

Holy Trinity Dunfermline



Registered Charity No. SCO15181

October 2013 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

**Interim
Rector** Very Rev'd Jim Mein
 'Cardhu'
 Bridgend
 Linlithgow EH49 6NH
 01506 834317
 jim@meins.plus.com

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

Vestry Fay Cuthbertson
Secretary 01383 726243

Warden Ken Spink 01383 735732

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

The views and opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the authors of the articles and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Vestry (Trustees of the Charity) or of the Scottish Episcopal Church.



October, from the latin *octo* meaning eight; the eighth month in the old Roman calendar. The old Roman calendar had only ten months. As I understand it, the regular calendar year consisted of 304 days, with the winter days after the end of December

and before the beginning of the following March not being assigned to any month! How strange that seems to us nowadays? I do wonder by what method, as someone born in January, I might have recorded my birthday in ancient Roman times? Baby girl, 6lbs 11oz, born 17th day of un-referenced 51 days preceding the spring equinox? Mmm.....perhaps not.

For the majority of people around the world, I suspect the most instinctive, primal even, referencing system for our year is the changing seasons. All around us now we can see the clear signs that our world is changing again. Summer has slipped quietly into autumn and soon winter will strip our trees bare and harden our earth. Soon, but not yet. For now, we can marvel at the annual tapestry of colour our Creator paints across the landscapes and turn our faces skyward and still feel the warmth of the autumn sun on our skin. Although we know what is coming, we need not dread the coming winter or think of it as a nameless, forgotten period of time, like the ancient Romans did. For remember that while we, here in the Northern hemisphere are moving on from summer, through autumn and into winter, our brothers and sisters in the antipodes are awakening each new morning to the early spring dawn. And that we know, is the promise we all cherish.

Elaine x

In this issue....

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- ❖ St. Francis of Assisi
- ❖ Bishop David – writing for the Herald
- ❖ Curry Night
- ❖ Mothers' Union – Focus on the Province of the Indian Ocean



From the Very Rev'd Jim Mein

Dear Friends,

There is a Chinese curse: 'May you live in interesting times'. I suspect this reflects on the tough times the Chinese lived through in recent centuries. In the west I suspect that on the whole we want life to be interesting rather than boring and repetitive – which is just as well as I look round at the general situation!

The Vestry has worked hard to prepare all the papers and satisfy the Diocese that we should try to attract a new Rector. The advertisement should be on the Diocesan and Congregational websites and some Church papers by the time you read this. If we can attract suitable applicants we hope to interview in early December. On the evidence of the past 8 months I think Holy Trinity and St. Margaret's are attractive, interesting, challenging and very worthwhile posts. I hope there will be several strong candidates.

I have to say the Diocese had one major concern: can we afford it? The past two years accounts have been fine without the expense of a Rector but for several years the Vestry has had to take funds from our limited reserves to balance the books. This is not a good long-term strategy (as even the big banks found!) so the Vestry has agreed to launch a stewardship campaign at the AGM on the 24th November.

I know this will be difficult – we are all under pressure. I will write and preach more about it nearer the time after further discussion with the Vestry, but it seemed to me important to be open with everyone from the start.

In the meantime life is 'interesting' - in the Church, in our world, and I suspect, in most of our private and family lives. I pray that the faith of each of us will be deep enough, our health strong enough, and our community supportive enough to face and overcome all the challenges as we look to the future.

Do contact me if you think I can help in any way or answer any questions about our Church situation,

With my best wishes,

Jim Mein

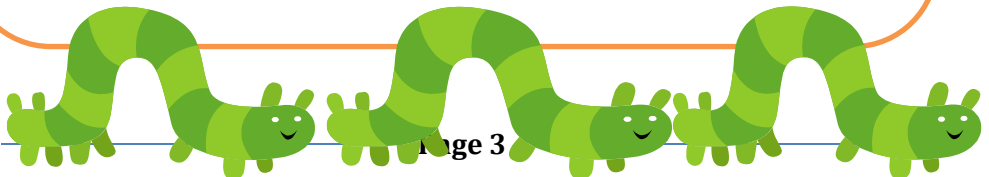
From the Very Rev'd Jim Mein

P.S. I do want to add my congratulations on all the improvements to the Rectory. I hope there will be fuller reports elsewhere – the photographs of before and after are impressive. Internal decorating will be completed in consultation with the new Rector when they are appointed, but those who organised all that has been done and all those who helped raise funds towards paying for it, have done a great job.

Young Church News

The Young Church leaders met recently to agree the lesson plan for the next few months. We decided to take a break from using the Roots magazines for a while and will be working on a Bible “timeline” for the time being. You will be able to check our progress on our notice board in the church hall. Each week we will be investigating a well-known story from the Bible and “plotting” the story on our timeline. We hope this will help the children better grasp the order of events in the Bible as well as reinforce their knowledge of the stories and the life lessons contained therein. We have also developed a new approach to each session, introducing further elements of the Sunday worship into our activities such as a children’s confession, the Peace and Gloria.

The Young Church would like to thank the Dorcas Group for making some additional “Happy Bags”. Happy Bags are cloth bags filled with books and small (quiet) toys placed strategically in the pews which can be ‘discovered’ by small children during services. We have had around 4 such bags in church for a couple of years now but needed a few more for the back of the church. We would be very grateful if you have any small books or toys, such as finger puppets, vinyl animals or people or other ‘quiet’ items you would like to donate to help fill our new bags. Please leave any donations in the basket in the church hall.



Harvest 2013

We celebrated Harvest on Sunday 15th September. The church looked wonderful thanks to Gill and her team of helpers.



Following the service, The Wives Group and Choir treated us to a fresh and tasty ploughman's lunch which raised £170 for the Rectory Fund.



At the lunch, Eileen and Peter Hutchings were presented with a cake to mark 40 years of service to the church choir.

Salt

Turmeric

Cardamom

Paprika

Tomatoes

Cinnamon

Garam Masala

Chillies

Coriander

Cumin

Pepper

Cardamom

Garlic

Curry Night!

Food and fellowship in aid of Holy Trinity Mothers' Union overseas charities with Dorissia and friends.

Friday 18th October 2013

Holy Trinity Church Hall

7.00pm for 7.30pm

Spicy for those who like it hot and mild for those with more sensitive taste buds. Don't forget your own choice of cooling beverage!

Tickets are available now from Isobel Thomson or Dorissia Forsyth.

If you have been before you will know just how good it is! Hope to see you there!



Ginger

Cinnamon

Lemon

SPICE

Mothers' Union **Mauritius** runs a community outreach project, Families in Need, for which members have set up a counselling centre and parenting skills programme. In 2010 Mothers' Union Mauritius also started a Mothers' Union Library in their newly renovated Mothers' Union House, as a place for people to visit, pray, enjoy a cup of tea/coffee, read and chat. Members are also very active in visiting homes for the elderly as well as organising residential retreats and workshops on contemporary issues.

In 2014 Mothers' Union Mauritius will celebrate its 90th anniversary. To mark this major milestone, special events will be held throughout the year across the country.



Fact File	
Population	1.3M
MU Members	210



Fact File	
Population	90K
MU Members	95

Mothers' Union members in Mahe,

Seychelles are reaching out to women in the local prison after recognising that families within their community were being affected by the imprisonment of one of their relatives. One of the Mothers' Union volunteers spoke about her visits to the prison: *'The first visit was undertaken not knowing what to expect. There were 12 women and one baby which had been born in the prison. We took special gifts to give to the women which were gratefully received. Inmates shared their concerns about their family back home. They requested more visits from us when they in turn would prepare activities to welcome us and show us their different abilities in craftwork. The hug of peace and love which we shared on departure was remarkable!'*



Saint of the Month

St. Francis of Assisi

4 October

St. Francis was born in 1181 in Assisi and was the son of Pietro Bernadone, a rich cloth merchant. He was baptised Giovanni after John the Baptist. This did not, however, suit his father who was a Francophile and he renamed him Francesco (or Francis) after the country his father loved and admired.

Francis as a young man was a very engaging, hail fellow who was very popular with his contemporaries. He followed his father into the cloth business and was very successful, making enough money to feed his extravagant life style. He was the apple of his father's eye. He was ambitious and longed to be a nobleman and a knight, and the opportunity came about when Assisi went to war with the neighbouring city state of Perugia. The war went badly for Assisi and Francis was captured and spent a year in a dungeon in Perugia until his father managed to raise the money to ransom him. Nothing daunted, Francis decided to enlist in the fourth crusade and his father lavished money on him to equip him with a the finest armour possible and a magnificent cloak. Francis rode off, but he did not achieve glory in battle for after only being away from Assisi for one day he dreamt that God wanted to give up the idea and return to Assisi, which made such an impression on him that he did so. On his return he was ridiculed as one might expect. His father was very cross about his return for he had spent a sizeable sum of money equipping Francis as a knight.

Francis' change in life style did not come suddenly like St. Paul's Damascus Road episode. He spent several years experimenting and sorting himself out. He took time out and went on a pilgrimage to Rome where he lived with the poor begging in St. Peter's Square. He then returned to Assisi where, while

Saint of the Month - St. Francis of Assisi

riding, he came across a leper and felt that he must dismount from his horse and hug and comfort the man; something which was quite out of character to the fastidious young man. He then rode on but decided to go back to find the leper again. He was unable to find him and Francis was convinced that the leper had been Christ testing him. Thereafter he went out of his way to treat and comfort lepers.

St. Francis recounted another spiritual experience occurring in a chapel near Assisi where, when praying before a crucifix, he heard a voice telling him to “repair my church”. He took this to mean that he should help repair the chapel which was in ruins. To do this, he sold some of his father’s stock and gave the money to the priest to buy material for the repairs. Pietro was furious and threatened to have him beaten and took him before the Bishop of Assisi to have him legally restrained. The upshot was that Francis fell out with his father and renounced his patrimony saying that henceforth he only acknowledged one father who was his Father in Heaven. He then took off all the clothes that his father had given him and flung them at his father, and thereafter lived the life of a penitent going barefoot and wearing only a sackcloth habit. This was the start of St. Francis’ true religious life. He particularly noted three passages in the Gospels namely the instruction by Christ to the rich man that he should sell all he owned and give it the proceeds to the poor; Christ’s instruction to the Apostles to take nothing on their journeys; and the instruction by Christ to his disciples that they should take up their cross daily. St Francis took these precepts literally and he travelled throughout the area with nothing but the sackcloth habit he wore, subsisting on what food people gave him – he refused to accept money – and preaching on the need to love and obey Christ. He was readily accepted by the poor and if he found anyone worse off than he was he would share what he had.

He remained charismatic and his exceptional piety attracted followers who were soon numbered in hundreds travelling in pairs throughout Italy preaching and succouring the poor. *Continued on page10....*

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 14th October - Linda Short from Bandrum Nursing Home comes to explain what is involved with looking after our elderly people.

Monday 28th October - Dunfermline Street Pastors - to tell us about their work in our community.

Saturday 9th November - SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCH - 12.00 till 2.00pm in the Church Hall. Delicious homemade soup and sandwiches to order. Tickets £3.50 available from Helen, Pam, Doreen or Yvonne.

Monday 25th November - Linda Brownlie will tell us all about her travels and work in Africa.

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

Thank You! To all our generous friends at Holy Trinity Church. With your help, we filled our sheets and raised £129 from our sponsored Forth Bridge Walk. The money is going to be used to buy books for our new library at school. Love from Sarah and Matthew x



Saint of the Month - St. Francis of Assisi

Continued from page 8...

He was, however, a pragmatic individual who realised that the movement could be seen as in conflict with the established church. He therefore sought an audience with Pope Innocent III to obtain his authority for what had become the Brotherhood. Initially the Pope refused to see him and threw him out, but after the Pope had had a dream that the poor man in rags was a pillar of the church, he called him back and gave him permission to go on with his work. In recognition of his obedience to the Pope he instructed his Brother Friars to adopt the tonsure. Francis himself was never ordained as a priest feeling too humble to consecrate and hold the elements in the Eucharist.

He had a burning desire to preach about Christ's love to all and he travelled widely in Italy. He also wanted to carry the message further afield. He planned to go to Morocco but the ship in which he was travelling was wrecked on the Dalmatian Coast. Then amidst the hiatus of the fifth Crusade he travelled to Egypt and Syria where the Sultan of the area allowed him to preach and was much impressed by him and gave him safe passage to the Christians in Acre. One of the results of this was the acceptance by the Saracens of Franciscans to act as custodians of the Holy Sites in Jerusalem

On his return to Italy he found that the number of his Brethren had now increased to over five thousand. With the Pope's authority he now organised the movement into a formal religious order; the Order of Friars Minor (i.e. the Franciscans), he also assisted St Clare of Assisi to found a similar order for women, the Poor Clares, who did not travel like the Friars but were enclosed in a convent where they worked tending to the needs of the people in sickness and poverty, and he founded a tertiary order for men and women who did not feel they could accept the rigours of the full religious life but wished to live their normal lives but following its precepts. Worn out by his hard life he became ill and lost his sight, having to have his eyes cauterised, a very painful procedure in a world with no anaesthetics.

He welcomed the pain as helping him to experience some of the pain that Christ bore to save us. Because of his aging and health he gave over the governance of the Order to one of the Brethren and became a humble Friar until he died on 4th October 1226.

There are numerous legends and stories about St Francis. The most well known is that on one occasion when no one came to hear his preach he came across a tree with some birds in it so saying to his fellow travelling companion “They too are God’s creatures, should they not hear the word” and he preached. Far from being scared and flying off the birds were joined by more birds that perched not only on the tree but at his feet and on his shoulders. He is also credited with at one time taming a wolf that was terrorising a village so that it actually became a guard dog for the village. Because of these legends he is regarded as the patron saint of animals and nature and in many churches on 4th October it has become customary to hold a service of blessing for pets.



St Francis because of his love of Christ was very dedicated to following the Stations of the Cross and living the Passion as if he was undergoing the same suffering as Christ had. He was the first saint to be recorded as having received the stigmata – the marks on his hands, ankles and side equating to the wounds suffered by Christ at the Crucifixion.

He was canonised as a saint in July 1228 by Pope Gregory IX.

As well as being the patron saint of animals he is also the patron saint of merchants and ecologists and is one of the two patron saints of Italy. The present Pope also had a great devotion to Francis because of his love of the poor and the Pope in his honour took the name Francis on his installation to the Papacy.



“Faith isn’t dead... far from it!” says the Most Rev David Chillingworth, Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church. In writing for The Herald newspaper (25/9/13) Bishop David says:

“Pilgrimage - it’s a word with resonance. Not travel nor an expedition nor a trek. Pilgrimage means journeying on a time-hallowed route towards a destination which has religious or cultural significance. Journey - and it’s usually walking - is as important as destination. The journey is shared - a meeting ‘along the way’ with people who talk as they walk and share their lives as well their journey.

“Pilgrimage is very much ‘on the agenda’ in Scotland today. The Scottish Government, local councils, churches and tourist agencies all realise the potential of pilgrimage to bring people here to walk towards places which have spiritual magnetism - places like Iona and St Andrews. Scotland is rich in potential for this kind of tourism. People don’t want just to visit. They want to connect at a deep level with the places they visit.

“What has also changed is the extent to which many people in today’s society are interested in spirituality. ‘Interested’ doesn’t do justice to it - they want to experience the spiritual and they want to explore the deepest questions of life.

“There are other examples of this. I recently received an e mail from a friend who will have nothing to do with religion - but wanted me to know that she had spent 24 hours in the monastery where I regularly go on retreat. When I go there, it’s people like her that I meet. Not just religious people but people who would say that they are ‘finding themselves’ in the community, the worship and the silence.

“And then there is the candle phenomenon. Once again, it seems that people who wouldn’t claim to be religious slip in and out of churches and light candles - thinking of a friend or family member or missing somebody who has died.

“In some of our churches, we are exploring new ways of connecting with people - people who aren’t looking for something to join but who are open to exploring the spiritual side of life. Hymns don’t ‘do it’ for them. But ‘Art and Soul’ where the visual arts meet the spiritual journey may just tick the

boxes. Listening to a sermon may not appeal but some deep silence and the edges of contemplative prayer do draw them.

“There is no single reason why this revival of interest in things spiritual is happening now. Some of it must arise as from the economic collapse through which we have been living. Acquisitive values have been found wanting - people look for something deeper. Analysis of our society as ‘post-modern’ suggests that, while people are sceptical about institutions and authority, they are willing to engage in a search for meaning and depth in their lives.

“The irony is that this is happening at a time of real difficulty for organised and institutional religion. Some of the decline in churches is due to our secular society and some of it is self-inflicted.”

“The irony is that this is happening at a time of real difficulty for organised and institutional religion. Some of the decline in churches is due to our secular society and some of it is self-inflicted. But I can see the reality of it as I drive around Scotland on Sunday mornings. Church doors are open and welcomers stand ready in the porch - but the faithful walking up the steps are few and elderly.

“I think that there is a fascinating challenge here for churches. Conventional thinking says that churches need to be really welcoming and to offer soft and social ‘openers’ to people. But what is happening turns that thinking on its head. People are wary of joining, cautious about churches, reluctant to commit. What they want is spiritual experience - something which catches the breath, brings a tear to the corner of the eye and makes the world feel different in some deep way. That is a profound challenge to church communities which are wary of spiritual experience - afraid that it may lack spiritual substance - and who embrace ‘as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be’.

“Faith isn’t dead. Far from it. It’s just that some of our churches haven’t woken up to that.”

Rectory Renovation Fund

Work at the rectory has continued during September with the completion of the side fence and the new gate access to the back Garden. Funds have come in from the Sponsored walk so that the total raised by Linda, Gill, Pam, Helen and Stephen now exceeds £1600. The Ragbag appeal raised £150 and the Harvest Lunch also raised a further £170 so that the total so far (including anticipated Gift Aid recovery) has just nudged over £7000.

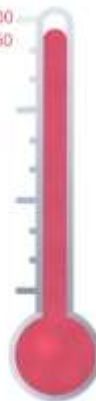
Congratulations and a big thank you to everyone involved.



New fence and gate

Holy Trinity Church
Fundraising for the
Rectory Renovation
Fund

£7,500
£7,050



**Help Us Reach
Our Goal**

Treasurer's Report by Peter Hutchings

The financial position at the end of August 2013



Income to August	£	My theme this year, started at the AGM,
Freewill Giving	2,518	is to remind you of the cost of employing
Open Plate Giving	3,398	a Rector. The congregation should
Gift Aid Giving	21,479	collectively be willing to at least ensure
Tax Recovered	6,921	that this cost is met through the giving to
Donations	2,379	Holy Trinity via Gift Aid, Freewill and
11 months income =	£36,695	Open Plate and Donations.

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 £329.

Duty Rota for October

DATE	WELCOME	BREAD & WINE	COLLECTION
Oct 6th	Ron Hawkins Malcolm Gosling	Eve Gilchrist Evelyn Brown	Peter & Barbara Hand
13 th	Jack Wardell Ivor Curran	George & Agnes Philp	Adrianne & John Lyon
20 th	Linda Sherwood George Philp	Stephen & Hilary Ballinger	TBA
27 th	Helen Dalgity Polly St. Aubyn	Monica Terry Ivy Stewart	Catherine Duncan Grace Soanes
Nov 3 rd	Fay Cuthbertson Pam Lynn	Yvonne & Malcolm Gosling	Andrew & Dorothy Nicol

Congratulations to Helen Welsh for winning first prize in the Safe Space sponsored 'Write-athon' (featured in our May magazine) with her collection of short stories entitled 'Tales of the Auld Grey Toun'.

Well done Helen!

Readings for October			
6 October	Lamentations 1: 1-6	2 Timothy 1: 1-14	Luke 17: 5-10
13 October	Jeremiah 29: 1, 4-7	2 Timothy 2: 8-15	Luke 17: 11-19
20 October	Jeremiah 31: 27-34	2 Timothy 3: 14-4.5	Luke 18: 1-8
27 October	Joel 2: 23-end	2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18	Luke 18: 9-14
1 Nov All Saints'	Daniel 7: 1-3, 15-18	Ephesians 1: 11-end	Luke 6: 20-31

Lord, we would grow with you
 New shoots reaching out
 Hands stretched upward
 Like leaves newly formed
 Soaking up your light and warmth
 Lord, we would grow with you
 Lord, we would grow with you
 In sunshine and rain
 In darkness and light
 In cold days and summer days
 From Springtime to Winter
 Lord, we would grow with you
 Lord, we would grow with you
 And bring forth fruit
 That is pleasing to you
 Fed by your living water
 Giving sustenance to others
 Lord, we would grow with you
 ©John Birch

This reflection, kindly
 contributed by
 Dorissia, was used by
 the Mothers' Union in
 Seychelles at their
 recent AGM worship



Who's Who at HOLY TRINITY

Secretary	Fay Cuthbertson	726243
Treasurer	Peter Hutchings	728534
Lay Rep	Linda Brownlie	-
Vestry:	Pam Lynn	881874
	Malcolm Gosling	851605
	James Geldart	734997
	Elaine Cromwell	721663
	Jack Wardell	722948
People's Warden	Ken Spink	735732
PVG Co-ordinator	Andrew Morris	07743 750796
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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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



Next Copy Deadline

23rd October
2013

(magazines in church 3rd November)

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.

I would like to hear what you think about the magazine. What do you like/dislike? What do you want more or less of? Do you have something that you would like to contribute on a regular basis? Any other suggestions? Please do let me know.

giftaid it

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.