

The Vicar Writes...

Dear Friends

This month sees the day of Pentecost on 9th June and though we will not get the same numbers as Christmas and Easter, it is perhaps the most important day of the church's year. In the Acts of the Apostles we read of the events of Pentecost. There is an atmosphere of disturbance and exhilaration. On this day the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles and the church. In the letter to the Romans, it is the Spirit who assures us that we are children of God and enables us to live as such, and in the letter to the Galatians he is the source of such virtues as gentleness or goodness. In at least two places St. Paul makes it clear that the gifts of the Spirit are varied because the activity of the Spirit is varied.

The Holy Spirit describes God in action. God in the present. We live in the age of the Spirit. It is through the Holy Spirit that God now seeks to communicate with men and women. At times the Spirit may shake us out of complacency; at others the Spirit seeks to settle and stabilise us. He is symbolised in the scriptures both as the fire that refines and as the dove that soothes. All this points to the one basic truth that God is real, present, living, immediate, here. That is what it means to believe in the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is there to help and support us. Perhaps you are unclear how to cope with the next bit of your life. Perhaps it is the demands of your work, or the fact that you don't have any; perhaps it is your own loneliness or fear, or the pressures put upon you by someone close to you. For all this, God promises what you need; turn to him and you will have the reserves of patience, strength, wisdom or

endurance that you need. They may not come dramatically, and they may seem to be missing sometimes; but be patient, Christ has promised his Spirit to all that follow him, and that promise he will fulfil. The Holy Spirit is adequate to the needs of which you are conscious, but also to those of which you are not.

With all good wishes,

Andrew

St. Peter, the 'rock' (29th June)

The two most famous apostles are remembered this month, for they share a feast day.

St Peter (d. c. 64AD), originally called Simon, was a married fisherman from Bethsaida, near the Sea of Galilee. He met Jesus through his brother, Andrew. Jesus gave him the name of Cephas (Peter) which means rock. Peter is always named first in the list of apostles. He was one of the three apostles who were privileged to witness the Transfiguration, the raising of the daughter of Jairus, and the Agony in the Garden.

When Peter made his famous confession of faith, that Jesus was the Christ, Jesus recognised it as being the result of a revelation from the Father. He in turn told Peter that he would be the rock on which His Church would be built, that the 'gates of hell' would never prevail against it. Peter and the apostles would have the power of 'binding and loosing', but Peter would be personally given 'the keys of the kingdom of heaven'. Jesus also forewarned Peter of his betrayal and subsequent strengthening of the other apostles. After His Resurrection, Jesus appeared to Peter

before the other apostles, and later entrusted him with the mission to feed both the lambs and the sheep of Christ's flock.

Peter played a big part in the early Church, and is mentioned many times in the Book of Acts, where in the early chapters he organised the choice of Judas' successor, preached with stirring authority at Pentecost; and was the very first apostle to work a miracle. Peter went on to defend the apostles' right to teach at the Sanhedrin, and to condemn Ananias and Sapphira. It was Peter who first realised that Christianity was also for the Gentiles, after his meeting with Cornelius. Later he took a prominent part in the council at Jerusalem and went on to clash with St Paul at Antioch for hesitating about eating with Gentiles. Early tradition links Peter with an apostolate and martyrdom at Rome. The New Testament does not tell us either way, but Peter being in Rome would make sense, especially as Peter's first epistle refers to 'Babylon', which was usually identified with Rome. Peter's presence in Rome is mentioned by early church fathers such as Clement of Rome and Irenaeus. Tradition also tells us that Peter suffered under Nero and was crucified head-downwards. There is no conclusive proof either way that St Peter's relics are at the Vatican, but it is significant that Rome is the only city that ever claimed to be Peter's place of death.

St Peter was a major influence on Mark when writing his gospel, and the First Epistle of Peter was very probably his. (Many scholars believe that the Second Epistle was written at a later date.)

From very early times Peter was invoked by Christians as a universal saint. He was the heavenly door-keeper, the patron of the Church and the papacy, a saint both powerful and accessible.

In England there were important dedications to Peter from early times: monasteries such as Canterbury, Glastonbury, Malmesbury, Peterborough, Lindisfarne, Whitby, Wearmouth, and especially Westminster. Cathedrals were named after him, too: York, Lichfield, Worcester and Selby. In all, it has been calculated that 1,129 pre-Reformation churches were dedicated to St Peter, and another 283 to SS Peter and Paul together.

Images of Peter are innumerable, but his portraiture remains curiously the same: a man with a square face, a bald or tonsured head, and a short square, curly beard. Not surprisingly, his chief emblem is a set of keys, sometimes along with a ship or fish.

St. Paul, Apostle to the Gentiles (29th June)

Like Peter, Paul (d. c. 65) also started life with another name: Saul. This great apostle to the Gentiles was a Jew born in Tarsus and brought up by Gamaliel as a Pharisee. So keen was he to defend the god of his fathers that he became a persecutor of Christianity, and even took part in the stoning of Stephen. He hunted Christians down and imprisoned them, and it was while on his way to persecute more Christians in Damascus that he was suddenly given his vision of Christ.

It was the decisive moment of Paul's life – Paul suddenly realised that Jesus was truly the Messiah, and the Son of God, and that He was calling Paul to bring the Christian faith to the Gentiles. Paul was then healed of his temporary blindness, baptised, and retired to Arabia for about three years of prayer and solitude, before returning to Damascus. From then on Paul seems to have lived a life full of hazard and hardship. He made many Jewish enemies, who stoned him, and wanted to kill him. Nevertheless, Paul made three

great missionary journeys, first to Cyprus, then to Asia Minor and eastern Greece, and lastly to Ephesus, where he wrote 1 Corinthians, then to Macedonia and Achaia, where he wrote Romans, before returning to Jerusalem.

After stonings, beatings and imprisonment in Jerusalem he was sent to Rome for trial as a Roman citizen. On the way he was shipwrecked at Malta; when he finally reached Rome he was put under house-arrest for two years, during which time he wrote the four 'captivity' epistles. Later Paul may have revisited Ephesus and even have reached Spain. Tradition tells he was eventually martyred at Rome during the persecution of Nero, being beheaded (as a Roman citizen) at Tre Fontane and buried where the basilica of St Paul 'outside the walls' now stands. The belief that Peter and Paul died on the same day was caused by their sharing the same feast day.

Paul was not only a tireless missionary, but a great thinker. His epistles played a major part in the later development of Christian theology. Paul's key ideas include that Redemption is only through faith in Christ, who abrogated the old Law and began the era of the Spirit; that Christ is not just the Messiah, but the eternal, pre-existent Son of God, exalted after the Resurrection to God's right-hand; that the Church is the (mystical) body of Christ; that the believers live in Christ and will eventually be transformed by the final resurrection.

It is difficult to overemphasise the influence of Paul on Christian thought and history: he had a major effect on Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Luther, Calvin and others. In art, Paul is depicted as small in stature, bald and bandy-legged, with a long face, long nose and eyebrows meeting over deep-set eyes. His usual emblems are a sword and a book. In England he was never as popular as St Peter, and

ancient English churches dedicated to him alone number only 43.

The history of the relics of Peter and Paul is not very clear. Tradition says that Peter was buried at the Vatican and Paul on the Ostian Way under his basilica. Certainly, both apostles were venerated from very early times both in the Liturgy and in private prayers, as testified by Greek and Latin graffiti in the catacombs of the early 3rd century.

A GLASGOW GLANCE

South of the Ayrshire and Lanarkshire villages of Symington - 'back to roots' - we Symingtons landed at *Glasgow Airport* on a Monday lunchtime in March. The air and *Glaswegian* banter was bright and fresh. the engaging taxi driver told us of the surprisingly strong Italian presence and how film-makers often use the very 'up and down' San Franciscan-like streets and buildings as American backdrops.

Having established our hotel base, we assaulted the very decent Tourist Information Centre and came away bedazzled by the range of artistic culture and characterful buildings to see. We quickly determined on a 2 day pass for the red hop on and off buses, as a way of accessing most of the places of interest. The inclusion of an ear-plugged running commentary throughout the circular route was an added bonus and a fine introduction to the historic centre of this marvellous city.

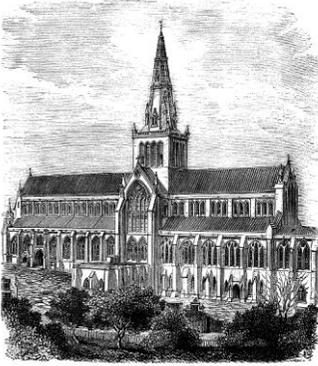
We first jumped bus at The Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum - a large and pre-possessing Victorian building of regal qualities. We 'coffeed' within sight of Fulton's orrery; fascinatingly demonstrating the movements of our solar system, before we immersed ourselves in the hall, housing the fabulous art collection. Fine European pieces; Italian Renaissance pictures by Giovanni Bellini and Sandro Botticelli gave way to France's Monet, Holland's Van Gogh and Spain's Salvador Dali. At its artistic heart we saw the splendid work created by Scottish artists from the 19th century, leading on to the two distinctive groups of the 20th century - The Glasgow Boys and The Scottish Colourists with their free, vigorous and bright canvasses. A rich heritage indeed!

Three other sections not to be missed were the Leonardo da Vinci drawings, on loan from The Queen's collection; a terrific selection from the medieval store at the currently being refurbished Burrell Collection and finally examples of husband Charles Rennie and wife Margaret Macdonald's modern and imaginative designs. After 4 hours we stepped outside, having seen less than half of what that amazing "palace of dreams" has to offer - stunning.

Smitten by Mackintosh, we visited The Lighthouse in the centre, displaying examples of his life's work, with biographical facts. At another jump from the bus, his house at Hillhead greatly impressed with his cool simple lines, the domestic wooden furniture and the decorative embellishments, extending to jewellery and painting. We were greatly encouraged to note that his wife, Margaret Macdonald is increasingly acknowledged as a considerable talent in her own right.

We took tea at The Willow Tea-Room on Sauchiehall Street (Sauchiehall means alley of the willows). Here Mackintosh had been granted total control of both the architectural and decorative elements. The result was a deceptively simple and open triumph - a vision in white.

Other pleasant dining experiences were breakfasting in the hotel's rooftop restaurant; lunch at The University's Undercroft canteen and a splendid supper at a wonderful Italian restaurant, just minutes from our bed.



Our final visit was to the Cathedral - a vast medieval place of worship, blackened inside and out by a former chemical factory that no longer pollutes the porous sandstone. Dark and a little foreboding, it has both a Upper and a Lower church - plenty to explore. The Lower was built in the mid-1200s. At the centre of this

beautifully, vaulted space, sits the tomb of patron Saint Mungo, guarded by 4 columns. Nearby, on a side chapel altar, rested one of the original King James' bibles, lying open to read.

In the Upper, fine stained glass windows give colour to the surrounding stone and military flags testify to a strong link to historic and local regiments, whose fallen are respectively carved around the walls. The massive Nave leads on to the impressive stone Quire Screen, built in the time (1500) of Archbishop Blacader. On passed the Chancel, lies the 15th century, Upper Chapter House, with its oak doors; the only original doors left in

the Cathedral, in which you can still see the holes caused by lead shot, reminding one of violent incidents in the past.

Whilst talking with an enthusiastic volunteer about our links to Lichfield Cathedral and our chorister son, Helene was introduced to a casually dressed, middle aged man in black, who just happened to be the Rev. Dr. Laurence Whitlet, the Minister of the Cathedral. He was very welcoming - talk of Cathedral traditions and differences made for a humbling experience.

Back at the airport for our return flight, we learnt that our flight was being delayed for over an hour. Explaining our situation to a member of staff, we enjoyed a final bit of Glaswegian wit. She asked which airline we were flying with. "Flybe" we replied. To which she countered, "Oh, Fly May Be, you mean"!

Two months down the track, another Scottish link was resurrected. We had toyed with the idea of continuing a strong male line of Archibalds with our son - discounting it in view of Andrew's hairline! With the naming of the new royal Archie, we realised we had missed an opportunity!

Andrew Symington

All in the month of June:

90 years ago, on 12th June 1929 that Anne Frank, German Jewish diarist and Holocaust victim, was born.

75 years ago, on 6th June 1944 that D-Day took place with the Normandy landings. Over 150,000 Allied troops landed on the beaches of Normandy, France, at the start of the



Battle of Normandy. The battle ended on 25th August and was an Allied victory.

65 years ago, on 7th June 1954 that Alan Turing died. This British mathematician, logician, cryptanalyst and computer scientist was noted for his contributions to codebreaking during World War II. Considered the father of theoretical computer science and artificial intelligence. Prosecuted for his homosexuality.

CALENDAR FOR JUNE

EASTER 7

Sun	2 nd	8.00 am 10.30 am 6.00 pm	Holy Communion Parish Communion Evening Prayer
Wed	5 th	10.30 am	Holy Communion <i>at St. Nicolas</i>
Thurs	6 th	10.00 am	Parish Art Group
Fri	7 th	10.30 am 7.00 pm	Coffee Morning in hall MIDSUMMER ART SOIREE

PENTECOST

Sun	9 th	8.00 am 10.30 am 2.00 pm 6.00 pm	Holy Communion Matins (<i>Sunday Club in hall</i>) Wedding of Robert Bowering & Emily Bolden Evening Prayer
Wed	12 th	10.30 am	Holy Communion <i>at St. Nicolas</i>
Fri	14 th	9.30 am	Baby Group <i>in hall</i>

TRINITY SUNDAY

Sun	16 th	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		9.30 am	Family Service
		10.30 am	Parish Communion
		6.00 pm	Choral Evensong
Wed	19 th	10.30 am	Holy Communion <i>at St. Nicolas</i>
Thurs	20 th	10.00 am	Parish Art Group
Fri	21 st	10.30 am	Coffee Morning in hall

TRINITY 1

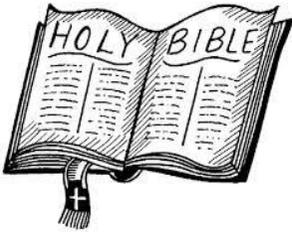
Sun	23 rd	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.30 am	Matins (<i>Sunday Club in hall</i>)
		6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
Tues	25 th	10.00 am	Craft Group <i>in hall</i>
Wed	26 th	10.30 am	Holy Communion <i>at St. Nicolas</i>
Thurs	27 th	3.30 pm	Magazine collation
Fri	28 th	9.30 am	Baby Group
Sat	29 th	4.30 pm	Tom's ordination as priest at Salisbury Cathedral

TRINITY 2

Sun	30 th	8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.30 am	Parish Communion
			NO EVENING PRAYER

TOM'S ORDINATION

The centre of Salisbury will be closed from 6.00 am until 2.00 pm on the Saturday of Tom's ordination as it is Armed Forces Day. So it might be better to arrive after 2.00 pm when, hopefully, the roads will have re-opened!



SUNDAY READINGS IN JUNE

Sunday 2nd June – EASTER 7

OLD TESTAMENT: Ezekiel 36.24-28

For the prophet Ezekiel those gifts from God which will enable Israel to live up to their share in God's covenant are a new heart and a new spirit.

NEW TESTAMENT: Acts 16.16-34

Paul and Silas are released from prison by the jailer who asked to be saved. He washed their wounds, was baptised and joyously came to believe in God.

GOSPEL: John 17. 20-end

Jesus prays for all believers that they may be complete in him and be brought to his glory.

Sunday 9th June – PENTECOST

OLD TESTAMENT: Genesis 11.1-9

God maintains his pre-eminence in the midst of his Creation by confounding the linguistic characteristics of the humans.

NEW TESTAMENT: Acts 2.1-21

In this account of the day of Pentecost, signs accompany the gift of the spirit to seal the new covenant.

Sunday 16th June – TRINITY SUNDAY

OLD TESTAMENT: Proverbs 8.1-4, 22-31

Wisdom calls to men and tells them that she has been with God since before the creation and throughout the creation itself.

NEW TESTAMENT: Romans 5.1-5

We have been justified by faith and God has poured out his love into our hearts by the gift of the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL: John 16.12-15

Jesus reassures his disciples that when he is gone to the Father, the Spirit will guide them, glorifying Jesus and giving them the truth from the Father.

Sunday 23rd June - TRINITY 1

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 65. 1-9

The Lord sits in judgement over the sinners but promises to save those whom he has chosen.

NEW TESTAMENT: Luke 8. 26-39

Jesus heals the demon-possessed man and tells him to spread the news of his good deed.

Sunday 30th June - TRINITY 2

OLD TESTAMENT: 1 Kings 19. 15-16

God instructs Elijah to appoint Elisha to succeed him and Elisha duly leaves his farm and follows Elijah.

NEW TESTAMENT: Galatians 5.1, 13-25

We are called to be free and to live in the spirit. Paul then goes on to describe the fruits of the spirit which are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

GOSPEL: Luke 9.51-end

Jesus defines the hardship of complete renunciation of family and material comforts as a necessary prelude to the life of witness.

SUMMER FETE: SATURDAY 3rd AUGUST

from 2.00 pm



- It's that time of year again and we are beginning to collect items for sale, raffling, eating, giving away etc. and generally preparing for a 'bumper' occasion! Paperback and hardback novels, good quality 'white elephant'(only small items for this please and no electrical items at all) and 2nd hand clothing, toys, handbags, jewellery, the promise of cakes baked, good items for the raffle etc. will all - as usual - be required. If you can help in any way, particularly with clearing up at the end of the day, we would be very grateful. Details of who to contact for all such items will be in next month's JULY magazine, which will be on sale from Thursday 27th

June. But in the meantime please contact Andrew (the Vicar) on 01202 700341 if you would like to contribute...in any way.



We have used most of the bottles for the Tombola so Andrew would be grateful to receive more bottles for the fete.

If you would like to help at the fete we are always desperate for people to man the various stalls and car park. If you can help in any way then do contact Andrew.

World Premiere

The Bournemouth Symphony Chorus is proud to announce the world premiere of *Pietà*, a new work commissioned from the composer Richard Blackford.

Pietà is a setting of the Stabat Mater, with additional poems by the Russian poet Anna Akhmatova. Richard Blackford is one of the foremost concert and media composers in Europe. His concert works are performed regularly around the world.

The work is a co-commission from the Bournemouth Symphony Chorus and St Alban's Choral Society. The world premiere will take place on Saturday 22nd June at the Lighthouse, Poole, followed by the London premiere on 19th October at the Cadogan Hall. The 45-minute work, scored for mezzo-soprano and baritone soli, SATB chorus, children's chorus and string orchestra with soprano saxophone will be performed by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra with world renowned saxophonist Amy

Dickson. The soloists will be Jennifer Johnston and Stephen Gadd and the conductor will be Gavin Carr to whom the work is dedicated.

The first half of the concert will be the popular Fauré Requiem. Tickets for the evening concert can be purchased from Graham Luker at a 30% discount on the normal Lighthouse ticket price.

SECRET GARDENS OF THE CLOSE

The Friends of Salisbury Cathedral are inviting you to join them at their open gardens afternoon in June.

Secret Gardens of the Close takes place on **Sunday 9th June** and runs from 1pm to 5pm.

It is the Friends' major fundraising event of the year: the money raised last year is being used to sponsor a pinnacle on the north-east corner of the Cathedral.

Eleven gardens in Salisbury Cathedral Close will be open and tea and homemade cakes will be served in the garden of South Canonry - the home of the Bishop of Salisbury, the Rt Revd Nicholas Holtam and his wife, Helen.

Proceeds from the teas will go to the Sudan Medical Link.

There will be an exhibition of botanical art by Salisbury Florilegium Society in the Medieval Hall, artist Cliff Topping will be sketching in a number of the gardens and recorder group Close Consort will be playing.

There will be stalls on Choristers' Green, including the Friends' plant stall.

Friends' chairman Captain Duncan Glass said the public's response to the previous *Secret Gardens of the Close* afternoons had been overwhelming and he hoped visitors would support this year's event in even larger numbers.

He said: "Once again many of those who live in the Close have kindly agreed to support the Friends' charity by opening their, usually unseen, gardens to the public for our special day. "Each year this event attracts more interest from locals and visitors, with more than 1,100 attending last year. "This event enables the Friends to make additional grants to the Cathedral and we look forward to welcoming everyone on 9th June."

- Entry to the Secret Gardens of the Close event is £10, with children under 16 free.

The donation includes an entry programme and admission to all featured gardens. It is payable on the day from the Friends' gazebo on Choristers' Green.

For more information contact the Friends at 33a The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2EJ, telephone 01722 335161 or email friends@salcath.co.uk.

Garden visitors are advised to use city centre car parks, as parking in the Close is for disabled badge holders only and a charge is payable.

HOW DO YOU BECOME A VICAR?

This month, dioceses across the Church of England will welcome new deacons and priests at special services in their cathedrals. This is because, traditionally, most ordination services take place at the end of June, during Petertide.

Have you ever wondered how someone becomes a vicar? Here is a brief description of the journey:

It begins with a call from God upon your life. Discerning this can take months or even years of reflection and prayer. The next step is to talk to your vicar, or to a member of the vocations team in your diocese. Your diocese will help you

to identify what type of ministry could best suit your gifts and talents.

Your bishop will then send you to a selection residential known as a Bishop's Advisory Panel. Here they will assess your understanding of the Church, your faith, your sense of vocation, leadership, and collaboration.

The panel will decide whether or not to recommend to your bishop that you go forward for ordination training. If you are recommended, then the next step is to enter a training course at one of the theological education institutes (TEIs) based around the country. These can be either residential or non-residential.

Training usually takes two to three years. After the course, an ordinands will normally receive either a bachelor's degree or a diploma of higher education. Your tuition fees are covered by the Church, which also pays a contribution towards your living expenses.

After ordination, newly ordained clergy begin their ministerial life as deacons. The first jobs they do are called curacies (they are known as curates). Your curacy will be an opportunity to serve alongside an experienced vicar. Here you can put into practice the knowledge gained from your course and learn from them as you prepare for your own ministry.

After a year, most deacons are ordained again, as a priest. All sorts of people train for ordination. There really is no such thing as 'typical' ordained person. What all candidates *do* share is a genuine and heartfelt desire to serve God and to serve others.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

7th May Patricia Clifton Juett (94)

Baptism

19th May Henry Falk Hartwell
26th May Joseph Oliver Edward Old

Wedding

25th May Barry James Smith & Eleanor Ruth Baker

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sunday 2 nd June	Susanne King
Sunday 9 th June	Susanne King
Sunday 16 th June	Rozanne Parsons
Sunday 23 rd June	Rozanne Parsons
Sunday 30 th June	Rozanne Parsons



MAGAZINE DEADLINE

The deadline for the July edition of the
Church Magazine is
Friday 21st June