



EAGLE

The magazine of the Church of St John the Evangelist

Forfar

October 2019

£5 per annum or 50p monthly



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Cover Picture: *St Ninian's Cathedral, Diocesan Seat for Bishop Ian Paton*

Over the past two days, I have had the joy of attending an ordination service in our own Diocese and one in the Diocese of Brechin. Two new Deacons (plus 10 others in other Scottish Dioceses) have started on their curacies which will see them serving God's people across Scotland. Annie Hughes begins this next phase of her service to God in St John the Baptist Church, Perth and Roxanne Campbell (who preached here on Vocations Sunday earlier this year) will serve the first year of her curacy in St Ninian's Church, Dundee. These are wonderful signs of an active church.

Bishop Ian will be here with us on Sunday 13th October and it is our bishops who commission new ministries of both those following a clerical path and those of the laity. We will see our own signs of an active church as the Bishop licences and relicenses all our lay ministries here in St John's. At Annie's ordination service Bishop Ian reminded us that as Christians we are all sent out to make a difference. We all have our own gifts to offer. We come with our own vulnerabilities and we serve in humility and tenderness. We imitate Jesus' way of living, highlighted in his washing of all the disciples' feet; Judas included.

At our congregational meeting in September we thought about what we have achieved in the past 12 months and elsewhere in this month's Eagle I report back on that meeting. Our annual meeting in November will give me an opportunity to reflect on these achievements and where our gifts will take us in the coming year. As we discern our way as a church in the community of Forfar, I would ask that you pray for our continuing mission and ministry. Our life and our growth begins with prayer and it continues with prayer. Please pray with me.

With love, Elaine



Rt Rev Ian Paton, Bishop of St Andrew's, Dunkeld and Dunblane with Rev Annie Hughes following her ordination as Deacon.

Proposal to ease access for wheelchair users and those with impaired mobility into the pews

33 responses were received on the 'pew shortening' survey:

- 31 'yes' votes to creating spaces for wheelchairs and two 'no' for the main church, one of the 'no' votes feeling the money ought to be spent on the roof. However, all adaptations will be completed 'in-house' with no costs.
- 28 'yes' for adaptation to Lady Chapel with five saying 'no'. Of the five indications of 'no', two suggestions were made to reposition existing pews in Lady Chapel.

As a result of the suggestion above the proposed change in the Lady Chapel is to reposition the already shortened pew for one wheelchair user to sit without transferring to the pews. This shorter pew will be moved sideways to create a 'wheelchair gap' at the side nearer to the entrance into the Lady Chapel.

Formal application has now been made to St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane Diocesan Building Committee with all the consents having been obtained from Angus Council, the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland, and the Scottish Civic Trust. We await the outcome from the Diocesan deliberations.

Getting to know The Right Revd Ian Paton,
Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane

Dear friends at St John's,

I'm looking forward very much to being with you on Sunday 13th October, celebrating the Eucharist together and meeting as many of the congregation as possible afterwards.

It will be nearly a year since I was consecrated bishop in St Ninian's Cathedral, and began to serve as Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane. It's been a whirlwind year of meeting new people and gaining new experience, and it has been wonderful as well as exhausting and daunting. The congregations of the Diocese have been so welcoming. At the same time, the Cathedral congregation has been very welcoming to my wife Carrie who now has a priestly ministry there.

We love living in Perth, where my father grew up, and getting to know better the huge area of the Diocese, each part of which is so different. Angus has its own unique character, and we've already come to love the richness of the landscape and its communities.

There are so many good things going on in our charges, and St John's is no exception under the pastoral leadership of Elaine. A priority for me is to support Elaine and all those involved in ministry, and to encourage congregations in the work of being the Church in each place, deepening our own encounter with God, and also facing outwards to the people around us in their search for meaning and hope in uncertain times.



Our prayers of intercession are at the heart of who we are as a church, and it is not difficult to know what to pray for - our world's climate change crisis, our country's political turmoil, the violence faced daily by people in Syria, Afghanistan, Libya, and so many other places. I look forward to joining you as you continue to pray together for God's mercy and celebrating God's love.

With every blessing,

Bishop Ian

Sunday October 6, 2019 – Pentecost 17

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Reader – Madeline Kingston

Sunday October 13, 2019 – Pentecost 18

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Reader – Eleanor Rowlands

Sunday October 20, 2019 – Pentecost 19

Genesis 32:22-31

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Reader – Douglas Burt

Sunday October 27, 2019 – Pentecost 20

Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Reader – Nora Craig

Sunday November 3, 2019 – All Saints'

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Ephesians 1:11-23

Reader – Richard Finch

Sunday November 10, 2019 – Remembrance

Sunday

Job 19:23-27a

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Reader – Eryl Rowlands

Sunday November 17, 2019 – Pentecost 23

Malachi 4:1-2a

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Reader – Lee Winks

Sunday November 24, 2019 – Christ the King

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Colossians 1:11-20

Reader – Walter Lee



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Re-dedication of the Angus Black Watch Association Standard

Sunday 22nd September was a busy day for St. John's when members of our own congregation were joined by members of the Angus Black Watch Association for a moving service.

The Colours were piped into the church by Pipe Major Peter Snaddon, followed by Revd. Elaine's welcome and the service which followed a slightly different format, there being no Eucharist, an earlier service in the Lady Chapel having included this.

Readers were Major Peter Burnet of the Black Watch Association and our own Dorothy Bruce-Gardyne whose father Lieutenant-Colonel Hew Blair DSO MC served in the 4th/5th Black Watch.

The re-dedicated standard was duly piped out at the conclusion of the service. This was followed by tea and coffee, and much conversation amongst the combined company. Several of those in attendance then proceeded to the Legion Hall for a most enjoyable lunch.



Photos courtesy of Frank Proctor

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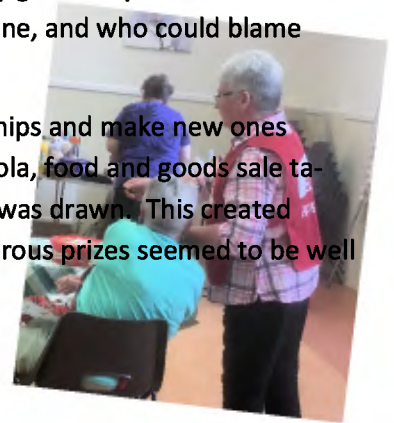


St. John's hosted the annual Christian Aid coffee morning on Saturday 21st September, and although numbers were down a little from previous years, possibly as a result of the recently imposed parking restrictions, the total raised was a very acceptable £509. This did not happen without the time and effort put in by the many volunteers who helped, so a big thank you to those involved.

Admission include coffee and a pancake, and very good they were too. It is possible that some perhaps enjoyed more than one, and who could blame them. Pancakes with butter and jam, irresistible!

Lively chat and the opportunity to renew friendships and make new ones seemed the order of the day, although the tombola, food and goods sale tables attracted a lot of attention before the raffle was drawn. This created much mirth amongst the audience and the numerous prizes seemed to be well distributed.

Roll on the next time!



The Tuesday Club

The 2019/2020 session of the Tuesday Club begins on Tuesday 8th October, 7.30pm in the Green Street Hall.

We hope to welcome back all previous members and any new prospective members. Do feel free to bring along a friend as company, that first step can at times feel rather daunting. All are welcome. Membership costs £10 for the whole session, or £2 per meeting.

President Evelyn Balfour
 Treasurer/Secretary Carol Douglas
 Helpers Pat Green and Liz Barnett

The programme for 2019 – 2020 is as follows:-

For our first talk on the 8th, we welcome back Alex Whyte whose talk is entitled "Forfar – Days Long Gone".

2019 October 8th Forfar - Days Long Gone Alex Whyte
 November 12th Churches of Scotland – models Robin Wardhaugh
 December 10th Salvation Army Major Jim McCluskey
 2020 January 14th

Lord Lyon King of Arms Revd. Canon Dr Joseph Morrow
 11th February Talking Doric Revd. Hamish Smith
 10th March Awaiting confirmation
 14th April Topic to be announced Mary Daun
 12th May A.G.M. And Outing

Advance Notice: Like previous years, we will be supporting The Disabled Club, who meet weekly in the hall, at an open night on Thursday 21st November. Entertainment is

A Scottish Night of music and songs with the Carnoustie Traditionals, an Accordion and Fiddle Band. Tickets will be on sale nearer the time – the cost last year was £4.

Any donations of raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated. Supper is provided by the Disabled Club.

Contact Evelyn 818648 or Carol 464610 for more details.

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Charitable giving from St. John's January – July 2019

Leprosy Mission	£65.50
Dr Graham's Homes	£141
Forfar Open Garden (Tuesday Club)	£75
Lent Appeal	£203
Christian Aid	£130.70
Tear Fund	£200
(Toilet Twinning)	£200
Mission to Seafarers	£60
(Retiring Collection from service on Sea Sunday)	

Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 8th October – 7.30pm – Tuesday Club – Speaker – Alex Whyte on "Forfar - Days Long Gone"

Sunday 13th October – 11am Sung Eucharist – Bishop Ian presiding

Wednesday 16th October 10.15am Said Eucharist with Service of Healing

Saturday 19th October 10am—12noon LEPROSY MISSION Forfar & District Branch, COFFEE MORNING EAST & OLD CHURCH Tickets £3 Usual Stalls

Sunday 20th October – 11am Sung Eucharist

Sunday 20th October – 2pm Afternoon Service at St Margaret's, Lunanhead (Lowson Memorial taking service)

Sunday 20th October – 2.30pm Diocesan Gathering, St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth

Sunday 20th October – 4.30pm Sung Evensong, St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth

Wednesday 23rd October 10.15am Communion from Reserved Sacrament

Sunday 27th October – 11am Sung Eucharist with Rev Canon Alan Tilson

Wednesday 30th October – 10.15am Said Eucharist – Commemorating All Souls'

Friday 1st November – Evening – St John's Annual Dinner & Speaker – Kirstene Hair MP – Tickets £15

Sunday 3rd November – 11am Sung Eucharist – All Saints'

Sunday 3rd November – 6.30pm – FACT Big Sing for Remembrance – East & Old Church

Wednesday 6th November – 10.15am Communion from Reserved Sacrament

Sunday 10th November – 11am Sung Eucharist for Remembrance Sunday – preacher - Bishop Ted

Sunday 10th November – 12.30pm Civic Remembrance at the Cross

Monday 11th November – 11am Service for Armistice Day, St Margaret's, Lunanhead

Tuesday 12th November – 7.30pm – Tuesday Club – Robin Wardhaugh *Churches of Scotland - models*

Wednesday 13th November – 10.15am Said Eucharist

Sunday 17th November – 11am Sung Eucharist

Sunday 17th November – 2pm Afternoon Service St Margaret's, Lunanhead

Monday 18th November – 7.30pm – St Petersburg Russian Choir in St John's Church – Tickets £10

Wednesday 20th November – 10.15am Said Eucharist

Sunday 24th November – Following morning service – Annual Meeting



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Kirstene Hair MP

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Reception from 7.00 - Supper 7.30

Tickets £15.00

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St John's Episcopal Church

Saturday 7th December

10am—12 noon

Christmas Coffee Morning and Craft
Sale

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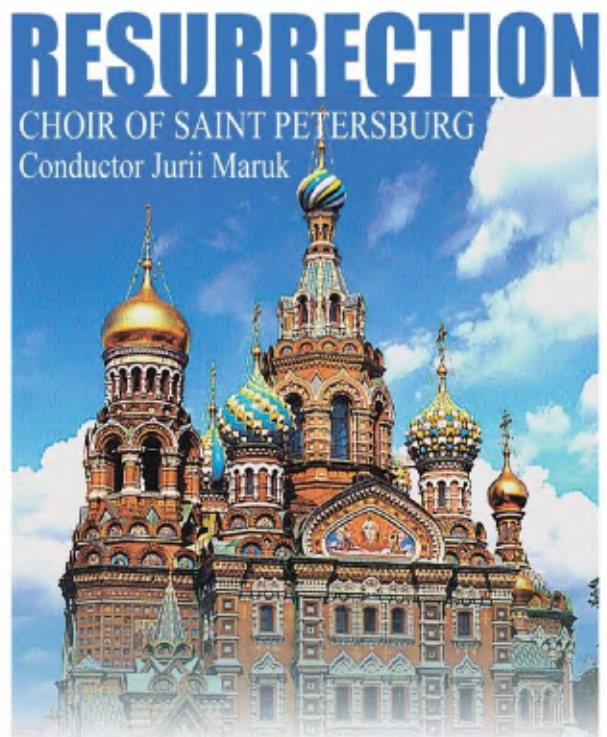


Resurrection Voskreseniye Choir of Saint Petersburg

The vocal ensemble *Resurrection* (Voskreseniye in Russian) was founded by Jurij Maruk in 1993. It consists of seven to ten professional female and male vocalists. The repertoire of the ensemble includes Russian Sacred Music as well as folk music. Guest performances in Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Austria, the UK, France and Italy have met with great success, and the choir has recorded several CDs of their repertoire, which includes some specially composed arrangements of Burns songs by John McIntosh.

Their conductor, Jurij Maruk, was born in 1961 in Barnaul, West Siberia. In 1976 he began to study music and conducting at the local music facility in Barnaul. After finishing musical school, he was admitted to the Novosibirsk State Conservatory (1980-1985) in Professor Boris Pevsner's class. At this time he worked with the Chamber Choir (Novosibirsk) directed by Pervsner, who was working in close cooperation with the Wladimir Minin Choir in Moscow. Between 1987 and 1989, Jurij Maruk worked at the Mariinsky Theatre (opera and ballet) in St Petersburg as a choir singer. Here he had his initial experience as a conductor and artistic leader of the Mariinsky Theatre (sacred music). Between 1990 and 1992, Maruk worked as the choirmaster of the St Petersburg Radio and Television Choir.

Save the date in your diary! The Resurrection choir from St Petersburg will be performing both sacred and folk music. This one night only performance will be on Monday 18th November at 7.30pm in St John's Church – you will not be disappointed!



St John's Church, Forfar
Monday 18th November 2019 at 7.30pm
Tickets £10 - available on the door

'Expecting Christ' - Advent Course (Ecumenical)
Tuesday 26th November, 3rd, 10th, 17th December 2019, 7.30pm
Forfar Community Church, Wellbraehead, Forfar

FACT (Forfar Action of Churches Together) have agreed to join together in an Advent Course. This follows the success of the Lent Course when all the churches in Forfar combined as a study group to share our thoughts and experiences and simply explore together.

This course looks at several moments in our faith and lives where a door opens and lets Christ in, catching the sense of expectancy which not only comes at the season of Advent, but throughout the year. In particular we will be thinking about how Christ can surprise us and meet us in four distinct contexts: in family, in ourselves, in prayer and in the end.

Each week will be led by a different church. The venue will be Forfar Community Church for all the sessions. The resources will be bought by each of the churches for their own members. To help with planning please sign up on the sheet at the back of church.

Healing Eucharist – Wednesday 16th October 2019, 10.15am

A quiet, contemplative service, prayers for different aspects of life where we may seek healing and wholeness. There will also be an opportunity to be anointed with oil should you wish it. If anyone wishes to confidentially discuss or share a specific need for a prayer for healing, then people may remain after the service to see the Rector.

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- Optional activities as we gather together
- Welcome from Bishop Ian at 2.30pm
- Experience short tasters on:
 - young people in the church
 - worship that inspires
 - engaging with our communities
 - finding new resources
- Bishop Ian and guest in conversation
- Closing Evensong at 4.30pm
- Parking is FREE on Sundays!
- Booking not required



Review of the past year - Things highlighted or commented on by people:

Worship

Crib service at Lunanhead on Christmas Eve – really worthwhile, worthy of being repeated.

Restenneth service in June – good to be there, appreciated Forfar Instrumental Band, should be repeated.

Informal services – not sufficient difference. It was agreed we should revert to having the choir every Sunday.

Singing of psalms – request raised to reintroduce. Everyone likes the singing of the psalm when there is a big enough choir to lead it. However, it was recognised that at the moment the choir isn't big enough to do that. It was commented that saying the psalm involved more people with a number of people saying they felt they could concentrate more on the words because they were not worrying about trying to follow the tune of the chant. It was agreed to continue to say the psalm except on the occasions when we have an augmented choir.

Mass setting (i.e. the singing of the Gloria, Sanctus etc) – we are currently using the 'Evans' setting. During the past year we have learned and used the 'MacMillan' setting too. The question was asked whether we could and would keep using the Evans setting. The MacMillan setting was introduced as one of the requests last year was that we introduce another mass setting, perhaps a Scottish one, to give us more variety. A good number of people like the MacMillan setting. To give some change throughout the liturgical year we will use the MacMillan setting during the penitential seasons (Advent and Lent) and the festival seasons of Christmas and Easter and the Evans during Ordinary Time (the times when we have the green vestments).

Lord's Prayer – question asked whether we would go back to the 'modern' version of the Lord's Prayer. It was indicated that there was only a small minority who liked the modern version so we will continue using the traditional version most of the time.

Meeting Together

Nothing especially commented on.

Reaching Out (mission and ministry)

Pastoral visiting had previously been identified as important and we should soon have the Pastoral Visiting Team formally up and running. The work joining with St Margaret's in running the Uniform Pop-Up Shop was highlighted as important. It was emphasised that if anyone identifies needs in the community that we ought to be trying to do something about then raise it with a vestry member. Both the Eagle and St John's website, which communicate out to the public as well as providing information for members of St John's, were seen as useful activities, with the recent changes to the Eagle being noted. With regard to internal communication the question was raised as to who reads the vestry minutes. A small number of people indicated that they did, with some not knowing that they were on the notice board.

Growing our Faith/Spirituality

Special mention was made of the retreat day, the prayer workshop and the bible study. The retreat day held in June at St Drostan's, Tarfside was enjoyed by all and would be repeated in 2020. The bible study helped bring scripture alive and again we would be keen to have more. It was noted that following the success of the ecumenical Lent Studies that we would use that form in Advent this year i.e. joining with the other Forfar churches. The most discussion ensued on the prayer workshop. It was felt to have been so beneficial not inasmuch as helping people to pray (which it did) but the strength derived from sharing the experience and getting to know each other in a group.

How we want to be as a church

There was a discussion on how others see us, how we see ourselves and how we want to be as a church as we grow and develop. The outcome of this discussion was that we should think about a number of things:

- Our witness to others – being known as a follower of Christ
- Demonstrating our caring
- Attending funerals to support others
- Showing how open and inclusive we are
- We are welcoming – how can we take this even further?
- Engaging with school choirs
- Doing more with music
- More focus on prayer
- Letting others know they are being prayed for
- Creating opportunities for discussion between ourselves and with others – being able to talk about our faith
- Learning about each other
- Visiting people who are isolated

Current situation

The final part of the meeting highlighted the current financial position, the property issues that are being dealt with at the moment (general roof repairs, repairs to the tower, potential pew shortening designed to make it easier for those with wheelchairs or impaired mobility and improving access to the church for those with mobility difficulties).

Next steps

Possible direction and focus for next year will be discussed with the vestry and then presented at the Annual Meeting on Sunday 24th November 2019.

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