



THE WHITE ROSE

The Newsletter of Old Saint Paul's October-November 2014



Worthy of the Gospel

A lot has been said and will continue to be said about the Referendum. While there is sadness for some and celebration for others, now is the time to reach out across the divides, something which can only happen if we can carry in our hearts some part of the other side of the argument. I think that Christians, who were often passionately involved on both sides of the Referendum argument, should become equally passionate in the task of reconciliation now.

In his Letter to the Philippians, read at mass on the Sunday after the Referendum, Paul says, "*Order your life together in a way that is worthy of the gospel of Christ*" (1:27). This is, at its most basic level, the work of politics. And the politics Paul urges on the Philippians is one that is worthy of the gospel of Christ. The literary critic Frank Kermode called this the "rhetoric of excess." Matthew in particular has a quite unusual intensity of rhetorical excess. We read about a log in the eye, a camel going through the eye of a needle, and straining a gnat while swallowing a camel. We must love not only our neighbours but also our enemies. We should give in secret, so that our left hand doesn't know what our right hand is doing. We are to forgive not seven but seventy times seven times. Wise people leave the dead to bury the dead. Foolish people build houses on sand and walk through wide gates. Disciples abandon their fishing boats. Others leave their families behind. A woman anoints feet with a bottle of precious perfume. A shepherd abandons a flock of ninety-nine sheep to find one lost sheep. An indulgent father welcomes back a prodigal son with the best party money could buy. A wedding at Cana receives the gift of an outrageous excess of fine wine. And the whole world can not contain all the books that could be written about this goodness, this Gospel.

What could this tell us about a politics that is worthy of the gospel? If a member of your family, or a friend, was ill, or unemployed, or unlucky, you wouldn't let them go hungry, because we would be acting out of love, not out of fairness. Why should it be different at the level of Scotland, of Britain, or of the world? One thing the Referendum debate showed was that people from both sides of the question often agreed about social and political values like these. That we are one human family. Love is truest when it is love of the stranger, for what is the point, asks the gospel, of loving only those who love you?

In terms of the economy, so central to the Referendum debate for most people, the Gospel claims that it has a purpose far beyond itself, to enable a society to care for the least advantaged. People on both sides said how much they did not want a society whose twin symbols are budding millionaires on one side and food bank queues on the other.

It seems to me that a politics that is "worthy of the Gospel" would have values like these at its heart, whatever Party it comes from, whatever country it was part of. Whether we can find our way past the feelings and divisions left behind by the Referendum, will depend on realising the common values that have emerged. Christians - people like you and me - will have much to contribute to this. That means we have to start thinking and working for those values now.

Fr Ian

Parish Retreat at Cumbrae



Where could you take part in the routine of monastic services in a small but exquisite Cathedral, go for a coastal walk with views of rugged mountains across the sea, spend time in contemplative meditation, enjoy a thought-provoking and moving evening at the cinema, make new friends and laugh a great deal, discuss fourth century theology, and get a late summer suntan, all in two days? Possibly only at the Old. St. Paul's Parish weekend, which took place on the Island of Great Cumbrae in the middle of September. Sixteen of us stayed in the simple but very comfortable College of the Holy Spirit, which was built in 1852 as an Episcopal seminary, surrounded by peaceful

lawns and groves of trees, and were looked after extremely well by the Warden, David Todd, member of OSP, who was equally at home in the conviviality of mealtimes, and leading morning prayer and compline in the Cathedral of the Isles.

The weekend's activities were ably organised and led by Fr. Andrew. I was surprised that we were to begin with a film, but his choice of *Philomena* was inspired. This is a heart-breaking account of the attempts of an Irish Catholic mother to find her son, who had been stolen from her for adoption in the USA in the 1950s, while she was living and working in the notorious Magdalen Laundries. Judy Dench and Steve Coogan (in a serious role!) at their best. The film raised some profound issues about forgiveness, love, friendship and sexuality, which transferred remarkably well into the following day's 'seminars' on famous passages from *The Confessions of St. Augustine*, who came across as an utterly contemporary figure, with religious conversion added to a challenging mix of topics. Fr. Andrew handled these discussions with great skill and sensitivity, and I for one gained some really helpful insights into my spiritual and personal life.

The social gathering on the Saturday evening was, for me, the highlight of a rich and memorable weekend. Each of us contributed a poem, song or piece of music, to make up a *ceilidh* (without the dancing), although we came close with David's spirited performance of Scottish fiddle music, and there was much mirth as we joined in the choruses of a couple of music hall songs, sung very wittily by Andrew Kerr. Jean Keltie was a wonderfully skilled and versatile accompanist, as well as having worked very hard in organising the weekend. But there was a deeper and more serious side to the evening, as people chose poems which reflected past or present struggles in their lives, and music which touched us all to the heart.

It was as if the Confessional theme of earlier in the day was being continued, but among a group who now felt very safe and comfortable in each other's company, despite many of us having been strangers only the day before.

I had signed up for the weekend for two reasons especially. One was to indulge my enthusiasm for church architecture, and to stay at the College while David was still warden. On the evidence of this visit, he is doing a marvellous job, and I would strongly recommend a Parish Weekend on Cumbrae to any member of OSP; let's hope this tradition is continued. The Cathedral, extraordinarily peaceful, has a great deal of varied and beautiful decoration, and, despite its small size, its height, different levels, and chapels, give it the grandeur and solemnity of a much larger space. Perhaps its influence as an

architectural metaphor helped us to fill a short time with an enormous variety of activity. My other reason, especially as a member of the tiny 8 o'clock congregation, was to get to know some other members of the church, and in this, again, the weekend was highly successful. I'm sure we were all able to deepen existing friendships and make new ones, and I am now confident that, on my visits to High Mass, I'll know plenty of folk, and will certainly want to stay for coffee and a chat. The weekend on Cumbrae has drawn me more deeply into the friendship, fellowship and love of the Old St. Paul's community.

Guy Johnson

A Coffee with Brenda White



My parents were Geordies from Newcastle but I was born in Edinburgh when my father, who worked in Insurance, was transferred here. My mother was a professional pianist but, sadly, gave that up when they moved.

I went to George Watson's Ladies College – or George Square as it was always called. In Fifth Year, I won the Ogilvie prize for Classics, but there was no tradition of going to University in my family and my father had decided that I would make a good cataloguer – when young, I catalogued my pet caterpillars – which is why I found myself, aged 16, working in Morningside Library. At that stage I just accepted that he knew what was good for me!

I have never regretted not going to University as I have had an interesting and varied career doing something I really enjoyed. With postal courses and night classes I qualified as Associate of the Library Association. Later I gained a fellowship for published work. I stayed with the Public Library for 5 years as a Cataloguer in the Central Library. Alan, my future husband, worked in the Reference library. We made lots of friends and had lots of fun and when the late shift ended we resorted to Milnes Bar, then frequented by Norman McCaig, George Mackay Brown and other literary figures.

I then worked as technical information officer for Bruce Peebles electronics division, but it folded, I was redundant so moved south to Luton, to English Electrical Guided Weapons division where I was a technical classifier. But again I was made redundant when the government cancelled a major contract.

So I came back to Edinburgh in 1963 and married Alan. I had a job with the architects Robert Mathew Johnson-Marshall earning the magnificent sum, in those days, of £1000 per annum but had to give that up when Patricia was born in 1966. Being a stay-at-home Mum had few attractions for me so I decided to do a survey of slide collections in architectural offices. I was interested in who was doing what and why, what worked and what did not. I published a report and advertised it in various journals. It sold well and made my reputation.

My next post was with the Library Association in London, something which required a great deal of planning and a co-operative husband. For 18 months I conducted an investigation into the information needs of town and country planning throughout the country. I was based in London but I also travelled the country interviewing planners mainly in local authorities. The resultant report was well received and enhanced my reputation.

Another couple of jobs and another experience of redundancy made me decide to go freelance, first with a friend as Capital Planning Information Ltd, then after 8 years, on my own as Brenda White Associates. There was never any shortage of work at home, in Europe and elsewhere.

Alan had in the meantime had become Assistant City Librarian and President of the Library Association. In 1991 I became President of the Institute of Information Scientists. Colleagues referred to us as having

the perfect professional marriage! But then Alan had a severe stroke in 1993 and although he overcame it sufficiently to get back to work, life and its priorities were very different. He died in 2006.

I didn't have a religious upbringing though I was sent to Sunday School and Brownies and Guides. But in my late 40s, I began to feel that there was a dimension lacking from life. My father had become a Christian Scientist and kept saying that it was time I gave attention 'to the things of the mind'. Alan and I had a favourite place – Eskdale in Cumbria – and when we were there in 1985 I decided to try the little local church. It was good. Back home, I eventually climbed the Calvary Stair and opened the door to that very special atmosphere. I have been in OSP ever since, attracted and held by the formality of the liturgy and the music, and the feeling of being part of a family.

I am not very easily influenced, preferring to think things out for myself but Alan taught me a great deal and I think of him as the greatest influence on my life.

I am very involved with the Botanic Society as a volunteer. For the past 10 years I have been scanning and digitising the slide archive. It is painstaking stuff so I limit myself to 3 hours on a Monday. I also photograph educational activities for brochures, annual reports and so on. I am on the Scottish Committee of the Hardy Plant Society which is full of intrepid, knowledgeable people. It's great fun. At Old Saint Paul's I am a Welcomer which I enjoy; and I am one of the group researching OSP and the Great War.

I enjoy reading; mainly history and biography and the odd novel. Currently I am reading an old classic 'Rogue Male' by Geoffrey Household.

I listen to music, go to concerts, including John Kitchen's splendid 'Get Organised' series. I can't play the piano since I broke my wrist last year. My little garden is a great joy, I love working and being in it.

Something that makes me angry is incompetence, particularly those who don't care about being incompetent. I'm equally impatient at my own incompetence!

I am happiest in the company of good friends. I am fortunate in having many good friends and I'm grateful for them. They are a great blessing.

My favourite part of the world is Eskdale. Alan's ashes are buried there and I go twice a year to enjoy the peace and quiet.

My guests would be Paul Tortelier, the French cellist, Carlo Maria Giulini, the great conductor and the singer Janet Baker. We would talk about music but also about other things because they were/are fully rounded people. I would entertain them at home for lunch, and I would cook a good but simple meal and serve fine wines.

Brenda White was talking with Sheila Brock

Introducing Anne Dowling



I am looking forward to joining you at Old St Paul's for the month of October. I am a licensed Lay Reader at Bath Abbey. I am in my third formation year and I have to do a month's placement in a church where the liturgical tradition is different from my own, so that I can compare the two. I lived in an English Vineyard for sixteen years near Glastonbury and Wells where my husband and I grew vines and made wine. While I was there I was a Church Warden at the local Parish Church. I also helped to run a Spirituality Course in the Diocese for training Spiritual Directors. So I have had experience of the Anglican Church in a rural Parish and a City Centre Church. I have been married for 45 years and we have two adopted daughters who are in their thirties.

I lived in Edinburgh in my early childhood and then we moved over to Fife. I used to travel by train into Edinburgh to go to school at Cranley. I then trained to be a nurse at the Royal Infirmary. I have subsequently done two theology degrees, the last one at St Andrews. During my studies I read some of Richard Holloway's books. In his book "Leaving Alexandria", the description of Old St Paul's and its Anglo-Catholic tradition in the Episcopal Church has drawn me back to Edinburgh for my placement. I look forward to getting to know many of you and to learn about the Episcopal Tradition in Scotland. I enjoy water- colour painting and I have a great passion for Contemplative and Meditative Prayer in the Christian tradition. I run a Meditation group, which is part of the World Community for Christian Meditation. I hope to be able to share this with you when I come. That is if the Borders to Scotland are still open for me to be able to return to my Homeland!

Report from Palestine

SITES

Ramallah

The apartment is good: spacious and comfortable and space for everyone. We paid (have yet to pay) £700 for the two months which is a good price. I have tried to transfer money online but it doesn't work to banks here unfortunately. However, I took money out for myself with my personal nation-wide account and I didn't get any charges I think so maybe that is the same as the RBS account. If not I might have to reconsider and put the money in my Nationwide account to take out here. I'll let you know how that works out.

We have met with the guys at the Islamic Youth Club in Ramallah who seem keen, albeit slightly late for our meetings (around the 2 hour mark!!!). We are comparing prices for the cost of our 16 foot mini ramp at the club which is looking to be a bit cheaper than we anticipated - I think they have a cover to use and can obtain the tools for free or next to nothing. The site should cost just under £2000 or so, but still waiting for final estimates. We are planning to order the wood tomorrow and have it delivered to the club.

We have our opening ceremony scheduled for August 2nd after Ramadan, to promote our project and also to promote the club in general which has been in somewhat of a decline of late. I attach our press release for the event which I'm sending in to the magazine "This week in Palestine". We will have started classes by then, and also impromptu classes in the town square to attract kids. We are also handing out flyers and putting up posters to attract participants.

Zebabdeh

We arrived in Zebabdeh yesterday and met with Towfiq and Marwan, the two project managers for the site. They showed us the site which is just 5 minutes from the centre of town. Our hostel is about 15/20 minutes from the site on the other side of town, so not too far away and easily walkable. They said that they wanted to decrease our space from 300 ms to 225/250 ms but we are drawing up interesting plans to try and change their minds. They have the typical attitude here of not really listening to us and telling us what they want and what is best. However, James and Kevin have the project managers' architectural plans which they say are pretty poorly done, so hopefully after we put together a sleek proposal design they will have more time for us.

The opening ceremony here will be August 14th to coincide with the Zebabdeh cultural festival which will include dancing, music, arts and crafts, and artisan products etc. We are aiming to spend the next 3/4 days designing, also making use of the volunteers still in the UK by sending tasks over to them to do, not wanting to leave them out of any big designs.

I will be heading back to Ramallah with James on Tuesday to meet the other volunteer Chris who is arriving in Ramallah. We will then start work on the Ramallah site and classes with Adham, Aram and a few other local guys who are interested in helping out.

No security issue over here. The West Bank remains fairly calm, especially north of Jerusalem.

VOLUNTEERS

So far we are 6. James McConville, Kevin Luftus, Josh Weddle, Martin O'Grady, Luke Murphy and myself. As I mentioned above, James and I are heading back to Ramallah on Tuesday to meet the other volunteer

coming on Tuesday, Chris Jones. So far only one volunteer has cancelled due to security concerns, despite our best efforts to persuade him otherwise. There are two other volunteers who are not sure if they will come over and I think one of them will not but the other will. Though annoying, this will not have too great an impact on our project. The main issue is the money that they would have given to the project. However, we are still working to generate more donations from here, and one of the volunteers' tasks will be attracting donations during our stay here. We will be rescheduling where the volunteers will be working due to the aforementioned cancellations, but should be ok. I am yet to pay for the accommodation but that will be £710 in Ramallah and free in Zebabdeh. The food is also free in Zebabdeh - just have to keep a record of what we buy and keep an itemised list to get reimbursed. The materials should be cheaper than expected in Ramallah and I get the impression that in Zebabdeh, the guys here will cover a lot of the material costs, although we are still to broach the topic here.

Charlie Keltie

Candles, chocolate and classics



Four Harpsichords: LR- David Gerrard, James Ritzema, Calum Robertson, John Kitchen

Creamy hot chocolate, flickering candlelight, a sensuously soporific atmosphere; and, oh yes, enthralling music. That can only mean another season of Hot Chocolate at 10 concerts in aid of Old Saint Paul's restoration and renewal project.

This is now the sixth year of what has become a firm tradition in the calendar. Audiences flock back, and musicians queue up to take part. This year's box office busters, in reverse order, included Eboracum Baroque's rendition of Bach's cantata 51, Bach concerti for one, two, three and four harpsichords, and the perennial visit of Calton Consort, this year to sing the popular Rachmaninov Vespers.

A slow start led us to a dazzling final week, peaking at an audience of 148 on the final night. Over twelve nights of music ranging from Rameau and Vivaldi to Schubert and Brahms nearly 900 people came through the doors. In addition to our own musicians, we welcomed back Judy Brown, Robert Dick and Magdalena Durant, and we also welcomed new friends to the stage.

Late-night concerts with candles and chocolate are clearly a recipe for success, this year making £4,000 and bringing the combined total from six years to over £22,000. Many people – audiences, performers, volunteers, organisers – contributed to this success, and all are congratulated for their effort. Next year will make season 7, and thoughts are already turning to that.

Bible Plants: The Apple

What was the Tree of Knowledge that caused all that trouble? Most people have no trouble in answering that question – the Apple of course. And this view has been strengthened by artists through the ages, starting with Lucas Cranach the Elder whose painting of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden depicts

the happy naked couple, surrounded by assorted animals under an abundantly fruiting apple tree complete with twining snake in its branches.

But was Cranach right in his Botany? There has been great argument and discussion on the matter. Most authors agree that the wild apple (*Malus pumila*), an unattractive scrubby tree with small bitter fruit and native to the Caucasian region, did not extend as far as Palestine. Eve would not have thought it 'pleasant to the eyes' and good for shade. However, the apricot, *Malus armeniaca* is native and abundant throughout the Middle East and it is now generally thought that Eve gave Adam an apricot rather than a Golden Delicious. Whether Cranach knew of the apricot or not is a moot point but he would certainly have known the apple, if only from the classical references to Paris and the Golden Apples in the Garden of the Hesperides.

Whether eating apricots makes one wise is doubtful but Proverbs 25¹¹ states 'A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver'. Solomon was exhorting his people to teach wisdom and understanding, listen to good counsel and deliver sound advice and so here again is the association of the apricot with wisdom and knowledge.

But perhaps the apple has the last word for we all know that an apple a day keeps the doctor away – or maybe that is controversial too!

John Dale

The Pity of War

How would you set about creating the trenches of 1914 in Old St Paul's? This was the task facing the producer of 'Songs of Hope and Loss' in August 2014, part of our contribution to the centenary commemorations. The wonderfully simple answer was to pile up the mud-coloured chairs and the old kneelers and there we were back in Belgium in contact with what the sometime Rector, Albert Laurie called 'Mother Earth'. And how would this Rector manage in 1915 both to look after men in the trenches and still care for the congregation? *I have been thinking about the difficulty you must have in realising how our outlook differs out here, and perhaps even unfeeling is our detachment from the ordinary routines of home*, he wrote in the Rector's Letter at Christmas 1915. How did this extraordinary priest find time at the Front to write to his parishioners so thoughtfully?

'A day or two ago I was kneeling beside a stretcher on which lay a lad whose life was slowly ebbing away but whose chief concern was to check the grief of his brother who knelt on the other side.' The brother had to go back to the trenches, *'and when I had spoken a word to him, he mastered himself at last and turned to go, only his bowed head telling of his locked-up grief, as rifle on shoulder he trudged through the mud to take his vacant place in the living wall that guards us all.'* Albert Laurie adds *'in such ways they are learning that even death itself is not so great as duty'*

With Ian Paton, transformed into the 1st War Rector with a borrowed officer's jacket, just such a moment was depicted in 'Songs of Hope and Loss'. Our present Rector did not include the trench Confirmation classes *'out of 200 men, I have some 30 candidates, who sit in the dim light of candles here'* but the terrifying atmosphere for the 'pathetically young' still came to life for the audience. Familiar people from the congregation 'died' in front of our eyes as life went on in Edinburgh and the 'Volunteer Singers' conducted by James Hutchinson sang 'We don't want to lose you, but we think you ought to go' with a down-to-earth cheerfulness which just as neatly underlined the dreadful paradox of war.

We are fortunate that Albert Laurie's letters are still with us and with Janet de Vigne as producer together with Sheila Brock's discreet narration, we could appreciate one of the highlights of the Fringe.

The night before in 'The Flooers o' the Forest' another treat for Festival-goers, Richard and Mark Holloway read extracts from Lewis Grassie Gibbon's classic novel of wartime life in rural Scotland, 'Sunset Song'. Dressed in sombre black, they retold the often grim story of young Chris Guthrie as war came to the Mearns of Aberdeenshire and men, the last of the Scottish peasantry died in France. Published in 1932, and now made into a feature film, this was a minimalist production. Yet the novel and its people came to life in Grassie Gibbon's prose read by father and son, echoed by the author at the time *'That is the Land out there, under the sleet, churned and pelted in the dark, the long rigs upturning their clayey faces to the spear-onset of the sleet. That is the Land-though not quite all. Those folk in the byre whose lantern light is a glimmer through the sleet as they muck and bend and tend the key, and milk the milk into tin pails, in curling froth – they are The Land in as great a measure.'* Amy Ritchie sang between the extracts, summing up the sadness and yet the beauty and vitality which survived on Scotland and Belgium's Mother Earth.

Cameron Ritchie played Scotland's most famous lament 'The Floorers o' the Forest' the sound resonating through the Memorial Chapel, a reminder that the story of Scotland is still unfolding.

Andrew Barr

BOOK Review

WORD FROM WORMINGFORD. A Parish Year. by Ronald Blythe. With illustrations by John Nash. Canterbury Press. 2007.

Ronald Blythe is a prolific author, probably best known for his biography of Akenfield, the Suffolk village where he grew up. Readers of *The Church Times* will also know him from his regular essays based on his life as a Lay Reader in Wormingford, another Suffolk village, on the edge of Dedham Vale, and one of three village parishes whose churches form a united benefice. This gem of a book contains more than 50 of those essays covering the church year from Advent. The illustrations by John Nash, the latest in a long line of artists from the area, which includes Constable and Gainsborough, add to the charm of the work. As readers of *Akenfield* will know, Blythe is a sensitive and often poetic recorder of rural life. And much of East Anglia remains rural even though commuters labour far away from the farms they have colonised. Blythe comments wryly on the inevitable changes – after preaching at a local patronal festival, full church incidentally, he remarks that the master bell ringer who drove him home was up early the next morning to drive the first commuter train of the day to London.

The recurring theme of these essays is that Blythe's religious life is enhanced by the countryside; it is as a countryman that he can quote Carlyle - 'wonder is the basis of worship' - even though he quickly adds the caveat that 'wonder is unlikely to fill the entire act of worship'. He wonders whether Heber was thinking of a dew-laden early May morning when he wrote 'Brightest and best of the sons of the morning'. After a violent gale on the eve of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary he quotes Rilke:

*I'm but a breeze within the wood,
you, Lady, are the Tree.*

The countryside also offers him the gift of silence and he quotes his friend R S Thomas's lines about what is occurring when nothing is going on – 'I have stopped to listen.... To the air recomposing itself for vigil'.

But he can also be less serious; he refers to the boy 'whose packed lunch miraculously turned into a huge picnic' and he takes delight in the story of Lady Hester Stanhope and her friend, who, caught in a tremendous blizzard, fell out over which of them would have precedence at the Second Coming. Blythe's preaching, undertaken regularly, can never have been dull.

Appropriately, approaching Advent again, Blythe ends on a solemn note 'Round and round we all go, the living, the departed, the abundance, the dearth, the planets, the prayers, the holiness of things, all our new toys and comforts notwithstanding'. Here is the wisdom of a joyful, thoughtful man whose writings continue to delight.

John Dale

Blythe's latest book 'The Time by the Sea' (2013) is an account of his life in Aldeburgh at the time when Benjamin Britten was establishing the famous Festival there.

Vestry Report

World War I centenary- a donation of £3000 has been assured and this money, along with our surplus from 'The Pity of War' performances, will go towards funding our centenary project. This is researching all those named in the Memorial chapel, Canon Laurie's involvement in the War, and the construction of the chapel. It is planned to publish a booklet illustrating Old Saint Paul's involvement in the course of the War.

New gas supply contracts have been signed, expecting to save £1000 each year for the next two years. Financial report for 9 months to June showed a deficit of £5,600, an improvement on the budgeted deficit of £9,600. Income from giving has not met budget expectations, but the nett position has been helped by deferral of buildings maintenance following the recent quinquennial inspection. Further

provision has been made for buildings maintenance and for increasing costs. It is hoped members of the congregation will continue to review their giving to meet this.

We have a newly formed stewardship group. They are looking at producing information for newcomers and an information yearbook for existing members. The group is promoting a Christmas Fair on 6th December.

As we do not have enough entries for tithing 2014 we request further proposals. The Vestry agreed on disbursement of the remaining tithing funds for 2014 to support:

- Arkordia, a small Edinburgh-based counselling service;
- Edinburgh Direct Aid, funding schooling for Syrian children in the Bekaa valley of Lebanon;
- SkatePal, a community project in Palestine pioneered by Charles Davis.

On October 5th we shall entertain a visiting preacher from our companion diocese of Espoo, Finland, and on 31st October the BBC will be recording Songs of Praise in Old Saint Paul's.

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation is on 14th December. There will be four Vestry places up for election (Lay Representative plus 3 Vestry members). Further details to come.

Kimberley Moore Ede

The Anglican Chaplaincy



At the University of Edinburgh the Anglican Chaplaincy represents all the churches of the world-wide Anglican Communion, including the Church of England, the Episcopal Church USA, and the Scottish Episcopal Church, and is there to serve all students and staff at the University.

The Anglican Chaplain is Fr Ian Paton, who is also Rector of Old St Paul's, where students are always welcome.

Every Wednesday from 1.10pm to 1.40pm there is a simple Anglican service of Holy Communion in the Sanctuary of the Chaplaincy in Bristo Sq. This service is open to everyone.

Faith Seeking Understanding



A COURSE FOR THE CHRISTIAN JOURNEY

Our open course for learning about and exploring Christian faith - will meet on Wednesdays from 1st October, at 7.30pm, to follow the Anglican learning resource, 'Pilgrim.' For more information about 'Pilgrim' see www.pilgrimcourse.org/the-course. These six sessions will focus on 'The Beatitudes,' the centre of Jesus' teaching, and ask what we can learn from them. The study booklet contains a wide variety of readings from the Christian tradition across the centuries. All are welcome to register in church to join the course.

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QUOTES TO PONDER

“Cowardice keeps us ‘double-minded’- hesitating between the world and God. In this hesitation there is no true faith- faith remains an opinion. We are never certain because we never quite give in to the authority of an invisible God. This hesitation is the death of hope. We never let go of those visible supports which we well know must one day surely fail us. And this hesitation makes true prayer impossible- it never quite dares to ask for anything.”

Thomas Merton *‘Thoughts in Solitude’*

*

“There are dragons to slay whatever happens:
poverty, false pride, snobbery, sectarian
schisms still hovering. But there’s
nothing broken that’s not repairable.”

from *‘The Morning After’* by Christine de Luca

*

Old Saint Paul's Christmas Fair. _A reminder that this is on Saturday 6th December.

Calendar and Rotas

September to November 2014



Day Observance	10.30 am High Mass				6.30 pm
	Readings	Readers	Intercessor	Offertory	Readings and Reader
September 7 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Ezekiel 33.7-11 Psalm 119.33-40 Romans 13.8-14 Matthew 18.15-20	<i>Reader 1</i> <i>Reader 2</i>			Proverbs 22.17-23 Mark 7.24-37 <i>Reader</i>
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Mon 8 —The Birth of Mary, Mother of the Lord; Sat 13 —Cyprian of Carthage, <i>bishop and martyr</i> , 258;				
September 14 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Genesis 50.15-21 Psalm 103.1-13 Romans 14.1-12 Matthew 18.21-35	<i>Reader 1</i> <i>Reader 2</i>			Proverbs 1.20-33 Mark 8.27-38 <i>Reader</i>
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Mon 15 —Holy Cross Day; Tue 16 —St Ninian of Whithorn, <i>bishop</i> , c 430 Wed 17 —Hildegard of Bingen, <i>abbess</i> , 1179; Wed, Fri, Sat —Ember days of prayer for the vocation of all God's people Sat 20 —John Coleridge Patteson, <i>bishop and martyr in Melanesia</i> , 1871				
September 21 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Jonah 3.10–4.11 Psalm 145.1-8 Philippians 1.21-30 Matthew 20.1-16	<i>Reader 1</i> <i>Reader 2</i>			Isaiah 33.13-17 Matthew 6.19-34 <i>Reader</i>
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Mon 22 —St Matthew, <i>apostle and evangelist</i> ; Tue 23 —Adamnan of Iona, <i>abbot</i> , 704 Thu 25 —Finnbar, <i>bishop in Caithness</i> , c 610; Sat 27 —Vincent de Paul, <i>priest</i> , 1660				
September 28 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Ezekiel 18.1-4,25-32 Psalm 25.1-9 Philippians 2.1-13 Matthew 21.23-32	<i>Reader 1</i> <i>Reader 2</i>			Daniel 12.1-3 Mark 13.21-28 <i>Reader</i>
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Mon 29 —St Michael and All Angels; Tue 30 —Jerome, <i>priest and teacher</i> , 420 Wed 1 —Gregory the Enlightener, <i>bishop in Armenia</i> , c 332; Sat 4 —Francis of Assisi, <i>deacon and friar</i> , 1226				
October 2 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 5.1-7 Psalm 80.7-15 Philippians 3.4b-14 Matthew 21.33-46	<i>Reader 1</i> <i>Reader 2</i>			Job 1.1; 2.1-10 Mark 10.2-16 <i>Reader</i>
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Wed 8 —Alexander Penrose Forbes, <i>bishop of Brechin</i> , 1875; Sat 11 —Kenneth, <i>abbot in the Western Isles</i> , 600				
October 12 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 25.1-9 Psalm 23 Philippians 4.1-9 Matthew 22.1-14	<i>Reader 1</i> <i>Reader 2</i>			Job 23.1-9,16-17 Mark 10.17-31 <i>Reader</i>
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Wed 15 —Teresa of Avila, <i>teacher</i> , 1582; Fri 17 —Ignatius of Antioch, <i>bishop and martyr</i> , c 115; Sat 18 —St Luke, <i>evangelist</i>				
October 19 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 45.1-7 Psalm 96.1-13 1 Thess 1.1-10 Matthew 22.15-22	<i>Reader 1</i> <i>Reader 2</i>			Job 38.1-7,34-41 Mark 10.35-45 <i>Reader</i>
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Thu 23 —St James of Jerusalem, <i>brother of our Lord</i> , <i>martyr</i> , c 62				
October 26 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	Lev 19.1-2,15-18 Psalm 1 1 Thess 2.1-8 Matthew 22.34-46	<i>Reader 1</i> <i>Reader 2</i>			Job 42.1-6,10-17 Mark 10.46-52 <i>Reader</i>
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Tue 28 —SS Simon and Jude, <i>apostles</i> ; Wed 29 —James Hannington, <i>bishop</i> , and Companions, <i>martyrs in East Africa</i> , 1885				
November 2 ALL SAINTS	Revelation 7.9-17 Psalm 34.1-10 1 John 3.1-3 Matthew 5.1-12	<i>Reader 1</i> <i>Reader 2</i>			Wisdom 5.1-5,14-16 Rev 21.1-4,22–22.5 <i>Reader</i>

	10.30 am High Mass				6.30 pm
Day Observance	Readings	Readers	Intercessor	Offertory	Readings and Reader
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Mon 3 –All Souls; Fri 7 –Willibrord, <i>archbishop of Utrecht and missionary to Frisia, 739</i>				
November 9 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost	Wisdom 6.12-16 Wisdom 6.17-20 (<i>resp</i>) 1 Thess 4.13-18 Matthew 25.1-13	Reader 1 Reader 2			Ruth 3.1-5; 4.13-17 Mark 12.38-44 Reader
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Mon 10 –Leo the Great, <i>bishop of Rome and teacher, 461</i> ; Tue 11 –Martin of Tours, <i>bishop, c 397</i> Wed 12 –Machar, <i>bishop in Aberdeen, c 600</i> ; Fri 14 –Consecration of Samuel Seabury, <i>first bishop of America, 1784</i> ;				
November 16 Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost	Zephaniah 1.7,12-18 Psalm 90.1-12 1 Thess 5.1-11 Matthew 25.14-30	Reader 1 Reader 2			Sirach 26.1-3,13-16 1 Corinthians 12.13–13.3 Reader
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Mon 17 –St Margaret of Scotland, <i>queen, 1093</i> ; Tue 18 –Fergus, <i>bishop in NE Scotland, c 750</i> Wed 19 –Hilda of Whitby, <i>abbess, 680</i> ; Fri 21 –Columban, <i>bishop on the Don, 615</i>				
November 23 CHRIST THE KING	Ezek 34.11-16,20-24 Psalm 95.1-7a Ephesians 1.15-23 Matthew 25.31-46	Reader 1 Reader 2			Zechariah 9.9-16 Matthew 21.1-13 Reader
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Mon 24 –Lucy Menzies, <i>teacher, 1954</i>				
November 30 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Isaiah 64.1-9 Psalm 80.1-7,17-19 1 Cor 1.3-9 Mark 13.24-37	Reader 1 Reader 2			Jeremiah 33.14-16 Luke 21.25-36 Reader
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Mon 1 –St Andrew, <i>apostle, patron of Scotland</i> ; Tue 2 –Nicholas Ferrar, <i>deacon at Little Gidding, 1637</i> Wed 3 –Francis Xavier, <i>priest and missionary in Japan, 1552</i> ; Thu 4 –Clement of Alexandria, <i>teacher, c 210</i> Sat 6 –Nicholas of Myra, <i>bishop, 4th cent</i>				
December 7 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Isaiah 40.1-11 Psalm 85.1-2,8-13 2 Peter 3.8-15a Mark 1.1-8	Reader 1 Reader 2			Baruch 5.1-9 Luke 3.1-6 Reader
<i>Weekday observances:</i>	Mon 8 –The Conception of Mary, <i>Mother of the Lord</i>				
December 14 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11 Psalm 126 1 Thess 5.16-24 John 1.6-8,19-28	Reader 1 Reader 2			Zephaniah 3.14-20 Luke 3.7-18 Reader

