.

Apart from the last, in each place we were met by a 'leader' who welcomed us and outlined their beliefs and form of worship, at greater or lesser length - and we actually attended the regular meeting for worship in the Sikh temple. They all welcomed questions and answered most of them satisfactorily.

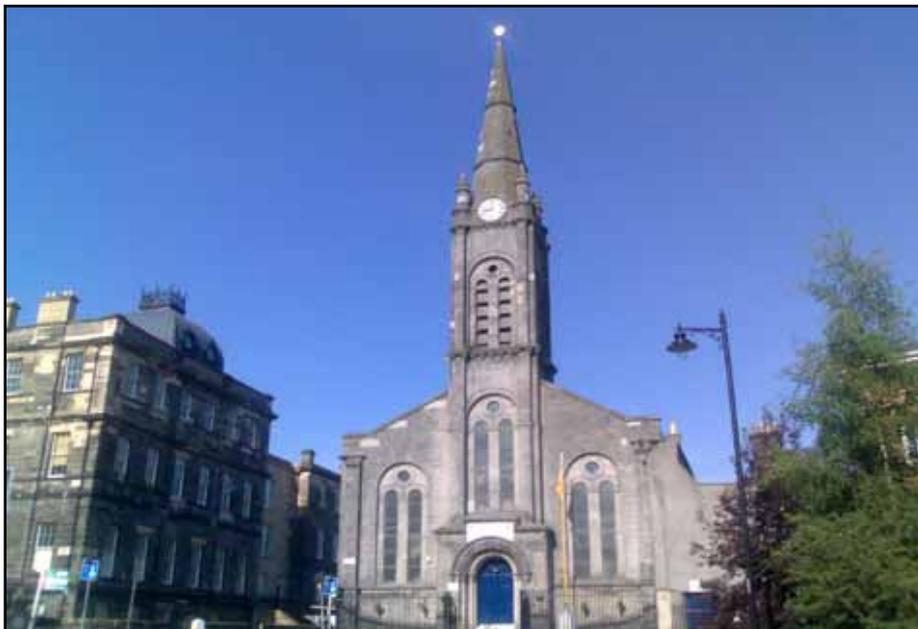
Each building was very different. Only the synagogue was custom-built. The Sikh temple (a former church) was very light and colourful. With feet bare and heads covered we sat on carpets on the floor - amid many young families - the women and girls in the most colourful and stylish garments. We listened to mesmeric drumbeats and chanting, the text of which was projected on to the wall in Urdu and English. Afterwards we were given a talk on their beliefs by a most engaging and friendly member of the Sikh community and were then treated to a tasty curry lunch. Of all the places I visited, this was the most delightful to all the senses.

The meeting at the Buddhist temple (a Portobello town house) was much more low key. Over tea and biscuits we discussed at some length the teachings of the Buddha with Brother Fabian and were then shown into a large room simply furnished with low stools, many candles and a not-too-imposing statue of the Buddha.

At the synagogue we felt a bit more at home with wooden pews and the Bema. Rabbi David Rose addressed us on various aspects of Judaism and proudly unrolled a vellum Torah for us and explained its importance. Again, our many and varied questions were answered. One of the group commented on our departure how strange - and restful - it was to have listened to a member of a world faith explaining that making converts was of no interest to the community.

Then on a dismal wet evening, we visited the Blackhall mosque - a large building, previously a church, which still displays a verse from the Bible carved into the stone above the front door - unprepossessing on the outside, and very spacious within. Our questions here were more incisive, but were answered with great equanimity by a most enthusiastic imam, who was delighted to answer our questions about what he found most inspiring about being a Muslim (the constant awareness of the presence of Allah with him in his day-to-day existence) and about his favourite part of the Koran (a passage about the wonders of Paradise which await the faithful).

None of our discussions with people of faith was controversial - the point of the



series of visits was to enlarge our understanding and first-hand experience of the great faiths. Difficult issues were avoided in the main and each of the faiths came over as full of warmth towards man and beast, non-aggressive and non-confrontational.

The humanists came across rather differently. The humanist celebrant, in the pub meeting - who told us of his Catholic upbringing and education - seemed to be squaring up for a fight and one of the leading humanists in his discussion with Bishop Brian seemed determined to draw the Bishop into old, tired and discarded arguments about Christianity. Comments from the floor also contained somewhat shallow and distorted ideas of the 'Old Man with a Beard in the Sky' sort. Of all the people we talked with, it was the Humanists who appeared to be the most 'empty' and least warm hearted, having little or no sense of the numinous, nor of the spiritual values enjoyed by those of faith.

It was a most engaging programme and we much appreciate Fr Simon's organising of it all. It would be excellent if there could be a follow-up meeting to discuss our impressions.

Margot Alexander

Above: The Sikh Temple in a former Church

Below: The Buddhist Temple in a Portobello town house, & The Blachall Mosque in a former church



Island Retreats

Inspired by a recent retreat I have put together three retreats designed for individuals, couples or small groups that would come here and become part of a larger group ...

So why not join a retreat on the Isle of Cumbrae in the stunning setting of The Cathedral of The Isles, and be part of a midweek or weekend retreat led by the Warden. Adjust your pace of life to a few days of saying Daily Office, Midday Eucharist with a visiting celebrant, a little intellectual stimulation, lots of time for reflection and recreation and good home-cooking.

The Weekend Retreat is 3 nights, from Friday 8 to Monday 11 October 2010. The Midweek Retreats are 4 nights and are on Monday 13 to Friday 17 September 2010, and Monday 27 September to Friday 1 October 2010. The price per person is from £160 for the Weekend or £215 for the Midweek Retreat. There is a 10% discount for sharing room and a small supplement for en-suite facilities. To find out more details, or to get an application form, ring 01475 530353 or email cathedral_cumbrae@btconnect.com

You can also book accommodation at the Bishop's House on Iona. There are currently spaces on Thursday 9 to Monday 13 September 2010 (4 nights) for a group (up to 23 people), and Saturday 2 October to Saturday 16 October 2010 (2 x 7 nights or 14 nights).

They also have self-catering available from Saturday 6 November until mid December and from mid January 2011 until mid February 2011. This is a fantastic way to enjoy Iona in a different season!

If you are interested in any of the Iona options, or want to find out more information, please ring 01681 700111 or email iona@island-retreats.org.

You can also visit the website: www.island-retreats.org

David Todd
Warden

Sponsored Walk

On Saturday 11 September, Bethany Christian Trust are organising a sponsored walk by the coast for Homelessness from Cockenzie to Gullane. The walk is along East Lothian's stunning coastline following part of the John Muir Way. The area boasts incredible scenery and a treasure-trove of wildlife in its natural setting. There are 9.5 mile and 3 mile routes available.

Make a difference in the lives of homeless people and enjoy a stunning day out at the same time. To receive more info call 0131 625 5417 or email events@bethanyct.com or visit www.bethanychristiantrust.com/events

If you can't make the walk but would like to make a donation then you can do so by following the link on the website.

Job Vacancy

Christ Church Morningside wishes to appoint an experienced, part time Church Administrator (25 hours each week - Monday to Friday 5 hours each day), to provide full administrative support to a busy and lively Episcopal Church and its well used facilities.

For more information or to apply please download an application pack from www.christchurchmorningside.co.uk or from www.goodmoves.org.uk

The closing date for applications is 13th August 2010 at 5pm. Interviews will be held during the week of 23 August. The post is subject to clearance from Disclosure Scotland.

Prayer Group

This is a small fortnightly group where we pray for members of the congregation and others known to the group who have asked for prayer.

At the moment we are meeting in Alice McMichael's flat at 2 Thistle Place from 6.30 - 7.30pm on the first and third Friday of the month. Contact: Jean Keltie (07954 093 061) or Alice McMichael (0131 228 8632.)

In the Steps of St Cuthbert



On May 1st the OSP walkers had a novel experience of taking part in a pilgrimage. The St Cuthberts Way begins in Melrose, where in the seventh century a shepherd boy, Cuthbert, had a divine vision and entered the monastery there. He went on to become Bishop of Lindisfarne, and that is where the St Cuthberts Way ends, sixty odd miles from its start. Needless to say we and the many other walking groups and individuals from all over the Diocese taking part walked only the first few miles of the Way, but it was nevertheless a very special experience. Our leader, Bishop Brian, led opening prayers in Melrose Abbey, that magnificent ruin whose beautiful red stones remind us both of turbulent times and the devotion of its monks and laity.

Next it was decision time, whether to do the start of the St Cuthberts Way itself which goes steeply up into the Eildon Hills or to take a less demanding route round the Eildons. The group, numbering nearly 80, divided itself almost equally, and for some of us on the steeper walk, leg muscles and lung power were immediately taxed as we went up out of Melrose and into the hills. There was no gradual ascent to ease us into it, but within minutes the views were wonderful. Despite grey cloud and a lack of sunshine, visibility was good, and the cool conditions perhaps helped those of us who are less than

fully fit. Descending through a beautiful wood we came to the village of Bowden and then Bowden Kirk, a very delightful country church dating from the 11th century. We admired its fine interior, which unusually still has a laird's loft - a reminder that times past were less egalitarian than ours. A lovely path through woods brought us to Newtown St Boswells, a reunion with the other group and a refreshment stop.

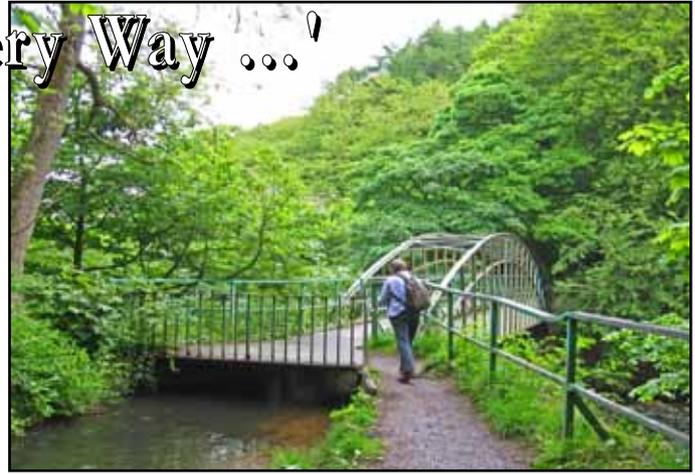
Dryburgh Abbey, our destination, was only a mile or so from there, and what a superb mile it is. The River Tweed is beautiful at that point. We crossed it by a footbridge, and admired an eighteenth century folly and an ornate gateway, before arriving at what I personally think is the loveliest of the Border abbeys. In totally peaceful rural surroundings, Dryburgh speaks, like Melrose Abbey, of centuries of devotion to God. Our closing prayers included a song written by a late member of Holy Trinity Church, Melrose, and also part of the Northumbrian Community St Cuthbert's Compline.

All in all it was a day of sociability, beautiful surroundings, health-giving exercise and a reminder of the example of saints like Cuthbert. Many of us hope the pilgrimage will be repeated next year. If it is, please join us!

Christine Stevenson



'We Walked Our Flowery Way ...'



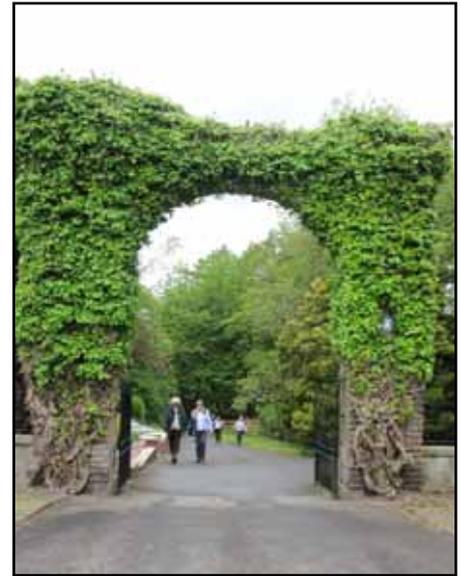
Photos: Brenda White

The OSP walking group was off to East Calder by bus, tantalised by glimpses of interesting houses - Stenhouse Mansion, an F-plan house built in the sixteenth century for the Stanhope family (unfortunately not open to the public); and Dalmahoy House by William Adam (Bob the Roman's dad) now a posh hotel, but only visible because of the turrets floating above the garden wall and gate piers with grotty rustication (yes, I did say grotty) marking the entrance to the park.

Almondell Country Park itself was once the park of an eighteenth-century house, built by Henry Erskine (same family as Gayfield House), but demolished in the 1960s. Yet the park still offers a feast to historians of engineering, if not of architecture. Its bridges are particularly remarkable. The 1820 cast iron, cantilevered aqueduct (on which Burke & Hare were day labourers) was at the time ground-breaking technology, parent to the footbridge at Lord Armstrong's Cragside (1890) and the Tyne Bridge (1855-1905) and grandparent to the Sydney Harbour Bridge (1929-32). The towering brick viaduct (1885), although one of the many with which we are richly endowed in Scotland, is not the less remarkable for that; and the Naysmith Bridge (1800) was the work of the Alexander Naysmith, who built St Bernard's well on the Water of Leith in

1789. The 1970 suspension bridge, built with the aid of a helicopter, has scooped the awards for structural steel design (would the Forth road bridge had proved equally durable!). Not less important than the bridges are the sewerage works that serve Livingston. Worth noting because without such engineering excellence most of us would be dead.

Those who are inexplicably blind to the charms of bridges and sewers could not have failed to be astonished by the most remarkable beauties of the park that day: the springtime which, coming after a particularly cold winter, chose to come all at once and dazzle us with its abundance and colour. Since many British species are unfamiliar to me, Margot Alexander, who always has about her the right book for every occasion, helped out with identification and many cheerful facts about distinguishing the horse chestnut from the common-or-garden variety. But even I could not mistake the drifts of bluebells (harebells to the English) that met the eye, or the riot of rhododendrons and mollis azaleas of every imaginable hue (and some unimaginable). Added to these were more humble plants, from the delicate lace of wild garlic to water avens, campion, wild strawberries and yarrow. The local flora was positively shouting at us.

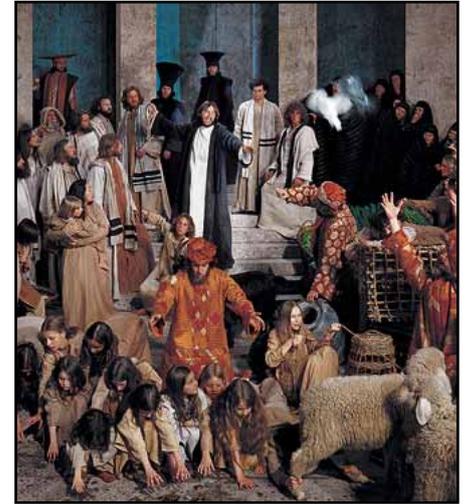
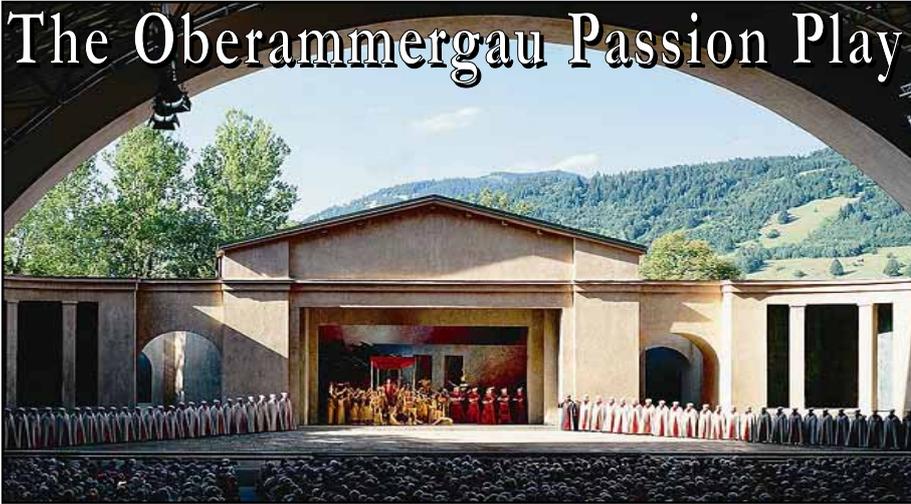


Clockwise from the top: Bridge over Calder Water, Aqueduct over River Almond, Exit from Almondell County Park, Stop for elevenses & Post-walk refreshment at The Grapes in East Calder

Apart from these were pleasures we have come to expect from the OSP walking group: scenery, companionship, good talk, and weather that threatened but, happily, did not deliver. Our thanks to Christine Stevenson and Brenda White for their continued labours for us all.

Liz Graham





When the Black Death rampaged through Europe in the early 1630's, the village of Oberammergau in Upper Bavaria did not escape. Dozens died. The distraught but deeply religious villagers vowed, as an act of devotion and as a plea to God to spare them from further suffering, to enact the story of Jesus's last days on earth, his crucifixion and resurrection, not just once but at ten yearly intervals. Their prayers were answered. It's said that there were no further deaths from plague in the village. And so a ten yearly staging of the Passion play has taken place in Oberammergau from 1634 right up to the present.

I was very fortunate to attend one of the 2010 performances, and I found it to be an extremely moving, uplifting experience. But first a word about Oberammergau itself. The village is set in the most beautiful natural surroundings. The valley of the River Ammer, surrounded by the Ammergau Alps, has meadows brilliant with orchids, gentians and globeflowers, while many houses in the village have colourfully frescoed facades depicting biblical scenes and also folk tales, a delight

to the eye. High quality craftsmanship, especially woodcarving, is also a mark of this lovely place, which manages to avoid the tackiness one might expect in a place thronging with tourists, or should I say pilgrims, for this was no ordinary holiday destination and the Play no ordinary play but an opportunity to renew oneself spiritually.

I was lucky to stay in a delightful guesthouse whose landlady's two young sons were appearing in the play as was her husband. Only people born in Oberammergau or who have lived there for at least twenty years are eligible to take part. This community enterprise is an astonishing achievement for a population of just over five thousand, since the very large cast, choir and orchestra comprise several hundred people of all ages.

The theatre is modern with a huge seating capacity. People of many nationalities attend the performances that take place between May and October at the start of each new decade. The very wide stage is open to the sky with a view of the mountains behind, though the audience is

comfortably under cover. Some, like me, at times followed a printed translation of the German dialogue, and at other times simply allowed the powerful enactment of the Passion story to carry them along. With sometimes hundreds of actors and singers on stage, there's an operatic quality about the production, but there are also scenes of great stillness, as in the Garden of Gethsemene or when Mary cradles Jesus's body in her arms.

Again, I was fortunate in that I was in the company of a very friendly group of other pilgrims from Scotland. The majority were from the congregation of St Mary's, Dalmahoy, whose rector, the Rev. Deryck Collingwood, was our excellent, caring tour leader. (He and the tour company had to work especially hard when volcanic ash delayed our departure from Edinburgh for two days and our whole itinerary had to be rearranged.)

The services Fr. Deryck held were simple but moving. One was in the stunningly beautiful pilgrim church in the Austrian village of Maria Alm, where our holiday began. The highly ornate rococo decoration in the Austrian and Bavarian churches we visited was breathtaking - not to everyone's taste, perhaps, but surely to be admired for its lavish beauty and the dedication of its creators at the height of the Counter Reformation. Our last service, by contrast, was held in the plain chapel at Munich airport just before our departure, when we all agreed that we had a great deal to be grateful for, the Passion play itself, of course, an unforgettable, uplifting experience, but also the beauty of the Alpine region, the glimpse of another culture and tradition and the companionship and sheer fun that we'd all enjoyed.

Christine Stevenson





Local Tourist - Newhailes House



Located in splendid gardens between Portobello and Musselburgh, Newhailes House is a stunning grade A listed 17th century house, virtually unchanged since it was built, right down to the original wooden banister on the glorious outside stairs. Walking up to the house, all I could picture was arriving by horse-drawn carriage dressed in my finery.

An architect named James Smith bought the estate, originally known as Whitehill, in 1686. While studying to become a priest in Rome as a young man, Smith had been greatly inspired by the work of the Venetian architect Andrea Palladio. Instead of becoming a priest, Smith became an architect, and he was an early exponent of the Palladian style that was to become so popular right across the UK. One of Smith's surviving architectural works is the Canongate Kirk.

Smith's original Palladian Villa was seven bays wide and can still be seen as the central portion of Newhailes. In 1702 Smith got into financial difficulties and had to sell the house. In 1709, the house was bought by Sir David Dalrymple and he was responsible for significant improvements and additions to the house, and for one of the most important rococo interiors in Scotland. The most remarkable addition was the library, likely the largest library of its day, which eventually played host to many famous figures of the Scottish Enlightenment. One window isn't just a window; it's a door (that opens up like a window) leading to the garden, its true purpose slyly hidden by wooden panels so it looks part of the room. Amazing!

Sir David quickly started work on a new southeast wing intended primarily to house his large collection of books, and he also began landscaping the surrounding park. The 2nd Baronet of Hailes, Sir James

Dalrymple, completed the library wing, then moved on to balance it with what became known as the great apartment wing, a north west wing designed primarily to accommodate a series of grand reception and function rooms, albeit within the constraints of producing a symmetrical building. If you look closely at the front of the building on your right, you can see the false windows where the library is located so that the symmetry of the house is maintained.

The 3rd Baronet, another Sir David, built on his grandfather's collection of books. At this time the library was referred to by no less a commentator than Dr Samuel Johnston as "the most learned drawing room in Europe". Unfortunately, due to damp conditions many years later, some books were lost to rot and then years later most of the remaining books were sold to pay for building upkeep.

After Sir David's death in 1792, Newhailes passed through the hands of a further six generations of Dalrymples, concluding with Sir Mark Dalrymple, 3rd Baronet of Newhailes. Sir Mark died without heirs in 1971, and his widow, Lady Antonia, continued to live at Newhailes however kept most of it shut due to cost of upkeep and heating. The couple lived in a small apartment hidden at the back of the house, and Lady Antonia remained there after Sir Mark's death until she moved to a retirement home many years later; it was acquired by the National Trust for Scotland in 1997.

The National Trust for Scotland has worked tirelessly to keep the house 'untouched by human hands'. All the furniture, books, carpets, artwork and even the hand-painted wallpaper are original to the house. Wandering through these halls full of history gives one a feel for the stately home and those who lived in it. Funny back rooms full of curios, stunning furniture, a secret door

leading to the servants' access to the apartments (I found it - can you?) and even the hidden tunnel in the garden wall leading to the kitchen for staff access are explored throughout the tour. Unfortunately, due to the age of the house and furnishings and the historical significance, one cannot wander through alone and must go with a group and a National Trust guide. Being a National Trust property, anyone with a membership can get in for free, and the price for a non-member is a bit high (£10.50) but well worth it, and, sadly, no photos are allowed to be taken inside.

Whether or not you take the tour, why not enjoy the 18th-century (dog-friendly) designed landscape surrounding the house that holds a few surprises of its own. Take a little time to explore and you may discover a raised walkway beneath the overgrowth, a hidden grotto, and a number of woodland paths. Research is currently underway to reveal the original layout of the landscape, in which there is evidence of old water features, so who knows what other delights may still await?

Kim-Moore Ede

Above: Newhailes House.

Below: The overgrown ruin of the Tea House, badly damaged largely as the result of a tree-fall



Calendar & Rotas for August 2010

	10.30am High Mass			6.30pm
Day & Observance	Readings	Readers	Intercessor	Readings & Reader
August 1 10th Sunday after Pentecost	Ecclesiastes 1.2,12-14; 2.18-23 Psalm 49.1-12 Colossians 3.1-11 Luke 12.13-21	Brenda White Robin Carmichael	Tom Clement	Evening Prayer said
Weekday observances:	Thu 5 - Oswald of Northumbria, martyr, 642; Fri 6 - THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD Sat 7 - Boisil, prior of Melrose, c 642			
August 8 11th Sunday after Pentecost	Genesis 15.1-6 Psalm 33.12-22 Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16 Luke 12.32-40	John Dale Janet de Vigne	Alastair Hulbert	Evening Prayer said
Weekday observances:	Mon 9 - John Mason Neale, priest & hymnographer, 1866; Tue 10 - Lawrence, deacon & martyr at Rome, 258; Wed 11 - Clare of Assisi, religious, 1253; Thu 12 - Blane, missionary in central Scotland, c 590; Fri 13 - Jeremy Taylor, bp of Down, Connor, Dromore, 1667; Sat 14 - Maximilien Kolbe, priest & martyr at Auschwitz, 1940			
August 15 MARY, MOTHER OF GOD	Isaiah 7.10-15 Ps 132.6-10,13-14 Galatians 4.4-7 Luke 1.46-55	Andrew Kerr Susanna Kerr	Andrew Paterson	Zechariah 2.10-13 Acts 1.6-14 Jennie Gardner
Weekday observances:	Fri 20 - Bernard of Clairvaux, abbot & teacher, 1153			
August 22 13th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 58.9b-14 Psalm 103.1-8 Hebrews 12.18-29 Luke 13.10-17	Stuart McIvor Ann Kelly	Sheila Brock	Exodus 1.8-2.10 Matthew 16.13-20 David Bassett
Weekday observances:	Tue 24 - St Bartholomew, apostle; Wed 25 - Ebba of Coldingham, abbess, 683; Fri 27 - Monnica, mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387; Sat 28 - Augustine of Hippo, bishop & teacher, 430			
August 29 14th Sunday after Pentecost	Sirach 10.12-18 Psalm 112 Heb 13.1-18,15-16 Luke 14.1,7-14	Felicity Cullen Trevor Harding	Bill Morton	Exodus 3.1-15 Matthew 16.21-28 Michael Thrusfield
Weekday observances:	Mon 30 - The Beheading of St John the Baptist; Tue 31 - Aidan of Lindisfarne, bishop, 651; Wed 1 - Giles of Provence, abbot, c 710; Thu 2 - The Martyrs of New Guinea, 1942; Fri 3 - Gregory the Great, bishop of Rome & teacher, 604			
September 5 15th Sunday after Pentecost	Deut 30.15-20 Psalm 1 Philemon 1-21 Luke 14.25-33			Exodus 12.1-14 Matthew 18.15-20 tbc
Weekday observances:	Wed 8 - The Birth of Mary, Mother of the Lord			
September 12 16th Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 32.7-14 Psalm 51.1-10 1 Timothy 1.12-17 Luke 15.1-10			Exodus 14.19-31 Matthew 18.21-35 tbc
Weekday observances:	Mon 13 - Cyprian of Carthage, bishop & martyr, 258; Tue 14 - Holy Cross Day; Wed, Fri, Sat - Ember days of prayer for the vocation of all God's people; Thu 16 - St Ninian of Whithorn, bishop, c 430; Fri 17 - Hildegard of Bingen, abbess, 1179			

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