

**Episcopal Churches of
St. James' Stonehaven and
St. Philip's Catterline.
June 2020**



**Services at St. James' & St Philip's during
June 2020**

There will be no services at St James' and St Philip's until further notice.

As ordered by the government, both church buildings and the hall will be closed.



DIARY NOTES June 2020

Day/Date	Event
7th June Trinity Sunday	There will be no services until further notice.
14th June 1st Sunday in Trinity	
21st June 2nd Sunday in Trinity	
28th June 3rd Sunday in Trinity	

From Anne,

2020 is a year I am sure none of us will forget.

Lockdown.

Closure of churches, schools, restaurants, pubs, cinemas, department stores, gyms, sporting venues and garden centres. All major sporting events around the world cancelled, including the Olympics and Wimbledon.

Stay safe in isolation.

We have all had to learn to isolate, be patient, observe rules, be parted from our loved ones. All our church services are now on line, on the radio or TV. Work is for key workers only and only essential shops are open.

During this difficult time I personally have learned, appreciated, have appreciation for and tried new skills.

Learning.

How important to all that the web has become. From home schooling to Facebook enabling us to keeping in contact with friends and family. What information you can learn on line or find out on Facebook is amazing. I belong to several groups on Facebook. One being the isolation cook group, lots of lovely recipes I have found to try for the future. Others groups include areas where I used to live. Recently a very old photo appeared of the farmhouse where I lived as a child and the beach we used to go to every weekend in the summer, these brought back special memories.

Beautiful prayers from other church friends have appeared on Facebook. Margaret Wells gives a twice-weekly hymn singing live on Facebook. Not only does she sing and play she talks about the words of the hymn.

My younger daughter Facetimes me everyday. Being able to turn the picture round I have had guided tours of their renovations in the cellar and tours around the garden and see how the plants in the house and greenhouse are growing. These, when the weather gets better, will be put in her garden and the allotment they have just acquired. Similarly she has had tours of my garden. I have also mastered using Zoom. We have regular quiz and bingo nights with family and friends. Also a zoom meeting with the vestry and the bishop. These learning skills have kept me in touch with family and friends and to see them face-to-face. Have also managed to meet my future son-in-law's family as we quiz with them each week.

Appreciated.

I can now begin to appreciate how people feel who live on their own and perhaps do not ever go out. Maybe they have no relatives. Not using their voice, no one to talk to apart from maybe themselves. Those who are on their own, who normally go to clubs for company may feel very isolated.

It's been a time to slow down. With the quiet, sit in the garden listening to the birds.

Appreciation.

The Clap for the NHS and key workers on a Thursday night. What a terrific job they have all done. Some nights on my estate bagpipes have been played and someone sang Somewhere over the Rainbow. The sirens from the fire station close by sounded out.

The opportunity to watch Church services.

On Sundays I watch the service on BBC, usually coming from a Cathedral. This reminds me of our Songs of Praise. I enjoy listening to the readings, prayers, sermon and singing to the hymns.

Worship from the Quay, although sometimes very different from the other services, the readings being the same. I appreciate listening to the Reflections and prayers.

My third service is the Episcopal service on the web. I am lucky to have a copy of the Scottish Liturgy 1982 version at home so I can follow the service. Again it is good to listen to the readings, the sermon and the prayers.

Then in the afternoon a sing along to Songs of Praise.

Sermons 4th Sunday after Easter Shepherd leading his flock.

One of the sermons spoke about two shepherds with their flocks, one needed to go a short distance for a while. They asked the other shepherd to look after the flock and keep them apart. On the shepherds return the sheep were all muddled up. That shepherd walked away from the sheep and his own flock followed him, as in the Gospel reading.

A prayer

Lord God

You are our Saviour and King

Our Master and friend

Our Shepherd and guide.

Wherever we go, You are with us.

Wherever we stray, You seek us out.

Whenever we call, You hear us

On the 8th May The United Kingdom celebrated the 75th Anniversary for VE Day. Due to the corona virus all major celebrations were cancelled. All around the UK a 2-minute silence was recognized at 11am. Later in the evening there was a concert from the grounds of Buckingham Palace, again complying with distancing regulations. The Queen also gave a speech. There were in many areas street parties which had to obey the distancing rules.

I remember attending the 50th celebrations in Hyde Park. As a District Guide Commissioner at the time, we as a family were allocated tickets for the event. One of my daughters was chuffed as we were next to the Royal Box, and she saw lots of the Royal family.

The 5th Sunday after Easter came from Hereford Cathedral. This was dedicated in remembrance of VE Day. The Gospel reading came from John 14 verses 1 – 14. It says let not your heart be troubled, believe in God as you believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many rooms.

In the sermon the bishop spoke about one world and belonging together. She spoke about learning to survive and working out solutions together. Thinking back to the war, men and women worked together, sadly some on the frontline never to return. For our today they gave their lives. We are all children of the same Heavenly Father no matter what creed or culture.

At this time some are confined within 4 walls, constrained by fear of infection. We have empty spaces in our arms, many unable to hug their loved ones. Some have lost loved ones and many are still ill with Covid 19. But in God's house there are many rooms and he loves us all.

At this time people are helping in many different ways:- using their talents in making scrubs for the hospitals, firms using their skills to make visors, volunteers working in the hospitals or in our communities looking after the vulnerable. Dog walking or doing the shopping.

We remember the bereaved, the anxious, the key workers, and the homeless, those who have lost their jobs and everyone the world over.

New skills.

I have tried my hand at some woodwork, making boxes to act as raised beds for my vegetables. I have not yet been able to put the new recipes to test as

our fund raising events have all been cancelled. All major events in Stonehaven for 2020 have been cancelled. The Feein' Market at the beginning of June followed by the Folk Festival, Beer Festival, Highland Games and the Harbour Festival later in the year. Also cancelled are the coffee morning and Book Browsers at St James.

I would like to finish with a prayer and a story.

Looking back
Over the past few weeks,
I've learned so much about time,
Isolation, separation,
and a new way of being.
I've learned how to slow down,
To appreciate the small things,
For they are the valued treasures of life.
Thank you, God,
For these lessons which brought me
Closer to you.
Amen

'A Song of Gladness' by Michael Morpurgo. was taken from a book to be cheerful; poetry and stories of hope for adults and children alike. This collection also includes one called Hope by Anthony Horowitz and is about the town of Hope near Aberdeen

A Song of Gladness.

I've been talking every morning to blackbird, telling him why we are all so sad at the moment. He sits on the branch and listens. It was blackbird's idea. He sang out this morning at dawn from his tree top in the garden, to fox half asleep behind the garden shed. She thought it a good idea too. It was a wake-up call. Fox was on her feet at once, and trotting through Bluebell Wood, where she barked it to deer, who ran off across the stream. Kingfisher was there, otter and dipper too. They heard, and piped it on, and swallow swooped down over the meadow, and passed it on to the cows waiting to go into their milking, and to the sheep resting quietly under the hedge with her lambs in the corner of the dew damp field.

And they all agreed, bleating it out to the bees already busy at their flowers, to weaving spiders, and grasshoppers, and scurrying mice. Trees heard sheep calling, the whole flock of them, and waved their budding leaves in wild enthusiasm; and high above, the clouds wandered through the skies driven

by wind, and wind took blackbird's idea over the cliffs across heaving seas, where gulls and albatross cried out, and whales and dolphins and porpoises heard it, and wailed and whooped it down into the deep, where turtles listened, and they too loved the idea. So did the plankton and every fish and crab and sea urchin and whelk, they all whispered that it was a fine notion, the best they ever heard.

And the whisper went over the sea on the curling waves to the shores of Africa, where lions roared their approval, and elephants trumpeted it, leopards yawned it, water buffalo belched it, wild dogs yelped it. Wildebeest murmured it out across the savanna; and storm lifted the idea up above rainforests, where rain took it and poured it down on gorillas in the mist, on chimpanzees in their sleeping nests. Howler monkeys and gibbons echoed their calls loud over all the earth – they are that loud; and then from far up high, sun heard it too and shone it down over deserts where Oryx stamped her foot impatient to be getting on with it and doing it – she loved the idea that much. Even camel, who rarely joined in anything, thought this was the best and most beautiful idea he had ever heard.

Back in the garden, blackbird waited until everyone was ready. And then he began to sing. And the whole carnival of animals, every living thing on this good earth joined in, until the globe echoed with the joy of it.

And blackbird was pleased.

But I was still lost in sadness, as I heard the earth singing around me. It was a song of forgiveness. I knew that. So I asked blackbird if I could join in. And he sang his answer back to me.

Why do you think we are doing this, you silly man? We want you and yours to be happy again. Only then will you treat us and the world right again, as you know you should. Only then will all be well. Sing, silly man, sing, sing, sing. Our song is our song, your song is our song.

So I sang, we all sang, sang away our sadness. In every house and flat and cottage, we clapped and sang, in every hut and tent, in every palace and hospital and prison. And they heard and we heard our song of gladness echoing all together, in glorious harmony across the universe.

To you all - please stay safe.

Re-opening.

The following notice was received from the province on 22nd May and explains the plan for moving towards reopening our churches.

ADVISORY GROUP FORMED TO ASSIST WITH EASING OF LOCKDOWN RESTRICTIONS

The College of Bishops has previously announced the intention to issue guidance to the Scottish Episcopal Church in connection with the gradual easing of lockdown restrictions.

An Advisory Group has now been established for the purpose of producing guidance for local churches on the implications of the reopening of places of worship. The Group brings together expertise across a range of skills and experience and will be chaired by Robert Gordon, the convener of the Provincial Standing Committee. The other members comprise, Bishop Andrew Swift, the Bishop of Brechin, the Rev Elaine Garman (Rector of St John's, Forfar and with a background in public health), the Rev Mike Jones (Consultant Advisor, HealthLink 360), and Derek Thomson (Executive Director, St Mungo's, Balerno). The Group will have its first meeting next week.

The Group will carefully consider all relevant guidance issued by the Scottish Government and Public Health Scotland and, in the light of the phased route map announced by the Scottish Government yesterday, will approach its work on a phase by phase basis in order to follow the Government's framework for any future easing of restrictions in relation to places of worship. The Group will maintain regular contact and dialogue during the period of its work with the College of Bishops.

The Government route map envisages the possibility of private prayer in churches in Phase 2, "extended groups" meeting in churches in Phase 3 (though the meaning of "extended groups" has not so far been defined) and "mass gatherings" only in Phase 4. It would seem therefore that resumption of full public worship in the form which was "normal" prior to lockdown is not envisaged by the Government until Phase 4 of its route map and is therefore still a long way off.

It is the Group's intention to ensure that guidance is issued sufficiently early so as to enable churches to prepare adequately to steer a course through the intermediate phases and it is fully aware of the bishops' statement of 15 May

that “there will be no pressure on individual churches to reopen before they feel prepared and safe to do so. We have to protect those who would want to return to worship in our buildings, those who would want to come and join us and especially those who will be asked to manage such a safe return. The guidance we produce will enable each congregation along with their bishop to look at what is needed to open the church building. The final decision to open or remain closed will be taken by the diocesan bishop.”

Peter

St James in 1950

The World: **Jan:** Britain officially recognised Communist China; racial policy caused riots in Johannesburg; Truman instructed US scientists to make H bomb. **Feb:** Atlee formed new Labour government in Britain. **Mar:** USSR announced that it had atom bomb; Belgian referendum favoured return of king. **April:** Britain officially recognised Israel. **Jun:** West Germany admitted to Council of Europe; North Korea took Seoul. **July:** General MacArthur took over UN forces in Korea; Leopold III returned to Belgian throne after 6 years; riots against King Leopold in Brussels. **Aug:** Leopold abdicated in favour of son Baudouin. **Sept:** All religious orders dissolved in Hungary; Seoul recaptured by UN forces. **Oct:** 38th parallel crossed by South Korean troops; Gaitskell became Chancellor of Exchequer; Chinese occupied Tibet. **Nov:** UN troops forced back in Korea. **Dec:** Atlee visited USA; Marshall Aid to Britain stopped; in Korea 38th parallel crossed by Chinese Army.

Also: book ‘*The Kon-Tiki Expedition*’ by Thor Heyerdahl published, film ‘*Guys and Dolls*’ released, Coronation Stone stolen by Scottish Nationalists, George Bernard Shaw died at the age of 94, George Orwell died at the age of 47 from TB, Christian Dior gave his first display at the Savoy Hotel in London, Klaus Fuchs – a German Communist spy and naturalised Briton, was convicted of passing atomic secrets to USSR. Antihistamines arrived on the market.

St James:

February 2nd 1950: The Secretary read a letter from Mr Gait saying he was opposed to the removal of the trees at the back of the church but if removal was the wish of the Vestry then the trees should be removed by the roots. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Board of Trade, Timber Control, Edinburgh pressing for the removal of the trees at an early date. It was agreed to purchase the Episcopal Church of Scotland Year Book at a cost of 5/9.

It was agreed to pay the full National Health Insurance for the Rector who is classed as a self-employed person and amounting to 6/2 per week. This to be paid by the congregation.

The Rector read a letter from Rev W L Slater, Grantown on Spey, in which he

stated that in remembrance of his mother who was an old member of St James he would like to make a gift to the church of £20.

February 19th 1950: Mr George stated there were two outstanding accounts still to be paid. There was £104 in the savings account to the credit of the Hall Fund and it was proposed by Mr Mutch and seconded by Mr Lees that £100 be borrowed from said account on a short term loan.

Mr George read a communication from the Town Clerk advising that the proprietors of the Mill Inn Hotel wished to extend their garage accommodation which adjoins the church property. There were no objections.

Mr Christie agreed to examine the electric fire in the Choir Vestry to see if it could be improved so that the Ladies of the Work Party would have a little more comfort at their meetings. It was also agreed to purchase a kettle suitable for the use of the Work Party and the Verger.

February 21st 1950: Annual Congregational Meeting. This was held in the Carron Tea Rooms. The Rector Revd E Hayes was in the chair and 53 communicant members were present. The accounts showed a deficit of £3-6-1. It was proposed by Mrs Christie and seconded by Mrs George that a jumble sale be held in the Shepherds Hall on Saturday, 15th April and that the Annual Sale of Work be held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, 19th July.

The chairman spoke about the finances of the church saying each member of the congregation would receive a circular regarding the free will offering. It was hoped that there would be an increase in the numbers participating in the scheme. He also intimated that the female members of the choir were to be gowned, the gowns being made by ladies of the congregation.

Light refreshments were then served.

April 1950: The Easter offering to the Rector was discussed. It was the wish of the Rector that this be used to start a fund for the upkeep of the Rectory. As there was a deficit on the War Memorial fund of £7-11-2 it was agreed to pay this from the proceeds of the Jumble Sale.

A letter dated 22nd February had been received from Messrs Saunders, Solicitors in London with a cheque for £200 being the remaining legacy due under the will of the late Mr William Walker, a native of Stonehaven.

December 18th 1950: The fence at the back of the church was in a bad state of repair, various types of new fencing were discussed but as these were likely to be too costly it was decided to purchase 12-18 posts to carry out temporary repairs. The loan of £100 from the Hall Fund was repaid. The Magazine Fund was in a very healthy position and the Rector instructed the Secretary to write to Miss Green to convey congratulations and thanks for the efficient way the Magazine Fund was run.

Diane

Legacy

Although the church is legally closed, it is checked every so often, and last week, we picked up a letter that had been delivered. It was from a solicitor in Falkirk, informing us of a legacy of £5,000 from the estate of Margaret Macfarlane.

Margaret's great-grandmother, Helen Main, had lost her fisherman husband, John (along with the men in about 20 other boats) in a great storm in early April 1887, whilst fishing north of Orkney. They were married 8 years previously in St James' by Revd Herbert Flower. His successor, Revd George Grubb, clearly left a great impression on Helen and her 3 orphaned sons, and the legacy is in recognition and appreciation of that care.

David

Behind the Scenes -6 - Margaret Anderson

If you look on the right-hand (south) side of the chancel, there is a rather ornate wooden plaque commemorating the life of Margaret Anderson. She died in 1941, at the grand old age of 97.



There is not a great deal on the record about Margaret. She was born on Balnacraig Farm, a large 900 acre farm near Aboyne on the 27th August 1844 to the farmer, Alexander and his wife Christina, the first of 4 children. She was baptised a fortnight later, on 14th September in the local Church of Scotland. She left the farm to become a housemaid and served in that role in a number of local houses.

However, in 1861, aged 16, she is found as a visitor with Arthur Kinnear, Solicitor in Bank Buildings, Evan Street (clearly the founder of the well-known local firm). Coincidentally, next door, 37 Evan Street, was the Rectory of St James, occupied at that time by Revd John Comper. Quite why Margaret came to Stonehaven and converted some 20 years later to Episcopalianism is unknown.

Some 23 years later, in 1884, now aged 40, she is recorded as the Proprietor of

Belmont House (at the top of Belmont Brae) which appears to have been an inn, with stabling for horses. One assumes that, if they were coaching horses, they left their coaches at the foot of the Brae! Unfortunately, it would appear that the census enumerator was not told there was an occupied building there, and so there has never been a census record for who was living with Margaret. All we have is the Valuation Roll for the building, showing her as the Proprietor.

Margaret stayed in Belmont House for the rest of her life, and during this time was a faithful worshipper at St James. She died there after a fall which fractured her neck. Judging by the quality of the plaque, created under wartime conditions, Margaret Anderson, was a much valued and sorely missed member of St James.



Extracts from the Diocese of Brechin Lockdown News for May.

The Bishop writes:

As lockdown continues we continue to support each other remotely and in prayer! This week's bulletin has some more spotlights on charges and some news and papers from further afield. Enjoy! Bless you all: stay at home, stay safe and save lives!

Spotlight on Brechin Church Communities in Lockdown

Dundee: Lockdown news from St Ninians

Dean Fay writes: Many folk are encouraging and supporting each other and Roxanne and myself are serving and pastoring the folk of the congregation and wider community by phone, and other technological means. This helps us to establish need and try to meet it by various means especially prayer. We have started a weekly prayer meeting via Zoom.

We encourage participation in the Provincial Eucharist and in Canon Kenneth's Compline and we circulate the Sunday reading sheet with the news and prayer requests. Our Holy Week services delivered through Facebook and YouTube enjoyed a wider circulation than just the congregation. Sharing the gospel in word and action is also at the heart of our ministry and our Family Support Group staff meet by Zoom every Monday and are encouraging families to follow the weekly programme as far as possible.

Home Start have delivered Zoom sessions on Healthy Choices and good fundraising (lots of crisis funds out there folks!) Staff are in regular communication with our volunteers and families and have distributed food and/or vouchers to families in need. We have a song and story session live on Tuesday at 11.00am and Roxanne has delivered live meditative sessions for the parents on taking time and space, all through our Facebook page. Our local Primary school is a Community Hub and we are able to support staff and children through this time. Some of our church families have benefited from a Hope Art box which we received through the school family worker. Our Youth Group is having worship, teaching and fun fortnightly live on Facebook Messenger. Everyone in Girl's Brigade missed their annual Glenesk weekend but through Facebook and YouTube we produced some reminiscence videos of each day from last year with some challenges which brought not only the girls but ex-members together and we have a date for next year! With love from our community to yours. Fay

Carnoustie: Lockdown news from Holy Rood

Holy Rood church has been keeping in contact in new ways since lockdown started seven weeks ago: keeping community and spiritual life functioning in these new circumstances. The congregation has been receiving a weekly bulletin based on the Redemptorist Pew Sheet with reading. This has been emailed or posted out to those Holy Rood members who struggle with electronic communication. Lay Readers Jean Fenwick and Edna Boffey, along with worship leader Grant Wilson have been writing a reflection to go in this communications sheet and Jean has been providing some prayer for every day of the week. The sheet shares notices and news from around the congregation, including requests for prayer for those who are ill or struggling in Covid-19 lockdown. The ministry team, including Rev Trisha Duffett-Smith, have been regularly phoning all the church members to keep in touch and support each other.

(Author: Jean Fenwick was talking to the Bishop)

Arbroath and Auchmithie: Lockdown news from St Mary and St Peter

From Rev Pete Mead: During Lockdown, although the buildings in Arbroath and Auchmithie are currently closed, the church is not. Prayer is still central to the life of both congregations, where individuals pray Compline or read the psalms at 9pm each night - it brings great comfort knowing that other members are praying and thinking of each other at the same time each night. The Ecumenical prayers and lighting of candles on Sunday evenings at 7pm also brings people together.

On Sundays, some of those with the internet are joining in with the Scottish Episcopal Church broadcasts on Facebook and YouTube, some are also tuning in more regularly to glenstal.com and watching various services including the Eucharist.

In terms of support, a cell structure has been established - 14 small groups of 5-7 people that pray for one another and keep in contact by phone and post. Each Cell is led by a member of vestry and has autonomy to do their own thing, reaching out to the Rector for support as needed - three groups are currently discussing 'situation ethics and absolute morals' and another group is sharing poetry and psalms (using good old fashioned letter writing and supplemented with regular telephone calls). Pastoral activities (funerals and telephone calls) continue with many relationships deepening as all sorts of topics are discussed.

Dundee: Lockdown news from St Martins

From Rev. Helen Bridger: Regular activities are:

She phones members of the congregation regularly. A "phone tree" system is in place to ensure congregants are contacted weekly by a team of lay callers. Fortnightly Saturday coffee mornings by "Zoom".

A weekly reflection on the Sunday Gospel passage is written and circulated by Rector given to the congregation either by email or by paper mailshots. For those with impaired cognition or literacy difficulties, regular cards/prayer messages are sent (It's worth saying that about 50% of the congregation are online. Other 50% do not use computers at all, and a small but significant proportion of our folk have some difficulty with cognition and/or reside in nursing homes/very sheltered housing).

A daily hymn circulated electronically using YouTube clips, with added devotional commentary. The church is working on a proposed midweek service of Morning Prayer to be offered by Zoom each week.

None of the digital activities is open for public access owing to security considerations. Participants are invited from the congregation.

Companion Dioceses: Iowa-Swaziland-Brechin Clergy Conference

Despite the Covid shutdown, Clergy from the three Companion Dioceses in the US, Southern Africa and Scotland shared a 'virtual clergy conference' by Zoom last week. Bishop Ellinah from Swaziland led sessions on environmental issues called, "Responding as God's Church to God's Creation".

Canon Michael Turner (Laurencekirk) said, "I enjoyed the experience and appreciated the content of Bishop Ellinah's talks. What was said in part reflected what probably most of us have thought and considered in the past,

but there were some different emphases and it was refreshing to hear someone speak from a different cultural and social background and context.”

Rev Roxanne Campbell, (curate in Dundee), said, “...this conference was a really valuable time to take a step back and theologically reflect upon our response to the Climate Emergency.”

Safeguarding During COVID-19: Cyber Crime and Domestic Violence

The Rev Denise Herbert, Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, writes: The media has reported a massive increase of domestic violence and cyber crime in Britain since the outbreak of Covid19. The BBC has stated that calls to the National Domestic Abuse and other helplines have risen by 49% and killings doubled since lock down was introduced. Commonly this is unseen violence until it causes real physical injury and death. Following the ‘surge’ in violence, the BBC states that an MPs’ Report called for a government strategy on domestic abuse during the pandemic. MPs also said ‘safe spaces’, where victims can seek help, should be rolled out to supermarkets and other shops. The Home Office is said to be increasing funding to support helplines and online services and it has been reported that **Boots** will open a safe consulting room for women to use.

There is a massive increase in cyber crime being reported since Covid 19 where fraudsters send victims own passwords in ‘sextortion’ scam. On 23rd April ‘actionfraud’ reported that 9,473 reports had been received so far in April with 200 reports in the last week of the month. This sextortion phishing scam, continues to be reported to Action Fraud in high numbers. The emails contain the victims’ own password in the subject line and demand a payment in Bitcoin to prevent videos being shared.

Keep safe and please speak to someone if you are feeling isolated, frightened or unhappy. Don’t try and go it alone and feel you can tough it out. It doesn’t always work and sharing any problems and asking for advice is not a sign of weakness – it is important. Do let me know, or the Bishop or the Provincial Safeguarding Officers, Donald Urquhart and Daphne Audsley if you have any concerns .

Letter from Kate McDonald

The Rev Kate McDonald is a Pisky priest working for the Church of Scotland in Tiberias, Israel: since 2019 she has been a partner of Brechin Diocese. She writes:

Dear Friends,

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Greetings from the very quiet shores of the Sea of Galilee. I hope that you are all safe and healthy, and pray that despite this

strange, often disorienting new reality we all find ourselves in, you may know the joy and the peace of our risen Lord this Easter season.

We have been in lockdown here in Israel since mid March, with additional stricter curfews around Pesach, Memorial Day, and Independence Day (in the Jewish villages) and Ramadan (in the Arab villages). On Independence Day, Tiberias should have been full of tourists having barbecues on its beaches and enjoying water sports on the lake; instead the promenade was empty, and the town was absolutely silent. This has, of course, impacted the work of our partners, my work, and the work of our institutions, and I wanted to write to you with an update of the situation as it is here on the ground.

Friends, thank you for your faithful prayers and continued support of our ministry here. I pray you will continue to stay safe and healthy where you are, and may God bless you and guide you through these days as we all seek to walk in the way of Christ.

Blessings, Kate

Church Life in Lockdown: Online worship

The Scottish Episcopal Church continues to offer 'national' worship led by the College of Bishops every Sunday at 11am, with details at: <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sundayworship/>

News to share?

Please share news of life in lockdown (via clusters or directly to the office). office@brechin.anglican.org

Weekly Prayer Points

- Continue to pray for the NHS, Care Homes, emergency services, and all key workers
- All those working in the food banks and food distribution
- All those remaining at home in social distancing or self isolation.
- Politicians – making difficult and vital decisions
- Clergy leading a very different ministry
- All those who have died in this difficult time
- Those who mourn them

Hymn Quiz

At St James we are blessed with an Anglican tradition rich in hymns. Here are some questions about some of those hymns.

Some are well known, some not. In each case, the answer to the question is the first line of the hymn.

The quiz is in two parts and the second part will be in July's Newsletter.

Part 1

Q1 Which hymn includes "all the martyr throng" and promises: "the Lord shall be thy part, his only, his for ever, thou shalt be and thou art!"?

Q2 Where do we ask "earth's redeemer, plead for me" and acknowledge Jesus as "robed in flesh, our great high priest"?

Q3 Where do we rely on the Holy Spirit "till the work on earth is done" and sing "when I stand in glory, I will see his face"?

Q4 Where do we sing "angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away" and "let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing"?

Q5 Where do we do to death "each thought and deed unruly" and venerate "holy church as his creation and her teachings as his own"?

Q6 Where do we ask "and thy fullest benediction" and sing that it will last "while unending ages run"?

Q7 Where do we praise the Lord "in tuneful accord" and "for grace of salvation"?

Q8 We ask that the Lord will be "my best thought in the day and the night" and that he will "grant heaven's joy to me" in which hymn?

Q9 Where is the church God's "new creation" and where will "the great Church victorious" be "the Church at rest"?

Q10 Where did Jesus make "the lame to run" and go to suffering

“that he his foes from thence might free”?

Some of these are easier than others, but we have sung them all at St James within the last 10 years, some up to 20 times!; they are all in the current hymn book “Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New”.

The answers and some comments will appear in a future Newsletter(s).

David

Lockdown Entertainment

During this extended period of lockdown I have been interested in finding some films/books which have used isolation as a basis for the plot and I pass on these recommendations. The film which immediately springs to mind is *Rear Window* – a truly classic Hitchcock thriller where all the action is based round one room (starring James Stewart and Grace Kelly).

As far as books go Agatha Christie set some of her crime mysteries around people in isolation – *Murder on the Orient Express*, *And Then There Were None*, are two which do this. Hercule Poirot’s last case, *The Final Curtain*, is based on the fact that Poirot is ill and confined to bed and solves the case from his bedroom. This is also the case with Josephine Tey’s book *The Daughter of Time*, where a police inspector, confined to a hospital bed decides to investigate an historical murder – whether Richard III did murder the princes in the tower. This investigation of historical crime is also the basis of a Colin Dexter ‘Morse’ novel – *The Wench is Dead* – where Inspector Morse, confined to bed with a duodenal ulcer passes the time unravelling a murder committed in the nineteenth century. There is also, of course, *Robinson Crusoe* by

Daniel Defoe.

For a more frightening look at what happens to people in prolonged isolation I can recommend revisiting *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson where Ben Gunn makes a riveting appearance. The sequel to this book, written by Andrew Motion and called *Silver* offers an even more alarming picture of isolation where he describes what happens to the three pirates left behind on Treasure Island at the end of Robert Louis Stevenson's book. William Golding's novel *Lord of the Flies* is even more explicit.

If it's history which interests you then Daniel Defoe's *Journal of the Plague Year* is apposite, as is *Old St Paul's* by William Harrison Ainsworth (if you can find a copy!) about the plague in London 1665/1666. Most people have heard of the village of Eyam in Derbyshire which voluntarily isolated itself when plague arrived in a bolt of cloth from London. Geraldine Brooks's novel *Year of Wonders* is a fictionalised account of this.

If you want something completely different then I can recommend *Mr Golightly's Holiday* by Sally Vickers. This is a deceptive novel – look for the surprising outcome.

Let us hope that the lockdown ends very soon or we all run the risk of becoming Ben Gunn!

(And let's also hope the Book Browse returns soon so you can find some of these books!)

Diane

St James', Stonehaven and St Philip's, Catterline
Interim Rector. Bishop Andrew.
Vestry Secretary: Anne O'Gorman.
Church Phone No: 01569 764473

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Weekly Pew Sheet	Diana Peters
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The copy deadline for the July Newsletter is Sunday 22nd June 2020

Reminders will not be sent out.

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