

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



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

**Sundays.**

**10.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist**

**Tuesdays**

**10.00 a.m. Said Holy Eucharist**

**Friday.**

**7.00pm Compline**



## DIARY NOTES November 2022

Day/Date	Event
<b>6th November</b> <b>21st Sunday in Trinity</b>	<b>10.00am Reserved Sacrament.</b> <b>Anne O’Gorman</b>
<b>13th November</b> <b>Remembrance Sunday</b>	<b>10.30am Remembrance Service</b> <b>Rev Mary Jepp</b>
<b>20th November</b> <b>Christ the King</b>	<b>10.00am Reserved Sacrament.</b> <b>Arma Iles</b>
<b>27th November</b> <b>Advent Sunday</b>	<b>10.00am Holy Eucharist.</b> <b>Rev Mary Jepp</b>

From Mary,

November! I must say that it isn't one of my favourite months, but regardless, like any month it has its blessings. For myself it's a month, as the nights close in, and the days become shorter, that we are given permission to escape indoors. Many times I hear the words, 'I don't like going out at night', I realise that sometimes those words speak of a concern about driving in the dark, but running through my mind is the thought – who would want to come out of the light and into the cold wet darkness of a November evening!

Following Choral Evensong at St James, where St John's Choir Edinburgh led the singing, (what a treat) someone said to me, "it's only 4.30, if it was July I would be heading off for a walk along the beach, but all I really want to do now is go home and sit in front of the fire". A sentiment I expect felt by many. November is a time for retreating indoors, well, at least in the evening. Perhaps the very nature of November, a month of retreat, lends itself for stillness and

reminiscence, a month for remembering, both as individuals but also as a society.

Following on from Halloween....All Hallows Eve, in our church calendar the month of November begins with the feasts of All Saints on the 1st and All Souls on the 2nd. In many countries throughout the world it is a time for remembering those who have died. Like many Christian feasts the celebrations are rooted in pre-Christian festivals of local cultures and so many countries take on their particular flavour. Did you know, for example that around 1000 AD the Christian church in our land adopted the Celtic traditions of Samhain - a Gaelic festival marking the end of the harvest season and the beginning of the 'darker half' of the year. Perhaps, if you have younger children in your family, you will have seen the Disney film 'Coco' the story of a Mexican family who celebrate the Day of the Dead, Día de Muertos, when their family and friends gather together to remember those who have died. It is a celebration of life and can be humorous as funny events from the lives are remembered. In Mexican culture there is the notion that as long as the dead are remembered they will live on in eternity. I wonder if perhaps we should take a leaf out of the Mexican book and ensure joy in our remembering, after all we are celebrating a promised life beyond this existence. Sentiments reflected in the words of Jesus so often heard in the sentences at the beginning of a funeral service. *Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even if he dies. And those who live and believe in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11. 25-26)* Words that end with the phrase "Do you believe this?" So I ask, do you?

Our lives are frantic, and I know that sometimes between all the tasks we face we can let our prayer or time for reflection slip. All Saints and All Souls gives us a moment to stop and think about who we are in relation to God and also those who have died. Perhaps it is a moment for picking up a dusty photo album and simply remembering, taking the time to smile. Our remembering might also include taking the time to sit with a favourite Bible

passage or the words of a well loved hymn.

Another possibility might be to try out *Still @7*, a new contemplative prayer group which will be held on the first Wednesday of the month at St James, at 7 pm. I wouldn't want you to think that this group was for people who were particularly prayerful or particularly holy .... whatever that means, as many of us will be, as one might say, putting our toes in the water. Exploring perhaps a different way of encountering God. The prayer time will last about 30 minutes, with approximately 20 minutes of silence. I know that this may sound daunting but, various ways of going about it will be suggested, some might even say handy hints. I have found that being still alongside others is powerful, there is something about coming into God's presence in community which can be profound and resonates with the words "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46.10) .

In drawing closer to Christ I hope that we will remember joyously that all that Jesus has promised is true and then we will truly be able to remember in joy the great cloud of witnesses that surround us on our earthly journey. Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12. 1-2)

## **Tree of Life**

The Tree of Life is in the churchyard all year but during Advent and Christmas it is decorated with baubles. The baubles carry messages of love and names of people held dear but not here to share Christmas time with.

The tree is available to anyone in Stonehaven and the surrounding area to place a bauble in memory of someone.

You are invited to either place your own bauble on the tree or have

one from either the back of the church or the Christmas coffee morning on Saturday, 3rd December.

The tree does look very pretty with the simple baubles and gives people great pleasure when they see it.

The tree is available from Thursday, 1st December 2022 until Thursday, 5th January 2023.

Val Cadd (Social Convenor)

### **Christmas Coffee Morning - Saturday, 3rd December 2022**

Finally, after 3 years we are holding our Christmas coffee morning in the church hall on Saturday, 3rd December from 10am until 11.30am. We will be serving tea and coffee with mince pies, fruit slices and home-made shorties. The price of the tea/coffee ticket will be £3.

We will have the following stalls: knitting and crafts, cake and candy, books, raffle and tombola. Also there will be baubles available for the Tree of Life. We would be very grateful to receive donations for the following stalls :- crafts, cake and candy, books, raffle and tombola.

The tombola is an interesting stall, every ticket costs a £1 and is a winner. So can I say if you would like to donate to this stall, prizes do not all need to be of the same value. To make some of the prizes more mysterious they can be wrapped in Christmas colours - red, green, silver, gold/yellow.

We will be setting up the hall on FRIDAY, 2nd DECEMBER at about 8/8.15pm following the weekly Ukrainian club. Non perishable donations can be left at the church beforehand (please let Val or Anne know) or on Saturday morning before 10am.

Thank you - please come and support our first coffee morning for three years - Saturday 3rd December.

Val Cadd (Social Convenor)

## St James in 1975

**The World:** **Jan:** Channel Tunnel abandoned by British Government. **Feb:** Margaret Thatcher became new Tory leader. London tube train crash at Moorgate killed 35. **Mar:** British MP John Stonehouse arrested in Australia. Charlie Chaplin knighted. **April:** Chiang Kai-shek died. Jack Nicklaus won 5<sup>th</sup> Masters Golf championship. Saigon fell to N Vietnamese. **May:** Sculptor Barbara Hepworth died. **June:** Suez Canal reopened after 8 years. UK referendum voted to stay in EEC. Greece applied for membership of EEC. Ex-Minister John Profumo awarded CBE. **July:** Yitzhak Rabin first Israeli Minister to visit W Germany. **Aug:** Ethiopian ex-Emperor Haile Selassie died. Irish statesman de Valera died. **Oct:** Ulster Volunteer Force banned. **Nov:** General Franco of Spain died. Prince Juan Carlos sworn in as King of Spain. **Dec:** The Balcombe Street Siege - 4 IRA gunmen held 2 people hostage for 6 days.

**Also:** Antony Powell's novel '*A Dance to the Music of Time*'.

The National Theatre was opened.

Anatoly Karpov became World Chess Champion.

Steven Spielberg's film '*Jaws*'. Famine in Ethiopia and Bangladesh.

Monoclonal antibodies were created by genetic engineering at Cambridge.

### St James

**6<sup>th</sup> January:** The balance sheet for the year ending October 1974 was presented. Income over expenditure amounted to £1015.95. This increase over last year was due to the amount of cash donations for the Hall Fund. It was agreed that Mrs J Davies of 'New Milldens' be appointed organist at a fee of £150 per annum.

**13<sup>th</sup> January:** The Bishop was present at this meeting and the Rev Burnett had been invited to attend. Mr Burnett said he was prepared to help out with the services at St James while the charge was vacant. Mr Burnett also spoke highly of Rev H Duncan of St Salvador's, Edinburgh, who he thought would consider a change. After Mr Burnett left the meeting another candidate, Rev W Arlow, of Belfast was discussed. He had been recommended by Rev Breden of Broughty Ferry. As Mr Arlow had been unwell for some time and was due for a medical it was agreed to wait the outcome of this examination. It was also agreed that a deputation of 2 or 3 members

of Vestry would travel to Edinburgh to hear Mr Duncan. It was agreed with the Bishop that the Reserved Sacrament could be taken to St Philip's, Catterline and administered by a lay reader.

**21<sup>st</sup> January:** The AGM was held in the Royal Hotel at 7.30 pm. There were 72 members present. The Secretary read a letter from Mrs Godsman saying that, due to ill health, she was compelled to relinquish the duties of caretaker. Thanks were expressed to Mr and Mrs Godsman for the efficient way they had carried out their duties. Mrs Beaumont suggested the post be advertised but Mrs Stella Wilson agreed to see Mrs Smith and see if she would undertake the church cleaning. As the new Hall was nearing completion it was decided to form a committee to oversee this. This committee was formed of Mrs S Wilson, Mrs J Wilson, Mrs J W Christie, Mrs A Christie and Mrs J Emslie. Miss Christie said there would be a Guild Meeting in South Church on 11<sup>th</sup> Feb at which the speaker would be the ex-moderator the Rev W Reid. There would be a demonstration of Continental Cooking in the Commodore Hotel on 17<sup>th</sup> February. The Dean was presented with a cheque on his retirement from St James due to ill health.

**5<sup>th</sup> February:** This was a special meeting called at six hours' notice. Mr Harper said he had heard from Dean Hayes that Mr Arlow had been given a clean bill of health and was still interested in being considered for the vacancy. It was agreed that Mr Arlow be contacted and a meeting arranged.

100 new chairs had been purchased for the Hall. Mr Harper had approached the Dean to ask if the old chairs could be purchased by the Conservative Association. The Vestry gave permission for this to go ahead. Mr Muir spoke of the estimates received for carpets for the Hall. It was agreed to defer the decision until the next Vestry meeting.

3 weeks after this Mr and Mrs Arlow came to Stonehaven and visited the church, rectory, and St Philip's. Later in the afternoon they met the Vestry in Alamada. Mr Arlow was offered the charge of St James. He expressed great pleasure at the reception they had received and although he would like to accept immediately, other things had to be considered. He would discuss with colleagues and would let the Vestry know within 2 -3 weeks. Eventually, most reluctantly, he declined the invitation because he felt he still had a

role to play in Belfast.

On 15<sup>th</sup> March Rev Jack Denholm, present Rector of St Baldred's, North Berwick, came and looked round Stonehaven. On 24<sup>th</sup> March a letter was received from Mr Denholm to say that, after consideration, he must decline the invitation to be Rector at St James.

On 26<sup>th</sup> March a further letter was sent to Mr Arlow to enquire whether circumstances had changed. He replied that he might reconsider his previous decision. On 8<sup>th</sup> May a letter was received from Mr Arlow to say that he was leaving for the USA and Canada and could not give a definite decision until his return and a meeting with the Irish Council of Churches on 23<sup>rd</sup> May. In mid-June Mr Arlow telephoned to say he was not coming, and this was confirmed by letter.

On 21<sup>st</sup> June Bishop Luscombe was consecrated in Dundee and on 25<sup>th</sup> June he came to Stonehaven for the official opening of the new Hall. He also met with the Vestry and suggested Rev M C Paternoster, presently Rector of St James, Dollar. On 28<sup>th</sup> June Rev and Mrs Paternoster came to Stonehaven and met with the Vestry in Blairmount. Rev Paternoster was formally offered the charge and accepted on 7<sup>th</sup> July. He hoped to take up his duties at the beginning of Advent, 1975.

**23<sup>rd</sup> July:** The question of sealing the Hall floor was discussed and preliminary enquiries from Mr Samways, Evan Street estimated the cost of this to be approximately £50. It was agreed to go ahead with this and to enquire about acquiring an electric polisher. Once more the guttering round the Church was in a poor state and it was agreed to attend to this. On Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> September the Church would celebrate the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone. It was proposed to contact the Ladies' Fellowship to lay on some refreshments after the service.

**12<sup>th</sup> September:** This meeting was called to discuss the proposed extension to Abbeyfield House by the addition of an extra bedroom. On looking at the plans it was found that this extension would encroach by 12 feet nearer the Hall. This still left plenty of space between the hall and the extension. Vestry agreed that no objection would be lodged to this extension but at the same time it was felt



that the Vestry should have been notified to any alteration by the Abbeyfield Society before drawing up plans.

**5<sup>th</sup> December:** Rev Paternoster was welcomed to his first Vestry meeting since his institution as Rector. It was agreed that the AGM would be held on 20<sup>th</sup> January in the Hall. Stonehaven Choral Society were giving a service of carols in the church on 21<sup>st</sup> December. A delegation from one of the churches in Banchory had expressed a wish to carry out an inspection of the hall. This was arranged for 8<sup>th</sup> December. It was the Rector's wish that the services would continue to be conducted in the manner in which the congregation had been used to in the past.

**There are no minutes for the current St James' vestry as it did not meet in October 2022.**

## **Welcome Cards**

When a new person joins us for a service we all do our best to make them feel welcome. But it may be difficult for them to decide whether or not they wish to become a member of the congregation. The vestry have had two introductory cards printed which can be given to a visitor: a service card and a welcome card. The service card lists the times of the regular services at St James' while the welcome card gives the visitor the option of providing their contact details and leaving a message. The idea is that they can hand the welcome card to any member of the congregation who will then pass it on to Mary or a vestry member.

There is a third card available which can be handed or sent to anyone as a thankyou for any service they may have carried out for the church.

All three cards can be found in the Perspex rack which sits on the table at the back of the church. Please feel free to use them.

Peter

## **Annual General Meeting**

Members of the vestry carry quite a responsibility for the day-to-day working of the church. But they are accountable for their decisions to the whole congregation. The Constitution of our church requires us to hold a meeting between vestry and congregation once a year.

Mary reports on the activities of the church over the past year and individual vestry officers will present an account of their work. The treasurer will explain the financial position and present the accounts to the congregation. As we are a charity these accounts have to be approved by the trustees, which are the vestry members. They are also scrutinised by a competent person, known as the Independent Examiner, who must certify that they are accurate. They are then submitted to the Scottish Charity Regulator. If the regulator accepts them then we can continue as a charity for a further year. One of the tasks to be carried out at the AGM is to approve the appointment of the Independent Examiner for a further year.

The AGM is also where we elect the Lay Representative and the Alternate Representative and fill any vacancies among the vestry and officers.

This year our AGM will be held on Sunday 27th November after the morning service. Everyone is welcome to attend but only people on the Communicants' Roll are permitted to vote and stand for election.

Peter

## **Autumn Diocesan Synod**

The diocese is required to hold a synod once a year but, if there is either urgent business to be dealt with or business that couldn't be covered at the synod, then the bishop can call an extra synod. This is what happened in 2022. The annual report and accounts for the Diocese for 2020-2021 had been delayed and were not ready in time for the March synod. What had happened was that the capital assets of the diocese had increased and the rules set by the charity regulator,

who must approve the accounts, meant that they had to undergo a full professional audit rather than scrutiny by an independent examiner. This proved to be a lengthy (and expensive) process.

The Bishop also decided that this was an opportunity to start discussing the church's response to environmental challenges.

The Synod was held at St Ninian's church in Dundee on 1st October 2022. The Synod expressed its thanks to Allan Duffus, the retiring Diocesan Treasurer. Bishop Andrew gave him a presentation and announced, once the cathedral statutes had been amended as planned to allow it, that he would recommend Allan as a lay canon of the cathedral.

Each year the diocesan Administration Board is presented with a budget by the diocesan treasurer. This sets out how much money is needed to run the diocese for the coming year. We are also told how much we are required to pay to the Province for its services. This money is then raised by setting a tax, or quota, that each church must pay. In the past church treasurers have only been told what their quota is several months after they have agreed their own budget. So the new Treasurer, Bob Main, presented a revised scheme for the timing of quota and budget calculations, to give earlier information to diocese and charges. This was approved.

The Synod then focused on the SEC Net Zero environmental target, set for 2030 by General Synod. The Rev Willie Shaw, Rector of Grangemouth and Bo'ness and a member of the Provincial Environmental Group (PEG) spoke to the Synod. A video from PEG's presentation to General Synod in 2022 was shared, giving detail of what the Net Zero target actually meant. He then talked about the discipleship that underpins this target. The Synod broke up into small groups to discuss global issues, the SEC target and issues in achieving it and how churches could respond locally. A number of practical issues were raised, particularly around church heating, but there was general agreement that we need to aim for this target.

Peter

St James the Great, Scottish Episcopal Church, Stonehaven  
Still @ 7

An opportunity to explore contemplative prayer/meditation within the Christian  
Tradition

1st Wednesday of the month at 7pm  
beginning 2 November 2022



In each session we will be guided into places of stillness, places of awareness where we will begin to learn ways of contemplation and meditation. In these sessions of largely silence we will 'allow God to be God' without trying to put limitation of shape or meaning around him

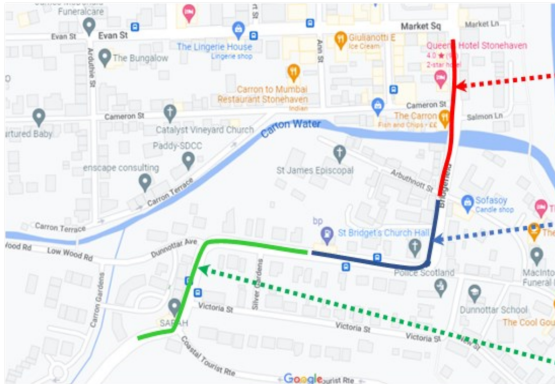
Taking time for Contemplation or Meditation is taking the time to be still, taking the time to rest in the wonder of the peace that may be found in the world around

us.

For further information contact Mary Jepp at [m.jepp@btinternet.com](mailto:m.jepp@btinternet.com)

## ROAD CLOSURES – 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER to 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

Aberdeenshire Council will be resurfacing the main road past the Arbuthnott Street turning to the church, in three weekly (Monday to Friday) operations. The map below shows where the works will affect traffic.



**Week 2:** from Monday 31st October for 5 days – from just south of the traffic lights to just beyond Arbuthnott Street

**Week 1:** from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October for 5 days – from south of Arbuthnott Street to the BP Petrol station in Dunnottar Avenue

**Week 3:** from Monday 7th November for 5 days – from the Petrol Station to beyond the Bervie Braes junction.

There will, of course, be much heavy machinery and lorries in use by the contractor, and Dunnottar Avenue/Bridgefield as a through route will be closed to traffic. There may be delays. So, vehicles should avoid the area. The official diversion is via Evan Street, Arduthie Road, Brickfield Road and Low Wood Road.

Access to Arbuthnott Street (and the church) will be straightforward on **Weeks 1 and 3**, but will only be possible from the North side (i.e. via the Market Square). **However, on Week 2**, drivers will have to wait until the contractor vehicles are not obstructing their path, and we would advise not bringing a car to church during that week. In **Week 3** the southerly access into and out of Stonehaven will be blocked.

Pedestrian access will be possible at all times.

The closure of the Arbuthnott Street to Dunnottar Avenue path has been announced, but a request has been made to delay this closure. The White Bridge access remains unavailable.

Readers, and Greeters,

Date	Readings
6th November 21st Sunday in Trinity Bible Sunday	Job 19.23-27a Ps 17.1-9 2 Th 2.1-5,13-17 Lk 20.27-38
13th November Remembrance Sunday	Mal 4.1-2a Ps 98 2 Th 3.6-13 Lk 21.5-19
20th November Christ the King	Jer 23.1-6 Cant. Lk 1.68-79 Col 1.11-20 Lk 23.33-43
27th November Advent Sunday Church AGM	Is 2.1-5 Ps 122 Ro 13.11-14 Mt 24.36-44
4th December 2nd Sunday in Advent	Is 11.1-10 Ps 72.1-7,18-19 Ro 15.4-13 Mt 3.1-12

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

<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Lessons 1+2</b>	<b>Coffee</b>
David Fleming	Heather Grant	Peter Sharp
Diana Peters	Edward Dickens	No refreshments
Peter Fogiel	Diana Peters	Irene Paterson
Peter Fogiel	Peter Fogiel	Paula Fogiel
Edward Dickens	Edward Dickens	Peter Sharp

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

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

### GROUP CONVENORS

Property	Paula Fogiel
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 December/January Newsletter is  
Sunday 27th November 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