

The Scottish Episcopal Church: Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway

St. Mary's Cathedral

Report on the Vestry Meeting on August 4th 2008

+Gene Robinson's Visit on August 3rd.

On August 3rd, +Gene Robinson celebrated the Eucharist to a packed Cathedral. The Vestry discussed the event. Here are some of the comments made by Vestry members:

- "There was very little disturbance. The occasion was a triumph for all. The standing ovation at the end of the service was deeply moving."
- "I felt privileged to be there."
- "A warm speaker, giving a message of love."
- "People came out of curiosity and left with their hearts warmed."
- "How liberal the Scottish Episcopal Church is!"

Kelvin felt that the event had done much to increase our self-confidence and raise our profile in the Scottish Episcopal Church.

Arts Bookings

The Vestry is considering how better to provide janitors and front-of-house staff for Arts events in the Cathedral.

Donations on Line

The Cathedral web site now includes a PayPal account so that people can make donations on-line. Money has already been received to support the web ministry – mostly gift-aided.

Communications

Following the discussion held on the Away Day, the Provost described some recent key changes in Communication and the dissemination of information.

- The service sheet has been reordered.
- We have begun to distribute a regular news letter by email. We have a list of some 250 email addresses. St. Mary's congregation is greater than just those people who attend services in person.
- The web site has been totally redesigned so that it will be more flexible and straightforward to maintain.
- There has been a huge response to the Audio sermons. Furthermore, more people have heard +Gene's sermon on-line than were present in the Cathedral on August 3rd.

People without internet access need not worry. All essential information will be published in writing.

Financial Report

We were reminded that the Cathedral income, from all sources, is not enough to cover our expenditure. We are using up our capital resources, and we cannot sustain ourselves indefinitely.

Vestry Meetings

Full Vestry meetings will now be held every two months,. Every other month the groups responsible for Finance, Compliance and Buildings will hold separate meetings.

Dates and times of next meetings:

September 1st : Group meetings
October 6th: Plenary Vestry meeting
November 3rd: Group meetings
December 1st: First Vestry meeting after AGM

Andrew Colin (Vestry Secretary)

*The Cathedral Church of Saint Mary the Virgin, Glasgow (St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral)
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