

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

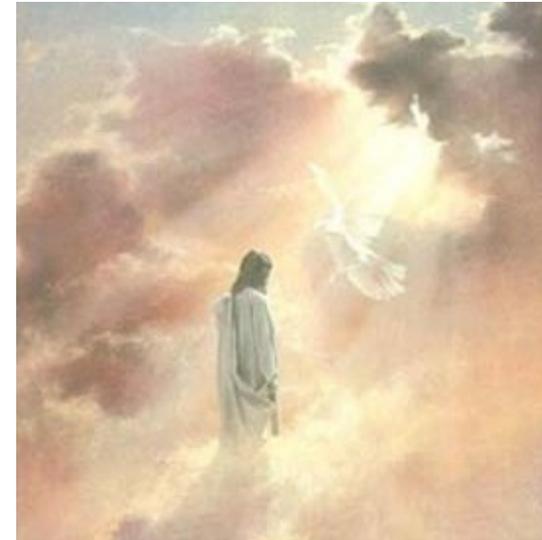
Group Conveners			
Property	lauraechristie @yahoo.co.uk	Laura Christie	01569 762482
Communication	peterfsharp @tiscali.co.uk	Peter Sharp	01224 895357
Pastoral Care			01569 764473
Music	david.w.fleming @surescribe.com	David Fleming	01569 767200
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Lay Reader emerita	arma.iles18@gmail.com	Arma Iles	01569 764080
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Lay Reader	ageldart @btinternet.com	Anne Geldart	01569 731707
Weekly Pew Sheet	peterskinneff @yahoo.com	Diana Peters	01561 362412
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VESTRY	Interim Chair:	Peter Sharp	01224 895357

Vestry Secretary: Anne O'Gorman, 114 Forest Park, Stonehaven.
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The copy deadline for the May Newsletter is Sunday 22nd May
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

Episcopal Churches of St. James' Stonehaven. St. Philip's Catterline. May 2016



Services at St. James' & St Philip's during May

Sundays.

- 9.00 a.m. Said Eucharist**
- 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist**
- 4.00 p.m. Eucharist St Philips (8th May)**

Weekday Services

- 10.30 a.m. Wednesday:-Eucharist.**
- 10.30a.m. Healing Service (4th May)**

DIARY NOTES May 2016

Day/Date	Event
Sunday 1st May – 6th Sunday of Easter. Philip and James Apostles	9.00 - Reserved Sacrament 10.30 - Reserved Sacrament
Wed 4th May - Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation	10.30 - Healing & Reserved Sacrament
5th May – Ascension Day	The Bishop is holding an ASCENSION DAY SERVICE for the northern part of the diocese in St Andrew's Church, Brechin at 7.30pm .
Saturday 7 May	Scottish themed evening with music by the Swannies and Ceilidh Dances called by Gwynne. Cost £5 which includes stovies.
Sunday 8th May – 7th Sunday of Easter (Sunday after Ascension), Julian of Norwich	9.00 Reserved Sacrament 10.30 All Age Service 4.00 pm - Reserved Sacrament at St Philip's, Catterline
Wed 11th May	10.30 - Reserved Sacrament
Sunday 15th May - Pentecost (Whitsunday)	9.00 - Reserved Sacrament 10.30 - Eucharist
Wed 18th May	9.15 Worship Group meeting 10.30 Reserved Sacrament 7.30 - Vestry Meeting at 114 Forest Park
Sunday 22nd May – TRINITY SUNDAY	9.00 Reserved Sacrament 10.30 Eucharist
Wed 25th May – The Annunciation	10.30 Reserved Sacrament
Sunday 29th May – Trinity 1	9.00 - Reserved Sacrament 10.30 - Reserved Sacrament

Year C – Readings are from the NRSV of the Bible

10.30 am Lessons 1+2	10.30 am Gospel	Greeter	Coffee Rota	Lead Intercessions
David Fleming	Richard Clark	Diana Peters	Diane Fleming	
All Age Service	Irene Paterson	Stella Wilson	Peter Sharp	
Ellie McLeod	Tom Walker	Peter Sharp	Janet Okumu/ Diane Fleming	David Fleming
Anne O'Gorman	Heather Grant	Ellie McLeod	Edna Craig	Arma Iles
Tom Walker	Peter Sharp	Val Cadd	Irene Paterson	
Ellie McLeod	Richard Clark	Janet Okumu	Doreen Brankin	

Readers, Greeters, Vestry and Coffee Rota

Date	Readings	8.30 am Greeter/ Reader
1st May - 6th Sunday of Easter	Acts 16. 9-15 Rev. 21. 10, 22 - 22.5 John 14. 23-29	Arma Iles
8th May - 7th Sunday of Easter (Sunday after Ascension Day)	Acts 16. 16-34 Rev. 22. 12-14, 16-17, 20- end John 17. 20 - end	Doreen Brankin
15th May - PENTECOST (Whit-Sunday)	Acts 2. 1-21 Rom. 8. 14-17 John 14. 8-17 [25-27]	Edna Craig
22nd May - TRINITY SUNDAY	Prov. 8. 1-4, 22-31 Rom 5. 1-5 John 16. 12-15	Mel Christie
29th May - Trinity 1	1 Kings 8. 22-23, 41-43 Gal. 1. 1-12 Luke 7. 1-10	Jean Carnie
5th June - Trinity 2	1 Kings 17. 17-end Gal. 1. 11-end Luke 7. 11-17	Doreen Brankin

FROM THE BISHOP

Ascension Day and Scottish Election Day fall together on Thursday 5 May. Raising our aspirations is one way of thinking about Ascensiontide. If politics is the art of the possible then we need politicians of integrity and conviction and a Scottish government with the imagination and humility to listen and to harness the insights of those of different viewpoints. We need opposition parties who hold those in power to account. And we need to exercise our right and responsibility to vote.

I will be presiding at a special Ascension Day Service for the central and northern areas of the diocese at 7.30pm at St Andrew's Church Brechin with the Reverend Roderick Grahame, Minister of Brechin Cathedral preaching. There are refreshments afterwards and I hope some from St James's Stonehaven might enjoy an evening out.

Christian Aid Week falls 15-21 May. The current migrations of so many millions of people fleeing from violence, discrimination and poverty are an abrupt reminder of Jesus' challenge to recognise our neighbour in the stranger, and to respond with heartfelt generosity. Christian Aid has many projects around the world which deserve our financial support and our prayers.

On Sunday 16 May we keep the major Christian festival of Pentecost. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to the first Christians. The Babel of voices becomes a single message and Ezekiel's dry bones are clothed in flesh and rattle into life. Wind and fire touch the apostles in Jerusalem and Jesus promises that the Spirit will lead us into all truth. I look forward to meeting the Vestry again on 18 May to talk about the vacancy. Pentecost breathes new life and excitement into our faith and Church life - or at least it should. Sadly this is not always apparent, it is as if the lights are on but no-one's in. The words of the Pentecost hymn are so much more inspiring:

Like fireworks in the night, the Holy Spirit came; Disciples' fears took flight when touched by fronds of flame: And suddenly the world was young as hope embraced a Saviour's claim.

I have a mischievous episcopal picture in my mind of the diocese as a box of fireworks full of unpredictable noise, colour and swirling movement, and insatiable energy! May the Spirit be with you always.



Social Committee

The Spring Coffee Morning raised a total of £422.73 - thank you very, very much to everyone who donated, helped and attended the morning. The Social Committee very much appreciates all that is contributed to our coffee mornings. A special thank you to Sam our youngest helper. Get well wishes and thanks to Jean who was unable to help because of her broken knee cap but organised family members to arrange and deliver the table decorations.

The next coffee morning is on Saturday 23rd July but before then there is an opportunity to dance at the ceilidh on Saturday 7th May at 7p.m., help with donations and support at the Fee'in Market on Saturday 4th June and support the Book Browse on the 11th June.

The next meeting of the Social Committee is at Val's home on Tuesday 24th May at 7.30p.m. Everyone is invited to join us.

We called him in, and now, behold,
Our church is overlit and cold.
We have two hundred more to pay
Or go to jail next Quarter Day.

We do not like the electric light,
It's far too hard and bare and bright.
As for the heat, the bills are hot -
Unluckily the heating's not.

Diane Fleming

Fund Raising.

7th May 7pm: Scottish themed night. Music and poems by the Swannies. Dances organised by Gwynne. Cost £5 to include stovies. Please bring your own drinks.
For more details phone Anne on 765793

4th June Feein Market

21st August Harbour Festival

St James is running a home craft stall with items such as cakes, preserves, jewellery, plants, produce, sewing, crochet, knitting etc. If you could help us out with items for the stall this would be greatly appreciated.

Dunnottar Church is hosting a concert by the Granite City Brass Band on Saturday 14th May at 7pm. Cost adults £5 children £2 to include refreshments. The proceeds will be divided between Christian Aid and India Village Ministries.
Tickets from Anne O'Gorman, 765793

you both have given so much to the church at a time when many of us would be “.. old and grey and full of sleep..” While you have perhaps not had to “Rage, Rage against the dying of the light” and hopefully will not have to do so for many years, you certainly have not gone “...gentle into that good night”.

Of course, like the “old soldier” you plan to “fade away” rather than simply leave us. We very much appreciate what you have done and, of course, we will always welcome you as a guest preacher.

Peter

Electric Light and Heating

As promised the following is part of the rest of the poem about electric light and heating, taken from John Betjeman’s ‘Poems in the Porch’, a record of poems he read on the BBC between 1953 and 1957.

Last year when Mr Sidney Groves
Said he’d no longer do the stoves
It gave the chance to Mrs Camps
To say she would not do the lamps,
And that gave everyone the chance
To cry, ‘Well, let us have a dance!’
And so we did, we danced and danced
Until our funds were so advanced
That, helped by jumble sales and whist,
We felt that we could now insist
-So healthy was the cash position-
On calling in the electrician.

Flower Rota

Thank you very much Pam and Anne O’G for arranging the flowers in the church on Easter Saturday. Thank you Anne and David for the lovely Easter garden. Thank you Pam for the beautiful flower arrangement in the Baptistry in memory of Fiona Pearson who passed away at the beginning of March and to Peter who donated the plants. Thank you to Diana and Tony for picking all the beautiful daffodils very kindly donated by Mary and John Forbes of Slains Park, Kineff - the church looked spectacular.

Now to JUNE - the weekend of Sunday 12th June is when we are going to celebrate the Queen's birthday - her official birthday. She was 90 on Thursday 21st April. We would like to decorate the windows as we have done before and so I am inviting anyone who would like a window to let me know - I already have 2 requests. We would like the church to be beautifully decorated to celebrate this auspicious event. We will decorate the church at 10 o'clock on the morning of Saturday 11th June.

Many thanks, Val Cadd (Flower Convenor)

Vestry Minutes 22nd February 2016

Matters Arising

Irene has put up the PVG poster at St Philips. It has been determined that Elaine, the minister of the Community Church, has a set of keys for St Philips.

Correspondence

The Rev William Neill will be ordained as priest for St Mary's, Broughty Ferry, by Bishop Nigel on Saturday, 19th March at 3 pm at St Mary's.

A questionnaire re stipends for clergy was discussed and completed. This will be returned to David Palmer.

Treasurer's Report

Main Account	£7,127.86
Fabric Fund Account	£7,395.53
Buildings Account	£607.00
St Philips	£1,094.00

There was a discussion about congregational gift aid. Peter is going to organise gift aid envelopes for each pew and Anne Geldart will bring these to the attention of the congregation.

The independent examiner has the church financial reports. Peter has negotiated a new deal for insurance for the rectory. This will cost £200.

Report on St James

David has put welcome cards at the end of the pews. Spare cards can be found at the back of church.

Arma and Doreen are helping David to confirm members' details on the congregational roll.

On Mothering Sunday a lady is coming to talk to us about an orphanage in Rumania.

reducing their commitment to the church during the next few months.

While there will be other opportunities to thank them, I felt that we should respond to Anne and David's article and I wondered whether it would be possible to do so in literary terms. Unfortunately while I have many books there appears to be a lack of suitable quotations to be found in Schiff's "Quantum Mechanics" or Maxwell's "An Analytical Calculus. Vol III". So I will have to resort to the charlatan's approach of referring to a book of quotations.

Looking up the word "goodbye" gives a few suggestions although perhaps "Goodbye to all that" - the title of a book by Robert Graves - seems rather curt and ungrateful.

Then I found a quote from a Cole Porter song

"So goodbye dear, and Amen,
Here's hoping we meet now and then,
It was great fun,"

This seemed quite suitable until you get to the final line which says "But it was just one of those things". So perhaps not.

Does the word "farewell" provide a more appropriate phrase? There is a quote attributed to Isadora Duncan, the famous dancer, "Farewell my friends, I am going to glory" which is perhaps somewhat more appropriate were it not for the fact that those were her last words before her scarf caught in a car wheel and broke her neck!

I was tempted to find a Scottish quotation; "Will ye no come back again" came to mind, but that would be rather unfair as

For the past 12 years David and I have served for about 48 weeks out of every year: myself preaching or conducting or acting as deacon for the Celebrant; David as server and Eucharistic assistant. The only Sundays and Wednesdays 'off' are when we have gone away on holiday or to visit family – about 4 weeks out of each year.

While the conducting of services and preaching are a privilege and something I value, there are many other jobs ranging from maintaining supplies of liturgical goods (candles, wine, Communion breads) to disposing of the accumulation of rubbish from the office and vestry, which are now becoming burdensome. The vestry has gone over these tasks with me and people have volunteered to take them on, for which I am very grateful.

After retirement I would still value the opportunity to appear occasionally as 'guest preacher' – but not to intrude into the office of whomever is appointed.

Anne.

"Farewell to Arms"

There seems to have been an outburst of the poetic muse among some members of the congregation. Fortunately, perhaps, none of the poems are original but it is a pleasure to find that people still appreciate this art form. We have the second part of John Betjeman's poem on electric lighting and heating, very pertinent while we still feel the discomforts of an inefficient church heating system during the sermon on a cold Spring morning. Then we have Anne's quotation from Lewis Carroll's "The Walrus and The Carpenter", which so aptly introduces her article announcing that she and David will be

Peter said that he had recently visited Maggie. Although she is no longer having chemotherapy, and has lost weight, she is remaining very positive and is continuing to preach.

Report on St Philips

There was no service this month due to adverse weather. Mel had been to put the sign back up but will leave it until the weather improves.

The Bishop will be taking the service on 13th March.

The Way Forward

David handed out a leaflet to vestry members entitled 'Church Buildings – encouraging visitors on a spiritual journey'. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Worship

Pam is to take the services on Wednesdays in May when Anne is away. She has had permission to administer the reserved sacrament. Rev Jane Nelson is still unwell and not able to take services.

The Queen's 90th Birthday: the congregation will be invited to decorate a window. The service that day (12th June) will include hymns chosen by the congregation. A box will be provided at the back of church from Easter Sunday for people to vote for favourite hymns. The most popular will then be sung at that service. It is hoped that Peter Parfitt will play some special music and there will be a birthday cake. We will invite Abbeyfield and St Ternan's to join us. Anne Geldart said that Fr Jerry is aware that St James will not be available for a 'church swap' on that day.

Church: One light bulb had been replaced but another one had since gone. Mel had checked the Baptistery roof and there did not seem to be any loose tiles. David reported that applications for grants had gone into the Heritage Lottery Fund and Leader Fund and he is looking for other funding sources. An architect, registered for conservation work, needs to be appointed and the exhibition area will need a design group which should include non-church members. David also asked Peter how money had been raised previously for the dry rot treatment.

Hall: Diane said that the loose board in the hall against which the small tables are stacked had fallen and narrowly missed her. It was dangerous and could become a health and safety issue considering how many people and children used the hall and it was agreed it should be moved as soon as possible. The guides reported that a man wandered into their meeting saying that he was homeless. Information on this and a description had been passed to the police. It was pointed out that he was probably harmless and was just looking to the church for money or shelter. There was some discussion about the thermostat – because it was on an outside wall it was probably reading a lower temperature from the temperature in the room itself. David reported that there were still four groups who had not paid for the hire of the hall and this would be followed up.

Garden: There is a cracked paving stone between the church and Abbeyfield.

Rectory: There has been some damp due to condensation and this is causing mould. David has opened the vents in the double glazing and installed a dehumidifier. Dynorod have cleared the drains.

Fund Raising/Social

Diane said that 3 boxes of books culled from the Book Browse had been sent to Better World Books (a charity). David reminded vestry of the 'What's On' column in the Leader which is free to advertise in.

There is to be a Book Browse on 2nd April and a Coffee Morning on 9th April.

The Feein' Market is on 4th June and the Harbour Festival on 21st August. St James will be having stalls at both these events and all donations of home crafts/baking will be gratefully received.

AOCB

Because Ellie is unwell Pam is printing the Newsletter this month but would appreciate some help. She also said that some new members of the altar party would be welcome. Diane will ask Diana to put these requests on the Pew Sheets.

Next Meeting: 4th April

The time has come, the Walrus said...

The time has come for David and me to take steps towards our retirement. As many of you will have observed, my own health and mobility has suffered of recent months. We initially thought an opportune time would be May 2017 – which is David's 80th Birthday – but now feel we need to begin the process by tapering off our weekly commitments. This will mean we will take services the first two Sundays and the first two Wednesdays each month. We will do this until May 2017, when we finally retire completely.