

DUNKELD NEWS

Diocesan Newsletter of the Bishop of Dunkeld

October 2014



Mass in St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee

My Dear People

I have now been your Bishop since 13th December 2013 and as installed Ordinary of the Diocese of Dunkeld since January 2014.

Back at the beginning of my Office, I promised that I would visit all the Parishes, Schools and Convents of the Diocese as soon as I was able to get round them all. I also pledged that I would look and judge before I acted, so that I could become familiar with the priests, people, religious and parishes of the diocese before any major decisions were made. I have now almost completed my visitation of parishes and schools (with a very few exceptions) and the time has come to begin to reconfigure some of the institutions in the diocese and redistribute some of the Offices and areas of governance of the diocesan bishop so that I might try to share co-responsibly some of my areas of competence as diocesan Bishop with my brother priests. While ultimately I am responsible before Almighty God and the Church for governance of the local Church, I would like to be able to show that diocese governance can be shared both willingly and effectively. I cannot even pretend to be able to accomplish all that needs to be done either quickly or easily. Sharing my Ministry as Bishop is therefore a start to try to share the idea of mission not only with the priests and deacons but also with the Faithful People of the Diocese: the Laity.

In this first very simple attempt to reach you all in the parishes I detail some of the things I have done in my first nine months here and point out some markers in the future to help with the evangelisation of all our people and try to share something of the Joy and Values of the Gospel message of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In this first period therefore I have tried to build a team to help me with the Governance of the Diocese. To begin with I have appointed new Vicars General and Episcopal Vicars while also thanking Monsignor Basil O'Sullivan and Monsignor Ken McCaffrey for the wonderful work they have done in the past as Vicars General.

What is a Vicar General?

A Vicar General is a kind of deputy to the Bishop, especially when he is absent from the diocese. He is authorised by the Bishop to act in his name. The Code of Canon Law gives him all the administrative power that the Bishop has but to be exercised at the Bishop's direction. It is an important Office in the diocese.

Dunkeld Diocese will now have **Canon Martin Drysdale**, PP of Crieff, in the Western half and **Canon Aldo Angelosanto** PP Immaculate Conception, Dundee, in the Eastern part.

I have also appointed some priests who will be responsible for certain areas of pastoral life in the diocese. These are called Vicars Episcopal in the Code of Canon Law.

What is a Vicar Episcopal?

A Vicar Episcopal is given all the administrative power he needs in one particular area of pastoral Care. He has full authority over the area over which he has been appointed. There are Vicars Episcopal in the Diocese now over the areas of Education, Youth Faith Formation, the Clergy, the Laity and Lay Associations, Adult Faith Formation and Ecumenism and Interreligious Relationships. Vicars Episcopal are appointed by the Bishop and have a defined period of Office which can be renewed.

These appointments are as follows:

Father Tom Shields, parish priest of St John's Perth, as Vicar Episcopal for the Faith Formation of young people. Father Tom will have care of the faith formation of young people and of the Religious Education in the schools and will help the catechists and parish priests in those parishes that do not have Catholic Schools. He will also be in charge of youth formation and activity in the Diocese with Mrs Margaret MacFarlane our RE Advisor and Mr Frankie McGuire.

Mgr. Ken McCaffrey, parish priest of SS Peter and Paul as Vicar Episcopal for Education. Mgr. Ken will liaise with Dundee and Angus Council as my Church Representative on the Education Committees of these Councils. Mrs Macfarlane is my representative on Perth and Kinross and Clackmannanshire Council Education Committee and Mr George Haggerty on Fife Council EC.



Rt. Rev. Stephen Robson

Vicars Episcopal

(continued)

Father Ronnie McAinsh CSsR as Vicar Episcopal for Religious. By the end of the year we shall have a number of new Religious Priests and Sisters in the Diocese in addition to those we already have. Religious Life is a great indicator of the health and charisms present in a diocese. We are so lucky to have so many both with us and coming to us. They will make an excellent contribution to the New Evangelisation.

I have asked Father Ronnie McAinsh as Provincial of the Redemptorist Order and present in Kinnoull Monastery to care for and promote the contributions to the life of the diocese of all those Religious Brothers and Sisters here. We already have Redemptorists, Sisters of Mercy, Little Sisters of the Poor, Salvatorian Fathers, Pallottines, Fathers of the Society of the African Missions, Irish Sisters of Charity, Fathers of the Little Flower Congregation, Marist Brothers, Religious Sisters of the Sacred Heart and a Jesuit priest.

Shortly we shall also have among us, a priest of the Missionary Order of Saint Paul, an Augustinian Father, two Fathers of the Capuchin Order of Franciscans, three Religious Sisters of the Immaculate Hearts of Jesus and Mary and five Religious Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters whom I knew in Rome. So Father McAinsh will have a lot to do!

Mgr. Basil O'Sullivan as Vicar Episcopal for the Clergy. Monsignor Basil, whom everyone knows as a loving and kind avuncular parish priest and who also led this diocese during the time it was a vacant See after the retirement of Emeritus Bishop Vincent. I have now asked to take on the task of being an *amicus clero*, a kind of friend to the clergy, both those who are sick and retired and those who are ever in need of support. I know he is loved and respected by all the priests which is why I have appointed him to this task.

Father Steven Mulholland as Vicar Episcopal for Ecumenism and Inter-religious Relationships. Another important part of evangelisation is our outreach as a Church to other communities outside the Church especially from other Christian Communities and from those Faith communities that are not Christian. This is a delicate ministry and I know that Father Steven, whose studies in Rome especially equip him to take on this role, will do an excellent job representing us to the wider community.

Father Kevin Golden as Vicar Episcopal for Adult Faith Formation. Now that there is a very special faith outreach to the very young, the adolescents and young student communities there also needs to be special care for those who are at College or University and those who are adult learners. I have asked Father Kevin Golden to rise to this task. Father Kevin is excellently equipped to deliver adult teaching and catechesis and I know that he will also make the care of University students in Dundee at Abertay and Dundee Universities his special concern and care.

Father James High as Vicar Episcopal for the Laity and Lay Church Organisations. The vast majority of the People of God are neither clergy nor Religious but members of the Laity. The Lay people in the Church are called by a beautiful name they are the *Christifideles*, Christ's Faithful. It truly is the *Christifideles* who have the principal task of evangelisation. They are the anointed ones, the baptised, who are specially fitted to go out and to sacralise the world. Theirs is the workplace, school, university and the home and family and neighbourhood to permeate with the values of Christ.

The Laity have many helps to sanctification and it is right and proper that they will have a specially designated priest, Father Jim High to care for them precisely as Laity. It is my intention now to, in this second phase of settling into the diocese, think, judge and act in those areas that especially involve the Lay People. I wish to involve them also in pastoral care in the diocese which is rightly and properly theirs to claim.

I wish to set up organs of consultation and ways of discerning what precisely is needed to build up the faith of ALL our people but especially the Family, Marriage and the Lay Apostolate. Though this may take some time it will be a great way for all to get involved with the evangelising work of Christ in his Church.

Deceased Relatives and Friends



We have also lost some of our great characters in these past few months through death: **Sister Mary Rose** and **Sister Patricia** of the Sisters of Mercy who both made an astounding contribution to the religious education and general education of generations of the children of the diocese.

Canon Benjamin Donachie, former Vicar General of Dunkeld, Rector of Blairs College and parish priest in a number of Dunkeld parishes who in retirement and in spite of declining health and with a gap of thirty years still managed to recognise me the day before he died.

Canon Michael Milton, who was a former Chancellor of Dunkeld, Parish priest of a number of Dunkeld Parishes and latterly was Administrator of the Cathedral in Dundee and who died after a rapid onset illness which lasted a mere seven weeks. Since then his step-father has also died and so I ask you to pray for his mother also.

Most recently we received news of the death of our Diocesan Solicitor **Eileen Matthew** of Miller Hendry who served the diocese on many important matters for many years and **Teresa Boyle**, the housekeeper in the parish of Broughty Ferry of Father Tony McCarthy of 43 years who died a couple of weeks before going to press and who was buried in Perth.



Canon Benjamin Donachie



Canon Michael Milton

+ Fidelium animae, per misericordiam Dei, Requiescant in Pace

Clerical Changes Sept/Oct 2014

Diocesan Appointments

Father Michael Freyne was appointed as Director for Mission Awareness and diocesan representative on Mission Matters Scotland.

Father Colin Golden was appointed as Director for Priestly Vocations.

Deacon Charles Hendry was appointed as Director for Vocations to the Permanent Diaconate.

Parochial Appointments

Father Kevin Golden to St Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee, as Cathedral Administrator and University Chaplain to Dundee and Abertay Universities.

Father Ian Wilson OSA, and one other priest not yet arrived, to St Thomas', Arbroath, St Bride's, Monifieth and St Anne's, Carnoustie as 'priests in residence' to work collaboratively in these three parishes. Father Kevin Golden to remain Parish Priest in the interim.

Father Kazimierz Kubat SDS and **Father Bogdan Palka SDS**, Salvatorian priests, to St John's Perth as assistant priests. They will minister also to the extensive Polish Community in Perth.

Father Samuel Alabi MSP, of the Missionaries of Saint Paul, newly arrived in the Diocese to be assistant priest in the parishes of Newport, Tayport, Cupar and Auchtermuchty.

Father Tom Shields, Parish Priest of St John's Perth, and Vicar Episcopal for the Faith Formation of Youth, to be also Priest Chaplain responsible for Kilgraston School, Bridge of Earn.

Father Leszek Wiececzek SAC, appointed to care for the pastoral needs of the Polish community in Dundee, Angus and North Fife while also remaining Parish Priest of St Joseph's in Dundee.

Father Michael Carrie, newly ordained to St Mary's (The Immaculate Conception) Dundee, as assistant priest and to the Diocesan Office as Archivist and Confirmation MC to the Bishop

Father Martin Pletts, returned from sick leave to St John Vianney's Alva as 'priest in residence'.

Deacon Leonard Moir, to the Parish of St John's, Perth, as Parish Deacon.



All official communications should be addressed to the Diocesan Chancellor

Office opening hours 8.30am-4.30pm

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(Adult Faith Formation)
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Rev. James High
(Laity and Lay Organisations)
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www.dunkelldiocese.org.uk

News appeal

In the future I hope to have regular contributors to this Dunkeld News and hope that diocesan brothers and sisters might submit articles to be printed to let the whole diocese know all that is going on.

Have you had any parish pilgrimages this year? Have you had any parish trips or special events this year. What sort of missionary outreach do you have? Have your schools done something special for the missions or won any special awards this year? Have you any special parish-ioners with significant celebrations? DO you have any pictures?

Have any of the priests or Religious anything special to report this year, new initiatives? New Projects, Mission sponsorships to share with the rest of the Diocese? Any great achievements? Great appointments? Any heroes, heroines? Any special Saints (articles)? Any interesting articles to submit?

Email - dunkeldnews@dunkelldiocese.org.uk
or post to the Diocesan Centre,
24-28 Lawside Road, Dundee.

A new priest for Dunkeld



Fr Michael Carrie was ordained in June 2014, he is now serving at St Mary's, Lochee in Dundee.

Our Lady's Primary, Perth, learn how to make a 'little' difference in the world



The Mini Vinnies is part of the family of Saint Vincent de Paul and is for primary school aged children from about P4-P7. Our Lady's Mini Vinnies in Perth have been running for a year now and is thriving, with nearly 30 members. They get together once or sometimes twice a week at lunchtimes to think and act upon ways we can help any-

body in need. Children choose a new president and secretary each term to share out the responsibility as they work together to try to make a little difference in the world.

Last year the children organised food parcels where they encouraged members of the school and parish community to donate foods to use. They made 40 parcels and the Parish SSVP distributed them. Other projects they have done include carol singing at Dobbies, creating a Litter Picking Rota for the school playground, putting on a Bingo Tea to raise money for a Mary Garden for the school in order that there will be a place where people can pray to Our Lady.

They are busy working at the moment on collecting donations for food parcels again and are trying to beat last years' total of 40 Food Parcels! After that the children have decided they would like to help with the Christmas Shoebox Appeal, collecting toys etc for children.

They are a wonderful bunch of really keen and enthusiastic children who are thoroughly enjoying being part of this special group.

Prayer to the Holy Family for the Synod

Churches, parish communities, institutes of consecrated life, associations and movements are invited to pray for this intention during Mass and at other liturgical celebrations, in the days leading to the synod and during the synod itself. In Rome, in the Basilica of Saint Mary Major, prayers will be recited each day in the chapel of the icon, Salus Populi Romani. The faithful, individually but above all in families, are invited to join in these prayers.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
in you we contemplate
the splendour of true love,
to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
grant that our families too
may be places of communion and prayer,
authentic schools of the Gospel
and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
may families never again
experience violence,
rejection and division:
may all who have been hurt
or scandalised
find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
may the approaching Synod of Bishops
make us once more mindful
of the sacredness and inviolability
of the family,
and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
graciously hear our prayer.
Amen.



Family life has been the focus of an extraordinary general session of the Synod of Bishops that took place recently.

Around 150 Synod fathers took part in the meeting to discuss the "pastoral challenges of the family in the context of evangelisation."