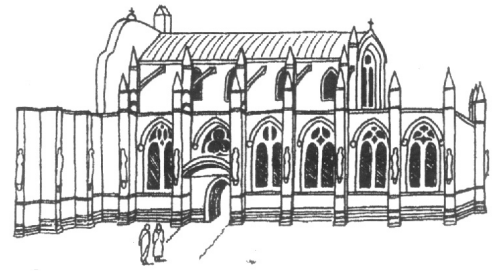


*St Matthew's
Rosslyn Chapel
Roslin*



No 71

www.stmatthews-rosslynchapel.org.uk

JANUARY 2012

VICARAGE VIEW

EPIPHANY 2012

The Curious Incident.....

You may remember in the Arthur Conan Doyle story “Silver Blaze” the police inspector asks Sherlock Holmes if there is anything to which he would draw his attention. “Yes”, says Holmes, “the curious incident of the dog in the night time”. “But the dog did nothing in the night time”, replied the inspector. “That was the curious incident”, said Holmes cryptically.

I am a great fan of Sherlock Holmes, and, to a lesser extent, Inspector Morse, Hercule Poirot and Jane Marple. They are an unlikely bunch of sleuths; a cocaine abuser, an industrial drinker, a foppish Belgian and a little old lady. All of them, however, have attracted a large fan base both in the world of books and more recently television and film.

What is the attraction? Well, perhaps it is that they are unlikely candidates for the job, yet always see some clue missed by other, perhaps better-qualified, official investigators. Which fact naturally brings me on to

the Epiphany. Our three wise men who noticed a star from information others had but not thought important. (“You see, Watson, but you do not observe”). Now Jesus’ birth was to all appearances pretty mundane; camping out in a shed by a pub. So for Saint Matthew, the visitation by the Magi was the real Christmas story. His Magi arrive into a society that has no clue that it has the boy king – the Christ – in its midst. There is no sign that anyone apart from Joseph and Mary had a clue about the nature and whereabouts of this child before the arrival of the Magi, and yet the leaders of Israel knew where to look when they needed to. But the clues are all there. Matthew lays down clue after clue; the genealogy, pointing to Jesus’ heritage as a son of David, the mysterious conception and the visitors from the east bearing kingly gifts. A hidden king who will transform society. That is quite a lot of clues to miss even if you are not Sherlock Holmes.

So now, when the Christmas tree is gone and the house no longer smells of inventive turkey leftovers and all is business as usual Matthew’s account comes into its own. Yes it is business as usual but Christ is here. He is hidden in plain sight. All we have to

do is look a little harder; to see and to observe. Just as Agatha Christie and Conan Doyle draw us into their cases, so we can be sleuths with them, Matthew draws us in to his account, to consider information others had seen but thought worthless and work out for ourselves who this amazing child is going to be and how he is going to transform all He touches. As a worshipping community we are exploring what it is God wants from us as individuals and as a church. How will it work out for each of us? We cannot yet tell; but the clues are there if we but have eyes to see.

In the 1960s a young physicist at Edinburgh University named Peter Higgs had the eyes to see, and saw in the information and received wisdom of his subject a new possibility; a new particle that would explain how other sub-atomic particles attain mass. It was named the Higgs Boson; also known –though not by Higgs – as the “God Particle”. Forty years on the first glimmerings of practical verification seem to be emerging from the Hadron Collider in Switzerland.

It has already spawned a joke. A Higgs Boson goes into a Roman Catholic Church. “You can’t come in here!” said the priest. “In that case” replied the Boson, “you can’t have Mass!”

Joe

VESTRY MATTERS

The new vestry which was elected at the AGM met for the first time in January after the morning service. This arrangement looks like it will be suitable for the majority of vestry and we will try it for a few months.

The main points which arose are as follows:-

It was felt that the Christmas services had all gone very well, with particular mention being made of the contribution by the children. There had been an administrative issue about the use of toilets in the visitor centre during periods when the RCT staff would be on holiday but after very co-operative discussions between us and RCT a satisfactory solution was reached which involved the co-operation of the RCT security man. I had offered to make a contribution towards the security costs on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year’s day but RCT kindly agreed to bear the whole cost

Unfortunately the response to the advert for a Sunday School teacher has not yet been very good but we are still hopeful.

Our OSCR report for 2011 had been submitted before the end of 2011 (more than six months ahead of the deadline) and I have just heard from Ian MacLeish that it has been passed. We are very grateful to Ian for his work on this.

As you will be aware from references at the AGM and on Sundays we are all about to embark on a course of

“continuing congregational development” with the first meeting to be held on 28th January. This is a new adventure for all of us and should be very interesting.

I don't think that I have anything more to add but if anyone wants to raise anything at all please contact me by telephone or by e-mail (ianquigley@btinternet.com)

Ian Quigley
Chairman of Vestry

Charity Sunday

26th February

On the first Sunday of Lent, 26th February, we are delighted to welcome the small choir, “The Rosslyn Connection”, to our morning service. This is an offshoot of St Mary's Cathedral choir and they have sung for us several times at Quietness by Candlelight and Evensong.

To mark the beginning of Lent, this will also be a Charity Sunday, with the collection going to our congregational charities.

The service will be followed by a “Lenten Lunch” at the Marsh's house – see enclosed flyer. If anyone would like to help the Social Committee by offering some soup or sandwiches, that would be most welcome.

Our congregational charities are: St Columba's Hospice, Bethany Christian Trust, Parkinson's UK, Cancer Research UK, Smile Train, Afghan Mother and Child Rescue, The Vine Trust.

PRAYER

Lord,
Take my small offering of self denial
this Lent,
as a sign of my great longing for you,
I hunger for a glimpse of your glory,
and I thirst for your stillness in my
heart.
I hunger for you.

Anon

LENT GROUP MEETINGS

The speakers for this years Lent Group Meetings are all chaplains who will discuss what Lent means to them in their various types of work.

Meetings will be held in Mustard Seed at 7.30 pm each Wednesday during Lent.

29 Feb	Peter Sutton School Chaplain
7 Mar	Marion Chatterley Aids Hospice Chaplain
11 Mar	Janet Dyer Hospital Chaplain
21 Mar	TBC Army Chaplain
28 Mar	Michael Paterson St Columba's Hospice

Stitchers Required

We need some new kneelers - any ladies (gentlemen) who would like to join a group once a month to stitch please contact Shonagh Toulouse (0131 629 9020) or Susan Prenter (0131 667 4635)

Covenants / Gift Aid

In order to maximise the income to the Rosslyn Chapel Congregation for the payment of necessary expenses and our charity work, it is highly beneficial if we have regular covenant donations upon which we can claim Gift Aid, adding another 25% from HMCR. Several of you do already pay this way and many of you even donate extra Gift Aided monies when you come to Chapel – many thanks to all who do.

We have some upcoming commitments, such as a part time priest to help Joe and hopefully someone to help with the Sunday School, all of which need to be paid for. Overall, our income has not risen over the last five years, but of course our expenses go up all the time. As treasurer, I am asking those of the congregation who do not regularly contribute by covenant, if they would consider doing so – every little helps! Please find enclosed a Standing Order Mandate and Gift Aid Declaration, both of which would need to be completed and sent to your bank.

Many thanks, Ian McLeish.

Lenten Lunch

Sunday 26th February

You are warmly invited to a

Lenten Lunch

(soup and sandwiches)

in aid of our chosen charities

on Sunday 26th February

from 12 noon onwards

at Jackie and Henry Marsh's house

jackie _m_marsh@yahoo.co.uk

0131 440 3641

Donations invited

(please use the Gift Aid envelopes)

WHO'S WHO AT ST. MATTHEW'S

Ministry team	
Revd Dr Joe Roulston <i>Priest in Charge</i>	0131 554 6382
Isla Shanks <i>Lay Reader</i>	0131 440 2463
Rosie Wild <i>Prayer Ministry Leader</i>	0131 664 3196
Daphne Farquharson <i>Vestry Secretary</i>	0131 663 9338
Ian McLeish <i>Treasurer</i>	0131 667 6561
Henry Marsh <i>People's Warden</i>	0131 440 3641
Isla Shanks <i>Lay Representative</i>	0131 440 2463
Jackie Marsh <i>Alternative Lay Representative</i>	0131 440 3641
Shonagh Toulouse <i>Priest's Warden</i>	0131 629 9020
Vestry members	
Ian Quigley <i>Chairman</i>	01968 672334
Gill Black	0131 443 2116
Daphne Farquharson	0131 663 9338
Peter Thickett	01620 861696
Anne Buchanan	0131 440 2116
Rosie Wild	0131 664 3196
Richard Broadhurst	0131 454 0094
Isla Shanks <i>Sacristan</i>	0131 440 2463
Roger Wild <i>Grapevine Editor</i>	0131 664 3196
Ann Mitchell <i>Organist</i>	0131 663 5007
Rosemary Buchanan <i>Flowers</i>	0131 440 0952
Jackie Marsh <i>Social committee</i>	0131 440 3641
Rosslyn Chapel Trust	0131 440 2159

If you would like to receive *Grapevine* by e-mail, please contact Roger Wild or Elizabeth Roynon Brown (elizabethrb1@hotmail.com)

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

March 25th 2012 – 15th July 2012

DATE	DAY	SERVICE	TIME
2012			
4 March	Sunday	Eucharist & Children's Church	10.30am
		Evensong	5.00pm
11 March	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
		Evensong	5.00pm
18 March	Sunday	Eucharist & Children's Church	10.30am
		Evensong	5.00pm
25 March	Passion Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
		Quietness by Candlelight Music, readings and meditation (45 mins)	5.00pm
1 April	Palm Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
		Evensong	5.00pm
5 April	Maundy Thursday	Eucharist	7.30pm
6 April	Good Friday	Three Hours Devotion	12 noon
8 April	Easter Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
		NO Evensong	
15 April	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
		Evensong	5.00pm
22 April	Sunday	Eucharist & Children's Church	10.30am
		Evensong	5.00pm
29 April	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
		Quietness by Candlelight Music, readings and meditation (45 mins)	5.00pm
6 May	Sunday	Eucharist & Children's Church	10.30am
		Evensong	5.00pm
13 May	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
		Evensong	5.00pm
17 May	Thursday	<i>Eucharist</i>	<i>TBC</i>
20 May	Sunday	Eucharist & Children's Church	10.30am
		Evensong	5.00pm
27 May	Pentecost	Eucharist	10.30am
		Quietness by Candlelight Music, readings and meditation (45 mins)	5.00pm
3 June	Trinity Sunday	Eucharist & Children's Church	10.30 am
		Evensong	5.00pm
10 June	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30 am
		Evensong	5.00pm
17 June	Sunday	Eucharist & Children's Church (last Children's Church)	10.30 am
		Evensong	5.00pm
24 June	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
		Quietness by Candlelight Music, readings and meditation (45 mins)	5.00pm
1 July	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30 am
		Evensong	5.00pm
8 July	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30 am
		Evensong	5.00pm
15 July	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30 am
		Evensong	5.00pm

PRAYER MINISTRY ROTA

FEBRUARY 2012

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Meriel	3 Rosie	4 Tim
6 Jackie	8 Roger & Rosie	10 Ros W	11 Rosie
13 Louise	15 Susan	17 Tim	18 TBC
20 Jo	22 Isla	24 Rosie	25 Ann D
27 Dorothy	29 Ann M		

MARCH 2012

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		2 Rosie	3 Susan
5 Jackie	7 Meriel	9 Rosie	10 Tim
12 Jo	14 Isla	16 Ros W	17 TBC
19 Louise	21 Roger & Rosie	23 Tim	24 Rosie
26 Dorothy	28 Daphne	30 Ann M	31 Ann D

APRIL 2012

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Isla	4 Meriel	6 Good Friday	7 Roger & Rosie
9 Easter Monday	11 Susan	13 Daphne	14 Tim
16 Jackie	18 Ros W	20 Ann M	21 Rosie
23 Louise	25 Daphne	27 Tim	28 Ann D
30 Dorothy			

MAY 2012

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	2 Susan	4 Daphne	5 TBC
7 Isla	9 Meriel	11 Rosie	12 Tim
14 Jackie	16 Ros W	18 Ann M	19 Rosie
21 Rosie	23 Roger & Rosie	25 Tim	26 Ann D
28 Rosie	30 Rosie		

**Next Prayer Ministry meeting will be held on Thursday
10th May.**