

# The Grapevine

*The Magazine of Saint Magnus Cathedral Congregation*

## ST MAGNUS CATHEDRAL SERVICES

### HOLY WEEK and EASTER

<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	<b>11.15am</b>	Passion Sunday. The Sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	<b>1.10 – 1.30pm</b>	Holy Week Reflections in St Rognvald Chapel
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>1.10 – 1.30pm</b>	Holy Week Reflections in St Rognvald Chapel
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>1.10 – 1.30pm</b>	Holy Week Reflections in St Rognvald Chapel
<b>Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>12 noon to 3.00pm</b>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY – Walk of Witness</b> This event will begin at St Olaf's at noon, and will go around the various churches with a short time for reflection in each. It will finish at St. Magnus Cathedral, reaching there at about 2.30pm where our labyrinth will be set up. You are welcome to join for some or all of this short pilgrimage around Kirkwall, marking the time Jesus was on the cross on Good Friday.
<b>Good Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>6.30 pm</b>	Reflective Service. Revd Fraser Macnaughton and the Cathedral Choir
<b>Easter Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>11.15am</b>	The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Services are held in St Magnus Cathedral every Sunday at 11.15 am



**From the Manse**

## ***Christ's Holy Checkmate***

On display in the magnificent Louvre Museum in Paris, France, is a dramatic painting of Goethe's Faust. Faust is seated at a table engaged in a competitive game of chess. And at first glance, it looks like Faust is losing. His opponent in the chess game is Satan. The devil sits there grinning smugly. He thinks he has the victory in hand. He is pointing at the chessboard with an evil leer and he is gloating.

As you look at the painting, you can almost hear the devil shouting: "Checkmate! Game's over! I win!" However, a person with a keen eye who knows the game of chess can see that the match is not over at all. As a matter of fact, just a few years ago, an internationally famous chess player was admiring the painting when all of a sudden he lunged forward and exclaimed: "Wait a minute! Look! Faust has another move and that move will give him the victory!"

The painting is something of a parable for us Christians, because here we see symbolized the good news of Easter. Think of it. When we look at the Cross on Good Friday, it looks (at first glance) like the oppressors, the powerful,

have won. It looks like the defeat of the ways of love and justice and peace. It looks like goodness is dead and buried forever. It looks like Christ has been silenced and conquered. But then, Easter Sunday morning reveals God's move, the greatest checkmate move of all time. The power of love overcomes everything, Christ comes out of the grave and into the lives not just of the first, but of all disciples to show us the way of right living.

Easter stands at the very heart of our faith. It is the central point around which everything we know and believe about Jesus, turns and has meaning. Everything about Jesus and his teaching must now be viewed through this prism of glorified, exalted, resurrected life! We should be rendered speechless at the mind-bending enormity of it. It demands that we recalibrate our worldview and change, change, change! Our task is to take this mind-blowing impact of Christ's resurrection into a suffering and broken world. Our job is to model our lives and behaviour on Jesus, to go out and leaven the dough, to love and to serve, forgive and heal, feed and clothe.

A blessed Easter to you,

*Fraser*



## ***Our Good Friday/Holy Saturday Labyrinth***

Labyrinths, rooted in myth and mystery, are ancient patterns offering symbolic journeys, and are found in many religious traditions. In a labyrinth there is only ever one path leading from the edge to a central point, as opposed to a maze which may have multiple dead ends, meaning that steps have to be retraced. These flat, generally circular, pathways are designed for the acquisition of inner peace. Perhaps the best-known labyrinth is the 11-circuit labyrinth embedded in the floor of Chartres Cathedral.



The 15<sup>th</sup> century labyrinth fresco above was painted on the ceiling vault of Hesselager Church in Fyn, Denmark. The design follows the old 'classical' type.



In the spring of 2011 a small group from the Cathedral visited Westray with the aim of, together, making and walking a labyrinth on the sand, beside the sea.

And so the seeds of the 2012 Easter labyrinth were sown.

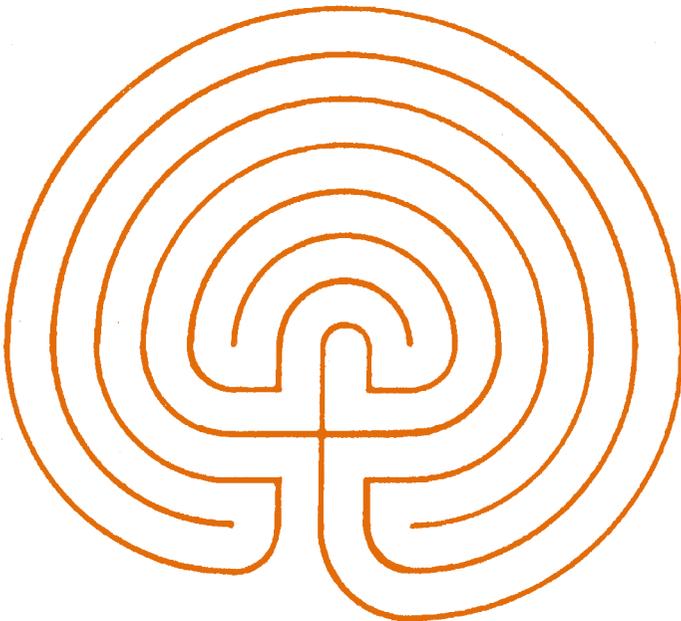
***All day on Good Friday and on Easter Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> April 2012, there will be a labyrinth laid out in the central nave of the Cathedral. Please come and walk this path. If walking is difficult, a labyrinth that can be traced with a finger, sitting down, will be available.***

To become further involved in the creation of this very special labyrinth, you are invited to contribute any small item or found object of significance to you. These items will then be placed in such a way as to become the labyrinth pathway. A 'found object' might be a dry rounded stone , a piece of dry driftwood or a personal item ... perhaps an old loved scarf. We would also be grateful for donations of glass jam jars.

Items will be needed before Good Friday, so please either bring them to church on a Sunday and place them in the box marked 'Labyrinth' near the West Door or, if bringing an object in during a week day (Cathedral opening hours) please give them to the Custodian who will store them safely.

If you would like your objects back, please put your name on the base and collect them on Easter Saturday pm or Easter Sunday.

Thank you, and we look forward to walking the labyrinth together.



# ***‘Don’t You Know?’***

from The Pioneer Magazine

Life isn’t fair but it’s still good • When in doubt, just take the next small step • You don’t have to win every argument • Agree to disagree • Cry with someone. It’s more healing than crying alone • Make peace with your past so it won’t mess up the present • Don’t compare your life to others - you have no idea what their journey is about.

If a relationship has to be a secret you shouldn’t be in it • Be rid of anything that isn’t useful, beautiful or joyful • Over prepare and then go with the flow • No one is in charge of your happiness but you • Frame every so-called disaster with these words: ‘In five years’ time, will this matter?’ Time heals everything. Give time time. However good or bad a situation, it will change.

God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn’t do.

Don’t audit life. Show up, dress smart and make the most of it • Life isn’t tied with a bow but it’s still a gift • The best is yet to come.



## ***The Guild 2011/12 Session Draws To A Close***

This past season has been a successful one for the Cathedral Guild. All the meetings have been well attended, and the February one saw some 60 folk gather in the Centre for St Valentine's Big Sing. Our minister, Fraser, led proceedings; the choir and members of the congregation joined us, and all agreed it was an evening that should be repeated.

In September we were the guests of the East Church Guild, and in October we had Roy and Shona Linklater tell us about their memorable trip to the Holy Land. Mrs Eileen Geaton from Orkney, and Secretary of Stromness Church Guild, took us on "An Armchair Pilgrimage around Orkney in November" – this presentation was built on the present Guild theme.

For our Christmas meeting we had Miss Julia Lewandowka, locum at East Church, tell us about Christmas in her homeland, Poland, together with some family information and how she came to work in Orkney.

In January Miss Becky Cant gave us a real insight through words and pictures, into her month-long trip to Borneo with the charity JOLT.

Two coffee mornings – held in October and February – both raised large sums of money. Over the year the group has donated £600 to the Guild projects, and a further £600 to various local organisations.

The Guild members are hard-working and generous, but realise that their success and ability to make these contributions comes with the support from members and friends of the congregation, and also the wider public. A sincere thank you to all who have helped make this happen.

## Plant and Pancake Sale - 19 May

Here we are at the end of the first two months of the New Year and already we are planning ahead to our Plant Sale. We hope you will be too, and when dividing up plants in spring or sowing some seeds, please keep our sale in mind. We have appreciated your support for this over the years and hope you will feel able to do so again this year. It is always helpful if you have plants labelled as it makes it much easier for the seller and the buyer. We hope you will all come and join us on the day, as it is quite a social event on our calendar.



From our funds last year we were able to support Crossroads, Dial-a-Bus, Salvation Army, the Cathedral and Centre, as well as Send a Cow, Blythswood, Alice and Ken Milligan's project in Kenya, and the East African Appeal Crisis. This would not be possible without your support at the Plant Sale, which is our main fundraiser.

The Friendship Group meets on the first Wednesday of the month in the afternoons during the winter and in the evenings during the summer months. Please join us.





NO, I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT TWITTER.  
I LITERALLY WANT YOU TO FOLLOW ME.

--JESUS

## The Ideas and Comments Box

The Ideas and Suggestion Box has been in existence for some time now, being situated at the right-hand side of the Cathedral main door. It is available for use whenever the church is open. There are paper slips beside it on which to write comments to put in the box. The box is kept locked, but is checked every Sunday. It is designed for use by anybody who comes in contact with the Cathedral, whether as members of the congregation and its organisations or as visitors, in order that they might express an opinion or make a comment in confidence. So far some two thirds of the matters raised by way of the box have resulted in changes or further investigations being made. The others resulted in answers or information being given to the persons raising the matters. The box is no longer an experiment, and the Kirk Session, being convinced of its benefit, is keen to promote its continued use.

### *HAS YOUR EXPERIENCE OF ST MAGNUS CATHEDRAL GIVEN YOU:*

<i>a good idea for improvement?</i>	
<i>a concern that you feel needs addressing?</i>	
<i>a wish to compliment or thank?</i>	

***THE IDEAS AND SUGGESTION BOX IS MEANT FOR YOU!***

# ***USE IT!***

# I Will Go To Church

*I will go to church on Easter Sunday out of deep hunger. Need. Pain.  
I know that pain every Sunday, but I feel it more at Easter.*

I talk to my closest friend, who also feels that pain. His son died in 1983 from cystic fibrosis. I go to church on Easter Sunday morning and find I am still grieving the death of our son – a victim of fetal alcohol syndrome from his birth mother that crippled his emotions and made it impossible for him to recognise love – to feel it or to express it.

I stand in awe of the mystery. I stand in awe knowing that those who have known deep, visceral pain have lived and learned to love. I stand in awe knowing I will find the loving heart of God in the depths of that soul-destroying agony.

And so I go to church on Easter Sunday needing to be fed. Needing to be fed from the mystery of life on the other side of death. Needing to hear the stories of the Mary Magdalenes, my friend's, my own story, and so many others.

I need to be fed. I don't need the recipe for the food or a description of its origin or its nutritional content. Please don't explain anything to me. Don't give me an intellectual stone.

Tell me stories. Tell me your story. Tell me at least the story of a broken woman who came weeping in the dark to hear her name spoken in the first light of dawn.

Then perhaps I'll let myself hear my own story again – the story of pain, fear, frustration, guilt, helplessness – struggling to be father to a child who could not see or feel the love I had for him.

Then too, perhaps I'll know that darkness leads to light, that despair leads to hope, that death promises resurrection.

Then perhaps I'll hear the risen Christ speak the name my mother gave me. And the music of that word will sing its way into my soul and heal my broken heart.

And then again, I shall be whole.

[Ralph Milton]

# Why Food Prices Are Rising

John grew up driving tractors on the farm in Perthshire. It can be a bit monotonous going around in a circle all day. He heard tell that some tried to brighten the experience with a mood-altering substance on occasion.

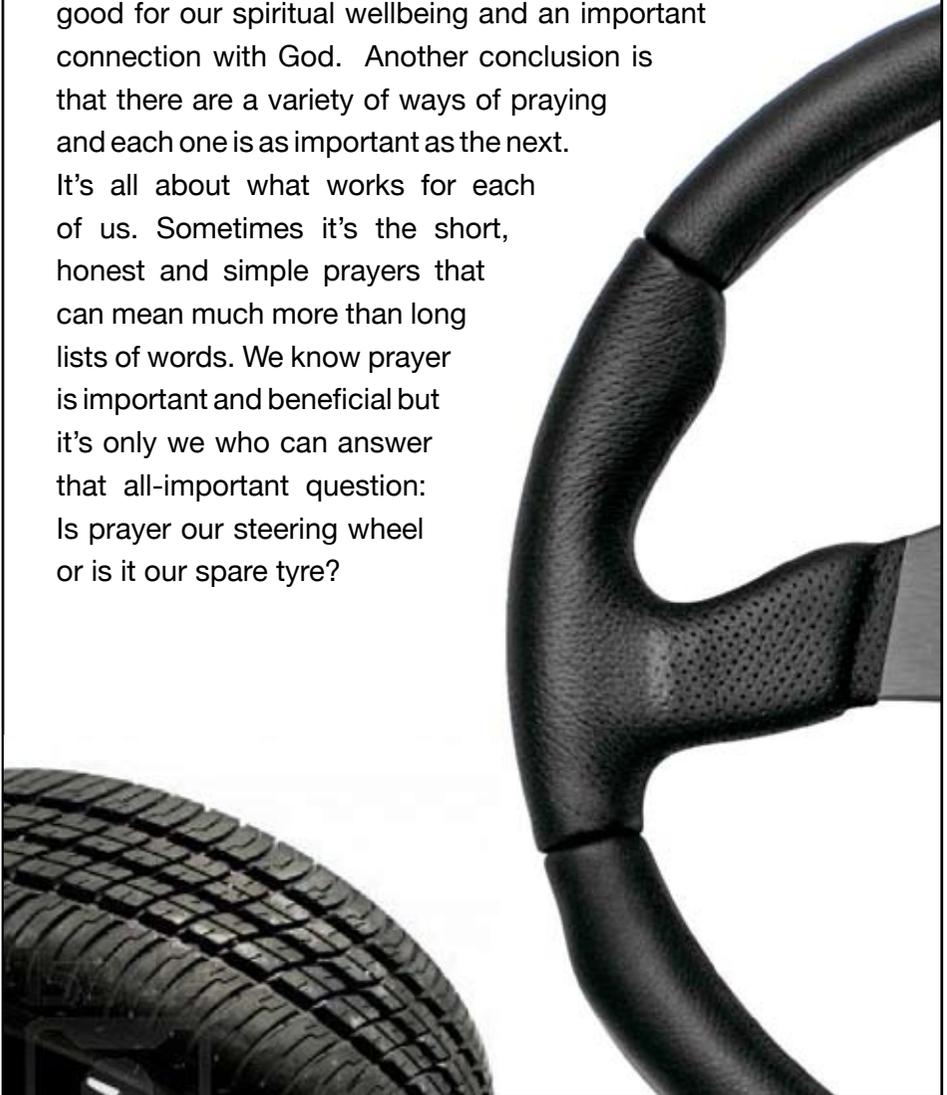
This was generally not a good idea. These pictures show what can happen when one farms under the influence!



'The funny thing about big empty fields is that ponds sneak up on you'

# ***‘Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tyre?’ ~ Corrie Brown***

We have heard on many occasions about the importance of prayer. We are told it’s life-giving, spiritually nourishing, good for our spiritual wellbeing and an important connection with God. Another conclusion is that there are a variety of ways of praying and each one is as important as the next. It’s all about what works for each of us. Sometimes it’s the short, honest and simple prayers that can mean much more than long lists of words. We know prayer is important and beneficial but it’s only we who can answer that all-important question: Is prayer our steering wheel or is it our spare tyre?



# PARISH REGISTER

<b>WEDDINGS</b>	
<b>24-9-11</b>	Lynn Douglas and Richard Ritch
<b>8/10/11</b>	Lisa Shaw and Greg White
<b>28/10/11</b>	Gina Tait and Sean McMahon
<b>26/11/11</b>	Chrishanna Burgar and Keith Bain

<b>FUNERALS</b>	
<b>21/9/11</b>	William Isbister Tait, Bayview, East Road, Kirkwall
<b>27/9/11</b>	Garrioch Mowat Corsie - The Links, Deerness
<b>26/10/11</b>	Jim Shearer - Edgecot, Old Scapa Road, Kirkwall
<b>27/10/11</b>	John Heddle - Balfroon, Bignold Park Road, Kirkwall
<b>31/10/11</b>	Edith Laird - 26 Slater Street, Kirkwall
<b>4/11/11</b>	Ray Swannie, - 12 Wasdale Crescent, Kirkwall - Memorial Service
<b>7/11/11</b>	Charles Hibbert - Craigiefield Bungalow, St Ola
<b>28/11/11</b>	Greta Loudon - 5 Grimmond Square, Finstown
<b>7/12/11</b>	Belle Windwick - St Rognvald House, Kirkwall
<b>22/12/11</b>	Len Dalziel - Kincaig, 5 Soulisquoy Place, Kirkwall
<b>7/1/12</b>	Arthur Sutherland - 16 Pickaquoy Loan, Kirkwall
<b>13/1/12</b>	Jack Donaldson - Heimferd, East Road, Kirkwall
<b>14/1/12</b>	Ella Marwick - 15 Royal Oak Road, Kirkwall
<b>16/1/12</b>	Gwen Watts - St Rognvald House, Kirkwall
<b>25/1/12</b>	Ken McKay - 17 Earl Thorfinn Street, Kirkwall
<b>16/2/12</b>	Margaret Reid - Smiddybrae House, Dounby
<b>17/2/12</b>	Margaret Corsie - 26 Wellington Street, Kirkwall
<b>20/2/12</b>	Robert Bain Mclver - 25 Glaitness Road, Kirkwall
<b>12/3/12</b>	Mabel Bain - 6 Fraser's Close, Kirkwall



## ***‘WAITING FOR DAPHNE?’***

You are invited to an evening of

***music, song and  
entertainment***

in the St. Magnus Centre

on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April

at 7.00pm

***SUPPER***

Tickets £2 available from the St. Magnus Centre