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Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Issue 3

November 2024

Scottish Charity: SC016471

Rector's Letter

Here is the Rector's letter from November 2021:

Dear all,

In her book *Braiding Sweetgrass*, the US American botanist Robin Wall Kimmerer shares some of her extensive knowledge of plants and reflects on lessons we might want to learn from the plant world in order to tackle issues such as sustainable living, climate change and peaceful co-existence on this planet. A very timely read. But *Braiding Sweetgrass* is not only about plants and ecology; the author also shares bits of her own spiritual journey of recovering some of her family's indigenous American tradition (as she is descended from the Potawatomi Nation) and the wisdom associated with it. One of these insights has struck me as relevant for our church life this November, as she writes: 'Our elders say that ceremonies are the way we "remember to remember."

There is lots of remembering at HT this season: All Saints when we remember those who made a lasting impact on carving out the Christian Way; All Souls when we remember those whom we love but see no longer; Remembrance Sunday as we remember victims of armed conflicts past and present (and pray for peace). And we remember Christ every time we celebrate the Eucharist in his invitation: Do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering is about making whole and re-connecting (re-member), about healing our relationship with God and one another. About bringing to life that which we might have forgotten or ignored. Common worship aids us in remembering to re-member, as our liturgical symbols, rhythms, texts and actions help us to give voice to our hope, joy, grief and love. Christ bids us to remember, so that his teaching, presence and love may not be forgotten but may live on in us.

Christmas Lunch and Craft Fayre

Do this in remembrance of me, Christ says. For we need to remember to remember in order to become the people God has ordained us to be.

Yours in Christ,

Christoph

On **Sunday, 24th November** we are having a **LUNCH** after the 10.30 service. It will be soup and a filled roll, followed by shortbread and mince pies.
As usual, we will be asking for donations of fillings for the rolls and if anyone would like to make soup it would be most welcome.

Sandy Goss will have her craft stall and there will also be Sheila Brown with her jewellery.

The re-gifting stall will be making another appearance and any additions will be welcomed at any of the stalls.

In This Issue

Rector's Letter	2	Our Services	9
Christmas Lunch and Fayre	3	Rotas	10
Frontal Attack Part Three	4-5	Blessings from the Holy Land	11
HT Prayer Tree	5	Smile Lines	16
Prayer Diary	6-7	Ads	17-18
Looking Ahead	7	Contacts	19
Readings	8-9	Organisations	20

Frontal Attack Part Three

On Sunday, 29th September, you would have noticed the white Altar Frontal was once again in place, for the celebration of Michaelmas, the Feast of Saint Michael and All Angels. Earlier this year, our sewing ladies completed not only the white Altar Frontal, but also a Lectern and Pulpit Fall. Additionally they made a matching Burse and Veil which are used during the Eucharist.

Although, all these were completed by the beginning of the Summer, we were unable to finally finish the whole project as we were still waiting for two Chi Rhos which were being hand made in Pakistan. They are made with gold thread, the larger of the two measuring 15 inches in diameter, and the smaller one 12 inches in diameter.

The Chi Rhos are a Christian monogram and symbol, formed from the first two letters X and P of the Greek word for Christ.

They arrived during the summer, and our valuable expert needlewoman, Lorna, then had the rather challenging task of attaching these very precious monograms to the fabric, the larger on the Altar Frontal, and the smaller on the Pulpit Fall. It was a difficult process which took a good deal of time and much patience.

Purchasing the Chi Rhos was not inexpensive, but I think you will agree, the beautiful result is well worth it. If you missed seeing them in September, do take a closer look, if you can, next time they are displayed at Christmas. I am sure you will agree that they will be much appreciated for many years to come by us and by future congregations of Holy Trinity. They add something very special to our worship.

For me personally, it has been a real privilege and pleasure to be involved in this project, working with *Helen Piper* and *Lorna Fogden*, and being able to add more to the wonderful history of Holy Trinity, Stirling.

Carol Kendall

Frontal Attack Part Three

HT Prayer Tree

The Prayer Tree situated at the back of church is an aid to prayer. Feel free to take a label and write your prayer/ message on it and hang it on the tree. **Please add the current date.** The label will be removed one month after this date but if you would like to leave the label on the tree please just alter the date or write another label.

Prayer Diary November 2024

Fri 01 All Saints, for the example and strength their lives give to us

Sat 02 All Souls, for all who have died and for those who mourn

Sun 03 Pentecost 24

Mon 04 for our Emergency Services

Tue 05 for the King and the Government at Westminster

Wed 06 for all who care for the dying

Thu 07 Willibrord, Bishop and Missionary, 739, for all who teach about faith

Fri 08 for all who make their living at sea

Sat 09 George Hay Forbes, Priest, 1875, for all involved in the care for church buildings

Sun 10 Pentecost 25

Mon 11 Martin of Tours, Bishop, c397, for the work of Startup Stirling

Tue 12 Machar, Bishop, c600, for Saints known and unknown

Wed 13 for peace in the Ukraine

Thu 14 Consecration of Samuel Seabury, Bishop, 1784, for the Episcopal Church in America

Fri 15 for all in education

Sat 16 Margaret of Scotland, 1093, for all the Bishops here in Scotland

Sun 17 Pentecost 26

Mon 18 Fergus, Bishop, c750, for Mark our Primus

Tue 19 for all who work in health and social care

Wed 20 for acceptance of all who are neurodivergent

Thu 21 Columban, Bishop, 615, that we have the courage to speak truth to power

Fri 22 Cecilia, Martyr, c230, for all who make music for the glory of God

Sat 23 Clement of Rome, Bishop and martyr, c100, for an end to petty jealousies in church communities

Sun 24 Christ the King

Mon 25 for HTTOTS

Tue 26 for all affected by addictions

Wed 27 for the work of SSAFA

Thu 28 for the Stirling Street Pastors

Fri 29 for peace in the Middle East

Sat 30 Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland, for our First Minister and MSPs

Looking Ahead

The next edition covers December and January. You are invited to send in any memories of Christmas or/and New Year as a child. This could include family traditions, special times, amusing moments, remembered meals. And if you went to church, do you recall Christmas services, decorations, carols? Looking forward to receiving your memories. Please send them to me by 10th November. *lib.coats@gmail.com*

Readings November 2024

Sunday 3rd		
All Saints	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	Wisdom 3.1-9; Revelation 21.1-6*a* John 11.32-44
All Souls	**6.30pm**	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	Wisdom 3.1-9; 1 Peter 1.3-9; John 6.37-40
Thursday 7th	**11am**	Holy Communion
	Readings	Philippians 3.3-8*a*; Luke 15.1-10
Sunday 10th		
Remembrance Sunday	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	1 Kings 17.8-16; Hebrews 9.24-28; Mark 12.38-44
Thursday 14th	**11am**	Holy Communion
	Readings	Philemon 4-20; Luke 17.20-25
Sunday 17th		
PENTECOST 26	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	Daniel 12.1-3; Hebrews 10.11-14,19-25; Mark 13.1-8
Thursday 21st	**11am**	Holy Communion
	Readings	Revelation 5.1-10; Luke 19.41-44

Readings November 2024

Sunday 24th		
Christ the King	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	Daniel 7.9-10,13-14; Revelation 1.4*b*-8; John 18.33-37
Thursday 28th	**11am**	Holy Communion
	Readings	Revelation 18.1-2,21-19.3,9; Luke 21.20-28

Our Services

Sundays
10.30am Sung Eucharist

Thursdays
11.00am Holy Communion

At present Sunday School (HTKidZ) meets according to demand. Contact Gen Pont for further information: gandapont@yahoo.co.uk

Please note that the 8.30am Holy Communion service is discontinued in autumn and winter

Rotas November 2024

	Readings	Intercessions
3rd Nov 10.30	**M Kenyon**	**S Shaw**
6.30	**A Lees**	
10th Nov	**L Green**	**R Piper**
17th Nov	**R Campbell**	**C Johnston**
24th Nov	**S Stirling-Aird**	**R Nellist**

	Sidesduty
3rd Nov 10.30	**R Campbell and J Foster**
6.30	**L Coats**
10th Nov	**R Nellist and C Kendall**
17th Nov	**S Goss and L Coats**
24th Nov	**H Kemp and A Lees**

Articles for the **December/January double edition** magazine are requested on or before

November 10th

The magazine will be available on

November 24th

Blessings from the Holy Land

Helen Piper recently received an email from a friend in Bethlehem. She asked me to insert some of the content into the magazine as we might want to support the community. Ed.

As Christmas is coming, We are reaching out as a Christian corporation based in Bethlehem. we find ourselves facing significant challenges in the wake of the ongoing conflict in our region. Our hearts are heavy and broken due to the bloodshed and suffering that we witnessed here in the Holy Land. The conflict has resulted in a drastic decline in tourism coming to our city, and it's important to note that the situation has become even worse as the area in and around Bethlehem is heavily restricted making it extremely difficult for us to move beyond the city limits. In the light of these circumstances, we kindly ask for your assistance.

Any purchase from our website www.tabashsouvenirs.com, no matter how small, will tremendously support us. The Christian community depends on tourism; unfortunately, it has been stopped for over a year. Your immediate support will not only sustain our business but also contribute to the well-being of the Christian families who rely on us and your purchase for their livelihood.

In addition to your patronage, we also ask for your prayers. Please keep us, and all Christians in this challenging situation, in your thoughts and prayers. We are praying for peace and calm in this region, and your spiritual support is deeply appreciated. Thank you for taking the time to read this message and for considering our request. Together, we can make a positive impact during these difficult times, striving for peace in our country.

Holy Trinity Stirling is not responsible for the content of external sites whose links are included in the magazine. The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the editorial team.

What bishops do

We were celebrating the 100th anniversary of our church, and several former pastors and the bishop were in attendance. At one point, our minister had the children gather at the altar for a talk about the importance of the day. He began by asking, "Does anyone know what the bishop does?"

There was silence. Finally, one little boy ventured: "He's the one you can move diagonally."

Children's Kitchen Terms

BOIL: The point a parent reaches upon hearing the automatic "Yuck" before a food is even tasted.

CASSEROLE: Combination of favourite foods that go uneaten because they are mixed together.

DESSERT: The reason for eating a meal.

EVAPORATE: Magic trick performed by children when it comes time to clear the table or wash dishes.

FRUIT: A natural sweet that is good for you; not to be confused with dessert.

REFRIGERATOR: A very expensive and inefficient room air conditioner when not being used as an art gallery.

TABLE LEG: Percussion instrument.

Cabinet

My granddad always said, "When one door closes, another door opens." Lovely man. Terrible cabinet maker.

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Organisations Meeting in the Church Hall

Mondays

10-12noon HTTots Gen Pont: gandapont@yahoo.co.uk

4.00-6.15pm Destination Judo: info@destinationjudo.com

6.15-7.45pm Mindbodysoul Yoga: grant@mindbodysoulyoga.co.uk

Tuesdays

10-12noon Pilates: judithgraham090@gmail.com

6.30-8pm Lishi Self Defence: damien@lishi.org

Wednesdays

9.15-10.15 Pilates Mini Ball Class: Jackie.govan@live.com

12-1pm Latin and Ballroom Dance Class: stirling4community@gmail.com

5-7pm Dance: francescahamill@icloud.com

7-9pm SABOS: sabosmusicaltheatre@gmail.com

Thursdays

11-2pm Stirling Community Lunch: stirling4community@gmail.com

7pm Stirling4 Community Choir

Fridays

9.10-9.55 Pilates: judithgraham090@gmail.com

10-12 noon Art Group: stirling4community@gmail.com

2-5pm University of the Third Age (monthly): membership@fvu3a.org.uk

5-6pm Capoeira class: dendemaruouk@outlook.com

Saturdays

9-10am Babyballet: livingstonandfalkirk@babyballet.co.uk

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