

churches and other groups to come together to reflect on who counts in society, and take action to help those experiencing poverty and homelessness. Action resources are now available to download or order.

Visit www.actionweek.org.uk.

THE Right Reverend Bishop Richard Holloway is to give the bi-annual Moral and Ethics Lecture in Glasgow Cathedral, Castle Street, on Wednesday 10 November at 6pm.

Dr. Holloway's chosen subject is 'The Shoogly Kaleidoscope - Religion in Our Time'. The lecture is free and open to the public. Tea and biscuits will be served afterwards.

THE Very Revd Kevin Pearson has been elected the new Bishop of Argyll & The Isles. The See became vacant following the retirement last year of the Rt Revd Martin Shaw who had served the diocese as Bishop for five years.

Kevin Pearson (56) is currently Rector of St Michael & All Saints Church in Edinburgh, a Canon of St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, Dean of the Diocese of Edinburgh and the Provincial Director of Ordinands (responsible for the discernment and selection process for candidates for ministry).

HOLY City's 'Acting up' programme this year takes its cue from theatre, cinema and the early Church's revolutionary ways.

Workshops, reflection, discussion and worship will put centre-stage the economic, ecological and social challenges of our time.

Sessions are 6.30-9.30pm on the last Sunday of the month, October to May (December's date is the 19th) at Renfield St Stephen's Centre, 260 Bath Street, Glasgow. Contact wrg@iona.org.uk; 0141 332 6343.

ASERVICE in St Mary's Cathedral, 25 November at 2.30pm, will mark the UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

PAISLEY Abbey will host an interfaith exhibition on domestic abuse from Monday 29 November to Thursday 2 December, open daily 10.30am-3.30pm.

ST Margaret's Newslands hosts Glasgow Chamber Choir in a performance of Brahms' Requiem conducted by Michael Bawtree on Saturday 13 November at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £10 (£7 concessions).

Next issue . . .

ITEMS for the Dec/Jan issue may be submitted up to **Monday 15 November** as ordinary prose (*not* leaflets, adverts, posters or PDFs, please) to the editor, Susi Cormack Brown, c/o the Diocesan Centre, 5 St Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2DH, or dns@episcopalglasgow.co.uk.

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GLASGOW & GALLOWAY Diocesan News

ISSUE 100 – NOV 2010

Claiming childhood back from the marketplace

GLASGOW & Galloway Mother's Union members are taking action in the diocese to fight back against a multi-million-pound industry that sells consumerism to children. Diocesan president ANN GLENESK tells us more...

They'll be distributing the findings of recent research on the subject to parents and children in churches, child care facilities, schools and parenting courses.

MU Worldwide president Rosemary Kempself explained: "Without wishing to sentimentalise childhood, our members want children to be free from the commercial pressures that promote materialism, affect wellbeing and add to stress in family life.

"Whilst we are concerned about the impact of the commercial world on childhood, we know that not only children are influenced – adults can also be susceptible.

"Without awareness of, and alertness to, how and why the commercial world is selling to us, we are at risk of allowing ourselves to be over-influenced."

Around £350million is spent in the UK each year on persuading children to consume, according to the MU, which claims:

"Manipulative techniques exploit children's natural credulity and use them as a conduit to the household purse."

The bottom line of the Bye Buy Childhood campaign, though, is that children and adults do not

Also in this issue . . .

Pregnant pause—learning more about music for Advent

Interfaith football for peace

New Bible study aid from John Riches

New role for Bishop Idris

have to be passive recipients of commercial messages.

“We can choose what to accept and what to filter out,” says Ms Kempsell. “In this way, the commercialisation of childhood is the responsibility of all.”

Mothers’ Union commissioned the research from ComRes which recruited 1,000 parents and 1,000 MU members into the study.

It found almost 60% of participants agreed that media content and advertising is harmful by making children sexually aware at an early age, and by making children act older than their age.

Participants also said violent and sexually explicit films and video games are too accessible and that the 9pm watershed is ignored. While parents felt they had some control of the content of children’s media exposure, they felt least in control over children’s use of social networking websites.

Mother’s Union now pledges to challenge children, parents, guardians and extended family to consider their consumer habits. It aims to empower families to address the influence of commercialisation within the home, and engage with the commercial world and take positive action to challenge inappropriate marketing or selling.

The MU says it also will hold the government and political parties accountable on their pledges to address commercialisation and sexualisation of children.

To read the report, visit muenterprises.org/byebuychildhoodmu or contact ann.glenesk@ntlworld.com (0141 563 2140).

Diocesan Advent Quiet Day

Saturday 27 November

Choice of venues:

St Ninian’s, Castle Douglas

(led by Bishop Gregor)

**Holy Trinity & St Barnabas,
Paisley**

(led by Revd David Wostenholm)

A series of reflections with space for silent prayer and meditation. Tea and coffee provided. Participants should bring their own lunch. Book by contacting Jennifer FitzGibbon:

*j2fg@aol.com or c/o Diocesan Centre,
5 St Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2DH.*

Diocesan Children’s Ministry Day

Saturday 20 November

**Holy Trinity & St Barnabas,
Paisley, 10.30am – 3pm**

With Dr Rebecca Nye, researcher and consultant in children’s spirituality, author: *‘Children’s Spirituality: What it is and Why it Matters’*.

This Children’s Ministry Network day is for any lay people and clergy who have an interest in children’s spiritual nurture. Sandwich lunch included.

Book your place with Judy Page: 01505 703122, judy.page@btinternet.com.

News and events in brief . . .

THERE will be a Fair Trade Meeting at St Mary’s Cathedral on Friday 5 November, 6.30–9.30pm.

Traidcraft will be bringing a craft fair with Christmas bargains (up to 70% off).

Just Trading will have a stall and showing some amazing wood carvings from Mua Mission in Malawi.

From 7.30pm there will be a panel discussion with producers from Malawi and representatives from Christian Aid Scotland, Scottish Fair Trade Forum, Just Trading and Imani Development: a chance to hear how Fair Trade can help smallholder farmers get out of poverty and to hear about some of the obstacles too.

THIS winter’s programme of Tuesday evening Choral Evensong at Glasgow University has begun. The services are at 6pm in the University’s Memorial Chapel and are sung by the University’s Chapel Choir.

The final two services for 2010 are 9 November (led by Bishop Gregor) and 30 November (when the Chapel Choir is joined by St Mary’s Choir for an Advent service).

There is also a Eucharist (1982) each Thursday lunchtime (1.10pm) in the Chapel and all are welcome.

Contact Kevin Francis at anglicans@glasgow.ac.uk or visit www.glasgow.ac.uk/anglicans.

ST Paul and St John the Evangelist Church, Springwells Avenue, Airdrie, will hold its annual Christmas

Fayre in the church hall, starting at 11am on Saturday 27 November. All welcome.

LOOKING for a place to get away to? Elshieshields Bothy is sometimes available. It’s a cosy self-catering hermitage for one with all mod cons and wood-burning stove. Secluded but not isolated, a mile outside Lochmaben. £10 per night plus metred electricity. Contact Ann Shukman 01387 810280, ann.shukman@virgin.net.

ST Ninian’s Troon will hold a Christmas Fayre on Saturday 27 November from 2pm in the church hall. Stalls include baking, books, bric-a-brac, good-as-new clothes, jewellery, plants and tombola.

There will also be a prize draw and a visit by Father Christmas and the Sunday School will be organising side-shows for children.

There will be an ecumenical Advent Carol Service hosted at St Ninian’s on Sunday 28 November at 6.30pm on behalf of the Troon Branch of the National Bible Society. Seasonal refreshments will be served in the hall following the service.

POVERTY & Homelessness Action Week starts on 30 January and its theme will be ‘Who Counts?’

There will be a census in 2011, but there is a chance that there will be many, such as the ‘hidden homeless’, that it won’t include.

Church Action on Poverty wants

Football for peace—and other news from Sweden

ON 18 September a soccer tournament was held in Gothenburg with interfaith teams from Leicester and Berlin. There were representatives from the Muslim, Christian, Sikh and Jewish communities. Seminars on interfaith

relations were arranged in connection with the tournament, which was won by the team from Leicester.

SOME 175 clergy members attended the annual meeting of the Association of Clergy in September where lectures on different viewpoints of mission were presented. Mission is one of the fundamental tasks of the local parish, according to the canonical law of Church of Sweden. The others are worship, teaching and diaconal ministry.

THE theme of a book fair in Gothenburg at the end of September was Africa. The Church of Sweden was there with, among others, Anglican priest and author Mpho Tutu (Desmond Tutu's daughter). There were also guests from Gothenburg's Lutheran partnership dioceses in South Africa and Swaziland.

THE election process for Gothenburg's new bishop has started. Anyone may now propose candidates on the diocesan website before the nomination process on 7 December.

Some 600 priests and deacons in the diocese will, together with the same number of laypersons from the vestries, decide who will be nominated for the election of bishop, with a ballot taking place on 15 March. If no nominee gets at least 50% of the vote, a second round will take place on 31 March.

Peter Andersson, Diocese of Gothenburg, Church of Sweden (Glasgow & Galloway's Porvoo Link)

Harps, hymns and Celtic worship

CHRIST Church Lanark recently hosted the autumn Lanarkshire Regional Service, an evening service of song and reflection with hymns sung to Scots folk tunes and four clarinets playing incidental music.

Rector Dan Gafvert reflected on the beauty of God's creation and how blessed we are to be a part of it – the very positive idea of Original Blessing being the central tenet of Celtic Christianity.

Other interludes of Celtic-inspired music allowed time for thought and prayer, and there were readings from Genesis (the Garden of Eden) and the opening chapter of John's Gospel to focus reflection on creation.

The Christ Church Catering Department swung into hospitality action after the service to send all on their way well refreshed.

Lanarkshire has regional services at Candlemas (when a candle is lit and then passed from church to church through the year), Ascension Day and in the early autumn. They reassure us that we are not alone but part of something much more than even the combined churches in the Region.

Sylvia Russell, Christ Church, Lanark

Bishop Idris now Spiritual Director for Cursillo UK

BISHOP Idris Jones is to be the new Spiritual Director for Cursillo in the UK. He joins Mike Coates who is Secretary for the UK and Val McGavin who is Scotland's representative to the UK Council.

From its Roman Catholic origins, the movement (Cursillo, pronounced 'coor-see-yo', is Spanish for 'little course') has spread to other branches of the Church and is now worldwide. Bishop Idris explains what it's about:

"The Cursillo movement began in the aftermath of the Second World War when two American airmen based in Mallorca were shocked at the lethargy of the church around them. They devised a programme (for men and boys in those early days) to call them back to their baptismal promises, show how it was possible to live out life as a disciple of Jesus, and provided them with a support structure to keep the possibility alive.

"The Cursillo method (because it began in Spain we still use some Spanish words to describe parts of the process) is basically now what it always was – a call to baptismal promises; that is, God's as well as our own; examining how to live out discipleship in our particular environments; and a support structure to keep us going.

"Cursillo is one tool among others that can be of help in keeping the church focused on mission and outreach. It is only ever used at the direction of the diocesan bishop, at whose disposal the members of the movement give prayer and service in local congregation and in diocesan and Provincial life.

"In Scotland, Cursillo is uniquely a Provincial rather than a diocesan movement. The Lay Director is Alison Jones a member of St Columba's Church in Largs and the Spiritual Director in Scotland is Revd Ashley Cummins, All Souls Church, Invergowrie."

Pregnant Pause

A musical preparation for the season of Advent

St John's Church, Greenock
Union Street, PA16 8JJ

Saturday 6 November
10am–3.30pm

This day event is offered by the diocesan Education Action Group to everyone with an interest in church music.

It will include hearing something of the historical background to the music of the Advent season as well as some practical workshops on pieces, both ancient and modern, that might well be used at church. The day is free and includes lunch.

Please inform the convenor of the Education Action Group if you would like to attend: Revd Gordon B Fyfe (01475 673143)
gordon.fyfe@virginmedia.com

NEW BISHOP AND ARCHBISHOP

OUR friend, Bishop Onesphore Rwaje from Byumba, Rwanda, has been elected Archbishop of the Anglican Province of Rwanda.

Our warmest congratulations go to him, *writes GILL YOUNG*, although it will not be an easy calling.

He and his family have been assured of our prayers. His response to the many congratulations was: "I feel humbled before the Lord, and ask you to keep me in your prayers."

The Bishop has been asked several times what he is most pleased about as he reflects on his 19 years in Byumba. In 1991 he had 12 parishes, now there are 34; there were 108 daughter churches with catechists, now there are 338 with more to be added.

But what pleases him most is that all the pastors are paid enough to pay tax and are in the Social Security scheme. All the catechists now have also joined that scheme. Byumba is the only diocese in the Province where there is help for sick pastors and they may have a pension when they retire.

As within our Scottish Episcopal Church, their Archbishop or Primus used to retain responsibility for his home diocese in addition to his new, wider, provincial duties. However in Rwanda, a new metropolitan diocese has recently been created to be the 'Archbishop's Diocese'.

Bishop Onesphore therefore has to leave Byumba, and they will have to elect a new diocesan bishop before the January enthronement of the new Archbishop.

A Byumba Diocesan Council meeting was due to take place on 28 October followed by an extraordinary Synod meeting the following day, when at least four people would be nominated, choosing two to send on to the House of Bishops.

Please pray for the decision process within their diocese that the right person will be chosen and for Bishop Rwaje and Josephine as they wind down their responsibilities there before moving to Kigali.

IN the USA, Bishop Terry White was consecrated as Bishop of Kentucky on 25 September. In his first pastoral letter Bishop Terry asks: "Might

Date for Diocesan Synod

DIOCESAN Synod will meet in Bishop Court, Holy Trinity & St Barnabas, Paisley, on Saturday 5 March 2011.

the creation of a modern day missionary diocese be a worthy goal for us?

"Each of us knows there are souls hungry for the gospel and the riches of our unique Anglican tradition.

"What I look forward to exploring with all of you, is what missionary work at the end of 2010 and beyond can look like in our local contexts and throughout our diocese."

May faithful companionship in prayer undergird all three of our dioceses as we seek God's will for us, in our differing mission fields.

Gill Young is convener of our Companion Dioceses Action Network which promotes, maintains and fosters links with our two companion dioceses: Byumba in Rwanda and Kentucky in the USA.

NEW BOOK: What is Contextual Bible Study?

A Practical Guide with Group Studies for Advent and Lent

JUST published is a book from Revd John Riches, emeritus professor of New Testament Studies at Glasgow University and a member of the clergy team at St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Glasgow.

Contextual Bible Study (CBS) is an approach to group Bible study that encourages people of all ages and backgrounds, including those new to the Bible, to read it together and let it shape their understanding of the burning issues of the day. John Riches' new book offers practical guidance on how to make this approach work for you, and how to start a CBS group in your own area. It provides stimulating questions for use during Advent and Lent, along with inspiring stories of the CBS approach in action.

There are also contributions from:

- ◆ Helen Ball, member of All Saints Episcopal Church in Bearsden;
- ◆ Revd Roy Henderson, minister at Lansdowne Parish Church of Scotland in Glasgow;

- ◆ Revd Craig Lancaster, minister at Hyndland Parish Church of Scotland in Glasgow;
 - ◆ Revd Leslie Milton, minister at Cambuslang Parish Church of Scotland;
 - ◆ Maureen Russell, pastoral assistant at St Mary's Episcopal Church, Bridge of Weir.
- Published by SPCK (128 pages) £9.99.*

Correction

THE article last month on Hunterston's proposed coal-fired power station likened climate refugees to those people displaced by Pakistan's recent floods. I had no intention of suggesting the floods were the result of global warming. Whether climate change played any part in that disaster is, of course, not known, and I apologise for a careless wording which could have given a different impression. *Susi Cormack Brown*