

**Episcopal Churches of
St. James' Stonehaven.
St. Philip's Catterline.
February 2023**



**Services at St. James' during
February 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 February 2023

Day/Date	Event
5th February 4th Sunday in Epiphany	10.00am Holy Eucharist. Bishop Andrew Swift
12th February 2nd Sunday before Lent	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles
19th February Sunday before Lent	10.00am Holy Eucharist. Rev Mary Jepp
22nd February Ash Wednesday	7.00pm Holy Eucharist and Lay- ing-on of Ashes Rev Mary Jepp
26th February 1st Sunday in Lent	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Anne O’Gorman

From Mary,

A day or so ago an email dropped into my in box, from a Canadian friend. Somehow or other he had gotten wind of the fact that we were now living in Scotland, and so announced that he and his wife were thinking of popping in for a brief visit, as they were going to be in Tunbridge Wells for a wedding! Most of us have from time to time rolled our eyes when our North American kin announce travel plans to the UK. Being here for over 40 years I have come to terms with the notion that even though distances may be smaller, road travel is much slower just to the sheer volume of traffic, and of course in Scotland if you venture off the main roads it is about the roads themselves. And what fun they are.

As a kid on a Sunday afternoon Dad would often suggest that we go for a run out, an expression that I have once again heard since being in Stonehaven. Those car journeys, which usually ended with an ice cream, were a time of exploration. Quite often stops were made to look at a particular landmark, a bit of vegetation and even wildlife, a salmon run or a family of skunks perambulating down the road. There was no rush, no schedule, there was an understanding that you would never return by the same route and eventually you would get home. There was an acceptance of the adventure. And at times things did not go to plan...once a wooden bridge collapsed under the weight of the car in the middle of nowhere....now that is another story!

In many ways these days travel has been about reaching a destination. The destination becomes the goal. Now, Mike and I are as guilty of that as the next person, proof being our expedition to see friends and family after Christmas. But perhaps we should consider an alternative. What would happen if we covered less ground and enjoyed the trip? What would we gain? What unexpected encounters would we have?

In church speak we often speak about the Christian Journey, or

our Journey of Faith. Just like so many areas of our life I think many see our faith journeys in similar ways to other life journeys whether it is travel or even progression through work. In our minds we like to set the itinerary. For those of us of a certain age, who have grown up in the church, cradle Christians, our itinerary might look something like this...Baptism/Christening, Sunday School, Youth Group, preparation for Confirmation, Confirmation and then well...attendance at church. I think it is interesting that it is often at Confirmation, apart from Sunday sermons, that our Christian development stops. Of course many continue to say their prayers and read the Bible but there are also many who just simply get out of the practice. In what other area of life does our development and learning stop at say 12, an age when many are Confirmed.

Ash Wednesday is on the 22nd of February this year and so Lent begins. For those in the church, clergy included, Lent can become a season that is diary lead, there always is so much to do. I wonder if that is the correct approach. Yes, it is important to worship together, but I would like to suggest that all of us choose to slow our journey through Lent, to take the time to journey at a slower pace through the season, setting aside time to be, and to rekindle a relationship with the God who loves us.

There are many ways in which this may be accomplished, at home you could set time aside daily, perhaps reading one of the Gospels, or even just being still, you could perhaps come to mid week Holy Communion on Tuesday morning, Compline on Friday evenings, or Still @7 on the first Wednesday of the month. And then, of course, if you would like to explore your faith I will be running a Lent Study group on the Creeds. expect some might say creeds!!!...sounds like indoctrination...but no it is a course based on discussion and participation not persuasion. After all, I believe that it is through questioning our own beliefs that we come to a greater understanding of who we are.

So for Lent...why not forget about giving up chocolate and consider taking a meander through Lent being open to what God has in store for you.

Christmas - Tree and Decorations

A huge thank you for everyone's support at Christmas. The Christmas tree was very kindly gifted and delivered by Diane and Tony Peters, it was a beautiful tree.

The tree and windows were decorated by 'the team' and thank you to Anne O'G, David Smail, Heather G., Laura and Mel C. and Mary and Mike J. for all your help before Christmas and for clearing away at Twelfth night.

The Tree of Life.

The Tree of Life was beautifully decorated again by members of the congregation and townspeople. The baubles were removed on Twelfth night and are away now.

Thank you Heather for stringing the baubles.

Val Cadd (Flower Convenor)

Lent Course at St James the Great Stonehaven

This year we will be looking at the Creeds during Lent. The material we will be using is part of a course produced by the Church of England called Pilgrim. The booklet entitled '*The Creeds*' explores the core of Christian belief in greater depth through the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds. Its six sessions aim to equip you with an understanding of these priceless resources for living the Christian life and for knowing God Better".

Course publicity says: "It approaches the great issues of faith not through persuasion, but participation in a pattern of contemplation and discussion in the company of a small group of fellow travellers".

At St James the course will run on Tuesday mornings following Holy Communion which is at 10 am, but also at St Ternan's on Wednesday mornings starting at 9.30 am prior to morning prayer. If there is interest in an evening sessions this can be arranged, perhaps on zoom or at my home.

The course will begin the week of the 20th of February and run for 6 weeks with the last sessions the week of the 27th of March (the week before Holy Week)

Please be in touch for more information or to book a place so that I can order the course booklets. The cost of the booklets is £5.99 however, this price may be reduced if we purchase in bulk. Of course if you would like to order a booklet for your own use let me know.

Yours in Christ
Mary

Thank you.

I would like to thank all my friends at St James for their very kind enquiries and get-well cards following my fall and femur break. The nurses, physios and doctors at ARI are trying to get me back on my feet.

I am very lucky to have such a supportive family and good friends - I'll be with you all as soon as possible - thank you for your love and care.

Best wishes, Stella Wilson

Thank you again

We have received generous donations totalling £350. The donor wishes to remain anonymous, but many thanks to him.

Peter

Holocaust Memorial Day 27th January

First They Came By Pastor Martin Niemoller

First they came for the Communists,
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a Communist.
Then they came for the Socialists,
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a Socialist.
Then they came for the trade unionists ,
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a trade unionist.
Then they came for the Jews,
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a Jew.
Then they came for me,
And there was no one left
To speak out for me.

Pastor Martin Niemoller (1892-1984) was a prominent Lutheran pastor in Germany. In the 1920s and early 1930s he sympathized with many Nazi ideas and supported radically right-wing political movements. But after Adolf Hitler came to power in 1933 Niemoller became an outspoken critic of Hitler's interference in the Protestant Church. He spent the last 8 years of Nazi rule from 1937-1945 in Nazi prisons and concentration camps. The quotation expresses Niemoller's belief that Germans had been complicit through their silence in the Nazi imprisonment, persecution and murder of millions of people, he felt this to be especially true of the leaders of the Protestant churches (Lutheran, Reformed and United traditions). The above quotation is permanently inscribed in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and serves as an indictment of passivity and indifference during the Holocaust and a powerful reminder about the consequences of individual action and inaction. (Diane)

Vestry Minutes 9th November 2022

Matters Arising

Anne has contacted Julie Lindeman about Community Resilience plans. Each town in Aberdeenshire is gathering details of people who can help in the event of emergencies. There are also grants available for drop-in centres. Val mentioned the Mearns Coastal Living initiative running the weekly lunch for the elderly. Mary said that Carronside is hoping to set up 'warm spaces' within the town. She also said that it would be helpful to have a calendar of events (particularly church ones) within the town.

A meeting was held with the Bishop about the Transitional Ministry – all were happy with progress and looking forward to next year.

Correspondence

A request had been received for a donation to the Aberlour Children's Society. The vestry agreed.

Treasurer's Report

Main Account:	£17,948.95
Fabric Fund Account:	£5,174.14
Buildings Account:	£3,617.36
St Philip's:	£7,989.14

On behalf of Peter Mary presented the financial report for 2021/2022. There were no issues and this report will be presented at the AGM, and thereafter forwarded to the independent examiner.

Worship/Priest's Report

Mary reported that she has many assignments to do as a result of the mediation course, and the transitional ministry course.

A new contemplative prayer group has started, called Still@7, on the first Wednesday of each month. At the first meeting there were 13 people representing at least 4 churches.

The Ukrainian Drop-in is going well with a variety of activities and new friends being made within the community. The volunteers who support the group come from various local churches.

The Remembrance service is due to take place in St James, also involving Sarah Smith from Carronside. David will toll the bell for 5 minutes prior to the start of the service.

The rota for greeters/readers/coffee makers is available for the next 6 months.

Fabric

Church: The roof inspection and cleaning of the gutters has been completed. Someone keeps switching off the pew heaters. These heaters are wi-fi controlled and should not be switched off.

Hall: The contract for the boiler has been renewed. The guides have cleaned their cupboard and the other cupboard is a 'work in progress'.

Garden: Thank you to all who helped with the planting of the bushes. We are still waiting for the contractor to complete the other works, namely the resin covering on the concrete path, the safety rail on the hall fire exit and the removal of the font from the garden.

Rectory (Old): The cooker is now working. The electrical installation condition report has been received. There are still outstanding items from the Quinquennial Report.

Fund Raising/Social

The Book Browse raised £974. Since September 37 books have been sold via Abe Books giving a net profit of £176. David had submitted a document on the Book Browse to vestry members and it was decided to discuss this at the January meeting.

Val asked what the capacity of the hall is. We are insured for a total of 60. Anne asked about the public entertainment licence but David said that as we are not charging for entertainment it was not necessary.

AOCB

The AGM will be on 27th November in the hall after the service. Arma and Irene have completed their 3 year term on vestry. James Cleeves and Fiona Robertson's wedding is on 15th April 2023.

Date of Next Meeting: 25th January

St James in 1977

The World: **Jan:** former PM Anthony Eden died; US restored death penalty and Gary Gilmore executed; Jimmy Carter sworn in as President of USA; IRA bombed West End of London. **Feb:** Archbishop of Uganda murdered by Amin's troops. **Mar:** Major air disaster in Tenerife as 2 jets collided on runway. **April:** North Sea oil well blow-out on the Bravo platform caused huge slick. **July:** death of Russian novelist Vladimir Nabokov. **Aug:** US space shuttle made first test flight; Elvis Presley found dead aged 42; Groucho Marx died. **Sept:** Steve Biko was beaten to death in police detention in South Africa. **Nov:** UN banned arms sales to South Africa. 1977 was the year of Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee.

Also: Spielberg's film '*Close Encounters of the Third Kind*'; John Travolta starred in '*Saturday Night Fever*'; Woodie Allen's film '*Annie Hall*'; George Lucas' film '*Star Wars*'.

The Rhodesian government had been at war with Robert Mugabe's ZANU and Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU and conflict spilled over into Mozambique and Zambia. The Angolan civil war continued, as well as conflict in Ethiopia.

West German commandos ended the hijacking of a Lufthansa plane in Mogadishu by the Baader-Meinhof Group.

The 'Boat People' (800,000 Chinese and Vietnamese refugees) took to the sea to escape the communist regime in South Vietnam.

Pompidou Centre opened in Paris. Police clashed with pickets at the Grunwick film processing labs in Willesden.

Red Rum won the Grand National for the third time.

Maria Callas and Bing Crosby died.

Stonehaven

26th January 1977: The AGM was held in the hall at 7.30 pm. There were 39 members present. The treasurer reported that income from cash collections and free will offering was ahead of last year. There was a deficit of £1061.93 but was due to necessary non-recurring high expenditure. There was a discussion about covenanting the

free will offerings which, for those members paying standard rate income tax, would benefit the church. There were six vacancies to fill on vestry and, having filled five of these, Mrs Bisset asked if there were any reasons why a lady should not be appointed to the vestry. As there were no reasons Mrs E Sharp was elected to the vestry. **** (See Below Note 1)**

The Rector reported on his first year. The roof of the church was awaiting repair because vestry was waiting to hear from the slaters. He expressed his thanks for the loyal support from the vestry, choir and the Ladies Fellowship for their time spent cleaning the church and hall. Mrs Bella Christie brought up the subject of hiring a cleaner but this had been tried before by advertising with a negative result so the ladies agreed to continue with the cleaning.

17th February 1977: The Rector expressed his sorrow at the sudden death of Mr D Harrison before the AGM, as a long serving member of the vestry he would be sorely missed. Part of the path leading from the gate to the church entrance had subsided creating a hazard for the unwary. All that was required was to fill in the gap with cement. Mr E Harper stated that, in connection with the centenary celebrations, the Royal Hotel had been booked for Saturday, 1st October and he would obtain a sample menu.

Mr J Davis the organist had resigned due to being relocated to the south of England. It would be difficult to replace him and the Rector had approached Mr Edmonstone, the organ tuner, and he had agreed to help out where possible but would not consider taking on the post. It was also agreed to find out if there were any likely organists amongst the pupils at Mackie Academy. The Easter Day services were: St James at 8.30 am, St Philip's 9.30 am, St James 10.30 am, St Ternan's 12 noon. The Rector had hoped to call on Rev Burnett to help but he would be away on Easter Day. However, he would take the services on the following two Sundays to give the Rector a break. The Bishop would visit on Trinity Sunday. It was agreed to commence advertising the church services - once a month was considered adequate. It was agreed to send a letter with the

next magazine pointing out the benefits of covenanting subscriptions either directly or through free will offering envelopes. The Rector thanked the children of the Sunday School for their recent 'Hush In' which raised £93. The decoration of the Rectory interior was now complete but the Rector felt the exterior could do with some attention, along with new gates.

Mr Beaumont brought up the subject of the choice of hymns – he felt that a number of them had been unfamiliar and suggested hymns of a more popular nature be included so the congregation could take a greater part. *****(See Below Note 3)**

9th June 1977: There had been no further progress on finding an organist but meanwhile we were indebted to Mr Bill Jolly for helping us. Capt Christie reported that the roof repairs had been completed and it was now a case of 'wait and see' to find out if these had been successful. The secretary agreed to contact local painters about the Rectory exterior. On the advice of Mr Emslie it was agreed to wait until after the tradesmen's holidays next month. The secretary would also contact Mr Donald, blacksmith, about new gates for the Rectory. The Rector announced that, further to our centenary celebrations, there was a possibility that the cathedral organist would be present, together with a few members of his choir to play and sing at Evensong on evening of 1st October. It was agreed to invite the Ladies Fellowship to the next vestry meeting to arrange a sub-committee for the centenary celebration. *****(See Below Note 2)**

From October a charge of 6p/copy for the magazine 'Outlook' would have to be made.

Mr Emslie brought up the state of the Chancel. It was agreed that a couple of members of the vestry would paint it.

20th October 1977: The Rector expressed his thanks to Mr Harper and Mr Beaumont for their part in making the centenary dinner such a success. Thanks were also given to those who had decorated the Chancel and to the Ladies Fellowship for providing refreshments to

visitors.

Only one estimate had been received for the painting of the Rectory. This was from Mr C Christie and was for £212.76. This was accepted. The Rector drew the attention of the vestry to the electric cooker stored at the moment in the garage at the Rectory. It was agreed to advertise it for sale.

NB ****Note 1:** Readers should note this huge step into the twentieth century by St James!!

***** Note 2:** If there ever was a vestry meeting including the Ladies' Fellowship it was never minuted – the inclusion of several ladies in the vestry meeting must have been too much of a shock to the secretary and his pen was frozen!

*****Note 3:** A familiar point of view.

Summary of Vestry minutes of 25th January

Vestry minutes are not published in the newsletter until they have been formally approved by the vestry. This can cause a delay of one or two months. So for an experimental period we will publish a brief summary of the minutes and then the full minutes at a later date after approval by the vestry.

- Discussion on future of the Book Browse.
- Need to register the owner of the old rectory in Ramsay Road on the Land Register.
- Plan for joint service at Catterline with the Community Church.
- Masonic Lodge to attend service at St James' on 16th April.
- Lent discussion group to start on Shrove Tuesday.
- New letting policy, as requested by our insurers, agreed.
- To have a stall at the Fein' Market again.

Peter

Readers, and Greeters,

Date	Readings
5th February 4th Sunday after Epiphany	Is 58.1-9a,(9b-12) Ps 112.1-9(10) 1 C 2.1-12(13-16) Mt 5.13-20
12th February 2nd Sunday before Lent	Dt 30.15-20 or Sir 15.15-20 Ps 119.1-8 1 C 3.1-9 Mt 5.21-37
19th February Sunday before Lent	Ex 24.12-18 Ps 2 or Ps 99 2 P 1.16-21 Mt 17.1-9
26th February 1st Sunday in Lent	Gen 2.15-17;3.1-7 Ps 32 Ro 5.12-19 Mt 4.1-11
5th March 2nd Sunday in Lent	Gen 12.1-4a Ps 121 Ro 4.1-5,13-17 Jn 3.1-17 or Mt 17.1-9

Year A – Readings are from the NRSV of the Bible

Greeter	Lessons 1+2	Coffee
Val Cadd	Diane Fleming	Diane Fleming
Peter Fogiel	Peter Fogiel	Irene Paterson
Edward Dickens	Peter Sharp	Richard Clark
David Fleming	David Fleming	Jane Cook
Richard Clark	Val Cadd	Paula Fogiel

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 March Newsletter is Sunday 26th February 2023
Reminders will not be sent out.

St James Episcopal Church, Stonehaven .Scottish Registered Charity No. SC000301
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