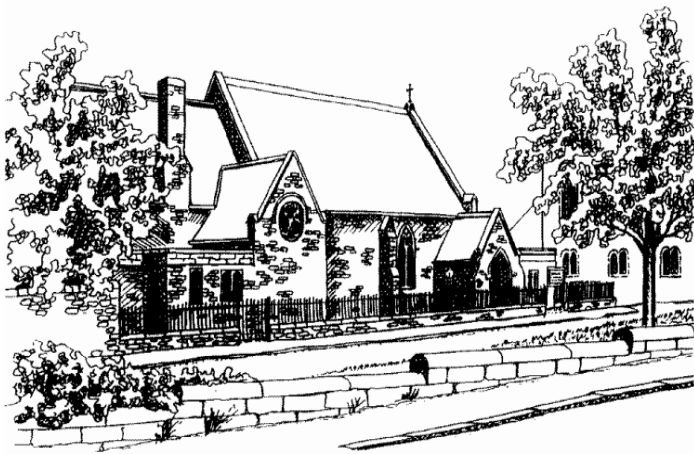


Holy Trinity Dunfermline



Registered Charity No. SCO15181

April 2013 Magazine

Holy Trinity Church, Dunfermline with St Margaret's, Rosyth

Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane

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Warden People's Warden Ken Spink

Services	Sunday	Eucharist	8am (first Sunday of month only)
		Sung Eucharist	11am
		Young Church	11am
	Thursday	Eucharist	10.15am

Our Website: www.holytrinitychurch.org.uk



Happy Easter! Being editor I have the luxury of being able to write the editorial at the last moment before I trot off to copy up the magazine. This month, however, I vowed I was going to complete

the magazine by the 28th of March so I could enjoy my Easter break and time off work without having to go near a computer. Best laid plans and all that!

While ordinarily I would not advocate procrastination, in this instance, I am glad that my plans went awry. It has given me time. Luxurious, wonderful time to reflect upon the events we recalled during Holy Week and celebrated on Sunday. Through the resurrection I am renewed. I am set free, washed clean, transformed. I am filled with joy and hope and gratitude. But Easter means much more than feeling good about being deeply loved by God. It transforms us into people who want to share the joy, the hope, the Good News. It means that we concern ourselves with the pain and suffering of the world. It motivates us to act for change, wherever and whenever we can.

On page 12 you will find an inspiring article from the SEC website about how a seemingly small act of kindness (and courage) has made waves across the globe. Words of hope and courage very much mirrored in Jim's letter to us all on pages 2 and 3 and again in a message from Ross and Ray on pages 18 and 19. Christ has shown us the love of God and with His courage and strength what might we achieve in the weeks and months to come, as Easter people?

Elaine

In this issue....

- ❖ Love Thy Neighbour
- ❖ Young Church News
- ❖ Saint of the Month
- ❖ Mothers' Union

From the Very Rev'd Jim Mein

Dear Friends (as I hope more of you are becoming)

I'm writing this in the week when Justin Welby and Pope Francis officially take up their responsibilities as leaders of the Anglican Communion and Roman Catholic Churches. It is also the week of preparation for all the Holy week services – celebrating events infinitely more significant – but it is hard to write about those knowing they will be past by the time you read this.

So I'm thinking about leadership. On one of the Lent group evenings we made lists of all the strengths and all the dangers of strong individual leadership in a congregation. We also made lists of all the strengths and dangers of the congregation exercising the leadership of the Church. (These lists are on the board in the Hall if you are interested). We then discussed if and how, it was possible to benefit from the strengths of both while avoiding the dangers – not easy!

What I think is clear is that if you rely on leadership coming from only one 'side', the dangers linked to that side appear pretty quickly. 50 years of ordained experience in the Church has convinced me that the Rector plays a vital role in the success or failure of a congregation. They can help it grow and be an outward looking, cheerful, spiritual group of people; and they can also empty a Church, divide the people and halt the mission. Equally (though there is less evidence for this, as until recently, almost all congregations expected their stipendiary clergy to lead them) a group without a clear leader can be enthusiastic and creative but can easily also become divided and moribund.

There are of course hundreds of books (some of which I've read) about good leadership and getting the best of both worlds and these are well worth studying. But in the end, for the Church we are perhaps brought back to Holy Week: to the leader who washed feet; the leader who trusted his followers. We are brought back to the followers who picked themselves up from despair, were willing to talk about their divisions, give each other responsibility for certain tasks, and trust their leader even when he was not visibly around.

From the Very Rev'd Jim Mein

Justin and Francis have very important roles and considerable influence but even they will not be able to dictate how their Churches respond in the coming years. I and Ross (or even a new Rector) have responsibilities but we on our own cannot make Holy Trinity what it is called to be. Neither can any one group within the congregation.

My prayer is that, inspired yet again by the events of Holy Week and Easter – events that are beyond any of us to grasp in their fullness but which can open us up in wonder - we may all see the value of different perceptions and different gifts that are held in our community and work together.

I have enjoyed my first few weeks, even in Lent, and look forward to our moving together in the light and warmth of Eastertide and Pentecost.

Jim Mein

P.S. Elaine has allowed this very late addition on Easter Monday: Ross and I would like to express our appreciation to all who celebrated Holy Week with us – congregations were larger than last year and many of you were supportive and encouraging. It was a humbling journey.

Confirmation Service

Bishop David has agreed to come on Sunday, 21st April and lead our worship at both St. Margaret's (9.30am) and Holy Trinity (11am).

The 11am will be a Confirmation service and if anyone from either congregation is thinking about Confirmation please get in touch with me, or Fr. Ross, as quickly as possible.

Jim Mein

A Confirmation Prayer

Each moment of your life,
may you feel God's embrace.
May you sense God's guiding
presence in each challenge that
you face.

May God's peace and light be with
you and

May you realise how deeply loved
and precious you are in God's eyes.

Amen

Wives Group

All are welcome to come along to any or all of these events and partake of a nice cup of tea or coffee afterwards.

Monday 22nd April - a Spanish Evening - come along and sample food from sunny Spain, listen to some Flamenco music and bring your castanets if you feel like joining in.

Monday 6th May – Church Flowers - Gill Wardell is going to tell us about the art of church flower arranging and show us how it is done.

Please come along and experience the warmth and friendliness of our small group. We have lots of things planned for this year's programme which we are sure you would enjoy. No commitment necessary, just come along to any of our get-togethers that you fancy.

Yvonne Gosling
Secretary

Saint of the Month

St. Catherine of Siena

29th April

St Catherine was born on 25th March 1347 in Siena. The daughter of Giacomo di Benincasa, a cloth dyer and his wife Lapa Piagen, she was one of a large family - her mother having previously had 22 children before Catherine and a

twin sister, Giovanna, were born. Giovanna died when an infant and Lapa went on to have one more child, another girl, also christened Giovanna.

At a very early age Catherine began to have visions of Christ who she said smiled at her and blessed her and left her in a state of ecstasy. Throughout her life she continued to have visions of Christ and at the age of seven in one of the visions, she made a vow of chastity. In later visions she said that Christ had administered Communion to her and in one that she had vowed to be wedded to Christ. Nowadays, we might ask ourselves 'were these actual

Saint of the Month - St. Catherine of Siena

spiritual manifestations or the signs of an over active imagination?' Nevertheless she believed them and they made a profound difference to her life.

At the age of 16 it is recorded that her father wished her to marry the widower of one of her elder sisters. To avoid this she refused all food until she was near to death from starvation, when her father gave in. Her prolonged fast affected her health and for the rest of her life she was what we call anorexic. After this, she announced her intention of joining the Dominican Order. Her mother, Lapa, was opposed to this but eventually agreed when Catherine was taken ill with a severe illness. Catherine miraculously recovered when allowed to join the Dominican Order as a tertiary, that is to say a nun who has taken vows and donned the habit of the order but lives and works in the outside world.

As a tertiary she was something of a Mother Theresa of her age giving all she had, and also some of the family food and possessions to the poor, which was not always appreciated by the family. Recognising her piety and sanctity a number of followers gathered round her to hear her words and be taught by her. Because of this she was ordered by the Dominican Order to go to Florence where her teaching was rigorously examined for heresy but it was considered not to be heretical.

From then on Catherine with her followers travelled widely in Italy preaching the need for repentance and renewal which could only be reached through a total love of Christ. She also began dictating letters to amongst others the Pope, and the leaders of the various states and principalities in Italy calling for reforms of the papacy and priesthood and improvements in the governance of the Church and the Papal States.

At this time the Pope, Gregory XI, had moved the Papal Court to Avignon to seek the protection of the King of France. The Duke of Florence selected Catherine to go to Avignon as an emissary to see the Pope and persuade him to return to Rome which she did.

Following Pope Gregory's death she supported his successor, Pope Urban VI, who had to prove his legitimacy against a rival Pope who had with the

Saint of the Month - St. Catherine of Siena

support of the King of France been elected in Avignon. Catherine spent the rest of her life trying to heal the rift but died before she could achieve success.

She died on 29 April, 1380, at the age of 33, leaving behind her a large number of letters on both religious and political matters, over three hundred of which have survived to this day, and major theological work "The Dialogue of Divine Providence".

Before her death she had told her confessor, Blessed Raymond of Capua, that in a vision, Christ had bestowed the stigmata on her. Though there was no sign of this during her life when she died she was found to have the marks of the stigmata on her wrists and ankles.

After her death her body was entombed at the Basilica of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva in Rome and it was subsequently disinterred and moved into the Basilica after it had become a sight for pilgrimage. On disinterment it was found that the body had not rotted but was mummified. This was taken as being miraculous, but though rare it is not unusual in the Italian climate as anyone who has visited the funeral catacombs in Palermo will know. The head and one thumb were removed from the body and placed in a bejewelled reliquary on the altar.

The people of Siena were not happy having the body of their own local saint in Rome and they mounted a Stone of Scone style raid to bring it home. Realising that they were unable to steal the whole body and smuggle it out of Rome and back to Siena they only took the reliquary. Legend has it that on leaving Roman territory they were stopped by guards who searched their baggage, but failed to find the relics as when they opened the parcel containing the relics only found a large packet of rose petals. When it was unpacked in Siena it had reverted to being the head of the saint. This probably did not happen but why spoil a good story. The head and thumb of the saint are now held in the Basilica of San Domenico at Siena.

Catherine was canonised by Pope Pius II in 1460 and because of her theological writings was named as a Doctor of the Roman Catholic Church by

Saint of the Month - St. Catherine of Siena

Pope Paul in 1970. Only one of two women who have been given this accolade.

She was adopted as one of the two Patron Saints of Italy, the other being St. Francis of Assisi.

What a woman she must have been, even if we take some of the tales of her with a pinch of salt. Given her background in an ordinary family with no formal education, to have left the legacy of theological and political thought and writings that she did and to have played such an important part in the history of the Church, is of itself, something of a miracle. She also had what was clearly an intense love of Christ. It makes one wonder what we would have done had we met someone like her today. Would we believe someone who spoke of having visions and felt a need to follow them or would we have thought they needed psychiatric treatment?



St. Catherine of Siena - Doctor of the Church



Casting the Net Event

The Gathering

Saturday 1st June, 10am–4pm, St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth

This year the Gathering returns to our mother church and will focus on Mark of Mission 2.

Please see the website for information about the above event:
www.standrews.anglican.org.

Getting in touch

If you have any questions about Casting the Net, please contact the Casting the Net Coordinator, Caroline King, at
castingthenet@standrews.anglican.org or on 01738 443173.



Young Church News

The Young Church surprised the congregation by mixing and cooking a cake during the All Age Worship on Mothering Sunday - well it was Refreshment Sunday! Our talk focused on the act of mothering in a wider sense. We had readings about Miriam and Moses and Mary at the foot of the Cross, both of which reminded us that mothering is often not just the job of one woman and that families come in all shapes and sizes. We thought about our church family and the 'ingredients' that are all part of the mix: like the butter in our cake which adds richness, sugar which is sweet; the flour which gives the cake support and the eggs which represent goodness. We even added a pinch of salt to remind us of the need for balance in all things. Finally, we had a bowl of gooey mixture but no cake! The last element required was the heat of the oven, which like the warmth of God's love in our messy lives, is essential to create the cake. The cake was ready for the coffee after the service and those that sampled it reported it was indeed good!

Good Friday Happening 2013

We had a great turnout for our annual Good Friday 'Happening'. You may have noticed the fruits of our efforts in the church hall on Easter Sunday. These included decorated hard-boiled eggs, our 'Passion' scenes on the windows and decorated pots in which we planted bulbs to remind us in the weeks to come of the New Life of Easter. We finished our morning of activities with a brief act of worship in the church reflecting upon Christ's Passion.

A big thank you to Gill Wardell for helping us create our Easter Garden.



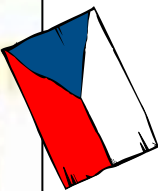



Planting bulbs and
creating passion
scenes – Good
Friday Happening
2013

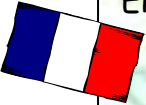




Mothers' Union Notices



Come and dine with Dorissia and her **Mothers' Union Crew** on Friday 3rd May in Holy Trinity Church Hall at 7pm for 7.30pm.



Enjoy food from around the world....and you are invited to come appropriately dressed!

The fun and food are in aid of the Mothers' Union Overseas Development Fund and Bishop David's Lent Appeal.



Tickets are available from M.U. members.



If you have been before you'll know just how good it is!

Wednesday 3rd April 2.00pm

Holy Trinity Church Hall - Rev Michael Bonser

Wednesday 17th April 7.30pm

35 Broomieknowe, Dunfermline - Brendan Grimley

Saturday 20th April 10.00am

St. Ninian's Perth - Diocesan Council Meeting and the commissioning of Provincial President, Jean Richardson, in the afternoon.

Please note the May programme has changed.

The meeting on 1st of May will not now be taking place as we were unable to arrange a visit to Dunfermline Abbey on that date.



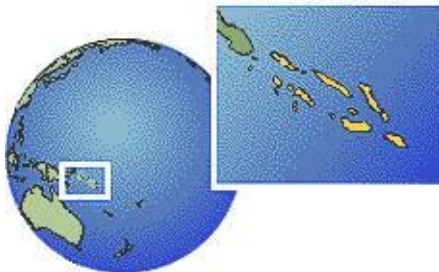
Focus on the Mothers' Union's work in the Solomon Islands

The Solomon Islands is a group of several large volcanic islands with over 1,000 small outlying islands or atolls, lying south-east of Papua New Guinea. The high life expectancy figure of 73 years is at odds with the age of the population, with only around 4% being over 65 years of age, and some 40% being under 15 years. Ethnic violence and civil conflict have undermined stability and society, and the work of Mothers' Union to promote stable family life is of vital importance in such a climate.

Mothers' Union works within the structure of the Anglican Church in Melanesia, and within the Solomon Islands this is divided into six administrative areas. Five Mothers' Union

Union community development coordinators travel many miles across the region, often by small

boats or planes, to reach isolated communities and groups of members, meaning they are often out of contact with their families for long stretches of time.



Priorities within the work include strengthening family values and family life. Young people here face many challenges – there are not many opportunities for

further education or employment and as a result there is a high rate of youth unemployment and criminal activity. Drug

abuse and sexual exploitation, low self-esteem, early or unwanted pregnancies and domestic violence are everyday problems here.

In a national consultation across the islands in 2010 people were given the opportunity to explore the consequences of family breakdown and the chance to set goals to improve the quality of family life. Mothers' Union here have responded by seeking to introduce a parenting programme with the aims of reducing divorces, encouraging good parenting skills, and helping communities encourage young people to become responsible members of their communities.

Love thy neighbour....

Some of you may have already heard or read about St. John's Episcopal church in Aberdeen, but for those of you who have not, I thought this article from the SEC website was worth reproducing in our magazine. Around the middle of March, St. John's hit the headlines across the world after the Aberdeen Press and Journal ran an article about how the congregation were helping local Muslims by offering them the church for their prayer meetings. In the week that followed, the Bishop of Aberdeen & Orkney, the Rt Rev Dr Robert Gillies wrote this reflection for the Press & Journal:

“St John's Episcopal Church in Aberdeen is a grand, stately building standing high and proud, overlooking Aberdeen rail station. Inside it is an exquisite gem with fine stained glass, beautiful frescoes and a real place of peace on the edge of the city centre. It's been a place of prayer for well over 150 years.

“All of that might seem natural enough for a church. But St John's is different because on its church grounds, and connected to it by doors and pathways and sharing a common car park, is a mosque.

“There's never been any secret about this. Amongst other Media, national television filmed the walk of witness which members of the congregation of St John's did with worshippers from the mosque on the tenth anniversary of 9/11. So why did everything go global last week after a very good piece in the Press and Journal? I've no real answer though no doubt the journalists at the P & J might, with some significant justification, claim that their story on St John's and its neighbouring mosque got to places that none of the other stuff did.

“And it was good that it did. The media of the world was in contact with St John's and just for a few days it seemed that the eyes of the world were moving alternately between the inauguration of a new Pope, a new Archbishop of Canterbury and a church in Aberdeen. The praise was enormous. People around the globe were celebrating and thanking us for forming bonds of friendship and offering hospitality to our neighbours. Indeed, in his inaugural message to religious leaders, the new Pope spoke of the importance of the promotion of friendship and respect between men and women of different religious traditions – he even repeated this message, such is the importance of it.

Love thy neighbour....

“And that’s what is crucial about what St John’s is doing. The Rector, Canon Poobalan, saw his neighbours praying one Friday afternoon, overflowing from the mosque, on a cold November day in bare feet, as is the Islamic tradition. That couldn’t be. If you see someone in need and you can meet that need you do so. Canon Poobalan opened his church so that any of the Muslims who wished could pray inside. A granite church in Aberdeen in November isn’t the warmest place in the world, but at least it gave shelter and somewhere that was dry and frost free.

“That’s what St John’s church and its congregation is good at - offering hospitality, offering friendship, building relationships and securing trust. Their invitation was accepted by the Muslims. And it works well. Something local is being built with a global significance. It may be overstating things to say that we are contributing to world peace but I genuinely believe that we are.

“With all the media interest last week there was some mayhem managing it all. Inevitably a few detractors sought to bring a negative tone to what is a good news story. But that’s to be expected. Whenever the church has done something right there’s always a few who try to virus it away. But from around the world hundreds and hundreds of messages all testified to the wonderful thing that is being done at St John’s Episcopal Church in Aberdeen.

“St John’s will carry on its wonderful work. There’s a lovely parable in the New Testament about someone needing bread. Would his neighbour offer a stone instead of what was needed? Surely not? When the Moslem worshippers in Crown Terrace needed a place to pray we could offer them somewhere. It was neighbourly, it was right. Perhaps to some it has come as a surprise. But for it all and because of it the world is a better place.

“Each day of each week St John’s is a place of prayer and worship firmly and securely rooted in the western Christian tradition. The only thing that has changed in the last few days is that more people than ever before know it is and respect it for what it does.”

-ends-



Sister Anna nearly drops the banner!

A true story by Valerie Leslie

On a very cold snowy Saturday, 23 March, the Mothers' Union held their Lady Day service in the Cathedral in Perth. The new diocesan MU president, Mrs Linda Brownlee was to be commissioned - as also were several trustees, one of which was Isobel Thomson. Both Linda and Isobel come from the Holy Trinity branch of MU.

So, with great excitement and enthusiasm, I volunteered to carry the banner. I guess most folk who know me will testify to my not being the most surefooted and careful of individuals. I am what most folk would call a klutz, but - heigh-ho! - I felt honoured to carry HT's banner. What I didn't take into account was its size and rather tricky manoeuvrability.



So, there I am on the day, waiting with bated breath to follow the banner procession. The banner group gets ready to move off, and that is when I discover how heavy the banner is, and that it's somewhat tricky to walk in a straight line with a banner which does not allow me to see where I am going. Yes, you guessed it: Klutz is all over the place, with tassels from the banner swinging everywhere but where they should be, hitting the poor women in front of me more than once.

However, halfway down the aisle I see that everyone is holding their banner higher than me. Aha! So that is how it's done! Lifting it higher, I can see where I am going and get to the correct destination with no further difficulty. Wow! I hear you say: Well done you! However, the story is not yet over. More disaster is to follow.

The service was beautiful, the choral singing beautiful, with a lovely sermon from the Bishop of Brechin, and the commissioning going off without a hitch. The last hymn begins. The banner bearers move off. Here I go! I thought we were going back the way we came, and remembered to

Sister Anna nearly drops the banner!

lift the banner high. However, we were told to go through the East Choir. So, picking up the banner and lifting it high, it immediately gets stuck in

the woodwork. Tassels swinging wildly, I try frantically to extract it and get it through the rather narrow gap. "O Lord help me, Lord graciously help me", I am thinking!

Well, I finally get through, but further difficulty is just a step or two away as I misjudge the chancel step and almost launch myself into the entire front row of the congregation, banner and all. Thankfully I did not land in the lap of the new president, but it was a close thing.



Laughter from my fellow MU friends from HT made me see the funny side of it and I haven't been able to stop laughing about it since! Do you think I'll be asked to carry the banner again? Well, if I am, I will know in future where to lift it high and where it is best not to. LIFT HIGH THE CROSS!

FAITH IN ACTION – April Prayers for Prisons

For Prisoners and Their Families

Lord, you know that prison life is hard,
and that many find it difficult to cope.
We pray for vulnerable prisoners.
For those beginning long sentences.
For those preparing for release.
For those seeking to change their lives.
We pray for the families of prisoners
who often suffer discrimination and
hardship.
Strengthen them and help them with
your love;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
AMEN

For the Victims of Crime

Lord, your Son was a victim.
We pray for the victims of crime;
For those whose lives are changed for
ever.
For those who live in fear.
For those who have lost their faith and
trust in their fellow human beings.
Restore them by your grace and move
them to forgiveness;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
AMEN



Treasurer's Report by Peter Hutchings
The financial position at the end of February 2013



Income	£	My theme this year, started at the AGM, is to
Freewill Giving	1,503	remind you of the cost of employing a Rector.
Open Plate Giving	1,640	The congregation should collectively be willing
Gift Aid Giving	9,723	to at least ensure that this cost is met through
Tax Recovered	6,921	the giving to Holy Trinity via Gift Aid, Freewill
Donations	272	and Open Plate and Donations.
5 months income =	<u>£20,059</u>	

The annual cost of a Rector is £46,000

The Tax Recovered has now been reduced to 20%, a reduction of 3%. Please take this into account when considering your giving.

The Rector's Fund for the needy of the parish stands at £229.

I require your assistance please.

It is some time now since those of you who completed the original Membership Forms gave me your details. Many of you have given me new phone numbers or email addresses to add to the database.

I am now trying to check that I have up to date information for everyone and I would be grateful if anyone who has changed email addresses or phone numbers would let me have the information you would wish the church to hold for you.

Could you please either hand me a written note of the info or pop it into the membership box in the Vestibule remembering to include your name. Please don't think I will remember what you tell me verbally!

I will also make a supply of forms available if you would rather complete a new form.

In addition if you aren't receiving the weekly email with the information from the service sheet and wish to, please let me know – and of course if you are receiving it and no longer want it let me know also.

Thank you so much for your help with this lengthy task.

Fay Cuthbertson
Secretary

Email: secretary@holytrinitychurch.org.uk



Dear Friends,


I have entered a 10K.... but not the sort of 10K that makes you hot and sweaty!

I've signed up to write 10,000 words to raise funds for a local charity in Dunfermline called 'Safe Space' - they provide a counselling and support service for young people who have been sexually abused. The charity's patron is Iain Banks ('The Crow Road', etc plus also writing science fiction as Iain M. Banks) and they hit on the idea of running a 'Write-athon', where you sign up for 5K, 10K, the marathon etc. They find it very difficult to raise funds in the normal way because of the nature of the work they do - the general public, apparently, don't respond well to this sort of issue. But it's very much part of my working life, and I hope you will think about supporting it.

The closing date for sending in my 10K is 30th April and I'm aiming to produce a series of linked short stories set loosely in Dunfermline. Would you like to sponsor me? If so, please just speak to me/write to me/ send money to me... or do it via Just Giving at:
<http://www.justgiving.com/Helen-Welsh1>

I'll 'publish' the finished result into a little booklet, and give it to anyone who is kind enough to support this great cause. But don't let that put you off!

Take care
Helen



Noted by Francis Jack on a pew sheet
in Hoo, Kent:

Before Worship – Talk to God
During Worship – Let God talk to you
After Worship – Talk to each other

Letters and Notes

My biggest vice is eating chocs,
So I gave them up for Lent.
And then I was given a Thornton's
box,
And I can't think where they went.
(Anon)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please note that during the
interregnum the 8.00am
Eucharist will be held only
on the first Sunday of the
month

We want to thank all our
friends at Holy Trinity for
their cards and good wishes
for our Diamond Wedding.

It was much appreciated.

Love to all
Agnes and George

Our anniversary - a celebration

In March 2012 we celebrated our Civil Partnership followed by a blessing here at Holy Trinity. As the public consultation on same-sex marriage has recently drawn to a close we thought it would be appropriate to provide a short account of our own journey the past year.

In our opinion, it isn't important what the opponents of same-sex marriage think. Often their criticism is based on prejudice and ignorance. What is important to us is our commitment to one another and the blessing of this by God. During our Civil Partnership Ceremony the Registrar provided a beautiful service, however this did not allow for any reference to God. As Christians we felt that it was essential for our commitment to be witnessed in the presence of God. We approached Tim and Valerie who happily agreed to bless our partnership at Holy Trinity (with permission from the Bishop). This gave us acknowledgment and affirmation of our partnership - witnessed by many from the congregation but most importantly, by God.

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(continued)

The Scotland for Marriage campaign opposes same-sex marriage and this is supported by many religious institutions. So the question we ask "Is there anyone out there who is perfect in every way?" No! We are all sinners in one way or another. But being in a committed, loving and caring same-sex relationship, in our view, is not a sin and this should not be used as an argument against same-sex marriage. This is our view and we would never force this upon others, but we can try and explain our perspective. As Christians we would describe ourselves as compassionate, kind and patient individuals who want to try our best to lead righteous lives. As we are blessed with life, it's important to have love for one another and respect the way in which God has created each and every one of us - as unique and wonderful individuals. And we are all equal in God's eyes. Wouldn't it be good to celebrate and support that diversity in a way that allows true equality rather than deny it?

Ross Stirling & Ray Young

You are Love

Dear Lord
You are the Way
Help us to find new ways of Walking
You are the Truth
Help us to find new ways of Talking
You are the Life
Help us to find new ways of Living
You are Love
Help us to find new ways of Loving.
Amen.

Michael Reiss



You can read the SEC's response to the Scottish Government's consultation on the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill by copying this link into your browser:

http://www.scotland.anglican.org/media/news/files/Response_to_Consultation_Bill.pdf

Readings for April

7 April Easter 2	Acts 5: 27-32	Revelation 1: 4-8	John 20: 19-end
14 April Easter 3	Acts 9: 1-6	Revelation 5: 11-end	John 21: 1-19
21 April Easter 4	Acts 9: 36-end	Revelation 7: 9-end	John 10: 22-30
28 April Easter 5	Acts 11: 1-18	Revelation 21: 1-6	John 13: 31-35

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Forget express trains. Forget whizzing through bland landscapes, engrossed in glossy mag and polystyrene cappuccino. Forget mobile phones, packed timetables, and letting the train take the strain. Either this is pre-Beeching, a stop in every village, or it's the Soviet Union – grim, cold, dim, silent. Your fellow travellers shuffle on and off. Nobody makes eye contact.

Next time, prepare for the journey – now that you know there are fourteen stops and that yes, you do have to disembark at every single one. Next time, bring a hanky; wear sensible shoes; prepare for a wait. Now pay attention while the station mistress holds up a picture telling Why This Village Is Famous; and while the station master holds up a mirror. Yes, that's you in there, sobbing, stumbling, mopping up blood. Nobody else.

Look around you. Notice how the other travellers do not fidget. They do this journey every year (and now you are called to join them).

They are not grim; just sad. And see: on every station platform a tub of sharp green shoots. Next week there will be crocuses.

Helen Welsh



Thank you Helen for this thought provoking poem. Helen wrote it the first Easter after she joined HT, when the Stations of the Cross was a new experience for her.

Who's Who at HOLY TRINITY

Secretary	Fay Cuthbertson	726243
Treasurer	Peter Hutchings	728534
Lay Rep	Linda Brownlie	-
Vestry:	Pam Lynn	-
	Malcolm Gosling	851605
	John Kennedy	-
	James Geldart	734997
	Elaine Cromwell	721663
	Jack Wardell	722948
People's Warden	Ken Spink	735732
Trainee Lay Reader	Margaret Dineley	624377
Musical Director	Roger Weatherhogg	(work) 01592 583473
Servers	Phil Smithard	722416
Sacristan	Frances Jack	721683
Flowers	Gill Wardell	722948
Cleaner	Brenda Waterfield	734309
Young Church	Sheona Wedge	720278
Dorcas Group	Sheila Hawkins	725955
	Isobel Thomson	624322
Mothers' Union	Caroline Laurie	616244
Wives Group	Helen Dalgity	726350
	Yvonne Gosling	851605
Women's Guild	Catherine Duncan	432832
HT 50/50 Club	John Kennedy	511981
	Linda Sherwood	416558
	Doreen Esnol	621054
	James Geldart	734997
Prayer Group	Margaret Dineley	624377
	Doreen Esnol	621054
Sunday Coffee	Doreen Esnol	621054
	Fay Spink	735732
Hall Booking	Ken Spink	735732



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Please send any articles or notices to Elaine, preferably by email: ecromwell@thomsoncooper.com

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