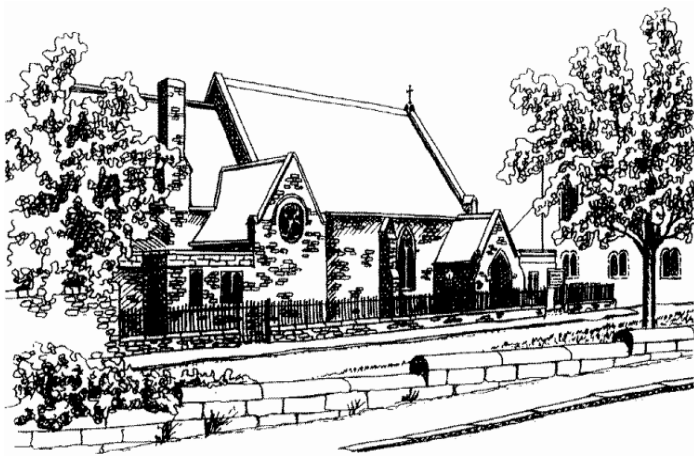


Holy Trinity Dunfermline



Registered Charity No. SCO15181

Winter 2012/13 Magazine

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

Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane

Bishop The Rt Rev'd David Chillingworth
28a Balhouse Street
Perth PH1 5HJ
01738 643000

Honorary Priest Rev'd Ross Kennedy
12 Calaisburn Place
Dunfermline KY11 4RD
01383 625887

Vestry Secretary Fay Cutherbertson
01383 726243

Wardens	Rector's Warden	Helen Welsh
	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

Winter

I'm weary. Tired. The short days and long hours of darkness sometimes get me down. I am desperate for the break from work and duty I'll enjoy in a few weeks' time. And I'm not alone. Many of us feel the same way at this time of year, I think. We know the joyous celebration of our Lord's birth is coming, but it still seems a marathon away. As Ross reminds us in his reflections on pages 2 and 3, Advent is, however, the perfect time to reflect upon how our forefathers were feeling too, waiting for the prophecy to be fulfilled. It reminds us that we *will* be delivered from darkness; in Christ.

Helen's article on pages 10-12 highlights that Bethlehem today is as much a place of sharp contrasts as it was some two thousand years ago when the King of Kings was born to an unmarried girl on a stable floor and placed in a feeding trough for a bed. Far from the sentimental images on the greetings cards which will very soon be dropping on our door mats, the reality would have been far grittier. Frightening, terrifying even, yet truly amazing, wonderful and extraordinary.

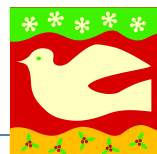
And that's the nub of it, isn't it? Just like then, our lives aren't cosy, festive images. They're gritty, full of contrasts. There is still great injustice in our world and many, many people praying, pleading for deliverance. But as Margaret's prayer on page 16 reminds me Christ is here, with us right now. He acts through us. So I'm going to try to stop feeling weary, tired, resenting the dark nights; and concentrate on reflecting the peace, hope, love and joy of this festive season.

Elaine

I'm weary. Tired. The short days and long hours of darkness sometimes get me down. I am desperate for the break from work and duty I'll enjoy in a few weeks' time. And I'm not alone. Many of us feel the same way at this time of year, I think. We know the joyous celebration of our Lord's birth is coming, but it still seems a marathon away. As Ross reminds us in his reflections on pages 2 and 3, Advent is, however, the perfect time to reflect upon how our forefathers were feeling too, waiting for the prophecy to be fulfilled. It reminds us that we *will* be delivered from darkness; in Christ.

In this issue....

- ❖ Fr Ross Writes
- ❖ Mission to Seafarers
- ❖ Banksy in Bethlehem
- ❖ AGM Report
- ❖ Young Church News



Fr. Ross Writes.....

It's here - at least it seems to be. "What is here?" you may ask. Christmas is here - it is isn't it? Yet it is only November. But go into any shop and you will be greeted with Christmas trees, decorations, gift wrap, piped carols and even Santa's Grotto (at Dobbies). But no - it is *not* Christmas, for the Christmas season does not actually begin until midnight on the 24th December.

Before we can celebrate the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas we have the four weeks of Advent to get through. Now I love Advent with its themes of darkness and light. The only trouble is that Christmas impinges on Advent so that, as a Christian Season, it is barely noticed by most people. It used to be kept as a time of abstinence although less strictly than Lent, but a time when festivities were discouraged. In church the solemn character of Advent is still marked by the liturgical use of purple and the absence of the Gloria in the Eucharist. Advent then is a time of preparation not only for Christmas but also for the Second Coming of Christ as Judge at the Last Day as is reflected by the readings we use during this season.



This year we begin our journey to Bethlehem on the first Sunday in Advent, 2nd December, with an Advent Carol Service at 4.00pm - a service for choir and congregation of hymns, music, anthems, prayers and readings. Afterwards there will be mulled wine and mince pies in the hall. Please do join us.

Fr. Ross Writes.....

My predecessor at my last parish was very particular about the keeping of Advent. No decorated tree, no carols, no crib until Christmas. In fact the church members were absolutely forbidden to start decorating the church until after dark on Christmas Eve. They would then have a real scramble to get the church decorated and ready for the midnight mass. Far too strict, I know but I do believe we should attempt to keep the spirit of Advent.

I remember as youngsters how my older brother and I discovered our presents a couple of weeks before Christmas. Whenever we were alone in the house we would play with these presents and then safely return them to where our parents had hidden them. The result was, however, that on

Christmas Day we missed out on the surprise and excitement we would have enjoyed had we not discovered our presents before the appointed time. Similarly celebrating Christmas too early can take some of the magic out of the Day when it finally comes.

The other thing I often hear, perhaps on Boxing Day is, 'Well that's it over for another year'. But that is simply not true. Christmas actually lasts for twelve days as the carol rightly tells us. Christmas ends with the beginning of the Season of Epiphany on 6th January. In this season we celebrate the coming of the Magi with their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Jesus is thus manifested as the Saviour not just for the Jews but for the whole world.

Details of our services during Advent and Christmas can be found elsewhere in this edition.

May I wish you all a solemn Advent, a joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ross



Decorating the Church for Christmas
will be on Saturday 22nd December
at
10.00. Could all my helpers plus
anyone
who would like to join in please give
me their names.
Gill Wardell



Holy Trinity Mothers Union Floral Art Demonstration

Gill Wardell demonstrated her skill
and talent in flower arranging
before a full- house audience in the
Church hall on Wednesday 21st
November. In no time at all, Gill
created five arrangements whilst
chatting away to her audience,
much to their amazement!
Afterwards, over a glass of mulled
wine and mince pies, the
arrangements were raffled and the
lucky people were able to take one
home. Over £200 was raised for
Mothers Union funds.



Mission to Seafarers

As you know Holy Trinity regularly supports Seafarers by a retiring collection in June and you are always most generous with this.

As it is some time since I made a plea for other assistance, I wonder if our newer members know that we also give another kind of regular support. For many years now the ladies of the congregation have been knitting garments to be distributed to the Seafarers who come into the Missions around Scotland. We were able to give Jim a large parcel of hats, balaclavas, scarves and gloves when he visited us earlier in the year and I am about to post off another parcel before Christmas.

All of these garments can be and are knitted from small balls of double knitting wool and the patterns are very simple (although the balaclavas and gloves take a bit more time.)

If you have some wool in your cupboards that you have been wondering what to do with then here is the answer! I have the patterns so just please be in contact. The shelves in the Missions constantly need to be replenished.

If you want to start right away you could begin with a scarf - any colour is acceptable and stripes are very welcome.

With double knitting wool and number 6 needles cast on 40 stitches and knit in garter stitch. Scarves need to encircle the throat twice ends covering the chest so should not be more than 10 ins wide and 5 feet long!

It would be grand to send off another parcel of hats, gloves, balaclavas and scarves after Christmas. All of our parcels are used in the Missions in Scotland and are greatly appreciated by the Seafarers.

Fay Cuthbertson
Secretary



WIVES GROUP

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



Monday 10th December – It's Christmas Party night !! – joins us in our celebration of the festive season with lovely food, a seasonal quiz and some Christmas Carols. Lots of fun to be had by all!

Monday 14th January - After a short Christmas break we have our FESTIVE LUNCH held at the Pitbauchlie House Hotel on Monday 14th January 2013. We all begin to assemble at 12 noon, ready to sit down for a delicious 2 course lunch at 12.30. If you would like to join us, the cost of a 2 course lunch is in the region of £17.00, please speak to Helen Dalgity, Pam Grimley, Doreen Esnol or Yvonne Gosling as we need to know numbers.

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.

All of these events are held in the Church Hall, start at 7.30 pm. and we are normally heading home by 9.00 pm.

Yvonne Gosling, Secretary



The Vestry Report from Holy Trinity AGM November 25th 2012

Once again this year there was an encouraging attendance at our AGM held after the 11.00 am Service. Having enjoyed our tea and coffee Fr. Ross called us together and we started with a prayer at exactly 12.30! 63 people were present with 17 apologies.

The Minutes as published, taking account of 6 amendments that will be published with next year's Minutes and considered by Vestry at our next meeting on 4th December, were adopted as a true record of the meeting last year.

We then turned to the election of Vestry Members. Helen Welsh has resigned as Rector's Warden and although Pam Pryde and Jenny Stooke were eligible to stand for a further term of three years neither sought re-election. We had received the correct number of nominations for all the Vestry positions so unlike last year – no need for elections! Ken Spink was returned as People's Warden as were Linda Brownlie and Adrienne Lyon as Lay Rep and Alt. Lay rep respectively. James Geldart and Pam Lynn were nominated as Vestry members.

Ross had provided his annual report in time for it to be printed with the papers and you will all have read that. He only added that the attendance at services during November had been gratifying with 90 attending on Remembrance Sunday. He repeated his thanks for all the support he receives.

The Financial Statement and Budget had also been made available. Peter gave a short Report pointing out the current deficit and reminding the congregation that we would be seeking to advertise for a Rector and this deficit would not encourage applicants. He informed that to have a Rector in post and maintain the Rectory, cost £750 per week and asked people to consider this when deciding on their giving. It was agreed to increase the cost of Sunday Coffee to £1. He informed us that it is good value and he notes that some people have more than one biscuit!

Ken gave a comprehensive report on what requires to be done at the Rectory and told us that work in the garden has started and that estimates were being sought for the new fencing and for much needed replacement

The Vestry Report from Holy Trinity AGM November 25th 2012

windows and doors. The windows and doors are contemporary with the house and are not energy efficient – their replacement would reduce fuel bills and provide better security. He also mentioned the problem with the freestanding garage and that although there were thoughts of demolishing it various permissions would need to be sought.

The Secretary reported that Robert Nellist was dealing with the task of appointing a PVG coordinator for Holy Trinity and you will of course hear about this as soon as there is any information to give you.

Ross then thanked Helen for her time as Rector's Warden and Pam and Jenny for their work and commitment while on Vestry.

Under AOCB Roger thanked the Vestry and congregation for the recent outlay on the organ refurbishment and thanked the choir for their support during the year and spoke of his pride at their participation in the Jubilee Service in Dunfermline Abbey.

Vestry were asked about communication of Vestry business either in the magazine or by published Minutes. . The Vestry will look at this again at the next meeting. The Secretary reminded those present that Vestry meetings had not been as frequent as in the past and that much of the business had been confidential and therefore could not be made available but was hopeful that communication would improve in the future.

Ken thanked Ross on behalf of the congregation for all he had done in past months. Helen also graciously thanked Ross for his continuity and stability and also Tim and Valerie in absentia for all they had done in the first months of the year and remarked on the difference they had made to so many lives. Peter then stated how much the Vestry appreciated what Ross was doing and urged members of the congregation to come forward to offer their help.

Ross then ended the meeting by leading us all in saying the Grace together.



Festive Services 2012

Sunday 2nd December, 4:00pm
ADVENT CAROL SERVICE
Service for Choir and Congregation
Of Hymns, Anthems, Music,
Readings and Prayers.
*Followed by mulled wine
and mince pies in the hall*



Sunday 23rd December, 11.00am
SUNG EUCHARIST
With
YOUNG CHURCH NATIVITY



Monday 24th December, 5.00pm
CHRISTINGLE
For All Ages

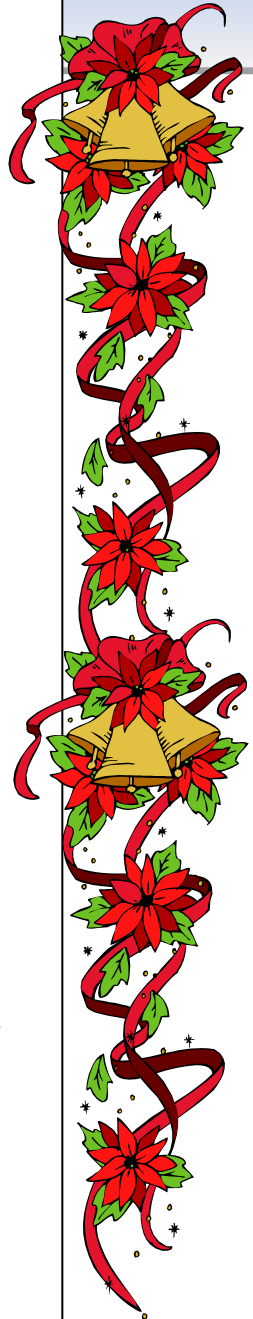
11.30pm
MIDNIGHT MASS



Tuesday 25th December, 10.00am
CHRISTMAS DAYFAMILY SERVICE
with
HOLY COMMUNION



Sunday, 30th December, 11.00am
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
Service of Carols, Readings and Holy
Communion



BANKSY IN BETHLEHEM

BY HELEN WELSH

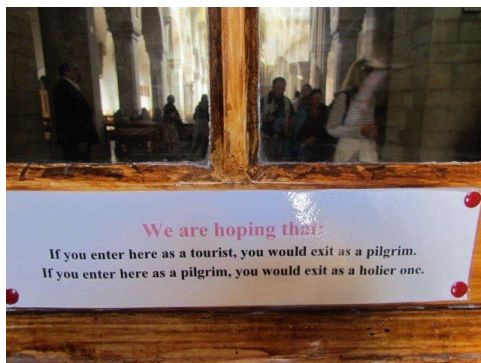
I recently had the joy of a visit to Israel and Palestine, with a group of nine others. It was a wonderful experience on many levels, and on our last full day we visited Bethlehem.

Bethlehem is in the West Bank, on Palestinian territory. We took a bus from Jerusalem which brought us right down into Manger Square. Like Jerusalem, it was set on steep mountainous countryside; and it was much, much bigger than I had expected – about 30,000 inhabitants.

Nowadays, tourism provides the economic mainstay, and maybe it was back then too, given the search for a room in the Inn. I must say I wouldn't have liked to be Mary, nine months pregnant, sitting on a donkey, going up those long steep rocky inclines.

Manger Square gives onto the Church of the Nativity, built over a crypt which is supposed to be the exact site where Jesus was born; and beside it, St Catherine's Church. We were hustled by guides offering to show us round and our leader succumbed to someone who said he could get us into a procession, ahead of the queue.

My curiosity got the better of me. We were whisked through a doorway, round a few pillars and into the chapel, waved into a pew and each given a candle. A melee of Franciscan monks welcomed us in Latin, and lit our candles. They led us, chanting, through the crypts into the Church of the Nativity, stopping at various points along the way for prayers and responses, all in Latin.



Roman Catholics of a certain age were able to keep up, and reported a wonderful feeling of connection with the tenets of their faith. I on the other hand loved the acoustics and managed to understand roughly what was happening by dint of my forty-year-old school Latin; but suffered a bit of lingering guilt about the queue-jumping, and wondered if this was the 21st century equivalent of buying plenary indulgences.

BANKSY IN BETHLEHEM

BY HELEN WELSH

I managed to belt out the first couple of lines of *Adeste Fideles* with the others, at the end of the procession; but had to resort to la-la-la after that, which was a bit frustrating as I do like a good sing. Why didn't they give us a hymn sheet?

We hied ourselves across the square to the 'Peace Café' and drank an Arabic coffee and ate a local banana; then agreed to go in a convoy of three taxis to see the Shepherds' Field, the Milk Grotto and the place where the angels appeared. The Milk Grotto is so-called because it is said that a drop of Mary's milk fell to the ground when she was feeding the baby Jesus, and a rose bush instantly sprang to life there. Hmmm.

Otherwise it was quite interesting and wholly beautiful; the scenery is magnificent and the archaeological remains are wide open for walking round. Then our drivers asked if we'd like to see the Banksy murals.

Banksy's work appears on walls around the world, and his paintings/stencils make social or political comment on prevailing circumstances. Apparently he visited Bethlehem twice, in 2003 and 2009 or thereabouts, and left his mark.

We were shown a freedom fighter throwing a bunch of flowers into No-Man's-Land; a dove with a set of gun-sights levelled on its chest; an angel scattering golden hearts on a divided city. Our drivers showed us the Wall which keeps the Palestinians hemmed in – reminiscent of the Berlin Wall or the barricades in Belfast during the troubles. It's eight metres high and covered with paintings and slogans, such as 'The Palestinian spirit is higher than any wall'; and simply, 'Let Us Out'. We also saw the gates of the refugee camp, built in 1947, and heard that some of the original refugees still live there, while others have died, waiting for resettlement.

We left Bethlehem by the Palestinian checkpoint – the route all Palestinians must take each day if they want to travel beyond Bethlehem. It was like a mini airport security system. We had to snake our way through metal barriers to a conveyor belt with X-ray machine, and deposit all our bags and belongings; walk through a metal-detector barrier with Israeli soldiers waiting to pat us down; and finally show our passports, before exiting barriers on the other side, to the bus station.

BANKSY IN BETHLEHEM

BY HELEN WELSH

Clearly these measures have been set up by the Israelis to protect themselves from suicide bombers. However we had a small taste of what it must feel like to be living in such warring conditions. And as tourists, we didn't have to leave Bethlehem by that route, but we were curious, and had the choice. When we sing, in the forthcoming Advent season, 'O Little Town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie,' I will remember the Franciscan monks and the candles; but I will also remember Banksy and the Wall.



Helen Welsh 20th November 2012





Young Church News

I'm sure you won't be surprised to hear that the children (and some of the adults) are beginning to get excited about Christmas. We have started to practise the songs from the "Tip Toe Nativity" that they will perform on Sunday 23 December during the morning service. We are low in numbers so we may not have the required number of Kings etc but I'm sure it won't matter as long as they enjoy telling that very special story. We can always accommodate extras so if you have family visiting for Christmas who might like to take part just let one of the Young Church leaders know and we can sort out a costume for them.

The season of Advent is upon us and the children will mark each Sunday by focusing on the themes of Hope, Love, Joy and Peace.

The Young Church leaders have again volunteered to make Christingles for the Family service on Christmas Eve at 5pm. For those who haven't been to a Christingle before; it is a short service suitable for all ages where a simple symbol of an orange is used to explain the love of Jesus and the meaning of Christmas. The Christingles with the "Light of Christ" are taken home and often placed on the table on Christmas day.

Our annual Epiphany party is moving venue to accommodate the "At Home Service" on 6th January. We are going to visit the Ceramic Experience in Elgin Street where the children can play in the Soft Play area and/or be creative with the ceramics available. Please let Sheona or Marianne know if your child would like to come along at 2pm that day as we need to give final numbers beforehand.

Please note there will be no Young Church or crèche on 30th December or 6th January but visitors to the church are welcome to access the books, toys and craft materials in the hall. There are also "happy bags" near the front of the church for visiting children who prefer to stay in church.



Prayer for the New Year

Creator God
at the start
of this New Year
when thoughts turn again
to beginnings
starting afresh
new leaves
and turning skeletons
free from cupboards
be with us
as we gaze into the distance
of fresh mission grounds
of hopes and dreams
opportunities for service
challenges
and uncertainties
Take our fears
and turn them into strengths
Take our lack of faith
and empower us
through the Spirit
who breathes life into this world
whose presence is reflected
in the icy chill
of winter's breath
as well as the comforting warmth
of a summer breeze.
Walk with us into this New Year
of opportunity



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Treasurer's Report

The financial position at the end of October was:

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Voluntary Giving	2,219	Clergy	-
Church Groups	-	Property	5,093
Hall Usage	45	Operational	845
Tax Recovered	6,921	Diocesan Quota	-
Investments	-	Administration	591
St. Margaret's	-		
	<u>9,185</u>		<u>6,529</u>

The Rector's Fund for the needy of the parish stands at £280.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

A short service of prayers, reflections and Taizé chants will be held in church on Sunday 20th January at 6.30pm.

Everyone warmly invited.



The Rotary Club of Dunfermline wishes to thank Holy Trinity Church members for their generous support towards the 2012 Rotary Christmas Shoebox scheme which has helped the Rotary Club of Dunfermline to collect almost 200 Shoeboxes this year. These have now been delivered to our district collection point where they are stored in an articulated trailer that will soon be setting off for Romania where the boxes will be distributed.

Readings for December & January

2 nd Dec Advent 1	Jer 33: 14-16	1 Thess 3: 9 - end	Luke 21: 25-36
9 th Dec Advent 2	Mala 3: 1 - 4	Phil 1: 3-11	Luke 3: 1-6
16 th Dec Advent 3	Zeph 3: 14-end	Phil 4: 4-7	Luke 3: 7-18
23 rd Dec Advent 4	Mic 5: 2-5a	Heb 10: 5-10	Luke 1: 39-45
30 th Dec Christmas	1 Sam 2: 18-20	Col 3: 12-17	Luke 2: 41-end
6 th January Epiphany	Isa 60: 1-6	Eph 3: 1-12	Matt 2: 1-12
13 th January Epiphany 2	Isa 43: 1-7	Acts 8: 14-17	Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22
20 th January Epiphany 3	Isa 62: 1-5	1 Cor 12: 1-11	John 2: 1-11
27 th January Epiphany 4	Neh 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10	1 Cor 12: 12-31a	Luke 4: 14-21

Here, Margaret Dineley shares a prayer from a recent meeting of the prayer group:

Lord, by your presence, light up the past that we might learn from it with thankfulness.

Light up the present that we might live in it with love.

Light up the future that we might prepare for it in hope.

As we watch and wait and pray, may we be always ready to encounter the Lord who is already and always with us.

Amen.

From Ruth Burgess, *Candles and Conifers* (Wild Goose Publications, 2009).



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 Gledart	-
	Elaine Cromwell	721663
	Jack Wardell	722948
People's Warden	Ken Spink	735732
Lay Reader in Training	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
	Pam Pride	739039
	Doreen Esnol	621054
	George Philp	725860
Prayer Group	Margaret Dineley	624377
	Doreen Esnol	621054
Traidcraft	Linda Sherwood	416558
Sunday Coffee	Doreen Esnol	621054
	Fay Spink	735732
Hall Booking	Ken Spink	735732



Next Copy Deadline

20th January 2013

(magazines in church 3rd February)

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

We don't charge for the magazine but donations towards the printing costs are gratefully received.

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If you are a Tax Payer making donations to the church and you are not already registered for Gift Aid, please speak to Peter Hand or a member of Vestry who will help you.

Alternatively simply fill in one of the yellow gift aid envelopes that are available in the vestibule and on the pews.