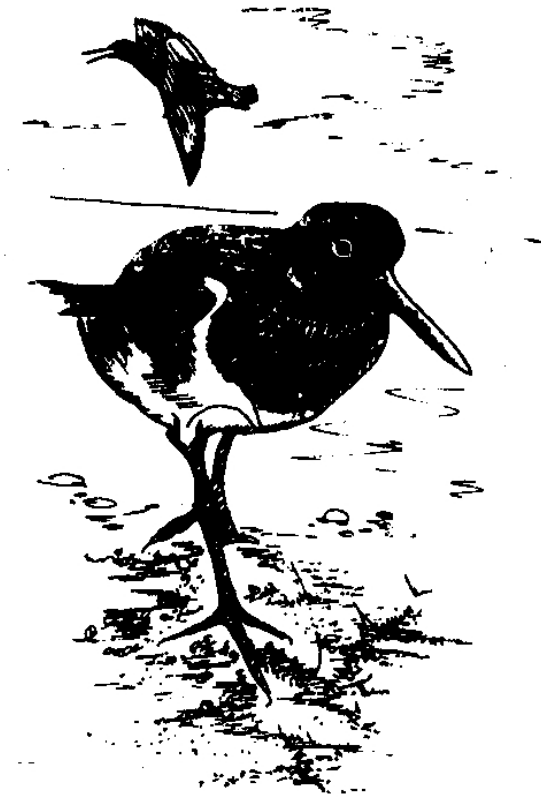


THE OYSTERCATCHER



THE MAGAZINE OF ST BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

KELVINSIDE, GLASGOW

NUMBER 241 JANUARY 2009

The Scottish Episcopal Church
Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway
ST BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
KELVINSIDE, GLASGOW

Clergy: **Rector:**
 (Vacant)

Non-Stipendiary Priest:
 The Revd Sydney Maitland
 1B 14 Kersland Street, Glasgow, G12 8BL.
 Telephone: 0141 339 4573

People's Warden: Mr Richard Smith
Rector's Warden: Vacant
Lay Representative: Miss Mary Sillitto
Pastoral Assistants: Dr Jack Brand, Mrs Alison Gifford,
 Mr Roy Parkin

VESTRY

Chairman: The Revd Sydney Maitland

Dr David Fergus	Miss Mary Sillitto
Mrs Alison Gifford	Mr Richard Smith
Mr John Marks	Mr Alex Valentine
Mr Roy Parkin	

Secretary: Mr Jonathan Lord
Treasurer: Dr Terry Lillie

St Bride's is a Church in the Catholic tradition. The main act of worship on Sundays is the Sung Eucharist at 10.30 a.m., which is followed by coffee and fellowship in the Crypt.

On weekdays the services are as follows:

Mon: Evensong 5.30 p.m.	The Eucharist 6.00 p.m.
Wed: Evensong 5.30 p.m.	The Eucharist 6.00 p.m.
Thur: Mattins 9.30 a.m.	The Eucharist 10.00 a.m.

Confessions by appointment.

Website:

www.stbride.org.uk

Sunday School:

Contact Elizabeth Briggs (0141 334 6045)

Child Protection Co-ordinator:

Anne Blackwood (0141 337 6685)

Organist and Choirmaster:

David Spottiswoode

Assistant Organist and Choirmaster:

Dr Stuart Campbell

Choral Scholars:

Christine Anderson, Cailean Gallagher

FR SYDNEY WRITES ...

It is said with growing conviction that the church should be engaged with the environment, and issues of justice and peace. It should reflect Jesus' preference for the poor and the marginalised, and should be a campaigning body. Quite so.

But the campaigns that it should wage are those that Jesus waged, and not just those already in play by existing political and commercial forces, or by special interest groups. For Jesus' mission was about salvation and peace with God, which is the proper foundation for all other areas of human and social relationships and transactions, and without which all other movements are the manoeuvrings of competing interests aiming to secure temporary advantage.

And just as communion without prior faith and repentance – to be renewed as regularly as the communion is received – is an exercise in an emotional, folk piety, so political influence and pressure without the prior Christian faith and commitment is also an edifice built on the shifting sands of emotion and personal perception, untried by inquiry and invalidated by the community from which it comes.

That is why most campaigns claiming the authority of the gospel leave me bemused, and why the utterances of church leaders, certainly in my own professional field, leave me quite cold. This does not mean that the church is not engaged in many if not all areas of public concern and policy. Where there are Christian doctors and nurses practising in the Health Service, there the church is engaged, and where Christian solicitors and advocates are practising, there the church is also active. Equally, where there are Christian politicians, willing to be known as Christians, even on opposing sides of the chamber, there the Church is committed.

Perhaps at issue is what we are all trying to achieve. We have no mandate to build the Millennial New Jerusalem, for that task is reserved to Jesus as King of Kings and Lord of Lords at His Second Coming. Similarly, Jesus robustly encouraged us to give to the poor, and to do so without reserve or hesitation, for such costly giving will be received by Him as personal worship, especially where there is none other to act or speak for the poor. He did not however issue a call to eliminate poverty, and as a church we cannot claim that mandate.

And so our vocation is to love God with all that we have and are, to love one another as Jesus loved us, and to love our neighbours as ourselves. At present we are not particularly strong in this area, but as we worship, we will also find that our hearts and thoughts, our prayers and our plans will be turned more and more to those who we really can assist, and we may do so by bringing our occupational

disciplines to bear on the task. To do so is not a neglect of our worship, rather it is an outworking of it and in the months to come when social and economic stress may be expected to increase, there we should expect our efforts to be directed also. Subject to all that, may I wish you a happy and blessed New Year for 2009.

Sydney Maitland

ST BRIDE'S DAY

Preparations are well under way for the celebration of our Patronal Festival on Sunday 1 February. The Sung Eucharist will take place as usual at 10.30 a.m., and we will be welcoming our Rector-Designate, the Revd Canon James Milne, as our guest preacher. After the service, a two course lunch will be served in the Crypt, which will give us all a chance to meet James in an informal setting. Tickets for the lunch will cost £10.00 and they will be available from the middle of January.

CHURCH FLOWERS AND CLEANING

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the flowers for Christmas. I shall put the large glass bottle for Donations for flowers for St. Bride's Day at the back of the church from the beginning of January. The rota for 2009 will be pinned on the board at the back of the church as soon as possible. Please put your name down for any Sunday for which you would like to donate the flowers.

I should also like to thank those who came and helped clean and decorate the church for Christmas. I am grateful, too, to the loan of a plant stand for the flowers.

After Christmas, we have to dismantle the tree and put away the decorations. This tends to leave a mess. However much we tidy up afterwards, we find needles around for a week or two. We shall need to have another cleaning session on either the Friday or Saturday before St. Bride's Day. The exact time and date will be announced in the pew sheet.

I hope everyone saw the Holy Bough at the front door of the church. It was made with yew, ivy, rosemary, thyme, sage, ribbons and imitation holly and mistletoe. If anyone knows of other traditions like this for any time of the year, please let me know and I'll see if it is possible to make them.

Eileen Maitland

WEB'S WONDERS

Enjoying a renaissance under the stewardship of Suzanne Muir Scott and her husband Stuart is the St Bride's website, which can be found at www.stbride.org.uk. Suzanne and Stuart have great plans for the development of the website, and already an archive of *The Oystercatcher* going back to January 2008 can be found there. The weekly pew sheet is being added to the website each weekend, so if you haven't been able to attend church on Sunday morning it is now possible to check online to see if there are any notices.

There is more to come, so keep checking the site and, if you have any suggestions for new features, please contact Suzanne at suzanne@muirscott.orangehome.co.uk

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY ISSUES of the Oystercatcher which means at least TWENTY YEARS of hard dedicated work by the Editor; all done apparently so easily and willingly. Regularly and without fail except on the occasional (very occasional) weeks when he was away on business The Oystercatcher was on the table at the back of the church for our collection----so much so that we felt "hurt" on these few occasions. On top of all this we had the pleasure of different colours on the front of the Oystercatcher--I wonder how many people noticed that when Celtic was on a winning streak the outer cover was in Green!

No matter whether I have pestered Jonathan as Editor or Secretary and have said that I did not require an acknowledgement to my communications, I have always received an immediate and very nice reply.

I am sure that I am expressing the views of all members of the Congregation when I offer him a very sincere "Thank you" for all he has done.

David Graham-Service

Thank you very much for these kind words. As a loyal Dunfermline Athletic supporter, shareholder and season ticket holder I wouldn't want to show bias to either side of the Old Firm, so any connection between green covers and Celtic successes is entirely coincidental! JCL

A Christmas Message from the Most Rev Dr Idris Jones, Bishop of Glasgow & Galloway and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church

Christmas - The Christ Mass in its very name reminds us of a time when Christians belonged to one Church whose central act of worship was the Mass in which at Christmas and at Easter the great events at the heart of Christian belief were celebrated. Jesus was born, Jesus died, Jesus was raised by God from death.

As The Season approaches there is a sense of unity as thousands of pilgrims flock to the newest and brightest shopping mall where in defiance of any sense of credit crunch and urged by HM Government to go out and spend, healing is sought in 'retail therapy'.

Surely Christians can urge that the message of Christmas reminds us of a deeper and more urgently needed sense of being together than that?

As Christians gather in worship we celebrate the way in which the birth of Jesus makes access to God open to all. 'This is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us.' That love of God is for all humankind and we are bound into an equality of need and the chance to respond. The Christmas story makes this real in a number of ways.

The physical reality that there was 'no room for them in the inn' means that the coming of Jesus is not in some exclusive place but in a very public and open situation that is accessible to all. The first response to this act of God comes from a section of the community that was by the nature of its employment at the margins of society. The shepherds were 'out in the fields' but prompted by the message of the angels they come to 'see this thing which has come to pass'. Whilst most folk were in Bethlehem in order to comply with orders of an occupying power, the shepherds responded to an initiative from God and the marginalised are the first to come to the manger. There is room for all here, whilst in the inn there was no room. The ministry of Jesus was to constantly remind those who heard His teaching that this was how God chose to reveal himself and to call everyone without distinction to know God as 'Father'. Jesus' mother had spoken in prophecy about the God who had 'put down the mighty from their seat and exalted the humble and meek'. This was to happen in the birth of Jesus.

Here indeed is a bringing of all into one for it makes us equal. Even the distinction between the religious and the secular - the earthly and the heavenly - becomes obsolete as expressed in the Christmas devotion 'O blessed night in which the earthly and the heavenly are made one'. If that distinction is shattered then so are all the other divisions and distinctions that humankind creates - 'now there is neither Jew nor Greek, bond nor free, male nor female'.

That being the case, the Church is called to live it and proclaim it, and here is good news indeed that offers a sense of unity that can change the way we see the world and the possibility and the longing that 'all may be one'.

DIOCESAN NEWS

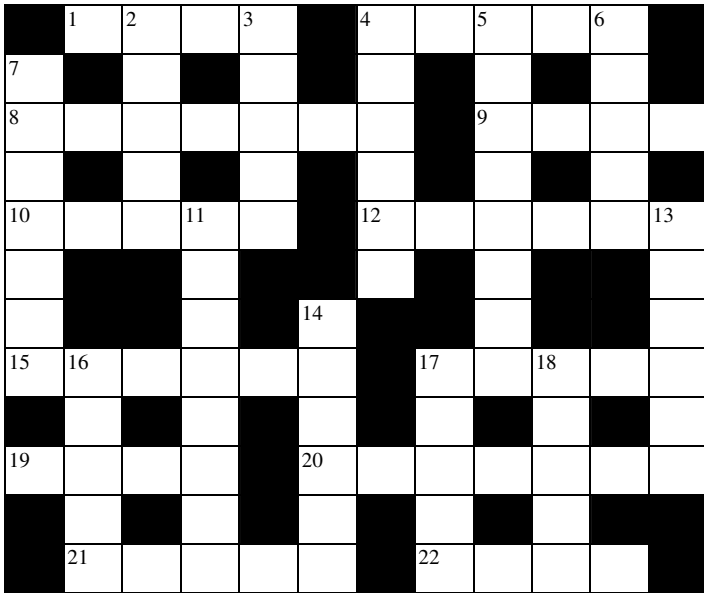
As regular readers of *The Oystercatcher* will know, the Glasgow and Galloway Diocesan News normally forms the centre pages of each month's magazine. (This is not the case in January or August, as the previous month's Diocesan News is a double issue.) The Diocesan News is welcomed by many of our readers for its insight into the activities of the Scottish Episcopal Church in Glasgow and Galloway beyond the confines of St Bride's.

The Editor of Diocesan News, Susi Cormack Brown, would like to receive suggestions for improvements to the publication. If you'd like to make any comments, please contact Jonathan Lord, who will forward your views to Susi.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY SCOT

1. Gonnae mind there's only wan Big Man.
2. Gonnae no pray tae pictures.
3. Gonnae no use God's name tae swear.
4. Gonnae mind and go tae church on Sunday.
5. Gonnae dae as yer Da an' Ma tell ye.
6. Gonnae no batter him.
7. Gonnae jist go wi' wan burd.
8. Gonnae no nick that.
9. Gonnae no tell porkies.
10. Gonnae no say "I want wan" a' the time.

ST BRIDE'S CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 Pudding (4)
 4 Hindu stringed instrument (5)
 8 Bird – male (7)
 9 Seen in Peru in destruction (4)
 10 Anything (5)
 12 Wear it around attendant (6)
 15 VAT on car upset scarf (6)
 17 “A rose red city half as old as time” (5)
 19 So be it (4)
 20 Kinds of teeth (7)
 21 Type of pen (5)
 22 Choppers (4)

Compiled by Lily Bland
Solution next month

Down

- 2 Beside, lengthwise (5)
 3 Group of eight (5)
 4 Scolding women (6)
 7 Dreadful mixture of elite in second-class Rolls-Royce (8)
 5 Life is in are turned (5)
 6 Crop production using no fertilisers and no cigar (7)
 11 “The Babe you there shall find” (EH 42) (8)
 13 “Friends,, countrymen, lend me your ears” (Julius Caesar) (6)
 14 Plaster for coating walls (6)
 16 Brother of Romulus (5)
 17 Animal seen in the pan daily (5)
 18 May be Past or Future (5)

Music List - January 2009			
4	SUNDAY Epiphany	10.30	SUNG EUCHARIST Shaw <i>An Anglican Folk Mass</i> Psalm 72, vv 10-15 Britten <i>A New Year Carol</i> Hymns 50, 47, 387, 48
11	SUNDAY The First Sunday of Epiphany	10.30	SUNG EUCHARIST Batten <i>Short Communion Service</i> Psalm 29 Warlock <i>Bethlehem Down</i> Hymns 339, 137, 294, 55
18	SUNDAY The Second Sunday of Epiphany	10.30	SUNG EUCHARIST Darke <i>Communion Service in E</i> Psalm 139, vv 1-5, 12-18 Taverner <i>The Lamb</i> Hymns 433, 271, 302, 361
25	SUNDAY The Conversion of St Paul	10.30	SUNG EUCHARIST Byrd <i>Mass in four parts</i> Psalm 67 Harris <i>Holy is the true light</i> Hymns 461, 333, 276, 476

Hon. Assistant Priest:
Sydney Maitland

Organist & Choirmaster: David Spottiswoode
Assistant Organist & Choirmaster: Dr Stuart Campbell

SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD

Across 1 England, 5 Cited, 8 Bravo, 9 Cold War, 10 Reigned, 11 Indus, 12 Abroad, 14 Stripe, 17 Copes, 19 Broaden, 22 Ali Baba, 23 Tutti, 24 Clean, 25 Excused

Down 1 Ember, 2 Glacier, 3 Acorn, 4 Decide, 5 Cellist, 6 Towed, 7 Duresse, 12 Archaic, 13 Abstain, 15 Indites, 16 Abrade, 18 Pride, 20 Optic, 21 Naiad

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 2009

				Thursday 1	Friday 2	Saturday 3
Sunday 4 <i>Epiphany</i> 10.30 Sung Eucharist	Monday 5 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Tuesday 6 23.00 Russian Orthodox service	Wednesday 7 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Thursday 8 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 9	Saturday 10
Sunday 11 <i>Epiphany 1</i> 10.30 Sung Eucharist	Monday 12 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Tuesday 13	Wednesday 14 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Thursday 15 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 16	Saturday 17
Sunday 18 <i>Epiphany 2</i> 10.30 Sung Eucharist	Monday 19 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Tuesday 20	Wednesday 21 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist 18.30 Vestry meeting	Thursday 22 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 23	Saturday 24
Sunday 25 <i>Epiphany 3</i> 10.30 Sung Eucharist	Monday 26 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Tuesday 27	Wednesday 28 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Thursday 29 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 30	Saturday 31

ROTAS

Date	Coffee	Counting
4 January	Veronica Matthew Betty Wright	Christopher Black Andrew Lockyer
11 January	Jeannette Fenyő June Roach	Anne Currie Michael Rae
18 January	Anne Currie David Fergus	Jonathan Lord Alison Gifford
25 January	Jan Carlisle Brian Carlisle	Mary Sillitto Elizabeth Black

READINGS AT THE SUNG EUCHARIST

4 January <i>Epiphany</i>	Isaiah 60, v 1-6 Ephesians 3, v 1-12 Matthew 2, v 1-12
11 January <i>Epiphany 1</i>	Genesis 1, v 1-5 Acts 19, v 1-7 Mark 1, v 4-11
18 January <i>Epiphany 2</i>	1 Samuel 3, v 1-10 1 Corinthians 6, v 12-20 John 1, v 43-51
25 January <i>Conversion of St Paul</i>	Acts 26, v 9-23 Galatians 1, v 11-24 Matthew 10, v 16-22

THE OYSTERCATCHER

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Publication date is the first Sunday of each month; copy deadline is the last Sunday of the month. The Oystercatcher is the bird traditionally known as "the servant of St Bride". Contributions can be sent to the Editor or left in the folder at the back of the church. As the folder isn't checked every week, post, fax or e-mail are best for urgent contributions.

KALENDAR FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY

January

1	Thur	The Naming of Jesus	Peace & Justice among nations
2	Fri	Seraphim of Sarov, 1833	St Mary's Cathedral
3	Sat	Feria	Commerce and Industry
4	Sun	Christmas 2	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
5	Mon	Feria	The Government
6	Tues	The Epiphany of the Lord	Scot. Assoc of Change Ringers
7	Wed	Feria	ActionAid
8	Thur	Feria	The Choir
9	Fri	Feria	New dispensations
10	Sat	William Laud, Bishop, 1645	The General Synod
11	Sun	Epiphany 1	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
12	Mon	Feria	SS Paul & John, Monklands
13	Tues	The Baptism of the Lord	Liturgical scholars
14	Wed	Kentigern (or Mungo), Bp, c 603	The Scottish Parliament
15	Thur	Feria	Aberlour Childcare Trust
16	Fri	Feria	The Housebound
17	Sat	Anthony of Egypt, Abbot, 356	The City of Glasgow
18	Sun	Epiphany 2	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
19	Mon	Feria	Christian Unity
20	Tues	Feria	Roman Catholics
21	Wed	Agnes, Martyr, c 304	Presbyterians and Lutherans
22	Thur	Feria	Methodists
23	Fri	Feria	Anglicans
24	Sat	Francis de Sales, Bishop, 1622	Independent Christians
25	Sun	Epiphany 3	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
26	Mon	The Conversion of Paul, Apostle	Missionaries
27	Tues	John Chrysostom, Teacher. 407	Hyndland Parish Church
28	Wed	Thomas Aquinas, Teacher of the Faith, 1274	TISEC
29	Thur	Feria	Lay Readers
30	Fri	Charles I, King, 1649	The Royal Family
31	Sat	Charles Mackenzie of Central Africa, Bishop, Missionary, Martyr, 1862	University Chaplains

February

1	Sun	Bride of Kildare, Abbess, c 525	The mission of this church
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