

J S Bach - St John Passion

Glasgow Chamber Choir with the Glasgow Chamber Choir Orchestra
Michael Bawtree - conductor

Saturday 24th March 2007 - 7.00pm
Hyndland Parish Church, Hyndland Road, Glasgow

Sunday 25th March 2007 - 4.00pm
St John's Episcopal Cathedral, George Street, Oban

Soloists:

Simon Wall - Evangelist
Bishop Martin Shaw - Christus
Anders Ostberg - Pilate
Helene Dahlberg - soprano
Karen Cargill - mezzo-soprano
Christopher Hann - tenor

Tickets: £9, concessions £6

Available at the door or online at www.glasgowchamberchoir.org.uk

Glasgow Chamber Choir will be joined in March by an accomplished line-up of soloists for two performances of Bach's St John Passion. The Evangelist will be sung by London-based tenor Simon Wall who recently premiered Sir John Tavener's epic "The Veil of the Temple" in London and New York. The role of Christ will be performed by Martin Shaw, Episcopal Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, who has previously sung the part alongside Peter Pears. The other soloists include the Glasgow-based mezzo soprano Karen Cargill.

Glasgow Chamber Choir's Music Director, Michael Bawtree, said: "Following on from the success of our performances of Baroque treasures by Bach and Zelenka last spring, we are all looking forward to performing Bach's timeless setting of the St John Passion both here in Glasgow and at St John's Cathedral in Oban. It can't be that often that a Bishop gets to sing the role of Christ in his own cathedral!"

The performances will be sung in German and accompanied by the Glasgow Chamber Choir Orchestra.

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Items for inclusion in the next issue should be sent to the editor, Mrs Marilyn Pope, e-mail: marilyndns@btinternet.com by Monday 12th February 2007. Or c/o Glasgow & Galloway Diocesan Centre, 5 St Vincent Place, Glasgow. G1 2DH tel: 0141 221 5720/2694

Glasgow & Galloway Diocesan News

February 2007

Issue 062

I beg you, my brothers, to follow the leadership of such people as these, and of anyone else who works and serves with them.

1 Corinthians 16.15-16

Our Patron Saints

Most of our churches are named after saints, patron saints - mine happens to be St Ninian – and in the course of this year most of us will celebrate “Patronal Festivals”. Yet, patronage has a bad name these days, implying as it does “jobs for the boys (and girls)” and the suspicion of unmerited and unfair advancement – it’s not *what* you know but *who* you know, “cronyism”. Patronage is seen as a threat to the free competition of individuals in an open market. But that is *precisely* why we do well to hold on to the idea of patronage exercised by the saints.

It is, after all, a radically counter-cultural idea!

Who seriously thinks that the Christian life is about making your way on *your* merits alone, without help and influence from anybody else; who thinks that the Christian life is about something so appalling as competing for God’s attention in an open market? Patronage, despite the obvious possibilities for abuse, despite the potential for a descent into cronyism, is about community, about networks of support, about people needing help and encouragement.

So it is with our *patron* saints - Ninian is not just the great missionary bishop and founder of the church at Whithorn, he is also and just as importantly a present patron who upholds us, his clients as it were, by his prayer in the right place and at the right time. He is part of our network of support, a help and encouragement to us, *a living member of our community*.

We can only make sense of any of our patron saints as special advocates with God if we locate them firmly within our Christian community, firmly within the whole body of Christ, approaching God in and through Christ, their Lord, and our Lord. We should not think of any saint as if they were simply famous dead Christians of the past. Rather we should value them as living members with us of the church whose wonderful fellowship spans heaven and earth, time and eternity.

As the prayer from the Revised Funeral Rites of 1987, and the 1929 Prayer Book has it, we look to the saints for encouragement from their examples, strengthening by their fellowship and help from their prayers. Only the living can offer us fellowship and prayer!

Very Revd Dr Gregor Duncan, Dean

Bishop's Lent Appeal 2007 Diocese of Jerusalem Healthcare Project

In response to the recent pilgrimage of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Holy Land and the call on the Church to assist the people of Palestine, the Bishop's Lent Appeal for the Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway will seek to raise funds for the work of The Diocese of Jerusalem Healthcare Project in Gaza.

Stewardship

A Happy New Year in the Cycle of Stewardship?

Thank you to all the charges who have already responded to the Baseline Stewardship Questionnaire. At the time of writing, there are 13 'stragglers' who may soon be receiving a knock on the door.....

As we analyse the responses, there is generally a positive approach to Stewardship, with many congregations currently recovering from either a Stewardship Campaign or Increased Giving Campaign, and many planning to embark on one or other in the next couple of years.

This is obviously encouraging for the Diocese. There is Stewardship Life out there!

Soon, all charges will be receiving a copy of **CHARIS**, the exciting SEC Stewardship resource. As the Introduction says, "If Stewardship is fully integrated into a development plan it can become a part of the whole and not just a 'bolt-on extra' when a financial or personnel crisis looms. **CHARIS** encourages a holistic approach to mission and ministry with stewardship woven through any developmental plans and aspirations".

CHARIS is presented in three sections:

1. contextual Bible study, based on 6 texts for study and discussion
2. a daily Prayer programme focusing on our response to the call of Stewardship
3. an increased giving campaign and how it might be integrated into a congregation's mission and ministry plans.

Which came first – the Chicken or the Egg? Or, in Stewardship terms, does increased giving precede or follow on from increased activity in our spiritual lives? Whatever your answer, there is no doubt that there is a close association between them – they are, perhaps, just opposite sides of the same coin.

Church life is meaningless without Stewardship – it is the Church equivalent of Continuing Professional Development, Annual Job Appraisal, or Career Planning. None of us progress without this: Let's all keep Stewardship at the top of our Agendas (literally) and avoid the looming crisis.

*Dr Jamie Hill, Convener,
Diocesan Stewardship Committee*

Action Group for Spirituality

Biennial Diocesan Retreat 2nd—4th March 2007

at the Cathedral of the Isles,
Cumbrae

We hope that the Diocesan Retreat poster has been displayed in all our Churches, and the info / booking leaflets copied. These were given to all Charges at the December 2nd Diocesan Synod.

The Retreat is at the Cathedral of the Isles, Cumbrae, March 2nd - 4th. The Retreat leaders are The Revds David and Loma Balfour, New Zealand Priests now residing in Dumfries. The Action Group for Spirituality has some funding to help with financial difficulties, and we especially wish to help first time retreatants.

If further info is required or difficulties in obtaining the booking leaflets, please contact the Revd. Beryl Scott, tel 01556 610283, at Islecroft House, Mill Street, Dalbeattie DG5 4HE

Growing Together

A 3 way diocesan dialogue within the Family of the Anglican Communion

Please remember in your prayers our "Growing Together" Project when we will be hosts to visitors from our companion dioceses of Byumba and Kentucky from 22nd April till 2nd May 2007.

The aims of the project are:

- To make best use of the inter-diocesan Companionship links between Glasgow & Galloway, Kentucky and Byumba in order to build relationship bridges in the post Windsor Report climate
- To provide a safe place for the three diocesan groups to get to know each other and for individuals to interact in a relaxed atmosphere
- To listen and learn from a sharing of each other's stories, gifts and concerns around a broad range of contemporary issues.

For more details see the report in the September 2006 issue of diocesan news and updates in future issues.

The Mission to Seafarers on the Move in 2007!

The administration office has moved. The mailing address is now:
P.O. Box 7738, Lockerbie DG11 1JN

The following remain the same:
Telephone: 01236 440132 Email: Scotland@mtsmail.org
Website: www.missiontoseafarers.org

The financial savings of this move and the ongoing contributions of congregations and individuals will enable us to move into new areas of ministry in Scottish ports in 2007. We anticipate appointing a full-time chaplain in the near future.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

*Revd Robin Underhill
Secretary for Scotland
Email: mts_scotland@onetel.com*

Pathway to Prayer 2007

Saturday 24th March
St. Meddan's & Portland Church Halls, Troon
10.15 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.
(registration 9.45 in St. Meddan's)

A choice of three of the following workshops

Rev Douglas Irving (Ch. of Scotland) *Prayer and Healing*
Rev Scott Robertson (Episcopal) *Prayer and Reconciliation*
Rev Sheila Mitchell (Ch. Of Scotland) *Praying in Confusion*
Miss Maria McMahon (Catholic) *Creating Quiet Places for Prayer*
Fr Stephen Motroni (Catholic) *Discovering God through Singing*
Deaconess Chris King (Ch. Of Scotland) *Facing God without our Masks*

Registration fee £6

Lunch will be provided - donation welcome.

You may book your place and workshops in advance or choose on the day.
For a booking form with details of workshops contact Chris King 01563 851197
or see web site www.pathwaystogod.org.uk

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Bridge Pastoral Foundation
Scottish Conference, St Andrews

'On Being Met as a Person'

with

Dr Una McCluskey

Senior Lecturer in Social Work; Psychotherapist
University of York

To be held at
St. Leonards, St. Andrews, Fife
10th - 14th April 2007

Una will outline her recent research into the therapeutic relationship between careseekers and caregivers, deepening our skills of communicating sensitively.

Not just for the caring professions, but pastoral workers and us all in our relationships generally.

Video presentations, workshops one to one rôle play, plenaries and Growth Groups.

Residential 5 day experience in St Andrews.

More details from www.bridgepastoral.org.uk
e-mail: info@bridgepastoral.org.uk or tel: 0151-652 0429

Education Network

Reminder

The Education programme
"Journey in Faith"
begins

Tues 6th February
at 21, Dunmore St., Clydebank

Wed 7th February
at Holy Trinity, Fullarton St., Ayr

Any last-minute bookings to the
Diocesan Office as soon as possible
Enquiries to Linda Whitby,
tel: 01475 675907
e-mail: lindawhitby@btpopenworld.com

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Diocesan Youth Action Network
D Y A N

Invitation to youth groups and
individual young people

Visit to Coats Observatory

Sunday 4th March

Starting at

Holy Trinity & St. Barnabas', Paisley
St. James' Place, Moss St. Paisley
(junction of Moss St., Love St.,
St. James' St.)

5.00 for 5.30pm
Food and worship

7.00 – 9.00pm

Visit to Coats Observatory

See the Planetarium, look through the
telescopes if clear weather
Numbers of young people and leaders
(by 23rd Feb. please) to
Judith Johnstone, 71 Glen Shee Avenue,
Neilston,
tel: 0141 583 4051
e-mail: judith.johnstone@ntlworld.com

Festive Trumpets 2

Wednesday 28th February
8.00pm
Holy Trinity Church,
Fullarton Street, Ayr

Laurie Gargan and Mark O'Keefe
(trumpets)

Walter Blair (*organ and piano*)

A return visit by this virtuoso trio in a
completely new programme of pieces
in a variety of styles with favourites old
and new.

Tickets £6 (£5 concession) from
Mackay Music, Cathcart Street, Ayr tel:
01292 289562, and at the door.

Fairtrade Fortnight

26th February—11th March 2007

Change Today, Choose Fairtrade.

With over 2000 Fairtrade certified
products now available, it's easier than
ever to change what you eat drink and
wear to Fairtrade, and make a positive
change today for the lives of millions of
farmers in developing countries. Even
a small change in shopping habits can
make a real difference to poverty.

Harriet Lamb, director of the Fairtrade
Foundation, says: "Fairtrade has grown
faster than we could have imagined.
There's never been a better time to buy
items with the Fairtrade mark".

Many of our churches are already
involved with Fairtrade and will be
promoting Fairtrade Fortnight in
different ways. Resources available
include a church pack with suggested
readings, reflections and prayers for use
at a service with a Fairtrade theme.
Download from www.fairtrade.org.uk
or tel: 020 7440 7676.

Church In Society

Three points and then a direction for thought!

First, the Church in Society Action Group would like to thank all those who responded to the Fairtrade questionnaire and to those who have already booked their place at the Fairtrade Workshop at Holy Trinity, Ayr on the 20th January. There's always room for more. We are well on the way to becoming a "Fairtrade Diocese" recognised by the Fairtrade Foundation.

Secondly, since our group was formed all congregations have been made aware of the process for gaining a grant, with our support, from the Provincial Church in Society Committee to develop and assist churches that want to work closely with their local communities. Please access the Diocesan web-site to download or contact the Diocesan Office for a grant form today!

Finally, on the same theme; there are already many activities that churches are involved in within communities, and we would like to offer a resource booklet to show some of the good examples of your work. This resource booklet will encourage others to do the same, as well as direct folk to the many agencies that can help develop ideas. Please send to your Regional Council Church in Society representative, pictures and stories of what you are doing to encourage others. If you don't know who your C in S Rep is – consult your own Lay Rep.

Now the thought: Mary, the mother of our Lord, is often pictured in icons as a sign for the present Church to contemplate how it may become a better Church: the Church to become truer to itself. In these icons Mary's hands are always open to God and the incarnation, but her eyes, drawn fully open, look out to the world. The Church is asked to see the world, again and again, as we hold the Christ way in our lives. Let us think about how we may respond to the needs of our local communities, especially in partnership with them, and see the world not only in its need for Christ, but how Christ is present there, ahead of us, showing us how to love Him that little bit more. It isn't easy working beyond the confines of the Church, especially with folk who may have their own critique of us, but if we see Christ in them we can better understand the Christ who renews and gives blessing to the Church.

Happy New Year!

*Revd Ian Barcroft
Convener, Church in Society Action Group,
Rector, St. Mary–the-Virgin, Hamilton*

People News

Revd Peter Douglas has been appointed Priest in Charge at Holy Trinity, Kilmarnock

Revd Peter Taylor has resigned as Rector of St Mary, Gatehouse of Fleet and Greyfriars, Kirkcudbright.

Mr Elliot Glen-Esk has been appointed Diocesan Surveyor

New Year Honours List

Congratulations to two of our members who received awards in the New Year Honours List:

Professor Barbara Parfitt, Dean of Nursing at Caledonian University, a member of St Cyprian's, Lenzie, was awarded CBE

Captain Ronald Charles Cunningham-Jardine, formerly Lord Lieutenant for Dumfries, a member of All Saints', Lockerbie, was awarded CVO of the Royal Victorian Order

R.I.P.

It is with sadness and regret that we pass on the news of two deaths:

Ian Howard former Diocesan Surveyor died very suddenly on 29th December 2006.

Revd Agatha Danson died on 4th January 2007.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Diocesan Synod Saturday 10th March 2007 Barony College Near Dumfries

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Ignatian Spirituality Centre

The Centre has moved.

New address:

35 Scott Street, Glasgow. G3 6PE

Tel: 0141 354 0077

E-mail: admin@iscglasgow.co.uk

Website: www.iscglasgow.co.uk

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Maggie's Cancer Caring Centres

Maggie's Cancer Caring Centre's are looking for dinner party hosts to take part in their *a Knife, a Fork, A Bottle and a Cork* fundraising campaign. The idea is that you invite 7 people to dinner or lunch and ask them to make a contribution to Maggie's funds, they in turn invite 6, who invite 5 etc.

What are Maggie's Centres?

Maggie's Centres are for anybody who has, or who has had cancer. They are also for their families, their friends and their carers. They aim to help people with cancer to be as healthy in mind and body as possible and enable them to make their own contribution to their medical treatment and recovery. There is one in Glasgow near to the Beatson Oncology Unit at the Western Infirmary.

*For more details tel: 0800 047 0686
or visit www.maggiescentres.org*