

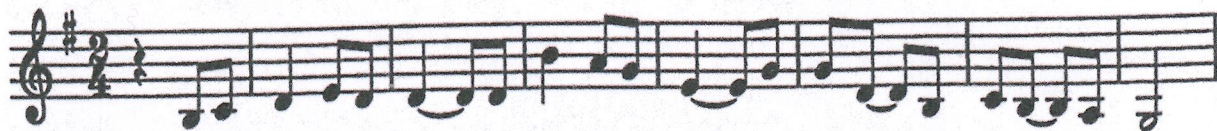
Dear Friends,

We have been overwhelmed with the sadness of the death of our Bishop-Elect, Father Martin Chambers.

We had been so full of hope from him coming to our Diocese and shepherding us on the journey of faith.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory! We had a beautiful Easter Mass for Martin in the Cathedral on Friday past; it can be watched on the Diocesan website too.

In the homily I referenced Martin's composition, *I will make of my life*; here's the refrain:



I will make of my life a yes to my Lord. I follow where ev-er He calls.

These words, and indeed the joyous, lilting melody sums him up — a man filled with the grace of the Gospel, at one with Jesus and with his people a servant, a pilgrim, a bearer of good news. We are the poorer without him in our midst.

Sincere thanks to everyone who came along and to everyone who was involved in the swift preparation of the Mass. How wonderful it was that Martin's brother, sister-in-law and nephew came to be with us.

As you know we were preparing for one of the most major events in the life of any Diocesan Church — the ordination of a new bishop. I want to say a very sincere **thank you** to the many people who were working so hard to bring Martin's Ordination to joyous fruition over the past weeks and for giving me unstinting support in my role as Diocesan Administrator: many individuals across our communities, and also our administrative team at the Diocesan Office, the Cathedral MCs, the Diocesan Choir, with Kevin and Mary, the team of stewards, the hospitality groups, and everyone else who has given so generously of their time and talent as we looked forward to Saturday 27 April.

Alas, it is not to be. We will await the future appointment of a Bishop for Dunkeld by our Holy Father Pope Francis. I ask for your prayers that I have strength to continue with the task of Diocesan Administrator until we are given a new Bishop.

Coming to this Third Sunday in Eastertime, we are given a word from the Lord today in St Luke's text - *Why are these doubts rising in your hearts?* We need as a church, as a Diocese, surely to place our hands in the hands of Jesus afresh, as we wait for what the Holy Spirit has in store for us now.

I offer you this prayer for this Sunday

Father in heaven,
author of all truth,
since the night of Easter,
your people
who gathered in darkness
to greet the Risen Lord
have listened
to your word
and followed your Son
as he rose from the tomb.



Hear the prayer of this newborn people
who assembly this Sunday.

Strengthen your church to answer your call
and bear your word into the world,
that the promptings of the spirit
be felt powerfully by all,
and the Gospel of the Risen One
reach the ends of the earth. Amen.

Thank you for your generosity in last Sunday's collections of £834 in the Cathedral, £416 in St Mary's Forebank, and £817 in Our Lady of Good Counsel.

The Special Collection for the upkeep of the shrines in the Holy Places came to £327 in the Cathedral, £366 in Our Lady of Good Counsel and £178 in St Mary's, Forebank.

The new Cathedral Gift Aid envelopes have arrived and will be available for collection next Sunday.

Diocesan Choir Rehearsals are suspended for the immediate future. Thanks to everyone for their participation and hard work.

The next **Youth Praise Night** will take place in the Cathedral Hall next Sunday evening - 21 April - after the 6pm Mass. All young people are invited.

Hospital Chaplaincy and Visitation

If you or a loved one is in hospital and wish a visit, the duty chaplain can be contacted by pager 07821 624124 or through the hospital switchboard on 01382 660111.

The Sixth year pupils of **St John's High School** will have their farewell Mass in St Peter and Paul's this Friday 19 April at 11.15am. All family and friends are welcome.