



DIOCESE OF ABERDEEN & ORKNEY

HEROES OF THE FAITH : JOHN COMPER (PRIEST)

John Comper (1823-1902)

John Comper (pictured right) was a Priest in the Diocese, being Rector at St John the Evangelist (Crown Terrace, Aberdeen). Leaving to set up the mission which became St Margaret of Scotland in the Gallowgate and the St Clements Mission at the Quays which moved to Mastrick as St Clements. He was recognised as a 'hero of the faith' by the Scottish Episcopal Church in 2003 and is remembered on 27 July, the day of his death (in Duthie Park, Aberdeen).

John Comper moved to Aberdeen from Stonehaven in 1861 to be Rector at St John the Evangelist (below right). He was concerned for the least in society, particularly the welfare of the poor. In 1867 he began a mission in the Gallowgate (then an area of slums). In 1870 Revd Comper resigned from St John's to spend more time at the mission, it was in this year that the mission became a charge of the Scottish Episcopal Church dedicated to St Margaret of Scotland (below left).



From St Margaret of Scotland at the Gallowgate, a second mission was founded which became St Clement's-on-the-Quay (1885). The dedication remained with the church when it moved to Mastrick following slum clearances in 1958. John Comper as a Priest was concerned about caring about those that society cared least about in Aberdeen and organised foreign aid, proclaiming the Good News of God's love for the world and humanity and putting that love into action.

A relevant Collect (Prayer)

*O God of power and might, all good things belong to you: sow in our hearts the love of your name, and make us grow in the life of faith; nurture the things that are good, and tend them with your loving care; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.
Amen.*