

**Episcopal Churches of
St. James' Stonehaven.
St. Philip's Catterline.
February 2022**



**Services at St. James' & St Philip's during
February 2022**

Sundays.

10.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

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



DIARY NOTES February 2022

Day/Date	Event
6th February 4th Sunday after Epiphany	10.00am Holy Eucharist. Rev Mary Jepp
13th February 3rd Sunday before Lent	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Anne O’Gorman
20th February 2nd Sunday before Lent	10.00am Holy Eucharist. Rev Mary Jepp
27th February 1st Sunday before Lent	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles

From Mary,

Mike and I have made much progress in settling into our new home here in Stonehaven. Many thanks for your welcome, we are thrilled to be with you, although there are still many boxes I am actually able to sit at my desk in order to write this. From where I am seated a hill and clear blue sky is in view between and over the roof tops. I look at the vista and I yearn as always to walk, to go up and to see out.

Walking for me has always been a big part of my life; it has taken many forms over the years, sometimes to school and university, to work, to church, hillwalking and of course there have been many dog walks in all sorts of weather over the years. Living at the top end of Stonehaven, I have taken to walking , backwards and forwards to St James, trying to allow for a detour down to look out to sea. What a blessing it is to stop and stare at the ever changing wonder of creation.

I realise that these musings are meant to be of a spiritual nature and so my point in speaking of my daily habits is to say that most often my walks are times in which I draw close to God. There are sometimes moments when I might say a specific prayer, sometimes I repeat the Jesus prayer, "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God have mercy on me" over and over but often my footsteps are accompanied by silence. My walks are opportunities for mulling over a particular situation or times for praying for individuals.

I think that many of us can get a tad wound up about prayer, and how we go about it, from time to time. There are times when we feel that we are just not getting it right. It is important to remember that we should pray as we can, not as we ought, and that the way one person prays may not suit another. After all we are all individuals; I like to imagine that

God is quite pleased when his children speak to him in different ways. There are, as you know, a multitude of ways of praying, one might say methods, by individuals who wanted to draw closer to God. What we see in the multitude of prayer books available are ways of praying that probably should be sub-headed ... what works for me (at this moment in time)!!! I know for myself that there are moments when the structure of morning and evening prayer are my bread and butter, other times when writing (painting icons) are my pathway to God, sometimes silence, sometimes through music and often on foot not only in the hills but also on town streets. It is important to remember what works for one person does not always work for others and that how we come into God's presence may vary with the seasons of our lives. A very long time ago, I was told that the urge to pray is actually put in our hearts and minds by God who is beckoning us to come into his presence, just to be with him, to enjoy what he offers, in whatever form it takes. What is essential however, is that we pray in order that we can discern God's will for us, realising that it is through prayer that our relationship not only with God but with those we live alongside will flourish.

Yours in Christ

Mary

Vestry Minutes 22nd November 2021 (via Zoom)

Correspondence

Details had been received on Pastoral Care Workshops (by Zoom) on 16th, 23rd and 30th January 2022.

A request had been received from Aberlour Children's Society. Vestry agreed to donate £100.

Treasurer's Report

Main Account:	£45,265.73
Fabric Fund Account:	£2,814.87
Building Account:	£729.14
St Philip's:	£1,221.78

Peter said the accounts for the last financial year will go to the independent examiner this week, he will also complete the forms for the annual returns for the diocese.

Report for St James

Refreshments have restarted after the morning service, this has been greatly appreciated and David expressed his thanks to the volunteers.

Report on St Philip's

Bishop Andrew and David visited St Philip's on 21st November and were able to answer queries from the Community Church members about the Licence to Occupy. David reported that they appeared to be reassured by this. It was confirmed that, if an extension was built by the Community Church, this would be part of St Philip's and therefore belong to St James.

The diocesan solicitors have produced a second draft of the licence and noted 7 points of caution, one being not to have the business plan as an appendix. David has another meeting with the Community Church on 29th November.

Peter has negotiated with the diocese to use £20,000 from the Catterline fund to repair the damaged east window, which is approximately 170 years old. The works will take place in March/ April.

Worship

Dean Fay will take the service on 12th December and Bishop Andrew on 2nd January. St James has been invited to join Carronside for their service on Boxing Day, and Carronside

have been invited to join us on 2nd January. Anne will write to confirm the Carronside invitations.

Discussion with Bishop Andrew

The invitations for the Licensing of Mary as Transitional Minister will be sent out during the first week in December. Peter has kindly offered to pay all the associated costs. David will contact Bishop Andrew for the service details. Peter explained that, during the service, Mary is presented with a bible or prayer book by the Rector's Warden, a chalice by the People's Warden, Chrism Oil by a member of the congregation and a gift from the congregation. There followed a discussion about the gift from the congregation.

Arma has offered to put up Mary and Mike at her house prior to them moving into Martin Place. Gill Walker will organise to have the house cleaned at the beginning of January.

Val has spoken to Bishop Andrew about serving refreshments after the Licensing service, particularly in relation to any Covid restrictions. It is proposed that soup and a dessert will be served. David will put out a press release during the first week in January. We are still awaiting the final version of the memorandum of agreement between the two churches.

Fabric

Hall: The back wall of the hall is still to be painted. Once the repairs to the roof have been completed the bargeboards will be repainted.

Garden: David and Ali Steel met with the contractors who will shortly start work on the churchyard. Work on the gate pillars will be carried out first with the pillars being put on a proper foundation. A Canon 35 is still required for the font to be situated in the Garden of Rest.

Rectory: New Rectory: Mike Jepp has sorted out a utility account for the new rectory. Three roof ridge tiles have shifted

during the last storm. The slater is to assess the roof on Friday 26th November..

Fund Raising/Social

The Book Browse will take place on 3rd, 4th and 5th of December. Hand knits and preserves will also be on sale. David asked that if anyone is free on Thursday 2nd from 9.30 am to help set up they would be very welcome. Books will be arranged on the pews.

Abe Books has raised a net income of £380. Anne said it would be a nice gesture when all the old books from Far and Wide are sold to give them a donation.

AOCB

Due to a recent incident when some youths were caught playing ghost games in the church it was suggested that the church doors are locked before dark. David asked if he could get quotes for two more CCTV cameras and Vestry agreed. Arma asked about heating in the church for Thursday 25th November and David said it was already programmed to come on.

Next Meeting (via Zoom): Wednesday, 5th January 2022

St James in 1967

The World: **Jan:** Ronald Reagan sworn in as Governor of California; Jack Ruby (Lee Harvey Oswald's killer) died; 3 US astronauts killed in launch pad rehearsal. **Feb:** UK-100 Labour MPs condemn US bombing of Vietnam; Greek King Constantine fled Greece after attempted coup. **Mar:** Mrs Gandhi re-elected PM of India; 10,000 hippies rallied in New York's Central Park; *Torrey Canyon* disaster. **April:** Konrad Adenauer - W German Chancellor 1949-1963 - died; Stalin's daughter Svetlana defected to US; Soviet cosmonaut Vladimir

Komarov killed in capsule. **May:** Muhammed Ali indicted for draft evasion; Francis Chichester completed solo yacht trip around the world. **June:** Six-Day war began with Israeli air strikes; American writer Dorothy Parker died; China exploded her first H-bomb. **July:** Nigerian troops invaded Biafra; Act passed permitting homosexual acts between consenting adults over 21. **Aug:** Siegfried Sassoon died; bill passed banning pirate radio stations in UK. **Sept:** Governor Reagan called for escalation of Vietnam War. **Oct:** Clement Atlee – UK PM 1945-1951 – died; Cuban revolutionary Che Guevara killed in Bolivia; Joan Baez arrested at anti-war protest; Abortion Bill passed by British Parliament. **Nov:** De Gaulle vetoed Britain's entry to EEC. **Dec:** Australian PM Harold Holt drowned. **Also:** Desmond Morris's book *'The Naked Ape'*; BBC TV series *'The Forsyte Saga'*; film *'Bonnie and Clyde'*; Beatles' *'Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band'*
First human heart transplant carried out by Dr Christian Barnard in Cape Town.
Troubles in Aden as pace of nationalist terrorism increased. British troops withdrawn.
Liverpool Cathedral was consecrated. Death of Donald Campbell while attempting to break his world water speed record on Coniston Water. QE2 launched.
Death of Jayne Mansfield in June in car crash. BBC began transmitting colour television.

Stonehaven

22 January: The balance sheet for the year ending 30th November 1966 was presented. There was a credit balance of £242-8s-1d. The accounts were accepted.

24 January: The AGM of the congregation was held in the hall. There were 41 members present. The Rector said how indebted he was to the Provost of St Andrew's Cathedral, Aberdeen, Provost A E Hodginkson for making available his two curates,

the Revs J Woodley and D M Strachan to carry on the services during his illness. He also acknowledged, with grateful thanks, the sum of £350 given by Mrs Wood of Cowie from the estate of her late husband. The balance sheet was presented. It was agreed that C Grant be elected for a further term of one year as Lay Representative. The Rector appointed Mr J Gammie as Rector's Warden. Mr A Christie and Mr Gavin Leiper were re-elected. It was proposed by Mr R Christie that Mr James Lees be elected People's Warden, but Mr Lees declined. As there were no further nominations it was unanimously agreed by the congregation present that Mr Andrew Christie be appointed. There was a credit balance of £44-9s-3d in the Magazine Account and it was agreed to withdraw the sum of £30 to be invested in the Unit Trust pool. A vote of thanks to the Sunday School teachers was proposed by Mr Gavin Leiper. Tea was then served, followed by an interesting talk on the work done by the Royal Asylum for the Blind given by Mr Stanley Flett.

(NB: There were no other Vestry meetings during the rest of 1967)

The Licensing

Well, at long last we have new rector at St James'. It has been a long process involving many meetings of the two congregations, facilitated by Place for Hope, in order to discern what we expected from a transitional ministry. Then a small group from each vestry took on the task of finding a suitable person.

All this culminated in two licensing services on Saturday 22nd January, one at St James' and the other at St Ternan's. I only attended the one at St James' but I hear that the other



one at St Ternan's was equally successful. The Scottish Episcopal Church is good at such occasions particularly its sense of ceremony and symbolism. Of course, the setting in our lovely church only added to the event and a number of visitors remarked on how impressive the building was. It was heartening to see as well as members of our own congregation, representatives from other SEC churches and other faith groups, civic leaders and a large contingent from one of Mary's previous parishes at Kilmarnock.

The service was in two parts; the licensing itself followed by the Eucharist performed by the newly licensed priest. The heart of the licensing is when the priest elect is presented to the bishop by two members of the vestry, in our case Irene and Val. The official licence is first read out by the Dean and the congregation asked to confirm their support for their new



priest. Following readings and the sermon the priest is presented with a number of symbolic gifts. The first is a bible, signifying their role as preacher, followed by holy oil representing the task of healer and reconciler, a prayer book as a sign of

worship leadership, bread and wine in celebration of the Eucharist, the keys to the church, with a request to let the building be open to all people, and a copy of the Code of Canons as a reminder of the guiding principles of priesthood. Then follows a welcome from an Ecumenical Representative, in our case Rev. Sarah Smith the minister at Carronside, and the final gift, a stole presented by the bishop who invites the priest to be a servant of God's people in this place.

It is then fitting that the service culminates in Holy Eucharist, the service at the heart of our faith.



Covid restrictions meant that the traditional reception after the service couldn't take place but Val and her team laid on magnificent refreshments. I have always maintained that my favourite parts of a meal are the starters and dessert. So a warming bowl (or two) of soup followed by a choice of

puddings just hit the spot. While we were limited to sitting at tables and having (excellent) waitress service, that didn't really get in the way of socialising.

Many thanks to all who contributed to making this such a wonderful occasion and a warm welcome to Mary and Mike.

Peter (Photographs courtesy of Mary Swift)

Epiphany

I was due to give a talk (I won't grace it with the title of sermon) at the service on 2nd January. Fortunately the Bishop kindly agreed to take the service and so you were spared my ramblings.

I was going to base my talk on T S Eliot's poem Journey of the Magi. Since it is still (just) the season of Epiphany and I have some space left in this issue of the newsletter, I thought you might like to read the poem and think about what Eliot, who was a recent convert to the Anglican faith, thought of this event.

A cold coming we had of it,
Just the worst time of the year
For a journey, and such a long journey:
The ways deep and the weather sharp,
The very dead of winter.
And the camels galled, sore-footed, refractory,
Lying down in the melting snow.
There were times we regretted
The summer palaces on slopes, the terraces,
And the silken girls bringing sherbet.
Then the camel men cursing and grumbling
And running away, and wanting their liquor and women,
And the night-fires going out, and the lack of shelters,

And the cities hostile and the towns unfriendly
And the villages dirty and charging high prices:
A hard time we had of it.
At the end we preferred to travel all night,
Sleeping in snatches,
With the voices singing in our ears, saying
That this was all folly.

Then at dawn we came down to a temperate valley,
Wet, below the snow line, smelling of vegetation;
With a running stream and a water-mill beating the darkness,
And three trees on the low sky,
And an old white horse galloped away in the meadow.
Then we came to a tavern with vine-leaves over the lintel,
Six hands at an open door dicing for pieces of silver,
And feet kicking the empty wine-skins.
But there was no information, and so we continued
And arriving at evening, not a moment too soon
Finding the place; it was (you may say) satisfactory.

All this was a long time ago, I remember,
And I would do it again, but set down
This set down
This: were we led all that way for
Birth or Death? There was a birth, certainly,
We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth and death,
But had thought they were different; this Birth was
Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death.
We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,
But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation,
With an alien people clutching their gods.
I should be glad of another death.

Peter

Readers, and Greeters,

Date	Readings
6th February 4th Sunday after Epiphany	Is 6.1-8(9-13) Ps 138 1 C 15.1-11 Lk 5.1-11
13th February 3rd Sunday before Lent	Jer 17.5-10 Ps 1 1 C 15.12-20 Lk 6.17-26
20th February 2nd Sunday before Lent	Gen 45.3-11,15 Ps 37.1-12,41-42 1 C 15.35-38,42-50 Lk 6.27-38
27th February 1st Sunday before Lent	Ex 34.29-35 Ps 99 2 C 3.12-4.2 Lk 9.28-36(37-43)
6th March 1st Sunday in Lent	Dt 26.1-11 Ps 91.1-2,9-16 Ro 10.8b-13 Lk 4.1-13

Year B – Readings are from the NRSV of the Bible

Greeter	Lessons 1+2	Coffee
Val Cadd	Val Cadd	Joyce Maduekwe
Peter Sharp	Edward Dickens	Diane Fleming
Joyce Maduekwe	George Knowles	Paula Fogiel
Paula Fogiel	Peter Sharp	Irene Paterson
David Fleming	Diana Peters	Peter Sharp

St James', Stonehaven and St Philip's, Catterline
 Rector. Rev. Mary Jepp
 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 December Newsletter is Sunday 20th February 2022
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