

Argyll & The Isles



News and Views from around the Diocese

Number 86 - Spring 2007

St John's Cathedral

Looking back to Lent, Holy Week and Easter, we were very grateful to Dr Robert Reid who led a series of Lent Groups on the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ. The groups met over a snack lunch in the Rectory, and were very well attended.

On Passion Sunday, the Glasgow Chamber Choir and the Glasgow Chamber Choir Orchestra performed the St John Passion. Superb music and singing. Bishop Martin sang the part of Christ. On Palm Sunday, the Cathedral Choir sang the Matthew Passion at the main morning Eucharist.

During the first part of Holy Week, we had a short evening service, listening to the Passion, and finishing with Compline. The Maundy Thursday Eucharist ended with the traditional Stripping of the Altars. On Good Friday morning, we had a Children's Service at 10.00am, when we re-enacted the story of the Passion and Death of Christ. The Service began in the Narthex, welcoming Jesus into Jerusalem, and then the Foot Washing on Maundy Thursday. The Lady Chapel was the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus prayed and was arrested. We then moved to the Chancel, where a wooden Cross was erected, surrounded by some of the Symbols – the dice, the spear, the sponge, the Notice. Each section was introduced by a reading, read by the children, and ended with a hymn. After the final hymn, hot cross buns and juice were served in the Narthex.

The Good Friday Watch (Three Hours) was shared ecumenically by local ministers, and again was well attended. On Holy Saturday, we held the Vigil and the blessing of the New Fire. Easter Day, the Cathedral was transformed into an Easter Garden as we celebrated the Resurrection of Christ.

On the musical side, we have held several Concerts. The Cruachan Consort performed on Easter Sunday evening, a fund-raising Concert for the Oban Mountain Rescue Team. The Cantelina Festival Players performed *Haydn, String Quartet Opus No. 1 in G* and *Haydn,*

The Seven Last Words of our Saviour on the Cross. Each of the Words was introduced by a short talk from the Provost. The Oban Bach Choir and Orchestra performed *Haydn: Maria Theresa Mass* and *Bach: Cantata No. 23* on the 28th April.

Now, looking ahead, the Cathedral Hall is used as a Polling Station at the Election (3rd May) and the Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival use the Cathedral and Halls as one of their venues over the weekend of Friday 4th May. Berwick Male Voice Choir will give a Concert on Saturday 26th May and Edinburgh University String Orchestra will give a Concert on Monday 4th June, both at 7.30pm. The Cathedral Choir will give a Buxtehude Concert on Monday 11th June (7.30pm) and George Bailey's Choir from Delaware will give a Lunchtime Concert on Wednesday 13th June (1.30pm).

Plans are in hand to hold a Service commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the end of the Falklands War. This will be prepared jointly with the local Royal British Legion. The Service is planned for Sunday 24th June at 6.30pm.

'*Mendelssohn on Mull* will give a Concert on Saturday 7th July (7.30pm) and our main Fund-Raising event of the year, the Summer Bazaar will take place in the Corran Halls on Saturday 28th July at 2.00pm

Neil Horne

[Back to ATI86online.htm](#)

[Back to Argyll Index page](#)

Home