

**Episcopal Churches of
St. James' Stonehaven.
St. Philip's Catterline.
February 2021**



**Services at St. James' & St Philip's during
February 2021**

St James' is closed until further notice.

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



DIARY NOTES February 2021

Owing to the Covid restrictions the church is closed until further notice and these services will only take place if the restrictions permit.

Day/Date	Event
7th February 5th Sunday in Epiphany	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Anne O’Gorman
14th February Sunday before Lent Transfiguration	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles
17th February Ash Wednesday	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Anne O’Gorman
21st February 1st Sunday in Lent	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles
28th February 2nd Sunday in Lent	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles

Peter writes:

Happy New Year to everyone, surely it must be better than last year.

So, here we are at the start of a new year with churches in Scotland closed along with non-essential shops. So that begs the question, are we non-essential too? Clearly for those of us belonging to the church we know that the church has an important role to play particularly when society in general is under such physical and mental strain.

We should remember that the closure is not of the church but of the buildings. The Primus, in his sermon on 10th January emphasised that, through baptism, we are united as one family of faith, even though we cannot, for the moment, join together in one building.

Families are the bedrock of our society. I was fortunate to be able to spend a few days at Christmas with some of my family, through the extended family scheme. Having three grandchildren around me for Christmas meant that my life was, for that short period, quite different from usual. I must confess that, nice as that was, there was a certain relief to return to my less hectic daily existence!

While many of us may be separated from them, families are still an important part of our identity. Bishop John, in his sermon on 17th January, spoke about the importance of families in our identity. We struggle with the lockdown because it isolates us. Lacking interaction with others we are no longer recognised for who we are.

We are fortunate in that we also joined together electronically by the phone or the internet. The weekly services on YouTube have, I found, helped to introduce some small element of normality into my Sunday routine. While thankful that I do not have to sit on a hard pew, there is the lack of communality, no sharing of the elements, no social gathering afterwards.

Great emphasis is being placed on the vaccination programme. I think that we can be confident that it will reduce the number of people requiring hospitalisation and the number of early deaths. It is unlikely

that it will eradicate the virus; we haven't achieved that with the flu virus where a vaccination programme has been in place for many years. But life will return to normal, perhaps not as we have known it in the past. The new normality will probably involve us learning to live with the presence of the virus, just as we do with others, such as the flu virus. As the Primus emphasised in his talk, we may be physically separated at the moment, but we are still joined together by our shared belief and by prayer. Whatever, as Christians, we can take strength from our faith. In the words of Psalm 46:

“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.”

Vestry Minutes 16th November 2020 (Meeting held via Zoom)

Apologies

A minute's silence was held in remembrance of Jonathan Leslie. Peter welcomed Heather Grant as co-opted member and Val Cadd as the People's Warden.

Matters Arising

Bishop Andrew is happy for the Community Church to use St Philip's Church for a weekly service. These will be held on Wednesdays at 1 pm.

The white chalice veil has arrived.

Correspondence

Request from the Aberlour Children's charity. The Vestry agreed to make a donation at Christmas.

Treasurer's Report

Main Account	£50,645.26
Fabric Fund Account	£1,966.93
Buildings Account	£383.32
St Philip's	£775.27

Report on St James

David is to prepare the reader/greeter rota for the next six months. Heather asked what happened to the information collected each Sunday on attendance. David said this is kept for four weeks for covid tracking purposes.

Worship

The Bishop had been consulted about the church not being manned during opening hours. The Advisory Council had replied that supervision was desirable. The church will close each day at sunset. Rev Kenneth Gibson is to take the service on Sunday (Christ the King), Rev Jo Morrow has offered to take a service on 13th December, all other services will be reserved sacrament taken by Arma and Anne.

On Christmas Day there will be a service at 10 am taken by either Jo Morrow or Arma.

The crib will be put up at the beginning of December and the church will be decorated after the service on 20th December. Arma will speak to Diana Peters about a Christmas tree.

It was agreed that people should bring their own baubles to put on the Tree of Life. Val will put a message in the Mearns Leader and the Bellman.

Discussion with Bishop Andrew

The first transitional meeting between St James and St Ternans took place on 6th November.

The main points were:

1) Three year transitional Minister

2) Financial split of monies being 2/5 St Ternans and 3/5 St James.

The minister's time to be split 50/50. This was discussed, the majority being in favour.

3) Church profiles need to be updated. Peter is to look at this.

Elliot Scarfe (PA to Bishop) would then merge these as one profile.

Aim is for an advert in the Church Times on 15th January 2021.

Living accommodation would need to be considered.

Next meeting - 20th November.

Candidates could be asked to lead a service and preach at both churches.

Fabric

Church: The annual fire check has taken place and David is awaiting a date for the Quinquennial inspection.

Hall: Hall bookings have increased and are paying commercial rates. Nola (church cleaner) reported how clean the user groups are leaving the hall and toilets.

Fund Raising/Social

David reported that some books are being sold from the baptistry and that he and Diane are now registered as book sellers with Abe Books. This will enable some of the more valuable books to be sold online.

PVG

Irene has received information from the Safe Guarding Team on how to apply for PVG disclosures online.

AOCB

David said he is emptying the donations box every fortnight.

Date of next meeting: to be arranged

Fund Raising Report 2020 (*This was accidentally left out of the AGM reports printed in the last Newsletter.*)

Sadly due to Covid our main fund raising events have all been cancelled this year.

We managed to have a two Book Browsers, one in December and one in February. These were well attended and raised £800 plus. Books at present are available in the Baptistry and any donations of money put in the box in church.

Jams/marmalade and hand knits were sold at the coffee morning in December. Since lockdown many jars of preserves have been sold plus some hand knits. These have raised over £200.

Anne

St James in 1956

The World

Feb: Pakistan declared an Islamic Republic; **Mar:** Britain deported Archbishop Makarios to Seychelles, Khrushchev told 20th Party Congress of Stalin's crimes; **April:** Bulganin and Khrushchev visited Britain; **June:** Nasser elected President of Egypt; **July:** Egypt seized Suez Canal; **Sept:** Nasser rejected US proposals for Suez Canal, Britain and France went to Security Council about Suez; **Oct:** Rioting broke out in Hungary, Britain and France attacked targets in Egypt, RAF bombed Suez; **Nov:** Soviet troops entered Budapest, Eisenhower won 2nd term in US, United Nations demanded Soviet troops out of Hungary, United Nations emergency forces arrived in Egypt, Kashmir voted to join India, 16th Olympic Games opened in Melbourne; **Dec:** Japan joined United Nations, French and British troops left Port Said, UN salvage fleet began to clear Suez Canal.

Also: German playwright Bertolt Brecht died, John Osborne's play *'Look Back in Anger'*, Grace Kelly married Prince Rainier in Monaco, Marilyn Monroe married Arthur Miller, Elvis Presley had a hit with *'Heartbreak Hotel'*, followed by *'Hound Dog'* and *'Love Me Tender'*. Maria Callas made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera House. The first video recording was demonstrated in the USA. Atoms became visible in a new ion microscope. FORTRAN computer language invented.

The Clean Air Act was introduced, Premium Savings Bonds were introduced by Harold Macmillan. The first Aldermaston March was organised by CND.

St James, Stonehaven

19th February: A meeting was held in the Choir Vestry after Evensong. The Vestry expressed its thanks and appreciation to Mr Main for carrying out repairs to the church roof. Regarding the grass park Mr Main suggested, seconded by Mr D Harrison, that the area be sown to oats and this Mr Gammie agreed to do. The accounts to the year ending November 1955 were presented. There was a credit balance of £74-15-4.

21st February: The Annual General Meeting was held in the Church

Hall at 7.30 pm. There were 26 communicant members present. The accounts were presented and accepted. The Rector intimated that in the giving towards increased stipends £27 had been contributed by St John's, Drumlithie and £5 by St Philip's, Catterline. The ladies of the Work Party were thanked for their valuable work at the Summer Sale and a special thank you to the ladies who devoted so much time to cleaning the Church and Hall. The jumble sale was arranged for 10th March in the hall and the annual Sale of Work in the Town Hall on Wednesday, 18th July. On a motion by Mr Main a hearty note of thanks was accorded to Mrs Hayes for her many valuable activities in connection with the church. Mr Dalgarno was elected People's Warden, Mr D Harrison and Mr J Christie were re-elected to the Vestry. The Lay Elector was Major Innes of Cowie and the Lay Representative Mr C Grant.

The meeting closed with prayer and tea was served by the ladies of the Work Party.

Diane

Thanks

I would like to thank everyone from St. James' and St. Ternan's who very kindly sent me cards and support following the death of my best friend and husband, Roger, at the end of December.

I would also like to thank Mrs. Arma Iles, our lay reader for taking the service to celebrate Roger's life at Baldarroch Chapel and Crematorium, Crathes. Arma led a very comforting service and my family and I are very, very grateful to Arma.

Val Cadd.

Progress on the Appointment of a Transition Minister.

As I mentioned in my report to the AGM published in the last Newsletter, discussions on the appointment of a Transition Minister have continued via the Joint Co-ordinating Group. A report on the progress made up to early November can be found in the vestry minutes

published in this Newsletter. The Joint Co-ordinating Group has met twice since then, on 10th December and 7th January and there was a joint meeting of the congregations on 9th January.

Owing to the Covid restrictions, the timescale for advertising the post has slipped and will now be the end of February. However, following advertisements for a similar post for Carnoustie and Monifieth, the Bishop had identified a possible candidate. The Group agreed that it would be useful to have a "Meet and Greet" session with this candidate before deciding on whether to advertise and this has been arranged for the end of January/beginning of February. This would not be a formal interview which, in any case, would need to take place later, but simply an opportunity to acquaint ourselves with the person. The Group has drawn up a draft of the Ministry Profile for the two charges which gives information about the two charges as well as the Job Description. This will form part of the package of material to be sent to prospective candidates.

The joint meeting of the congregations was held around the theme "The Hopes and fears of all the years". In the first part of the meeting the attendees broke into small groups of 3 to 4 people to discuss "What are our hopes for the new ministry?" Comments included the development of a vision for the way forward, value for money, and the maintenance of a centre for worship in the north of the diocese. In the second part different breakout groups considered how we will make this work well. Feedback touched on issues such as requiring a clarity of the governance arrangements for the post, clarity as to what happens at the end of the 3-year appointment, and the need for inter-denominational activity. In general people felt that the meeting had been very helpful in understanding where we were going.

The next step will be a discussion of the proposals at Diocesan Council's meeting on 4th February at which they will be asked to underwrite the Diocesan share of the funding. They will also discuss funding of a rectory for the minister, should that be necessary.

Peter

Readers, and Greeters,

Date	Readings
7th February 5th Sunday in Epiphany	Is 40.21-31 Ps 147.1-12 1 C 9.16-23 Mk 1.29-39
14th February Sunday before Lent Transfiguration	2 Kg 2.1-12 Ps 50.1-6 2 C 4.3-6 Mk 9.2-9
17th February Ash Wednesday	Jl 2.1-2,12-17 or Is 58.1-12 Ps 51.1-18 2 C 5.20b-6.10 Mt 6.1-6,16-21
21st February 1st Sunday in Lent	Gen 9.8-17 Ps 25.1-9 1 P 3.18-22 Mk 1.9-15
28th February 2nd Sunday in Lent	Gen17.1-7,15-16 Ps 22.22-30 Ro 4.13-25 Mk 8.31-38 or Mk 9.2-9
7th March 3rd Sunday in Lent	Ex 20.1-17 Ps 19 1 C 1.18-25 Jn 2.13-22

Year B – Readings are from the NRSV of the Bible

Greeter	Lessons 1+2	Gospel
Diane Fleming	Irene Paterson	Crucifer or Celebrant
Diana Peters	Peter Sharp	Crucifer or Celebrant
Irene Paterson	Diane Fleming	Crucifer or Celebrant
Val Cadd	Val Cadd	Crucifer or Celebrant
David Fleming	Heather Grant	Crucifer or Celebrant
Peter Sharp	Diana Peters	Crucifer or Celebrant

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 March Newsletter is Sunday 21st March 2021

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