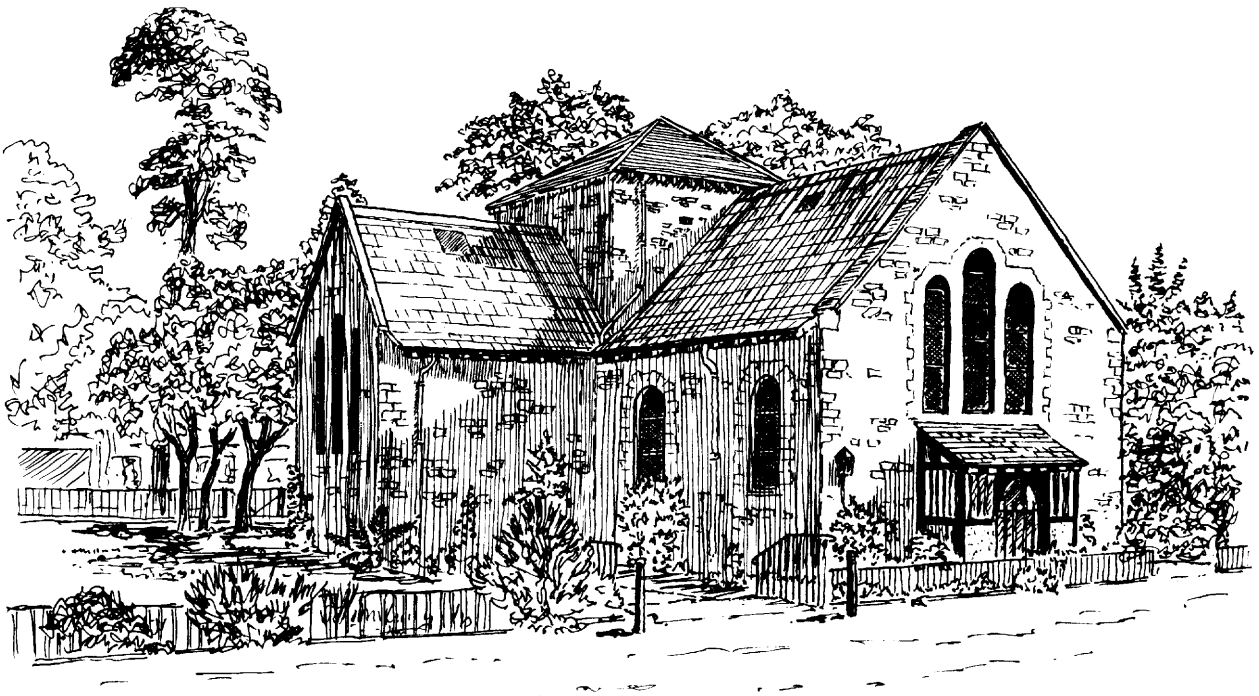


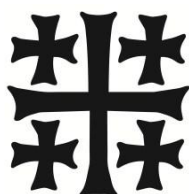
Church of the Holy Cross

DAVIDSON'S MAINS EDINBURGH

JUNE 2026



THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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FROM THE RECTOR

The Church year's 52 weeks are divided into weeks of the seasons – Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Pentecost – and 30 weeks of what is known as 'Ordinary time'. During Ordinary time the church vestments and coverings on the altar, pulpit and lectern are green. This year as we enter June, we begin Ordinary time.

There are many theories (of course!) about why the Ordinary time colour is green, most of them linking to it being the colour of growth and new life. This led me to thinking about the Creation account in Genesis Chapter 2, where all creatures are fashioned out of the earth, and brought to life by God's breath. 'Then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being' (Gen 2:7).

Formed from the dust of the ground. There is something so wonderfully 'ordinary' about this. We may spend time every week, perhaps every day, sweeping or vacuuming up dust, trying to keep our homes clean. Yet from this stuff of everyday life, God creates life. For God is, of course, in the big festivals and celebrations, at Christmas and Easter, but no less in the ordinary.

In Scripture there are endless stories of people encountering God in the everyday. Moses, herding sheep in the wilderness, turns aside and recognises God's presence in the burning bush, right there, in the middle of his ordinary day. Samuel is doing nothing more than sleeping. The day has presumably been quite ordinary and it is time to rest. But God is right there, in that night. The two friends, on the road to Emmaus, recognise Jesus as they sit at the end of their journey, hungry and ready to eat, and Jesus breaks bread with them. Daily bread.

One of my favourite novels is *Father Melancholy's Daughter*, by American author, Gail Godwin. It tells the story of a girl, Margaret, growing up with her father, an Episcopalian priest. There are many quotable passages, and one short passage describes 'God in the ordinary' very simply and beautifully:

'At times like this, when I was simply going about my business, doing whatever it was that presented itself to be done next, a strange sensation sometimes came over me. It was as if another presence were allowing me to become aware of its unwavering attention on my behalf; for it was always there, this larger, luminous and highly focused consciousness. It registered, ceaselessly, not only what I did and thought and felt, but also *all that I was beyond what I knew*. ... its

preference seemed to be for simple moments, moments of disinterest. And then suddenly I would be aware of it, aware *with* it, that everything I did counted.'

It can be transformative to begin to recognise that God is here, with us, in every moment of our lives. A plaque on a building in Stockbridge reads, 'On this site in 1857, nothing happened'. How mistaken it is! For God was present in every moment at that site, in every breath of every living creature, in every thought of every person, in every sight seen in the flicker of an eye, on that site. God can be encountered in every moment, in every place.

We can train ourselves to become more open to recognising God's presence in every moment, so why not try one of these ideas:

- As you get up in the morning, stretch, and notice God stretching back to you, extending grace to you for all that the day holds.
- Hold your tea or coffee mug in cupped hands like a chalice and lift up to God all that our human lives are full of, and notice God in the taste of that first sip.

One of the gifts of our humanity is that it insists we live in time and place. The Presence of God is not simply encased in the past and in historical tradition, nor merely hoped for in a prophetic future. We follow God in the here and now with all that our lives are full of, with all that trips us up, with all that makes us laugh, with the mess, the muddle and even the mundane. This is where God is: the Holy Here.

So may we discover God in the ordinary through this Ordinary time season in the church, and in each and every moment of our lives.

With love,

Janet

ROAD WORKS/THE GALA

Congratulations to everyone who has found their way through the roadworks (possibly via streets they had never seen before!). If the work finishes on time, Davidson's Mains Gala will go ahead as planned on 20th June. Holy Cross does not have a stall, but Davidson's Mains Parish Church does, and several of our number are involved with other groups.

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

7th June	Ron Gillies
14th June	Peggy Farrar
21st June	Yvonne Boughton
28th June	?



Flower Rota 2026 is on the noticeboard. There are still plenty of spaces. Please sign up for any Sunday when you want to provide and arrange the flowers. If you wish to donate the flowers but are not able to arrange them yourself, please speak to Sarah. She will help if she can, but is not always available. Please consult her before you sign up. Get in early if a particular date matters to you.

NEXT MAGAZINE – DOUBLE ISSUE

A reminder that the next magazine is the combined July/August issue. There is no separate August magazine. The copy deadline is 19th June. Please note that this is the **LAST** day for handing in material – early is always welcome.

Please let me have information about anything happening in July and August or early September. Other articles are welcome too (space permitting). A Word document by email is easiest to handle, but, given enough time, I can cope with almost anything except really illegible writing. Note that in the paper magazine all pictures are black and white – some colour photos do not reproduce well.

Pentecost at Silverknowes and Bishop Dagmar's Installation both happened too late for this issue – reports next month.

You can have the magazine by email, on paper, or both. Most of you told me long ago which version(s) you want. There are still a few who receive it both on paper and by email – not, I suspect, from choice but because they check their emails so rarely they have never noticed! If this is you, please check now and tell me whether I should keep you on both lists. My contact details are inside the front cover. Remember to let me know if you change your address.

Emailing magazines is quite straightforward, but a **big thank you** is due to the volunteers, long-standing or recently recruited, who deliver paper copies. If you would like to join their number, or feel it is time to retire, please tell me.

Thank you
Margaret

‘Be still and know that I am God’

THE JULIAN MEETINGS

The prayer of loving attention; silent meditation; contemplative prayer; silent prayer; the prayer of the heart...

All these describe a way of praying which many people find ‘fits’ them very well. As they pray they are waiting on God in silence, listening to God, resting in God.

Church life can be very wordy. Our words, our thoughts, our thanks and praise, our requests, our expressing regret are all important, but need to be balanced by times of simply listening to God. In any conversation or relationship we need both to speak and to listen.

Julian Meetings are inclusive, ecumenical groups of people who meet together regularly to practice silent contemplative prayer. They are for people with and without formal church links.

At a Julian Meeting we simply sit together in the presence of God. A short reading, or some music, leads into a time of silent prayer, with a cross, an icon or a candle to focus on, as we open ourselves to, and wait on, God.

In Davidson’s Mains there are two groups meeting regularly for silent prayer in Holy Cross Church:

- **Every Wednesday morning, between 9.30 a.m. and 10 a.m.**
- **Every Thursday evening between 7.15 p.m. and 7.45 p.m.** For those who wish it, this is followed by social time in Ye Olde Inn.

Attending either meeting does not commit you to further involvement. No notice is necessary. You are warmly welcome to come and see if this way of praying is for you.

For more information about the Julian Meetings in Davidson’s Mains, please email us at dmjulianmeeting@gmail.com

You can find more information and resources about contemplative prayer on the Julian Meetings website: thejulianmeetings.net

TREASURER’S REPORT

My first thought as I look at our finances is what a generous congregation we have. As well as ongoing regular giving there have been a number of additional calls for your support in recent months, as well as the special appeal for our hall kitchen.

It started with the Bishop's Lent Appeal for Aberlour Children's Charity, for which I sent a contribution on behalf of Holy Cross for £150. Additionally, some members donated direct to Aberlour.

Then before we knew it, it was Christian Aid Week, and we had a basic congregational lunch in the hall. People were very generous with their donations (even some who couldn't come to the lunch). I have sent our contribution of £300 to Christian Aid.

Last week we had a visit from Leprosy Scotland, and I know that many of you made direct contributions to support their work in India and other parts of the world.

In addition to the donations from you, the congregation, which appear every month in the bank account, we are rewarded by the government. Most people groan when a brown envelope arrives from HMRC. I am usually delighted as it means that I have successfully made a claim to the tax department for the tax due back on Gift Aid donations. This month I received a cheque, covering seven months, for over £7,000. It's always good to receive money from the Inland Revenue, and forms a vital part of our income.

We are now more than half-way through our tax year and our income and expenditure are on track, which is very reassuring.

New Bank Account

This is largely a repeat of the article in last month's magazine so please don't worry if it sounds familiar. Many thanks if you have already acted on last month's article – you can stop reading now.

We now have a new business bank account, though we are still with the Royal Bank of Scotland. The new account details are:

Sort Code	83-18-47
Account number	16084266
Account name	Church of the Holy Cross

Ultimately, we will only use this new account.

I am now asking you, our congregation, if you would please also change your future donations so they come into the new account.

- Those of you who make payments to the church via online banking should create a new payee for future payments.
- If you pay by standing order, you should then create a replacement standing order to this new payee (account).
- Once this is in place you should delete the old standing order.

The best time to do this may be just after your regular payment is made to the old account, so that the instruction is in place before the next payment is due. There is no rush to do this, as the old account will not be closed, but it would be good if we could move things over to the new account over the course of the next few months.

If you have any difficulty with the above, or do not use online banking, then your bank branch should be able to guide you. It is a fairly simple process and doesn't take long.

Can I suggest that if you have not done so for a while, this may be a good time to review the amount that you give on a regular basis. Sadly, our costs continue to increase.

Many thanks and congratulations to those of you who have already changed your standing orders to the new account. I will see the effect of this on our bank statement when the June standing order payments start arriving.

Colin Mair, Treasurer

HALL KITCHEN REFURBISHMENT

Further progress from the kitchen refurbishment group.

We have now compared quotes and chosen Howden's, who installed the Rectory kitchen. Work will start as soon as possible after Friday 26th June. The entire kitchen will be replaced with new cupboards, worktops, splashbacks and sink. It will include an integrated dishwasher and fridge, a smaller cooker, a new Burco (or equivalent) hot water boiler and an upright radiator, and there will be new, fire-proof hatch doors. We hope that the central heating controller will be moved out of the high cupboard giving us more storage space. There will be new heavy-duty vinyl flooring and new LED ceiling lights along with new power points and it should all look great!

I'm delighted to say that the cost should be under the budget of £15,000.

Fundraising continues to go well thanks to your generous donations, and the fund now stands at £11,131.

If you would still like to make a donation then it is not too late! It can be given to me or can be paid directly into either bank account. Please use the reference 'Kitchen'.

Colin Mair

St SALVADOR'S COMMUNITY FOOD INITIATIVE

We have now got into a routine with taking the contents of our white box to St Salvador's; we recently made our fourth trip and as always our contributions were so warmly received.



There is usually a good sized eclectic queue waiting outside the church for the doors to open, which usually coincides with our arrival. We unpack our contributions in 'the office', a small room from where they are distributed later. Janet mentioned that on our first visit we asked if there was anything they *didn't* need. The answer was tins of beans and soup. Our congregation took this to heart and the contents of the white box can be as eclectic as the queue!

On one visit, as the contents of our box were unpacked we noticed that cat food had been donated, and was greeted enthusiastically. We were told many people have cats. There isn't the same demand for dog food, although we are sure it would be welcome too. Pulses, rice, tinned veg/fruit and coconut milk were greeted with pleasure, as were household cleaning items. We have had all these items and more contributed, and once again everything is most warmly received.

In our first report we mentioned fresh vegetables which are supplied by the Cyrenians. One week there weren't any, and we discovered that the internet had failed!

Personally, I have found the task of taking our offerings over so worthwhile and I would like to assure you everything is gratefully and thankfully received.

Tricia Stott

SANCTUARY LAMP

Remembering departed loved ones

Our sanctuary lamp burns continually before the aumbry containing the reserved sacrament as a sign of prayer and presence. You can sponsor the light for a month in memory of a loved one, at a suggested donation of £15 to cover the cost of candles. Write the name on the list on the noticeboard and tell Janet. Payment into the church bank account, or by cash/cheque to the Treasurer, marking your donation 'Sanctuary Lamp'. In May the lamp burned in memory of Helen Allan and Katrine Townhill. In June it will be lit for Dominique Millée.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL AGM

Sunday 21st June

2.30 p.m. in the Cathedral Chapter House

Please join us for the AGM which is an opportunity to hear more about the work of the Friends and to raise any questions that you have. As agreed at last year's AGM, this year's meeting has been brought forward to earlier in the year, when the Cathedral will hopefully be a more comfortable temperature. Before the AGM, and after the 10.30 a.m. Cathedral Eucharist, there is an opportunity for members to join the Congregational Picnic which is traditionally held on the last Sunday when the Cathedral Choir is in residence before their pre-Festival break. The Song School will also be open after the morning service. Tea and coffee will be served in the Chapter House at 2 p.m. prior to the AGM. You may also wish to complete the day by attending Choral Evensong at 3.30 p.m. after the meeting.

Holy Cross is a member of the Friends.

REGULAR WORSHIP

Sunday **9.00 a.m.** **Said Eucharist**
 10.30 a.m. **Sung Eucharist**

Wednesday **9.30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Silent Prayer**

We meet in the presence of God and in silence, with no more than a few words at the beginning and end, such as a Bible verse or the Lord's Prayer.

10.30 a.m. **Eucharist**

Thursday **7.15 p.m.** **Prayer and a pint** Silent prayer (as Wednesday) in church for about half an hour, followed by social time for those who wish from 8 p.m. in Ye Olde Inn

First Friday in the month 2 p.m. Healing Eucharist with anointing

We use the 1982 Scottish Liturgy for all our Communion services.

Variations are noted in the Kalendar.

KALENDAR and READINGS – June 2026

Monday 1st June – The Visit of Mary to Elizabeth (trans. from 31st May)

Wednesday 3rd June – Silent Prayer 9.30 a.m. – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.

Readings: 2 Timothy 1.1-12 Psalm 123 Mark 12.18.27

Thursday 4th June – Corpus Christi – Silent Prayer 7.15 p.m.

Friday 5th June – Healing Eucharist 2 p.m.

**Sunday 7th June – SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST –
Eucharist 9 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.**

Readings: Hosea 5.15.-6.6 Psalm 50.7-15
Romans 4.13-25 Matthew 9.9-13,18-26

Tuesday 9th June – Columba of Iona, Abbot, 597

**Wednesday 10th June – Silent Prayer 9.30 a.m. – Eucharist
10.30 a.m.**

Readings: 1 Kings 18.20-39 Psalm 16.1,6-11 Matthew 5.17-19

Thursday 11th June – Barnabas, apostle – Prayer and a pint 7.15 p.m.

**Sunday 14th June – THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST –
Eucharist 9 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.**

Readings: Exodus 19.2-8a Psalm 100
Romans 5.1-8 Matthew 9.35-10.8

**Wednesday 17th June – Silent Prayer 9.30 a.m. – Eucharist
10.30 a.m.**

Readings: 2 Kings 2.1,6-14 Psalm 31.19-24 Matthew 6.1-6,16-18

Thursday 18th June – There is no Prayer and a pint

**Sunday 21st June – FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST –
NO 9 a.m. service – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

Readings: Jeremiah 20.7-13 Psalm 69.7-10,16-18
Romans 6.1b-11 Matthew 10.24-39

**Wednesday 24th June – Birth of John the Baptist – Silent Prayer
9.30 a.m. – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

Readings: Isaiah 40.1-11 Psalm 85.7-13
Acts 13.14b-26 Luke 1.57-80

Thursday 26th June – Prayer and a pint 7.15 p.m.

**Sunday 28th June – FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST –
Eucharist 9 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.**

Readings: Jeremiah 28.5-9 Psalm 89.1-4,15-18
Romans 6.12-23 Matthew 10.40-42

Monday 29th June – Peter and Paul, Apostles

Wednesday 1st July – Silent Prayer 9.30 a.m. – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.

Readings: Amos 5.14-15,21-24 Psalm 50.7-15 Matthew 8.28-34

Thursday 2nd July – Prayer and a pint 7.15 p.m.

Friday 3rd July – Thomas, Apostle – Healing Eucharist 2 p.m.

**Sunday 5th July – SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST –
Eucharist 9 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.**

Readings: Zechariah 9.9-12 Psalm 145.8-14
Romans 7.15-25a Matthew 11.16-19,25-30

