



GLASGOW & GALLOWAY

Diocesan News

ISSUE 117—SEP 2012

MICHAELMAS GATHERING

*The Gathering: a Michaelmas liturgy in celebration of God's grace and our growth
Saturday September 29th 11am–3.30pm
St Silas, 69 Park Road, Glasgow G4 9JD*

Revd Anne Tomlinson writes:

Eighteen months on from the launch of the Diocese's strategic intention for growth is a good point at which to take stock and celebrate the spirituality that is at the heart of, and sustains, that growth. So on the Feast of St Michael and All Angels there is to be a glorious 'Gathering' of the Diocese in St Silas, Glasgow, attended by representatives from every congregation..

And what a party it will be! The day will take the form of an extended Eucharist giving extravagant, colourful and all-age expression to our life as a diocese: to our relationships with one another and with the communities in which our churches are set. It'll be a chance to meet and share food with people from other congregations and Regions, to learn and sing wonderful music, to give artistic expression to what makes us tick as a diocese; in other words, to worship God with heart, soul, strength and mind – and to the very best of our ability.

Bishop Gregor will preside and preach, and after his sermon, participants will break into groups to reflect on the gospel through a variety of means: through workshops on community outreach, children's ministry, Bible study and prayer. The MU will lead our intercessions, epitomising that outward-facing stance that should characterise all our missional ministries.

Every congregation has been encouraged to send at least three representatives of all ages to this celebration of our life together. Lunch will be catered for and a crèche / childcare provided. St Silas is wheelchair-accessible, and within walking distance of Kelvinbridge Underground Station.

Not all the diocese can, of course, be present - but all will be involved. As part of the activities, hosts will be baked and then taken back to every charge for use as the Eucharistic Bread at the next day's celebrations.

The Collect for the Feast of St Michael and All Angels praises God for 'constituting in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals'; it is a day for recommitment to lives of continual service and praise. So let us gather on September 29th and celebrate our life together and our vocation to the world - with great gusto!

Some places may still be available. If you would like to apply for one, contact your own church clergy as soon as possible.

Ordinations

Ordinations will take place at St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 8th September, the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Those to be ordained are:

Deacons: Dr James Currall and Mrs Pat Smith to serve at Largs and Dumbarton respectively.

Priests: The Revd Dr Kevin Francis to serve as Anglican Chaplain at the University of Glasgow and curate at St Bride's Kelvinside.

The Revd Maggie McTernan to serve as curate at St Margaret of Scotland, Newlands, Glasgow.

The Revd Liz O'Ryan to serve as curate at St John's Greenock and St Bartholomew's Gourrock. Please pray for our Ordinands and the charges in which they will serve as they move on to a new phase of ministry.

The service of Ordination will be busy, so tickets are required to attend. If you would like more details contact the Diocesan Centre: 0141-221 5720.

Also in this issue . . .

Taize afternoon with Jenny Williams

Troon celebrates the first 100 years

Study reveals it's a dynamic mission field

More action plans signed

Courses and opportunities

AUTUMN LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Ecumenical Events in Galloway

Following the signing of the Learning Agreement between our Galloway Region and Annandale & Eskdale Presbytery two ecumenical training events are planned this autumn.

The first, on **Saturday 22 September** in Lockerbie Dryfesdale Church and Halls, is entitled 'Growing with God: Living Worship for the 21st Century'. Following a keynote address from the Revd Kate Viviers, there will be workshops on 'children and worship', 'music made simple' and 'the use of audio-visual material in worship'. For more information contact: events@furtherministriesteam.com or 01387 371037.

The second, on **Saturday 20 October**, at St John the Evangelist, Newall Terrace, Dumfries DG1 1LW, is 'Exploring ministries: a day for reflection, prayer and discovery about where and to what God might be leading you'. There will be an opening address on ministry and discipleship followed by a range of presentations concerning the various ministries (in the widest sense of that word) that are on offer in our two denominations. More details at <http://www.exploringministries.org/>

Preaching Year C

Trinity College, the Church of Scotland's training institution within the University of Glasgow, is ecumenically minded.

Together with the Diocese (and with the support of the William Barclay Trust) it is running a CMD day event, **Preaching the Year**, on **Saturday 3 November** in Wellington Church, University Avenue, Glasgow. 10.00 – 15.30. The programme will comprise a keynote address on the homiletical year-as-an-entirety, followed by a series of biblical and homiletics workshops on the Year C lections, these being offered by a stunning range of biblical scholars and practitioners.

More details about the programme and how to register will follow. It will be open to all; cost £20 (soup + sandwich lunch included).

TAIZE AFTERNOON

Sunday 9 September

2pm to 7pm

Christ Church, Lanark

Led by Revd Jenny Williams

Singing, Silence, Simplicity and Sharing

Explore the relevance for us of this ecumenical Christian community through learning the songs, playing the music and experiencing the worship style. There will also be time for information and discussion.

From 5.00 to 6.00pm a simple meal will be provided before a Service of Worship from 6.00 to 7.00pm using a format from the Taize community created by participants during the afternoon.

All are welcome to all or part of this event. Donations towards costs will be collected on the day. For catering purposes please let the organisers know you are coming.

If you would like to attend or for more information, contact: Revd Dan Gavfert 01555 663065 or Rachel Hill 01555 662190

VACANCY

**Musical Director/Organist/Choir Master/
Mistress, St Columba's, Largs**

Main Sunday Worship is 11.00am Sung Eucharist. At present there is no choir but we hope to re-start with a new Musical Director. Once a month, the Sunday service is Choral Matins and with a choir we would have Choral Evensong, perhaps once a month.

We currently use traditional hymns (Hymns Ancient and Modern New Standard) with occasional additions from other sources, but we would like to broaden our range to be sensitive to the presence of children and young people in the main Sunday morning services.

We host occasional Sunday evening services for Largs Churches Together, offer two afternoon Taizé services per year and have extras around Christmas, Holy week, St Columba's-tide, etc.

For more information or to apply, please contact the Rector, Revd Gordon Fyfe, 01475 673143, gordon.fyfe@virginmedia.com, or the Vestry Secretary, Mr Chris Evans 01475 673757 chris@noddsdale.co.uk

A dynamic mission field

Those of us who think of the Diocese as being a fairly settled entity have a surprise in store.

Helen Ball, Convenor of the Development Team for Missional Leadership, has analysed the opening and closing of churches in Glasgow & Galloway, as well as the movement of priests here, during the whole of the 20th century.

Her findings portray a church in flux, not stasis. Or, as the title of her report makes clear: ‘A Dynamic Mission Field’.

Charges

The Diocese, she found, ‘has had a consistent record of opening new charges. This record was maintained unbroken for ninety years. The final decade of the twentieth century stood out as the one decade where no charges were opened’. In all, 68 charges were opened between 1900 and 1990.

There was a net loss, though, with 89 disappearing over the century as part of a ‘a consistent record of closing charges that were judged to have become unsustainable’. Intriguingly, 23 were shut during the first two decades of the century compared with 20 in the last two.

Clergy

In tracking the movement of priests over the century, Helen sampled two years from the beginning of each decade.

She found a consistently high turnover of priests holding short incumbencies, with the longest average incumbency in the sample being just seven and a half years.

Between 40% and 50% of appointments were made from outside the Diocese, and between 20% and 40% from outside the Scottish Episcopal Church. The door certainly revolved, with at least a third and as many as 68% leaving the Diocese when they resigned their charge, and ‘a smaller and yet still significant percentage’ quitting the SEC.

The proportion of priests spending their whole ordained ministry in the Diocese never exceeded 19%, and in the SEC no higher than 40%.

Conclusions and implications

Helen Ball’s summary of her findings is stimulating. “The Diocese has a particular pattern of life that has lasted for a hundred years,” she says. It is characterised by:

- ◆ Regular opening and closing of charges;
- ◆ Recruiting clergy from outside the Diocese and the Province;
- ◆ Clergy remaining in post for relatively short periods;
- ◆ The expectation that clergy are likely to leave the Diocese to continue their ministry elsewhere.

This pattern of life came under strain during the 1990s, and some implications for the future of the Diocese are these:

- ◆ Accepting that the Diocese has been an unstable, fast-moving and dynamic mission field;
- ◆ Having confidence in this tradition;
- ◆ Accepting that a significant proportion of priests will leave the Diocese;
- ◆ Being affirmed in appointing priests from outside as well as inside the Diocese and the Province;
- ◆ Realising that we should not expect to find this model replicated elsewhere in the Province or in the wider Anglican tradition;
- ◆ Celebrating this pattern of life – it is our model and it has made us what we are;
- ◆ Having the courage to open some new charges.

“Understanding past patterns of mission and ministry can help us to be more self-aware in facing our future,” she concludes.

Helen Ball is a historian who worships at All Saints, Bearsden. ‘Glasgow & Galloway in the Twentieth Century: A Dynamic Mission Field’ can be read in full on the Ministry Development website at tiny-url.com/dynamicmission.

News and events in brief...

ST Bride's Episcopal Church has been awarded a grant of £75,900 by the Heritage Lottery Fund for essential structural repairs to the historic building in the West End of Glasgow. The works will last for four months and will include repointing of stonework, replacement of flat roofs and works to the church tower.

TOUCHED by Kings is an exhibition at the Whithorn Story with objects temporarily returned from the National Museums of Scotland and the British Museum. They include the Whithorn Crozier and a 12th century reliquary pendant that may have been held by royal pilgrims, including Robert the Bruce. The Whithorn Story museum is open daily until 31 October.

JAMES Robinson, British Museum curator of Late Medieval Collections will give the 2012 Whithorn Lecture at Whithorn Primary School on Saturday 15 September, 6pm. His subject is Jewel Reliquaries and the Whithorn Reliquary. Free admission; booking is advisable: 01988 500508.

THE Music for a Summer Afternoon concert series continues on Sundays at the Cathedral of The Isles, Millport, Isle of Cumbrae and there are concerts every Sunday in September at 3pm.

AFOLK concert to raise funds for St.Ninians Pollokshields will be held on Saturday 22 September from 7.30pm in St. Ninian's church hall, 1 Albert Drive, Pollokshields. The entertainment will be provided by Heelster Gowdie. Tickets are £8 and £6, and include refreshments.

THERE was an excellent turn-out on Saturday 7 July at Holy Trinity and St Barnabas, Paisley for the Institution of Revd Dr Tom Wilson as rector. The congregation turned out in full force as did friends from Renfrewshire Region, the clergy of the Diocese, ecumenical friends from Paisley Churches Together and representatives of civic life. Tom, wife Dawn and daughter Anissa received a warm welcome afterwards in the hall.

AYRSHIRE Power has shelved its application to build a coal-fired power station at Hunterston in North

Ayrshire. A Christian Aid spokesman said: "We are delighted. We and many other organisations believed the proposed power station was likely to undermine the emission targets set out in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009."

ADAY to help people 'to give a reason for the faith' in a post-modern age will be held in Queen's Park Church of Scotland, Glasgow, on Saturday 27th October. The keynote speaker will be Jeremy Begbie, Professor of Theology at Duke Divinity School.

Workshops on faith in the workplace, faith and social media, faith and film, faith and imaginative use of the Bible and others will be led by an array of speakers, including Dr Jolyon Mitchell from Edinburgh University's Centre for Theology and Public Issues and Dr Pauline Hoggarth, formerly international Bible Ministries coordinator for Scripture Union. The day is organised by the Church of Scotland Mission and Discipleship Council. Early booking advised. Contact Sheila Reeves (0131 225 5722 ext 2239; sreeves@cofscotland.org.uk).

BLYTHSWOOD Care is offering recycling bins for churches with goods donated being sold to raise funds for the charity or recycled through other channels.

Visit: <http://gh.cm/IUfDE1>.

ST Margaret's Renfrew will be taking part in Doors Open Day on Saturday 8 September, 10am to 4pm. Visitors will be able to look around the little church and learn some of its history. Tea and coffee will be available in the hall for those who would like to sit and chat.

ST Margaret's Newlands is embarking on a major appeal to allow its ageing organ to remain fit for purpose in its building. The projected refurbishment cost is £150,000 and although work is unlikely to go ahead until Spring 2014, fundraising has started and applications for trust funding are being made.

The organ appeal will be launched with a Grand Concert on Sunday 16 September at 7pm at St Margaret's (353/355 Kilmarnock Road). The concert will feature lighter classical music

by members of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra. An inspiring evening with a glass of bubbly is promised. Entry by donation. Visit www.episcopalnewlands.org.uk or call Maida Gibson on 0141 423 8290.

THE College of The Holy Spirit at The Cathedral of The Isles, Isle of Cumbrae, offers two September retreats dealing with stress.

Learn to understand stress: what the causes are and what techniques you can learn to help you cope with it. Anthea Clarke leads. Come for the weekend Thursday 11 to Sunday 16 September or midweek Monday 17 to Thursday 20 September.

There are still vacancies for the September Weekend: Friday 22 to Sunday 24 September. It's a weekend of festivities and fireworks to mark the end of the summer season in Millport. The College offers B&B for a two-night minimum stay from £70.

Visit www.island-retreats.org or contact the Warden on 01475 530353 (cathedral_cumbrae@btconnect.com).

ST Augustine's link with Dumbarston London Corner Nursery School in the Gambia, has now just passed its 10th anniversary. During that time there have been many changes and different buildings, almost 300 children educated, fed and looked after medically, a turnover of staff and principal teachers, many visits and enormous success and satisfaction.

THE Alexander Men Conference: Russia Lessons and Legacy takes place in Moffat, Friday to Sunday, 14-16 September. The conference draws together speakers from Russia, the US and UK. Topics include science and religion, the future of Christianity, the path to dialogue, and the life and legacy of Fr Alexander himself. Visit www.alexandermenconference.com or contact Alan Thomson (01461 202215, alan.thomson25@gmail.com).

AN art exhibition takes place on the weekend of 1-2 September at Holy Trinity, Fullarton Street, Ayr as part of Doors Open Days. Some works are for sale. Opening times are 1-4pm on Saturday and 1-6pm on Sunday. The show closes with choral evensong when the guest preacher will be diocesan art adviser Revd Dr Donald Orr.

St Ninian's celebrates 100 years in Troon

ST Ninian's Troon has been celebrating its centenary throughout 2012 and this will culminate with a thanksgiving weekend and parish mission, 14-16 September.

Joining in the weekend will be Rt Revd Ted Gulick, formerly Bishop of Kentucky and now Assistant Bishop of Virginia, who will preach at the evening services. Bishop Gregor will preside and preach on Sunday's St Ninian's Day Eucharist at 10.30am.

During the weekend there will be four services, the first being at 7.30pm on Friday on the theme of 'The Cross', a Sung Eucharist for the Feast of the Holy Cross, to which members of the Ayrshire Regional Council are being invited.

On Saturday evening, at 7.30pm, there will be a Service of

Prayer and Reflection followed by Compline when Bishop Ted will preach on 'The Nature of the Church'.

On Sunday Evening at 7.30pm the thanksgiving weekend will conclude with contemporary evening prayer and Bishop Ted will deliver his final sermon on the theme of 'Discipleship'.

For this service the congregation will be joined by friends and partners in mission from the local churches, from the diocese and Province, leaders from the local community and from charitable organisations with which St Ninian's has a particular association.

The congregation extends a warm welcome to join in any of these four services.

New Ignatian programme starts

THE Ignatian Spirituality Centre (ISC), Glasgow aims to offer a welcoming space in the heart of the city.

It provides opportunities for reflection on how God is present in our lives and in our world and also creates 'space' in which we can respond to that presence.

The ISC team and associates offer a varied programme of courses, events and retreats, as well as one-to-one spiritual accompaniment.

The new programme year begins on Saturday 29 September with a day led by Magdalen Lawler SND entitled 'Praying with the Art and Inspiration of Sieger Köder'.

There will also be a Taster Day on Saturday 6 October with free workshops to allow participants to sample

some of the different things offered at the centre (e.g. music & poetry, spirituality & nature, prayer & the body).

Two courses with weekly meetings begin in October. The foundation course 'Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living' will be held on Tuesday evenings, while 'Food for Life's Journey: The Wisdom of Saints Benedict and Ignatius of Loyola' will be on Monday evenings.

There are also retreat mornings on the first Friday of the month, Taizé evenings on the third Monday, a quiet reflective half hour at lunchtime every Tuesday - and much more.

The Centre is at 35 Scott Street, Glasgow G3 6PE. For more details visit www.iscglasgow.co.uk or call 0141 354 0077).

More action plans signed

WHEN St Oswald's Maybole signed its Mission Action Plan on Sunday 12 August, that document brought the total of completed MAPs in the diocese up to seven.

The others are from St Aidan's Clarkston, St Andrew's Irvine, St Andrew's Ardrossan, St Augustine's Dumbarton, St Columba's Largs and St Peter's Dalry. These documents, which describe imaginative missional plans and outward-facing thinking, make for encouraging reading; they can be accessed at <http://md.glasgow.anglican.org/diocesan-growth-strategy/>.

An eighth Plan was signed on 19 August at St Mary's Bridge of Weir's maternal festival. Congregation and friends celebrated both events after Sunday Eucharist with a congregational picnic.

Yet others are on the verge of being signed; the people of St Ninian's Pollokshields will sign theirs on their patronal festival, with a specially written hymn gracing the occasion.

Training for intercessions

"The sharing of experience and experiences was great"

"A good learning day"

"I can take what we learned today to share at Pastoral Care Training"

"Very helpful - lots to think over!"

Just a few of the comments from evaluation of training sessions already held.

Feedback and sharing of experience and resources are as helpful for 'old hands'

GRAND CONCERT

Sunday 16 September, 7pm

St Margaret's Newlands

353/355 Kilmarnock Road

Members of the RSNO
play light classics.

Enjoy a glass of bubbly and help
launch the organ appeal.

Entry by donation.

www.episcopalnewlands.org.uk

as for new intercessors, and we all, as members of a congregation, listen to the prayers of others. Also it's fun to work together and hear each other's ideas.

Intercessory prayers for congregations working on Mission Action Plans are available at www.glasgow.anglican.org in the Working Group section under MAP Prayers.

Diocesan groups working together are once again offering Intercessions training days or evenings, when and where is best for you.

If your Region or congregation is interested, call the Diocesan Centre: 0141-221 5720.

NEXT ISSUE... Items for the October issue may be submitted by **Monday 17 September** as ordinary prose (**not** leaflets, adverts, posters or PDFs, please) to editor Susi Cormack Brown, c/o Diocesan Centre, 5 St Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2DH, or dns@episcopalglasgow.co.uk.

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