

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



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

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

The church is now open for private prayer from 10.00am to 3.00 pm every day except Monday.



DIARY NOTES July 2020

Day/Date	Event
5th July 4th Sunday in Trinity	There will be no services until further notice.
12th July 5th Sunday in Trinity	
19th July 6th Sunday in Trinity	
26th July 7th Sunday in Trinity	

Did you know?

There are hundreds of saints associated with plagues and pandemics but perhaps the most interesting one for our current epidemic is a St Corona.

She was killed by being bound to two bent palm trees and torn apart when they were released. For some reason she is also the patron saint of foresters!

Peter

From Arma

After the long business of lockdown, where all of us have been coming to terms with a whole new way of life, it is sometimes good to go back to the very beginning and remember that there is a bigger picture! It is good for us to lift up our eyes from the small world we sometimes inhabit and see that we are part of a greater narrative.

The first chapter of the Book of Genesis establishes the greatest story ever told. We read of God's creative act, which begins with a formless void and leads us through the creation of night and day, the heavens and the earth. Then follows the land, the sea, the moon, the stars, the things that creep upon the earth, the birds of the air, the wild animals and, to crown it all, humankind made in the image of God, the Creator.

God then blesses humankind and looks upon all that has been created and it was very good indeed.

The psalmist echoes this theme of a journey through creation step by step and responds to each creative moment by reminding us that God's steadfast love endures forever. God is still there, attentive to the smallest sparrow as much as he is to every one of us.

As the story continues, we hear again and again that God's love endures forever. We are the children of this creation and if we gaze on this history and recognise that we are part of it we might also gain the confidence to hope on God's amazing providence. If God can do all this, surely anything is possible.

Thousands of years after this story was written, Jesus finds himself among those who seem to have lost faith in what is possible. Their eyes are downcast, their hearts are fearful, worry clouds their thoughts. His disciples have given up homes, jobs and families to follow him. Fishermen have put down their nets and given up everything for this charismatic rabbi from Nazareth. But now, with good reason, they are unsure of the future and

anxious about how they will survive, what they will eat, drink and wear. Perhaps, after the thrill of making a new start and the novelty of being on the road, the reality of this new life is now becoming apparent. They are suddenly dependent on the generosity of those around them.

So, what does Jesus do? He reminds them of their ultimate origin and encourages them to consider that their horizons are much broader than they imagine. He suggests that they raise their eyes and look at the birds of the air and to look at the lilies of the field in all their splendour. If they are clothed in such a fashion, how much more will God clothe you, you of little faith he says to his disciples.

When our world becomes difficult or troublesome then it is natural to worry about things, be they small or large, but Jesus always calls us to see things differently and to put our hope in him.

This is, of course, where faith comes in and even a little faith can work miracles.

Because of a virus we have, over the past weeks and months, been challenged to put our faith in God; to trust and not be afraid. We believe in the God of the past, present and future, who holds all things in his mighty hands. In the midst of all our uncertainties we try to remind ourselves of what God has already done for us.

For the disciples on that particular day, the fullness of God's plan in Christ was yet to be revealed to them. But for us, looking back, we are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe through the power of the Cross and the glorious resurrection. On the third day, two thousand years ago, there was a new beginning, as mighty as on the first and we, through faith, are part of the story.

It is in this context that we can look to the future with confidence; not just the immediate future, but towards the ultimate future in Christ, to which we are all called.

We are reminded that the sufferings of the present time will

pass. It is not only we who wait, it is creation itself that waits with eager longing until that day when all things are consummated by the love of God, which was from the beginning, which is now and for ever shall be. With that truth in mind, with God's promises held in all our hearts, our worries should melt away. God's steadfast love endures for ever (Matthew, Chapter 6 v. 25-end).

Behind the Scene 7 - The Altar

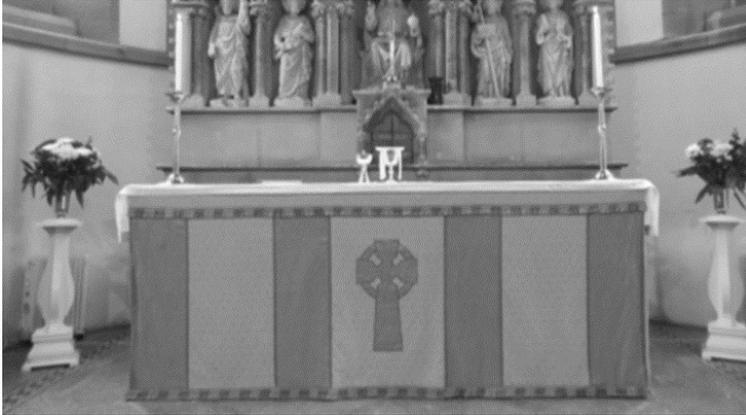
In most churches of the period of St James', the altar is a massive carved stone edifice, even if nowadays is it covered with a decorative frontal. But underneath the normal frontal in St James' is plain oak table. It is clearly made to the correct size and until recently was not very steady. Peter Iles, a member of the congregation and late husband of Arma Iles, our lay reader, added some stabilising struts.

It is clearly a consecrated altar, having a stone inlay with 5 crosses, which would have been used for the incense as part of the dedication ceremony. We know that it was dedicated at the time that the nave was completed, and a local paper, the 'Montrose Standard', carried a detailed description of the dedication service on Monday 1st October 1877.

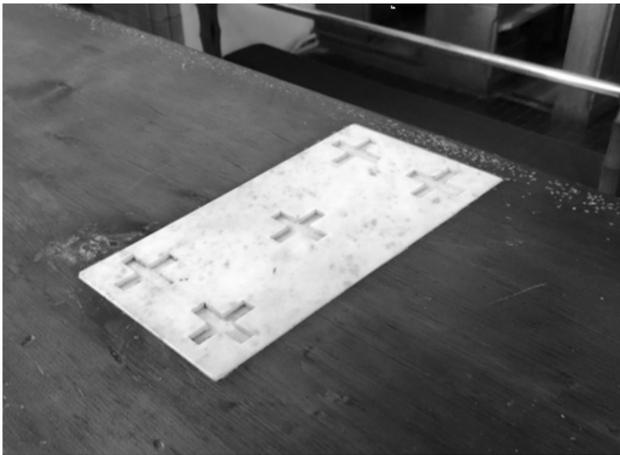
We know that the building of the church had to come to a halt after the nave was completed, because the congregation ran out of money temporarily. One can only assume that the decision was taken not to move the altar from the old High Street chapel, but obtain a new one, but assuming it might be temporary and have to be moved, to get a plain wooden table. The inserting of the stone tablet was a necessary artefact if the altar was to be dedicated.

Having such a lightweight moveable altar does have its advantages. Until relatively recently, the practice was to

celebrate the Eucharist with the priest 'facing east', i.e. looking straight at the Reredos, and with his/her back to the congregation. In this case the altar would be placed hard up against the Reredos. In today's worship, the more common practice is for the priest to 'face the people', and St James' can move the altar out to allow the priest to stand behind it, with his/her back to the Reredos.



The High Altar with the white Festal frontal



The stone inlay used in the dedication service on 1st October 1877



The High Altar stripped for Good Friday

David

Hymn Quiz

In June's issue of the newsletter we published the first part of the quiz. To recap, below are some questions about hymns. In each case, the answer to the question is the first line of the hymn. Some are well known, some not, 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).

Part 2

Q11 Where do we "feebly struggle" but may win "the victor's crown of gold"?

Q12 Where do we anticipate "all the world" will "adore his sacred name" and "ev'ry race and ev'ry language" will "tell of him"?

Q13 Where do we see “thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed” and that “Christ shall come with shout of acclamation”?

Q14 Where do we sing “flow, river, flow” and assert “by the blood I may enter your brightness”?

Q15 Where do we know that “there is no shadow of turning with thee” and that we have “pardon for sin and a peace that endureth”?

Q15 Which hymn is amazed that Jesus “should stoop to love the people's of the earth” and that “all flesh shall see his glory”?

Q17 Where are we assured “there's a kindness in his justice” and told “we make his love too narrow”?

Q18 Where do “unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice” and sing that “proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight”?

Q19 When do we sing that “the sky turned black” and that Jesus is “the life that'll never, never die”?

Q20 Where do I “pour contempt on all my pride” and sing “love so amazing, so divine”?

(Answers to both parts to David by July 21st to win a handsome prize!)

St James in 1951

The World: Feb: US presidents to be restricted to 2 terms; **Mar:** Korea - UN troops recaptured Seoul; **April:** Rosenbergs sentenced to death in US for spying, Stone of Scone found three months after theft; **May:** South Africa disenfranchised coloured voters, Vickers Valiant UK jet bomber made maiden flight, Festival of Britain Pleasure Gardens opened at Battersea; **June:** De Valera reassumed power in Eire, King Abdullah of Jordan assassinated, British Hawker Hunter jet fighter made maiden flight; **Aug:** W Germany introduced 33 rpm records; **Sept:** Maureen Connelly won US Tennis Championships at 16, US signed peace treaty with Japan, Atlee called general election; **Oct:** Ben-Gurion formed government in Israel, Winston Churchill elected Prime Minister again, Egypt denounced Treaty of Alliance with UK.

Also: J D Salinger's novel *The Catcher in the Rye*, Igor Stravinsky's opera *The Rake's Progress*, John Huston's film *The African Queen*, Alfred Hitchcock's film *Strangers on a Train*, film *The Cruel Sea* released.

Guy Burgess and Donald MacLean unmasked as spies. The first heart-lung machine was invented.

St James, Stonehaven

27th Jan 1951: The Stonehaven Liberal Association offered St James the option to buy the Liberal Club rooms and dwelling house at 1 Bridgefield together with fixtures and fittings of the hall and house, and the furnishings of the hall for the sum of £750. To be apportioned as follows: £500 for the properties, £250 for the fittings, fixtures and furnishings. Conditions are 1) that the Liberal Club will be given the hire of the hall on any evening not required for church purposes at a fee of 2/6d per hour. 2) That the Apostolic Church will get at least six months' notice to quit. 3) That Mr Alexander Christie may retain his privilege to rent the hall as at present, namely from 9 am to 6 pm daily except on Saturday when the hours will be 9 am to 4 pm for as long as he may desire. 4) That this offer be accepted on or before 28th Feb 1951.

The Vestry unanimously agreed to purchase the property.

It was resolved that the amount by which the current account with the Union Bank of Scotland be overdrawn be increased to £800.

25th Feb 1951: The treasurer, Mr George, read a statement of the accounts for the year ending December 1950. This was proposed by Mr Mutch and seconded by Mr Lees.

27th Feb 1951: The Annual Congregational Meeting was held in the Church Hall. There were 45 communicant members present. The accounts showed a deficit of £9-4-3. The Rector intimated that the weekly offering over the year showed an increase of £65-18-7. The Magazine account showed a credit balance of £27-10-8. The Rector and congregation

congratulated Miss Green, who is in charge of the Magazine Account, on the efficient way it was handled. Mr Gammie was elected warden, and Mr McHardy and Mr Taylor were also elected to the Vestry. Mrs Dalgarno suggested that a jumble sale be held in the hall on 31st March, and that the annual sale be held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, 18th July.

The guest speaker was Rev M Gibson who spoke to the congregation on the Clergy Sustentation Fund and impressed on the congregation the need for increased giving. Miss Christie suggested it was the duty of the Vestry to collect from the congregation for this fund. Tea was then served by the ladies of the work party.

27th Feb 1951: At a special meeting of the Vestry held at the close of the congregational meeting the members discussed the offer to sell the cellar of No 1 Arbuthnott Street by Miss M Murray and others. It was decided to accept the price of £40 for conveyance of title provided the church received the portion of ground to be used as an entrance to the said cellar. The Rector was instructed to discuss this with Messrs Connon, McRobert & Bisset, the acting solicitors, and if possible to close with the offer. The Vestry then inspected the new hall and discussed the proposed alterations.

9th April 1951: The meeting was held to consider the question of increased contributions to the Clergy Sustentation Fund. It was agreed it should be left to the Rector and Secretary to devise a scheme for collecting from the congregation. It was also agreed that the services of Mr Manson, agent, Union Bank, be recognised for auditing the yearly balance sheet.

24th Sept 1951: The Rector suggested that collecting for the Clergy Sustentation Fund be delayed until after the visit of the Dean, who was to preach to the congregation. As this was the first Vestry meeting since the Sale of Work the Rector expressed a wish that a letter of thanks be sent to the convenors of the various stalls conveying thanks for their good work. The

secretary was also instructed to write to Mr Lees, Evan Street to thank him for the good work he had done for St James and St Philips. The treasurer was asked to forward a cheque for £3-3-0 to Miss Chalmers, being her fee for playing the organ whilst Mrs Hayes was on holiday.

11th Nov 1951: The Rector intimated that the Dean would preach to the congregation on 25th November and he hoped there would be a full turn out of Vestrymen for this service. The secretary had sent a letter from the Vestry and congregation to Mrs Graham expressing sympathy and deep concern on the Bishop's serious operation. The Hall Committee was called on to report on its future. The Rector reported that the Hall Committee had found it almost impossible to carry on owing to the present terms of let with the Ministry of Labour. As there appeared to be a binding agreement with the said tenant they suggested that the Vestry should (1) consider the legal position for the termination of said let or (2) sell the premises if the let could not be broken. It was agreed that the Rector should consult Major Brander of Brander and Cruickshank for advice and, if necessary, put the building up for sale.

Diane

Church Opening

The church is now open, for private prayer only, between 10.00 am and 3.00 pm daily except for Mondays. There will be a one-way system, and appropriate hygiene facilities will be available. We are required to have a person in attendance to sterilise areas of the church after visitors and we are grateful to Edward and Jon who have volunteered to do this. Our thanks also to David and Jon for drawing up the risk assessment needed to get permission from the bishop to open the church.

Peter

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

GROUP CONVENORS

GROUP CONVENORS	
Property	David Fleming
Communication	Peter Sharp
Music	David Fleming
Social	Val Cadd
Lay Reader emeritus	Arma Iles
Weekly Pew Sheet	Diana Peters
Hall Management	David Fleming
Protection of Vulnerable Groups Officer	Irene Paterson
Vestry	Peter Sharp

The copy deadline for the August Newsletter is Sunday 26th July 2020

Reminders will not be sent out.

St James Episcopal Church, Stonehaven .Scottish Registered Charity No. SC000301
 St Philip's Episcopal Church, Catterline Scottish Registered Charity No. SC023282