



EAGLE

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Forfar

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Happy birthday to us all!

We are the church and we celebrate the church's birthday on the day of Pentecost. It is the festival when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. This year we celebrate Pentecost on 9th June, 50 days after Easter including Easter Day itself. Pentecost comes from a Jewish harvest festival called Shavuot and the apostles were celebrating this festival when the Holy Spirit descended on them. It sounded like a very strong wind, and it looked like tongues of fire. The apostles then found themselves speaking in foreign languages, inspired by the Holy Spirit. People passing by at first thought that they must be drunk, but Peter told the crowd that the apostles were full of the Holy Spirit.

In the weeks prior to Pentecost as the risen Christ prepares his disciples for what comes next the scriptures are often talking about abiding and indwelling, not words that we use in our everyday language. But they are necessary words to describe how we dwell, how we immerse ourselves in Jesus' love and how the Holy Spirit is within each and everyone of us. Without God as Holy Spirit, we have no inner momentum, no aliveness to heal our wounds. When the Spirit is alive in us, we wake up from our mechanical thinking and enter the realm of co-creative power. What do I mean? We work with God; he works through us. Like Pinocchio, we move from wooden to real. We transform from hurt people hurting other people to wounded healers healing others not just as individuals but as a church that keeps moving forward through the Spirit's power.

The Indwelling Spirit is this ability of humanity to keep going, to keep recovering from its wounds, to keep hoping. One thing we love so much about young children is their indomitable hope, curiosity, and desire to grow. They fall down, and soon they're all grins again. Another generation is going to try again to live life to the fullest. But all too often we lose this vitality. It is a loss of Spirit, but when we trust that the Holy Spirit is alive within us, we keep on, despite every setback. Let's celebrate our birthday with all that hope and vitality, rejoicing in the love that we feel and can share!

With love,

Elaine



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Hymn Books – we have received £1699 in donations for the new hymn books which covers all the costs – thank you to all.

Membership of the Vestry

Our thanks go to John Webster for agreeing to be co-opted on to the Vestry following the resignation of Madeline Kingston. The co-option remains in place until nomination and election of Vestry members at the Annual Meeting later in this year.

Getting to know

Madeline Kingston

I was born in October 1943. My father was then Rector of the historic parish of Cleenish, in the Church of Ireland Diocese of Clogher. The Rectory was a few miles from Enniskillen and overlooked the shores of Lough Erne.

My parents had met when he was curate in St. Patrick's Ballymena, and she was the lead soprano in the choir. It was and is far from unusual for a young curate to marry a choir member – for some reason it always seems to be a



soprano. When he was appointed to Cleenish, the local paper commented on the good fortune of the parish in finding a new Rector whose wife was already well known as a singer and organist.

I was the second child – I have an older brother and a younger sister. We attended the local primary schools in Cleenish and Magheracross, his second parish, also near Enniskillen. For our secondary education we travelled daily into the town.

My father died after a 6-month illness in 1961. My brother was by then a post-graduate student at Queen's University in Belfast. As happens to the widows of the clergy, my 49 year old mother lost both her husband and her home. As I grew up I came to realise how proud she was of her three children, all graduates. I do not think she had the slightest pride in the way she had kept the family together, supporting us by retaining her own job as a primary school teacher. She moved to a council house in Enniskillen, joined St. Macartin's Cathedral Choir (where David Chillingworth was a boy treble), and made a life for herself centred on church, music, and friendship, and her children. She died of the effects of diabetes in 1992.

Looking back, I realise now that I had many years of high quality free education. From school I moved on to Trinity College, Dublin to study French and Spanish. I knew I wanted to be a teacher, and did my teacher training in Dundee. It's the best job in the world if you like it, and I loved it.

My first job was in Forfar Academy. The then Deputy Head was organist at St. John's and swept me into the choir (no option). I had vaguely planned to stay 3 or 4 years in Forfar – I later moved school – to Webster's High in Kirriemuir, but never even considered flitting. I first rented a flat in John Street, and moved on from there to 18 Castle Street, now the centre of my universe and of course only 3 or 4 minutes from St. John's.

Forthcoming services and events

Date	Service or Event
Tuesday 4 th June – 10.30-3pm	St John's Quiet Day at St Drostan's, Tarfside
Saturday 8 th June – 4-5pm	National Youth Choir of Scotland Concert in St John's
Sunday 9 th June – 4.30pm	Diocesan Pentecost Evensong at St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth. There will be tea and scones after the service.
Tuesday 11 th June – 2pm	Tuesday Club Outing, AGM & Afternoon Tea at Forfar Open Garden & the Plough Inn
Sunday 30 th June – 11am Sung Eucharist for Pentertide	Priory Church of St Peter, Restenneth with Forfar Instrumental Band
Wednesday 31 st July – Trip to Pitlochry Theatre	All seats now taken
Saturday 3 rd August – 4.30pm at Easter Ogil	St John's Summer Gathering
Tuesday 6 th August – Doors open 6.30pm	St John's Fundraising Bingo Evening at the Legion. Eyes down 7.30pm!
Sunday 8 th September – Following morning service	Congregational Meeting
Saturday 21 st September – 10-12	Christian Aid Coffee Morning – St John's Church Hall
Sunday 22 nd September – 11am service – Format to be decided	Black Watch Standard Rededication – St John's
Sunday 29 th September – 11am Sung Eucharist	Harvest Festival & Gift Day
Sunday 13 th October – 11am Sung Eucharist	Bishop Ian presiding
Wednesday 30 th October – 10.15am Said Eucharist	Commemorating All Souls'
Friday 1 st November – Evening	St John's Annual Dinner & Speaker
Monday 18 th November – 7.30pm	St Petersburg Russian Choir in St John's Church

FUND RAISING NOTES & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thank you to all those who helped at and those who supported the **Coffee Morning**. The final total after sales on Sunday morning was £746.20. Proceeds from the Quilt Raffle will be announced separately.

The Pitlochry Outing Wednesday July 31st Please remember that the coach will LEAVE Letham at **10.30am**, so please be in the square by **10.15** at the latest. The coach should be in Academy Street for the pick-up there at around **10.45am**; please be waiting. There will also be a 'pick-up' just the other side of Meigle. Please advise Fay or Roger where you intend joining the coach if this is your first trip with us or if there is a change to where you have joined the coach on previous outings. Don't forget to bring picnics if you are not planning to eat in the theatre restaurant.


!!STOP PRESS!! Summer Gathering at Easter Ogil Saturday 3rd August

We have arranged to have a Summer Gathering in the gardens of Easter Ogil, Glenogil on 3rd August at approx 4.30pm (Time & Price TBC). There will be a self-service buffet of cold meats, salads etc and refreshments, including a new Idvies addition hand cut chips! Plus the famous St. John's desserts.

Please bring a picnic chair and table (if you have one). There will be musical entertainment and also outside games (for those feeling energetic!). There is rustic 'wet weather' accommodation in the event of inclement weather, but please pray for good weather! As in the past the FRC will invite offers for supplementary salads and puddings nearer the time. **Tickets available soon!**

Colvina's Bingo Night Tues Aug 6th Royal British Legion (Scotland), Forfar

Colvina invites you to support her Bingo Night into which she puts a tremendous amount of effort each year. Doors open at 6.30pm for 'Eyes Down' at 7.30pm prompt! Refreshments in the form of Sandwiches, Tea & Coffee are served in the interval. Offers of **Raffle Prizes** will be welcomed. Please bring to church or hand to Colvina or the Rector.



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FREDERICK HUGH MAGEE OBITUARY

Frederick Hugh Magee died peacefully after a long illness on 24 April, 2019. Although born in London his English mother and American father were serving as missionaries in Nanjing, China, and he spent his first years there. With the outbreak of the Second Sino-Japanese War in 1937, the family left Nanjing and settled in England. In 1940 they moved to the United States and after finishing school he went on to Yale and army service prior to preparing at Westcott House, Cambridge for ordination in the Church of England. He was ordained to the diaconate in 1959, becoming a priest the following year and a curate at St. Mark's, Bury, Lancashire where the Vicar was the Reverend Michael Hare Duke, later to become Bishop of St. Andrews.

Upon the completion of his curacy, Hugh returned to the United States and after initially working with two mission churches left ministry and became a public relations executive in New York. His two sons were born during this period. His first marriage ended in 1973, whereupon Hugh returned to Britain and resumed his ministry firstly as Chaplain at St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee and, following his second marriage to Frances Lawson, as Priest-in-Charge of All Souls', Invergowrie. In 1979 he became Rector of St. Andrew's, St Andrews and in 1983 the family moved to Forfar, where Hugh became Rector of St. John's.

Following a subsequent divorce Hugh returned to the United States, where he was a non-stipendiary priest at Trinity Church, San Francisco. He married again at Trinity to Yvonne Massey. They would be married for thirty years. Hugh then served as Vicar from 1991-2003 in St. James' Episcopal Church in Washington. Following his retirement, Hugh served in a diocesan post until 2005. He and Yvonne moved to Scotland and resumed his ministry at the Cathedral in Dundee. Hugh is survived by his wife, Yvonne; step-daughter, Anna Magee; two sons, Rick Magee, Brooks Magee; and two grandchildren, Julian Reed Magee and Ruby Jane Magee.

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Readers Rota

Sunday June 9, 2019 – Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21, Romans 8:14-17

Reader – Lee Winks

Sunday June 16, 2019 – Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31, Romans 5:1-5

Reader – Douglas Burt

Sunday June 23, 2019 – Pentecost 2

Isaiah 65:1-9, Galatians 3:23-29

Reader – Madeline Kingston

Sunday June 30, 2019 – St Peter (at the Priory Church of St Peter, Restenneth)

Acts 12:1-11, 1 Peter 2:19-25

Reader – Nora Craig

Sunday July 7, 2019 – Pentecost 4

Isaiah 66:10-14, Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16

Reader – Richard Finch

Sunday July 14, 2019 – Pentecost 5

Deuteronomy 30:9-14, Colossians 1:1-14

Reader – Walter Lee

Sunday July 21, 2019 – Pentecost 6

Genesis 18:1-10a, Colossians 1:15-28

Reader – Fay Singsby

Sunday July 28, 2019 – Pentecost 7

Genesis 18:20-32, Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)

Reader – Lee Winks

Sunday August 4, 2019 – Pentecost 8

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23, Colossians 3:1-11

Reader – Douglas Burt

Sunday August 11, 2019 – Pentecost 9

Genesis 15:1-6, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Reader – Madeline Kingston

Sunday August 18, 2019 – Pentecost 10

Jeremiah 23:23-29, Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Reader – Nora Craig

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Action Plan Update

Each month in the Eagle we have published an update on some of the sections of St John's Action Plan that we generated from the congregational meeting and the subsequent voting last October. This month we look at the last area, 'Spiritual Growth'.

Discipleship Groups

Weekly group held throughout Advent

Many attended the ecumenical FACT course during Lent

Quiet Day

A day planned at St Drostan's, Tarfside

More Contemplative Services

Healing service held in February with a further one planned for October

Many of the Holy Week services were held with the explicit intention of providing time for reflection

Bible Study

Five sessions held on a study of the Psalms led by Rev Eryl Rowlands and appreciated by all who attended

Prayer/Meditation

Prayer workshop to be held late summer/early autumn

Thinking started on venue and frequency of a prayer/meditation group – any ideas/preferences then please speak to the Rector



St Margaret's, Lunanhead

Services are held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 2pm. Lowson Memorial Church leads worship on the 1st and St John's on the 3rd Sunday.



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Tuesday Club Outing, Afternoon Tea and AGM, Tuesday 11th June 2019

The Tuesday Club Outing will take place at the Forfar Open Garden Space,
36 Lochside Road, Forfar.

We shall all meet at the Garden at approximately 2pm, where we can go
exploring and see for ourselves the wonderful place this is for all.

Our visit will be followed by Afternoon Tea at the Plough Inn,
Station Road, at 3.30pm, followed by the AGM.

The Afternoon Tea consists of freshly made sandwiches, selection of
savouries, fresh cream cakes, scones, traybakes, crisps, breadsticks
and dips with unlimited tea &/or coffee.

The cost per person is £10.95.

Do you require transport, or do you have your own transport, and if so,
can you provide transport for others?

Names needed to Carol by 3rd June. This includes any offers of transport,
plus any dietary requirements.

Inaugural Visit of the Earl and Countess of Forfar to the Royal Burgh of Forfar on Monday 1st July 2019

HM The Queen has conferred on Prince Edward the ancient title of Earl of Forfar. The visit will celebrate the new Scottish title for the royal couple. They will arrive in Castle Street at about 12.20pm and do a walkabout up the street to the Municipal Buildings where they will have lunch. Forfar Instrumental Band, Forfar Pipe Band and members of the Forfar Highland Dancing Schools will add to the festivities. All Forfarrians, the town's organisations and clubs are very welcome to join in the celebrations. Following lunch, they will proceed up East High Street with an approximate time of arriving at St John's of 2.40pm. They will visit the church and view the Confirmation Register and specifically the entry for Prince Edward's grandmother, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother. We also hope to have a copy of the relevant 1981 edition of the Eagle on display when The Queen Mother herself viewed the Confirmation Register. Everyone is welcome to be at the church on the day and indeed join the celebrations before lunch in Castle Street and at The Cross.



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QUIZ NIGHT 2019

On Friday, 26th April, the Annual Quiz brought young and old to St John's to be tried and tested. The little grey cells were challenged with questions as diverse as "What was the first Bond Film"; "Which is the smallest country in the EU" and "What country is closest to Australia" (the globetrotters amongst us were at an advantage here!)

Dr Douglas Burt made it clear that as quizmaster his decision was final though he was not questioned too much. Douglas must have spent a considerable amount of time researching and checking the answers to his questions.

Patrick and Fay Slingsby, helped by their efficient and willing helpers provided a supper. The new menu of Stroganov was much appreciated.

The result was a close-run thing with the team with the illustrious title of the "Brainboxes" came first and the team, Four Plus One, had the delight of winning the wooden spoon.

To those who cooked, served, cleared and washed up the delicious supper; to the raffle prize givers, ticket sellers, number drawers and "runners", thank you. But I must finish by expressing the grateful thanks of all those present plus the St John's congregation to Douglas for preparing and executing a fun and thought-provoking evening.

MARGARET COUSINS

COFFEE MORNING 18th May

Despite a less than welcoming start to the day with clouds, rain and temperature well below the comfort zone, a generous if smaller than usual crowd attended the coffee morning and plant sale. Once relieved of coats and entry fees the range and variety of items on display were eagerly tackled. Tombo-la, bottle stall, baking and general items were on offer as well as the offerings from the sewing stall.



This included a beautiful hand made quilt that is the subject of an ongoing raffle.

A short quiz had a saw a few heads being scratched while causing some hilarity while the morning's visitors enjoyed tea, coffee, and the wonderful home baking

for which St. John's ladies are so justifiably proud.

It is with many thanks to all who helped organise, donate, prepare and wash up, that it is a pleasure to say that some £764 was raised with the proceeds from the quilt raffle still to be counted.



The Psalms

Following Easter and in these Wednesday mornings in May we have been treated to an exposition of the Psalter by the Rev'd Eryl, and we must acknowledge Eryl's skill in presenting us with a digest, in such brief blocks of time, that lay people can cope with. Difficult but so worthwhile, I am sure I write for everyone when I express appreciation for his time and professionalism. The concise printed notes accompanying Eryl's delivery were much appreciated. It is difficult to listen intently and also to scribble a precis of all you hear.

The venerated preacher, the Rev'd Donald Soper, abominated the psalms as paranoid ramblings but I think Eryl dispelled such a negative and sour view by putting particular psalms into their particular historical context. After all, when the psalmist writes: 'mine enemies are camped about me ...', they really were. I suppose today we look for the enemies of the 21st century and our false gods: 'we wrestle not against flesh and blood ...'.

Most of us belong to a generation when the content of 'worship songs' was inculcated at day school, Sunday school, and in serving in the choir. We can only hope that the recitation of the Psalms does not die by neglect. They are not just religious meditations but are also part of our literary heritage. As a small boy I looked up at the inscription on the public building in Ripon's market place and read: 'Except the Lord keep the city the Wakeman waketh in vain'. Psalm 127, so succinct.

A commentator on the Psalms quotes a typical bit of modern thinking: 'In connection with the Divine Being it is fairly reasonable to assume that we can rely upon such a being for leadership, for protection, and for provision for human substance'.

The Psalmist's version is:- The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

GORDON MILLER

