

Unity

ST MARGARET'S
LOCHGILPHEAD
& INVERARAY
NO 16



Pope Francis I - formerly
Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio,
Archbishop of Buenos Aires

Bishop Toal welcomes Pope Francis

Bishop Joseph Toal gave a warm welcome to the news of the election of the new Pope.

He said that everyone in the diocese shared "...the joy of the Church throughout the world at the election of Pope Francis 1."

Bishop Joe added: "We trust that the Holy Spirit will guide him in all aspects of his ministry as Bishop of Rome and Supreme Pastor of the Universal Church, and that he will seek and receive all the help necessary to fulfill the demanding task the Lord has given him."

He offered congratulations to "our Jesuit friends, and in particular to

Fr Paul Hackett, Parish Priest in Kingussie."

And he said: "Pope Francis is the first Argentinian Pope, and furthermore the first from South America - we think of those from our own Diocese, emigrants like Pope Francis' own family, who left Scotland to live and work in Patagonia and other parts of that huge country."

Bishop Joe added: "There is a sense that the choice of a Pope from a poorer part of the world, and his own reported life-style and his choice of name, already invites us to a stronger commitment to work for a better, more

just world, in the spirit of the Lord, who always calls us to be attentive to the cry of the poor. Let us strive to respond in our parishes and as individuals.

"May the Lord bless our Pope, and grant him good health and spiritual strength in the challenging days ahead."

On other pages

The reading group	2
Hot air - a report	3
Lenten activities	3
Rotas & more diary dates	4

Diary date:

KINNOULL - ARGYLL & THE ISLES' SINGING RETREAT

LEARN NEW MUSIC, MEDITATE ON THE WORD, MEET PEOPLE FROM CAMPBELTOWN TO STORNOWAY. ENJOY A WEEKEND IN PERTH.

SEE MOIRA SHAW (MAY 10-12, 2013)

Fr David's Space

We are coming to the end of another Lent, and it always amazes me how much people actually enjoy Lent. 'Enjoy' seems to be a strange word to use when describing a time of fasting, abstinence and almsgiving, and yet I think it's because we are stripped back, we maybe make more time for prayer, or think of those in our society who are struggling just to make ends meet. These are opportunities to touch our deeper self, that divine spark that runs through us all as human beings and it is just waiting to ignite if we only give it the chance.

Lent is a time of turning back to the Lord, a time when we can deepen our relationship with Christ. And if we have been listening closely to the word of God, we will have heard this clarion call to all sinners.

The readings I think have been very apt as the Catholic Church in Scotland has gone through a most difficult time. But as St. John tells us in the 5th Sunday of Lent's Gospel, "Let those without sin, cast the first stone". It's always important for us to remember, that we cannot have the resurrection without the crucifixion. There are times when it is difficult to follow Christ and be part of his Church, but no one ever said it would be easy being a Christian.

And yet through all that has gone on we journey on to Easter to meet the risen Lord. As Christians we believe that the resurrection has changed the world forever, nothing will or can be the same again. We are the Easter People, our faith is in the resurrected Christ; it gives us, light and new life, to continue our journey with Christ.

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter, with much love and prayers

Fr. David

PARISH READING GROUP

BY DENISE MACLEAN

A group of our parishioners has been getting together every Thursday evening during Lent in St Margaret's to discuss one of the works of Father Gerard Hughes, a well known Scottish Jesuit. The book



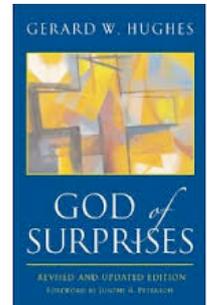
Left:
Fr Gerard
Hughes SJ

which was chosen for us by Father David is

called 'God of Surprises' and the format of the group has been to read two chapters every week before our meeting.

We have covered a variety of subjects including prayer, reconciliation and the presence of God in daily life. All of the topics have led to interesting discussion and good natured debate as the subject matter is

sometimes challenging but acknowledges that all of us



have a very personal faith journey. From time to time, our musings have strayed off on a tangent but we are ably shepherded back to the text by Father David.

I think without exception, it has been rewarding and valuable for all of us to be part of the Parish Reading Group and hopefully we'll persuade Father David not to confine it just to Lent.

* Fr Gerry W Hughes SJ marked 70 years in the Society of Jesus on 7 September, 2012.

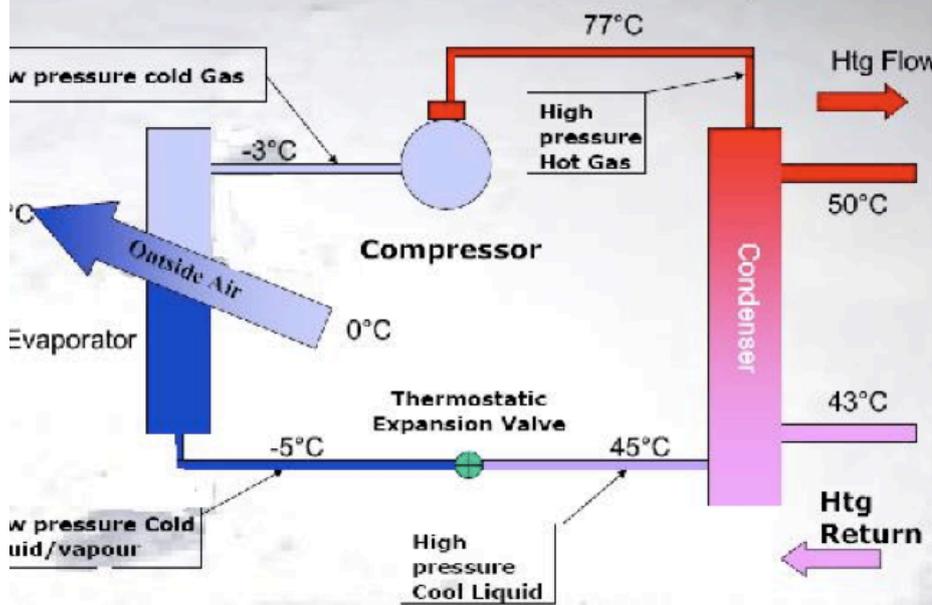
Ayrshire-born Fr Hughes entered in St Beuno's, North Wales, in 1942.

He is still a much sought-after Spiritual Guide, as well as being an acclaimed author of such books as **God in All Things** and **God of Surprises**.

Children's Liturgy

The children's liturgy on the Fourth Sunday of Lent was such a success, with the children making the Mass so vibrant, that Fr David hopes to celebrate Mass this way several times in the year.

What is a Heat Pump?



St Margaret's Lent Events

St Margaret's has been a hive of activity throughout Lent.

The talks

Fr David organised a series of Lenten talks with a theme of spirituality. Marian Pallister, SCIAF Ambassador for Argyll and the Isles, talked about answering the challenges of the Holy Spirit presented by SCIAF's plan for global citizenship.



Fr Michael Hutson gave whistle-stop history of Christian spirituality. In the week that gave us Pope Francis, Fr Michael reminded us that St Francis of Assisi said: 'The deeds you do may be the only sermon some persons will hear today.'

Other speakers included Sr Audrey from Caol, and of course, Fr David himself.

House Masses

House Masses were celebrated throughout Lent, including one at the home of Tom and Agnes Clarke.

Lochgilphed Christians

This discussion group attracted a crowd to the parish house, where they shared food and a discussion about 'What spirituality means to me'.

Spiritual reading Group

As Denise MacLean writes (see Page 2) this was yet another well-attended and successful Lenten series of meetings that group members hope will continue.

Why you are taking your coat off in church!

In the nicest possible sense, Bill Hall is a man who talks a lot of hot air. And his heating system is the reason we have all been taking our coats off in St Margaret's.

When Fr David announced that he was using a gift to instal a new heating system and that it would be all done and dusted by the middle of the next week, there may have been some scepticism.

However, it all happened according to plan and St Margaret's - building, parishioners, and bank balance - is reaping the benefits.

We all know that the price of oil has rocketed. This system uses hot air and Bill Hall, the man behind Alba Air Energy, says it will cost just £300 per unit to run - per annum.

Bill has installed similar units in ten churches and is about to instal another six. In our own diocese, there are happy priests and parishioners at St Vincent De Paul Barra, the Church of The Visitation Taynult, Our Lady of The Angels Mingarry, and St Brides, South Uist.

How does it work?

The diagram above should help, but in the most simple terms, there are two units outside the church and two inside. Liquid gas, heated by electricity, is pumped through pressurised pipes into the building. For every kilowatt expended, we get 4/5 kilowatts of heat back. The fans push the heated air through the building.

Churches, with their big open spaces, respond well to the system. Bill says that people who instal the system in their homes (units cost around £3000, including installation and maintenance and a 3-4

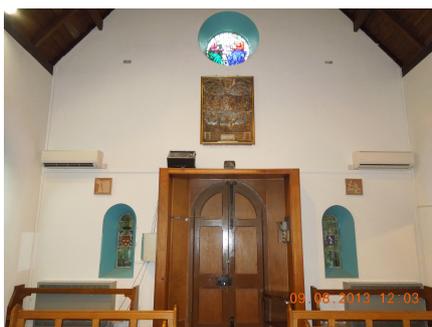
bedroom house would have an annual heating bill of £200, according to Alba Air Energy) have to learn to live with their bedroom doors open to allow the heat to circulate.

The units are fitted with filters - one for dust that must be cleaned, one for viruses and pollen that is not cleaned - and Bill reckons that St Margaret's is ticking the boxes in terms of being a green parish (a status being urged by Justice and Peace Commission for Scotland) because of the lack of harmful emissions.

The cost of electricity is set to rise, but Bill estimates this would push our heating bills up from, say, 40p a day to 60p a day.

Maintenance involves a low cost annual service and there is easy access for on-going quarterly cleaning that takes around 5 minutes. We have a full parts and labour warranty for a period of 7 years.

For more information about the system, contact Bill at bill@albaairenergy.co.uk



ROTA

DATE	EUCHARIST MINISTERS		READERS	DATE	CLEANERS
FEBRUARY				FEBRUARY	
3	P. Robinson	F. Dewar	J. Greene	2	H. Simpson
10	C. McFadden	M. Shaw	B. Robbins	9	A. Cummings
17	M. MacPherson	P. Singal	C. Paddock	16	M. Shaw
24	D. Berndt	P. Graham	M. McCall	23	E. Salmon
MARCH				MARCH	
3	P. Robinson	F. Dewar	R. Ranger	2	A. McCarton
10	C. McFadden	M. Shaw	A. McCarton	9	T. McGeachy
17	M. MacPherson	P. Singal	M. Kent	16	E. McLachan
24	D. Berndt	P. Graham	E. Salmon	23	F. Dewar
31	P. Robinson	F. Dewar	M. Pallister	30	M. Robbins
APRIL				APRIL	
7	C. McFadden	M. Shaw	J. McFadden	6	M. McCall
14	M. MacPherson	P. Singal	C. Lamont	13	A. Martin
21	D. Berndt	P. Graham	A. Weir	20	C. McFadden
28	P. Robinson	F. Dewar	J. Greene	27	H. Simpson
MAY				MAY	
5	C. McFadden	M. Shaw	B. Robbins	4	A. Cummings
12	M. MacPherson	P. Singal	C. Paddock	11	M. Shaw
19	D. Berndt	P. Graham	M. McCall	18	E. Salmon
26	P. Robinson	F. Dewar	R. Ranger	25	A. McCarton

If unable to keep the schedule please arrange your own swap and mark the change on this Rota

Year of Faith Diary Date

Bearers for Procession of Gifts

MARCH

3 B. Robbins

10 P. Singal

17 M. Shaw & E. Colligan

24 T. McLoughlin & P. McGinley

31 P. Robinson & Family

APRIL

7 Davidson & McIntyre Families

14 R. Ranger & M. Pallister

21 J. McFadden & M. MacPherson

28 J. & H. Simpson

MAY

5 M. Loughrin & A. Weir

12 M. Guidi & Casci Family

19 A. McKay & M. Kent

26 B. Robbins

If unable to keep the schedule please arrange your own swap and let Billy know

A Conference and Meeting for the Year of Faith
On the Theme



TOWARDS A JUST ECONOMIC ORDER:

CHALLENGES OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

St Augustine's School, 208 Broomhouse Road, Edinburgh EH12 9AD

**Friday 12th April, 7.30pm – 9pm &
Saturday 13th April, 9.30am – 4.30pm**

Speakers include: Bishop Robson

Michael Northcott, *Professor of Ethics in the University of Edinburgh;*

Dr Anna Rowlands, *Director of the Centre for Catholic Social Thought and Practice;*

Dr Lorna Gold, *Policy and Advocacy Manager, Trócaire.*

Sponsored by The Bishops' Conference of Scotland

Organised by SCIAF, Justice and Peace Commission, Catholic Parliamentary Office,
Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh Justice & Peace Office

Tea and coffee provided. Please bring your own lunch.

Register through sciaf@sciaf.org.uk

Payment by donation.

Sad losses

- Our prayers remain with Theresa Foggin after the death of Walter.
- A number of parishioners travelled to Oban for the funeral of Charlie McKinney.



M.A.L.I. Diary Date

Easter Craftfest

+ Coffee

+ +

+ Soup & Crusty Bread

+ March 30, Baptist Church

+ 10am-2pm

+ Zambian & Argyll jewelry

Glass, knitwear, cards and

much, much more