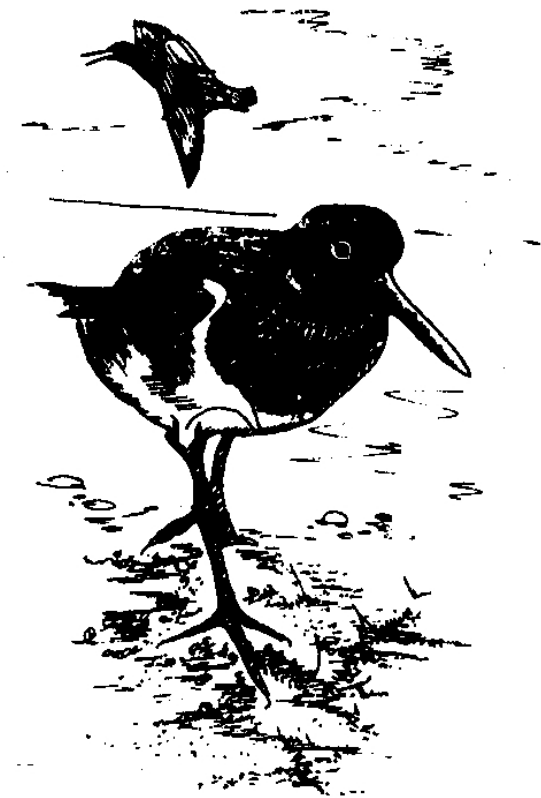


THE OYSTERCATCHER



THE MAGAZINE OF ST BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

KELVINSIDE, GLASGOW

NUMBER 250 OCTOBER 2009

The Scottish Episcopal Church Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway

**ST BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
KELVINSIDE, GLASGOW**

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Rector's Warden: Mrs Alison Gifford
Lay Representative: Miss Mary Sillitto
Pastoral Assistants: Mrs Alison Gifford, Mr Roy Parkin
Sacristan: Mr Richard Smith

VESTRY

Chairman: The Revd James Milne

Mrs Jeanette Fenyő	Mr Roy Parkin
Dr David Fergus	Miss Mary Sillitto
Mrs Alison Gifford	Mr Richard Smith
Mr Andrew Lockyer	Mr Alex Valentine
The Revd Sydney Maitland	

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Mrs Elizabeth Briggs (0141 334 6045)

Child Protection Co-ordinator:

Miss Anne Blackwood (0141 337 6685)

Organist and Choirmaster:

Mr David Spottiswoode

Assistant Organist and Choirmaster:

Dr Stuart Campbell

Choral Scholar:

Christine Anderson

THE RECTOR'S COLUMN

My dear friends,

From earliest times people have given thanks for the first fruits of the harvest and for its safe ingathering. Within the Jewish tradition there were three such festivals celebrating the barley harvest, the wheat harvest and the grape harvest. Harvest festivals were also common in pagan cultures. Both the Ancient Greeks and the Romans offered thanks to the goddess of agriculture.

Within early Christian communities it was customary to offer the first fruits of the harvest. These offerings, following the precepts of the Book of Numbers, were used for the benefit of the clergy. Such practices continue to this day. Within the Anglican Church of Melanesia the first fruits of each family's garden are placed in a basket before the altar and then sold to raise funds for the Church.

In time it became commonplace in both Eastern and Western churches to offer grapes or apples on the 6th of August, the Feast of Transfiguration, a custom which likewise continues to this day. Within the Western Medieval church, however, the most common day for a harvest thanksgiving was the 11th of November, the Feast of St Martin of Tours. This festival celebrated the safe ingathering of the harvest and was marked by a celebratory meal.

In medieval Britain loaves, baked from the first grains of corn to be harvested, were brought to Church on the 1st of August, and consecrated at the Eucharist. This day, known as Lammas Day, (from the Old English "Hlafmaesse" meaning "loafmass"), had its origins in an older pagan festival of the sun god Lugh. Lammas Day is mentioned in the Book of Common Prayer of 1662 but the rituals surrounding this festival died out with the Reformation. Indeed, the only harvest festival to survive the Reformation was the celebratory, secular meal at the end of the harvest.

Harvest festivals as we know them originated in the Victorian era. In 1843, the Reverend Robert Hawker, Vicar of Morwenstow in Cornwall, mindful that "God hath filled our garner with increase, and satisfied our poor with bread" revived the Lammas custom of using a loaf baked from the newly harvested grains of wheat at the Eucharist on the first Sunday of October. Inspired by his example, many churches introduced harvest thanksgivings which in time spread even to the cities. For the rural people, who had migrated to the cities in search of work during the industrial revolution, these acts of thanksgiving must have been a poignant reminder of the life they had left behind.

The Church of England, which hitherto had made no liturgical provision for such festivals, provided special prayers and readings in 1862. Within our own Church,

collects and readings in Thanksgiving for Harvest are to be found in the Scottish Prayer Book of 1929 and in our modern Lectionary. Inspired by the colour of nature, green vestments have traditionally been worn at a harvest festival, but today, mindful of the celebratory nature of such a feast, white or gold vestments are increasingly worn.

Though some have questioned the relevance of harvest celebrations in a society where most have little contact with the land, harvest festivals serve to remind us of the agricultural process. Indeed, I pray that our harvest celebrations will challenge us to discern the true cost of the produce we so often take for granted and inspire us to work for a fairer deal for farmers across the world.

With love and prayers,

Fr James

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

There will be a meeting for the whole Diocese in the Upper Crypt at 2.00 p.m. on Tuesday 6 October to discuss the latest draft of the **Anglican Covenant**, which can be downloaded from the Diocesan Website - <http://www.glasgow.anglican.org>

There will be a **Bible Study** at the Rectory at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 14 October. We will be reflecting on the Old Testament Lessons for the First and Second Sundays of Advent, namely Jeremiah 33.14-16 and Malachi 3.1-4.

On Saturday 31 October there will be a High Mass at 12.00 noon to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the St Bride's Priory of the **Scottish Guild of Servers**, followed by lunch. The preacher will be Fr Donald Strachan, Chaplain-General of the Scottish Guild of Servers.

We are hoping to run in the New Year a **pastoral care skills course** for all those interested in pastoral visiting. If you would like to join this course, please speak to the Rector.

Another of those milestones which the Editor enjoys so much: this is the 250th edition of *The Oystercatcher*. Thanks to everyone who has contributed over the years since January 1989.

FROM OUR KIWI CORRESPONDENT

Dear friends,

It's hard to believe that over half of my sabbatical is over already – time has rushed by. I am working hard and resting hard and playing hard (so doing just what I think sabbatical is for then!) I am living in a small flat not far from the university: my walk to work is a half hour walk up a volcano and down the other side. This sounds more impressive than it is, of course: the 'volcano' is long since inactive, and is actually a very pretty park (called 'The Domain') with the Auckland Museum at the top.

The best part of being here is that I have joined the cathedral choir: the cathedral is just across the road from where I live, so is very convenient. The cathedral complex is made up of two church buildings, a new, huge, modern, light, big-stained-glass one (Holy Trinity, completed 1991), and an old wooden one (St Mary's, built in 1898). St Mary's was moved intact in 1982 from one side of Parnell Road to the other when Holy Trinity was built so that they could be next to each other – yes, they moved the whole building in one piece in one day! (see <http://www.holy-trinity.org.nz/>).

The choir is the most demanding I have ever sung in, with three services a week: communion and evensong on Sundays, and evensong on Wednesdays (followed by a light dinner and rehearsal). This means I am getting through loads and loads of music, much of which I have never sung, or have not sung for many years. This week we are doing Batten, Farrant, Monteverdi, Gänsbacher, Blitheman and Gibbons, and last week we did some Mathias and McKie. We also seem to have done a lot of Elgar and Wood this term. In a few weeks time we have the 'Pet Service' (yes, just what it says on the tin: bring your hamsters, dogs, goats and sheep...) at which we will sing a delightful little piece called 'Badgers and Hedgehogs.'

The church knows how to make money from its greatest asset: land – the church car park is an \$8/day car park during the week (I wonder how many cars we could fit into St Bride's lower crypt?).

Auckland is a big sprawling city: I haven't seen many of its main attractions yet, apart from the inner city beaches, the swimming pools (outdoor and indoor), theatres, shopping areas etc. There are still museums and art galleries, an underwater world and a bird sanctuary to see. Aucklanders do make their own fun, though – recently, in one weekend, I could have (a) taken my teddy along to meet thousands of other kiwi teddies at the Teddy Bear's Picnic in the park, (b) taken my unwanted clothes to another park to add them to a very long clothes line (1km long, all clothes donated to charity), or (c) taken my water pistol to yet another

park to be part of an attempt to break the world record for the largest water pistol fight. What a choice for just one weekend. (I leave it to you to guess which option I took!).

Jonathan sends me the Oystercatcher, so I have some idea as to how St Bride's is thriving - hope the ACM goes well.

With best wishes,

Helen Purchase

ACTIONAID NEWS

Our funds have been rather low for some time now, which was why I asked the Rector if I could have a table at the Summer Fair solely for ActionAid funds. He very kindly agreed, and I am pleased to say the final sum raised was £65.00, which was excellent. Thank you very much to all who purchased goods, and to my family and friends who provided them.

Feeling much relieved to know I now had a further £65 in the kitty, I was given another most generous gift. The following Sunday an envelope was left for me with a £100 note in it. I have no idea who it is from, but whoever you are, very many thanks. I am not forgetting all you kind folks who, week in week out, bring all your small change (plus some £1 coins) and leave them in the ActionAid plate. I do rely on them very much to help out, and cannot continue without your support. Thank you very much for your generosity.

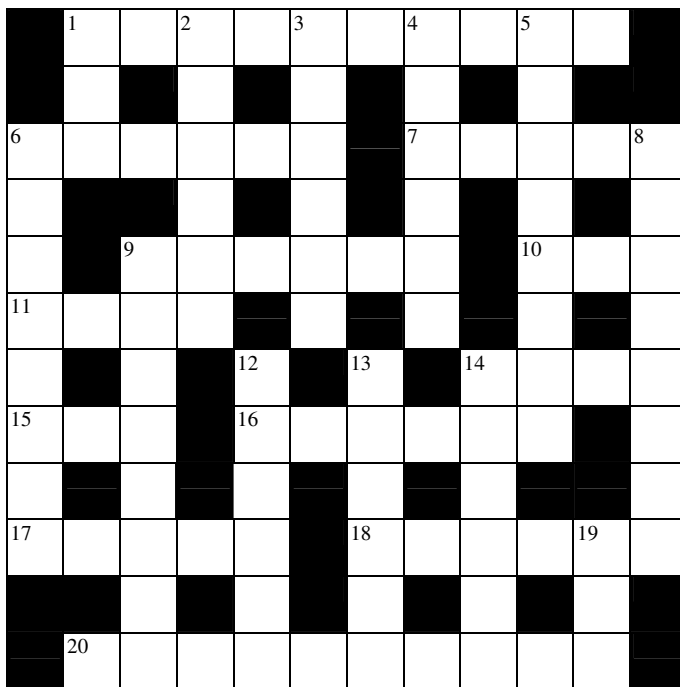
ActionAid does wonderful work all over the world, not just in East Africa where we are involved. We sponsor two children, Saningo and Masiany in the Naroh district area of Kenya. The money is used for community projects within the area where the children live. The most recent project has been tree planting which also involves the children. They help with the initial planting, watering, etc and take a keen interest in watching the trees grow. The ground is protected from the sun by the trees, allowing the water to last until the end of the dry season. This of course benefits the whole community.

Water in Africa is a huge problem: they either don't have enough in the dry season or, when the rainy season comes, whole communities can be washed away and many people drowned.

We are so fortunate here in Scotland with our climate: we do not have such extremes. I am as guilty as anyone, complaining if we have more than two days of rain in a row. Where would we be without it – in a bad way I guess!

Betty Wright

ST BRIDE'S CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 Toys (10)
 6 Trance produced by wine of the gods (6)
 7 Darkness in igloo made of snow (5)
 9 'B' roads of Norfolk? (6)
 10 Battle (3)
 11 Sacred (4)
 14 "The moving finger writes and having moves on" (Belshazzar's Feast) (4)
 15 Own (Scots) (3)
 16 Brave hut (6)
 17 Eskimo canoe (5)
 18 Drug (6)
 20 Din near gem wandering (4,6)

Down

- 1 Writer of 'The Raven' (Edgar Allan ...) (3)
 2 Blood vessel (6)
 3needle Street, London (6)
 4 Signet (anagram) (6)
 5 Luminous beetle (8)
 6 Old tub swimming on a shark (8)
 8 Emit one ram rising from the sea (8)
 9 Birthplace of Livingstone (8)
 12 Also known as new arouse (6)
 13 Disregard (6)
 14 Mix 16th letter of Greek alphabet and wait for North American deer (6)
 19 Drag (3)

Compiled by Lily Bland
 Solution next month

CHURCH FLOWERS

My thanks to Betty Wright, Nancy Fergus, Renee Little, Stuart Campbell and everyone else who has made donations towards the flowers this last month and for harvest. I am pleased to announce that Emma Jones, besides singing in the choir, has agreed to help with the flower arrangements. By working together, I hope we will be able to improve on the displays we have at the main festivals. Any other offers of assistance or ideas are always welcome.

Eileen Maitland

ROTAS

Date	Coffee	Counting
4 October	Betty Wright Anne Currie	Jonathan Lord Andrew Lockyer
11 October	June Roach Jeanette Fenyó	Anne Currie Alison Gifford
18 October	David Fergus Anne Currie	Mary Sillitto Elizabeth Black
25 October	Brian Carlisle Jan Carlisle	Christopher Black Michael Rae

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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.

Music List – October 2009

4	SUNDAY The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity Harvest Thanksgiving	10.30	SUNG EUCHARIST <i>Cabena Mass in the Dorian Mode</i> Psalm 126 <i>Greene Thou Visitest the Earth</i> Hymns 259, 397, 285, 276, 262
11	SUNDAY The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity	10.30	SUNG EUCHARIST <i>Batten Short Communion Service</i> Psalm 90, v 12-17 <i>Victoria Gaudent in caelis</i> Hymns 362, 499, 422, 294, 476
18	SUNDAY The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity	10.30 15.30	SUNG EUCHARIST <i>Viadana Missa L'Hora Passa</i> Psalm 91, v 9-16 <i>Tallis If ye love me</i> Hymns 433, 358, 86, 282, 393 CHORAL EVENSONG AND BENEDICTION Responses: Smith Psalm 33 Office Hymn: 214 Canticles: <i>Tallis Short Service</i> Anthem: Almighty and Everlasting God (Gibbons) Hymn 244
25	SUNDAY The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity	10.30	SUNG EUCHARIST <i>Darke Communion Service in F</i> Psalm 126, V 7-15 <i>Loosemore O Lord, increase our faith</i> Hymns 271, 457, 296, 353, 272
31	SATURDAY 80th anniversary of the St Bride's Priory of the Scottish Guild of Servers	12.00	SUNG EUCHARIST <i>Darke Communion Service in E</i> Psalm <i>Bruckner Locus Iste</i> Hymns 436, 138, 271, 208, 120

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 2009

				Thursday 1 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 2	Saturday 3 20.00 Concert – Auricle Ensemble
Sunday 4 <i>Trinity 17</i> <i>Harvest</i> 10.30 Sung Eucharist	Monday 5 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Tuesday 6 08.15 Eucharist 14.00 Anglican Covenant meeting	Wednesday 7 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Thursday 8 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 9	Saturday 10 12.00 Rosary and Votive Mass of Our Lady
Sunday 11 <i>Trinity 18</i> 10.30 Sung Eucharist	Monday 12 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Tuesday 13 08.15 Eucharist	Wednesday 14 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist 19.30 Bible Study	Thursday 15 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 16	Saturday 17
Sunday 18 <i>Trinity 19</i> 10.30 Sung Eucharist 15.30 E & B	Monday 19 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Tuesday 20 08.15 Eucharist	Wednesday 21 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist 19.30 Vestry meeting	Thursday 22 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 23	Saturday 24 12.00 Eucharist with prayers for healing
Sunday 25 <i>Trinity 20</i> 10.30 Sung Eucharist	Monday 26 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Tuesday 27 08.15 Eucharist	Wednesday 28 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist 19.30 Vestry	Thursday 29 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 30	Saturday 31 12.00 High Mass (Scottish Guild of Servers)

SERVICES

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 (1970) 6.00 p.m.
Tues:	The Eucharist (1982) 8.15 a.m.	
Wed:	Evensong 5.30 p.m.	The Eucharist (1970) 6.00 p.m.
Thur:	The Eucharist (1970) 10.00 a.m.	
Sat:	2nd Saturday Rosary and Votive Mass of Our Lady (1982) 12.00 noon	
	4th Saturday The Eucharist (1982) with prayers for healing 12.00 noon	

Choral Evensong and Benediction is on the third Sunday of the month at 3.30 p.m.

READINGS AT THE SUNG EUCHARIST

4 October <i>Trinity 17</i> <i>Harvest Thanksgiving</i>	Deuteronomy 8, v 7-18 Psalm 126 1 Timothy 2, v 1-7 Matthew 6, v 25-33
11 October <i>Trinity 18</i>	Amos 5, v 6-7, 10-15 Psalm 90, v 12-17 Hebrews 4, v 12-16 Mark 10, v 17-31
18 October <i>Trinity 19</i>	Isaiah 53, v 4-12 Psalm 91, v 9-16 Hebrews 5, v 1-10 Mark 10, v 35-45
25 October <i>Trinity 20</i>	Jeremiah 31, v 7-9 Psalm 126 Hebrews 7, v 23-38 Mark 10, v 46-52
1 November <i>All Saints' Day</i>	Isaiah 25, v 6-9 Psalm 24, v 1-6 Revelation 21, v 1-6a John 11, v 32-44

KALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

October

1	Thur	Gregory the Enlightener, Bishop c332	People of Armenia
2	Fri	Feria	Hyndland Parish Church
3	Sat	Feria	St Peter's, Partick
4	Sun	Trinity 17	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
5	Mon	Feria	The housebound
6	Tue	Feria	The Anglican Communion
7	Wed	Feria	The Vestry
8	Thur	Alexander Penrose Forbes, Bishop, 1875	St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee
9	Fri	Feria	The Diocese of Brechin
10	Sat	Feria	Those training for Ministry
11	Sun	Trinity 18	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
12	Mon	Elizabeth Fry, 1845	Prisoners
13	Tue	Feria	The homeless
14	Wed	Feria	The Society of Friends
15	Thur	Teresa of Avila, Teacher, 1582	Mystics
16	Fri	Feria	The Preparatory Panel for Episcopal Elections
17	Sat	Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr, c 115	Bishops, Priests & Deacons
18	Sun	Trinity 19	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
19	Mon	Luke, Evangelist	Doctors
20	Tue	Feria	Nurses
21	Wed	Feria	Physiotherapists
22	Thur	Feria	Occupational therapists
23	Fri	James of Jerusalem, Martyr, c 62	People of Jerusalem
24	Sat	Feria	Peace in the Middle East
25	Sun	Trinity 20	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
26	Mon	Feria	Fire fighters
27	Tue	Feria	Police officers
28	Wed	Simon & Jude, Apostles	Those in trouble
29	Thur	James Hannington, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs, 1885	People of Uganda
30	Fri	Feria	Missionaries
31	Sat	Feria	The Scottish Guild of Servers