

# *Cathedral News*

*The Magazine of Perth Cathedral, St Ninian's*

*July - August 2023*



# *Who's Who at the Cathedral*

# From the Provost

Dear Friends,

This issue of the magazine covers both July and August.

I feel sure I'm not the first person to say, 'How time flies!' It's over three years ago that the first coronavirus pandemic lockdown was put in place. It also seems like yesterday that I was ordained deacon and then priested the following year, in St Ninian's Cathedral, by the late Bishop Michael Hare Duke. Now after 24 years as provost of the cathedral, it's time for me to move into retirement.



I've served ten congregations in this diocese including the cathedral, and during my ministry have met so many extraordinary and inspirational people, sharing our faith and lives. I've also worked alongside a good number of ordained and lay ministers, all of whom have had skills and abilities I've admired and thanked God for.

I still have a month to go, retiring at the end of July, and will have much to occupy me, so it's possibly a little early to express my gratitude and thanks fully just yet. The editor of *Cathedral News* has kindly agreed that I can submit one last article in September.

## Contents

Who's who	2	100th birthday!	12
From the Provost	3	General Synod report	12
The Provost's farewell	4	Christian Aid news	13
Readings and collects for		Painting of the Ascension	14
July and August	5	From the Farquhar diaries	14
American choir visit	9	Eddie the Eagle	15
Farewell to Helen	10	Bishop Ian's anniversary	15
Harshani's graduation	10	Times of services etc	15
Ruby wedding	11	Clergy contact details	16

We're having an extraordinary summer. It is such a joy to be able to sit in the garden, to relax, to feel the warmth of the sun and to muse or pray. It's also lovely to have the opportunity to eat outside or to be in the shade and read. I was with friends on the South Inch a few days ago, people watching, and we all agreed that the good weather brings with it a joy and happiness that we deserve after our long winter.

I think it's the same with faith. We all go through periods where life seems cold and grey and sometimes tough. I admit that it seems easier for me to pray at these times, as I long for change, and call on the Holy Spirit to get a move on. I then have to remind myself, to thank God for the times when all is going well, and life is sweeter. I suppose if it was summer all the time, we'd lose the joys of appreciation and gratitude.

As always, please do hold in your prayers those we know who experience the trials illness can bring, and those who care for them. There is a good number of people in our congregation who have reached the stage in life where it's not so easy to get around, and who spend much more time at home, but who are not forgotten and deserve our prayers and thanks. Please also remember the young people in our lives who are on holiday from school and those who are about to enter further education. And do thank God for the joys of summer and the wonderful gift of faith that keeps our hopes alive. Most importantly, never forget that we are all loved by God equally, just as we are right now.

With every blessing,  
Hunter

## ***Farewell Events for Provost Hunter***

### **Saturday 29 July**

Congregational lunch in the Chapter House, 12.30 for 1.00pm

*(Please add your name to the list on the noticeboard if you would like to come, or phone or email Marion in the office)*

### **Sunday 30 July**

11.00am: Sung Eucharist followed by coffee and cake

3.00pm: Choral Evensong followed by refreshments

# *Readings and Collects for July and August*

## **Fifth Sunday after Pentecost - 2 July**

**Collect:** Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love fulfils the law. May we love you with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, and all our strength, and may we love our neighbour as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Genesis 22.1-14, Psalm 89.1-4,15-18, Romans 6.12-23, Matthew 10.40-42

## **Thomas, Apostle - 3 July**

**Collect:** Almighty and ever-living God, who strengthened your apostle Thomas with faith in the resurrection of your Son: strengthen us when we doubt, and make us faithful disciples of Jesus Christ our risen Lord; who with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns eternally, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Habakkuk 2.1-4, Psalm 31.1-6, Hebrews 10.35-11.1, John 20.24-29

## **Sixth Sunday after Pentecost - 9 July**

**Collect:** Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of your children we do also for him. Give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave up his life and died for us, but lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Genesis 24.34-38,42-49,58-67, Psalm 45.11-18, Romans 7.15-25a, Matthew 11.16-19,25-30

## **Seventh Sunday after Pentecost - 16 July**

**Collect:** Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. May we find peace in your service, and in the world to come, see you face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Gen. 25.19-34, Ps. 119.105-112, Romans 8.1-11, Matthew 13.1-9,18-23

## **Mary Magdalene, Apostle - 22 July**

**Collect:** Almighty God, whose Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of mind and body, and called her to be a witness of his resurrection: forgive us and heal us by your grace, that we may serve you in the power of his risen life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Judith 9.1,11-14 or Song of Songs 3.1-4, Psalm 42.1-7, 2 Corinthians 5.14-17, John 20.1-3,11-18

## **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost - 23 July**

**Collect:** Almighty God, your Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence. Give us pure hearts and constant wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Genesis 28.10-19a, Psalm 139.1-11,22-23, Romans 8.12-25, Matthew 13.24-30,36-43

## **James, Apostle - 25 July**

**Collect:** Almighty God, we remember today your servant James, the first apostle to give his life for faith in Jesus Christ. Pour out on all your people that spirit of self-denying service which is the mark of true leadership. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Jeremiah 45.1-5, Psalm 7.1-10 or Psalm 126, Acts 11.27-12.2(3), Matthew 20.20-28

## **Ninth Sunday after Pentecost - 30 July**

**Collect:** O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Genesis 29.15-28, Psalm 105.1-11,(45b), Romans 8.26-39, Matthew 13.31-33,44-52

## **The Transfiguration of the Lord - 6 August**

**Collect:** Almighty God, on the holy mount you revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured. Mercifully deliver us from the darkness of this world, and change us into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Daniel 7.9-10,13-14, Psalm 97 or Psalm 99, 2 Peter 1.16-19, Luke 9.28-36

## **Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost - 13<sup>th</sup> August**

**Collect:** Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love, joy, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Genesis 37.1-4,12-28, Psalm 105.1-6,16-22,(45b), Romans 10.5-15, Matthew 14.22-33

## **Mary the Virgin - 15 August**

**Collect:** O God, you have taken to yourself the blessed Virgin Mary, mother of your incarnate Son. May we who have been redeemed by his blood share with her the glory of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Isaiah 7.10-15 or Revelation 11.19-12.6,10, Psalm 132.6-10,14-15 or Psalm 45.11-18, Galatians 4.4-7, Luke 1.46-55 or 2.1-7

## **Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost - 20 August**

**Collect:** Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and sent into our hearts the Spirit of your Son. Give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that all people may know the glorious liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Genesis 45.1-15, Psalm 133, Romans 11.1-2a,29-32, Matthew 15. (10-20),21-28

## **Bartholomew, Apostle - 24 August**

**Collect:** Almighty and everlasting God, who gave to your apostle Bartholomew grace to believe and preach your word: may your Church truly love what he believed and faithfully preach what he taught; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Deuteronomy 18.15-18 or Isaiah 43.8-13, Psalm 91 or Psalm 145.1-7, I Corinthians 4.9-15, Luke 22.24-30

## **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost - 27 August**

**Collect:** Almighty God, we are taught by your word that all our doings without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Exodus 1.8 – 2.10, Psalm 124, Romans 12.1-8, Matthew 16.13-20

## **The Beheading of John the Baptist - 29 August**

**Collect:** Almighty God, who called John the Baptist to give witness to the coming of your Son and to prepare his way: strengthen us by your grace, that as he suffered for the truth, so we may boldly resist corruption and sin, and receive with him the unfading crown of glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** 2 Chronicles 24.17-21, Psalm 71.1-6,15-17, Hebrews 11.32-40, Mark 6.17-29

## **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost - 3 September**

**Collect:** Author and Giver of all good things, graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us in all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Exodus 3.1-15, Psalm 105.1-6,23-26,(45b), Romans 12.9-21, Matthew 16.21-28

# *What's Been Going On?*

## **Birmingham Boys Choir, Alabama**

The above choir left the USA on 30 May on a week's tour of Scotland and joined with the cathedral choir here in Perth to sing at the main service on 4 June. Refreshments, including cake, were served in the Chapter House afterwards. Many thanks to Christopher and Lis for the following photos.



## A Fond Farewell to Helen



Helen Worthington (*pictured left*) has now moved to south-west Scotland to be nearer her family and the congregation bade her a fond farewell at the service on 4 June, presenting her with a bunch of flowers. Helen was involved with many activities during her years at the cathedral, including the community lunches and more recently as a sacristan. We wish her well in her new life.

She has had a long connection with Perth and indeed the editor remembers her as a very young games teacher at Perth Academy in the early 1970s!

## Graduation

Many congratulations to Harshani, a member of the congregation and also our caretaker, who recently graduated with an MSc in accounting from Dundee University. She was presented with flowers at the service on 25 June. She is pictured right with her husband, Amal. A proud day for her, and her family back home in Sri Lanka!



## Cover Photo

A timely but possibly unwelcome reminder that July and August are statistically two of the wetter months of the year in Scotland - sorry!

## Ruby Wedding

And many congratulations, too, to Ian and Jackie whose Ruby Wedding anniversary was celebrated in the cathedral on 18 June.



## *100th Birthday*

Gladys Ogilvy-Shepherd OBE, a kind and generous friend of the cathedral, has recently celebrated her 100th birthday. A great achievement and we send her our warmest congratulations and birthday wishes.

## *The General Synod 2023*

This year I engaged with the proceedings of the General Synod of the Scottish Episcopal Church via live stream. The event took place from 8<sup>th</sup> June to 10<sup>th</sup> June and, as you can imagine, there was a lot going on and much reading to do beforehand. In the agenda and papers sections alone, there were 245 papers to read and I am still ploughing through them! I did, though, make suggestions to various items on the agenda, courtesy of 'chat'. There were six bishops taking part this year and each contributed greatly to the proceedings.

### **Thursday 8 June**

The opening Eucharist was presided over by the Primus with the other Bishops on hand. The Primus gave an address which included the words, 'We serve God's Church, not our church. God will be with us if we are faithful in our lives.' He also discussed the Net Zero Action Plan and the custodianship of Creation. The Synod backed the Net Zero Action Plan. Bishop Ian, the provincial environment group convener, described the objective as being a 'whole church challenge.'

There were guests from other denominations. Regarding other business, Dr. Mike Hull is now principal of the Scottish Episcopal Institute. Alistair Dinnie stood down from his role as the SEC representative on the Anglican Consultative Council. Many Synod members wore black to show support for the 'Thursdays In Black' campaign, a global movement urging an end to violence against women.

### **Friday 9 June**

Today's highlight was the address to General Synod by the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Rt. Rev. Sally Foster-Fulton. The moderator acknowledged the importance of the St Andrews Declaration and working together for a better ecumenical world. She also quoted 'Remember who you are,' which was the

theme of the General Assembly, and elaborated on 'the Body of Christ.'

The various committees of the General Synod discussed canons and put forth motions, which were voted upon. These included new rules on the election of bishops. Dr. Hull spoke on developments in lay learning and masters' courses in the Scottish Episcopal Institute. There was a report from the Administration Board. The College of Bishops responded to questions arising from Thursday's discussion groups. We finished the day with Evening Prayer.

### **Saturday 10 June**

I had some trouble with live streaming today and missed the final session. There was a focus on the younger people of the Scottish Episcopal Church. Claire Benton-Evans, the provincial youth coordinator introduced three young people who talked about how the church can help their generation. Young adults have represented the SEC in the UK, Germany, France and Ghana, as well as at the Lambeth Conference, the World Council of Churches, etc. There was also a session on safeguarding. Various people were added to committees, and the Primus gave the closing act of worship with the confirmation of the Acts of Synod.

I found the whole experience to be a bit of a roller-coaster ride. However, I was glad to be able to engage in it. Hopefully next year I will be there in person. I look forward to that. *(Some of the information above has been taken from the SEC website.)*

*Emmanuel Patterson, Lay Representative*

## ***Christian Aid News***

### **The Walk**

The recent sponsored walk has now raised over £2000 for Christian Aid. Well done to all those involved, not least the walkers!

### **The Annual Quiz**

This popular event will take place at 7.00pm on Friday 1 September at Letham St Mark's Church, Rannoch Road, Perth. The entry fee is £6.00 per person and includes refreshments. It's a great evening and the more the merrier!

## *Update on the Painting of the Ascension*



Further to the article in last month's issue about the painting of the Ascension in the Lady Chapel, eagle-eyed Margot and Liz took a closer look at the bottom right, where artists generally sign their work, and guess what? They found the signature of William Hole. It's not easy to see but is definitely there. So we now know that he painted it and it is not a copy of his work by someone else.

Meanwhile an art restorer has examined the painting with a view to cleaning it professionally and will report back.

## *From the Farquhar Diaries*

**25 July 1923.** N and I went up to Glenalmond with a big party in a huge motor-car for 'Commem' [*ie the end of term celebrations*]. It is these quick going motors that the 20th is distinguished from the 19th century. In the latter it was always in horse-drawn vehicles that we went and they took twice as long and Coll [*ie Trinity College Glenalmond as it then was*] seemed completely cut off from the world. This Commem is notable as being the last appearance of Mr Longland as Warden. I sincerely like and respect the man, but, for some reason or another, the School has not done brilliantly under him. The speeches in Hall had therefore to be somewhat diplomatic but things went very well to all outward seeming.

*An extract from The Diary of the Very Rev G T S Farquhar, edited and published by the late Margaret Lye.*

**Congratulations to Bishop Ian who on 2 July celebrates the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. All welcome at the Sung Eucharist in the cathedral at 6.00pm.**

## *Eddie the Eagle says...*

I'm sure we're all looking forward to a bit of down time in the summer. The cathedral, however, where I rule the roost (unfortunately it's only the roost at the moment, but the provostship will soon be vacant - hint!), will be a very different place when we start up again in the autumn. Hunter will have retired and I hope we can give him a really good send off on 29 and 30 July. Meanwhile, if we can have women bishops why not an avian provost? Just asking for a friend...



### *Times of Services etc*

At St Ninian's we extend a warm welcome to all those who come to share in the worship of God in the name of Jesus Christ.

#### **Services**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>11.00am</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>9.00am</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>9.00am</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>9.00am; Eucharist 11.00am</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>9.00am</b>

#### **Giving**

For all committed giving, envelopes and covenants, please contact Chris Ahern, our treasurer, who will be delighted to advise.

#### **Flowers**

Flowers greatly enhance our worship. If you can help or donate, please contact Molly or Hazel.

#### **And finally...**

If you have an article for the magazine, or a suggestion for one, please either pass it to the editor, Jeremy Duncan, or email it to [cathedralmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:cathedralmagazine@gmail.com). The closing date for inclusion in the September magazine is **20 August**.

## **Perth Cathedral, St Ninian's**

Cathedral of the Scottish Episcopal Church in the  
Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane.

We are one of the family of Anglican churches throughout the world.

The cathedral is served by a clergy and lay team:

### **Bishop**

The Right Rev'd Ian Paton  
Diocesan Office, 28a Balhousie Street, Perth, PH1 5HJ  
Tel: 01738 443173

### **Provost**

The Very Rev'd Hunter Farquharson

### **Assisting Clergy**

The Rev'd Peter Higson

The Rev'd Philip Francis

### **Retired Clergy**

The Rev'd Canon Celia Matthews

### **Lay Reader**

Lis Burke

### **Cathedral Office**

Cathedral Office, North Methven Street, Perth, PH1 5PP  
Tel: 01738 632053

Email: [office@perthcathedral.co.uk](mailto:office@perthcathedral.co.uk)

Visit our website at: [www.perthcathedral.co.uk](http://www.perthcathedral.co.uk)

Registered Scottish Charity SC010656

Registered Scottish Charity SC010656