



# VIEWS from the HILL

Newsletter of Holy Trinity Dunoon & St Martin's Tighnabruaich

Scottish Charities Number

Scottish Episcopal Churches

[www.holytrinitydunoon.co.uk](http://www.holytrinitydunoon.co.uk)

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## From the Rector - Campaign to Save Cowal Hospice

Dear friends

This edition of the magazine is filled with information about our diocese, the new bishop, activities that we are doing as a church and our way forward. In the midst of all this wonderful activity, I would also like to write to you on another subject of great, great importance in our local area: the threatened closure of Cowal Hospice.

The hospice facility in the annex to the Cowal Community Hospital has been out of operation since before I started my ministry here with you, and it was with increasing alarm and disappointment that I found that re-opening was being delayed again and again, then finally closure was threatened. We are clearly in a time of major budget constraints for all public funded projects, but the importance of a high quality palliative care hospice in Cowal cannot be underestimated.

As anyone suffering from terminal illness approaches the end of their life, and when the only treatments possible are palliative: to control pain and symptoms of illness, a calm, caring, dedicated environment for such treatments is essential. The

combination of medical, emotional and spiritual care that is needed requires dedicated space and staff. The staff currently working to provide palliative care in the hospital on a temporary basis have an impossible task as they try their best to balance acute care with palliative care.

There has been much coverage in the press of the threatened closure, and use of the building as a therapy centre with day facilities. This is in parallel with a proposal to provide hospice beds as part of the hospital ward areas: making permanent the care-conflicts of treating and accommodating palliative patients in an acute medical environment. This even potentially reduces the acute beds currently available in the



main hospital. The GPs have indicated in the press their dissatisfaction with the developing situation, and the local clergy of the Church of Scotland, Roman Catholic church and myself have also contacted the authorities and the press to express our concern at the proposals.

It would be naïve to assume that the cost of this care is irrelevant and that Cowal has a right to hospice, regardless of this

cost, but the loss of an existing palliative care facility would be a dreadful blow to all of us. There comes a time when the churches of a place must stand up for the moral and spiritual welfare of their town. I believe that time has come in Cowal, and I would urge you all to support the campaigns to save the hospice and to ensure that an appropriate palliative care capability is maintained in our region.



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## Vestry Report by Maureen McKellar, Vestry Secretary



**The Vestry:** Back Row - Rev. Andrew Swift, Ann Narraway, Val Taylor, Di Tennent, Pauline Revill, Jennifer Woodward, Susan Watling. Front Row - Christine McIntosh, Maureen McKellar, Dinkie McEwen, Melinda Barthos

The Vestry met on the 11th January. This was the first meeting since the Annual Meeting.

The Rector reported that after lots of discussion Susan Watling was willing to be Treasurer and Melinda Barthos was willing to be Assistant Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary. The Secretary had agreed to be the Paying Officer and Ann Narraway would continue to be the Counting and Banking person. The Vestry approved the appointments of Treasurer and Paying Officer and co-opted Melinda Barthos onto the Vestry as Assistant Treasurer .

The Rector welcomed the new Vestry Members and said he would like to commission the Vestry at a Sunday service. This was done on Sunday 23rd January (see photo opposite). He also suggested that there should be a Vestry Training Day. This took place on Saturday 29th January and was a useful opportunity for us to get to know each other and learn more about roles and responsibilities of Vestry members.

As part of the Rector's report he asked the Vestry to note that there were now four addi-

tional servers, Csaba Barthos, Ivor McQuillian, Peter Swift and Frances Swift.

The Rector also spoke about how successful the Advent course had been both at Holy Trinity and at St. Paul's. He indicated that he intended to do something similar in Lent. There was discussion about wor-

ship in Lent and Holy Week.

There were the usual discussions on Finance, Fabric and Events, all of which are documented elsewhere in the Newsletter.

The next meeting of the Vestry is on Monday 28th February.



# Holy Trinity Ceilidh



- Come along and try your feet at:
- The Dashing White Sargent
- The Swedish Masquerade
- A Britannia Two Step
- The Pride of Erin Waltz
- An Orcadian Strip the Willow
- and many more
- Or just sit back and enjoy the fun
- After the supper interval, while you rest your feet, sit back, relax and listen to the singing

**Come and join us at St Muns Church Hall on Friday 25th February at 7.30 p.m. With a Supper Interval at 9 p.m.**

**Not a dancer? Not a problem! Help is at hand. If you would rather sit back, enjoy the atmosphere (and the view), tap your feet and clap to the music do come and join in the fun.**

**Tickets £8.00 per adult/£3.00 per child. Funds raised at this event will go to the General Fund.**

## Bible Notes - a celebration of 400 years of the King James Bible



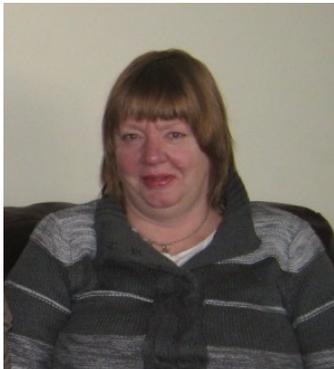
Today the King James or Authorised Version of the bible is greatly admired for its literary English. However at the time it was written this was just the ordinary everyday language that would have been understood by the common people. However we must remember that in 1611 only a small minority of the population could read or write for themselves, so most of those who came to love the King James Bible did so through hearing it, not reading it. But precisely because it was a version designed to be read aloud, it employed punchy pithy language that is still rhythmic and memorable.

It would, however, be wrong to think that the King James Bible was written in the language of its own day.

The version is heavily dependent on earlier translations, particularly the work done by Tyndale in the 1530's, scholars reckon that Tyndale's words account for 84% of the New Testament and for 75% of those Old Testament books that he translated. So by the time of its publication in 1611 its language was already dated. For instance, 'thou' and 'ye' were already falling into disuse by then, as was the third person singular verbal ending '-eth'. The language of the King James Version of the bible that is still loved by so many today is Elizabethan, not Jacobean.

*Information taken from 'Which Bible? A guide to English translations' by David Dewey; Inter-Varsity Press 2004*

## Meet the Treasury Team - this month Treasurer Susan Watling



Susan Watling, Treasurer

**What first attracted you to Holy Trinity?**

I first came to Holy Trinity as my daughter wanted to get married in 'the church in the glen'. I had often walked past as it is very much my local church. The first service we came to, about 2 years ago now, we were made very welcome. Maureen found us Drew Sheridan to conduct the service as Kimberley was just leaving and the whole church came together to make the wedding day very special. I am very grateful for the work at lot of people put in behind the scenes. It felt like having an extended family involved. Verity & Cillian will be blessed with a child in the spring, so hopefully a Christening later in the year to look forward to.

**Apart from Church, how do you spend your time? What are you passionate about?**

My big passion is wildlife particularly birds. Since living in this area, for ten years now, I have been out to ring baby barn owls with Arthur French and flown birds of prey at Loch Lomond. I am the 'hedgehog lady' in the local school. I have soft released some hogs and given talks on them. I have just bought a great camera for the bird watching and hope to join the camera club. My other pas-

sion is art and being so close to Glasgow and Edinburgh there's always an exhibition to be seen. I love to travel although this may be less so when I am a Nannie.

**What do you feel is your greatest achievement to date?**

Like a lot of people I am proud of my children, raising a family gives you a sense of achievement. I am proud of being one of the founders of the first womens refuge in Essex. I am proud of cutting the wire at Molesworth, of standing in front of lorries in Brightlingsea trying to stop live exports, of giving more than 50 rescue animals another life. I also hope I have faced cancer with as much strength as God has given me. My father's family were Jewish where religion is about how you live your life not just going to church once or twice a week. I aim to try and achieve that but often fall miserably short.

**What skills and experience do you bring to the Treasury team?**

I spent my working life in accountancy and financial planning so I do know my way around a cash book. Apart from recording the monies I am always trying to think up new ways of raising funds. The easyfundraising site is my little baby and money trickles in from that every quarter. I strongly feel that social events are so important not only to raise some funds but to increase the congregations and have some fun. Also I feel we must be seen in the community.

**How will the new Treasury Team work and what's your vision for it?**

Team is exactly the word for Mel and I. Mel is very up to date with the charity regs and

tax and has much better recent knowledge than I. She is doing the main work on the day to day bookkeeping. We now live very close to each other so I will be doing more of the running around when the baby is born. Mel is a delight to work with. We are both very aware that we need more money for the day to day running costs of the church so our thinking caps are on....

**What is your favourite hymn, worship song or piece of music and why?**

I do love the happy clappy hymns. My mother's family were Salvation Army who do belt out a good tune. I will always be moved by Jerusalem Probably my favourite hymn is Onward Christian Soldiers as its very rousing. I think any music with a good message can be used in church-for examples a modern song like Streets of London makes you think about life a bit.

**Who would you most like to be stuck in a church with and why?**

For pure amusement I would say Oscar Wilde.

If I was in the mood for a debate --Richard Dawkins.

Probably I would settle for Russell Crowe, rather a dream come true and now I have a set of keys I can lock him in .....



Other Treasury Team members Ann Narraway & Melinda Barthos

## An 'Inspiring Read' by Mary Swift



Do you subscribe to the Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC) magazine, *Inspires*? I happened across a back copy on the study floor the other day, picked it up meaning to recycle it, had a flick through and an hour or two later finally put it down. My only regret was that I hadn't made myself a cup of coffee

to have while I enjoyed the read!

This well produced glossy comes out quarterly (Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter editions) and really does the SEC proud – a variety of good, interesting and thought provoking articles in a well laid out and attractive A4 full colour format.

It covers a wide and varied range of topics of local and global interest or concern, articles reflecting the life of the Church and features comment, opinion and reflection from various contributors. All this is supplemented with notices of appointments, retirements, obituaries and book reviews. All in all it is also a good way to keep abreast of some of the changes and challenges affecting the SEC as a whole – it is all too easy for us to become introverted and lose sight of the 'bigger pic-

ture' as we grapple with how to keep the show on the road in our own corner of Argyll.

Holy Trinity does subscribe to a couple of copies of *Inspires* which congregation members can borrow to read – have a look at one next time you are in church. However I would urge you to take out your own subscription at only £8 for an annual subscription (including posting and packing) I think it is a bargain. There are forms to subscribe on the back of each issue of the magazine or you can print off a form from the SEC website at [www.scotland.anglican.org](http://www.scotland.anglican.org).

In between printed editions of *Inspire* you can also keep up to date with news from the SEC by subscribing to :

*Inspires Online* at [www.inspires.org.uk/subscribe](http://www.inspires.org.uk/subscribe)

Go on subscribe today!

## St Martin's Coffee Morning



January the 18th was a cold and icy morning, however this was not going to deter the residents of Kames and Tighnabruaich from coming along to support St Martin's coffee morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Care.

The baking was delicious and in good supply, the coffee (& tea) pots were charged and refreshed many times. It was a great chance to meet up with friends old and new, while catching up on community news and generally enjoy ourselves! In the process the magnificent sum of £354 was raised to send to MacMillan Cancer Care.

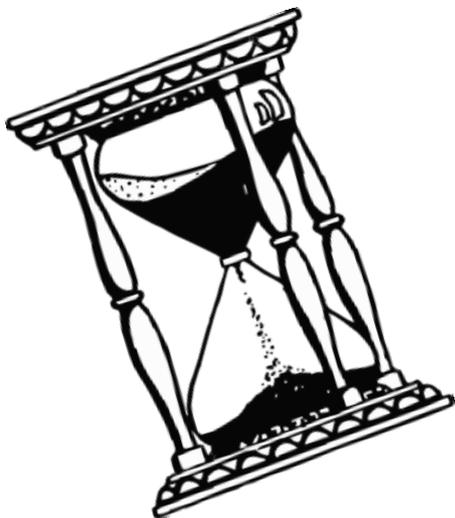
Many thanks are due to all those who worked so hard to make this such a wonderful and worthwhile occasion. (*When's the next one?*)

## Ordinary Time by Andrew Swift

February is the first time in each church year when we enter 'Ordinary Time.' This term, now used in most of the liturgical church traditions, means the parts of the church's year where there is not a special season, like Lent or Advent or Epiphany. The colours of the hangings and the robes in the church are changed to green for Ordinary Time, and there are no special seasonal changes to the words we say or the way the services are run.

'Ordinary Time' is a term that is supposed to mean that the way that we worship in this time can be neutral, rather than focused on a special seasonal theme. We read the bible in sequential chunks in the lectionary, allowing the many threads of themes to be teased out in sermons and study. The season does not drive the theme – different themes can be explored as a church wishes.

The phrase 'Ordinary Time' can however, be unhelpful. If something is 'ordinary' does that make it less important or less interesting? Time that is 'ordinary' might hang a little heavy on our hands. But can time be ordinary? I recall



some fascinating discussions whilst I was training on the 'theology of time' – how does God act in and through and beyond time.

The first question one hits is what time actually IS. The physicists among us will enjoy discussions on time dilation and the speed of light, the mathematics that show that the passage of time varies depending how quickly an object is moving. Those ideas can be fun to play with – but from a theological point of view, it is interesting to think about past (which we know lots about), present (where we are) and future (which we really don't know anything about, truly). Dividing time into past, present and future becomes interesting if you ask – where can we see God acting in this time?

The past is whatever has happened, from the earliest sparks of creative energy to

a split second ago. Books are written, blogs maintained, fossil records preserved – there are many mechanisms by which we can explore the past. The words of scripture, recorded thousands of years ago, the lives of saints, the text of last Sunday's sermon: all of these can give traces of the action of God in the past, indications of what he has been doing, what he has inspired people to do.

The future is more complex – we learn at an early age to predict the future: if I touch that sharp object (again) it will hurt me. We can predict, with some confidence, many of the things that will happen. But can we predict what God will do in the future? The prophets of the Old Testament, especially in a genre of literature called 'apocalyptic,' try to predict

the future with God. The last book of the bible, the revelation of John, is apocalyptic. Jesus has apocalyptic episodes quoted in the gospels. Apocalypses talk of times when God will bring justice, when peoples will be judged, when the world will end. It can be hard to maintain an apocalyptic vision of God bringing the world to an end when we have lived with natural apocalypse (tsunamis, earthquakes) or man-made apocalypse (nuclear stalemates) for so many years. But apocalyptic prophecy tries to predict the future with God in large terms. But what about the future with God in small terms: next week, tomorrow, half an hour from now?

The present is the impossibly thin slice of time that lies between the unknown future and the fully determined past. The present, the now, is infinitely small – as soon as one is aware of something in the present it is already past! The present is a constant process of trying to see what is coming in the future and then remembering it in the past. Is God in the present? Is he there, beside us, encountering the tiny fragments of future as we meet them, his divine fingerprints visible in the settling dust of the past that rests just behind us? I believe he is – we encounter God in that infinitely small slice of time that is the present, even as we try and see what he might do in the

future and look for what has happened in the past.

The point of all this? Can one ever really talk about time being 'Ordinary', when it is a constant process of futures rushing into pasts, with God resting beside us in the never-constant present? There is no such thing as 'Ordinary Time,' just extraordinary time spent in the company of our ever-loving, ever-redeeming God.



## Mission to Seafarers by Pauline Revill



Holy Trinity Dunoon, St Paul's Rothesay and St Martins have supported the work of The Mission to Seafarers (MtS), with generosity, for many years.

I thought readers might be interested to read regular updates in a short article about the recent work of the Mission.

Copies of the 'Flying Angel News' and 'The Sea' are always available from Pauline to take away and read.

An example of the kind of varied activities undertaken by the mission volunteers is shown below in an extract from the Mission to Seafarers web page "Mission News": The article dated 1/11/2010 was entitled

"MtS group provides support to Chinese fishers and teenage seafarers"

".....Chair of Falmouth Mission to Seafarers, Penny Phillips, reports that MtS volunteers dealt with various practical issues for the crew, including finding opticians and clothing for the 98 seafarers in Plymouth, all visited on a rota by the Mission and AoS colleagues. 13 crew in Falmouth were all seen by counsellors, and the MtS team was asked to provide a Russian speaker and as many 'friendly faces' as possible to help care for the crew.

The Falmouth team was also on standby to receive 47 crew members, including 36 teenagers, aboard the dismasted tall ship

Frederyk Chopin. The Polish sail training square rigger lost two masts in high seas and rough weather off the Isles of Scilly and was towed into Falmouth by a Newlyn trawler".

You can read more about the amazing work done by the Mission by visiting their website:

[www.missiontoseafarers.org](http://www.missiontoseafarers.org)

If anyone wishes to borrow a copy of 'Flying Angel News' or 'The Sea' please see Pauline our parish Link for the Mission to Seafarers.



## Christian Aid Week - Situations Vacant and a Chance to Make a Real Difference!



**Christian Aid Week is 15 - 21 May 2011**

Christian Aid week 2011 is fast approaching, and Holy Trinity is going to take part in this important event, along with our brothers and sisters of the other churches in this area. Christian Aid is an international development charity which works in over 50 countries to alleviate poverty.

*From their website: Christian Aid is a Christian organisation that insists the world can and must be swiftly changed to one where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty. We work globally for profound change that eradicates the causes of poverty, striving to achieve equality, dignity and freedom for all, regardless of*

*faith or nationality. We are part of a wider movement for social justice. We provide urgent, practical and effective assistance where need is great, tackling the effects of poverty as well as its root causes.*

*[www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)*

Christian Aid helps people of all faiths and none, and works to produce locally sustainable, non-dependent forms of aid. They are about fundamental changes to structures that produce poverty. They are also an agency of UK and Irish churches, so we are called each year to support the charity through collections and fund-raisers. This year, once again, Holy Trinity will take its part in this support.

Firstly, we require to recruit a co-ordinator for Holy Trinity's 'patch' of streets for Christian Aid collections. This is a job for a well-organised, efficient person who is happy to produce a list of streets, collectors and funds raised. The church co-ordinator links with the

Christian Aid area co-ordinator for Dunoon and surrounding areas to ensure the correct patch is covered, collection packs are provided and funds are returned. Please speak to Andrew as soon as possible if you are interested in this vital and fulfilling role.

Then, we need volunteers to do the collections in our patch. The collection envelopes are popped through people's doors at the start of Christian Aid week, then door-to-door visits to collect the envelopes are carried out later in the week. From my experience of collecting, many people are generous and freely give, some choose not to, for many reasons (including the religious connotations of the 'Christian Aid' name). Some people are just not at home – we leave a flyer telling them how they can support the charity by other means. This is a vitally important source of income for Christian Aid in their wonderful work – so please try and support in any way you can.

## Easyfundraising



Remember if you are doing your shopping online please use the Easyfundraising site!

It is very simple and a great way to raise extra funds for Holy Trinity.

The web site is [www.easyfundraising.org](http://www.easyfundraising.org) for more information phone: Susan Watling on Dunoon 701037.

## Events Team Update



**H.T. Ceilidh - Friday 25th February 7.30pm in St Mun's Hall. Live music provided by 'The Old Bores'** Tickets £8 for adults / £3 for Children, available from Mary Swift (702444) or Pauline Revill (704731). Bring your own drinks & glasses (water will be provided), a light supper will be served at the interval. Invite your friends & look out your dancing shoes! In aid of HT general funds.

Future dates for the diary:

**H.T. Quiz Night - Saturday 26th March in the High Kirk Hall Hanover Street. 7.15pm prompt start.** Tickets & more de-

tails will be available shortly from the Events Team - but I would advise starting to brush up your general knowledge now! This will also be in aid of HT general funds.

Watch out for dates for the **HT Bag Pack at the Co-Op in April.** This event will be for the fabric appeal.

**Holy Trinity Postcards:** 2 different cards featuring some of the Stained Glass are now available for sale in church - individual cards are 20p & the packs of 6 cards (3 of each design) are £1. Please help yourself!

## From the Counting House



The new treasury team is now getting fully up to speed on the finances at Holy Trinity. Susan, Melinda and Ann are working to give the vestry and the wider church good visibility of how our income is coming along and where our expenditure has got to. As ever, thanks are due to all the generous sup-

porters of Holy Trinity, whose money, time and talents have achieved so much.

We are about to launch a campaign to help us all think about our individual giving to the church. Times for all in the country are hard, expenses are increasing and cuts looming, but as church

we have to consider how we pay for ourselves. Whether the issue is God's call for us to give our gifts (of any kind) back for the work of the church, or the issue is being a well-run charity that tries to break even financially, either way we need to increase our regular income. Please watch this space for more information on this campaign, which we hope and pray will allow us to grow our finances so that we can flourish.

There will also be more news and work on the fabric appeal at Holy Trinity. The work on the tower is progressing well, with rot treated, guttering repaired and restoration of the tower internal structures planned. We have also received more grants to support the work:

£2,000 for critical window repairs and £3,000 for the overall project. We have also received a report on the status of the internal walls and decoration, which will allow us to begin to address damp issues in the main church building and start to work towards restoring the internal appearance of the church. We plan to make another lottery application for funding in the late summer, and keep on working in the meantime as fast as grants, fund-raising and donations allow.

Once again, thank you to all those who generously support the work of Holy Trinity in so many ways.

*Andrew (on behalf of the treasury team)*

## Services

### Holy Trinity, Dunoon

**Sundays : 10.30am Sung Eucharist**

Nb. On 2nd & 5th Sundays in the month at this service communion may be from the Reserved Sacrament

**Thursdays: 5.15pm Holy Communion**

### St Martin's, Tighnabruaich

**1st & 3rd Sundays : 3pm Eucharist**

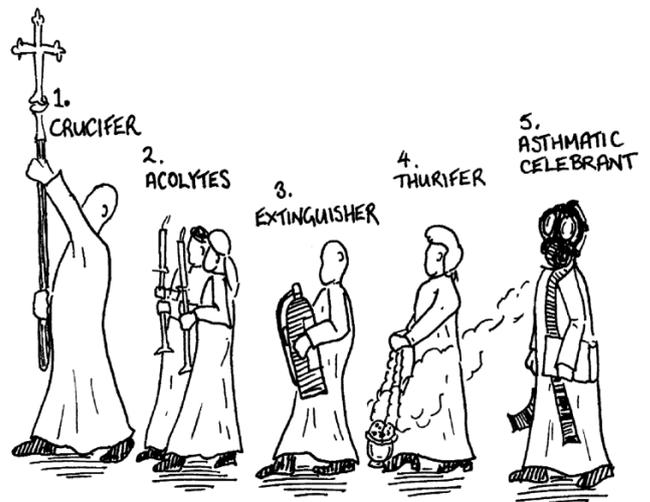
In Kyles Parish Church, Kames

## Church Contact Points

Rector	Rev Andrew Swift (702444)
People's Warden	Dinkie McEwen (705257)
Rector's Warden	Pauline Revill (704731)
Lay Representative	Ann Narraway (830400)
Vestry Secretary	Maureen McKellar (703058)
Vestry Treasurer	Susan Watling (701037)
Organist	John McIntosh (703304)

## Notable Dates

Wed 2 Feb	5.30pm Candlemas Eucharist (Incense) Holy Trinity
Fri 4 Feb	12 noon Consecration of Bishop Elect Kevin in St John's, Oban
Sat 5 Feb	12noon St John's, Oban. Diocesan service of welcome for Bishop Kevin
Sun 6 Feb	8pm Cowal for Christ Prayer Meeting at Kirn Parish Church
Wed 9 Feb	5.15pm Events Team meeting, Seasons Cafe
Fri 25 Feb	7.30pm H T Ceilidh St Mun's Hall
Mon 28 Feb	7.30pm Vestry Meeting, at The Rectory
1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Diocesan Synod in Oban
Thurs 3 March	7pm - Book Group, Seasons Cafe
Sun 6 March	8pm Cowal for Christ Prayer Meeting at St John's Church
Wed 9 March	5.30pm Eucharist, with imposition of Ashes for Ash Wednesday, Holy Trinity
Sat 26 March	7.15pm H T Quiz Night, High Kirk Hall, Hanover Street.



*A sneak preview of the Scottish Episcopal Church's new 'Health and Safety Conscious' processional forms.*

## Readings

<b>2 Feb Wednesday</b>	<b>Candlemas (Incense)</b> Malachi 3.1-5 Hebrews 2.14-18 Luke 2.22-40
<b>6 Feb</b>	<b>Epiphany 5</b> Isaiah 58.1-9a 1 Corinthians 2.1-12 Matthew 5.13-20
<b>13 Feb</b>	<b>Epiphany 6</b> Ecclesiasticus 15.15-20 1 Corinthians 3.1-9 Matthew 5.21-37
<b>20 Feb</b>	<b>Epiphany 7</b> Leviticus 19.1-2, 9-18 1 Corinthians 3.10-11, 16-23 Matthew 5.38-48
<b>27 Feb</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> before Lent</b> Isaiah 49.8-16a 1 Corinthians 4.1-5 Matthew 6.24-34

Please send any articles or views to the Editor, Mary Swift by email to: [mary@familyswift.org.uk](mailto:mary@familyswift.org.uk) or post to: The Rectory, 55 Kilbride Road, Dunoon PA23 7LN

**Please note the deadline for submission of articles for the March magazine is Wednesday 23rd February.**

**This Magazine is distributed free of charge - however there is a box in church for you to make a contribution towards the production costs, if you can. Thank you.**