



Holy Trinity News

Newsletter of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Kilbride Road, Dunoon, Argyll
www.holytrinitydunoon.wordpress.com

Scottish Charities Number
SC008066

Happy Easter

A Happy Easter to all our readers.



From the Garden Tomb, Jerusalem

We are delighted to report that Bishop Mark Strange will conduct the Service of Introduction of Reverend Andrew Swift on Saturday 5th June. This will be at 3.00 pm at Holy Trinity. A similar service will be conducted at St. Paul's Rothesay at 11.00am on Saturday 5th. Arrangements are in hand for refreshments after the service in Dunoon and will be notified in the next Newsletter.

Episcopal Election

Argyll and The Isles Diocese

The announcement of the list of candidates is due on 26th April. Thereafter there are meetings of the Electoral Synod planned for 13th May to interview candidates and 14th May for the election.

Let us pray for the candidates that the right person is called and chosen.

Let us also continue to pray for those involved in the process.

Inside this Issue

Easter Reflection	2
Bishop Mark's Charge.....	2
Growing Together.....	3
Christian Leaders Write	3
Obituary	4
Fund Raising.....	5
The £50 Pledge Challenge.....	5
Vestry Report.....	6
Fabric.....	6
The Wider Church.....	7

What's Ahead

Saturday 10 April- work day to get the Rectory cleaned and emptied so that it can be decorated for our new Rectory family.

Wednesday 14 April – Book Group 7.30pm at the Rectory

Friday 16 April 7.30pm at the Rectory 'My Trinidad'

Dates for the Diary

Thursday May 13 – Ascension Day

Sunday May 23 – Pentecost

– **wear something red**

Sunday May 30 – Trinity Sunday

Saturday 5 June - Service of Introduction for Reverend Andrew Swift 3.00pm Holy Trinity and refreshments thereafter.

Easter Reflection

In an Easter reflection the Most Rev David Chillingworth, Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church says:

“Good Friday and Easter Day are the centre of the Christian faith story. Our churches will be busy this weekend. Our worship will be full of drama and emotion as we tell again what we believe to be the greatest story of all human history. You will be welcome to join us and to be part of that.

“The story is about us all - and about God. Jesus’ journey towards the Cross of Calvary is played out in our lives. It’s in the wrong we do, but even more in the things where we try to get it right but achieve only failure and loss. That is our experience of the brokenness of the human condition. We know ourselves to be part of it. The drama of the innocent suffering and death of Jesus is the story of how God suffers and dies - restoring through that suffering the lost relationship between God and his people.

“Through and beyond that suffering is the joy of Easter celebration. Our churches on Easter Sunday will be bright, full of spring flowers, alive with the proclamation that Christ is risen. We know it, believe it and proclaim it. The story of the stone rolled away from the empty tomb of the risen Christ is a mystery of the power of God. The heart of the mystery is this - through the innocent suffering of Jesus and his obedient acceptance of death new life pours the message of hope into the world.

“Christ is Risen!”

The Garden Tomb
Jerusalem



Bishop Mark’s Charge

Christine McIntosh blogged so well about Synod (<http://blethers.blogspot.com>) and is quoted in the Argyll and the Isle Newsletter. At the Annual Meeting later in the year you will receive a report from the Lay Representative. So, I thought I would just share with you my take on Bishop Mark’s closing remarks including his charge to us.

He talked of the different nature of Episcopal ministry in the Province and said that ministry and mission was different in the rural dioceses such as ours from dioceses surrounding large cities. He said our new Bishop would need to be a good link between us and the College of Bishops; taking our issues to the College of Bishops and bringing information back. He said we would need to give our new Bishop support. That everyone needs to be advocates for our issues in this Diocese.

He said to remember what is good about Argyll and The Isles. It is beautiful, most people want to visit, most people have heard about us because of Iona and Cumbrae. He said we should start talking ourselves up – we are a wonderful jewel in the crown of the Scottish Episcopal Church! He reminded us, that unlike some of the city churches, there was a trend for people to be heading towards us. We should be welcoming them.

He asked us to think about how confident we were about being able to talk to people about our church. He then asked us to speak to the person next to us for five minutes telling them all the good points of our church and why he/she should come. There was a lot of noise and much laughter and it felt good for once to talk about all the good points of Holy Trinity and none of the problems.

Bishop Mark then asked us to remember what we had just done and take it into the coffee shops, bus shelters, council buildings, anywhere in the town and surroundings. He said when we did that, the joy of faith and the love of God would be seen through us.

Maureen McKellar

Growing Together



On the shore of the Sea of Galilee

Read John 21: 1-14

Obedient to Jesus' instructions, the disciples had returned to Galilee – but for what? They had forsaken their jobs and were without a leader or sense of direction.

Peter was, as usual the first to make a move. They might as well do something as nothing. But their efforts humanly conceived and carried out in their own strength, produced nothing.

They were tired and hungry and fed up before Jesus appeared and told them exactly what to do.

How often we move off too early in some project, without waiting for specific instructions from the Lord, trusting our own judgement instead of his.. Let us learn to wait for his direction and his timing and to leave the outcome to him, too.

Jesus already had fish cooking on the fire (V.9) and he gave a practical lesson to the disciples to teach them the conditions for successful “fishing for men”. Simple obedience is all that is required.

“Come , follow me.’ Jesus said, ‘and I will make you fishers of men.” (Matt 4;19)

Action:

Two Biblical pictures Christ gives are a shepherd and a fisherman. We are to reach people by hook or by crook today.

Taken from **The Life of Christ** by Rita & Neil McLauhghlan and Trevor Partridge

Christian Leaders Write

Scottish Church leaders wrote on 1st April 2010 in a joint letter to the UK Government:

“At Easter, Christians of all traditions express their shared belief that God so loved the world that he sent his son Jesus Christ to suffer and die as a man. The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead demonstrates that security comes from faith in the vulnerability of God in Christ and not in any human creation.

“Christian moral reasoning leads us away from violence towards loving relationships with others. Violence is expressed in threat as well as in deed. The indiscriminate nature of nuclear weapons makes it impossible to justify them as weapons of war as their effect cannot be considered as either limited or proportionate. Therefore, the very possession of nuclear weapons is unjust and thus wrong. Churches have often expressed this concern. [1]

“Christ came for the whole world and the security of the whole world is Christ’s concern. Nuclear weapons by their very existence undermine the security of the whole world and are inconsistent with the traditional theories of just war. We believe that tackling injustice, poverty and inequality would lead to a safer world for all. At a political level that transformation means choosing to spend money on changing the lives of the poor and oppressed and not on nuclear weapons.

“All of us have a political choice in the next few weeks. We call upon all people of goodwill to make it clear to candidates of all parties that we should choose life over death and the alleviation of poverty over the replacement of Trident.”

Signed by the Primus and the Leaders of the Church of Scotland, the United Reformed Church of Scotland, the United Free Church of Scotland, Congregational Federation in Scotland, the Scottish roman Catholic Church, the Religious Society of Friends and the Methodist Church of Scotland.

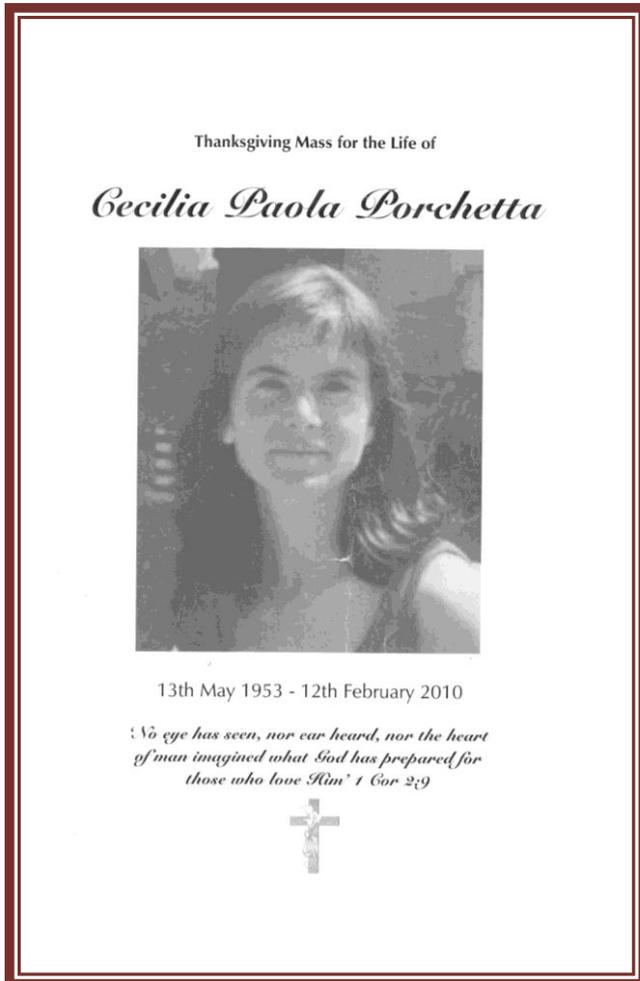
[1]“Authentic peace is characterised by the transformation of relationships emanating from the ongoing presence of God in the world”

Submission to the Defence Committee in relation to the inquiry into the White Paper “The Future of the UK’s Strategic Nuclear Deterrent” by the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church

Pope Benedict XVI has said, “The foundations of authentic peace rest on the truth about God and man”

Pope Benedict XVI for the World Day of Peace, January 1, 2006

Obituary



Cecilia was the only daughter of a well-known Scottish Italian family who owned Fazzi of Clyde street, a renowned Italian food and wine Glasgow warehouse started by her father and uncle. Celia met Allan Porchetta in 1975 and he introduced her to the country air and sea breezes of his native Dunoon. Though after marriage, they lived in Giffnock, they came to Dunoon for many visits and all the Porchetta family celebrations, and Celia became very precious to each and everyone she met, having a glow of spirituality and radiance about her, that marked her out as someone very special.

Celia had interest in the well-being of everyone she came into contact with and loved to help in the most practical ways giving time and energy with

great humility to those in need. The family attended Holy Trinity church as a family with their five girls as often as they could, before they became so heavily involved with St. Mary's church at Pollokshaws. When Luisa their twin daughter died, after a two year battle for her life, Celia took comfort she was interred in a grave, which nestled in the trees, with the only noise the song of the birds, and the only colour the wild flowers growing in the churchyard.

Celia knew Earth was a very special place, but her absolute shining belief and faith that she would be re-united with her God, and see again the face of Luisa, sustained her through a devastating diagnosis give to her at the age of 56, just before Christmas.

Indeed she said it was the best Christmas she ever had, and though she knew she was leaving her girls, ranging in age from 16-31 years, forever, when they had never even once come home to an empty house, she trusted her God to look after her family and that her belief she would be in Heaven, would strengthen them to come to terms with her loss and make the most of their futures.

Celia's funeral was held in St. Mary's, then she was interred beside Luisa at Holy Trinity, beside cascades of snowdrops, after a movingly simple service with her favourite music, her husband, her five daughters, her 97 year old mother, her three brothers all escorting her, grateful for the peace and tranquillity and the help and kindness so freely and warmly given, by all at Holy trinity.

It is true a mother can take the place of everyone else, but nobody else can take the place of a mother.

Thanks to the family for this. They have our sincere condolences.

Apologies

Let me apologise to Christiane Lee for the wrong hymn as her favourite hymn last month. The sentiment is similar but it should have been "There is a Redeemer, Jesus God's own Son". It was fortunately played in Church recently to make up for the error!

Fund Raising

The fundraising committee made up of Pauline, Ann, Dinkie, Susan, Robin and Jennifer will be meeting shortly. Remember to pass any ideas you have to them. An initial meeting will lay out the scope and scale of the work to be tackled.

The £50 Pledge Challenge

Flea Market

We plan to hold another table sale at the Burgh Hall on the next suitable date. If you have anything to sell, please tell Robin or Susan Watling or Maureen McKellar and when you see the event advertised please come along and support Holy Trinity.

Trinidad

Mac and Heather have been persuaded to hold another talk and slide show on 'My Trinidad'. This will take place on Friday 16th April at 7.30pm in the Rectory. It was so good last time, some of us are going back.

Holy Trinity Recipe Book

Sharon has a few recipes now, but is still looking for more for the Holy Trinity Recipe Book. If you have a favourite recipe, either a main course, desert or perhaps baking, please pass it to Sharon for inclusion.

We seem to have fewer events now than we had. How about trying for another couple before our new Priest comes.

Easyfundraising

Susan Watling reports that we have now made £115 by using the **Easyfundraising** web site. Please use it for buying things and tell your friends. It is very easy. You pay the same or less than you would in the high street from all your favourite shops AND Holy Trinity benefits. Susan will help if you ask.

The web site is www.easyfundraising.org

From the Counting House

This has been an expensive month with all the repair work for the Rectory needing payment. Fortunately St. Paul's Rothesay are now contributing to it with us which has helped a lot.

You will see elsewhere that the building work on the church has ceased until we receive more funds, either from grant aid or in the appeal fund. We have huge challenges ahead but think how good the church will look and what we can do with it to witness in the community.

We are approaching Pentecost which means we are hoping for all your flower pots back filled with lovely pound coins. Let us see if we can raise as much as last year.

The Treasury Team

The Organist Writes

At the moment of writing, it's hard to think of anything but Holy Week and Easter, with all the wonderful liturgy and music which enhances this most important week in the church year. However, we are also looking ahead to the end of the interregnum and to the service of welcome to our new priest, Andrew.

I have already been discussing possible hymns for this service, and have told him that we are able to learn hymns we don't already know – so if he chooses a favourite of his own that we are not in the habit of singing, be prepared to learn it before the beginning of June And then let's sing a welcome to Andrew and his family that they'll never forget!

John

Vestry Report

The Vestry met on 24th March.

It was reported that the Lay Team had had a beneficial session with Gill Young from Glasgow Diocese.

The decision was made that in view of all the current commitments, Holy Trinity would not take part in the Christian aid house to house collection this year.

There were the usual discussions on Finance and Fabric. The offer of a new hall and stair carpet from a member of the congregation was gratefully acknowledged.

A work day was planned for Saturday 10th April to clean the Rectory inside prior to decoration and to tidy up outside.

There was report from the Pastoral care Co-ordinator and a report from the Lay representative on proceedings at the Diocesan Synod.

Grant Aid

A meeting was held of our small sub-committee of the Vestry looking at grants. We were fortunate to have the guidance of Matt Currie who has been co-ordinating grant applications for St. John's church in Dunoon. He gave us lots of wise advice.

We are currently applying to the Scottish Episcopal Church and to the Scottish Churches Architectural Heritage Trust and have a few more in the pipeline. If anyone can think of any places to apply to, please speak to any Vestry member. You never know, it might just yield some funds.

The Book Group

The first meeting of the Book Group this year will be held on Wednesday 14th April at 7.00pm in the Rectory. The book is 'The Book Thief' by Markus Zusak. There is a copy in the Rectory if you want to borrow it. The meeting is very informal. Do come along.

Fabric

The work has almost been completed in the Rectory. There are one or two small items to finish. A work day has been planned to clean the inside of the church prior to decoration. If anyone is handy with a paintbrush and can spare a few hours in April please let me know.

We also need to clean the gutters and cut back the vegetation.

The carpets are being cleaned at the beginning of May followed by the fitting of the new hall and stair carpet.

You will have noted that all work has stopped in the church. This is because we need funds to continue. To repair the steel beams will cost around £6500, to repair the valley gutter will cost around £1500 and to finish the rot work in the sacristy and tower area will be around £6000. We need either grant funds or lots more appeal fund money before we can commission this work. It looks as if we will have a messy Lady Chapel for some time to come.

Maureen McKellar

Pastoral Care

Dinkie McEwen is the contact for all pastoral care situations. (telephone 01369 705257) This may be someone who needs Holy Communion brought to him/her or someone who is ill and/or housebound and needs a visit.



The Dean

Bishop Mark told us that the Dean had begun his treatment at a hospital in Edinburgh. We continue to remember Dean Norman and his wife Barbara in our prayers.

The Wider Church

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Reflections on Easter

Surprising numbers of people still go to Church at Christmas and Easter in this country, but probably more at Christmas than at Easter. Why then is Christmas that bit more popular? I suppose it's partly because Christmas is quite a simple story – it's about the gift of God to us, in the Christ child; it's about a present that all we have to do is receive. But Easter's more complicated. Easter is a journey. Easter is lots of stories rolled into one and it can make real demands on us.

From the very earliest days of the church, celebrating Easter has been quite a *long* job. It's spilled over into the whole week before it – Holy Week – as it's been called for many, many centuries. And in holy week, what we do is walk alongside Jesus in the last week of his life. The church reads and acts out that story in all kinds of ways during those days so that by the time you get to Easter you've actually travelled quite a long way.

So the whole story of Holy Week ends with the celebration of the resurrection. We begin it on Easter Eve, and then on the morning of Easter Sunday it blazes out in all its glory, in all its triumph. The tomb is empty, there is no power that can hold Jesus down or lock him up. The stone, the entrance of this great rock tomb is heaved away by the life of God, and there is no dead body there, there is no Jesus locked up in the past, there is only Jesus alive forever more.

So at Easter we celebrate not just the fact that Jesus rose from the dead - as if that were an interesting fact that happened many centuries ago - we celebrate the fact that, in the words of the Bible, because "he is alive, we are alive".

We know that we are held in God's hands, that our lives are held firmly and lovingly forever by the mercy of God. We know we have a future in his love, and that nothing can take that away.

It's a long journey, a journey from the moment when we *thought* we could *welcome* God cheerfully and happily because he seems to come and fulfil all our desires. Palm Sunday is a cheerful occasion. And then we have to face the fact that the Jesus who has arrived is perhaps not quite what we want, he's making us feel uncomfortable. He's changing us. And human beings push back against that change. And they do it violently and horribly. They try to push Jesus right out of the world. And we have to face in ourselves all those aspects of our lives which try to push God away. And then we realise the amazement, wonder and gratitude, that however hard we try to push it away, he won't go away. He's there, he's *promised* to be there, he will be there for us wherever we are. And so at the end of our celebration of Easter, that long journey of Holy Week, we can say, in the words of St Matthew's Gospel - right at the end of that Gospel – as we've heard Jesus saying, "I'm with you always. I'm with you 'til the very end of the world."

© Rowan Williams 2010

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Sandy MacPherson, of the High Kirk, Dunoon is leading another ecumenical pilgrimage to the Holy land from 17th 25th September 2011. Sandy used to work in the travel business and so is ideally placed to be a tour leader. This is his third and last pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Previous trips have been very popular. The visit is booked through McCabe Pilgrimages who have a lot of experience of these trips.

Visits will include Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Capernaum, the Sea of Galilee and Mount Tabor as well as allowing free time for relaxation and private exploration. There is an opportunity to walk along the Via Dolorosa, sail on the sea of Galilee, take the cable-car up Masada and float in the Dead Sea.

Dinkie McEwen, Morag Fowler and Maureen McKellar have all been on previous pilgrimages. If you are interested in joining the group going in 2011, please speak to one of them or ring Sandy himself on 01369 707069. You will have a wonderful time.

Notable dates – April/May

Thurs 1 Apr	Maundy Thursday - Celebration of the Last Supper 7.30pm Vigil until 10.00pm Evening Prayer 5.15pm
Fri 2 Apr	Good Friday Service 2pm – 3pm
Sat 3 Apr	Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil with lighting of new fire 8.00pm
Sun 4 Apr	Easter Day celebrated by Rev Canon Hugh Lee 10.30am
Thurs 8 Apr	Stations of the Light 5.15pm
Sat 10 Apr	Work Group for Rectory
Sun 11 Apr	Easter 2 Holy Communion from Reserved Sacrament
Wed 14 Apr	Book Group 7.30pm Rectory
Thurs 15 Apr	Stations of the Light 5.15pm
Sun 18 Apr	Easter 3 – Sung Eucharist celebrated by Rev Peter Rice
Thurs 22 Apr	Stations of the Light 5.15pm
Sun 25 Apr	Easter 4 – Sung Eucharist celebrated by Rev Paul Fletcher
Thurs 29 Apr	Stations of the Light
Sun 2 May	Easter 5 TBC

Readings

Easter Day	Acts 10, 34-43 1 Corinthians 15, 19-26 John 20, 1-18
Easter 2	Acts 5, 27-32 Revelation 1, 4-8 John 20, 19-31
Easter 3	Acts 9, 1-6 Revelation 5, 11-14 John 21, 1-19
Easter 4	Acts 9, 36-43 Revelation 7, 9-17 John 10, 22-30
Easter 5	Acts 11, 1-18 Revelation 21, 1-6 John 13, 31-35

Church Contact Points

Name	Contact
Rector	Vacancy
Pastoral Care	Dinkie McEwen (705257)
People's Warden	Mac McLean (705497)
Rector's Warden	Pauline Revill (704731)
Lay Representative	Ann Narraway (830400)
Alternate Lay Rep	Di Tennent (840779)
Vestry Secretary	Maureen McKellar (703058)
Vestry Treasurer	Chrissie Holliday (704927)
Organist	John McIntosh (703304)
Book Group	Di Tennent (840779)
House Groups	To be advised
Mission to Seafarers	Pauline Revill (704731)
Christian Aid	Brian Dineley (870073)
Bible Study	To be advised
Coffee Rota	Pauline Revill (704731)
Flower Arranging	Ann Narraway (830400)
Worship Rotas	Dinkie McEwen (705257)
Newsletter	Maureen McKellar (703058)
Charity Web Site	Susan Watling (701037)

Please send any articles or views by email to mpmckellar@aol.com or by post to: Maureen McKellar, Eden Cottage, 45 Hill Street, Dunoon PA23 7AY