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



Services at St. James' & St Philip's during June 2022

Sundays. 10.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Tuesdays 10.00 a.m. Said Holy Eucharist

Friday. 7.00pm Compline



DIARY NOTES June 2022

Day/Date	Event
5th June	10.00am Reserved Sacrament.
Whitsunday and	David Fleming and
Jubilee Weekend	Anne O'Gorman
12th June	10.00am Holy Eucharist.
Trinity Sunday	Rev Mary Jepp
19th June	10.00am Reserved Sacrament.
1st Sunday inTrinity	Anne O'Gorman
26th June	10.00am Holy Eucharist.
2nd Sunday inTrinity	Rev Mary Jepp

From Mary,

All of us have, I am sure, many images which come to mind when we think about our Queen, Queen Elizabeth II, especially this year, as we celebrate her Platinum Jubilee. Many of the images are images of service and care images which for some might best be illustrated by photos of the Queens's visit to Aberfan in 1966, this as many of you will remember was the site of a mining disaster where 144 people, including 116 children, died when a coal waste tip slid down a mountain, engulfing a school and the surrounding houses. In 1966 it was said that the Queen was close to tears as she, first hand, witnessed the devastation of that village. In those images we saw our Queen, a mother, a woman and a monarch, respond to a human catastrophe, in a human way.

As onlookers we have seen the queen in so many situations responding with joy and at times sorrow to the events of our world. But always at the heart of her life is the notion of service to others. Our Queen was steeped in an understanding of public service and sacrifice from a young age. Her father, George VI when called upon, turned from what might have been a life one step removed from the limelight of monarchy. He stepped forward with great courage and personal self sacrifice to be the King, as our world prepared for war. Perhaps more importantly he was a role model for his daughter. With the coronation of George VI his family's lives were to be changed and so was the course of history.

At the age of 25 Elizabeth became Queen, following the death of her father, who was only 56. This was only four years after she had dedicated her life to the service of her country and commonwealth, in her 21st birthday speech she stated "I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong. But I shall not have strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join in it with me, as I now invite you to do. I know that your support will be unfailingly given. God help me to make good my vow, and God bless all of you who are willing to share in it."

Today, I suppose, many would say that these words are in a sense old-fashioned, that they were of a time and place, born under the shadow of the Second World War, born out of a time when Britain and other countries were trying to make sense of what had gone before and were trying to make a new start, trying to create a world where peace and world justice would be the bywords of a new civilization. And although those words in a sense may seem dated, perhaps they are words that all of us need to heed as our world and communities are still places where there is much injustice and violence.

Underpinning our Queen's vows to serve is a deep faith in a God who brings light out of darkness. In a God, our Lord Jesus Christ , who understood pain and suffering, who was able to reach out to people in crisis, who became a man in order that we might realise that he is one with us in our suffering. Our Queen, in her life, has not been immune from loss and pain. We only need to remember the image of our Queen mourning her beloved Philip or consider the difficulties of her own family to realise that although a monarch she is still not immune from suffering. She understands pain because she has lived it. But, regardless she has not abandoned her position, she has not shut the door on her subjects, but has continued to serve.

In our Queen, we as subjects, have a woman who is willing to

reach out and embrace others, we have someone who is willing to give up personal freedom in order to serve, we have a Christian queen whose life is underpinned by the gospel and whose life is dedicated to others. As we celebrate her Platinum Jubilee, may we look to her as an example and ask of our selves how can we serve?

> Gracious God, we give you thanks for the reign of your servant Elizabeth our Queen, and for the example of loving and faithful service which she has shown among us. Help us to follow her example of dedication and to commit our lives to you and to one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Social Committee

The first social gathering since March 2020 has been arranged. Following the morning service on Sunday 5th June, and as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, we will be serving bacon rolls.

Mike Jepp has kindly been volunteered by Mary to be our bacon chef. We have also put out an invite to our neighbours in Arbuthnott Street.

All we ask is, if you wish to join us on the 5th, please sign the list at the back of church by Wednesday 1st June to assist with catering. Please also note any dietary requirements - thank you.

Looking forward to catching up with everyone.

Val Cadd (Social Convenor)

Vestry Activity

There was no meeting of the vestry to consider the regular business this month. Instead it was decided to hold a meeting at which the vestry would spend time considering two specific issues.

The first was to respond to a request from the Provincial Environmental Group for information on the carbon footprint of the church. In its meeting in 2020 the General Synod committed the Scottish Episcopal Church to working towards Net Zero carbon emissions by 2030. To take this forward, it established a Provincial Environment Group (PEG), chaired by the Rt Rev Ian Paton (Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane). General Synod 2021 approved 10 points to guide the work forward:

A. Seeking to reduce energy use in all our buildings and moving from oil/gas to electricity where possible

B. Changing from fossil fuel to electric heating and renewable energy solutions such as heat pumps and solar power on our properties

C. Using less polluting forms of transport, electric or hybrid cars, car sharing, wherever possible walking or cycling. Using online meetings often, but balanced with our need for human contact and Christian fellowship

D. Purchasing, food and waste: using fairly traded, environment- and animal-friendly products in kitchens, offices. Reduce, reuse and repair where possible. Reducing waste by composting and recycling. Reduce paper use

E. Investment: considering changing your church or diocese investments to avoid supporting companies extracting or burning fossil fuels on a large scale

F. Developing biodiversity and conservation schemes in our land

G. Worship: promoting care for God's creation through our preaching, liturgy, worship and prayers. Sharing good practice with each other

H. Education: promoting learning within our churches and dioceses about climate action and care for God's creation

I. Community: Work with others in our local community, and for global justice for vulnerable societies most affected by climate disruption

J. Seeking expert advice, practical help, and funding possibilities

The first step taken by PEG has been to produce a Toolkit and Checklist, embracing these 10 points of guidance. It included the Energy Footprint Analyser (EFA), enabling churches to calculate the carbon emissions associated with the energy usage in their buildings as well as create a baseline from which future emissions can be tracked. Fortunately, the recent refurbishment work done on our church means that we have a modern computer-controlled heating system and we have converted our church lighting to low-energy LEDs. Our energy provider at St Philip's claims to only source renewable energy while it is not clear what proportion of energy used by the supplier for St James' is renewable. However, we are tied into a longterm contract with our energy suppliers, so that is little we can do about it at the moment.

Other areas covered recycling, and we felt that we already recycle a significant part of our waste, and encouraging biodiversity in the church grounds.

Vestry accepted that there was much still to be done to meet the netzero target, but we have made a good start.

A few weeks ago, Mary gave the congregation, a piece of paper, and asked them to jot down what they would like to see in the future at St James. Mary had divided the responses into different categories for the vestry to consider and discuss. Welcome visitors into the church. It was thought we did this well. A greeter is always on duty at the door. There was a discussion about having a welcome pack/leaflet for visitors and newcomers. Also, vestry agreed to produce a card which new members of the congregation could fill in with their contact details.

A request to "Keep services slick". Mary has produced new service booklets and it was felt that these were more user friendly.

Audit of people's skills. This was to be addressed in the future.

Choice of music/hymns. Mary thought there was a good balance of hymns during the 10 a.m. service. However we would look at having different types of music for future services.

Celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. There will be a Matins type service on the 5th June. Local residents have been invited to join us for bacon rolls in the hall afterwards.

Prayer meeting, Prayer Group, Evening prayer services. To be looked at.

Midweek services to be revived. There is now a service every Tuesday morning at 10 a.m. There is also Compline at 7p.m. on Fridays.

Additional/different types of services. To be looked at in the future.

Youth Group. It was noted that the diocese was in process of appointing a Youth Officer. Once this had been done, vestry would make contact.

Removal of some pews to free up space. There has already been some reorganisation of pews for the exhibition and to create more room for coffee after the service. Vestry was not supportive of losing further pews at this time.

Awareness of the church in the community. Vestry said they thought that with the Book Browse, our stall in the Feein' Market, Coffee Mornings and Tree of Life the community are aware of St James.

Future social events. This was to be discussed in the future.

Peter



Readers, and Greeters,

Readings
Acts 2.1-21 or Gen 11.1-9
Ps 104.25-35,37
Ro 8.14-17 or Acts 2.1-21
Jn 14.8-17,(25-27)
Prov 8.1-4,22-31
Ps 8 Ps 29 Ps 8
Ro 5.1-5
Jn 16.12-15
1 Kg 19.1-4(5-7)8-15a
Ps 42 and/or 43
Gal 3.23-29
Lk 8.26-39
Is 66.10-14
Ps 66.1-8
Gal 6.(1-6)7-16
Lk 10.1-11,16-20
Is 66.10-14
Ps 66.1-8
Gal 6.(1-6)7-16
Lk 10.1-11,16-20

Year B – Readings are from the NRSV of the Bible

Greeter	Lessons 1+2	Coffee
David Fleming	Arma Iles	Diane Fleming
Peter Fogiel	Edward Harrison	Irene Paterson
Val Cadd	Val Cadd	Peter Sharp
David Fleming	David Fleming	Diane Fleming
Irene Paterson	Irene Paterson	Paula Fogiel

St James', Stonehaven and St Philip's, Catterline

Rector:	Rev. Mary Jepp
Vestry Secretary:	Anne O'Gorman
Phone:	01569 762917 (for pastoral matters)
	01569 764473 (for other enquiries)

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	Rev Mary Jepp

The copy deadline for the June Newsletter is Sunday 26th June 2022 <u>Reminders will not be sent out.</u>

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