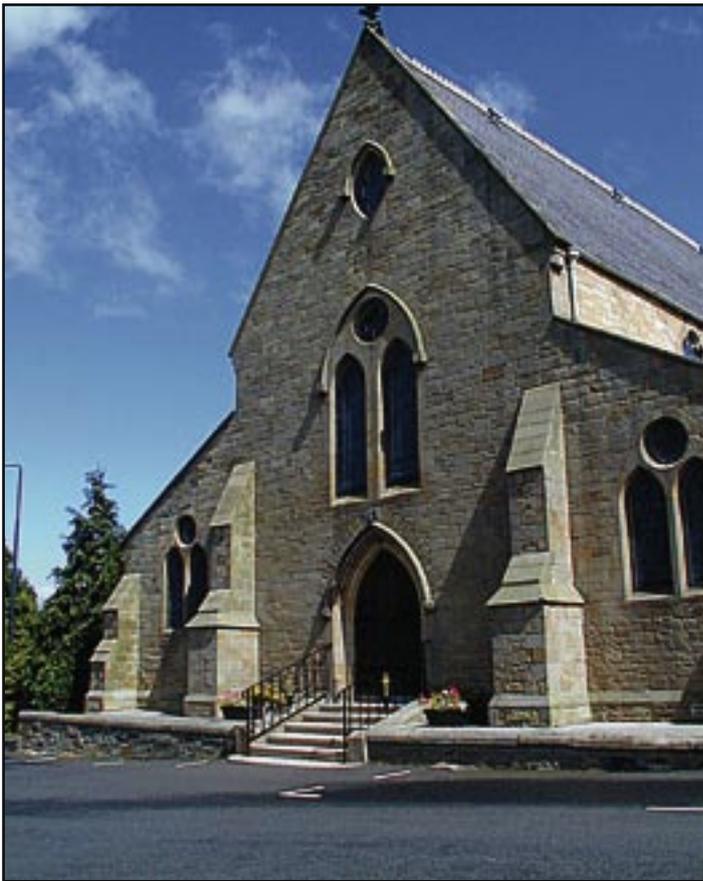


This magazine is free - please take one home.

St. David's Dalkeith

Parish Magazine Autumn 2008



Contents :-

- *Father Allan Ocdenaria*
- *News from the Schools*
- *Fairtrade Savoury Recipes*
- *Parish Groups & News (inc. Lourdes Trip)*
- *Humour & Philosophy*
- *Looking Forward*
- *Children's Page*

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Monsignor Allan Chambers*

*Assistant Priest :
Father Allan Ocdenaria*

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Fr. Allan Ocdenaria.



“There is a time and purpose for everything under the heavens” (Ecclesiasticus 3:1). Everything fits into place with each part of my life occupying a particular portion in my life’s design.

Coming to Scotland was never part of my wildest imaginations. It only started actually as some kind of “testing the waters” but later on it became a “duc in altum” experience. I applied to serve in the archdiocese more or less two years ago without expecting my application to be answered. In my letter I expressed my desire to widen my experience in another cultural context. At the same time I hungered for a deepening of my spiritual life and thought I might find it in another place that is totally unfamiliar.

Since my arrival in Mayfield last September 2007, a lot of things happened to me. Indeed almost every thing unfamiliar had left an impression in my being. At first, I found Mayfield extremely lonely. It was so unlike where I come from where there are a lot of people and lots of small means of transportation. I lived alone in the parish house doing the chores. Priests in our country seldom did anything like this. Each day was quite busy in the parish: masses, marriages, baptism, confessions, sick call, etc.

Scotland is truly a place of renewal. I live a hermetical life here if I may say so. The long walks I take have been refreshing and in the process I have time to appreciate the beauty I see around me. Being here for more than a year now I have learned to appreciate my own culture-- what I have in my country, and even what I do not have. At the same time, it has made me see people differently and appreciate the uniqueness in each person. There is so much to learn from people and experiences.

I am grateful for the many forms of kindness and goodness I have experienced in Mayfield, Dalkeith, Gorebridge, Bonnyrigg, Rosewell, Loanhead, West Calder and Addiewell. My sincerest thanks to the priests in our deanery whose friendships have deepened my understanding of brotherhood. Although there have been lots of adjustments I need to make-- physically, emotionally, environmentally, and gastronomically-- I have found the consequent learning experience truly worthwhile. The differences of culture are actually the factors that make my stay worth recalling

When I went home for a three-week vacation, I saw a lot of things from a fresh perspective. Things I just took for granted-- beautiful beaches, the sun shining brightly almost everyday, the noise, the simple happiness of many poor people in my country, native food, and yes, even those that we do not have much as a people-- I resolved to be grateful for and cherish. I thank Cardinal O’Brien for giving me the opportunity to be enriched spiritually here.

My next assignment will surely be a new experience. And I am certain the Lord God who allowed me to be here has messages for me to learn from, to reflect on, and to be parts of my growth.

I am deeply grateful especially to the people of Mayfield and Dalkeith who have shown me utmost kindness in many unique ways. Allow me to express myself in my own dialect:

**DAGHAN KAAJONG SALAMAT SA
INYONG KAAYO. ANG GINOO ANG
MAGBALOS KANINYO SA MAKADAGHAN!**

~~~~~

Father Ocdenaria now takes up a post at the Cathedral in Edinburgh. We thank him for his year with us. Our best wishes and prayers go with him.

~~~~~

News from the Schools

St. David's High School



St. David's High School has enjoyed a lively few months since we returned from the summer holidays. We were pleased to hear that the Youth Group from St. David's Parish had such a memorable trip to Lourdes. We have asked them to tell pupils about their experiences during assemblies. You will also be pleased to know that a group of S1 pupils had a very valuable trip to the Carfin Grotto with our chaplain, Fr. Chambers.

St. David's Pupil Council has been re-launched with representatives from all year groups. One of their first priorities is advising on how we should improve our school environment with more outdoor seating, games and sports facilities. We will also be organising Litter Challenges, involving staff and pupils.

Throughout this session, we will be running several new courses with a vocational focus. These



include Construction Crafts, Radio Broadcasting and Hospitality Programmes, all of which involve partnerships with external companies. Our pupils will also be offered employment skills to help prepare them for the world of work.

This year, we will be inviting another 2 parishes in the Deanery to take part in our Christmas Celebration for Senior Citizens. Those of you who attended from St. David's Parish a few years ago will remember that our pupils prepared and served Christmas Lunch for around 70 senior citizens. This included musical entertainment and dancing, featuring the St. David's Ceilidh Band. Our senior pupils now work with residents of Nazareth House; they have also been invited to join our celebration in December.

This year, our Remembrance Mass for deceased members of our school community will be held on Wednesday, November 5 at 7 p.m.. Lastly, our Parent Council have planned a Scottish Night on Friday, December 5 to support school funds. We will let you have full details later and look forward to seeing you there.

(Mrs. Marian Docherty, Head Teacher)

St. David's Primary School **- *Mundum Pro Christo Vincamus***



Where did the first term go? With everything that's been happening at the primary school, blink and you could miss it!!!

It has been important to everyone at the school to ensure that the high standards we have come to expect in recent years are maintained and developed further – staff, parents, other partners and especially our pupils demand that we continually strive to improve on what has gone before. From our excellent attainment results in reading, writing and mathematics, above both Midlothian and National figures, to the many different opportunities to celebrate the successes and achievements of our pupils both within and outside the school, St. David's Primary is really thriving!

Our new Primary 1 pupils have settled in extremely well showing confidence, enthusiasm and a whole lot of fun keeping everyone a step ahead of themselves. Similarly, Primary 7 have shown a developing maturity as they begin their final year with us before progressing to secondary school.

Our very active Parent Council continue to support the school's improvement through assisting curriculum development and the organisation of fundraising events – the recent Quiz night having been a tremendous success.

Recent class and whole school election campaigns have confirmed our Pupil Council representatives, Junior Road Safety Officers and school House Captains. Further opportunities to develop the pupils as leaders continue with our playground leaders (PALS) and after the October holiday our school eco-committee.

At our recent Healthy Living week the pupils enjoyed activities including dance, cheerleading, golf and cycling as well as enjoying a wide selection of healthy options for lunch. After-school clubs in gardening, basketball and dance continue our approach to encouraging a more healthy and active lifestyle.

Monsignor Allan, Fr. Ocdenaria, Sr. Triay and the Archdiocesan team continue to provide spiritual guidance to the whole school community. We aim to enhance our partnership with St. David's Parish further through a series of planned whole-school and class visits to the church over the school session, to join with the parish in the celebration of the Eucharist.

St. David's Primary School is an excellent base for our pupils to learn, grow and develop through Christ. It is a focal point of our parish and local community and a key link between the home and the parish. Our pupils and school are thriving and we will continue to do so in partnership and in prayer.

(Mr. Anthony Currie, Acting Head Teacher and the staff of St. David's Primary School.)



Fairtrade Recipes

Other recipes using Fairtrade ingredients can be found in 'The Fairtrade Everyday Cookbook' published by Dorling Kindersley.

Camembert with Kumquats

- 8oz Camembert cheese
- 8oz Fairtrade kumquats
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 small onion thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup Fairtrade brown sugar
- 1/2 cup Fairtrade fruity white wine
- 1/8 teaspoon dried red-pepper flakes
- Crusty bread

1. Place cheese on a plate and allow to warm to room temperature.
2. Slice kumquats 1/8 thin rounds and place them in a bowl.
3. Melt the butter, add the onion and cook for 5 mins.
4. Add kumquats, cover and simmer for 10 mins.
5. Add the sugar, wine and pepper flakes and simmer for 15 mins and the sauce has thickened.
6. Cool slightly and pour over the cheese.
7. Serve with crusty bread.

Brie or goats cheese can be used instead of the Camembert.

Serves 4.

Pork with Prunes.

- 125gr pitted Fairtrade prunes
- 100ml Fairtrade white wine
- 100ml water
- 2 pork chops
- 2 tablespoons flour
- Salt and pepper
- 25gr butter
- 1 tablespoon redcurrant jelly
- 1/2 cup cream

1. Gently simmer prunes in half the wine and half the water until soft. Remove prunes and set liquid aside.
 2. Trim rind and excess fat from pork chops.
 3. Lightly flour chops and season with salt and pepper.
 4. Melt butter in frying pan and brown the chops on both sides.
 5. Add reserved wine and remaining water and wine and cook the chops for 25-30 minutes.
 6. Remove chops. Arrange prunes with chops.
 7. Reduce pan liquid, add redcurrant jelly and gradually stir in the cream.
 8. Adjust the seasoning. Pour over the chops.
- Serves 2.

Mushrooms with Goats Cheese (see photo).

- 2 muffins or 4 slices of bread.
- 4 Portobello mushrooms.
- 4 tablespoon Fairtrade white wine.
- 4 rounds of goats cheese.
- 4 teaspoon Cranberry sauce.

1. Cut the muffins in half and toast them or the bread.
 2. Place them in the bottom of small microwave bowls.
 3. Wipe the mushrooms clean and place these on top.
 4. Pour one tablespoon of wine over each mushroom and top with a round of goats cheese.
 5. Bake in the microwave for about 5 minutes until the cheese has melted. (If doing each mushroom individually, reduce the times.)
 6. Top with the cranberry sauce and serve as a starter. (These mushrooms can be cooked in an ordinary oven but it will take longer and they need to be covered while cooking.)
- Serves 4.

Italian Bean Stew.

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 stick celery
- 1 medium carrot
- 1/2 leek
- 1 clove garlic (optional)
- 25ml Fairtrade white wine
- 200gr can chopped tomatoes
- 1/2 Fairtrade lemon
- about 175ml vegetable stock
- 100gr can borlotti beans
- 100gr can cannelloni beans
- sprig oregano or thyme

1. Roughly dice celery and carrot, wash and slice leek.
2. Crush and chop garlic, zest lemon.
3. Heat vegetable stock, drain and rinse beans.
4. Heat oil in a large casserole or saucepan over a medium heat. Add the celery and carrots and cook stirring for 7-8 minutes, then stir in the garlic and wine. Let the wine cook out and reduce for a few minutes.
5. Tip in the tomatoes and lemon zest and season well.
6. Add the stock and bring to the boil then simmer

fairly rapidly for 30-40 minutes, stirring occasionally or until the vegetables are just tender and the liquid has reduced and thickened.

7. Stir in the beans (add a dash of water if necessary) and cook for 5 minutes.

8. Remove from the heat and stir in the oregano or thyme and the lemon juice.

9. Check the seasoning.

10. Serve with crusty Italian bread and a nice glass of Fairtrade red wine!!!

Serves 2.

Hamuth Heloo

(Lamb with dried fruits, a recipe from Iraq)



- 300gr lamb stew meat
- 2 tablespoons oil
- 1 small onion
- 1 cup water
- salt to taste
- Small piece Fairtrade cinnamon bark
- Thinly peeled rind from 1/4 Fairtrade lemon
- 1/4 cup Fairtrade dates
- 1/4 cup dried pitted prunes
- 1/4 cup Fairtrade dried apricots
- 2 tablespoons Fairtrade sultanas
- 1 tablespoon Fairtrade brown sugar.

1. Cut the meat into 2cm cubes.
 2. Peel and chop the onion.
 3. Brown meat in half the oil in a heavy pan.
 4. Push the meat to one side, add onion and cook for five minutes.
 5. Reduce the heat and add 1/2 cup water, salt to taste, cinnamon bark and lemon peel.
 6. Place chopped date in a small pan with remaining 1/2 cup water and heat until dates soften.
 7. Press softened dates through a sieve to puree.
 8. Add date puree to meat with apricots, prunes, sultanas and brown sugar. Stir, then cover tightly and simmer for a further hour or until the meat is tender.
 9. Check during cooking time to ensure that the fruit does not catch.....add a little water if necessary.
 10. Remove bark and lemon rind and serve with hot rice.
- Serves 4.

(Winifred Keeves.)

News from Parish Groups

Fairtrade



On 21 June 2008 we were privileged to attend the presentation to the Cardinal of the certificate denoting

that St. Andrews and Edinburgh Diocese had attained Fairtrade status as over half the parishes were now committed to Fairtrade.

In his thanks, the Cardinal thanked all who had made it possible for the certificate to be awarded and mentioned how pleased he was that, while Glasgow was nearly there, we had done it. He talked about the difference that a living wage meant to people that he has met on his many travels in the Third World.

He was wearing a strange wooden figure on a cord round his neck. This, he said, had been presented to him when he visited Cambodia. The primitive figure, with its arms outstretched and one leg shorter than the other, represented their suffering. The short leg was a symbol of all those who have lost limbs through wars and landmines. The artist, who made the figure, suggested that each time we do something to help them, be it Fairtrade or Peace and Justice, we are helping that leg to grow longer.

It was a happy occasion as many people from all over the diocese were present. We were sorry that we were only there as invited guests and were not able to represent St. David's. If you have any ideas about how St. David's could be involved in Fairtrade, please contact us.

(Isa Duff and Winifred Keeves.)

St. David's Youth Trip to LOURDES 2008

On the 11th of July this year we embarked on the final stage of a journey which we started two years ago.

Thanks to the generosity of the Parish Family, the funds had been raised, the meeting, Masses and preparation days attended and the cases were packed!

The dream was now reality; our youth were ready to embark on a journey of a lifetime and they were more than a little nervous.

It was a normal Scottish summer morning, cold and wet!

The taxi arrived at 3.30 in the morning and most of our youth were asking themselves 'What have I

got myself into!' Babs and I would discover later that this was the time our youth usually thought about going to bed, not about getting up! The taxi driver was rather amused when it was suggested that instead of the airport he should just keep driving, Balado (T in the Park) seemed like a good alternative.



(Above, tired, just arrived in Lourdes)

This year was my first visit to Lourdes and like our youth I had no idea what to expect. Many people I have shared my experience with, were surprised at my description of Lourdes, they thought that it would be a very depressing place, however it is the opposite. Lourdes means different things to different people, so in order to give an idea of what Lourdes meant to our group, I have asked some of them to write a few lines about what this experience meant to them.

"Lourdes for me was a trip of a lifetime, something I will never forget. To be with the youth from the Parish was an added bonus. It was great to see how all our emotions changed in a week. It was an overwhelming experience and I loved every minute of it, even the early rises!"

"Summarising my personal experience in Lourdes is an impossible task, purely because it is an indescribable place, and I will always remember my incredible journey there!"

"Lourdes for me was an unforgettable experience – the love, the laughter and the fact that I was part of something so special that brought together all kinds of people united in one place".

“As a child I was never really enthusiastic about going to church. Lourdes reinforced my beliefs, and made me realise how important my faith is. It was a very moving and spiritual experience. It’s great that you can get a suntan and still go to Mass!”

“Lourdes was the most spiritual experience of my life; it is a place of love, friendship and most importantly hope. The Grotto is a place of overwhelming faith, peace and tranquillity. The place where we prayed, lit our candles and shed our tears, but always with a friend at our side. The Saint Frai the Hospital for our sick pilgrims was a happy friendly place where teenagers and octogenarians talked and became friends, who said miracles don’t happen!”

“I didn’t know what to expect or if I even wanted to go. However this soon changed. Just seeing the sick pilgrims enjoying themselves and knowing that I was contributing to this made my whole week (even the 6.30 a.m. starts!) worthwhile.”

“Lourdes was an incredible place, with many incredible people. I consider myself very lucky to have had the opportunity to enjoy such a life changing experience”.

Those of you fortunate enough to have been present at the Youth Mass and Lourdes presentation in September will understand just what an asset our youth are to our Parish, they are our future.

Babs and I were delighted when we were asked to accompany them on this life changing journey and are very proud of what they achieved. We feel privileged to be associated with them. They were hard working, considerate and truly deserving of this experience.

(Molly De Haan)



(Energies restored, after a pizza!)

Lourdes Pilgrims

I was lucky enough to be one of the St. David’s group who made the pilgrimage to Lourdes this year for the 150th anniversary of the Apparition of Our Lady to Bernadette. The group in our hotel included The Cardinal, Monsignor Chambers and Molly DeHann and Barbara Carr. Our hotel though of basic standard was warm and clean and the food was very good.

It has to be admitted that Lourdes is much commercialised but who are we to grudge the residents of a previously poor area the chance to make a decent living.

The experience of Lourdes is not only spiritual it is very emotional. To witness the overwhelming faith of so many people from all over the world, of all ages some with devastating illness or disability made every day an uplifting episode in my life.

We were very proud of our young people who worked so hard with the sick. The young people among us were: Amy, Bernadette, Claire, Katherine, Kevin and Louisa. Work which was new to them and at times difficult, not to mention exhausting. They were always cheerful and it was good to be able to brag that they were part of our parish family.

Molly and Barbara brought their unfailing good humour and talent for easy interaction with young people along with their capacity for hard work.

If you are able and it’s your choice you can attend wonderfully uplifting services all day every day. If you are not so able you can choose to spread your participation over the week. Mass at the Grotto is a unique experience. Each country has the opportunity to conduct its own mass in the course of the pilgrimage.

Our Mass felt very special, it was concelebrated by Cardinal O’Brien, Monsignor Chambers and several other priests travelling with our diocese. The peace and serenity seemed to emanate from the Grotto. All around were devout people sharing a common feeling of wellbeing and almost everyone with a smile on their face.

Nearby are the baths and the source of Lourdes water so important to many of us especially the sick.

It is indicative of the faith of the pilgrims that the waiting line for the baths never seems to go down even though the wait does not feel very long.

I suppose if I had to choose I would say that the nightly torchlight procession is the thing which typifies the devotion, love and wellbeing experienced by all. Hearing the Rosary recited in so many different languages and the Lourdes hymn sung to the same well loved tune by thousands of people



the Mass and we hope to see all the familiar faces and some new ones too! The Mass is always a very happy, prayerful event. Afterwards there will be refreshments in the hall and the opportunity to meet up with people from other parishes.

This year, with the help of the parish, we have again managed to give financial support to Pro-Life organisations such as Life, Lifeline, SPUC and the Cardinal Winning Initiative. We will continue to do so in 2009 and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of St. David's for supporting our tea, coffee and scones after Sunday Mass. It has not only been an opportunity to raise much needed funds for pro-life charities but has also provided an occasion for parishioners to meet socially after Mass.

We are always willing to welcome new members to our Pro-Life group. Please get in touch if you are interested.

(Helen Holden, Secretary)

Parish Choir

*"Life's a pudding full of plums;
Care's a canker that benumbs"* (W.S.Gilbert)

When the long-serving organist was diagnosed for "urgent" surgery, we were very grateful to have John Holden on the spot to hold the fort for a few months. Then, at the height of the holiday spell, the choir on two occasions bravely tackled the hymn-singing unaccompanied. **Well done, all!**

Now the dreams of new voices which figured in our last magazine report are being partly realised as we welcome two new sopranos. So we have more chance both of brushing up good but neglected items from the recent past and of breaking a little new ground.

*"Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime,
ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime your evetime song,
ye singers."*

(Frank Nicholson)

St. David's, Dalkeith - Web Site

Our own website has been up and running for around three years. It has plenty of good information available e.g. current bulletin details for Mass times and intentions, diary of future events, useful links.

A recent upgrade has given it more reactive and readable menus plus a page from which you can read or download the parish magazines - go on, try it at :-

www.stdavidsdalkeith.co.uk

(Julian Kettle)

from all over the world gives a feeling of solidarity with all Christians which I am sure will remain with us for the rest of our lives.

I must point out that Lourdes has its social side. We had a lot of laughs especially over our nightly libation and some of our mealtimes were a hoot. We were like a happy family and many stories were told, some which I am sure grew in the telling.

If you are enduring feelings of doubt or are just a bit jaded about your faith, try to get to Lourdes. It has the effect on your spirits of having attended a huge revival meeting. You will be left with the certain knowledge and conviction that the apparitions actually happened in the not too distant past. This coupled with the unfailing courage of the sick and their carers leaves you with a changed outlook on the way you want to conduct your life.

(Netta Bonnar)

Dalkeith Pro-Life Group

The run up to Christmas, an important time for adults and children alike, is also a particularly busy time for our local Pro-Life group as we anticipate the approach of events such as the Mass for the Holy Innocents and the sale of Advent candles, in aid of Lifeline. The candles will be on sale soon outside local churches and in our schools. We are sure you will support Lifeline as you have done in the past; it is such a worthwhile local charity promoting the well being of mothers and babies alike.

The Innocents Mass will take place this year in St. Francis's Friary, St. Teresa of Lisieux, Craigmillar on Monday the 29th December at 12 noon. The Cardinal will be there as usual to concelebrate with priests from the diocese. Local Pro-Life groups such as Lifeline, Life and SPUC will help to lead the liturgy. A bus will be provided to convey parishioners to

Queen's Garden Party

In July I was privileged to receive an invitation to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. It was for the members of the Red Cross. I had the outfit but needed a hat, eventually I got one.



It rained the whole day, stood for 3/4 hour in the queue so I could say I have been in the palace, (nice place).

The garden is at the back. Just picture it. All sitting about at tables, holding our brollies up and drinking tea and eating our lunch, listening to the band playing, even had our ice-cream too.

Prince Charles and Camilla didn't get to see my new hat for all the brollies! Soaked through, but what a great day I had.

(A parishioner)

Mary's Meals Back Pack Project

Following on from the wonderful response we had last year to the collection of goods for Mary's Meals schools feeding programme we decided that this year we would collect for Mary's Meals Back Pack Project. The project aims to help children in countries where poverty prevents them from going to school. Children often find themselves helping their families in their struggle to survive rather than in the classroom. Pencils and jotters – even clothes – are beyond the means of their families. However

all the studies show that even a basic education is the best way of escaping from the poverty trap in later life. Scottish International Relief (SIR) provides practical help to children like these both through the Mary's Meals schools feeding programme and this simple but effective Back Pack Project. Back packs are filled with useful items listed by Mary's Meals, e.g. pens, pencils, jotters, summer dress/shorts, sandals, bowl and spoon for feeding programme etc.

We listed the items required on a board at the back of the church and parishioners could take a slip and donate the item. We again had a great response to the appeal and it was wonderful to see so many children bringing their donations so happy and eager to show what they had brought. Twenty two backpacks were filled with all the items requested by Mary's Meals. A large quantity of pens, pencils, coloured pens /pencils and notebooks remaining were sent boxed and will be used to replenish backpacks.



The backpacks were taken to the warehouse in Glasgow where they were gladly received.

There is a DVD with two short films (6mins. each) A Back Pack's Journey and Mary's Meals Project, these are available in the reading corner at the back of the church or see Isa Duff.

Jon Sobrino

**Signs of Hope for the 21st Century:
Living Simply, the Poor, and Archbishop
Romero. Fr. Jon Sobrino SJ.**

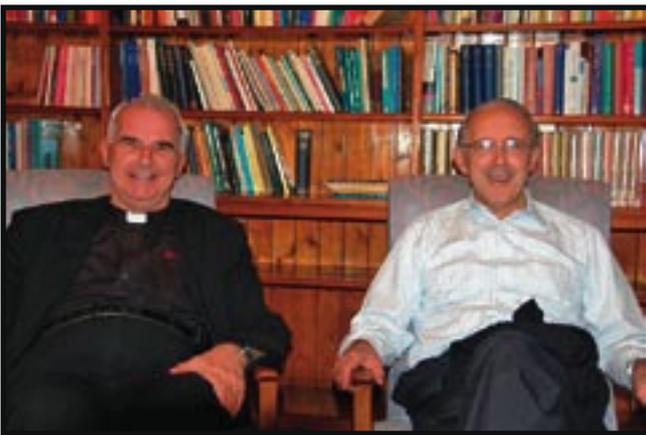
Fr. Jon Sobrino SJ. was a member of the Jesuit community that was attacked in 1989 leading to the brutal murder of 6 Jesuits and 2 lay helpers in El Salvador.

Last June three of us were privileged to hear Fr. Jon Sobrino's talk. He was making a brief visit to Britain and only spoke in Edinburgh and then in London.



His message was quite simple. The poor are with us and unless we recognize this and the injustice of the wealthy nations, and do something about it, there can be no salvation. The signs of hope are that we are beginning to see this.

Archbishop Romero gave his life for the poor. While not a brave man by nature, he was prepared to speak up for the poor of his country and the inequalities. In his weekly homilies from the cathedral in San Salvador, which usually lasted an hour and a half, he would list the atrocities committed by the government that week and name the perpetrators. He refused to have a security guard when it was offered on the grounds that the poor were not being offered the same protection. He was gunned down while he was saying Mass on 24 March 1980. Work is now going on towards the beatification of Archbishop Romero and, of course, this would give a great boost to the poor of El Salvador to have a saint of their own.



After the talk, the Cardinal mentioned that he plans to go to El Salvador next year for the 20th anniversary of the murder of the Jesuits.

If you want to read about Archbishop Romero see 'Oscar Romero, Memories in Mosaic' by Maria Lopez Vigil.

(Isa Duff, Eileen Forrest, Winifred Keeves.)

Fun Day

A good attendance at our Fun Day on Sunday 31st August was rewarded with a variety of activities and stalls to enjoy.

The youngsters had a great time with pony rides, bouncy castle, face painting, and balloons with home baking and juice to keep hunger away.



Those no longer qualifying as youngsters were kept happy with a raffle, car wash, tombola, bottle and CD/DVD stalls and refreshments from the kitchen, home baking stall and a barbecue and drinks tent.

Music was provided by St. David's Brass Band who played a variety of enjoyable pieces, starting with the very apt 'Singing in the Rain'.



The weather was very British, but despite this the attendance was good and a sum of over £1300 was raised towards this year's parish outreach focus - 'Street Child Africa' charity.

(Julian Kettle)

St. Vincent de Paul

St. David's Conference - Spring/Summer 2008.

This year our turn came round to help out with spring cleaning the caravans which the Edinburgh Group maintains at Seton Sands in preparation for the season of lets to families needing a holiday. We were then involved in helping out with the letting changeovers. We concluded an eventful season by conducting our own let.

At the request of Monsignor Allan the conference arranged a Mass for the Anointing of the Sick at St. David's with Monsignor celebrating and administering the sacrament of Anointing.

Afterwards in the hall there was provided the most sumptuous lunch comprising two enormous tureens of incomparable soup and an abundance of sandwiches. Our thanks go especially to our outstanding helpers!

Preparations are in hand for the next two events which are :-

Dobbies Visit

(11 am -2 pm Monday 10 November 2008)

Christmas Party

(12 noon - 5 pm Saturday 13 December 2008).

Thank you all for your never failing support.
(John Holden)

Humour & Philosophy

A bishop complained that he did not seem to be having the same impact as the first apostles.

"Everywhere St. Paul went," he said, "there was a riot. Everywhere I go they serve tea."
(Tom Wright - Acts for Everyone.)

~~~~~

A little boy was listening to a long and excessively boring sermon in church.

Suddenly the red sanctuary lamp caught his eye. Tugging his father's sleeve, he said, "Daddy, when the light turns green can we go?"  
(www.jokes-db.com)

~~~~~

Heard the one about the 2 Religious Brothers who worked in a Fish and Chip Shop?

One was the fish friar, the other the chip monk.
(Anon.)

~~~~~

If there is a solution to a problem, there is no need to worry.

If there is no solution, there is no sense in worrying either!

(Dalai Lama - The Art of Happiness)

## **Looking Forward**

### **• Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 4.30 p.m.**

#### ***Ecumenical Nativity Carol Service.***

This annual service is held at the foot of the Mound in Princes Street, Edinburgh and will be attended by Cardinal Keith Patrick O'Brien, Bishop Brian Smith, the Episcopal Bishop of Edinburgh, and the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. It lasts for approximately 45 minutes. Everyone is welcome.

### **• Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November.**

#### ***First Sunday of Advent.***

Tomorrow, start burning your Lifeline Advent Candles which were on sale throughout November.

### **• Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00 a.m.**

#### ***Annual Advent Youth Mass.***

This will be followed by bacon rolls and a Christmas raffle in the church hall.

### **• Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 12 noon - 5 p.m..**

#### ***SVDP Christmas Party.***

More details will be published near the date. Transport will be provided.

### **• Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December.**

#### ***Christmas Day.***

Look out for the Mass times and arrangements which will be published in December.

### **• Monday 29<sup>th</sup> December 12 noon.**

#### ***Mass of the Innocents, at St. Teresa of Lisieux, Craigmillar, Edinburgh, 12 noon.***

The principal celebrant will be Cardinal Keith Patrick O'Brien and the preacher will be Monsignor Allan Chambers.

A bus will be provided from St. David's and back.

### **• Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009.**

#### ***New Year's Day.***

Look out for the Mass times which will be published nearer the date.

***This is our 5<sup>th</sup> Parish Magazine and we hope you have enjoyed it.***

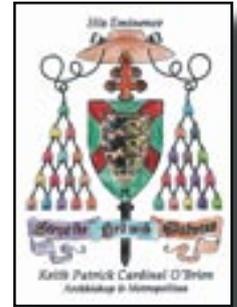
***If you have any ideas for the Magazine, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please pass your feedback and ideas for the next edition, to Isa, Winifred, Brian or Julian.***

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

## **St. Andrew's Day Artwork & First Holy Communion Day memories from some of our Primary School children.**



**Caroline** - On my First Holy Communion Day I remember reading my speech in front of all the people in the church, I was really embarrassed. I remember receiving the Bread of Life. It took a while to get used to the bread. I remember going into the hall to get sandwiches and crisps and cakes. I remember having my photograph taken. After the church services I went home and had a party. I will never forget my First Holy Communion.

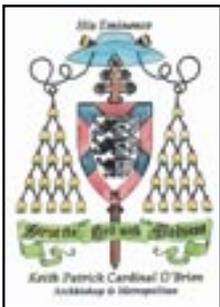


**Nicola** - On my First Communion Day I remember reading in front of all my friends and family, it was very nerve racking. I also remember the taste of the bread, it took a while to get used to it, My last memory is of my party when I met my Godfather for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time. I will never forget the first time I received Communion on the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

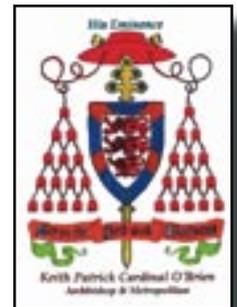


**Jenna** - On my First Communion Day I remember it was a lovely day. My sister and I were happy because we had a party in my back garden. The Body of Christ tasted not very nice. It was brilliant.

**Hubert** - On my First Communion I remember that I was very good and very happy. I know it was long and very important for me because I knew that God would be with me forever after it ended. I know it was the best day of my life. I liked it and enjoyed it. I still remember it. I know that it was very, very, very good.

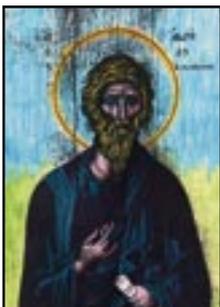


**Natasha** - On my First Communion I remember when Hubert and I got to hand the holy bread and wine to the priest and others got to hand flowers.

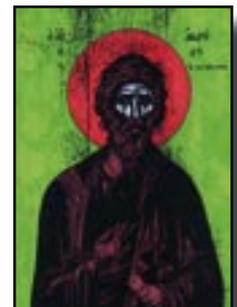


**Robbie** - On my First Holy Communion I wore a kilt and I received the Body of Christ. I also received the Oil of Chrism.

**Carla** - On my First Communion Day I remember that it was a lovely day and we did readings and bidding prayers, it was a day I'll never forget. We got photos taken and a breakfast afterwards. It was a great day.



**Aimee** - On my First Communion Day I remember that my Gran and Grandad came, it was a nice day. I got a nice day at my house. I had lunch at the church. It was cool.



***A grateful word of thanks to our Sponsor and all our Contributors***