



Brechin Bulletin

Scottish Episcopal Church, Diocese of Brechin Newsletter. March 2012 No. 62
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Vocations For All - Discerning The Call

"Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of Christ is governed and sanctified; Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before thee for all estates of men [sic] in thy holy Church, that every member of the same, in his [sic] vocation and ministry may truly serve thee; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee, and in the unity of the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen"

This 1549 Collect for Good Friday presumes that all members of the Church have a vocation and ministry. The ideal being that there is a mutuality in ministry, wherein each ministry bestows life and energy on the other.

A dictionary describes vocation as a 'special urge to a particular calling or career, especially a religious one.' It is quite difficult explaining or defining what that 'urge' or 'calling' is. This is particularly true when exploring a 'call' to the ministry. We are all called to ministry but discerning what that ministry may be is often a more complex matter.

I think my 'call' came at a very young age, around the time of my confirmation. I thought that one day I'd become a missionary (whatever that meant to a twelve year old girl!). In my teenage years I fell into ministry - youth ministry, which developed into greater church involvement; going on to the Vestry at aged 21, attending numerous conferences, camps and studies. But throughout my twenties I experienced a restlessness, even with the busyness of three young children, something was missing... something I was 'meant' to do, but not sure what. But after many years of wondering I began a theology degree. Here, I found a home and through a process of discernment within the institution and on a personal level, I came to be accepted for ordination, with fear and trepidation on my part!

Reflecting on my years before and my years since becoming a priest, I can honestly say I am now where I was meant to be vocationally. I feel more fully myself than ever before. Restlessness still comes upon me every now and again but I've realised that it is more about the 'doing' side of the vocation rather than the 'being'. I am no longer searching to discover my calling, rather, my journey is one of seeking to find out how to live the call in each new context and situation I'm faced with.

The call to minister is for all - to truly live your vocation is a freedom and a great gift.

Kirrilee Reid

Rev'd. Kirrilee Reid, Rector of All Saints, Glencarse, is the new Diocesan Director of Ordinands and Vocations Advisor. If you are interested in exploring your vocation or discussing possibilities for ministry, please contact her.

Telephone: 01738-860386 or e-mail: rector@allsaintsglencarse.org

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- 11 St. Ninian, Dundee.
Cathedral Evensong.
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- 20 Ecclesiastical Insurance,
Gloucester.
- 21 Curate Training, Diocese of
Peterborough.
- 24 Child and Vulnerable Adult
Protection Day, St. John the
Baptist's Hall.
- 25 Confirmation at St. Mary
Magdalene, Dundee.

Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults

A day for

VESTRIES, CLERGY

AND CO-ORDINATORS

will take place on Saturday,
24th March, 2012 in the hall of
St. John the Baptist which is
located at 110 Albert Street,
Dundee. DD4 6QN. 10am -
1pm. Please notify the office of
those persons representing your
Charge

Bulletin Deadline - 16th of each month.

Please send news to:

office@brechin.anglican.org

MARCH MEETINGS

3rd Diocesan Synod. Chalmers Ardler Church. 9.30am

8th Mission and Ministry Board. Diocesan Office. 6pm

24th Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Day. St. John the Baptist's Hall,
110 Albert St., Dundee. 10am.

NEWS IN BRIEF

St. Ninian, Dundee

25th 6pm. March Taize. All welcome.

St. Martin, Dundee

17th 10am - 12. Coffee morning, usual stalls. £1.50 & £1

28th 2pm. Prize Bingo in the Church Hall. All welcome.

St. Margaret, Dundee

17th 2 - 4pm. Coffee Spring Fayre in Church Hall. All welcome.

20th 2pm. Afternoon bingo in Church Hall.

St. Mary Magdalene, Dundee

24th 10-12noon. Coffee & Scone. Usual stalls. Admission 50p.

INTERACTIVE ECUMENICAL YOUNG ADULT FORUM

Thursday, 8th March, 2012 at 7.45pm

in the Parish Hall, St. John's R.C. Church, Melville Street,
Perth.

The evening is an opportunity for young adults (18—35 years) of different Christian traditions to meet and explore together the challenges facing the maturing young adult Christian. Clergy of different parishes are welcome to attend to add richness to the dialogue.

"The Psychological and Spiritual Development of Young Adults"

Speaker, John Dunne, is a retired clinical psychologist with an additional academic background in philosophy and theology as well as experience in pastoral ministry.

For further details: carmelbyrne@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone: 01738-812636

Admission free

MOTHER OF ALL THE PEOPLES

THE LIFE AND WORK OF MARY SLESSOR

Back by popular demand - this play returns to the Gardyne Theatre on 22-24th March. Tickets: £12 (£10 concession) available from Dundee Box office on 01382-434940

The play tells the story of Mary's journey from the slums of Dundee to the darkest jungle of Calabar. Written by Mike Gibb, music by Mairi Paton and Mike Gibb.

For more information contact Alan Rae at 07779632722 or e-mail: alan@copyrightscotland.co.uk or look on the web: www.maryslessor.org

SATELLITE

ONE CHURCH / ONE VOICE

'Satellite' are a groundbreaking Collective of Scottish Musicians and Worship Songwriters. They are taking bookings for their first National Tour. They will be leading worship at Scotland's largest Easter Resurrection Celebration, "Resurrection Day", being held on **8th April in the Caird Hall, Dundee** at 6.30pm - admission is free - and then touring across Scotland. To book 'Satellite' to play at your church/event please e-mail: ian@scottishchristianbroadcast.com Further details may be found at: <http://www.satelliteworship.com>

COMPANION DIOCESES LINKS UPDATE - SWAZILAND (Part 2)

While the challenges of their mission and ministry work are at times overwhelming, Rosemary and Andrew Symonds work steadfastly to support clergy and improve life for parishioners across the diocese, and are mindful of the positives in their life there. They are grateful for the many small ways in which they can make a difference and for experiences from which they can take heart. They talk of the beauty of the country and the small, unexpected pleasures – like going for a quiet walk recently and coming across several baby zebra walking along the same path. They ask too where else in the world they would be greeted as a friend wherever they go.

Bishop Nigel's vision is for Brechin to become the most improved diocese in the coming year. This will be tackled in many small ways I'm sure and I hope that we can keep Swaziland in mind when we look ahead.

One very practical way in which essential help can be provided is by sending some funds to support the diocesan-led projects there. The situation is dreadful and, because of lack of funds, the diocese has not been able to deliver food since November to the Neighbourhood Care Points (NCPs), where there are parish kitchens to feed the many orphans and vulnerable children, or to the Home Based Care (HBC) teams.

Sending funds to Africa and making sure they get to the intended recipients is often challenging. I think it might be helpful to set up a diocesan system for sending funds, so that their receipt and distribution is checked once the money has arrived in the diocesan office in Swaziland. Holy Trinity, Monifieth has a robust system in place and is already helping to ensure that donations from other charges reach intended recipients in Swaziland safely. We now offer that service to the diocese.

As the new Companion Links Officer, I hope to try to draw together the ways in which many of our charges are involved with Swaziland already, to find ways to share the good work being done and to encourage other charges to perhaps consider establishing a companion link with a parish in Swaziland.

Communication will be the key and I hope congregations will tell me what they are doing - or would like to do. I'll be pleased to help in any way I can. Our companions in Swaziland ask for our prayers for:

- those who were ordained on 14th January by Archbishop Thabo Makgoba
- for the Diocese of Swaziland as it seeks a new bishop
- for Swaziland as it struggles with its many problems

I hope 2012 will be a good year for our Companion Link work in Swaziland.

Pat. Millar, Diocesan Companion Links Officer.