

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



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

Day/Date	Event
<b>1st November</b> <b>All Saints Day</b>	<b>10.00am Reserved Sacrament.</b> <b>Anne O’Gorman</b>
<b>8th November</b> <b>22nd Sunday in Trinity</b> <b>Remembrance Sunday</b>	<b>10.00am Reserved Sacrament</b> <b>Edward Dickens</b>
<b>15th November</b> <b>23rd Sunday in Trinity</b>	<b>10.00am Reserved Sacrament</b> <b>Arma Iles</b>
<b>22nd November</b> <b>24th Sunday in Trinity</b> <b>Christ the King</b>	<b>10.00am Holy Eucharist</b> <b>Rev. Canon Kenneth Gibson</b>
<b>29th November</b> <b>1st Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>10.00am Reserved Sacrament</b> <b>Arma Iles</b>

### From Arma

Jesus said, “Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am with them.” (Matt 18, 15-20).

During the months of lockdown and the time of uncertainty afterwards, what I missed greatly was the 9 am Sunday service. Never a busy service but, seeing the same familiar, albeit few, faces always brought home to me that verse from

St Matthew's Gospel. Yes, we still can come to church, still worship, still pray, still receive the host at communion, still converse with one another safely afterwards and, in that respect, we are fortunate indeed.

During lockdown when services were cancelled totally, trying to link up to a screened service was just not the same. Sitting all alone, peering into a small screen and trying to get the familiar "feel" of the service, just wasn't the same.

The familiar of the Liturgy was the same, but it took a few weeks to realise – for me anyway – that Jesus is present with us when we worship Him in the church building or wherever! Be it a small group of people in a struggling congregation, or an encouraging celebration in a large church, Jesus is there in the midst.

It can be very easy to go through the whole ritual of a service of Christian worship as a matter of form without ever remembering that Jesus is alive and it is to him that your worship is addressed. Jesus isn't far away; he is close to each one of us. He wants us to have a good sing in church – when we are allowed – remembering that we are doing it for him. Do just now take a moment and appreciate the talent of our organist and offer our enjoyment of the music to Jesus.

We humans, with our butterfly minds flitting from subject to subject, know and realise we can't be thinking of Jesus every second, but He knows that and forgives us. Jesus is also close when we pray at home. He himself told us to go to our bedroom, shut the door and talk to our Heavenly Father, because Jesus is no less present when we pray alone than when we pray in church. Whenever we pray there is the warm certainty in our hearts that Jesus is there with us and listening to every word we say.

But our feelings aren't always totally under control and, at times, prayer seems cold and distant but don't be put off with that because we know in our minds that Jesus is there, hearing us, whether we feel it or not, because that is what He promised. Private prayer and public worship are not alternatives. Prayer trains us to worship and worship trains us to pray. Either way, the presence of Jesus is with us at all times so we never need to be lonely.

The Beatles sang a song about "Eleanor Rigby" asking where all the lonely people came from. Perhaps a lot of today's loneliness comes from forgetting the promise of Jesus, of his invisible presence at all times. "When two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them".

## MISSION 21

Some of you may remember this initiative in the 1990s to help the Scottish Episcopal Church encourage new members. In clearing the Church Office a folder came to light entitled 'Mission 21 - Equipping congregations for the future' This was a workbook for the Foundation Phase and made some interesting reading, especially the section entitled 'Who is welcome in our congregation?' Each member who had the workbook (? The Vestry) had to work through the following 'Welcome Rating'. I reproduce it for your perusal below. You have to rate each category as **Top/Middle/Bottom** where **Top** are those people who invariably receive a sincere welcome in your church, people rated **Middle** may or may not get a warm welcome depending on other factors and people rated **Bottom** are likely to have a hard time being received openly in church. I recommend you try this in the privacy of your own home. You may be surprised at the outcome. We all know what we should do, but this exercise may prove more difficult than you think.

Elderly single male. Elderly single female. Couple living together, not married. Mixed race couple. Divorced person. Overseas student. New Age seeker. Male with visible body tattoos. Female with visible body tattoos.  
Couple with crying baby they won't leave in the creche.  
Person with noticeable hygiene needs.  
Person who sings in a loud monotone.  
Someone who needs to talk all the time.  
Especially quiet and meek adult.  
White, articulate well educated wealthy adult.  
People who are married and attend services together.  
Person living on benefits.  
Single middle aged adult. Affluent mature white male.  
Affluent mature white female. Middle class child.  
Unaccompanied child.  
Middle class teenager. Adult dressed in very old fashioned clothes.  
Single male under thirty. Single female under thirty.  
Unemployed adult  
Afro-Caribbean middle class adult.  
Children with few or no social skills.  
Person without reading skills.  
Scottish adult\*. English Adult\*.  
Mildly physically disabled person (needing walkers, crutches)  
Highly disable person (in a wheelchair)  
Person living with Alzheimer's Disease. Gay male. Lesbian.  
Gay couple living together. Person with alcohol on breath.  
Person with many teeth missing.  
Emotionally disabled person (unpredictable behaviour).  
Down's Syndrome adult.  
Smoker. Political liberal\*\*. Political conservative\*\*.  
Agnostic. Religious fundamentalist.  
Religious charismatic. Person living with cancer. Unmarried

pregnant teenager.

Person with dirt under fingernails and unkempt hair.

Person with rings through eyebrow, nose or lip.

Female with tight, short skirt and low-cut blouse.

Person testing HIV positive.

Ex-prisoner. Convicted sex offender. Person implicated in sex scandal.

\*The person who had filled this in had given the Scottish Adult a **Top** rating, the English Adult a **Middle** rating (lower than smokers, agnostics, people with Alzheimer's and people with alcohol on their breath)!

\*\*No classification (and therefore no rating) for those espousing the left of centre political outlook.

An interesting array of people, I think you'll find. I leave you with your homework!!

Diane

## Vestry Minutes 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020

### Matters Arising

Peter reported that the rent from the rectory has now been paid up to date.

David said that the traditional Remembrance Day parade and service was unlikely to go ahead because of Covid restrictions. There will probably be a limited gathering at Black Hill to lay wreaths.

The bishop is awaiting a response from St Ternan's in relation to the draft memorandum on a transitional minister. Peter will speak to the bishop but said the item will probably be on the agenda of the Diocesan Council.

Open Doors 2020: David, Edward and Diane have prepared

videos of the church for this event. They were praised for the quality of their work.

Peter and Jonathan attended a meeting about the White Bridge. Also present were Chief Engineer Rachel Kennedy, Cllr Sarah Dickinson and Emma Storey from Aberdeenshire Council. Rachel said that while it would be possible to put a ramp on the Arbuthnott Road side of the bridge, there were difficulties in putting a ramp on the Cameron Street side. The majority of the Vestry agreed to accept that the proposed landings on the steps would go some way to addressing the access problems. David said that he was disgusted that Aberdeenshire Council had not spoken to the church about the bridge, also that the church was not informed about any of the planning applications.

David said he feels there will be an issue with the turning bay once works were finished.

Thanks were expressed to Peter and Jonathan for attending the meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Main Account:	£43,892.00
Fabric Fund Account:	£834.35
Buildings Account:	£383.32
St Philip's:	£1,017.11

Peter presented the proposed budget for 2020/2021. He explained that, due to the effect of Covid on attendance, it was difficult to give exact figures. He had not included in the budget the cost of a transitional minister.

### **Report on St James**

It was proposed to hold the AGM on Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> November. Peter will speak to the bishop about how we conduct the meeting. Edward and Ellie are due to stand down, and Doreen

wishes to resign as People's Warden.

### **Report on St Philip's**

Peter has visited and all seems fine. David and Peter will check on whether the fees for the wedding have been paid.

### **Worship**

St James will hold a Remembrance Service. Edward will ring the bell at 11 am.

There are no plans to hold Compline or a Christingle service this year.

The only service at Christmas will be at 10 am on Christmas Day. It is proposed to have a Nine Lessons and Carols service on the last Sunday in December. It was suggested that the Carronside churches be invited and Anne will speak to Ros Marshall.

Because the chalice veil is now a lovely shade of pink, a new one is needed and Edward will look into borrowing one prior to buying one.

Peter will be preaching at the Harvest Service.

### **Discussion with Bishop Andrew**

As far as we are aware the Bishop is still awaiting a response from St Ternan's to the draft paper on transitional ministry.

### **Fabric**

**Church:** David is still looking for further quotes for the Quinquennial inspection.

Although the proposed churchyard improvements cannot be fully implemented because of cost, the concrete ramp to the hall will need to be repaired, and extra stones could be put on the path leading to the hall.

It was agreed that the Church would not fund a fence between St James and Abbeyfield.

The flood contractors will need to repair any damage that has occurred because of their work.

David reminded the Vestry that, before we start any of the above repairs, it is a requirement that we inform the Council, as plans for the full works were passed.

Slimming World has started to use the Church each Monday.

David suggested having a key safe which would allow members who do not hold a church key and are on the rota to man the church to gain access without calling out the key-holder. Peter will check whether the insurance company finds this acceptable.

**Hall:** A dance group is using the hall three nights a week and David has also had enquiries from other groups about hiring the hall. There are no decisions as to when the uniform organisations will be able to return to hold their meetings.

### **Fund Raising/Social**

It was hoped to restart the Book Browse, but Covid restrictions make this unworkable. David has put information on Face Book showing the availability of books in the Baptistry. Diane said that she was concerned that the Book Browse may not be able to continue because of Covid restrictions and various other reasons.

### **PVG**

Denise Herbert is trying to arrange training via Zoom.

### **Date of next meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> October via Zoom**

### **Harvest Festival**

Thank you to all for the donations of items and money for Far and Wide Foodbank.

For anyone who may wish to make further donations there is a drop off point outside the shop every Friday from 10am to 12 midday.

Anne

### **St James in 1955**

**The World:** **Jan:** USSR officially ended war with Germany; **Mar:** Germany, Italy and France ratified European pact, in UK production of national newspapers halted by strike action; **Apr:** Churchill resigned as PM, replaced by Eden, Albert Einstein died; **May:** Official occupation ended in Germany, Britain went to International Court over Falklands, Hiroshima victims arrived in US for plastic surgery, West Germany joined NATO, Warsaw pact signed, railwaymen in UK went on strike; **June:** Le Mans car race crash killed 70; **July:** British dock strike ended after a month, Disneyland opened in Los Angeles, Donald Campbell broke water speed record at 202 mph; **Aug:** IRA raided training centre in Berkshire; **Sept:** Juan Peron resigned and left Argentina, President Eisenhower had minor heart attack, James Dean killed in car crash; **Oct:** Geneva Summit – USA, UK, France, USSR; **Nov:** State of emergency in Cyprus.

**Also:** Vladimir Nabokov's novel '*Lolita*', Tennessee William's play '*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*', Nicholas Ray's film '*Rebel Without a Cause*', Bill Haley's '*Rock Around the Clock*', Prokofiev's opera '*The Angel of Fire*'.

The Hovercraft was invented in the UK, optical fibres were invented in London, oral contraceptives were successfully tested in USA, Ruth Ellis, found guilty of murder, was the last woman to be hanged in UK, Hugh Gaitskell elected leader of the Labour Party.

**St James:**

**6<sup>th</sup> February 1955:** Owing to the pressure of work Mr Gammie wished to be relieved of his post as treasurer. Some difficulty had been experienced in drawing up the balance sheet for the year ending November 1954 and the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary had called upon the service of an accountant in Aberdeen who agreed to do the work for a reasonable fee. Mr C Grant agreed to undertake the duties of treasurer as well as secretary. The Vestry agreed to donate £2 to the fund for Mr Manson, former manager of the Union Bank, in appreciation of services to St James. It was also agreed that some recognition should be made of the work done by the ladies who clean the church (the Martha's Guild), it was agreed to entertain them to a dinner.

To make the church warmer the Rector suggested removing the curtains at the west end of the building and erecting glass doors instead. To meet the cost of this it was suggested that daffodil tea should be held in the Church Hall. Mrs Badenoch Nicolson of Glenbervie offered to supply the flowers.

**20<sup>th</sup> March 1955:** The Balance Sheet for the year ending Nov 1954 showing a credit of £36-19-8 was agreed.

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 1955:** The Annual General Meeting was held in the Hall. There were 29 communicant members present. The Rector remarked that all monies raised during the year were considerably up on the previous year. In connection with the 'Tell Scotland Campaign' relay services from the Kelvin Hall would be held in Fetteresso Church on the evenings of 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> April (See note below).

A jumble sale would be held in the hall on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> April and the Annual Sale of Work in the Town Hall on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> July. Tea was served by ladies of the work party. The Rector urged every family to order a copy of the magazine so they may be kept informed of what is going on in the life of the Church.

**12<sup>th</sup> June 1955:** The meeting was called to discuss the repair of the church gutters. An estimate had been submitted by R Burness, slater of £49-17-6 and it was agreed to accept this.

**13<sup>th</sup> Oct 1955:** Mr Grant was asked to contact Mr R Burness regarding the recent roof repairs, which still showed signs of leakage. At the meeting of the Representative Church Council the minimum stipend was raised from £450 to £475 per annum to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 1956. The Rector read a letter, which had been circulated to all charges, requesting the extra £25 be found by them where possible. This was agreed. The late Miss Richardson had left £125 to the Endowment Fund and it was decided to invest this with the Representative Church Council, capital and interest to be added to the Endowment Fund. Once the grass park was ploughed up (which Mr Gammie had kindly offered to do) Mr A Knight agreed to cultivate and look after the same.

**NOTE** The **Tell Scotland Movement** (1953-1966) was the most extensive and ambitious attempt at outreach by the Protestant Churches in Scotland in the twentieth century. The success of Dr Billy Graham's 1954 crusade in Haringay, London, brought demands, unexpected when 'Tell Scotland' began, that an invitation be issued to him to lead a campaign in Scotland. Despite opposition the Movement's Parent Committee itself invited Graham to lead a campaign in Glasgow in spring 1955, to be extended to the whole country as an "All-Scotland Crusade" by the telephone relay system. The 'All Scotland Crusade', sponsored by 'Tell Scotland' in co-operation with the Billy Graham Organization, was held during March and April 1955. Large numbers of people attended Billy Graham's sermons in Glasgow's Kelvin Hall and watched the BBC's broadcasts from the Crusade. Initial reports were highly positive: It was claimed that a total of 1,185,360 people in Scotland attended meetings of one kind or another.

Commentators since have had varied views about the extents to which 'Tell Scotland' succeeded or failed.

### **Annual Meeting.**

The church is required to hold a meeting of the congregation each year. Reports from the various church officers are presented as well as the church accounts.

Owing to the Covid-19 pandemic we are unable to hold the meeting in November, as planned. We could have held a virtual meeting using Zoom, for example, but vestry felt that this would exclude too many members of the congregation. Instead we have, with permission of the bishop, decided to delay it for 6 months in the hope that the situation will have changed for the better. However, the reports from officers will be published in December's newsletter.

Peter

### **Transitional Ministry**

As you know from previous items in the newsletter, we are, with support from the bishop, looking to employ a transitional minister shared between St James' and St Ternan's. This person would combine the usual duties of a cleric with working with both churches to explore how they must develop a sustainable ministry for the future. The appointment would be for 3 years and the person would spend an equal amount of time with both charges.

The next step in the process is the formation of a Joint Negotiating Group with membership from the 2 vestries; Irene, Anne and I will represent St James'. This group will develop a profile for the ministry and formalise the funding arrangements with the agreement of both vestries.

There is much work still to be done but we are making progress. Please keep the group in your prayers.

Peter

**Readers, and Greeters,**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Readings</b>
1st November  All Saints Day	Rev 7.9-17 Ps 34.1-10 1 Jn 3.1-3 Mt 5.1-12
8th November  Trinity 22  Remembrance Sunday	Wis 6. 12-16 Ps 70 1 Thess 4. 13-18 Mt 25. 1-13
15th November  Trinity 23	Zeph 1.7,12-18 Ps 90.1-8(9-11)12 1 Th 5.1-11 Mt 25.14-30
22nd November  Trinity 24	Ezek 34.11-16,20-24 Ps 95.1-7a Eph 1.15-23 Mt 25.31-46
29th November  Advent 1	Is 64.1-9 Ps 80.1-7,16-18 1 C 1.3-9 Mk 13.24-37
6th December  Advent 2	Is 64. 1-9 Ps 85. 1-2, 8-13 2 Peter 3. 8-15a Mk 1. 1-8

**Year B – Readings are from the NRSV of the Bible**

<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Lessons 1+2</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Diane Fleming	Robin McKinley	Jon Leslie
Irene Paterson	Pamela Huthwaite	Jon Leslie
David Fleming	Peter Sharp	Anne O’Gorman
Peter Sharp	Jeremy Huthwaite	Edward Dickens
Diana Peters	Peter Sharp	Edward Dickens
Val Cadd	David Fleming	Anne O’Gorman

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

<b>GROUP CONVENORS</b>	
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 December Newsletter is Sunday 22nd November 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