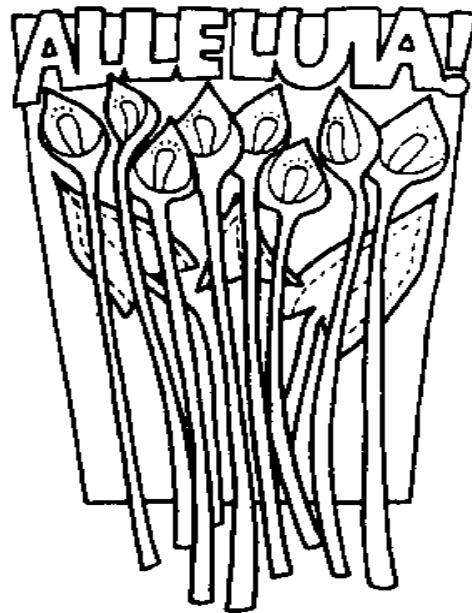


The Quarterly Magazine

**St. Mary's, Carden
Place**

Easter 2023



FROM THE RECTORY

At the time of writing this, we have already had three services today. Palm Sunday is the first day of Holy Week, a season that is the most important for all of Christianity.

As our week progresses we travel the journey with Jesus on his road to Golgotha after which we rejoice when the tomb is found to be empty. We all know the story well enough, so why do we get so emotionally involved in it every year?

Some may say that it is because we just still cannot comprehend, after all the time that has elapsed since Jesus' crucifixion, that a human (and divine) man was betrayed and treated so badly by the very people he was trying to save.

Some may say that it is just how Christianity gets its message across; regular and repetitive.

Some may even say that because Christianity relies so much on the reality of the Easter story, it must be re-enacted every year to feel vindicated.



There are many ideas, opinions and downright nonsense about Easter, so much so that I tend to steer away from it. Don't get me wrong here, I am not averse to a bit of controversy in my choice of reading material. I have read practically everything that Christopher Hitchens has published and if you don't know who Christopher 'Hitch' Hitchens is, then I suggest you google his name and maybe listen to/watch one of his presentations, you'll get my drift.

But enough about negativity. Once again, our Easter Egg appeal was a huge success, with all of the eggs being donated to the local Charity, Home Start. It never ceases to amaze me how generous people can be again and again, every year, with so many appeals for this, that, and the other. I often think I ask too much of everyone, but I am always proved wrong each year, and for that, I am eternally grateful.

We had an amazing curry night at St Mary's a few weeks ago, so much so that I was asked if we could do something similar again as soon as possible. I must say that the food and company were certainly exceptional on the evening and I am

sure that all who attended had a thoroughly good time. I think that this type of event is so useful as a community outreach as well as a bonding session for our congregation.

It gave me great pleasure on Palm Sunday, to formally announce that Mr Ferdinand von Prondzynski will serve his Curacy at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral after he is ordained Deacon in September of this year. We will be very fortunate to have Ferdinand on board as he has a wealth of knowledge that all of us will, I have absolutely no doubt, benefit from. I look forward very much to working with Ferdinand after he is ordained.

On the Subject of Ordination, we shall, unfortunately, be losing Godwin and Faustina Chimara and the three children. When Godwin is Ordained Deacon in September, he will serve his curacy at St John's Crown Street. We shall miss them all dearly as the whole family have been such an important part of our community here at St Mary's.

I am in regular touch with Fr Jason and Fr Roger, both of whom are sharing their individual and wonderful ministries with St Clement's and St John's respectively. Aberdeen is so lucky to have two Priests of such calibre and I know that you will join me in remembering both in your prayers.

I am hoping to take a few days off after Easter. I will probably stay at home as there is a plan to travel South for a few days nearer the end of the month.

The construction of the West-End Peace Garden will hopefully commence in May, and we have been assured that when it starts, the work will continue, apart from weekend breaks, to its conclusion, weather permitting. The estimated time from beginning to end is given as three weeks, so all being well, it will be in place for the summer months, when we, and the outlying community, can enjoy it. It will limit the parking footprint, but there will still be sufficient space for a few cars at the front and plenty down the side of the building. When the work is complete I will arrange a special service to have it blessed.

Bishop Anne remains suspended from her post as our Diocesan Bishop and I ask you to keep both her and Fr Roger in your prayers during this difficult time. I also ask you to remember Bishop John as he balances the demands of two dioceses in his role as our temporary Bishop.

So, by the time you read this, Easter will have happened. I hope that all of you were able to spend some quality time with your family and friends during the period and you were able to get to some of the many services available throughout the diocese.

We are Easter people, we are the people of God. Let us just enjoy being so lucky in the here and now.

Blessings Always

Cn Terry



CURRY NIGHT

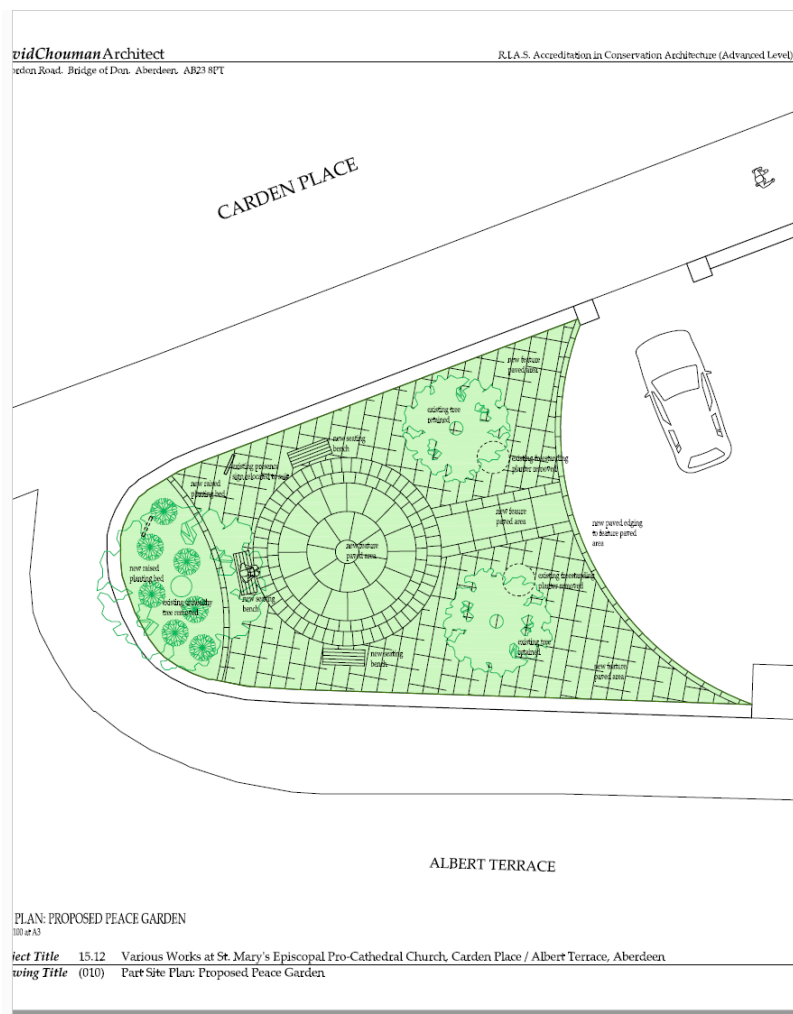
The Curry Night in March was a great success, and the choir vestry was vibrant with spicy smells as a good crowd tucked into curries made by the Rector, Iain Stewart and Davy Irvine, along with all kinds of side dishes and garnishes. A wonderful time was had by all!



THE PEACE GARDEN

On 21st. April it will be 80 years since a 500lb bomb fell through our chancel roof and into the crypt. It seems appropriate then that we are on the verge of starting our peace garden at St. Mary's! Final planning is coming into place for an area where people can sit amongst sweet-scented greenery and flowers that will help peace of mind and encourage local wildlife. The planting scheme is soft greens with purples, whites and a hint of yellow, all chosen to soothe the senses. Using a Scottish Episcopal Church grant for projects to help people recover after the pandemic, the conceptual design for the garden was provided by Susan Burgess (previously head gardener at Pitmedden Gardens) and digitally visualised by Alt Ten Interactive Ltd of Westhill, with contributions on the planting plans by Gerbera Designs and architect David Chouman. Benefact Trust and Aberdeen City Council Place Based Investment Programme provided supplementary funding to complete the project alongside a generous donation from a congregation member. The landscaping work will be carried out by local firm Landscaping in Aberdeen.

Let's hope the garden gives pleasure to St. Mary's, our neighbours, and passersby for many years.



EASTER EGG COLLECTION

Another fine gathering of Easter Eggs had appeared in church by Palm Sunday, the last day of this year's collection. These eggs have now been delivered to HomeStart who were delighted to receive them.



WOMEN ON OUR ROLL OF HONOUR

There are four women on St. Mary's Roll of Honour from the First World War, none of whom, fortunately, lost their lives in the conflict. One was a doctor, and the other three were members of the Territorial Force Nursing Service. This was a unit formed alongside the Territorial Force (later the Territorial Army) in 1911, and required women to have a recognised nurse training and three years' experience, and not to be married. It appears, however, that any who married in the course of the war were not dispensed with until the war was over! All but perhaps one of our ladies had only a fleeting connexion, it seems, with St. Mary's: they all led remarkably varied lives. Do you know anything about them?

Dr Louise Fraser, RAMC

Louise Fraser was born in Rondebosch, South Africa, in 1891. She may have moved to Scotland with her parents or may have come here to study: we know that she graduated MB ChB from St. Andrews in 1916, joined the General Medical Council register in the same year, and immediately joined the Royal Army Medical Corps to serve in the theatre of Malta and Salonica. She remained there until 1919, and was for a time a hospital patient in Aberdeen. She was a house surgeon at Dundee Royal Infirmary and a resident medical officer at Manchester Children's Hospital, graduating MD from St. Andrews in 1925. By 1935 she was Honorary Anaesthetist in the Northern Infirmary, Inverness, but in 1939 she was living in Fountainhall Road, Aberdeen. Returning north, she lived for a time in a house called

Rondebosch. She died in St Vincent's Home in Kingussie, in 1964, and her gravestone was erected by the Sisters of Charity 'whom she tended for many years'.

Leslie Caroline Lippett TFNS

Leslie Lippett was born in Malta in 1880, to an English father and a Maltese mother. Her father appears to have served with the British Army. Three sisters followed born in Malta, and after the family moved to Aberdeen around 1887, to the barracks on Castlehill, another sister and brother were born. Leslie, as the eldest, was probably already training to be a nurse in helping to look after her siblings. When her father died, the family address was 26 Stanley Street, just next door to our present rectory. He was by then an army pensioner and commercial traveller, working for a soap manufacturer, but by the time war broke out he had been ill for nearly a year with stomach cancer. Again she was likely to have helped to nurse him, and registered his death at 3 Albyn Place, a nursing home, in November 1914. She seems to have served in France and Flanders. She registered as a midwife in 1923, living and working at Meadowbank, Cults, where she became matron before she retired. She died in Aberdeen in 1941.

Edith Mary Macfarlane RRC, Matron, TFNS

Edith Macfarlane was born in 1876 at Berrybank, Aberdeen, a largish house round about where Sainsbury's is now at Berryden. She was the second of five sisters. Her father was a customs officer, and had married her mother in Cullen. The family moved around a good deal: in 1878 they were in Banff, in 1887 in Great Yarmouth, and 1891 in London. The family must have moved back to Aberdeen again, to Rubislaw, for it was there that her father died in 1903. In the course of what seems to have been an active life, Edith travelled to Canada, America, India, and the Philippines. In 1911 she was living in London, a matron in the Royal Ear Hospital, Soho. She served as matron through the war and afterwards lived in Chertsey, Surrey, continuing to travel the world. Her mother died in Rubislaw in 1929, and Edith herself, described as a Lady Hospital Superintendent in Kensington, died in Southwark in 1941.

Caroline Weir TFNS

Caroline Weir was born in Forgue in 1883, the daughter of a farmer, and trained as a nurse in the Royal Infirmary, Dundee, in 1910. By 1911 she was working as a hospital nurse in Milton, Lanarkshire, but on her registration with the Royal College of Nurses in 1917 she was living in Aberdeen in Richmondhill Road. In 1921 she emigrated to South Africa to work as a nurse, and there married Charles Cuthbert Stewart. They lived in Cape Town, where she died in 1974.

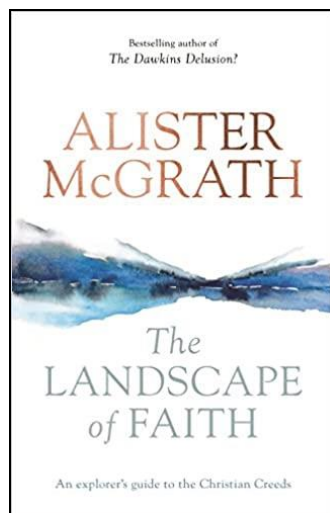


COMPETITIONS

The deadline for our Poetry Competition has now been extended to the end of June, so you have a little time yet to polish those rhymes and get them in! The rules are on the website and the entries can be sent in to David Rose or the Rector, or to stmaryscardenplace.org.uk. There will be another photographic competition at the end of the summer, so it's time to start thinking about your holiday snaps or portraits of your prize petunias!

BOOK REVIEW

Alister McGrath, *The Landscape of Faith*



Though this book is full of geographical imagery, the ‘landscape’ of the title, it is in fact, as it says, ‘an explorer’s guide to the Christian creeds’. McGrath sees the creeds as a guide to remind us what we believe in, but more than that: they are a map, a lens, a light, and a tapestry, showing us the wonder of God in different ways. He draws on writers such as Dorothy L. Sayers and C.S. Lewis to illustrate how we come to faith and what it consists of when we get there, weaving in some of his own story of conversion from atheism. A step by step analysis of the structure of our creeds shows what is there, why, and where it comes from, and the purpose of such a statement of faith. What does it say to a newcomer? What does it leave out? How was it pared down to this minimalist statement? How did such professions of faith sit with the early Christians, and what do they do for us now? This book gives a fascinating account of that section of our services with which we are all familiar, but which can say so much more than is just on the page in front of us.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Landscape-Faith-Explorers-Christian-Creeds/dp/0281076251>

ACCOUNTS

December 2022

Income:	3,851
Expenditure:	<u>5,015</u>
Net result for month:	-1,164

Balance unrestricted funds:	40,703
Balance restricted funds:	90,936
Balance at month end:	£131,639

January 2023

Income:	8,559
Expenditure:	<u>7,200</u>
Net result for month:	1,359

February 2023

Income:	11,771
Expenditure:	<u>7,705</u>
Net result for month:	4,066

FEELING ARTISTIC?

Would you like to come and help with the church flowers? Learn with us as we try to manage without Oasis! Please contact Nicola Mills if you are interested – help provided if you're not confident.



CHURCH DIRECTORY

Rector: Canon the Rev. Terry Taggart 07768 219984 / 01224 588776

Assistant Priests: Rev. Jason Hobbs, Rev. Roger Dyer

Rector's Warden: John Cooke

People's Warden: Iain Stewart

Vestry Secretary: Jenny Cruickshank

Vestry Treasurer: Lydia Ross

Lay Representative: Nicola Mills

Sacristan: Anne Farquhar

Organist: Matthew McVey

Protection of Vulnerable Groups Co-ordinator: Graham Thomson

Flower Convener: (please contact Nicola Mills for now)

Church Office (01224 561383) stmaryscardenplace@gmail.com

Online: www.stmaryscardenplace.org.uk / facebook.com/stmaryscardenplace

The deadline for the next magazine, our Trinity 2023 issue, will be 3rd. July. Copy when required to Nicola Mills, or telephone 01224 488700, or e-mail to palaeography@aol.com. Thank you!

Your Magazine

You can order your St. Mary's News to be sent to you each quarter by e-mail, or ask for a Large Print version, or ask for any back copies of editions you may have missed. Just contact the Editor!

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Carden Place, is a charity (Scottish Charity No. SCO 14062).