www.holytrinitystirling.org

Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Issue 7

June 2025

Scottish Charity: SC016471

Rector's Letter

Dear all,

The poet, priest and academic Malcolm Guite, whose poetry we have on occasion used in reflection here at Holy Trinity, has quite an amazing way of expressing deep spiritual thought in the form of sonnets. His collection *Sounding the Seasons: Seventy Sonnets for the Christian Year* (Norwich, Canterbury Press, 2012) contains one reflecting on the Feast of Pentecost, which I'd like to share as we, once again, celebrate the feast by praying for the coming of the Holy Spirit to inspire and guide us. Pentecost is a feast of being set free, for the Holy Spirit has the habit of shaking things up so that we can learn to respond to God in new and untrodden ways. As Malcolm Guite writes:

Pentecost

Today we feel the wind beneath our wings,

Today the hidden fountain flows and plays,

Today the church draws breath at last and sings,

As every flame becomes a tongue of praise.

This is the feast of Fire, Air and Water,

Poured out and breathed and kindled into Earth.

The Earth herself awakens to her maker,

Translated out of death and into birth.

The right words come today in their right order

And every word spells freedom and release.

Today the gospel crosses every border,

All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace.

Today the lost are found in his translation,

Whose mother-tongue is love, in every nation.

Wishing you a blessed and stirring Pentecost,

Christoph

Fellowship Groups

Fellowship Groups will meet on **Thursday 5th June** after the 11 a.m. service and at 8 p.m. after choir practice.

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Church Hall Floor

In the last year, there have been complaints from some hall users about wood splinters particularly affecting young children. They were sufficiently serious that, for reasons of safety, discontinuing the hall use by some users was under consideration. Wear and tear plus previous floor sanding had made the tops of the tongue and groove floor boards so thin in some places that they were breaking off, leaving jagged edges.

Various solutions were considered, including laminate or other kinds of flooring for the existing boards. Laminate flooring laid in another church hall was inspected, but, this was over a concrete base and not a suspended wooden floor, as at Holy Trinity. The flooring centre in Bridge of Allan was consulted and came to see the hall. They concluded that the existing hall floor is not uniformly even because of the wear and tear and sanding, or firm enough as a base for laminate or other flooring cover. They recommended approaching a specialist company, Citrus Flooring, used to dealing with such floors.

After inspection, Citrus proposed replacement with recovered, full thickness, good quality wood boarding on top of high-density, structural chipboard sub-flooring. The sub-floor will ensure an even base over the existing floor joists for the new boarding. Holy Trinity's architect agreed that this offered an acceptable solution to the problem. The boards recovered from the hall would, where suitable, be re-purposed for other uses. Cost would be just under £30,000. The hall is large, almost 200 sq. m. Various websites gave unit prices that indicated the cost to be expected would be about that proposed for providing and installing the new flooring.

The hall is a valuable asset to Holy Trinity and the local community. So in March, the Vestry decided to go ahead with the Citrus Flooring proposal.

Since then, some fund-raising events have been arranged and a grant for £10,000 has been offered. Contributions for areas of flooring, which can be spread over a period, are to be invited to help towards the cost of the work which will be carried out in July when it will be least disruptive.

Ian Boa, Property Convenor Robert Nellist, Treasurer

Holy Trinity Ceilidh Dance

The dance on Sunday 11th May was one of the fund-raising events mentioned in the previous article. It was a very happy, sociable occasion and it raised £589.30, a great contribution towards the new flooring. Many thanks to everyone involved, organisers and participants. *Ed*

Fund Raising

Did you know that if shopping online, accessing your supplier through the easyfundraising website provides a way of raising extra donations for Holy Trinity Stirling. This already raises over £400 a year by the people who do so. Thank you to everyone for raising donations in this way

If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. 8,100 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! Every donation you raise makes a difference to us so please sign up & share this link with your family and friends

https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/holytrinitystirling/tx50v7/at/TSX8RX7z/DM1329437/facebook/

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.

See Libby Coats if you have any questions.

The Mini

Mini is named the best-ever British car

What is your favourite British car? Think of the Land Rover, Aston Martin, McLaren, Bentley and Rolls Royce. Then think of the Mini.
That is what a group of judges for the Auto Express did recently, and they chose the Mini.
Their verdict? "Put simply, we reckon no other British- built vehicle better represents the relevant, innovative and pioneering UK automotive industry quite like the world's original small car."

Phil McNamara, editor at large, Auto Express, adds: "there was only ever going to be one winner of our Top 50 Brit cars rundown. The Mini was crowned undisputed champion."

It was in the late 1950s that the British Motor Corporation (BMC) asked car designer Alec Issigonis to come up with a sub-three-metre compact car that could accommodate a family of four. The result was the Mini, soon beloved of the public, celebrities and even (in a modified version) racing drivers.

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Do you agree with this verdict or do you have another favourite car? Please let us know by emailing the editor:
lib.coats@gmail.com

Crossword Answers

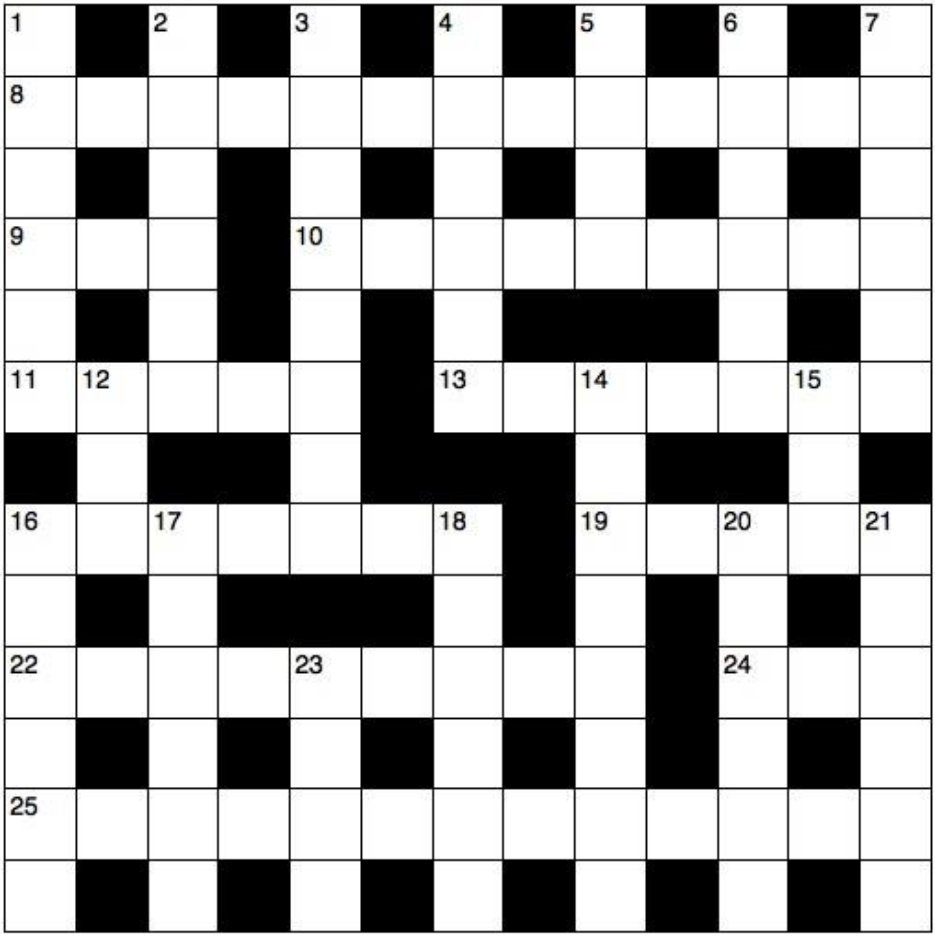
ACROSS:

8, Grandchildren. 9, Pro. 10, Marvelled. 11, Strut. 13, Startle. 16, Babysit. 19, Orate. 22, Eucharist. 24, Map. 25, Commissioners.

DOWN:

1, Egypts. 2, Favour. 3, Edomites. 4, Thorns. 5, Blue. 6, Armlet. 7, On edge. 12, Tea. 14, Adoption. 15, Lot. 16, Breach. 17, Become. 18, This So. 20, Armies. 21, Expose. 23, Avid.

Crossword



Across

8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)

9 In favour of (3)

10 'The child's father and mother — at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)

11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)

13 'Terrors — him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)

16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)

19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)

Crossword

22 Holy Communion (9)

24 'On their way to — out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)

25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

Down

1 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and — sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)

2 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in — with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)

3 The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)

4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)

5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6–12) (4)

6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)

7 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set — — ' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)

12 Ate (anag.) (3)

14 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)

15 Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)

16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)

17 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to — children of God' (John 1:12) (6)

18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all — . — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)

20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)

21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to — her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)

23 Diva (anag.) (4)

Answers on page 7

Prayer Diary June 2025

Sun 1 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Mon 2 Justin of Rome, Martyr, c165, for Pope Leo XIV

Tue 3 Charles Lwanga and his companions, 1886, for young people and youth organisations

Wed 4 Pope John XXIII, Reformer, 1963, for Christian unity

Thu 5 Boniface of Mainz, Bishop, Missionary and Martyr, 754, that our lives are a witness of new life freely offered

Fri 6 for all involved in church opening

Sat 7 for all working for peace

Sun 8 The Day of Pentecost

Mon 9 Columba of Iona, Abbot, 597, for all working in and studying liturgy

Tue 10 Ephrem the Syrian, Deacon and Teacher of the Faith, 373, for peace in the Middle East

Wed 11 Barnabas, Apostle, for the work of Startup Stirling

Thu 12 John Skinner, Priest, 1807, and John Skinner, Bishop, 1816, that we learn and grow from our past

Fri 13 for all who work or volunteer in our night time economy

Sat 14 Basil of Caesarea, 379, Gregory of Nazianzus, c390, Gregory of Nysa, 394, Bishops and Teachers of the Faith, for the Scottish Episcopal Institute

Sun 15 Trinity Sunday

Mon 16 Commemoration of Members of the Church who suffered under the Penal Laws, c1690-1792, that prejudice should never overcome love

Prayer Diary June 2025

Tue 17 for all who suffer for their faith under repression

Wed 18 Bernard Mizeki, Martyr, 1896, that we have courage in our faith

Thu 19 Corpus Christi

Fri 20 Fillan, Abbot, c750, for all affected by mental illness

Sat 21 for all deciding on Higher Education options

Sun 22 Pentecost 2

Mon 23 Alban, Martyr, c303, for the Anglican Communion

Tue 24 The Birth of John the Baptist, for the Gospel to be proclaimed in our lives

Wed 25 Moluag of Lismore, Bishop, 592, for Bishop Ian

Thu 26 Robert Leighton, Bishop, 1684, for learning to be tempered with humility

Fri 27 Alexander Jolly, Bishop, 1838, for our Primus Mark

Sat 28 Irenaeus of Lyons, Bishop and Teacher of the Faith, c202, for all breaking up from school for the summer

Sun 29 Pentecost 3

Mon 30 Peter, Apostle, for our Rector Christoph

Articles for the **June** magazine are requested on or before

Friday 13th June

Please note-the request date is earlier than usual to allow for the editor's holiday

The magazine will be available on

29th June

Readings June 2025

Sunday 1st	**8.30am**	Holy Communion
EASTER 7	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	Acts 16.16-34;
		Revelation 22.12-14,16-17,20-21;
		John 17.20-26
Thursday 5th	**11am**	Holy Communion
Sunday 8th	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
PENTECOST	**Readings**	Genesis 11.1-9; Acts 2.1-21;
		John 14.8-17
Thursday 12th	**11am**	Holy Communion
Sunday 15th	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
TRINITY SUNDAY	**Readings**	Proverbs 8.1-4, 22-31; Romans 5.1-5;
		John 16.12-15
Thursday 19th	**11am**	Holy Communion
CORPUS CHRISTI		

Readings June 2025

Sunday 22nd	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
PENTECOST 2	**Readings**	Isaiah 55.10-13; 1 Corinthians 15.51-58
		Luke 6.39-49
Thursday 26th	**11am**	Holy Communion
Sunday 29th	**10.30am**	Sung Eucharist
PENTECOST 3	**Readings**	1 Kings 18.20-21,30-39; Galatians 1.1-12;

Our Services

Sundays
10.30am Sung Eucharist

First Sunday in the Month
8.30am Holy Communion

Thursdays
11.00am Holy Communion

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

Rotas June 2025

Readings	Intercessions
1st June A Pont	R Nellist
8th June A Tyler	M Kenyon
15th June tbc	R Piper
22nd June M Kenyon	D Brown
29th June S Stirling Aird	tbc

Sidesduty

1st June L Coats and C Kendall

8th June S Goss and R Nellist

15th June R Campbell and A Lees

22nd June J Foster and C Kendall

29th J and N Morris

HTTOTS

2nd June A Lees and S Goss

9th June R Campbell and H Kemp

16th June 16 A Lees and N Morris

23rd June 23 S Goss and K Ellis

From the Archives June 1925

THE CHOIR

Many of the congregation have noticed how well our Choir have been singing of late. No doubt this is partly the result of having a Song Room and a piano for rehearsal and practices. Merbecke's setting of the Holy Communion Office was much appreciated by many who heard it. We are very grateful to the ladies who recently overhauled the Cassocks and repaired them, and also to Miss Belford, who never fails to look after the changing and washing of our surplices. It is bad news indeed that Conductor Green, of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, who has been such a great help to the Choir in every way, has been ordered to service abroad suddenly. We can only be grateful that we have had him so long, and wish he hadn't to go. If there are any members of the congregation who can sing (tenors or bases) we should be glad of their help in the Choir. It is necessary, of course, that they should generally attend the weekly rehearsal on Fridays at 7.30. The mode of joining is that they first of all make themselves known to the Choirmaster (Mr. J. Wilson Kinnear), and if he accepts them on musical grounds they should then see the Rector to be approved by him.

Thanks again to *Sheila Brown* for finding and transcribing this article.

This article got me wondering about choir memories and if any of our congregation have such memories of HT Choir that they would like to share. Does anyone recall the days when it was just a male choir? How strict was the choirmaster? Please send any memories to me.

Libby Coats lib.coats@gmail.com

Sweets

I gave my four-year-old grand-daughter money for sweets and the church collection plate. Later, seeing her enormous pile of sweets, I got suspicious and asked if she hadn't also given some money to God in church that morning. "No," she replied sweetly, "He wasn't there."

Crooked politicians

The editor of a small country newspaper, furious over several government bills that had recently been passed, printed a scathing editorial with an enormous headline: 'HALF THE LEGISLATORS ARE CROOKS.'

Many local politicians were outraged and exerted tremendous pressure on him to print a retraction. He finally gave in to the pressure and ran his apology with the headline: 'HALF OF OUR LEGISLATORS ARE NOT CROOKS.'

Notices in a church newssheet:

- Organist required: to work with small but trying priest and congregation.

- The Low Self Esteem Support Group meets Thursday. Please use the back door.

- Weight Watchers to meet at 7pm in the church hall. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

- There will be a shared supper at church this Sunday – with prayer and medication to follow.

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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:

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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