

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



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

<b>Day/Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>7th May</b> <b>5th Sunday in Easter</b>	<b>10.00am Reserved Sacrament</b> <b>Arma Iles</b>
<b>14th May</b> <b>6th Sunday in Easter</b>	<b>10.00am Holy Eucharist.</b> <b>Rev Mary Jepp</b>
<b>21st May</b> <b>7th Sunday in Easter</b>	<b>10.00am Morning Prayer</b> <b>Anne O’Gorman</b>
<b>28th May</b> <b>Whit Sunday</b>	<b>10.00am Holy Eucharist.</b> <b>Rev Mary Jepp</b>

### Note

The photograph on the cover shows the Easter Cross kindly made for St James’ by Heather Grant.

From Mary,

I sit down to write a few words for May's magazine and I feel unsettled. I have been watching and listening to the news and unsettling 'shards' of stories seem to be piercing my consciousness. Last week by chance I stumbled upon a bit of history that I had never heard before. Did you know that 100 years ago, 21<sup>st</sup> April 1923, 1,500 individuals left Scotland for Canada? 1923 was a peak year for emigration from Scotland with over 89,000 leaving their homeland, and by and large, most of them were young men. It is hard to imagine what their Scottish communities would have been like without their men. Now they, living in the Isles between the wars, left to find better lives. While many worked in agriculture on the Canadian prairies, many of them didn't as the depression loomed. But that's another story.

I have always been interested in emigration and immigration. I suppose that is rooted in my own family's story, which in turn led me to research immigrant's lives in Canada in the years between the first and the second world wars. Somehow I had missed the story of those who travelled on the SS Metagama from Lewis and the SS Marioch from South Uist in 1923, perhaps for me the most unsettling bit of the story was that they disembarked in the city which I am from – Saint John, New Brunswick...and I ask myself why is it that I had not heard their story?

Now I might say, Oh... just another group of people migrating from one place to another in search of a better life, after all Saint John was in those days a point for disembarkation for many, with its own 'Ellis Island' immigrants' reception center, Partridge Island. However, as I listen to the news, and hear the stories of the Sudanese evacuations by many nations, including

the United Kingdom, hear the stories of individuals seeking a better life travelling across the Mediterranean and the English Channel in small inflatable boats, hear first hand the stories of Ukrainians fleeing their own country, I try to sort in my own mind my feelings. Perhaps my starting point would be that most people, well no, many people, well some people at least, would prefer to live settled lives in their own countries. That the choice to spend a fortune to be smuggled into any country is carried out in sheer desperation; the reality is that the economic difficulties and violence we face in the United Kingdom today are insignificant compared to the plight of farmers who have faced decades of drought, or for those living in war torn countries.

A couple of months ago, I, who have lived in the UK for 40 years plus and have held a British passport for probably 38 of those years, was asked to produce my marriage certificate for the Department of Work and Pensions. To say the least it was unsettling. Having received the demand, I then spent several hours on the phone trying to find the right department and then asking the question why? I must say that the response was not satisfactory, and I never really found out what it was all about, and that is with at least what I believe I have, a working knowledge of English! (I know some might disagree!!) Regardless and with some trepidation I sent away, by registered post my documentation. But how would someone with limited English feel?

Today I have listened to the stories of NHS Sudanese doctors, without British passports who have, as yet, not been granted safe passage from Sudan and I ask myself what is going on? The words "man's inhumanity to man" resonates at this moment. Now some might say that all this is 'Pollyanna' , 'blue sky thinking...but is it...what are we as Christians called to do and

be?

I know you have read it before...but perhaps we all should read it again...

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

Martin Niemöller (1892–1984)

## **Easter Flowers**

Pam, David S. and I decorated the church on Easter Saturday with roses and tulips bought with a donation and daffodils picked by Diana and Tony from a field owned by Mr and Mrs Forbes, Kinneff.

I am very grateful for all the donations - the church looked lovely - THANK YOU very much everyone.

Val

## **Social Committee**

## **CORONATION BRING AND SHARE AFTERNOON TEA -** Sunday 7th May - 2pm - 4pm

To celebrate King Charles' Coronation, we are inviting everyone to bring a small food contribution to share with others at our afternoon tea in the church hall.

We will set out a table and everyone will share (like a buffet). Please bring your food on a plate and remember to take your plate home at the end. We will provide the tea and coffee and you bring the food and chat.

Looking forward to a pleasant afternoon and any questions please ask.

Val

## **Feein' Market**

Please don't forget the stall at the Feein' Market on Saturday 3rd June - 10am until 4pm, the Square, Stonehaven - home bakes, home crafts and some help required please - speak to Anne for more information.

Val

## **THE BOOK BROWSE**

That's it - we waved goodbye this morning (Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April) to the remnants of the last Book Browse as they set off on their journey to Dunfermline (to a book charity). It was a bittersweet moment - like losing a friend, a final reminder that we have closed down a very popular event for Stonehaven and the surrounding area, but also a relief for our spinal columns!

This last Book Browse raised over £1000, the third time we have achieved this sum. We have, over the last 10 years, raised a

total somewhere in the region of £30,000 for the church and we will have to work hard to match this income in the future. Every person who came through the door on Saturday and Sunday commiserated with us and said how much they would miss us.

Over the ten years we have made numerous friends – the shy man who came out from Aberdeen specially to attend each Book Browse. He was with us from the beginning and was always first through the doors as soon as we opened, the people who have only just found us and regretted the fact that they would lose us, the children and teenagers who had started coming in large numbers, the visitors and tourists who welcomed buying a thriller for their travels, the pensioners who came for a coffee and chat as well as books, people who had never been inside our church and marvelled at its architecture.

We have enjoyed meeting all these people and hearing about their literary ‘finds’ amongst the pews. Several have found books they have wanted for a long time. After Covid, when we moved into the church it was welcomed by everyone – those of us who set it up because the hall was becoming crowded and setting up the tables was exhausting. Our customers were pleased – social distancing was possible and the books were easier to browse. The social side (coffee and a chat) took some time to get going post Covid but the last three Book Browsers saw an increase in people stopping to chat and partake of the free coffee and tea.

However, we are getting older and this last event proved more difficult to set up due to the lack of available young fit volunteers. It was only just managed by calling in some favours. Our trusty volunteers who arrange the books, help during the two days and pack up have earned our heartfelt

thanks – we could not have done it without you. I, for one, will also miss three things: the plaintive cry, heard when packing up. - ‘Who’s taken my box lid?’, sorting donated books in the freezing baptistry and amazement at how many books one author can generate!

We would also like to thank the very large numbers of you who supported us by buying and donating books during the last ten years. This event would have been impossible without you.

The on-line catalogue will continue for the moment – this is the sale of rare and unusual books. The boxes which contain them, housed in the side aisle, will disappear eventually to be housed elsewhere, thus clearing the church, and the Book Browse will then be just a ghostly memory!!

David and Diane Fleming

## **Thank You**

The vestry and congregation would like to thank you both for all your hard work in making the Book Browse such a success.

From small beginnings at the coffee morning 10 years ago to the amazing amount of books that appear in the church, for sale, on Book Browse weekend.

The amount of money raised has steadily increased over the time to the record breaking over £1,000.

We appreciated how much work took place in the background, with sorting and disposing of books.



It has been great to see so many people, particularly since covid, coming through the church doors.

Once again thank you to you both.

Anne O’Gorman

## St James in 1980

**The World:** **Feb:** Pierre Trudeau was Canadian PM again. **Mar:** Robert Mugabe elected PM of Zimbabwe. Robert Runcie new Archbishop of Canterbury. **April:** Iranian Embassy siege in London. Zimbabwe became independent. Princess Beatrix installed as Queen of Netherlands after abdication of Queen Juliana. **May:** Yugoslav president Tito died. Mt St Helens volcano erupted in US. Alexandra Palace caught fire. **Jun:** US writer Henry Miller died. **Jul:** Bjorn Borg won 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive Wimbledon. 22<sup>nd</sup> Olympic Games opened in Moscow. Deposed Shah of Iran died in Cairo. **Aug:** Bomb blast in Bologna, Italy killed 76. Polish workers seized Gdansk shipyard. Wreck of Titanic found. **Oct:** Terrorists bomb Paris synagogue. Algeria hit by earthquake. Soviet Premier Kosygin resigned (died Dec). **Nov:** Ronald Reagan won US Presidency. Severe earthquake hits S Italy. **Dec:** John Lennon murdered.

**Also:** Umberto Eco’s novel *‘The Name of the Rose’*.  
The Bible was published in China for the first time.  
Peter Sellers died. Alfred Hitchcock died in April.  
Cecil Beaton died.

March – mobile oil rig Alexander Kielland capsized in heavy seas off coast of Norway with the loss of 123 lives.

November – The Sunday Times was awarded costs by the European Court in its case against the government ban on an

article about Thalidomide.

### **Stonehaven**

**15<sup>th</sup> January:** The AGM took place in the hall. 24 adults and 2 children were present. There had been no significant change in giving although expenditure continued to rise. The Rector thanked the Ladies' Fellowship for their fund raising efforts. The accounts showed a deficit of £512.82. The Rector stated that the communicants' roll had risen by 25% since 1975 but members attending services had not risen. During the year we had lost Mr Edmonston, the organ tuner and active member of the choir, but had been fortunate in acquiring the services of the present organist, Mr Bonney. He is of the opinion that in the near future the organ keys will have to be replaced, an intricate and costly job. The young people had been very active in helping others, raising almost £50 for Cambodia in a sponsored silence and the young ladies in the choir have worked hard sorting used stamps for the Leprosy Mission. He also thanked those who had filled in his questionnaire on the Experimental Liturgy, there was a minority who would welcome a service at 10.30am instead of 11am once a month. It was agreed for a period of 6 months that the Parish Communion on the first Sunday of each month should be at 10.30am. The 8.30am service would not be cancelled on those Sundays.

**11<sup>th</sup> March:** A meeting had been held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March between the Rector, treasurer, lay representatives representing churches throughout the diocese. This meeting was convened by the Bishop and the diocesan treasurer to discuss the churches' financial position. After discussion it was agreed to go with Mr Harper's suggestion of a gift day, to be held on 31<sup>st</sup> May.

The organist had been advised that the organ keys needed to be recovered and the tracker rods replaced. Estimates were to be obtained for this work. There was to be an organ recital on

13<sup>th</sup> April with a retiring collection to be put towards an organ fund.

**8<sup>th</sup> May:** No decision could be made about the organ as estimates had not been received from the organ builders. Cash received for the organ fund amounted to £636.

Arrangements for the gift day were in hand and Mr Harper was thanked for the printing of letters to go out to the congregation.

To brighten the interior of the hall curtain rails had been fixed in position ready for curtains. The exterior of the hall was sorely in need of a little paint – this is to be undertaken by one or two of the vestry members. In the absence of the Rector in June Capt Christie, Mr Grant and Mr J Emslie offered to open and close the church each day.

**18<sup>th</sup> May:** This meeting was called rather hurriedly and held in the choir vestry after the morning service to review the church insurances. It was agreed to make the following increases: church building from £100,000 to £120,000, 13 stained glass windows from £6,000 to £7,500, stained glass windows in baptistry from £2,000 to £2,500, fixtures and fittings from £7,000 to £8,000, organ from £6,000 to £7,500, church hall from £15,000 to £20,000, fixtures and fittings from £1,000 to £1,250.

**5<sup>th</sup> June:** This meeting was called to consider the estimate received from the organ builders. The price quoted was £1574.16 plus VAT with a 6 months' guarantee. It was felt that any delay would lead to a rise in price and it was finally agreed to accept this quotation. The work would commence at an early date and the present contract with Messrs Rushworth and Dreaper would be terminated.

**21<sup>st</sup> September:** The Rector said he would be on holiday for 2 Sundays in October. There would be no 8.30am services on those days and instead of the usual 11am services there would be services at 10.30am taken by Rev A Cousland. The Rector

had received a request from an officer of the Guide Troup for the occasional use of the hall. It was agreed that this request be granted.

Capt Christie reported that he, along with Mr Leiper of Messrs Thomson and Jones, Joiners, had carried out an inspection of the belfry before commencing on repairs. It was Mr Leiper's opinion that the ladders and platform in the belfry were in a very dangerous condition and under no circumstances would he allow his workmen to commence work until these were strengthened.

Diane

## **Vestry Minutes 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

### **Matters Arising**

Peter Sharp has received a copy of the deeds for 3 Ramsay Road in connection with the requirement to register the property under the Register of Controlled Interest in Land legislation.

The names on the house titles were Peter Sharp, Diana Peters and Gill Walker.

The deadline for registering has been extended by a year.

Peter said we should be able to register online thus saving on solicitor's fees.

### **Correspondence**

The Bishop's Lent Appeal is for the earthquake disaster in Turkey and Syria.

The War Memorial in Stonehaven will be 100 years old this year and there is a plan for a re-dedication service on 20<sup>th</sup> May.

Peter Fogiel circulated a copy of the fire risk assessment to vestry members.

Anne circulated:

- 1) Information on marriage age changes in England. This

has been raised to 18 but remains 16 in Scotland.

2) A document on Net Zero consultation

3) Information on Health and Safety resources for congregations.

Anne passed the health and safety risk assessment books to Peter Fogiel.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Main Account £20,311.94

Fabric Fund Account £3,696.14

Buildings Account £3,617.36

St Philip's £7,549.01

Mary said that if she takes a funeral service elsewhere then the fees will be divided equally between St James and St Ternans.

Peter reported that the regulator had approved the accounts.

### **Worship/Priest's Report**

There will be an investigation as to who has access to the website and Facebook sites.

Mary spoke about the Net Zero consultation. It is hoped to get near net zero by 2030.

The church heating system is electric. Peter commented that when the contract is renewed we will have to consider a company which claims to be a zero carbon producer. The hall is dual fuelled and will have to be looked at. Grants will be available. As a first step we need to have an external energy audit of the buildings.

Peter Sharp noted that we completed an energy toolkit a year ago and this gives some guidance on actions we need to take.

The diocese had set up an environmental working group, he was convening that group and David was also a member.

David raised some questions about the very comprehensive report, one being that there is little mention how congregations will be involved.

Mary reported on the church services. Compline on Friday evening, Still @ 7 monthly, Tuesday said Communion. The Lent Group discussing the Creed follows the Tuesday service.

### **Easter Services**

Holy Week services all at St James

Monday: Stations of the Cross taken by Fr Mark

Tuesday: Service to be taken by Sarah Smith of Carronside

Wednesday: Still @ 7 taken by Mary

Thursday: Service for Maundy Thursday at 7pm taken by Mary

Good Friday: Tenebrae service taken by Mary

Saturday: Easter Vigil, possibly to include other churches in the Diocese.

There will an Easter Sunday service at the harbour at 8am followed by breakfast at St Bridget's. There will be the usual service at 10am at St James.

Refugee workers visited the Ukrainian Drop-in and were very impressed as the Ukrainians had 'ownership' of the evening, the church were there as hosts. There were 43 people present, numbers have increased since the New Year.

The Warm Hub offered on a Thursday afternoon has not been a success but has been useful for meetings.

Sandy had invited Mary to attend the lunch for seniors at Number 44 and said she gave a great address.

Mary is planning to go on retreat at the end of May.

### **Fabric**

**Church:** Peter Fogiel reported that the fire risk assessments had been completed for the church and hall and there were some items which required urgent attention.

The fire extinguishers which should be checked annually under a contract with Chubb have not been checked since November 2021. A fire blanket was also out of date and some

types of extinguisher should have been replaced. Peter has arranged for a new contractor to give a quote.

When the church is in use the back door needs to be unlocked as this is a fire exit. Fire exit notices have been put up and a Yale lock is being fitted. All areas leading to the back door need to be kept clear and Peter and Paula have done this.

It was recommended that wax candles are not used when the church is unattended, however it was felt that we would like the votive candles to be used. The curtain has been removed. There was a recommendation that linked fire alarms be placed near the front door and by the electrics cupboard for early detection of fire.

A Canon 35 has been submitted for emergency and sensor lighting to be installed in corridor from nave to office and in the toilet area.

David suggested we have a locking up policy for Sundays.

**Hall:** Fire alarms need to be checked weekly and a record kept. This has been put into action. The emergency lighting needs to be checked. The main alarm system is to be checked regularly. There will be a contract for this. If there is a fire in the hall Arbuthnott House is the safe area. All hall users to be advised on the fire safety routine. All but one group has signed the hall letting form.

The safety rail leading from the fire door will be put up within a month.

A quote is still awaited for the resin coating for the paths leading to the church and hall.

The public entertainment licence has been applied for, the poster advertising this will have in situ for 3 weeks on Friday. Paula Fogiel has taken over the hiring and payments for hall bookings.

**Garden:** The font will be removed and Jamie Campbell, who has agreed to take it, will cover the cost. There is a suggestion for installing additional CCTV cameras.

There was some discussion about the garden plot behind the church. The old shed will be removed and perhaps the plot could be rented out.

Peter Fogiel has received quotes for cleaning the gutters.

Vestry agreed to accept the quote for £1,400 from Stonehaven Roofing Services.

**Rectory (Old)** Peter Fogiel and David will visit to check that issues raised in the Quinquennial Report have been complied with.

### Fund Raising/Social

Coffee Morning: 18<sup>th</sup> March

Book Browse: 22/23 April

Rock Choir Concert: 29<sup>th</sup> April

Feein Market: 3<sup>rd</sup> June

**Date of Next Meeting: 26<sup>th</sup> April**

### **Extraordinary Vestry Meeting**

**Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

**Chalice:** There was a discussion about the reintroduction of wine at our Eucharists prior to Easter.

Mary suggested the following: that for the time being we remain standing with communicants spaced on either side of the chancel and that there are 3 options for communicants after receiving the bread:

- 1) They receive the chalice and take wine from the chalice
- 2) They take the chalice and hand it back without taking any wine
- 3) They return to their seat without taking the chalice or being part of that queue.

It was decided to start offering the chalice on Maundy



Thursday. Before the service it would be explained to the congregation that they could decline the chalice if they so wished.

**3 Ramsay Road** David Fleming and Peter Fogiel had visited the tenants at 3 Ramsay Road to discuss items from the Quinquennial Report. During that visit the tenant expressed an interest in buying the property. He organized a full survey and the property has been valued at £155,000. The tenant has offered £150,000. Peter Fogiel is to go back to Raeburn Christie, Clark & Wallace to see if the offer could be increased nearer to £155,000. Peter Sharp said that the money received from sale could be invested in the Unit Trust Pool. Interest from this would only be about £4,500, whereas the total rent for the year would be £10,000. We would therefore need to consider our future finances.

**Subsequent actions:** an offer of £153,000 was made. Details of this were circulated to vestry members and they agreed to accept this offer and for Messrs Raeburn Christie Clark & Wallace to proceed with the sale of 3 Ramsay Road.

## **Collection**

During the Covid pandemic we stopped the practice of handing round a collection plate during the offertory hymn. At its last meeting vestry agreed that we should restart the practice.

Many of you pay by standing order, so don't feel obliged to put money into the plate. If you forget, or are missed out, then please put your contribution into the collection box at the back of the church.

Peter

Readers, and Greeters,

Date	Readings
7th May 5th Sunday in Easter	Acts 7.55-60 Ps 31.1-5,15-16 1 P 2.2-10 Jn 14.1-14
14th May 6th Sunday in Easter	Acts 17.22-31 Ps 66.7-18 1 P 3.13-22 Jn 14.15-21
21st May 7th Sunday in Easter	Acts 1.6-14 Ps 68.1-10,33-36 1 P 4.12-14;5.6-11 Jn 17.1-11
28th May Whit Sunday	Acts 2.1-21 or Nu 11.24-30 Ps 104.25-35,37 1 C 12.3b-13 or Acts 2.1-21 Jn 20.19-23 or Jn 7.37-39
4th June Trinity Sunday	Gen 1.1-2.4a Ps 8 2 C 13.11-13 Mt 28.16-20

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

<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Lessons 1+2</b>	<b>Coffee</b>
Edward Dickens	Peter Sharp	Diane Fleming
David Fleming	David Fleming	Val Cadd
Richard Clark	Val Cadd	Irene Paterson
Jane Cook	Val Cadd	Richard Clark
Diana Peters	Diana Peters	Jane Cook

## 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	Paula Fogiel
Protection of Vulnerable Groups Officer	Irene Paterson
Vestry	Rev Mary Jepp

**The copy deadline for the June Newsletter is Sunday 28th May 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