

Diocese of Brechin: Lockdown News Bulletin

7th September 2020

Michaelmas Ordinations 2020: Rev Roxanne Campbell and Gary Clink

The Diocese of Brechin will have the joy of two ordinations this Michaelmas. The Rev Roxanne Campbell will be ordained as a priest on Saturday the 26th September at 2pm St Ninian's Mid Craigie. Gary Clink will be ordained as a deacon on Sunday 27th September at 3pm in the cathedral.

Both services will be limited by Covid-19 restrictions, so attendance in person will only be possible for a limited number of family, friends, diocesan and charge representatives. This will be by invitation only. We are planning on live streaming both services so all supporters and church members will be able to follow the service and support the candidates. More details of this livestreaming will be provided in the next few weeks.



Roxanne is finishing serving in St Ninian's as she is priested and will continue in St Mary Magdalene's, Dundee, under the care of Canon Kenneth Gibson. Gary once ordained will serve his curacy in St Mary's Arbroath and St Peter's Auchmithie. Gary will continue to work in his secular job during his self-supporting curacy.

Please keep Roxanne, Gary and all those who are being ordained this Michaelmas in your prayers.

Spotlight on the Tay Cluster: Services Resume at St. Mary Magdalene's, Dundee

From Canon Kenneth Gibson: After nearly four months of Lockdown, we at St. Mary Magdalene's Church held our first service on 22 July, the Feast Day of St. Mary Magdalene. As you read this, we will have held seven 11 am Sunday services. Completing the preparatory work required before being granted permission to re-open for

worship was a somewhat daunting task, involving the Vestry and many members of the congregation. The Pro Forma was relatively straight forward as the Templates provided set out clearly the information required for each part of the process. The more difficult task was putting it into practice.

St. Mary Magdalene's Church is, as you know, a very spacious building. This is double-edged. Its size meant that around 90 people could be seated while complying to social distancing guidelines. As it turned out we could accommodate the 50 maximum with relative ease. The other side of this spaciousness is that the building had to be sanitised throughout. This required calling on a small army of volunteers to deep-clean the building before re-opening, and maintaining a strict and regular cleaning regime since then.

Single use service sheets are printed each week. These are taken away and disposed of responsibly after each service. The advantage of this was that seating could be regulated quite simply. The congregation were to sit



where a sheet had been placed prior to each the service. Every service, week-days and Sundays, sees a dedicated band of Vestry members guiding and managing the flow of people, as well as checking contact details.

By and large, the congregation has adapted well to the restrictions placed upon them. At the first few services people were just so glad to be back in church and to be able to worship together after such a long-enforced absence. There were the occasional complaints about not being able to sit in familiar seats but these were amicably resolved.

While plans, procedures and guidelines look great on paper, when it comes to putting it into practice the pinch-points quickly emerge. For instance, the requirement for people to sanitise their hands before receiving Communion led initially to there being insufficient time between sanitising and receiving Communion. On the first Sunday many a Communion wafer was flavoured with hand sani-

tiser. Even in a large church such as St. Mary Magdalene's this was an issue. After a few tweaks the problem has been solved successfully.

One constant issue that requires continual attention is simply that of the drop off in alertness that quickly enters into proceedings. Once we all became comfortable with being in church again, people tended to forget about the need to follow guidelines. Maintaining social distancing in the building at all times requires constant vigilance on the part of everyone. At times clergy can feel more like traffic wardens and police as they remind everyone to keep to the rules.

The absence of music and singing in worship is a great loss. Only now do we truly appreciate the place of music in church. While our organist plays beautifully each Sunday the temptation to burst into song is hard to resist. In coming weeks, we will be looking at how we can enrich our worship using cantors and additional instrumentalists.

As it says above, 'It's church but not as we know it'. That is not entirely true. It is church, it is worship, we gather as a community, we praise God, offer our praise, receive God's grace and blessing, and go forth in peace. It is about being faithful in all circumstances and being thankful for the blessings we have.

Applications open for Dundee's Participatory Budget 2020

This process is open to new and existing projects helping communities connect during this uncertain time. You can apply for any amount between £500 - £2000 and the public will vote for the projects they'd like to see funded! Applications close on **Friday 18th September**. Click the link below to download our application pack, which explains the application, pitching and voting process – we're doing it a little differently this year under the circumstances! [https://drive.google.com/uc?](https://drive.google.com/uc?ex-)

[port=download&id=1STyx65obR9Zb2X0eco0XrnwFeu8BL9Fn](https://drive.google.com/uc?ex-port=download&id=1STyx65obR9Zb2X0eco0XrnwFeu8BL9Fn)

You can also email us at dundeebcos@gmail.com for more information or an application.

Please also feel free to share with your contacts.

Printer Ink Needing New Home

John Parry, from All Souls, Invergowrie, has some printer ink that he would like to offer for free. They are for use in a number of Canon Pixma Series printers and coded 526. There are 12 ink cartridges, 4 black, 3 Magenta, 3 yellow and 2 cyan. If interested please contact Elliott on office@brechin.anglican.org

Abelour Children's Charity Provides Urgent Assistance Fund

Aberlour's Urgent Assistance Fund can provide cash grants to help families with children (aged 21 and under) who are suffering extreme hardship, including the impact of the Coronavirus.

Applications must be endorsed and submitted by a sponsor, acting in their professional capacity. This support is usually via cash grants to assist with a range of needs, such as food, prepay power cards, clothing, bedding, or other essentials. Due to limited funds and high levels of applications, the average grant we give is usually around £50 per child.

For more information please visit the following: <https://www.aberlour.org.uk/service-category/urgent-assistance-fund/>

Church Life in Lockdown:

Online worship

The Scottish Episcopal Church continues to offer 'national' worship online even as some live worship starts to become possible: this will continue indefinitely even as we start to plan for physical gatherings. The two services, which are led by SEC clergy and lay readers from around the Province, are:

- Thursday—'Service of the Word' at 6.30pm
- Sunday—Eucharist at 11am

There are more details and downloads of previous weeks' services at: <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship/>

News for the Bulletin

If there is anything you would like to share from your church, requests for help or other items of new for future bulletins contact Elliott on office@brechin.anglican.org

Prayer Points

- For all dealing with 'clusters' of Covid-19 cases in Scotland and throughout the world.
- The NHS, Care Homes and all key workers.
- For those still anxious and isolated.
- Food banks and food distribution and all volunteers supporting them.
- For those being ordained this Michaelmas