

St. David's Dalkeith

*Parish Magazine
Autumn 2007*



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This Magazine is FREE!

Fr. Allan Ocdenaria's words

One of my friends recently emailed me quoting Corazon L. Cruz, a Filipina author in whose book *Philosophy of Man* can be found: "We may say man has two faces: that of the West and that of the East".



I find her line very applicable to my present experience - a Filipino working in one of Scotland's parishes.

Being in Scotland for the last 44 days has proven exactly the Western and Eastern faces of the human being. For while there are common qualities, there are more differences that can only be bridged by understanding, kindness, hospitality and other values that can be found across cultures.

For one who comes from the tropics, Scotland weather is something to adjust to. It seems the belief in my country of having cold hands as meaning one has a warmth in one's heart has come true at least in my experience here. For even though your weather is very cold, I have experienced the warm welcome of people from the day I arrived at Edinburgh airport where I was met by no less than His Eminence Keith Patrick Cardinal O'Brien up to the present where I have always been welcomed with a hospitable smile and other kindly gestures.

Being in a foreign land where I hardly meet fellow Filipinos tends to be a lonely experience. But then again, that seems to be outweighed by the experiences of having met other nationalities that have shown that barriers between races and cultures have actually a common ground: the heart of the human being and goodness that can be found within and shown through words and actions.

The differences are indeed many, but the opportunities to learn from each one are equally enriching. For example, taking walks to the store or other walk-able or hike-able points of destination have truly healthful pluses. These tend to stabilize blood pressure and weight. Another thing is having to shift to bread from rice. The adjustments have caused me to lose weight the natural and economical way.

I have come here to be renewed, to be exposed to a culture opposite my own, to be of service according to my capacities and opportunities accorded to me by the archdiocese. I am deeply grateful for all these. I am extremely touched by the kindness of the people here. I wish to express myself in a Filipino phrase laden with overwhelming gratitude:

DAGHAN KAAYONG SALAMAT

~~~~~  
**Some Church signs :-**

- Trip to Heaven.  
Details inside.
- Have trouble sleeping?  
We have sermons - come hear one!
- When down in the mouth, remember Jonah.  
He came out alright.
- Do not wait for the hearse to take you to church.

~~~~~  
The traffic in Beijing is appalling. A bus driver and a priest died and arrived at the pearly gates at the same time. St. Peter welcomed them, but apologised as he had a problem. There was only room for one more person that day. "I will go and think about it," he said. He came back a little later and told them that after due consideration he would be offering the place to the bus driver. The priest was a bit put out so St. Peter explained, "You are both good men. Every Sunday, you have a crowd in your church who sing hymns very nicely and say their prayers, but seven days a week the bus driver has a crowded bus and the way he drives, every few seconds, his passengers cry out, 'Oh, my God, Oh, my God.'"
~~~~~

## ***News from the Schools***



### ***St. David's High School***

St. David's High School has made a very positive start to the new session. We said farewell to several members of staff in June, including Mrs Cockburn in the PE Department, Mrs Rankin in Modern Languages and Mrs Lynas in Chemistry. We also welcomed several new colleagues and wish them well in their careers in St. David's.

I am pleased to report that our new S1 pupils have made an excellent start and are becoming fully involved in the life of the school. Before the P7 visits to the high school in June, we arranged video conferencing links with several of the primaries. We will now repeat this with the new S1, who can report back to their old schools about life in St. David's.

You will no doubt remember the excitement in June caused by Keith Jack, a former pupil of St. David's High and St. David's Primary. After his national success on BBC's 'Any Dream will Do', Keith paid a visit to both schools to encourage our pupils – and sign autographs. He has since been back to judge a Pop Idol Competition and coach some of our younger singers. We wish him every success in his exciting new world.

This session, we have launched a new programme for senior pupils, called Empower. This programme is designed to prepare seniors for the world of work and further study by developing their communication skills, self confidence, interview techniques and their ability to work in teams. They also choose vocational options, including radio broadcasting and media skills, music technology and sport and leisure management. Sir Tom Farmer is again supporting St. David's with this programme and we are also involving higher education and training organisations. I am sure you will agree that our pupils will benefit from the new options in Empower.

This term is a very busy one in St. David's. Cardinal O'Brien will be the Principal Speaker at our Awards Ceremony in October. The annual

Remembrance Mass for deceased members of our community will be held in November. Our Advent Programme will again focus on our colleagues in Bangalore, India through the Working for Our World (WOW) Project. We will also be having the usual Christmas festivities and concerts. I hope to see many of you at these community events. Further details will be sent to all parishes and primaries.

### ***St. David's Primary School***

We are looking forward to another very successful year. In August we welcomed Mrs. Julia Bell (NQT) to the staff for her probationary year. She and Mr Currie share responsibility for P5.

We have started Kerb Kraft training in P2, led by Mrs. Moir and two parent helpers, Mrs. Canavan and Mrs. Rudden. We had a successful Rag Bag collection realising approximately £50 for school funds. We had a DAFT day, a Drama and Fun Theatre workshop enjoyed by all classes.

This year we invited our parents to share school lunch and were delighted with the response. Parents were able to enjoy the social aspect of the dining hall, including the "Golden Table" special reward scheme, while discovering the wide range of food on offer.

Where possible, we participated in Walk to School Week - maintaining our accreditation as a "Health Promoting School". P6 and P7 took part in Cross Country at Gorebridge gaining recognition for finishing 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, also other positions, from over 70 participants.

We took part in National Poetry Day, 4th October, at a special assembly and celebrated Missio World Day of Prayer in which the theme was "Children Helping Children".

We welcomed Fr. Allan O. to our school and thank him and Fr. Allan C. for their support of class Masses, a new initiative which we hope to establish as school practice. P4, P5 and P7 have already celebrated their Masses.

The Travelling Bookfair ran in the week prior to the October break. Thank you to Mrs. Kettle once more for her endeavours. The same week we also had two successful Parents' Evenings.

Thank you for your enduring support.



## *I've Been Coming Here On Sundays*

*I've been coming here on Sundays for seventy year or so.  
'Twas here that I was Christened and 'tis here I'll want to go.*

*Now I know you all gets vexed about changes in belief.  
Well frills on top don't matter if you're comfy underneath.  
I never lets it bother if I'm High or Low or what,  
While I've got me Ten Commandments  
I shan't go wrong a lot.*

*Now, I likes old-fashioned prayer book  
And they like A.S.B.,  
And they can have what pleases them,  
And I'll read what suits me,  
And half the hymns we sing these days  
I've never heard before,  
But I can stand and listen, and perhaps I'll learn some more.*

*All these guitars and instruments -  
It's no more than they had  
Afore they put the organ in,  
When my Granddad was a lad,  
And I don't suppose God'll worry  
He wouldn't make a fuss,  
As long all the singing's meant for Him and not for us.*

*We've had clergy coming straight from college,  
Full of summat new,  
From incense on the altar to posters in the pew.  
And I lets 'em all get on with it, 'cos all these fashions pass,  
And you'll still do the flowers, me dears,  
And I'll still clean the brass.*

*I got this seat I always have, no draughts and nice and near,  
So I can hear the organ and see the vicar clear,  
And I tells God what's been happening,  
And what a week I've had,  
And I thanks Him for the good times,  
And He helps me through the bad,  
'Cos all that really matters, as far as I can see,  
Is that I, down here, remembers Him,  
And He remembers me.*

**Barbara Robinson**

# News from Parish Groups

## **SVDP**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (not to be confused with the religious orders of clergy and sisters also taking their name and inspiration from the saint) is a world-wide lay movement continuing in the spirituality of the original founders in nineteenth-century France.

One way to summarise this spirituality would be to say that remarkably the original founders were mostly students who were confident in their faith in a hostile, materialist and anti-religious age. They wanted to “clinch” the argument for the Catholic Faith by showing how their faith would produce action to alleviate the terrible conditions, particularly for the poor, in post-revolutionary and post Napoleonic France.

It was the discovery of the privilege of visiting the desperately poor, and witnessing their dignity, in Paris and elsewhere that energised the founding groups, or “conferences”, of the Society as they came to be known. The movement reached Edinburgh within the remarkably short time of a decade or so.

The St. David’s Parish conference was begun in the 1960’s largely as a result of the initiative and efforts of Jimmy Quinn (of famous memory) and others.

It was during the time of Tony Givens that the Senior Citizens Christmas Party was started. Today this and other events such as the Mass for the Sick, the visit to Carfin (this year apart!), a Dobbies outing, and a visit to the Playhouse are kept going by the present Conference.

Hopefully, but unlikely, something to match the spectacular Chitty Chitty Bang Bang charabanc “flying” across the Playhouse stage will be in store!

(John Holden)

## **Scottish International Relief & Mary’s Meals**

This is a Scottish charity that offers relief in many parts of the world. It tailors its operations to meet whatever need exists in a particular part of the world. For example, in Ukraine they have set up a day shelter for street children and are now trying to raise funds to build a night shelter. In India, they are helping women to set up small businesses and are organising literacy classes for them. In Malawi, meals are provided daily for children for as little as £5.50 for a whole year.

Our venture started when a leaflet about this charity arrived through the post. We were looking at it when the suggestion was made ‘Let’s do

something’. We had a quick chat about the jobs that it would entail and we divided them up between us. ‘You find out about this and I will phone that person etc.’, nothing very sophisticated. This was May and we wanted to get it done before we got cold feet. Early June seemed the best time for the collection of goods as any later would run into holidays. Past experience suggested that the charity would collect the goods that we had obtained and everything would be quite simple.

Problems started straight away. The date in June was no good to the SIR organisers as it clashed with their annual conference and so no one would be there to take the goods. Further, Dalkeith was outside the area from which they would collect. As our motto is ‘Never say die’ we arranged for the collection date to be a week later. We decided to hire a van to take the goods to Glasgow although at that stage we did not have any money. Fr. Allan, however, offered to pay for it out of church funds which solved one headache. We then had to recruit a van driver and were lucky when Deirdre Kettle offered her services. The next problem was getting leaflets to distribute to the congregation so that they would know what we were doing. This took a number of phone calls until, by chance we made contact with the person who had come to St. David’s a few years ago and remembered her visit warmly. The leaflets arrived and Fr. Allan introduced the subject in such a way that everyone came out of Mass with great big grins on their faces.

We then had to wait and hope that the goods would arrive on the appointed day. We need not have worried. St. David’s always comes up trumps when an appeal is made. As bag after bag was delivered at the hall, our worry now changed to, ‘would the van be big enough!’ On Monday 18 June aided by a band of helpers we loaded the van which was almost full and off it went to Glasgow.

As you can see there were only two of us who got the ball rolling. Lots of things did not go quite to plan, but were overcome. Willing volunteers helped us. We could not have managed without them. We certainly had a lot of fun as well as, we hope, doing some good.



(Isa Duff and Winifred Keeves)

- What makes God laugh? A planner!

## **Parish Choir**

“Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing....”  
...And up the narrow winding stair to the organ loft there’s St. David’s modest but loyal choir too.

The Recording Angel notes that the response to our appeal in the last issue for new voices was utterly underwhelming. Nevertheless we soldier on undaunted though unaugmented, ready for the advance on Advent and Christmas, with the prospect of a smart new Carol Sheet for the great day.

Morale is high. We are spurred on by appreciative comments from Fathers Allan and Allan O., Alpha and Omega of our spiritual direction here. We in turn express our warm appreciation of the way so many people join in the very varied assortment of music that we try to offer.

### **Floreat Musica!**

(Frank Nicholson and the Choir)

## **Rediscover The Peace of Carfin**

I have recently become involved with the Knights of St. Columba and had the pleasure of attending the Knights annual pilgrimage to Carfin Lourdes Grotto. This is Scotland’s National Shrine to Our Blessed Lady, this was the first time I had been to the grotto in 20 years and was amazed at the difference in it.

Carfin has the pilgrimage centre, glass chapel, large grounds with stations of the cross, many beautiful shrines and the new statue of Pope John Paul the second. This statue is carved from the marble altar that was used at Belahouston park during his visit to Scotland and St. Francis Xavier’s church next door, Carfin is truly something special.

The most special thing about the grotto is the sense of peace I felt whilst there and it is something I will always treasure, and I urge all to make the short journey along the M8 to experience it themselves.

Just as Faith is a gift from God, Pilgrimage is a journey of Faith.

(Davie Adam K.S.C.)

## **Sister Betty knits Teddies for Tragedies**

Pictured here is Sister Betty with her Teddies for



tragedies. These are knitted Teddies for children all over the World who have lost everything through major

disasters such as War, Floods, Famine etc.

The Teddy is very simple to knit and brings a lot of comfort to the children who receive them. Any one interested in helping to knit please contact Sister Betty.

## **Newbattle Abbey celebrates 70 years of learning in the community**

Newbattle Abbey, Dalkeith was founded by King David I on behalf of the Cistercian order. The last Abbot, Mark Kerr, made a timely conversion to Protestantism and was able to retain the lands around the Abbey. His son, also Mark, became Earl of Lothian (1606) and built a house on the site. A local notable convert to Catholicism was Lady Cecil, Dowager Marchioness of Lothian who was responsible for the funding and construction of St David’s RC Church in Dalkeith.

In 1930 Philip Kerr, who had been born in Woodburn House, Dalkeith, became the 11th Marquess of Lothian. In different parts of the country, he inherited over 32,000 acres of land, attracting embarrassing death duties. To secure some relief, he offered to transfer Newbattle Abbey, along with 125 acres, to the nation provided the property was used to offer another chance in life to those who had been deprived of the opportunity to develop their educational potential to the full. In 1937 the College opened for the first group of students.

Newbattle Abbey College is celebrating 70 years of providing life changing educational opportunities for adults in Scotland by creating a multi-media exhibition and oral history project for the local community. To be unveiled in December as part of the college’s official anniversary celebrations, the exhibition will allow the local community to get involved and learn about the college’s rich history, as well as demonstrating the unique educational opportunities available there.

Volunteers are being recruited from local groups to undertake a variety of roles such as oral history interviewers, researchers, tour guides and environmentalists. So if you would like to become involved with the heritage group or have had any connection to the college or would like to learn more, then please phone

Rae McGhee 0131-663-1961, mob. 0797-6398789, or e-mail: raem@newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk.

## **St. David’s WINS Deanery Quiz Night!**

AT LAST A WIN, the winning team was :- Gerry Maguire, John Ward, Michael Czajka, Steven Fyfe, June Maguire, Leslie Ward & Laura Maguire.

## Web Site

Our website has been up and running for two years. It has a lot of information available e.g. current bulletin details for Mass times and intentions, diary dates, useful links - go on try it

[www.stdavidsdalkeith.co.uk](http://www.stdavidsdalkeith.co.uk)

(Julian Kettle)

## Fairtrade

Wherever you go these days you see the Fairtrade logo. What is it?



Many farmers and workers in developing countries struggle to provide for their families. Poor market access and unfair trade rules often mean that the price they get for their crops does not cover the cost of production. Fairtrade is an international movement which is trying to guarantee a better deal for farmers and workers in the developing world.

Fairtrade is beginning to transform the lives of many people, particularly the lives of the poorest people in the world; the money they get is often used for setting up projects that benefit the whole community. For example, in Malawi, (the country where Mary's Meals feeds a child for a year on £5.50) Judith Harry chairs a smallholders association whose peanuts are sold for a fair price and you can buy their peanuts at Tesco – own brand, Fairtrade peanut and raisin mix.

In Tanzania, the tea pickers have set up a shop where their families can buy food at an affordable price. There are projects all over the world. Their produce may cost a penny or two more in the shops



here but it makes a great difference to people in the poorest countries.

There is a wide range of produce available in the shops now from tea coffee, fruit, wines and spirits, sweets as well as clothing. Perhaps next time you go into a supermarket with your children, you might like to get them to spot how many products carry

the Fairtrade logo and reward them with a bar of chocolate for their effort!

(Winifred Keeves)

## St. David's History

St. David's was built for the people of Dalkeith by Lady Cecil Marchioness of Lothian, whose remains lie in a vault on the High Altar. Quite a few members of her family are buried in the crypt in the Holy Souls' Altar. There are two brass plaques at the altar listing their names. An asterisk by the name indicates they are buried in the crypt.

There are handrails up the steps of the Church leading to the main door, parts of which came from the main communion rails which were removed from the front of the altar when Vatican II was put in place.

The porch inside the main door has a decorative floor which is thought to have been laid by Polish Soldiers who were billeted on the Duke's Estate during the 1939 - 45 war. It was their way of thanking the parish for the use of the Church.

Beyond the porch on the left side there is a door under the choir gallery, this was originally a confessional but it is now used by the cleaning ladies for storage.

At the top of the left aisle there is a small shrine to Our Lady where prayers and candles can be offered up. Behind that wall there is a door - the outline of which is still visible. The story goes that this was the door the working class parishioners and field workers used. The main door being kept for the GENTRY.

Before Vatican II the main altar used to be clear of the rear wall, this allowed the priest to go behind during Exposition and Benediction to place the Monstrance on top of the Tabernacle which had an ornamental stone canopy above it giving it a very prominent position on the altar.

Behind the marble wall on the right side of the altar was a door which the priest and servers used to access the altar behind the Communion rail.

Opposite the Main Door there is a War Memorial in the form of a Crucifix. This was donated to the Church by Lady Ann Kerr whose brother was killed in the 1914 - 18 War. The Memorial Stones list the names of those men from the district who gave their lives in the War. The original Crucifix was erected in the 1920s and stood all that time until the 1990s when it was vandalized 4 times to the extent it had to be completely renewed. The original cross is kept at the rear of the Church in the garden beside the graves of three former Jesuit Priests who served in St. David's in the 1800s.

(history as told to Iain Allan)

## Lourdes 2007

A small group of parishioners joined the 2007 Archdiocesan Pilgrimage in Lourdes.



We travelled with Joe Reddington who has brought groups to Lourdes over many years. Our group flew out before the main Pilgrimage to spend four days at leisure in the Costa Brava (Santa Susanna).

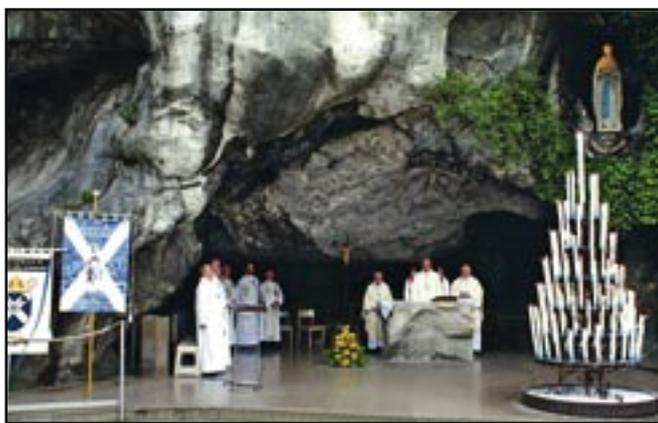
We had a day trip to Barcelona sightseeing and a visit to Mount Montserrat Spain's most important Pilgrimage after Santiago de Compostela where we attended High Mass celebrated by the Abbot, a wonderful experience.

We journeyed by coach to Lourdes on the Friday to join with the main Pilgrimage. In Lourdes we stayed in the Hotel D'Irlande a stone's throw from the Domaine.

All our group will have their own special memories. Mine are the Blessed Sacrament Procession, Torch Light Procession, Diocesan Mass at the Grotto and the International Mass at the underground Basilica.

In the Grotto at Mass or sitting in silent prayer I found an inner peace and contentment an experience shared I am sure by all who have been there.

Cardinal O'Brien was the main Celebrant at the International Mass. The underground Basilica holds



25 thousand people and it was full, to be part of such a congregation celebrating Mass was an uplifting experience.

I was amazed by the number of Sick and Infirm Pilgrims most of whom are looked after in various hospitals. Our Sick are cared for at the Saint-Frai where voluntary Doctors, Nurses and Helpers tend to their needs. The Sick were taken back and forth from the Saint-Frai in wheelchairs and voitures (type of bath chair) by Brancardiers (helpers) and Diocesan Youth. I was most impressed by the caring and cheerful way they carried out this heavy work and they deserve our thanks and praise.

## A Family runs for Charity

Earlier this year my sons and I decided to take part in the Edinburgh Marathon. Originally only 3 of my 4 were taking part with me making up the 4th person in the team. We registered and as part of this registration we were asked to choose a charity to raise funds for from a list the Marathon provide. We chose THE CHILD BEREAVEMENT FUND as we had experienced grief if not directly then indirectly and felt that smaller charities such as this are often forgotten unless people are personally affected. The fund provides support to families who are grieving having lost a child.

Anyway the morning of the Marathon arrived - it was cold, wet and blowing a gale not ideal weather for running but it was too late to pull out now. When we arrived another team had been let down by 1 of their runners so my 4th son stepped in which meant we all ran and this made it even more special. Between the 4 teams running for our charity we raised a whopping £4000 which we are sure will make a big difference to the charity.

The new route covering the east coast was great and finishing at the racecourse in Musselburgh was also a really inspiring feeling. We finished in just under 4 hours which we were extremely proud of and look forward to doing it all over again next year!

(Jackie)

## More success for local dog breeder

Surprise, surprise, Spring & Summer Season finished now and Eskmuir Collies having Top Wins again. Elgin taking a back seat to allow a sister (me) to have a turn. So pleased that I took first in all my classes in the Breed Shows.

See more at [www.scottishcollieclub.co.uk](http://www.scottishcollieclub.co.uk)

(Kirsty)



## Youth Group

Over the past 18 months the parishioners of St. David's have shown the youth of the Parish unwavering support. This support has taken many guises. Financial donations from people who can't make it to our fund raising events, a bottle of whiskey for a raffle, or being scared to death (and having to pay for the privilege) by someone who loves history. All this has been done so that we as a parish can send a group of our youth to Lourdes. But what about these young people who want to be considered for this trip, what do the parishioners know about them? What is their motivation? Why do they want to be chosen?

We asked the youth wishing to be considered for a statement of support, here are some of them :-

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"My favourite parable has always been the one about the Good Samaritan, and if I am fortunate enough to be chosen as a Lourdes helper, I feel in a small way that I would be following in his footsteps. I realise that the tasks to be carried out whilst assisting the sick pilgrims will not be easy, but I would be prepared for this. I hope to become a paramedic in the future and I am sure the experience gained would stand me in good stead."

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*"Why I would like to be considered for the Lourdes trip 2008. At first I thought cool, a holiday abroad, all paid for and away from my parents for a week. I thought French beer, cheap fags and late nights "chewin the fat" with Father Allan and others my age. I now know that this isn't going to be a holiday, but a trip to help and support others, and if selected I am willing to offer that care and support to the best of my ability. Where others may bring a professional care for those needing help, I could bring a physical help like lifting and pushing wheelchairs and carrying."*

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"I would like to be considered as one of the youth for the Lourdes trip 2008. I am sure the trip to Lourdes will be a mixture of hard work, enjoyment and fun and for most people going a life changing experience. I feel that I could contribute towards helping, caring and working as a team alongside the other youths lucky enough to be chosen to go. During the summer I spent 3 weeks working with children and young adults with both physical and learning disabilities. I really enjoyed the experience; it was very challenging and at times demanding but proved to be very rewarding. I intend to volunteer again next April. Given the opportunity to go to Lourdes I would use the experience to improve the skills I have and gain new ones."

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*"Last year my gran and papa visited Lourdes. Before they went papa was not too great, but when they came back he looked fantastic. He kept telling me how good it was and how much he enjoyed it. I want to go to Lourdes as a helper so I can try to make other peoples experiences of it as good as it was for my papa."*

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"Visiting Lourdes has been an ambition of mine for a number of years. I feel that the religious experience would be enriched by the opportunity to help those less fortunate than myself to fully enjoy and benefit from the experience. I also believe the opportunity will benefit me, now and in the future, to grow and develop as a person."

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It is obvious that these young people have put a lot of thought into this trip and are more than aware of what will be expected of them. It is hard to believe, but the oldest of the group who submitted statements is only 17 year of age! I am sure that everyone chosen will make us all very proud.

(Molly)

## **"Witame Was" - We welcome you**

In the middle of the twentieth century, during and after World War II, many Polish and Ukrainian men came to Scotland. A few Polish men and many Ukrainian men married into the local community. Today their grandchildren attend our Catholic Schools.

Now the wheel has come full circle and many Polish men are again coming to Scotland in large numbers. This time, many are bringing their families with them and their children attend our schools.

Some of them join us at Mass in our Parish Churches. Others prefer the familiarity of attending Mass in Polish. We welcome them all.

But how does it look from their point of view? Here are the experiences of one family, father, mother and two children, that has joined our parish:-

In recent years, it became more difficult to provide for his family in Poland. The work was the same but the income was less. So the father found work in other countries, relatively easy to do, being a builder by trade. He spent some time in Germany and London, returning to Poland in between. Then the whole family returned to London, but the schools were full and their child could only go on a waiting list. Scotland beckoned.

They have been here two years and their son is happily settled in our Primary School. Their second child was born here and baptised in St. David's Church. They like Scotland, finding the people much more friendly than London, and would like to stay

here many years. They chose to come to St. David's Church because it is the one that reminds the father of the church in their home village near Krakow, Sw. Filip i Jacub, with its warm, friendly atmosphere.

The weather here is less extreme than in Poland, but it seems very strange to see the different way people dress for the weather. On the same day, one person may wear a hat and heavy winter coat and the other may be in shirt and shorts! If they could change one thing here, what would it be? That's an easy one - less litter in the streets. We all agree with them there.

One of the most difficult things has been to understand the local dialect, which does not sound like any English they know. On the other hand, one of the most amusing sights was of two local boys having a conversation and not being able to understand each other!

(Deirdre)

## Philosophy & Humour

On the radio this morning Lionel Blue was talking about prayer and he said that he did not see it as magic. He came to understand it when he was at the site of a concentration camp. He wondered why God did not stop the holocaust, and it came to him that God does not have any hands, but that we are his hands.

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A man died and went to the pearly gates where St. Peter met him. St. Peter looked at his CV and said, "This seems very good, but I just have to ask you a question. How do you spell, Love?" The man replied, "LOVE."

"Very good," said St. Peter, "Please come in."

A few days later, St. Peter was very busy and so asked the man if he would man the pearly gates for a little while. Quite soon a woman arrived who he recognised as his wife. "What you are doing here," he asked. "I was missing you so much, I thought I would come and join you," she replied. "That's very good," said he, "Your CV is excellent, but I have to ask you a question. How do you spell Czechoslovakia?"

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Rabbi Lionel Blue warns against long sermons and tells a story of a rabbi observing a man leaving the synagogue in the middle of his sermon. "Why are you leaving?" he asks angrily. "I am going to have a hair cut," the man replies. "You should have thought of that before the service," scolds the rabbi.

The man says, "I did not need one then!"

(Pelz and Reeves - The Tender Bridge - extract).

## Looking Forward

### 2007

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December 12.00 noon start**  
SVDP Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner.

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December Youth Vigil Mass,**  
followed by a Parish social evening in the hall.

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2.00 p.m.**  
Nativity Play followed by mulled wine in the hall.

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December - CHRISTMAS EVE Services.**  
**St. Luke and St. Anne's, Mayfield.**

6.30 p.m. Service of Carols and Readings.

7.00 p.m. Blessing of Crib, 1st Mass of Christmas.

**St. David's, Dalkeith.**

7.30 p.m. Service of Carols and Readings.

8.00 p.m. Blessing of Crib, 1st Mass of Christmas.

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December - CHRISTMAS DAY Masses.**  
**St. Luke and St. Anne's, Mayfield.**

10.00 a.m. Mass of Christmas Day.

**St. David's, Dalkeith.**

10.30 a.m. Mass of Christmas Day

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> December 12.00 noon - Mass of the Holy Innocents at a Church to be advised.**

### 2008

**January (on a date to be advised)**

SVDP Senior Citizens Theatre Trip to see Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat.

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2008 7.30 pm.**

**Lenten Station Mass for St. David's Deanery**  
will be held in St David's, Dalkeith.

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2008 7.00 pm. Chrism Mass**  
will be held in St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh.

**Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2008 & St. David's Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2008**  
(150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year).

- **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July** leaves Edinburgh for Lourdes.
- **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July** returns to Edinburgh.

*This is our 3rd Parish Magazine and we hope you have enjoyed it.*

*if you have any ideas for the Magazine, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please pass your feedback and ideas for the Spring 2008 edition, to Isa, Winifred, Brian or Julian.*

*We are looking for Sponsors for our next Parish Magazine. If you are interested please contact Brian 663-0556.*

**Back and neck pain, shoulder pain, tension headaches – all of us suffer such discomfort at one time or another and long for a more permanent and safer solution to these and similar problems without the use of drugs.**

the brain to every part of the body. Any misalignment (Subluxation) or changes in structure of the spine can interfere with this nervous system, body function and health in general.



Doctors of Chiropractic identify these spinal problems and are able to correct them through safe and gentle chiropractic adjustments (specific manipulation) complemented with appropriate rehabilitation, exercise and advice.

The Eskbank Chiropractic Clinic was opened in April 2000

Chiropractic is now the largest non-medical healing art in the world, attracting millions of people each year: Housewives, scientists and businessmen, lawyers and labourers, infants and the elderly, professional and part-time athletes who all come seeking the unique services that only a Doctor of Chiropractic can provide.

It is a scientific fact that every organ, tissue and cell in the human body is controlled by your nervous system. Doctors of Chiropractic focus on the relationship between the spinal column, nervous and muscular systems and their combined effect in the restoration and preservation of health. The spinal column houses and protects the spinal cord along with the exiting nerves that relay information, vital to your health, from

at Hardengreen Business Park. In March 2006 the clinic re-located to our current location, 18 Bonnyrigg Road. Chiropractors, Dr. Chris Thomson and Dr. Lori Thomson both graduated from Palmer College of Chiropractic, Davenport, Iowa. There they received their Doctor of Chiropractic (DC) degrees. Dr. Chris and Dr. Lori are also Certified Chiropractic Extremity Practitioners (CCEP) which is invaluable in the treatment of sports injuries. Both Doctors are members of the Scottish Chiropractic Association and are registered with the General Chiropractic Council.

*For more information please feel free to phone 0131-654-0500, visit our website :- [www.eskbank-chiropractic.co.uk](http://www.eskbank-chiropractic.co.uk) or simply stop by and pick up our brochures.*

**ADVERT**

**A selection of work produced during our Children's Liturgy and St. David's High School Competition Winning Prayer by Katharine.**

St. David, in hard times you brought peace and were determined to bring trust. Please help us throughout our lives to show strength in all areas to bring peace where it is needed. Bless us and help us make a world that God is proud of. Amen



**A grateful word of thanks to our sponsor**