

**Episcopal Churches of
St. James' Stonehaven.
St. Philip's Catterline.
December 2022 & January 2023**



**Services at St. James' during
December 2022 & January 2023**

Sundays.

10.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Tuesdays

10.00 a.m. Said Holy Eucharist

Friday.

7.00pm Compline

1st Wednesday of the month

**7.00pm Still @ 7. An opportunity to explore contemplative
prayer/meditation within the Christian Tradition**



DIARY NOTES December 2022 & January 2023

Day/Date	Event
4th December 2nd Sunday in Advent Nine Lessons & Carols	10.00am Nine Lessons and Carols Arma Iles
11th December 3rd Sunday in Advent	10.00am Holy Eucharist. Rev Mary Jepp
18th December 4th Sunday in Advent	10.00am Carol Service Anne O’Gorman
24th December Christmas Eve	8.00pm Holy Eucharist. Rev Mary Jepp
25th December Christmas Day	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles
1st January Baptism of Christ	10.30 am Service in St Bridget’s
8th January Epiphany	10.00am Holy Eucharist. Rev Mary Jepp
15th January 1st Sunday in Epiphany	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles
22nd January 2nd Sunday in Epiphany	10.00am Holy Eucharist. Rev Mary Jepp
29th January 3rd Sunday in Epiphany	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Anne O’Gorman

From Mary

Glancing at my diary this morning (1 December) I was once again shocked to be reminded that in only a few days' time, it would be Sunday the 4th of December, the second Sunday of Advent; last week the 27 of November was the beginning of the new church year. In some ways it may seem odd that our Church year does not follow the calendar year, but what it does do is acknowledge that most things in life require preparation. I have already heard that many of the cooks among you have been baking your Christmas Cakes and have also begun their feeding!!! (I wonder what tippie Scottish Christmas Cakes prefer?). The Christmas tea is happening this Saturday and up the road at St Ternan's Messy Church will be hosting a Christingle on Sunday. So much busyness, so much joy, so much excitement!!!!

The challenge is for us to take the time to prepare inwardly for the arrival of a wee child who changed the world. In our Sunday services throughout Advent, we think of all those people who waited for the Christ Child, the Old Testament Patriarchs, the Prophets, John the Baptist and Mary herself heavy with child, not to forget the ever faithful Joseph. Their lives were infused with hope because they believed the promises of old. Do we remember and believe those promises? Do we take the time to consider just what the meaning of the birth of the Messiah meant not only in the first century but for today? Do we acknowledge that miracles can and do happen?

Our Christmas traditions are important as they help us to remember our place in the world, and also our relationship with God. Christmas is, of course, a time when traditionally young and old attended church, a tradition which continues today for many; it's a time to listen to the story of how Jesus

the Saviour of the World was born in a stable long ago. Times have changed in many ways, as we were reminded in the press this week with the decline in the number declaring themselves as Christians, but the story is as relevant as it ever was. If we look beyond the lights and the tinsel we can see a world of suffering all around us. Christ in his life demonstrated a different way of living, a way that calls us to reach out and care for the most vulnerable in our world. The Christmas story will be told once again, in many ways, at St James over the next month, in words and song, traditionally with Nine Lessons and Carols, in a Celebration of Christmas and in our Christmas Eve (8pm) Communion Service and on Christmas morning in a service of Communion with reserved sacrament. They will be moments when together we will not only remember but be inspired to bring Christ into our communities.

Everyone is welcome so please come and join the celebrations. Wishing you a blessed and happy Christmas. Mary

Vestry Minutes 21st September 2022

Matters Arising

Anne had collected the pack for Open Doors Day but, because of the death of the Queen, it was decided not to put up the banner. The church would be open as usual for visitors to come in and view the church, light a candle or just sit quietly.

Correspondence

An email had been received from the Community Council regarding a Community Resilience Plan. Details were circulated in the September Newsletter. The vestry would like details as to whether this is in addition to Aberdeenshire's plans. Anne is to contact Julie Lindeman for further information. It was decided that St James would be happy for

the hall to be used for shelter etc in an emergency.

Treasurer's Report

Main Account:	£25,244.47
Fabric Fund Account:	£4,450.42
Building Account:	£4,274.14
St Philips:	£1,722.49

Peter presented the budget for 2022/2023. He said we would probably have a shortfall of £25,000. This can be drawn down from our investments.

A question was asked about increasing the wages of the cleaner. David said that he would speak to her.

Mary expressed her thanks to Peter.

Worship/Priest's Report

Mary reported on the Ukrainian 'Drop-in' in the hall on a Friday evening. Numbers varied each week and sometimes the Ukrainians just wanted to talk to each other or play cards. Paul McKay had played the accordion for a ceildh evening, and St James people had joined in with the Ukrainian Independence celebration. The Ukrainians had also given a cooking lesson making perogies. Members from other churches have also joined to help. Mary has set up icons and votive candles on the Lady Chapel altar, and we need to think about Christmas celebrations for them. It was felt to be very rewarding to be involved.

There is to be a meeting between the Bishop, Mary and representatives from St James and St Ternan's to see how the Transitional Ministry is progressing.

Mary had spoken to a member from Fetteresso about starting a monthly evening service with a contemplative and meditative

theme which she hoped to start in October. The service will be called 'Still at 7'. She is also looking to reinstate servers at the altar.

There was a lengthy discussion about the organist. Having discussed the problem with the Bishop and Donald Urquhart, PVG Advisor, it was decided that, with immediate effect, his services would no longer be required. Mary will write, via recorded delivery, with this decision and Peter Sharp will make a statement to the congregation on Sunday morning. This will then be a said service.

David spoke about finding a replacement by advertising, having a rota, or using a student on an organ scholarship. He has already spoken to Ian Lovegrove who could play occasionally. Paul McKay will play for the Harvest Festival but can only play on a couple of other occasions until Christmas. Using pre-recorded music was not approved.

Fabric

Church: we are still awaiting contractors to check the roof and clean the gutters.

Hall: the barge boards are being painted. The hall cupboard has been tidied. Mary asked if the hall curtains could be looked at as some are off the hooks. Mary has the banner, made by the brownies, which is ready to go up on the wall.

Garden: the resin on the concrete path, rails on the rear fire escape to the hall and the removal of the font will shortly take place.

Rectory: Old Rectory – awaiting SSEN to complete the meter connection after which the electric installation report can be issued.

Fund Raising/Social

The Book Browse raised £1,100 in total - £910 for books and £190

for preserves and knitting. The next one on 5th/6th November will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Book Browse. The Senior Harvest Service and tea will be on Thursday, 29th September. Invitations have been sent to care homes and posters displayed in the community.

The Harvest Lunch will follow the service on 2nd October with bacon rolls kindly cooked by Mike. There has been an offer to either buy or contribute money towards the cost.

PVG

Irene confirmed that all correct channels had been followed regarding the problem with the organist.

AOCB

Mary expressed her concern about the books in the baptistry. Anne suggested shelving and this was thought to be a good idea.

Mary said she would be away on a course on 4th/5th/6th October. Anne requested all reports for the AGM by the end of October. David reported that Blackwood now owns Abbeyfield. He said that the Diocesan solicitors should be informed.

Next Meeting: 9th November

Greetings from Stella

Rev. Mary and all at St James',

I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Good New Year. Thank you also for all your kindness to me and the family this year. I will be back to see you in January 2023.

Best wishes,
Stella

Tree of Life.

From Thursday, 1st December until Thursday, 5th January 2023 the Tree of Life in the churchyard will be decorated with colourful baubles. This is for everyone who would like to place a bauble in memory of a loved one and you are invited to place your own bauble on the tree or get one from inside the church or at the coffee morning on Saturday 3rd December.

Thank you,

Val Cadd, Social Convenor.

St James in 1976

The World: Jan: Agatha Christie died; Paul Robeson died.

Mar: US musical film director Busby Berkeley died; Harold Wilson announced his retirement; Lord Montgomery of Alamein died. **April:** James Callaghan became PM; Howard Hughes died. **May:** Earthquake in N Italy killed 2000;

Concorde made first commercial transatlantic flight. **June:** Britain and Iceland end Cod War; J Paul Getty died; rioting in Soweto, South Africa. **July:** Israeli commandos storm hijacked plane at Entebbe; chemical plant at Seveso, Italy leaked toxic dioxin cloud; 21st Olympic Games opened in Montreal; British Ambassador to Dublin killed by car bomb; US spacecraft Viking landed on Mars. **Sept:** Mao Tse-tung died. **Nov:** Jimmy Carter elected US President. **Dec:** Benjamin Britten died.

Also: National Theatre opened; Alex Haley's novel '*Roots*'; film '*All the President's Men*'.

Drought was declared in the UK after driest summer since records began in 1727. In Gloucestershire the source of the River Thames dried up.

The first oil from the North Sea was piped to the mainland.

St James

18th Jan: The accounts were presented and there was a credit balance

of £1052.23. The secretary read a letter signed by some of the choir requesting additional heating in the choir stalls. This was agreed and Mr Beaumont agreed to procure the necessary heaters.

20th Jan: The AGM was held in the Church Hall. There were 31 members present. The treasurer pointed out that the credit balance was due to the charge being vacant. The Rector expressed his thanks to Rev Burnett for keeping the services going during the past year and to Mr Grant, Mr E Harper and Mr J Davis who had taken over as organist and was building up a keen choir. He also paid tribute to the ladies of the Fellowship who had undertaken the cleaning of the hall and church. He reminded the meeting of the rehearsal in Fetteresso Church on 18th March for the recording of the TV programme 'Songs of Praise' which would be broadcast in May. He concluded with special thanks to the Sunday School teachers.

25th May: The secretary read a letter from the Stonehaven Choral Society requesting the use of the church on 19th December for Christmas Carols and April 1977 for a performance of Handel's 'Messiah'. Capt Christie gave a report on a meeting held in the Cathedral Hall, Dundee. St James had been allocated to sell lemonade, crisps and sweets at the autumn fayre to be held on 25th September. The Rector stated that he had been contacted by the Rev R Gray about the service times printed on cards distributed to hotels and boarding houses locally. As an experiment, and in accordance with other seaside resorts, the Rector proposed putting Evensong at a later time, possibly 8 pm, for the duration of the summer. In connection with the celebration of the centenary of St James to be held next year the Rector informed the members present that the Bishops of Edinburgh and Brechin had been invited.

5th Oct: The treasurer informed vestry that, on the instructions of the secretary and treasurer of the RCC the accounts for the next financial year would be no later than 30th September. This would mean the balance sheet would be 11 months. The centenary celebration would be held on Saturday, 1st October 1977, and a meeting between the vestry and Ladies' Fellowship to make preliminary arrangements would be arranged. Once more the condition of the Church roof came up for discussion. To ensure that the necessary repairs would be reasonably well executed Capt Christie had contacted the firm Briggs of Aberdeen but their reply

stated they no longer did this type of work. He had contacted another firm in Aberdeen but had had no reply. Mr Emslie suggested contacting a local slater to see if he would carry out the necessary repairs at an early date. This was agreed. The Rector reported that he had seen early signs of woodworm in the attic of the rectory. As it would be costly to call in the experts one or two members of the vestry agreed to spend a forenoon in the rectory attic treating the trouble with aerosol sprays. The Rector also asked the vestry's permission to alter a window in the kitchen. An estimate for £41 had been received but, as this seemed excessive, he was recommended to contact Mr Raymond Knight who would probably charge less. Capt Christie had been approached by the Stonehaven Camera Club to use the church hall for a weekly meeting during the winter. One or two factors had to be taken into account before granting this request and it was agreed to contact the local rating authorities to find out what our position would be if we made a charge for the use of the hall, electricity etc and accepting any donation towards church funds.

11th Nov: The balance sheet for the period of 11 months was presented showing a deficit of £1061.93. This was due to exceptionally high expenses incurred and the treasurer hoped this would be of a non-recurring nature. The running of the St James' Church Flower Fund had been taken over by Mrs Bella Christie.

AGM 2022

For the benefit of those members of the congregation who were unable to attend our AGM, we will be publishing the various reports in this and February's newsletter.

Vulnerable Adults Irene Paterson

The PVG Co-ordinator is appointed to take responsibility on behalf of the Vestry for ensuring that the work of the Church is carried out in accordance with the Law and the Church's policies on the protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults. These policies focus on prevention and safeguarding by ensuring that anybody appointed or volunteering to do "regulated work" with children or vulnerable adults have their details submitted to Disclosure Scotland who check

for any relevant criminal convictions. Vulnerable adults include those people who, because they are affected by disability, mental disorder, illness, infirmity or ageing, are unable to protect themselves from abuse, or are more vulnerable to being abused than persons who are not so affected. Regulated work could include teaching or supervising Sunday School or providing some kind of regular welfare service to people with particular needs.

At the beginning of each year, I submit a Congregational Safeguarding Checklist to the Diocese confirming that, amongst other things, we have all the correct signs and posters in the Church and Hall and that Vestry members have seen the most up to date safeguarding advice.

The notice board in the church displays a poster with SEC Policies for Children and Vulnerable Adults along with Childline and The Silver Line posters, the name and contact details of the PVG Co-ordinator, the Diocesan Protection Officer and the Provincial Officer. PVG issues are discussed as a standing item at every 6-8 weekly vestry meeting I also have to confirm that anybody involved in regulated work has the correct level of PVG clearance and has received relevant training. Although we very occasionally have children at our Sunday Services at present no specific person carries out "regulated work" which meets the above criteria. If this situation changes in future, it is the responsibility of Vestry to ensure the correct procedures are followed. The SEC website reminds us "it is important to remember that it is everyone's responsibility to protect the vulnerable and everyone working in and attending services in the SEC has an important part to play in developing a safe and supportive culture within the Church that protects everyone, regardless of the nature of their vulnerability". If any member of the congregation has concerns about possible incidents involving children or vulnerable adults they need to notify the PVG Co-ordinator. If no-one is available and there is somebody at immediate risk, the police or local social work department should be contacted. Any concerns brought to my attention this year were discussed with the Provincial Safeguarding Officer in Edinburgh. There were no issues which required further action.

Readers, and Greeters,

Date	Readings
4th December 2nd Sunday in Advent 9 Lessons & Carols	Is 11.1-10 Ps 72.1-7,18-19 Ro 15.4-13 Mt 3.1-12
11th December 3rd Sunday in Advent	Is 35.1-10 Ps 146.4-9 or Canticle:Lk 1.46b-55 Jas 5.7-10 Mt 11.2-11
18th December 4th Sunday in Advent Carol Service	Is 7.10-16 Ps 80.1-7,16-18 Ro 1.1-7 Matt. 18-end
24th December Christmas Eve	Is 52.7-10 Ps 98 Heb 1:1-4 John 1:1-14
25th December Christmas Day	Is 52.7-10 Ps 98 Heb 1:1-4 John 1:1-14

Year A – Readings are from the NRSV of the Bible

Greeter	Lessons 1+2	Coffee
Edward Dickens	n/a	Diane Fleming
Richard Clark	Richard Clark	Peter Sharp
David Fleming	Val Cadd	Val Cadd
Any vestry member	Any vestry member	n/a
Any vestry member	Any vestry member	n/a

Readers, and Greeters,

Date	Readings
1st January Baptism of Christ	
8th January Epiphany	Is 42.1-9 Ps 29 Acts 10.34-43 Mt 3.13-17
15th January 1st Sunday in Epiphany	Is 49.1-7 Ps 40.1-12 1 C 1.1-9 Jn 1.29-42
22nd January 2nd Sunday in Epiphany	Is 9.1-4 Ps 27.1,5-13 1 C 1.10-18 Mt 4.12-23
29th January 3rd Sunday in Epiphany	Mic 6.1-8 Ps 15 1 C 1.18-31 Mt 5.1-12
5th February 4th Sunday after Epiphany Candlemass	Is 58.1-9a,(9b-12) Ps 112.1-9(10) 1 C 2.1-12(13-16) Mt 5.13-20

Year A – Readings are from the NRSV of the Bible

Greeter	Lessons 1+2	Coffee
Service at St Bridget's at 10.30 am		
Paula Fogiel	Edward Harrison	Jane Cook
Jane Cook	Edward Dickens	Paula Fogiel
Peter Sharp	Heather Grant	Irene Paterson
Val Cadd	Richard Clark	Diane Fleming
Diane Fleming	Diane Fleming	Val Cadd

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 February Newsletter is Sunday 22nd January 2023
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