



## Columcille

**The Bishop of Argyll  
And The Isles' Newsletter. No 40**

**May 2009**

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### **Dear Friends,**

Many of you will remember Anne Tomlinson who was the Local Collaborative Officer for The Province. There was a review of LCM throughout The Province which basically has meant that the resources she developed are devolved to each Diocese. Anne herself is now working as The Congregational Development Officer in the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway. I, with my colleagues on The Chapter and on the Diocesan Standing Committee, feel it is now time for us to make an appointment of a Congregational Development Officer for our own Diocese. At this time we are making practical plans for the location of the officer and for the financing of the post. The Standing Committee has in principal given its approval. We feel that it is important that such a person is Ordained for two reasons. The first reason is that the few Clergy we do have in this Diocese deserve much more support and encouragement coupled with understanding of the role. The second reason is that it is our view that a Priest would help to maintain the overall ethos of The Scottish Episcopal Church particularly in the very tiny charges of this Diocese. However, let me make it clear that Lay Ministry in this Diocese has been developed to considerable effect in terms of mission and ministry.

Therefore such an officer will have as a priority the expansion of the Ministry of all the baptized in each charge. Perhaps I am making myself a hostage to fortune by telling you that I hope that an appointment will be made before I leave the Diocese at the end of September.

I understand from several of you that you have had a glorious and inspiring Holy Week and Easter. I am grateful to you for your commitment to worship and prayer. Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

As my dear daughter Madeleine will be married on the 1st of May to Eamonn Mulhall at St John's Cathedral in Oban you can understand that Elspeth and I have been somewhat preoccupied. I ask for your prayers for Eamonn and Madeleine.

### **The Reverend Adrian Fallows – Institution –St John's Ballachulish Wednesday 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 6.30PM**

Adrian, his wife Patsy and daughter Donna are now settling in to The Rectory at Glencoe in preparation for their new lives in our Diocese. If you have the opportunity please do welcome them and include them in your intercessions.

**\*\*\*OCTOBER PROVINCIAL  
CONFERENCE – The Right Rev'd Bob  
Gillies the Bishop of Aberdeen and  
Orkney who has chaired the steering  
group for the conference has announced  
that with great regret the Provincial  
Conference has had to be cancelled. Not  
nearly enough people booked up for the  
conference to make it financially viable.  
Many thanks to all those who were  
involved in any form of leadership for  
the conference. You must be feeling  
particularly disappointed as well as  
those from our Diocese who had booked  
a place. Sue Pollard at the Diocesan  
Office will be organising the refunding  
of deposits.**

**Report to Vestries** - It would be helpful if all representatives to the Diocesan Synod make a report of the Synod to their vestries. If you need some help and guidance on this please do contact the Diocesan Secretary Dr Peter Kemp 01631 570870 [secretary@argyll.anglican.org](mailto:secretary@argyll.anglican.org)

**Day of Listening Prayer – Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup> 10am-4.30pm, Glencruitten House, Oban** - An Ecumenical Quiet Day will be held at Glencruitten House led by Mrs Pat Bullamore, chair of The Fellowship of Meditation. This will be an opportunity for those with little or more experience of Listening Prayer. There will be a chance to walk in the beautiful woodlands and gardens of the house. Contributions will be gratefully received for lunch and for the leader's expenses. Tea and coffee will be provided. In order to book a place or to make any inquiries, telephone Evelyn Isaac on 01631 569453.

**\*\*\*The Diocesan Festival – The Year of Homecoming, Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at St John's Cathedral, Oban 12noon-4.30pm. The Festival Eucharist is at 3pm. \*\*\*** Homecoming Scotland 2009 celebrates the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Robert Burns' birth with a year-long programme of events across the country. The date I have chosen is the nearest Sunday to the Feast of Saint Columba. So I hope that you and your charge will support this event. The preacher will be The Right Reverend Richard Holloway. The Sunday schools and junior churches of the Diocese will be involved. Please put the date in your diaries.

### **Sing Columba!**

The RSCM is mounting a number of events in Scotland to mark the year of Homecoming. The triennial festival will be held at St Columba's Cathedral, Oban on June 6th. Coupled with the Diocesan festival on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June at St John's Cathedral, you could make a weekend of it. Website: [www.rscmscotland.org](http://www.rscmscotland.org)

### **The Cathedral of The Isles, Cumbrae - Retreat, Music and Conference Programme 2009**

1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> May – Painting Break (Michael Healey)

8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May – Scottish Country Dancing (led by Margaret Allen)

15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> June – Art for All (Catherine Drain)

For further details telephone 01475 530353 or see [www.island-retreats.org](http://www.island-retreats.org)

### **Scottish Episcopal Church Directory (Red Book) 2009/2010**

The next edition of The Red Book is being prepared. Vestry secretaries and Clergy will have received draft church entries for checking and updating. I have been asked to remind you to complete this process as soon as possible and respond to The SEC publications secretary Mary Wilkinson as soon as possible, 21 Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 5EE.

[MaryW@scotland.anglican.org](mailto:MaryW@scotland.anglican.org)

You will also have received a request for church information to be placed on the SEC website. This request comes in the form of a questionnaire. Please do complete this as soon as possible.

### **Lent Appeal – Zimbabwe Crisis**

From the Lent lunches held at The Pines in Oban over £400 was raised. Many thanks to Elspeth Shaw and her helpers and those who attended.

Please send as soon as possible any monies you have collected for the appeal to the Diocesan Centre.

### **The Diocesan Website** [www.argyllandtheisles.org.uk](http://www.argyllandtheisles.org.uk)

Both the website manager Mrs Hazel Morris and we here at the office would find it helpful to have a list of those nominated by each Vestry throughout the Diocese who are responsible for your own websites and for communicating with Mrs Morris. Please send me the names as soon as possible. We already have eight names and we would like to complete the list.

**“Argyll & The Isles” – the Diocesan magazine**

The Reverend Ken Skipper, the priest with charge on Islay has kindly agreed to take over the editorship as from this Summer. The deadline for the Summer edition is Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Please send your contributions and photographs in good time to: Rev'd Ken Skipper, 18 Elder Crescent, Bowmore, Isle of Islay, PA43 7HU. Email: [kgsbow@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kgsbow@tiscali.co.uk)

**A Conference on Homosexuality and The Scottish Episcopal Church – May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009, Kennay Church Centre, Aberdeenshire.**

The Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney are organising a day of discussion and listening on this subject for that Diocese. It will be chaired by Bishop Bob Gillies and Bishop David Chillingworth will be the lead speaker. There are two places for people from this Diocese. If you would like to participate then please telephone the Aberdeen and Orkney Diocesan Office – 01224 662247.

**Churches' Rural Group – Third Age Opportunities in Rural Church.**

A day conference will be held on the issues of aging in rural areas with regard to the church on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May from 10am – 4.45pm at Middlewich just off the M6 Junction 18. For more information please email Shona Paterson [shonapaterson@acts-scotland.org](mailto:shonapaterson@acts-scotland.org)

**Faith in Older People – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May Eden Court, Inverness**

An ecumenical exploration of the needs of older people and the gifts they bring to churches. For more information email: [info@fiop.org.uk](mailto:info@fiop.org.uk)

**Palestinian Christians and the challenges of today, 22<sup>nd</sup> July - 2<sup>nd</sup> of August.**

The Sabeel Young Adults Conference 2009 aims to bring together young Palestinians and young Internationals to learn together and be equipped to promote justice and peace for all in the Holy Land. If you know of anyone between the ages of 18 and 30 who you feel you would like to nominate to attend please get in touch with the office through this website [www.friendsofsabeel.org](http://www.friendsofsabeel.org)

Or get in touch with Jennifer Oldershaw 01453 544655

Bursaries of up to £250 are available.

**Scottish Episcopal Church Youth Weeks 2009 GLEN '09 at Glenalmond College, Perthshire. Week 1 (Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August). Week 2 (Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August).**

These weeks are important and successful resources for young people and are open to anyone in secondary education up to 18 years old. For more details contact The Right Reverend Mark Strange of the Provincial Youth Network (PYN) on [revmarkstrange@btinternet.com](mailto:revmarkstrange@btinternet.com)

Download the application form from [www.scotland.anglican.org](http://www.scotland.anglican.org)

**Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults**

Leo Lanahan the Provincial Officer is now producing a newsletter with information about training and frequently asked questions (FAQ). The nearest training event for this Diocese will be on September 12<sup>th</sup> in Inverness. For more information email:

[protection@scotland.anglican.org](mailto:protection@scotland.anglican.org)

## **Back to Church Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

An initiative that has been very successful in previous years in many Diocese of the Church of England and other denominations. This year the Scottish Episcopal Church will also be participating on an ecumenical basis.

The Sunday itself is not designed to be “out of the ordinary”. Congregations will be asked to send invitations to those in their area who are Episcopalians and no longer come to church for whatever reason, and enable them to come and experience the church as it ordinarily is.

More information and resources will be available in the coming months to help clergy and congregations plan for the day. Local church groups and ecumenical groups can work together to co-ordinate their activities for the day. For further information contact Catriona Beel 01546 602082, [catriona08@btinternet.com](mailto:catriona08@btinternet.com)

## **International Anglican Family Network**

The Anglican Communion Office has suspended the publication of its newsletter “Anglican World” for reasons of cost. An important aspect of that publication was the exchange of information on issues of families and children across the Communion. This information is now available from the website of the IAFN [www.iafn.net](http://www.iafn.net)

## **The Society of St Francis**

As far as I am aware I am the only member of The Third Order of the SFF in this Diocese. Many people feel the call to commit their lives more deeply to a daily discipline of prayer and action but don't know how to set about responding. The Third Order offers such a way. Obviously following the inspiration of St Francis of Assisi is crucial. Given the crisis that we all now face the Franciscan perspective on spirituality has a vital and inspiring approach to a hopeful way of living. If you are interested in more information on this then please do get in touch with me.

## **THE BISHOP'S May Diary**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> – The marriage of Madeleine Shaw and Eamonn Mulhall, St John's Cathedral, Oban 2pm

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Holiday

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> – LCM at St Paul's. Kinlochleven, 6pm – Rehearsal for the Institution at St John's, Ballachulish

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> – 6.30pm Institution of Adrian Fallows at St John's Ballachulish

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> – 12noon Pre-General Synod meeting at the Diocesan Centre

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> – Performing at Mendelssohn's “Elijah” at St John's Cathedral, Oban

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> – St John's Cathedral, Oban

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> – 2.30pm Diocesan Board of Mission and Ministry (DBMM)

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> – 2pm Island Retreats Limited board meeting

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Glenalmond Council

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Holyrood Palace Garden Party

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> –Dunoon, Rothesay and Tighnabruaich combined charge meeting 5pm Colintrave

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> – Provincial Doctrine Committee residential – The Bield

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> – Lay Readers training session 10.30am Diocesan Centre

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> – 1pm College of Bishop's, Perth.

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> – Whitsun weekend, Cumbrae.

## **Reflection**

### Resurrection

Nowhere did the belief of resurrection combine a conscious nearness of the world to come with a moral exalting of life in this present world. This is what Christianity brought. Its doctrine was not a flight to another world that left this world behind, nor was it a longing for another world that would come when the history of this world was ended. It was the very near certainty of another world, with which the Christians were already linked and into which the life of this world would be raised up. For the Christian, belief about the future state was and is centred in Jesus Christ. He had been seen and loved in this life; and he had been seen and loved also as one who had conquered death. He had become vividly known as the Lord both of the living and the dead; and the conviction of his people concerning the future life, rested upon their conviction about him, in whose life they shared. It was an intense and triumphant conviction that where he was, there also would his people be. It found utterance in ringing tones "He has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel". "Fear not; I am the first and the last, and the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore, and I have keys of death and of Hades".

*From 'The Resurrection of Christ' by Michael Ramsey.*

**In the Love of God, +Martin, Oban**

<p><b>The June Newsletter</b> – material to be received by Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2009</p>
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