

## Dates for your diary

**1<sup>st</sup> Second Sunday of Lent** 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.  
**5<sup>th</sup> Thursday** 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.

**8<sup>th</sup> Third Sunday of Lent** 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.  
**12<sup>th</sup> Thursday** Holy Communion at St. John's.

**15<sup>th</sup> Fourth Sunday of Lent** 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.  
**19<sup>th</sup> Thursday** 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.



**22<sup>nd</sup> Passion Sunday** 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.  
**26<sup>th</sup> Thursday** 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.  
**28<sup>th</sup> Garden Spring Clean** at St. John's.

**29<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday** 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.

**Newtonmore Homegroup every Tuesday 2.30pm – 4pm at Meadowbank.**

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## **March 2015** *St. John the Baptist Rothiemurchus*

### **Some thoughts ...**

Have you ever wondered what's happening when you pray? Recently I came across this from Peter Graystone (who writes for the Church Times) ...

'In my worst nightmare I am walking home from the office and, as I turn the corner, I see to my horror that my flat is on fire. I



reach down into my dressing-gown pocket (don't ask me why I'm wearing a dressing-gown in my dream) and from it take a water pistol. Frantically I start squirting little dribbles into the furnace which

has by now engulfed the whole block.

Then from behind me I hear the familiar siren of a fire engine, and before I know what is going on, a mighty torrent of water hurtles over my shoulders. It gathers up all the pathetic droplets from my water pistol and thunders them with awful force straight into the heart of the fire.



That is what the Holy Spirit is doing with my words and thoughts when I begin to pray.'

*Jenny*

Gracious God, you have given us the privilege of an open door to your presence.

When life is shining and full, inhabit our joy.

When life is grinding slowly on, touch us with your life.

When we long for a clearer vision of you,  
open our gauze-covered eyes.

When we studiously avoid your gaze,  
tempt us with your forgiving smile.

Lead us inexorably to the fulfilment of our lives  
in the service of your Son,

so that, dipped in God and cherished by your Spirit,

we may come to you, three times blessed,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Many thanks to all who contributed to the smooth running of the AGM. Our new Vestry members are Olwen and Alan Billington. Mary Todd is our Lay Rep with Deborah Munday as the Alternate.

**Diocesan Synod** is on March 21<sup>st</sup> in Inverness.

**Mothers Union Service** - Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 12 noon at the Cathedral.

**Chrim Mass** at 11.30am Monday March 30<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral.

ACAT-UK (*Action by Christians Against Torture*) is seeking help to send an Easter card specifically to victims of torture, persecuted Christians, Human Rights groups and individuals under threat.

Find details at <http://www.acatuk.org.uk/>

## what's happening

This year's **Diocesan Lent Appeal** is for the Scottish Episcopal Institute, which trains people for ordination. We have 2 candidates at present in this Diocese. More information has been sent out separately by email.

**Alison's Homegroup** at Carrbridge meets every Thursday during Lent.

**Wednesdays in Lent at St. Columba's** – 11.30 Holy Communion followed by Lent Lunch (12.15) and Discussion (approx. 1.15)

### Spring Clean-up Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup>

All hands on deck, please, to help clear the church garden and to give a general spring clean to all our premises.

Please bring your own garden tools.

Lunch together.

More details later.

