

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



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

Sundays.

10.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

St James' is open for private prayer from 10.00am to 3.00 pm every day except Sunday and Monday.

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



DIARY NOTES October 2020

Day/Date	Event
4th October 17th Sunday in Trinity	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Anne O’Gorman
11th October 18th Sunday in Trinity Harvest Festival	10.00am Reserved Sacrament Arma Iles
18th October 19th Sunday in Trinity	10.00am Holy Eucharist. Bishop Andrew
25th October 20th Sunday in Trinity Bible Sunday	10.00am Reserved Sacrament Arma Iles

From Anne

As autumn starts to draw in there is no sign of the Covid 19 cases decreasing in numbers. In fact cases are rapidly increasing, and further measures are being issued to try to stop the spread of the virus.

Schools are back with hand sanitizer to be used and facemasks to be worn in corridors mandatory. Times of going to school are staggered and in some cases, for more senior pupils, only one subject is being taught each day, trying to keep the children in one bubble.

As I said in my July reflection, Facebook, Face Time and Zoom have played a vital part in my day-to-day living during lockdown.

On Facebook I belong to a site with history, events and details of the South Hams region in Devon. The day after we celebrated St James' day the following information was put on the site, which I thought would be of interest to members of St James.

Back in the fifteenth century, Dartmouth (which is in Devon) had an extremely valuable role in the international tourist trade. This was partly in the mediaeval tradition of pilgrimages to holy places.

The objective of one specific pilgrimage was to visit the shrine of the apostle Saint James in the cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia in north-western Spain, where, it was believed, the remains of the saint were buried. The route was the Camino de Santiago - known in English as the Way of Saint James, one of the most important Christian pilgrimages during the middle ages. The others were to Rome and Jerusalem. It was also a pilgrimage on which an indulgence could be earned. This was a way to reduce the amount of punishment one had to undergo for committing sins. Other pilgrims took part to receive an inheritance or as a result of a sentence imposed by a court.

The earliest records of visits paid to the shrine date from the 9th century, but it wasn't until a century later that a large number of pilgrims from abroad were regularly journeying there. The earliest records of pilgrims from England were between 1092 and 1105, and by the early 12th century the Spanish pilgrimage had become a highly organized affair taking the devout, and those evading earthly punishment, from across England.

Millions of people from all over Europe made pilgrimages to Santiago. By the 12th century 10 percent of the population of Europe was involved in making or supporting the pilgrimage. A Moorish emissary at the time complained, as there were so many pilgrims travelling to, and returning from, the shrine.

This was a very expensive, dangerous and difficult journey.

Pilgrims walked the Way of St. James often for months or years at a time, to arrive at the great church in the main square of Compostela and pay homage to St. James. The daily needs of pilgrims on their way to and from Compostela were met by a series of hospitals staffed by Catholic orders and under royal protection. Nevertheless, many were lost on the journey, while some pilgrims arrived ill or having been the victims of robbery.

For those returning from Compostela, it became customary to carry back with

them a Galician scallop shell as proof of their completion of their journey. This practice led to the scallop shell becoming the badge of a pilgrim.

Getting English pilgrims there became the vocation of the mariners of South Devon. Pilgrims could only be carried in licensed ships and a petition of 1389 shows that, at the time, pilgrims were only allowed to leave from Plymouth and Dover. Accordingly, from the 14th century Devon's ports were amongst the earliest to furnish ships for the trade.

It was also a very profitable business and became an important part of English maritime enterprise. Nobles and merchants became involved and ships were chartered by grantees of licences in London who possessed no ships of their own. For example, in 1391 Dartmouth ship owner Thomas Ashended obtained a licence to carry 200 pilgrims.

Initially the ships used were those used in trading fish, hides or wine and were not very large. By the 15th century, however, direct transport in larger ships across the Bay of Biscay became the norm. The main Spanish port was A Coruna and merchant ships could carry between 100 and 200 passengers. Nevertheless, the sea journey remained perilous and there were deaths from storms at sea and a lack of clean water and fresh food.

Throughout the pilgrimages period Dartmouth and Plymouth were by far the places that provided most capacity. Yet the demand was more than the two mediaeval ports could satisfy and it became a much larger enterprise. And, so, for more than half a century, Brixham, Topsham, Exeter, Exmouth, Teignmouth and Portlemouth contributed their ships.

But the pilgrimages weren't to last. The route was most popular in the first half of the fifteenth century, but then the Black Death and political unrest across Europe led to its decline.

In England the Protestant Reformation condemned pilgrimages as a Catholic practice, viewing the adulation of saints as a form of idolatry. John Calvin further criticized the practices of celebrating relics and creating shrines as not true forms of worship. And so the flow of English pilgrims ended.

Now the pilgrimage has had a resurgence and last year around 200,000 pilgrims walked the route.

Apparently on the way pilgrims would sing the St James pilgrim song. This

was to encourage other pilgrims they met. They would greet each other along the way to Santiago de Compostela with E ultreia (further) and receive the response E suseia (higher).

As I said at the beginning of this article it is amazing what information can be gained through Facebook.

Harvest

Harvest Festival is on 11th October. Due to Covid the windows and the church will NOT be decorated this year. There will be a box at the back of church on that day for NON perishable goods that will be donated to the Far and Wide Food Bank. If anyone would rather give a money donation please speak to Anne.

Anne

St James in 1954

The World: **Jan:** British Comet jet airliner fell into the Mediterranean; **Mar:** British arrested 700 Mau-Mau terrorists in Kenya; USSR offered to join NATO; testing of US H Bomb on Bikini Atoll; **May:** Roger Bannister ran mile in under 4 minutes; Communists captured Dien Bien Phu in Vietnam; Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip started Commonwealth tour; US Supreme Court outlawed racial segregation in schools; the evangelist Billy Graham's mass meeting at Wembley Stadium; **Jul:** End of all rationing in Britain; maiden flight of Boeing 707; **Sept:** Algerian earthquake killed 1,500; **Oct:** Hanoi taken by Communist troops; **Nov:** Outbreak of terrorism in Algiers; Nasser became official head of state in Egypt; **Dec:** US Senate censured Senator McCarthy; 20,000 French troops sent to Algeria.

Also: William Golding's novel '*Lord of the Flies*'; Elia Kazan's film '*On the Waterfront*'; J R R Tolkien's fantasy '*The Lord of the Rings*'. Bill Haley and the Comets had a hit with '*Shake, Rattle and Roll*'; Ernest Hemingway won the Nobel Prize for literature; a polio vaccine was developed by American virologist Jonas Edward Salk; the Independent TV authority was established.

Stonehaven

7th February: This meeting was held to present the balance sheet for the previous year. Apologies were received from Mr C George and Mr J Lees who were ill. There was a credit balance of £40-11-8. The accounts were accepted. There was £4 standing in the Children's Corner Fund and 16/- in the Picnic Fund and the Rector asked for permission to withdraw these funds to pay for the tubular heating which had been installed in the Choir Vestry. This was readily given. The Rector read a letter from Mr W B Agnew ,

secretary of the Stonehaven Choral and Orchestra Society, thanking the Rector and Vestry for use of the church for their performance of the 'Messiah' and enclosing a donation of 4 guineas.

9th February: The Annual Congregational Meeting was held in the hall at 7.30 pm. There were 41 communicant members present. The accounts were accepted. Miss Green had provided the Rector with a balance sheet for the magazine which showed a balance of £13*. The Rector intimated that the CWMA rally would be held on Wednesday, 12th May and the secretary was asked to apply for the use of the Town Hall for that date. Thanks were expressed to Mrs Dalgarno, president of the Ladies' Work Party, and to the ladies for their valued work which contributed in no small way to the church finances. There were 316 members on the roll, 214 communicants. Mr James Gammie was appointed Rector's Warden, Mr James Dalgarno People's Warden. Mr C Grant was appointed Lay Representative. A Jumble Sale would be held in the Church Hall on 13th March, the annual Sale of Work would be held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, 28th July. Suggestions had been made by several members of the congregation that tubular heating be installed in their respective seats. It was agreed that this be done and each member who wished this type of heating would pay for providing and installing of same. The Rector then spoke about Seat Rents, pointing out that St James was one of very few churches where seats had to be paid for. The following proposal was made: It was proposed that the present system of Seat Rents charges be abolished and that a flat rate of 5/- per household per annum be levied (£7.50 in today's prices). This was proposed by Mr Main, seconded by Miss Christie and this was carried to start from 1st April 1954. Mr Dalgarno proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs Hayes for her work as organist. Tea was then served by the ladies of the Work Party.

3rd March: The secretary read a letter from Mr C George, treasurer, in which he stated that, owing to ill health he wished to resign both from the Vestry and as treasurer. It was agreed to recognize in some way the many years of valued service he had given to the church. It was agreed to make an appeal to the congregation and all monies be handed to Mr Dalgarno. It was agreed to appoint Mr J Gammie as treasurer. Mr Dalgarno would be responsible for collecting the seat rents and Mr C Grant for the banking of all cash and Free Will Offering collections.

*I quote from the Annual Report 'The Church Magazine, although a poor thing, enables members have some knowledge of what is going on in the life of the Church. The Vestry tenders grateful thanks to Miss N Green for her able management of its finances and circulation'.

(Not a very positive statement about the magazine - DJF)

POSTSCRIPT: Following my request last month I am indebted to Mr Jim Lees of Burnieboozle Crescent, Aberdeen for his memory that, at the time of the Coronation, Mackie Academy children whose names were Elizabeth, Philip or Charles had their pictures taken and were given a commemorative crown coin. He remembers that there was a service at Fetteresso Church and a parade through the town. Mrs Stella Wilson confirmed this and adds that a pipe band played in the Market Square.

This confirmed to me that there was a singular lack of communal jollity and feasting in that there were no street parties, and the local children missed out on jelly, ice cream, cake and commemorative mugs, spoons, bunting, entertainment etc. - DJF

Vestry Minutes 24th August 2020 (via Zoom)

Matters Arising

The insurance company has said the church is covered for any Covid outbreak linked to the Church Hall providing all relevant guidelines are followed.

The church pew heater has been restored to its bracket.

Correspondence

A letter from Andrew Bowie MP following his visit to Carmont and Stonehaven and in which he praised the community spirit in Stonehaven after the flash floods and train derailment.

Treasurer's Report

Main Account	£43,8932.00
Fabric Fund Account	£834.35
Buildings Account	£383.32
St Philip's	£1,017.11

No rent had been received from the Rectory in June due to problems with the bank.

Due to the level of income in 2019 we have had to pay water rates for 2020. We should be exempt next year.

Report on St James

Diane reported that all the face masks she had made had gone. Peter said he would bring some disposable ones on Sunday so there was a ready supply if anyone forgot theirs.

Report on St Philip's

All the altar linen from St Philip's is now at St James'.

Worship

The Bishop will take the service on 6th September.

David said that the Worship Group is working well and is a good team. We have three people leading the service with Arma giving the sermon each week except the first Sunday in the month. Peter will give the sermon that week. David reported that the Greeter/Reader rota is complete until Christmas, and the hymn list until November.

Redemptorist sheets are now coming electronically.

There is no information about the Remembrance Day Service and whether it will take place.

Discussion with Bishop Andrew

Further discussions took place on the draft agreement for a priest for a three year transitional period.

The following issues were raised:

What happens after 3 years?

What happens if St Ternan's cannot join us as part of the transition?

If this happened how would it affect St James.

We could not afford any more money.

We will have to draw on our reserves before the end of the three years.

Jonathan said that, under Canon Law, we could offer the present rectory for accommodation even though the building may not meet the requirements for a modern day rectory.

It was agreed by Vestry to accept Option 2, which means St James would meet two thirds of the cost. Peter Sharp will contact Bishop Andrew.

Fabric

Church: Slimming World is due to start in the church on 24th August.

David reported that despite the torrential rain on 12th August only a small amount of water got into the church. The high level maintenance of the roof has been carried out.

The Quinquennial Inspection quote was £5,040 and this was felt to be rather high. David is to investigate further quotes.

Open Doors will be a virtual event this year. St James is producing a series of

nine 1 minute videos.

It was agreed to purchase a Goodbox machine allowing the church to take contactless payments. The cost would be £50 plus VAT.

Hall: A dance school will be hiring the hall on a Monday and Wednesday from 4.30 pm to 9 pm from the end of September. Risk assessments are being completed and the dance school will clean the hall after use.

David would like to restart the Book Browse in October with social distancing and a different layout and possibly extending the event. This was supported but David is to check with the Bishop first.

Garden: Churchyard improvements – planning permission and listed building consent has been granted for carrying out the work around the church building. We have yet to apply for a Canon 35 for this. The rough estimate for the work is £70,000. Abbeyfield and McLaughlin & Harvey (flood contractors) are not prepared to put any money towards this. The Vestry agreed we could not afford this, although it was agreed to progress repairs to the ramp leading up to the hall.

There is a meeting with the council on Tuesday, 15th September to discuss a proposed ramp to the White Bridge. Peter, David, Jonathan and Arma are to attend.

Fund Raising/Social

There will be no harvest lunch or seniors' harvest tea this year.

AOCB

Val Cadd had raised the issue of harvest donations. It was agreed that a box would be provided for non-perishable donations to the Food Bank at Far and Wide. Donations of money would also be welcome.

Jonathan proposed a vote of thanks to Val Cadd for looking after the flowers, and to Nola for her cleaning of the church after the service.

Next Meeting: Monday, 21st September (via Zoom)

Readers, and Greeters,

Date	Readings
4th October Trinity 17	Is 5.1-7 Ps 80.7-14 Phil 3.4b-14 Mt 21.33-46
11th October Trinity 18 Harvest Festival	Is 25.1-9 Ps 23 Phil 4.1-9 Mt 22.1-14
18th October Trinity 19	Is 45.1-7 Ps 96.1-9(10-13) 1 Th 1.1-10 Mt 22.15-22
25th October Trinity 20	Lev 19.1-2,15-18 Ps 1 1 Th 2.1-8 Mt 22.34-46
1st November All Saints Day	Rev 7.9-17 Ps 34.1-10 1 Jn 3.1-3 Mt 5.1-12

Year B – Readings are from the NRSV of the Bible

Greeter	Lessons 1+2	Gospel
Diana Peters	David Fleming	Jon Leslie
Val Cadd	Diane Fleming	Anne O’Gorman
Pamela Huthwaite	Diana Peters	Anne O’Gorman
Paula Fogiel	Peter Fogiel	Edward Dickens
Diane Fleming	Robin McKinley	Jon Leslie

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

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 November Newsletter is Sunday 25th October 2020
Reminders will not be sent out.**

St James Episcopal Church, Stonehaven .Scottish Registered Charity No. SC000301
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