Magnificat Monthly

News and What's On at St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow – August 2007

From the Provost

Dear Friends

The prophet Jeremiah said, "The summer is over and we are not yet saved." I've a feeling this year that we must paraphrase that as "The summer is over in Glasgow, and we are not yet dry". The rain seems to have been tippling down steadily throughout the summer months.

However, summertime proves once again to be a busy season. There have been new faces joining us in the Cathedral throughout the summer. Indeed, almost every week since Easter, people have been filling out the yellow contact forms to indicate that they are in the process of joining the congregation. It has also been good to welcome visitors from near and far who are on holiday in the area.

Summer began with a significant event – the BBC Radio 4 live broadcast on 1 July. Such a service is always significant, but never more so than this one which went out directly after the 8 am news on the day after the attempted terror attack at Glasgow airport. I was very pleased with the service that was broadcast and would like to thank all those that were involved in any way in helping to make this happen.

This edition of Magnificat Monthly has quite a lot about what is coming up in St Mary's. It would be true to say that communicating well with one another is one of the things that we are needing to work hardest at over the coming months. As the congregation grows, we need to find new ways of letting one another know what is going on. A growing congregation presents challenges that need to be faced. They are the best challenges that any priest ever encounters.

I don't know what kind of communication tools will evolve over the coming period. If you want to discuss that with me, or comment on anything else in this newsletter, then please do get in touch with me directly.

St Mary's is a wonderful, complex, interesting place to be in ministry at the moment. And I love it!

With love and prayers KELVIN

What's On

20 August 2007 - Vestry Meeting 8 pm

23 - 25 August 2007 - Nexus

Nexus is the new name for the Christian Resources Exhibition. (It is like the Ideal Home Exhibition for Christians and Churches). Takes place at the SECC. Be sure to call in on the Scottish Episcopal stall and say hello.

25 August 2007 – Wedding – Karen Strutt and Frank Ewing

29 September 2007 – Morning Eucharist – John the Baptist 0930

6 September 2007 - Choir Recording for BBC

8 September 2007 - Sung Eucharist at 1 pm

This will be the first event of Schola Cantorum Mariens – see Music Report for further details.

10 September 2007 - Compline at 8 pm

14 September 2007 Holy Cross Day – Eucharist at 0930

15-16 September 2007 Doors Open Days

Volunteers needed to welcome visitors 1-4 pm. Contact Jinty Stewart via the Cathedral Office for details.

16 September 2007 – St Ninian's Day (Diocesan Founder)

The 1000 service will include the baptism of Rosemary Wallbanks. The evening service will be Festal Evensong.

17 September 2007 – LGBT discussion group 8 pm (contact the Provost for details)

4 October 2007 Choral Mass - St Francis 7.30 pm

17 October 2007 – Poverty Requiem – Oxfam event

2 November 2007 – All Souls' Requiem

1 December 2007 - World AIDS Day service

2 December 2007 – Advent Carol Service 6.30 pm

Around the Diocese

Ecumenical Event in George Square

On Saturday 8th September at 2pm there will be a special ecumenical event in George Square to highlight human trafficking as part of modern-day slavery. The programme will include a choir, bands, singers, and speakers. People will be asked to sign a petition on trafficking, which will be presented to the Scottish Executive later in the year.

Please come along, enjoy the afternoon and help to raise awareness of the human trafficking in Glasgow.

Godly Play at St John's, Dumfries

An evening for adults. Mon 10th September St John's Church Hall, Lovers Walk, Dumfries

St John's, Dumfries has been using Godly Play with its children's church since the beginning of this year. We are holding an evening for adults to introduce Godly Play, and to give an opportunity to experience it, and invite anyone who is interested in this exciting, and very different way of working with children to join us.

The evening is open to all – not just parents and those who lead Sunday schools and children's church. We hope that members of other churches in Dumfries will also be able to be there. If you would like to come, or if you would like further information, please phone Rosie Rutherford 01387 262878 or email: rosie.rutherford@tiscali.co.uk

Update On The Byumba Project

Bishop Onesphore and Josephine spent some time with us whilst in the Diocese for the 'Growing Together' Conference. It was an opportunity to hear the progress being made in the Diocese of Byumba, Rwanda in the areas of education, health and social support for those without means of support, including orphans.

During the two years, 2005 to 2006, the total pledged and donated amounted to £29,358.30. Many people of all ages, in the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway and beyond, have worked very hard to generate this magnificent donation. Particular thanks go to the Sunday School and Youth Groups in our Churches who have participated, and continue to participate, so generously.

Here is the current situation with the projects we agreed to support,

Kibali Health Centre. Donation £3,904.67 Enough for 390,467 bricks. The ground has been purchased, and the unexpected tax paid to the

Government for each tree felled. (it was covered in trees!) The making of the bricks is currently in process.

Cows for Clergy and milk for village children.

Donation £3,000.00

Enough to buy 12 cows. **All** the clergy who were in the Diocese at the time of our visit now have cows.

Widows and Orphans, Banana cards. Donation £2,394.41

The card making is ongoing. The business is expanding and new people are being trained, funded by the Diocese. New designs have been introduced and the new purpose built premises are a huge improvement. The building is in memory of Meg Gilbaud's mother, who, with her husband was a missionary worker in Byumba. Mrs Gilbaud returned to help the people of Byumba after the Genocide. I now have a contact for supplies of the 'Banana cards'. If any congregation wishes to have a supply to sell, please contact me.

HIV/AIDS sufferers. Donation £314.50 The need is ongoing. The good news is that Antiretroviral drugs are now freely available.

Orphan Carers Donation £2,116.00 The need is ongoing, but 28 families were supported for a year

Credit Union Donation £2,741.00 The Credit Union has been established in the villages for women to borrow small sums of money to support farming or other needs.

Muhura school kitchen. Donation £7,213.82 The Government has introduced into the curriculum mandatory I.T. teaching. The school has had to undertake this development, as well as coping with expanding numbers. Currently, 60% of it's school leavers go to University. With all this going on they still do not have a new kitchen!

Sponsorship of children for secondary school Donation £13,500.00

At the beginning of the school year in January, 2005, fifty children began their Secondary education, knowing that the sponsorship will be there for five years - the gift of life beyond grinding poverty. We now have photographs and brief descriptions of the children we have sponsored. They are in the Diocesan Centre. A whole class! WOW!

The work continues around the Diocese. Let us praise God for this work.

Alison Jones e-mail: <u>amj@doctors.org.uk</u> te:. 0141 637 5659

Cathedral Information

Feels like home?

Found a spiritual home in St Mary's, but not yet pledging (and if possible Gift Aiding your donations!)? Ask a steward for forms, email giftaidrecorder@thecathedral.org.uk, or leave a message for Andrew Heatlie on 0141 334 8115.

Compline

Compline is a contemplative service of prayer, which is sung in the late evening. Compline is now being sung in the Cathedral on the second Monday of each month at 8 pm. It is preceded by a simple meditation and time for quiet reflection. The service lasts 30 to 40 minutes.

Thursdays in the Cathedral

Tea and coffee are available at 5.30; from 6 – 7 pm there is discussion followed by prayers. The monthly cycle is 1st Thursday – Book Group; 2nd – Bible Study; 3rd – Poetry; 4th – Prayers for peace/music. If you would like to be contacted/e-mailed about any of the above, please sign the list at the back of the church.

Eco-Congregation News

A new recycling bin is now installed at the East Door of the Cathedral. Paper, tin cans and (washed) plastic milk bottles can be put straight into this bin. Glass cannot be put in this bin – please take it home and recycle it somewhere else.

The first Sunday in October will be marked as Creation Sunday in St Mary's and green themes will be woven into the worship. During the month of October, the eco-congregation group will be organising a display in church. The contact person for this group is Reg Bartlett who can be contacted via the Cathedral Office.

Parking

The Cathedral car park is now regulated by Parkforce. Anyone parking at any time without a valid permit risks a fine of £60. When services are taking place, the car park is reserved for paid members of staff, those with a Blue Badge issued by a local authority and those who are here for the first time. Free parking is available in streets close to the Cathedral on a Sunday on the north side of Great Western Road though members are asked not to park in Holyrood Crescent. The 1030 service is now accessible by Subway and Evensong is accessible by the new Subway bus service.

Book Group

The next books to be considered by the Book Group are *Black Dogs* by Ian McEwan on 6 September 2007 and *Gilead* by Marilyn Robinson on 4 October 2007.

Contact Forms

If you are in the process of joining the congregation, please fill in one of the yellow contact forms which are available from the stewards at every service.

Poverty Requiem

The Cathedral will be hosting a major Oxfam event on 17 October 2007. The Poverty Requiem is an event to raise awairness of poverty issues through the use of music. A new work has been commissioned which involved multiple choirs and percussion. More details nearer the time.

Contact Details

Members of the clergy can be contacted through the Cathedral Office: 300 Great Western Road, Glasgow G4 9JB, telephone 0141-339 6691, office@thecathedral.org.uk.

The Provost, the Very Rev Kelvin Holdsworth, can be contacted on 0141-530 8643 and his email address is provost@thecathedral.org.uk. He keeps a weblog at www.thurible.net

As he is ever in tune with the zeitgeist, the Provost is also now to be found on Facebook.

The Cathedral website is www.cathedral.glasgow.anglican.org

Baptisms/Christening

The Provost proposes to encourage those seeking baptism to come for the Sacrament on special festival days. The particular festivals on which baptisms are encouraged include:

St Ninian's Day – 16 September

Christ the King – the week before Advent Sunday

Christmas Day - 25 December

Easter – especially the Easter Vigil and Pentecost

The Annunciation - 25 March

Also – feast days associated with John the Baptist or the Naming of Jesus (first Sunday in the new year).

Baptism is also available on a Sunday afternoon and at all times in emergency.

For more details about arranging a baptism contact the clergy directly or via the Cathedral Office.

Cathedral News

July Vestry Report

Broadcast Service - 1 July 2007

This broadcast brought plaudits from many sources. The service was not pre-recorded but transmitted 'live', which allowed Kelvin to make last-minute changes in line with the events at Glasgow Airport the previous afternoon. One of the senior heads of religious broadcasting at the BBC deemed the Service to be a "Vindication of live broadcasting".

Music

The Vestry is delighted to announce two anonymous gifts, which will allow us to employ an organ Scholar and start up a children's choir during the coming year.

West End Festival

Our contribution to the West End Festival was a success, with a profit of over £1000 and about 1000 people through the Cathedral doors.

Children

Kelvin will hold a meeting of all those concerned in children's and youth issues.

Mission 21

A Mission 21 course will start in mid-September. It will be moderated by Ms. Marion Chatterley. This will allow a focus group from the congregation to reflect on our life and mission together.

Finance

The Vestry noted that the budget for next year indicates a deficit of £11K, and that extra income is needed just to keep pace with inflation

Andrew Colin

Secretary to the Vestry

Music News

The choir returns on Sunday 19th August after its six-week summer break.

Organ Scholar

To start with, we have appointed a new Organ Scholar, Kirsty Traynor, who begins in September. Kirsty has been singing with us on occasion, and was my organ pupil at the Junior RSAMD. She is going to the Senior RSAMD to study piano and organ, so I am delighted that she has agreed to come to St Mary's.

Broadcasts

Following on the success of the live broadcast of Morning Worship on BBC Radio 4 on July 1st, the Cathedral Choir will be the featured choir on two Sunday Half-Hours for BBC Radio 2, one in October, and one in January 2008.

Schola Cantorum Mariensis

One of the many successful events held here at St Mary's during the West End Festival in June, was a Gregorian Chant Day run by John Rowlands-Pritchard. This was in fact the third time John has been to St Mary's over the last few years, and again, there was huge interest and the day was a splendid success. Building on that success and interest I intend to establish a plainsong choir this term. The purpose of the choir will be to present an opportunity for the chant to be experienced to a high standard on two or three occasions in the year, and in keeping with the Gregorian tradition, it will be known as Schola Cantorum Mariensis. Any singers interested in being considered are asked to talk further to me asap. Some previous experience of singing plainchant will be required.

Cathedral Choir - Boys and Girls section

We are finally one step nearer to being in the position to begin a Boys and Girls section to supplement the adults in our Cathedral Choir. Details are still being finalised, but it is intended to get this off the ground this term.

I will be looking for boys and girls aged 8-13years old, and am very keen to hear from anyone who may have an interest in joining, or who may know of potential candidates. Again, more details will be available shortly, but in the mean time please come and speak to me. I will also be looking for adults who would be willing to help with the running of the choir in a range of supervisory capacities. All adults must be willing to undergo a Disclosure Scotland check.

Composition Competition

As part of our centenary celebrations, we intend to hold a composition competition, encouraging composers to write for us a new setting of the 1982 Eucharistic liturgy for congregational use, with optional parts for the choir. Funding has yet to be finalised, but James MacMillan and John Bell have already agreed to help us judge the winner(s).

And Finally...

Thank you all for your continued support of the music here at St Mary's. I am looking forward enormously to another exciting year!

Frikki Walker

Director of Music