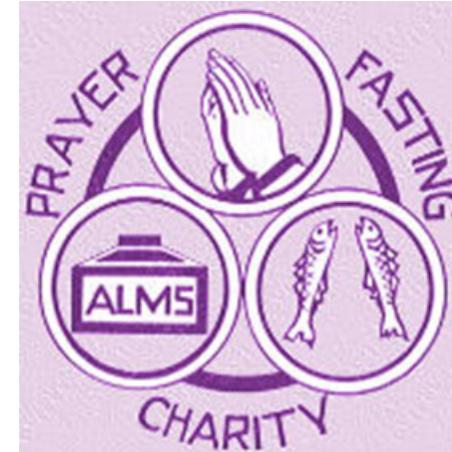


St James', Stonehaven and St Philip's, Catterline
 Interim Rector. The Bishop of Brechin.
 Church Phone No: 01569 764473

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

Group Conveners			
Property	david.w.fleming @surescribe.com	David Fleming	01569 767200
Communication	peterfsharp @tiscali.co.uk	Peter Sharp	01224 895357
Pastoral Care			01569 764473
Music	david.w.fleming @surescribe.com	David Fleming	01569 767200
Remembering	tomcarniesbl @talktalk.net	Jean Carnie	01569 765114
Social	rcadd @btinternet.com	Val Cadd	01569 764402
Lay Reader emerita	arma.iles18@gmail.com	Arma Iles	01569 764080
Hall Management	david.w.fleming @surescribe.com	David Fleming	01569 767200
Weekly Pew Sheet	peterskinneff @yahoo.com	Diana Peters	01561 362412
Protection of Vulnerable Groups Officer	irenepateson@yahoo.co.uk	Irene Paterson	01569 764394
VESTRY	Interim Chair:	Peter Sharp	01224 895357



Services at St. James' & St Philip's during February 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,
 Tel; 01569-765793 email: anneogorman1@btinternet.com

The copy deadline for the December/January Newsletter is Sunday 26th February. 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

Year A – Readings are from the NRSV of the Bible

DIARY NOTES February 2017

Day/Date	Event
5th February - 5th Sunday after Epiphany	9.00 Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles. 10.00 Bishop Nigel. Joint service at St James' with St Ternan's. Retirement presentation to Anne and David Geldart after service.
9th February	10.30 Reserved Sacrament/Healing Service. Pam Levack Moir/ Arma Iles.
12th February - 6th Sunday after Epiphany	9.00 Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles. 10.30 Songs of Praise. Anne O'Gorman/David Fleming.
19th February - 7th Sunday after Epiphany. Sexagesima.	9.00 Reserved Sacrament. Peter Smart. 10.30 Reserved Sacrament. Peter Smart.
26th February - Sunday before Lent. Quinquagesima.	9.00 Reserved Sacrament. Peter Smart. 10.30 Reserved Sacrament. Peter Smart.
1st March - Ash Wednesday	10.30 Eucharist. Rev. Jane Nelson.

10.30 am Lessons 1+2	10.30 am Gospel	Greeter	Coffee Rota
David Fleming	Val Cadd	David Fleming	Peter Sharp
Heather Grant	David Fleming	Diane Fleming	Edna Craig
David Fleming	Diana Peters	Diana Peters	Irene Paterson
Richard Clark	Heather Grant	Peter Sharp	Val Cadd
Diana Peters	Irene Paterson	Irene Paterson	Peter Sharp

Readers, Greeters, Vestry and Coffee Rota

Date	Readings	9.00 am Greeter/ Reader
5th February - 5th 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	Doreen Brankin
12th February - 6th Sunday after Epiphany	Dt 30.15-20 or Sir 15.15-20 Ps 119.1-8 1 C 3.1-9 Mt 5.21-37	Jean Carnie
19th February - 7th Sunday after Epiphany. Sexagesima.	Lev 19.1-2,9-18 Ps 119.33-40 1 C 3.10-11,16-23 Mt 5.38-48	Edna Craig
26th February - Sunday before Lent. Quinquagesima.	Ex 24.12-18 Ps 2 or Ps 99 2 P 1.16-21 Mt 17.1-9	Melvin Christie
5th March - Lent 1	Gen 2.15-17;3.1-7 Ps 32 Ro 5.12-19 Mt 4.1-11	Doreen Brankin

From Dr Peter Smart

In January, I spent a few days in Berlin, a city that now shows an open face to the world but still wracks itself with the sadness and guilt of the Second World War and the subsequent period during which the city (and the whole of Germany) was divided.

Close to the Reichstag (parliament) building and the Brandenburg Gate, there are powerful symbols of national atonement. The most important of these is the memorial and museum dedicated to the countless Jews who were slaughtered by Hitler and his Nazi regime. In a corner of the park close by is a smaller memorial to the Sinti and Roma ('gypsy') people who received similar treatment of incarceration and extermination. Finally, there is a third memorial to the homosexual community, which was also reviled and persecuted by Hitler. Today, the Brandenburg Gate is thankfully seen as a metaphor for peace and reconciliation.

At dinner one evening, I was talking to a doctor, just old enough to remember the Berlin Wall. His family lived in the west of the city, and he recalled how they were allowed occasionally to go through one of the check-points to visit family trapped in the east, but the same opportunity was not available to them to visit the west. What a postcode lottery!

Here and there signs and museums speak of the period that Berlin was a divided city for more than 40 years. There are bits of the wall; railway stations that were in the east, but now serve the whole of Berlin, Germany and beyond; and the dismal architecture of the Soviet era. Now here is the Reichstag building, with its massive glass dome designed by Norman Foster, open to the public to visit, and spectacular block upon block of modern offices and meeting rooms for the unified

parliament and its civil servants. And there is Unter den Linden - now a wide thoroughfare lined with shops and cafes and embassies. Only Marlene Dietrich was missing from Unter den Linden! Berlin is a vibrant open city, thank God, although it has its problems of drugs and vagrancy and sleeping rough, as does any large city these days.

My sightseeing in Berlin got me thinking. What has the world learned? The Nazi genocide of the Jews, Roma and gays has more recently had its echoes in countries as diverse as Burundi, Bosnia, Serbia, Libya, Iraq, Syria, Yemen. The division of countries continues, with Korea being the most extreme example. There, some members of a family enjoy all the trappings of democracy and wealth in South Korea, whilst other members live under the shadow of a despotic dictator in the north, where many are starving. Indeed, Kim Jong Un is so unpredictable, that civilian airliners heading between Europe and Japan take a wide berth of North Korea for fear of being shot down.

Anti-Semitism is still rife in many parts of the world. Even the UK is no longer seen by many Jews as a country of first choice. Islamophobia exists in many countries, including our own. And so on. How does all this fit with Jesus' new commandment that we must love one another as He loves us? **Where**, in the words of the song from the musical *Oliver!*, **O where is love?**

Jesus doesn't say, love one another, except for gays/Muslims/Jews/Poles/Scots/English/black people/disabled people/etc (delete as appropriate, as they say in magazines). For many of us, Jesus' new commandment *is* difficult to put into absolute practice. But, please, please, do try. He will support you in your endeavours. It will be your contribution to a better, safer world.

"They come from really poor families, school is the only hope and light in the tunnel for them. I try to help by paying their school fees as education is not free in Kenya. I am begging for any financial assistance to help these desperate children meet their dreams and desires to get education"

TONY is autistic, in a special school, fees and medication cost £600. His mum has five other children and can barely cope with the high cost of living. Tony is the easier option to be dropped from going to school because of his disability. He is very good with fine arts and loves drawing. Needs 1 more school year.

JOSEPH Omondi, 16 - A bright boy who also faces dropping out of school. The mother is a single parent suffering from HIV and AIDS after losing her husband 6 years ago. His dream is to go to university and study medicine to help those suffering with HIV, the disease that claimed the life of his father. Needs 1 more year.

DUNCAN Omondi, 20 - A total orphan. He lives with Janet's elderly family as he has nowhere to go. He aspires to study up to university level to study medicine. Needs two more years. No relation to Joseph.

BERYL Judith Oyioko, 12 is bright and an orphan, lives with her grandmother who can barely feed them. She fears she might be married off thus dropping from school. She aspires to be a lawyer. She needs 3 more years at school.

BRENDA Owuor, 17, aspires to be a nurse when she grows up. She lives with her step-mother after losing both her mother and father to HIV and AIDS. Needs 2 more years to finish school.

David

particular, how quickly the matter of the ceiling was dealt with.

Hall: A letter was received from Sally Waite, our cleaner, with her resignation. This was due to the state of the toilets with excrement smeared on one toilet, stale urine in a potty and a whole bale of blue hand towels thrown over the disabled toilet. Lyn has spoken to Sally and persuaded her to reconsider, this she has done and will remain as our cleaner. David has written to and visited all the hirers and a copy of Sally's letter has been sent to them.

Fundraising/Social

Book Browse:	3 rd December
Coffee Morning	10 th December
Burns Supper	21 st January

Next Meeting: 16th January 2017

Appeal

We received the following appeal from Allan Sutherland who lives in Stonehaven.

For the past 5 year my friend Janet Okumu has paid the school fees of 5 destitute school children from her own pocket, with occasional help from me and some friends. I have started a JustGiving.com campaign to help her raise at least enough money to pay off the debt and pay for this year's fees (£3,000) and hopefully raise the amount needed to finish off the children's education (another £24,000) They need a total of seven more years' education between them).

If you would like to donate, please go to this link. <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/allan-sutherland-2>

Here is Janet's description of the children's situation:

Social Committee.

The Spring Coffee morning is planned for Saturday 4th March - 10am until 11.30am. We will be having the following stalls - cake and candy, raffle, books, tombola (using spring colours, pink, blue, yellow, green). We will set up the hall on Friday afternoon between 2pm and 3pm but contributions will also be very welcome on Saturday morning. Please may I thank you all for your very generous contributions. We very much appreciate everyone's support at our coffee mornings. Thank you.

Flower Rota

Thank you very much Anne, Pam, Mel, Tony and Diana for all your contributions to the Christmas flower decorations and Laura and Arma for helping to put things away for next time - a great team effort.

Burns Supper

The annual Burns Supper was held in the church hall on Saturday 21st January. It was a lovely evening because of the generosity of so many people. Please may I thank Arma Isles, Sandy Cook, Iain McLeod and Irene Paterson for their excellent speeches, Peter Sharp our Master of Ceremonies for the evening, Diana Peters for the Grace, Diane Fleming, Louise Shearer, Doreen Brandon and Jan for waitressing, Julie Lawrence for producing a delicious traditional Burns Supper (I made the soup), David Fleming for all the jobs he did throughout the afternoon and evening, Cameron, the piper, Pam Levack Moir and Louise for organising the raffle, and finally the Stony Fiddlers for entertaining as we arrived.
Val.

Vestry Minutes 29th November 2016

Matters Arising

Peter Sharp welcomed Sandy Cook as a new member of the Vestry. Lyn and Anne are investigating the purchase of folding tables. David said the liturgical diary is complete and the social events diary will be confirmed after the next Social Committee meeting. The result for the Leader Fund Grant will not be considered until after the second round of the HLF grant is confirmed.

Correspondence

A letter from Bishop Luscombe and a donation of £500 towards exhibition boards.
A letter from the Cyrenians thanking St James for the Harvest donations.
Letters requesting donations from Water Aid, Aberdeen Cyrenians, Embrace and Cross Reach. These are at the back of the Church.
A letter from Alan Sutherland asking if we could help by acting as a backer for charity funds raised for a Kenyan school in which Janet Okumu is involved. Peter advised that we do not agree to our bank account being used for these funds as we would have no control over them and this could threaten our charity status. This was agreed.

Treasurer's Report

Main Account	£15,641.79
Fabric Fund Account	£8,526.33
Buildings Account	£1,999.24
St Philip's	£1,031.85
Investments	
Share Value	£82,300.00
Cash	£5,139.00

St James Report

The next meeting with Amanda Boyle will be on 2nd December. David has received some enquiries about hiring the hall which may have come via Amanda's firm's investigations. A report of Amanda's findings had been circulated.

Lyn is to find out about the Albyn School Choir doing a concert in St James.

St Philip's

The Community Church will be using St Philips for Christmas celebrations.

Worship

Due to ill health Anne and David Geldart have decided to bring forward their retirement and Anne's last service will be 9.30 am on Christmas Day. Anne will cover the first two weeks of December as planned, except for the Wednesday services which will be cancelled until further notice. There will be no 9 am service on 18th December. Jane Nelson will do the 10.30 am service.

The Christingle Service is on 20th December at 10.45 am. The Grandmothers/Mums and Toddlers have been invited and are practising the songs.

Peter Smart will take the Midnight Mass and there will be no services at St Philips until further notice.

The services on 1st January will be cancelled, there will be a service at St Ternan's to which we have been invited.

Arma has offered to take the 9 am Service on the first two Sundays in the month. David and Anne O'Gorman will look after the 10.30 am service on the second Sunday of the month. Jane Nelson will take the service on 15th January and Peter Smart on 22nd January. The Joint Worship Group (St James and St Ternans) will meet on 12th December.

Fabric

Church: David has compiled a building report which shows the dates and progress of works being carried out. The surveyor has confirmed that the ceiling is safe. The church can therefore be used for services and remain open to the public.

David has liaised with the HLF about the ceiling. On their advice he is applying for further grants.

The Vestry would like to thank David for his hard work and, in