

**Scottish Episcopal Linked Charges
of Wigtownshire**

**All Saints Church, Challoch
with St Ninian Fellowship**

**(situated on the A714 Newton Stewart to Girvan
Road**

approx 2 miles out of Newton Stewart)



**Issue No 68
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER**



Priest in Charge Vacancy at present.

Two Very Scottish Saints

St. Margaret of Scotland (16th November) was not only a great Scottish saint, but also an English Princess and a Scottish Queen. She was the mother of three Scottish kings, and can be considered as an ancestor of the mighty Stewart dynasty. Margaret was born in Hungary in 1046, but she was a daughter of the royal Anglo Saxon house. After 1066 and the Norman conquests she fled to Scotland and was cared for by the royal household of Malcolm the Third, marrying him in 1069. This was by no means just a marriage of political convenience; by all accounts they were not only happily married but the warlike Malcolm, more akin to a Scottish chieftain, seemed to have been softened somewhat by her strong Christian faith. He was not noted for piety himself, having fought Danes, Normans, and invaded Northumbria and raided Lindisfarne, possibly killing Bishop William Walcher in Gateshead. He had already killed Macbeth and thus gained the Scottish throne in 1058. Margaret may not have "converted" Malcolm, but he did probably found Dunfermline Abbey as a monastic community, and it was here that his godly wife's remains were laid to rest after she died in 1093. By now her Christian fervour and charitable generosity was nationally established, ---she is named for many churches and educational institutions, and even North and South Queensferry are named after her. It was on the Firth of Forth that she had established a ferry for pilgrims to cross into St. Andrew's in Fife. Queue our next saint--- Saint Andrew (30th November) could easily have been a pale shadow of his brother, Simon Peter. Both were humble fishermen recorded in the bible as part of the inner circle of our Lord Jesus Christ's "Twelve Disciples". St. Peter went on to become one of the founding fathers of the Christian Church and is claimed by the Roman Catholic tradition

to be the first Pope. " Upon this rock I will build my church" said Jesus. of this towering figure who wrote much of the New Testament including being the inspiration of Mark's Gospel. Andrew was mentioned in the miracle of the *Feeding of the Five Thousand* and in fact it was he who brought his brother Peter and others to Jesus and to faith. Yet this rugged largely uneducated son of the sea is now the patron saint of Scotland *and* (along with St.Nicholas) of Russia. The poor fisherman far from being St. Peter's understudy became a bright beckon of hope to thousands suffering under the Stalinist years of cruel regime and a challenge to an evil dictatorship. In Scotland he is more than revered. His symbol, the Saltire, makes up one of the three crosses comprising the national flag of Great Britain; *the Union Jack*. It is likely that in dying a martyr's death he refused to die in the same way as Our Lord and begged to die X- shaped, hence " The St. Andrew's Cross". He was also one of the great missionaries of the early Church, preaching and doing Christian deeds throughout Greece and Asia Minor. One tradition has it that he got as far as the Kingdom of Fife in Scotland, to the university town named after him; more likely his relics were carried there in the eighth century. On a lighter note he is a busy man, being the patron saint of fishermen, fishmongers, would-be mothers, maidens, --- sore throats , and gout! The writer Michael Turnbull advocates his articular skills of communication--- and has called him the Patron Saint of " Social Networking" . Countless churches throughout the world are dedicated to Saint Andrew.

Stephen D. Hazlett, Interim Priest All Saints Challoch.

Both the newsletter and weekly pew sheet can be emailed direct to you rather than having a printed copy, If you would prefer this please contact Margaret Turner

Email: sandraturner4474@gmail.com

and both are available on our website *www.allsaintschalloch.com* minus the Intercessions.

Herb Robert or *Geranium robertianum* has a history in herbalism and folk tradition that goes back a long way. It is variously thought to be named for St. Robert of Molesme, St. Rupert of Salzburg or St. Robert of Turlande, all monks with reputations as herbalists and servants of the poor dating from the 8th to the 11th centuries. These are derivations from its good reputation, but the poor plant also has a darker reputation shown in names connecting its red colour with the evil fairy, Puck. Apparently fairies are rather paranoid about being addressed by name, so Puck was traditionally called Robin Goodfellow to avoid annoying him. From this association comes the fear that the plant is a symbol of approaching death which will follow if it is taken into the home and hence the names Death-come-quick or Crow's foot. There are well over a hundred folk names for this plant



Herbalists thought God showed the uses to which plants could be put in the doctrine of signatures, by their resemblance to diseases or body parts, which suggested that Herb Robert was good for disorders of the blood or excessive bleeding because of the red colour of stems and leaves, or in childbirth. This was a rather contrived derivation from the long pointed seed cases which were thought to look like storks' bills, and we know what storks carry in their beaks. This association gives rise to one of its names Kiss me love at the garden gate because Herb Robert grows prolifically in paths and walls (as in our picture of it growing in the churchyard wall) and we know where kissing may lead. Signatures may also be found in the smell of a plant and Herb Robert certainly has a pungent aroma, leading to its use as an insecticide or deterrent for garden pests.

Today Herb Robert is still used by herbalists, who can overcome their distaste for the smell, in teas, soups, smoothies, foot soaks or eaten raw. It is used to treat problems like nosebleeds, bleeding gums, minor skin infections and diarrhoea and more controversial claims for it as a cure for cancer, diabetes or even foot and mouth in ungulates are made.

Whatever its powers, Herb Robert is a pretty plant which flowers through much of the year and turns red as it gets older, producing attractive, spreading clusters of red stems and leaves which make life that bit pleasanter. Rosemary.

MAPS OLD AND NEW by Norman MacCaig

There are spaces
Where infringements are possible.

There are notices that say:
Trespassers will be welcome.

Pity leaks through the roof
of the Labour Exchange.

In the Leader's pocket,
wrapped in the plans for the great offensive,
are sweets for the children
and a crumpled letter.

There are spaces still to be filled
before the map is completed,
though these days it's only
in the explored territories
that men write, sadly,
Here live monsters.

I thought this poem spoke to the kind of 'contrariness'
we are in at the moment. Veronica

Dear Friends

As I write, parts of the Diocese are entering partial lockdown – again. There is a lot of confusion as to what ‘partial’ means and why certain things are allowed, and others are not...

The scriptural text we need, more than any other at this time, is from Luke’s Gospel –

‘Fear not Little Flock’. That is the text that Bishop Richard Holloway chose to ‘preach me in with’ on 4th July, and the text of his sermon is attached to this letter so that you can all read what he would have said to us. It was also the text that I chose for the

Provincial Eucharist from our cathedral on the Feast of St Aidan.

‘Fear not little flock’ is what we all need to remember at this time, and it was a coincidence that Bishop Richard independently chose the same text. As the saintly William Temple, Archbishop of

Canterbury once said: ‘When I pray, coincidences just happen. When I fail to pray, no such thing happens.’ **There** is the scripture from Luke’s Gospel and **there** is the plan of action. Fear not little flock – Prayer and love, the very essence of God and of life with God: Love will find a way of conquering fear.

Remember in the 1982 Liturgy of the Eucharist we say, at every celebration: “There is no room for fear in love.”

When we closed our churches at the beginning of the pandemic, we did so in Love, not Fear. Life with God has meaning and purpose; **love** has meaning and purpose. We closed our churches to prevent Covid 19 being transmitted. That was a loving response to the crisis, because in love we have the best interests of the other at heart.

Purpose, to prevent transmitting the disease. There is no room for fear in love, that is the love that Our Lord Jesus Christ lived and died, but rose again to prove. The Holy Spirit is with us and in us, and so I remind you - ‘Fear not, little flock.’

Bishop Kevin

**SERVICES AT CHALLOCH (unless otherwise stated)
for OCTOBER/NOVEMBER**

| Date | Time | Service |
|--|---------|--|
| Sunday 4th October Trinity 17 | 10.30am | Eucharist with Revd John Martin |
| Sunday 11th October Trinity 18 | 10.30am | Reserved Sacrament led by Anne |
| Wednesday 14th Oct 1970 Liturgy | 10.30am | Reserved Sacrament led by Rosemary |
| Sunday 18th October Trinity 19 | 10.30am | Eucharist with Bishop Gordon |
| Sunday 25th October Trinity 20 | 10.30am | Eucharist with Revd David DeVerney |
| Sunday 1st November All Saints Day | 10.30am | Eucharist with Revd Robin Whitehead |
| Sunday 8th November Remembrance Day | 10.30am | Reserved Sacrament led by Gerry |
| Sunday 15th November Trinity 23 | 10.30am | Reserved Sacrament led by Margaret |
| Weds 18th November 1970 Liturgy | 10.30am | Reserved Sacrament led by Rosemary |
| Sunday 22nd November Trinity 24 | 10.30am | Eucharist led by Revd Robin Whitehead |
| Sunday 29th November Advent Sunday | 10.30am | Reserved Sacrament Led by Veronica |

The Vestry would like to thank all the clergy and laity who are contributing to our worship during this difficult time.

Who's Who at Challoch

INTERIM PRIEST: Revd Stephen Hazlett tel. 01557620132

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|---|---------------------|
| Lay Representative | Veronica Almgill |
| Alt, Lay Representative | Kathryn Ambler |
| People's Warden | Gill Gibson |
| Worship Leader/Pastoral & Eucharistic Assistant | Veronica Almgill |
| Worship Leader/Pastoral & Eucharistic Assistant | Gerry Ewan |
| Worship Leader/Eucharistic Assistant | Jenni Gray |
| Worship Leader/Pastoral & Eucharistic Assistant/Sacristan | Rosemary Green |
| Worship Leader/Eucharistic Assistant | Margaret Turner |
| Worship Leader/Pastoral & Eucharistic Assistant | Anne Yate |
| Eucharistic Assistant | Janet Hughes |
| Sacristan/ Vestry Member | Brenda Brookes |
| Sacristan | Julie Obey |
| Treasurer | Paul Ewan |
| Vestry Secretary | Jenni Gray |
| Gift Aid Secretary | Jackie Shuttleworth |
| Child Protection & Vulnerable Adults | Anne Yate |
| Cleaning Coordinator/Vestry Member | Lynne Wright |
| Flower Organiser | Anne Yate |