

St James', Stonehaven and St Philip's, Catterline
 Interim Rector. The Bishop of Brechin.
 Church Phone No: 01569 764473

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

Group Conveners			
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VESTRY	Interim Chair:	Peter Sharp	01224 895357



Services at St. James' & St Philip's during April 2017

Sundays.
 9.00 a.m. Said Eucharist
 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Second Wednesday in the month.
 10.30 a.m. Eucharist and Healing Service

No services at St Philip's, Catterline until further notice.



Vestry Secretary: Anne O'Gorman,
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The copy deadline for the May Newsletter is Sunday 23rd April.
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

DIARY NOTES April 2017

Day/Date	Event
2nd April Passion Sunday	9.00 Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles 10.30 Eucharist. Rev. Jane Nelson.
9th April Palm Sunday	9.00 Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles. 10.30 Songs of Praise. Anne O’Gorman/Peter Sharp
13th April Maundy Thursday	19:00 Ecumenical service in St Bridget's, followed by stripping of altar and consumption of sacrament
14th April Good Friday	Meditation Space only
15th April Holy Saturday	11.00 Said Communion and consecration of elements. Rev. Jane Nelson
16th April Easter Day	8.00 Harbour Service (There will be no 9.00 service) 10.30 Reserved Sacrament. Peter Smart
23rd April Second Sunday in Easter	9.00 Reserved Sacrament. Pam Levack-Moir 10.30 Eucharist. Rev. Jane Nelson.
30th April Third Sunday in Easter	9.00 Reserved Sacrament. Peter Smart 10.30 Reserved Sacrament. Peter Smart

Year A – Readings are from the NRSV of the Bible
Year B readings begin on Advent Sunday

10.30 am Lessons 1+2	10.30 am Gospel	Greeter	Coffee Rota
Ellie MacLeod	Richard Clark	Anne Sproul	Irene Paterson
DRAMATIC READING	PARTS ALLOCATED	Val Cadd	Peter Sharp
Diana Peters	Heather Grant	Anne O’Gorman	Diane Fleming
Ellie MacLeod	Irene Paterson	David Fleming	Val Cadd
David Fleming	Diana Peters	Diane Fleming	Doreen Brankin
Richard Clark	Val Cadd	Stella Wilson	Edna Craig

Readers, Greeters, Vestry and Coffee Rota

Date	Readings	9.00 am Greeter/ Reader
2nd April - Passion Sunday	Ezek 37.1-14 Ps 130 Ro 8.6-11 Jn 11.1-45	Doreen Brankin
9th April - Passion Sunday	Liturgy of the Palms Mt 21.1-11 Liturgy of the Passion Is 50.4-9a Ps 31.9-16 Phil 2.5-11 Mt 26.14-27.66 or Mt 27.11-54	Edna Craig
16th April - Easter Day	Acts 10.34-43 or Jer 31.1-6 Ps 118.1-2,14-24 Col 3.1-4 or Acts 10.34-43 Jn 20.1-18 or Mt 28.1-10	HARBOUR SERVICE
23rd April - 2nd Sunday in Easter	Acts 2.14a,22-32 Ps 16 1 P 1.3-9 Jn 20.19-31	Edna Craig
30th April - 3rd Sunday in Easter	Acts 2.14a,36-41 Ps 116.1-3(4-9)10-17 1 P 1.17-23 Lk 24.13-35	Melvin Christie
7th May- 4th Sunday in Easter	Acts 2.42-47 Ps 23 1 P 2.19-25 Jn 10.1-10	Jean Carnie

From Dr Peter Smart

What does Easter mean to you? Earlier today (20 March) I saw a flyer from what a good friend calls 'The German Delicatessen' (Lidl's to me and you!). According to the photo and by-line on the front page, Easter to them appears to mean hot cross buns, chocolate, and family feasts: or food, sweets and over-indulgence. Easter seems to be the new Christmas to their marketing people.

Now I've no objection to hot cross buns (Margaret makes the best in the world!) or family get-togethers over holiday weekends. Great fun can be had when several generations of one's family are able to enjoy food and fellowship together. But what message does Lidl's catalogue send to the wider world about Easter, particularly to the 98% of the population of Scotland that rarely darken the doors of church with their presence and the 50%+ who have never heard the story of Easter? How do we try to get across the story of Easter: Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem that we celebrate on Palm Sunday; the way the mood against Jesus turned sour in the following days; his show trial on trumped-up charges; the barbaric way in which he was put to death; and, praise God, his resurrection on the third day – and all the other events that took place in that single week that changed the world forever?

There is a danger that Easter (as with Christmas) becomes a series of sound bites. John's Gospel offers perhaps the most comprehensive narrative of the whole complex story of Easter, from Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to his appearance to the disciples after his resurrection. This may be found in John, chapter 12, verse 12 to the end of the Gospel. But all four Gospels have their accounts, with editorial nuances, of Easter week. Why not make a commitment to read at least one of

these accounts privately in the run up to Easter day?

So, what does Easter mean to you? One answer might be that Jesus died for the forgiveness of *our* sins. Yes: look at Acts 10:43. Here Peter is telling the Good News to some Gentiles. He says, "All the prophets testify about Jesus that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." Another might be that through his death and resurrection we who believe will have eternal life. Yes: see the reassuring words of Jesus in John 11:25 - 26, at the end of the story of the death of Lazarus, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

I pray that each one of you will receive the blessing and reassurance of Easter, and that you may help spread the Good News to those around you this Eastertide.

Let me finish with some words from with one of my favourite Easter hymns. It's in the hymn book used at St James', number 435. I don't have access at home to the book used at St Ternan's to check.

Low in the grave he lay: Jesus, my Saviour;
waiting the coming day, Jesus, my Lord.

*Up from the grave he arose,
with a mighty triumph o'er his foes;
he arose a victor from the dark domain,
and he lives for ever with his saints to reign.
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!*

Peter

It also looks at various proposed changes to the church canons. These are the laws and regulations that govern the Scottish Episcopal Church. Any changes to canons must be approved by the Provincial Synod but diocesan synods are asked for their views. This year changes to three canons were being considered. If the change to Canon 63 is agreed by Provincial Synod then the Alternative Lay Representative will become an ex officio member of vestry. Canon 22 sets out which services are authorised by the church. The changes proposed modify the way in which any alterations to the services will be approved. The third one, Canon 31, was on the vexed issue of same sex marriage. To gauge the feeling of the diocese a ballot was taken and there was support for the change amongst both the clergy and laity. However, this is not a binding vote and it will be the vote at Provincial Synod in the summer which will decide on whether there is to be a change.

Guest speaker at synod was Jenny Marra MSP for North East Scotland who gave a talk on "Keeping Faith in Politics". Rev. Kerry Dixon gave a presentation "Mobilising for the Future" on which he set out proposals for the Diocesan Strategic Plan. Charges will get the opportunity to comment on this proposal over the coming weeks.

One of the last items on the agenda is the Bishop's Charge. In this Bishop Nigel usually gives his thoughts on the health of the diocese and issues facing us for the coming year. Much to the surprise of synod he started it by announcing his intention to retire in the summer. He explained that he had intended to retire in 2018 but personal circumstances had led him to decide to go this year. He and Anne will retire to Lincolnshire where they will be near family.

Peter

The second section of the project will upgrade the plumbing and electrics of the church (some of which is over 40 years old) and remove much of the lead piping still in place. As a result, it is hoped that the heating in the church will be much improved. We will also install WiFi throughout the church and hall. The third section is the installation of two permanent exhibitions at the west end of the church. One part will illustrate the long, complex and intriguing history of Episcopal churches in the Stonehaven area, and allow the church to display securely some of the very old items such as pewterware (dating back to the 1600's) and historical bibles (one of which is dated 1709 and was owned by the family of Robert Burns). The second part of the exhibition will demonstrate the musical principles and the physics of the church's organ.

Thanks must go to David Fleming who has worked tirelessly to obtain this grant. The implementation of the grant will be the responsibility of a small task group chaired by David.

Diocesan Synod 2017

As you may know, the Diocesan Synod is the governing body of the diocese and meets annually. Each church is represented by its Lay Representative and clergy. This year the synod met on the 11th March at the new Diocesan Centre which is located in St John Baptist Church, Dundee.

Much of the business of synod is administrative. It receives reports from the various diocesan committees and officers, diocesan statistics, diocesan personnel. It fills various posts at both diocesan and provincial level, requests for nominations for these posts having been circulated to vestries earlier in the year. It receives the diocesan accounts and approves the diocesan budget for the coming year.

Vestry Minutes January 2017

Matters Arising

Costing for fold up tables is in hand.

Information is still awaited about the possibility of a concert given by the Albyn School choir.

Correspondence

The Diocesan Charges for Liturgical Duty 2017 have been received.

Treasurer's Report

Main Account	£21,627.33
Fabric Fund Account	£7,849.95
Buildings Account	£2,499.24
St Philip's	£1,613.37

Peter Sharp said that £6,000 paid for the ceiling repair and for the steeplejacks would appear on next month's statement. David reported that the sales of tea towels and bookmarks now total £535 which is 80% of the original outlay.

Report on St James

Anne and David Geldart's farewell service will take place on 5th February. Bishop Nigel will take the service and make the presentation in the hall afterwards. It is planned to give a set of placemats showing pictures of St James and St Philips and a John Lewis voucher. Refreshments will be available and Anne O'Gorman will invite St Ternan's to join us.

David reported that the inventory of valuable items is almost complete. He has taken photos of all the items but there are some items on the last inventory which he cannot locate. He will speak to other members of the congregation to see if they can help. The last inventory was done in 1999 and items were

valued then so we need to consider some being revalued. Some old bibles found in the cupboard at the back of the church will be moved to the office for safe keeping.

Report on St Philip's

Melvin and Peter have checked the fabric. There will be no services there until further notice. Arma asked if the date on the Pascal Candle can be checked the next time someone visits St Philip's.

Recommendations by Amanda

Consideration needs to be given as to how we publicise the Church, hall and its facilities.

David has spoken to the Camera Club about taking photos of the church and they are happy to do this as a competition. He is also looking at putting St James on Facebook.

Peter will look at making the website available on mobile phones.

There is a draft information sheet of the facilities on offer.

Worship

The Worship Group will look at the possibility of restarting the Healing Service on a Wednesday morning.

Peter Smart has received an email about the possibility of starting a monthly service for the residents of Haven Court.

Peter will contact them for more information. Arma has monthly commitments at Eden Home and Clashfarquhar already.

Pam asked if people could be vigilant and check after services that everything is put away and doors locked.

David said that he and Peter had looked at the Reserved Sacrament booklet and a new one is ready for printing.

Arma has offered to look after the 'Year's Mind' names for the intercessions.

day will be the end of June. He and Anne are retiring to Lincolnshire.

His last visit to the northern part of the diocese is to celebrate Pentecost at St Ternan's on 4th June. We will let you know the arrangements closer to the date.

The process for electing a new bishop will start with the diocese putting together a description of the Diocese and its aspirations. Once a bishop retires or resigns, the Bishopric becomes vacant. The process for finding and electing a new bishop normally takes about six months. It involves initially the preparation of a short-list of candidates and then an election by representatives of the Diocese in question. The process begins within 21 days of the vacancy arising, by the Primus issuing a Mandate for an election.

Peter

Grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund

As you may now know we have been awarded a large grant of £107,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to go towards a project to repair and improve the church.

The project is in three sections. The first and most urgent one is to repair the roof and treat the dry rot that has appeared over the last two years because of water getting into the timbers. Whilst the church is out of action for a few weeks in the summer, the opportunity will also be taken to spray all the roof timbers to overcome an infestation of woodworm. We will also upgrade the protection to the stained glass windows and install CCTV to deter the vandals that have caused damage in recent times.

Social Committee

Thank you to everyone who generously donated, helped, attended and bought from the Spring Coffee Morning on Saturday 4th March, we raised £390.75 on a very wet morning and then added to that sum on Sunday morning - thank you very much.

There will be a committee meeting on Tuesday 4th April at Val's at 12, Princess Road, at 7.30pm. to discuss future fundraising events. Everyone welcome.

Val Cadd

Easter Flowers

The church will be decorated for Easter on Easter Saturday - Saturday 15th April at 10am. We are very fortunate to have daffodils donated by Mr and Mrs Forbes, Slains Park, Kinneff and picked by Diana and Tony Peters.

We would be happy to have any help available and any donations of greenery and flowers. Thank you very much.

If any one would like an altar flower slot this coming year - you may have a special anniversary you wish to remember - please let me know as I am about to draw up the flower rota from Easter until Advent.

Val Cadd

Bishop Nigel

Bishop Nigel announced at the Diocesan Synod that he will be retiring as Bishop at the end of July. However, his last working

Fabric

Church The Development phase for the Heritage Lottery Fund is almost complete. It was noted that since the roof was repaired the stonework under the dry rot is drying out.

The Delivery phase bid has increased by 50% because

- the windows need to have mesh guards and the existing ones need recoating.
- the woodworm above the nave needs dealing with
- wet rot on the belfry staircase
- electrics.

The final document has to be submitted by the end of January, the next meeting of the HLF is 4th March and we should know the result by April.

If/when the exhibition area is in place the Vestry will need to consider where we have coffee on a Sunday morning after the service. We may need to take advice on removing pews.

David also reported that one of the stops on the organ is broken. This will be repaired at the annual service.

Hall: Sally (our cleaner) has been offered a new job with the chance to go to University. David and Anne O'Gorman have interviewed and appointed a new cleaner, Nola de Garis, working 2½ hours per week.

The Child Minders have now hired the hall on Monday mornings during term time.

David has been approached by a Storyland Group who would like to hire the hall on a Friday 9.15 am – 2.15 pm (an income of £2,100 per year).

David is to fit baby changing facilities in the disabled toilet.

Fund Raising/Social

A successful coffee morning was held in December.

Future events are: Burns Supper on 21st January
Book Browse on 4th February
Coffee Morning on 4th March

AOCB

On New Year's Day David had a gentleman knocking on his door looking for money. He had obtained his address from paperwork in the church. It was therefore decided to remove all evidence of addresses such as the back of the newsletter and delivery labels on the newsletter.

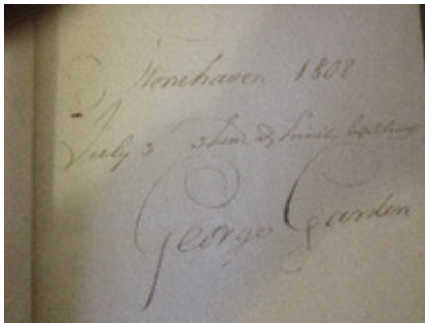
It has been noted that the blue notice board at the front of the church is out of date. David is to explore replacing this with a glass fronted board.

Arma asked if, on his next visit, the Bishop would bless the Communion Flasks donated in memory of Maggie Jackson.

Next Meeting: 7th March 2017

Behind the scenes - 9 - Rev George Garden.

We all know the Book of Common Prayer dates from 1666. However, like all publications, they get re-printed and very early editions become very rare. So it was with a tingle of excitement that I opened a very old looking Prayer Book that I found whilst working through the cupboards in the church researching our forthcoming exhibition.



On a fly-leaf at the front was a handwritten inscription, which read "Stonehaven 1808, July 3 Sunday Trinity, begun to be used. George Garden". The book that was in my hands is 308

years old!!

Rev. George Garden was the priest at the Scotch Episcopal

Chapel in Stonehaven from 1793 to 1835 at a time when it was in the High Street (on the site now occupied by the Cool Gourmet).

It was named 'Scotch' to differentiate it from the 'Qualified' Chapel (in Cameron Street, now the site of Keith Lodge). 'Scotch' meant they did not acknowledge that the King Georges (I to IV) were the rightful Kings, and refused to pray for their health. They also had a slightly different form of Eucharistic Prayer from the Church of England. The two chapels came together in 1815 before moving to St James in 1877.

If you look in the 1929 Scottish Prayer Book, you will find two Eucharistic services - 'The Scottish Liturgy' and 'The Communion', reflecting this earlier division.

The Prayer Book I was handling must have been in use for many, many years because, inside was a typewritten card, containing the prayer that I was allowed to use to close our A.G.M in October.

Almighty God, giver of all good gifts, who of thy divine providence has appointed divers Orders in thy Church; give thy grace, we humbly beseech thee to all those who are to be called to any office and administration in the same; and so replenish them with the truth of thy doctrine, and endue them with innocency of life, that they may faithfully serve before thee, to the glory of thy Great Name and the benefit of the Holy Church, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We can't tell whether this beautiful prayer was created by George Garden, but we certainly should remember his substantial legacy of unifying our small part of Christianity.

David