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Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Issue 2

October 2022

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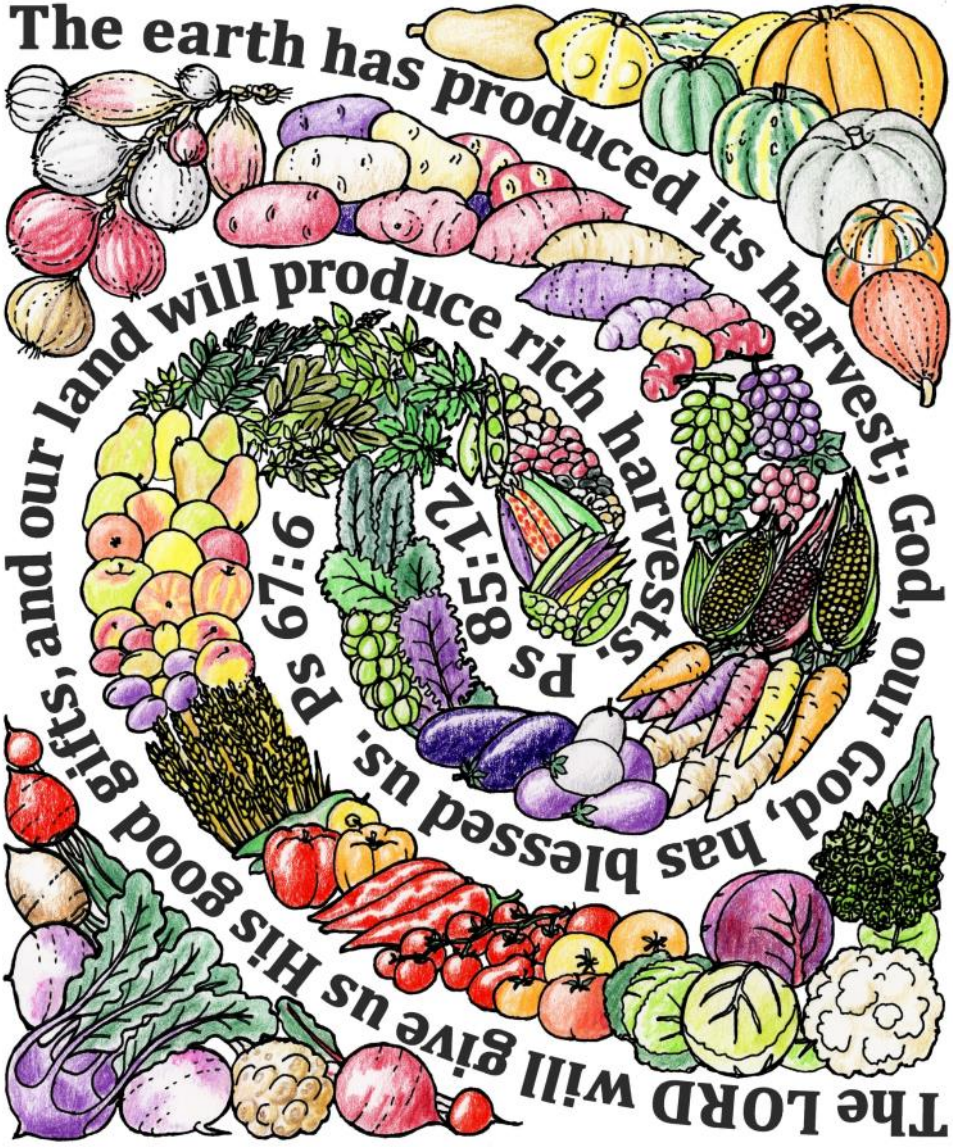

The Rector's Letter

…your name is perfume poured out… (Song of Songs 1.3)

In one of his sermons on the Song of Songs, Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153) reflects on the gifts we receive from God: some gifts are for our benefit (so that we may better find God), others are clearly meant for sharing. Indeed, many of our gifts and talents are meant to be poured into the world, just as the Holy Spirit pours them into us.

In a world where there seems to be crisis on top of crisis, this can be an anxiety-inducing thought. We might feel that we have little to give anyway and may feel that what we do contribute makes little difference. Our own life circumstances may be affected by various crises and we might feel exhausted and 'poured out' in life and ministry.

Bernard is aware of this, I think, when he talks about learning to 'pour' ourselves in a sustainable way, by using the imagery of a tube and a bowl: A tube takes in water and spills it out almost at the same time. A bowl is first filled to the brim, before overflowing. Both potentially pour out the same amount of water: but one is always empty and the other is always full.

Bernard says: 'Be wise to pour yourself like a bowl and not like a tube.' We need to allow God to fill us first, before we can pour out to others. We are no use to God and neighbour if we're constantly running on empty, for we can only give what we have!

So, should you feel exhausted by the thought of contributing to life and ministry, try to look after yourself by allowing God to fill your bowl first, before overflowing in God's love. For we are to soak in God's love, peace and light before they cannot be contained any longer and overflow into life around us.

Yours in Christ,

Christoph

Please support the

christian aid

Coffee Morning

10 am - 12 noon

Saturday 22 October 2022

Park Church Hall, Park Terrace, Stirling

Book, costume jewellery and other stalls

Tickets from David & Sheila Brown

or pay at the door. Ticket price to be advised.

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Holy Trinity Church Hall – A Community Asset

In September's edition readers were asked to send in memories of special times spent in the church hall. Here are three.

A ceilidh was held in the hall in March 2011 to raise funds for Louise Anderson who was about to undertake athletic training in Portugal . Mary Cooper delivered some recitations and wrote the following poem:

A pretty young girl called Louise
Goes to live with some folk (Portuguese),
Athletics to study
Touch the toes, jump the cuddy,
Or glide by on the flying trapeze

She'll find plenty examples to follow,
With stout hearts and legs far from hollow,
Who trained to a peak
Every day of the week
And refrains from such titbits as "Rolo"

A clever young Scot (Liddell) Eric
Spent most of his life as a cleric,
But he also could run
And in Paris he won,
In white shorts and a vest, the Olympics.

We remember Liz and Yvonne::
They'd be up before crack o'dawn
To jog through the rime,
Then all in good time
They would win with good grace like a swan.

A very nice man brings great joy,
He has been on his bike since a boy,
With feet on the pedals
He's won umpteen gold medals
And now is Sir Christopher Hoy.

In tennis we cheer Andy Murray,
Who for "Grand Slam" seems in no hurry
But watched by the nation in anticipation
He'll reach his great goal-don't worry!

Now these are some champions of fame-
There are hundreds and more I could name
Who have reached mountain peak
By hard training each week
And the lure of the Olympic flame.

Our best wishes now go to Louise:
May she meet this great challenge with ease,
Andin the long run-
Oh,pardon the pun!
May success be as high as the lofty pine trees.

And here's **A memory of Mary Cooper's 100th birthday** in 2018.

"I have attended many memorable events in the church hall but the highlight was mum's 100th birthday party. It was lovely to have such a great attendance". *Sheila Brown*

Jan Foster's happy memory

The date was 10th August 1963 and Michael and I had just been married in Holy Trinity Church by the Rev. Gordon Budd. We held our Wedding Reception in the Church Hall for 64 people. We employed a company to prepare and serve a three course meal (yes - in our small kitchen) and it was perfect. Compliments all round. After dinner the tables were cleared away and seats put to the side of the wall enabling guests to dance if they wished to. We had hired a local band who sat up on the 'stage' which our then hall, had.

Mike had also managed (with permission) to set up a small bar run by a local company in the side room next to the kitchen (door leading to and from the hall) so that guests could have a beer or wine already paid for by Mike. Two young cousins of Michael, aged about 12 I think, had a great time bringing the beer to guests and earning a few pennies from them without them having to leave their seats ha ha.

A lovely time was by all and we left them to enjoy an hour more while Mike and I went to the train station on to our honeymoon. I remember a lovely smile the Rector had given me when I asked him to marry us and went on to say "will you come to our reception? " to which he replied "of course I will or I will not marry you ha ha".

Lovely memories for me to think back on now. *Jan Foster*

National Poetry Day

6th October – National Poetry Day

https://nationalpoetryday.co.uk/celebrate-national-poetry-day/

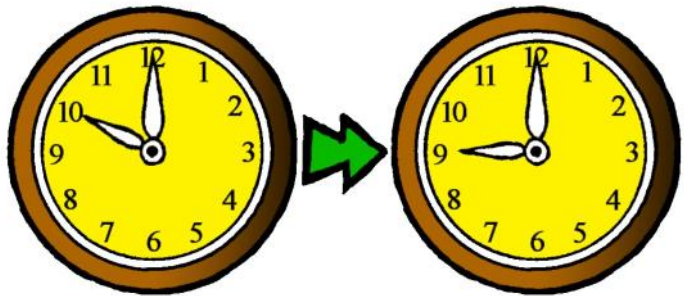
Who needs a poem? Apparently, many people feel much better for them – either in writing them or in reading them. That is the reason for the National Day of Poetry, which wants to see "an explosion of activity nationwide," from kitchen tables to gardens and public spaces, "all celebrating poetry's power to bring people together."

According to The National Literacy Trust, 66.5 per cent of children and young people agree that writing poetry made them feel better during lockdown. *www.parishpump.org*

Is there a poem that means a lot to you? For copyright reasons and lack of space we can't publish the actual poem but would love to print your recommendation in the November edition. Please send in the poem's title, the poet's name and a sentence or two about why this poem matters to you. Ed

Don't forget to put your clocks back on

Sunday 30th October



Stirling Street Pastors after COVID

We've all had to make changes during and after lockdown. Our evening patrols stopped when all the pubs and clubs closed and it wasn't safe to meet people. We did try to resume the late night Friday and Saturday patrols after lockdown in April 2021. Things were not quite back to normal yet and we found more people with mental health issues who wanted to talk. So we listened and cared, and when appropriate, prayed with them.

Over the year 2021/22 we had 88 evening and 38 campus patrols. 73 vulnerable people were helped, we had 112 important conversations, very often dealing with mental health, and 105 spiritual conversations. COVID did seem to have the effect of people looking for meaning and asking about God. There were questions about why God allowed all the suffering. It's a difficult question to answer, but we could say that Jesus understands and cares, and that's one of the main reasons we patrolled, to show that compassion of Jesus. "When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." Matthew 9:36.

We had also started doing lunchtime patrols on the university campus as a replacement to the evening patrols. We have seen a real need there too so we are continuing this with full support from the university.

Another change is that we now extend our patrols onto the railway station platforms. Network Rail asked for our help here because they recognised that railways are often a place where people can be at risk of suicidal thoughts, and we were glad to and have made new relationships with rail staff and British Transport Police.

Our main focus this year is to find more volunteers. A lot of churches have had to work to survive through lockdown and in some areas there has been a drop in volunteering. A lot of Street Pastor areas throughout the UK have noticed this and are now working with churches to try and reengage and encourage people to consider becoming a Street Pastor. Before COVID hit, we were out on patrol almost every Friday and Saturday evening, with some amazing stories to tell about how the Lord was working on the streets. With our current reduced numbers we are now missing a few evenings every month. We do still see the Lord at work in the encounters we have with people. Of course, we are still giving out free flip flops, drinks and having lots of friendly chats. But there are regularly those people that we realise that we are led to, through prayer, who are really in need of more serious help and care.

We are grateful and encouraged knowing that we are in your prayers at Holy Trinity. Matthew 9 goes on to say "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." Please continue to pray earnestly for more volunteers. If you are thinking about becoming a Street Pastor, or know somebody who might be suitable, then ask them to get in touch with anyone who is a Street Pastor in Stirling, or contact **Russell,** the Coordinator, directly at **stirling@streetpastors.org.uk or on 07545 527511**.

Readings October 2022

Sunday 2nd	**8.30am**	Holy Communion
Harvest Thanksgiving	**10.30am**	All Age Eucharist
	Readings	Deuteronomy 8.7-18; 1 Timothy 2.1-7; Matthew 6.25-33
Thursday 6th	**11am**	Holy Communion
Sunday 9th	**8.30am**	Holy Communion
PENTECOST 18	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	2 Kings 5.1-3, 7-15c; 2 Timothy 2.8-15; Luke 17.11-19
Thursday 13th	**11am**	Holy Communion
Sunday 16th	**8.30am**	Holy Communion
PENTECOST 19	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	Genesis 32.22-31; 2 Timothy 3.14-4.5; Luke 18.1-8
Thursday 20th	**11am**	Holy Communion
Sunday 23rd	**8.30am**	Holy Communion
PENTECOST 20	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	Jeremiah 14.7-10,19-22; 2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18; Luke 18.9-14
Thursday 27th	**11am**	Holy Communion
Sunday 30th	**8.30am**	Holy Communion
ALL SAINTS	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	Daniel 7.1-3, 15-18; Ephesians 1.11-23; Luke 6.20-36

Rotas October 2022

	Readings	Intercessions
Oct 2	**HT Kidz**	**HT Kidz**
Oct 9	**C Rodger**	**M Kenyon**
Oct 16	**R Campbell**	**R Nellist**
Oct 23	**S Stirling Aird**	**I Boa**
Oct 30	**H Piper**	**C Johnston**

Sidesduty

Oct 2 C Kendall & L Coats

Oct 9 F Macleod & H Kemp

Oct 16 J Foster & A Lees

Oct 23 B & C Watson

Oct 30 R & V Nellist

Articles for the November edition are requested on or before

October 16th

The magazine will be available on

October 30th

Did you mean what you just said?

The following are genuine notes left for milkmen.

~ Dear Milkman: I've just had a baby, please leave another one.
~ Please don't leave any more milk. All they do is drink it.
~ Please close the gate behind you because the birds keep pecking the tops of the milk.
~ Please bring me a form about cheap milk, as my boyfriend has made me stagnant.
~ Please do not leave milk at no. 14 as he is dead until further notice.

**

Miscellaneous observations on life:

A lot of people want to serve God, but only in an advisory capacity.

It is easy to do any amount of work - provided it isn't the work you are supposed to be doing.

Anyone who thinks talk is cheap never argued with a traffic warden.

Anything that is good and useful is usually made of chocolate.

**

Late

Sidesman to timid parishioner: Why are you late?
Timid parishioner: Church started before I got here. (Timid or possibly cheeky!-Ed)

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PAPERSORTERS

Are your paper documents in a muddle? Would you like them sorted, listed and made available?

Then PAPERSORTERS have the answer. We can help with:

- **ADVICE ON DATA PROTECTION & PRESERVATION DISPOSAL**
- **DECLUTTERING**
- **HOUSE CLEARANCE**

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Contacts

RECTOR: **Rev Canon Christoph Wutscher,** 4 Bracken Lane, Stirling FK9 5AB Tel: 01786 359821
Email: rector@holytrinitystirling.org

HON ASSISTANTS:
Rt Rev John Crook, 163 Lothian Crescent, Stirling FK9 5SG
Tel: 01786 359881 *Email: johnmcrook99@gmail.com*
Rev Val Nellist, 28 Glamis Gardens, Dalgety Bay, Fife KY11 9TD

HON SECRETARY AND ALTERNATIVE LAY REP: **Rachel Campbell,** 12 Northend, Cambusbarron FK7 9LJ
Tel: 01786 451103 *Email: secretary@holytrinitystirling.org*

TREASURER: **Robert Nellist,** 28 Glamis Gardens, Dalgety Bay, Fife KY119TD
Tel: 01383 824066 *Email: treasurer@holytrinitystirling.org*

LAY REPRESENTATIVE: **Cathy Johnston,** 5 Snowdon Place, Stirling FK8 2NH
Tel. 01786 471406 Mob. 0771 892 1181 *Email: cathymjohnston@gmail.com*

ROTA SUPERVISOR: **Ann Lees** (see Magazine Production)

CONVENOR OF FABRIC & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE: Ian Boa 12 Millar Place Stirling FK8 1XD
Mob:0786 085 1935 *Email:ianboa@me.com*

VESTRY MEMBERS: **Rector, Rachel Campbell, Cathy Johnston, Robert Nellist, Ian Boa Carol Kendall, Carolyn Lawson, Nick Morris, Anne Pittock, Gen Pont, Brian Shanks, Rebekah Sims, Andrew Tyler**

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: **Alistair Warwick,** Ardarroch, Glen Road, Dunblane FK15 0GY
Tel: 01786 823000 Mob: 0779 256 6349 *Email: hts@alistairwarwick.com*

VERGER: **Brian Shanks:,** 15 Richard Quinn Street, Cowie, FK7 7DU Tel: 01786 817191 Mob: 07870444861

FLOWER CONVENOR: **Mary Kenyon,** Easter Culmore, Kippen FK8 2JQ Tel: 01786 870360
Email: maryelizkenyon@gmail.com

HALL CONVENOR: **Sarah Shaw** *Email: shaws1@talktalk.net* Mob:0797 046 6551

SAFEGUARDING PVG CO-ORDINATOR: **Helen Kemp,** 1 Grendon Court, Stirling FK8 2JX
Tel: 01786 479400 *Email: heleninstirling@talktalk.net*

MOTHERS UNION: **Helen Kemp, Mary Kenyon,** *see Safeguarding PVG Co-ordinator & Flower Convenor*

MAGAZINE PRODUCTION: **Libby Coats,** 28 Snowdon Place, Stirling FK8 2JN: Tel: 01786 479785
Email: lib.coats@gmail.com **Liza Green** Tel: 01786 200180 *Email: liza_swan_green@yahoo.co.uk*
Ann Lees Tel 01786 472355

Our Services

Sundays
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Sung Eucharist

Thursdays
11.00am Holy Communion

At present Sunday school (HTKidZ) for primary age children is not meeting regularly but if you would like information on planned activities please contact Sarah or Alistair Shaw at shaws1@talktalk.net

Organisations Meeting in the Church Hall

Mondays
10-12noon HT Tots Gen Pont gandapont@yahoo.co.uk
4.00-5.30pm Destination Judo: info@destinationjudo.com
6.15-7.45pm Mindbodysoul Yoga: grant@mindbodysoulyoga.co.uk

Tuesdays
10-12noon Pilates: judithgraham090@gmail.com
6.30pm Lishi Self Defence: damien@lishi.org

Wednesdays
7pm SABOS: sabosmusicaltheatre@gmail.com

Thursdays
11am Stirling Community Lunch: stirling4community@gmail.com
4-7pm Dance: kimmybruce@hotmail.com
7pm Stirling4 Community Choir

Saturdays
9-10am Babyballet: lpattison@hotmail.co.uk

The church hall is available for further lettings. If you would like to rent the hall please contact Sarah Shaw on 07970466551 or shaws1@talktalk.net