



# Holy Trinity News

Newsletter of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Kilbride Road, Dunoon, Argyll  
[www.holytrinitydunoon.wordpress.com](http://www.holytrinitydunoon.wordpress.com)

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## Happy New Year

A Happy New Year to all our readers. 2010 looks like being a year of new beginnings. All being well, we will have a new Rector sometime in 2010 and that will begin a new era for Holy Trinity. A new Bishop for the Diocese hopefully will be elected in March as you can see from the timetable on page 7. Our near neighbour, the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway will elect their Bishop in January. So we have many changes to think about ahead as we begin 2010.

We are grateful again to the Reverend Peter Rice who has continued to make us stop and think with his theological thoughts on Epiphany to Candlemas on page 2.

## Fundraising

Susan Watling reports that we have made £45 by using the **Easyfundraising** web site. If you have not tried it yet for your purchases, please have a go. It is very easy and you pay the same or less than you would in the high street AND Holy Trinity benefits.

The web site is [www.easyfundraising.org](http://www.easyfundraising.org)

Any queries please speak to Susan or Maureen McKellar.

## Pastoral Care

**Dinkie McEwen is the contact for all pastoral care situations.** (telephone 01369 705257) This may be someone who needs Holy Communion brought to him/her or someone who is ill and/or housebound and needs a visit.



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## What's Ahead

Epiphany will be celebrated with a Eucharist led by the Reverend Hugh Lee at 5.15pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

We are delighted that Hugh will be with us on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January.

On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January Reverend Peter Rice will be back with us and we are pleased to welcome Reverend Paul Fletcher back with us on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January.

## Dates for the Diary

Ash Wednesday is 17<sup>th</sup> February this year.

## Points to Ponder

With every power for good to stay and guide me,  
Comforted and inspired beyond all fear.  
I'll live these days with you in thought beside me,  
And pass, with you, into the coming year.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer from prison New Year 1945

## Epiphany to Candlemas



This month Peter Rice shares thoughts on the period from Epiphany to Candlemas.

*(with grateful thanks to David Stancliffe-Bishop of Salisbury – notes from his Sermons and lectures to Ordinands in Salisbury and extracts from “God’s Pattern”)*

### Epiphany

God’s engagement with us is not just with one family, or one people, who lived in Palestine, at one time. God in Christ is offering a share of his life to the whole world, throughout all time and over its whole surface. Epiphany is when this small, detailed, Palestinian event is suddenly there for everyone to see. The Incarnation itself is made visible and accessible to all people in all places at all times: this is the meaning of the Epiphany. Matthew’s purpose in introducing these strange figures the Magi- the Wise Men- that represent the world order is to make it clear - as in much of the rest of his Gospel - that this is not merely for the local Shepherds or Mary’s family or even for the whole Jewish people, but for the whole world.

The Feast of the Baptism of Christ on the first Sunday of the Epiphany reminds us that Christ’s public ministry is inaugurated at his baptism. This baptism is both submission to the waters (entering into servanthood) and being raised out of the waters (anointed with the Holy Spirit).

In our baptism into Christ’s body, we are drawn into the royal, priestly character, but are also told that the way this divine character will become ours

is by being drawn into his pattern of self-sacrifice and suffering. This is how Christ’s body continues. The divine light is not confined to one person whose earthly life ended 2,000 years ago, but is handed on to each baptized Christian.

The Epiphany season is the celebration of that explosion of light. Each tiny individual pinprick of flame - the life and virtues of each Christian disciple - adds up to a worldwide blaze. When the newly baptized are sent out of church at the end of the Baptism service, they are given a candle with the words: ‘Receive this light. . . Shine as a light in the world.’

### Candlemas

The Epiphany season ends with Candlemas, celebrating the moment when Christ was recognized by Simeon, the old priest in the temple, as the light of the world. It is in the temple at Jerusalem, the heart of established Jewish worship, that Jesus is recognized by a member of the priestly tribe as the light of all the nations, not just of the chosen people. Again, a particular domestic event comes to have universal significance: the family comes to fulfil their ritual obligation of redeeming the first-born who is offered to God, and the old priest in the temple recognizes the infant as the Christ, and says that this is what the world has been waiting for.

God continues to engage with his people to this day. As people respond to his story, his vision, his promise, his call, we today can share in that purposeful sense of his direct engagement with us.

### Peter

There is a lovely card at the back of the Church:

To all at Holy Trinity  
wishing you a very Happy  
Christmass Tide  
and exciting 2010  
love  
Fiona and Peter”

## Fabric



Having had the loose cross on the church roof and the slates surrounding it fixed by Northern Steeplejacks during the heavy rain in November, we were hopeful that most of the leaks had been fixed. However, when McNees stripped all the plaster off the corridor there was still some water coming in. It

was agreed they would fix the leaks which were thought to be coming from the valley gutter in the tower.



Meanwhile on the 7<sup>th</sup> December Wise Property Care arrived to eradicate the dry rot. This proceeded reasonably well at ground level but once they investigated putting a scaffold up to tackle the rot in the tower a problem surfaced. The steel beams holding up the bells and the floor in



the tower were rusted and considered unsafe. Work had to be halted and a structural engineer consulted. As at date of writing we are still awaiting reports from the Structural Engineer and from Wise Property on rot in other parts of the church.

The work required in the Rectory is due to commence week of 4<sup>th</sup> January and is scheduled to be finished by the end of January.

Maureen McKellar

## Clearing a path

The site of Holy Trinity is beautiful, no one can deny that. Given the recent weather, however, it was no easy task to keep a path clear to Church.

The last Sunday of Advent saw a snow fall iced over and then another snow fall on top of it. All this was early on the Sunday morning. For the first time in as long as anyone can remember we took the awful decision to cancel the service.

The weather continued in a similar way for the next 48 hours and we managed to get a delivery of grit at the bottom of the drive from the Council as they manfully tried to keep the roads usable.

Two of us attired in the fashionable gear of boots and jackets and snoods and gloves set about trying to work up the drive, clearing and gritting two tracks. This worked reasonably well until we ran out of grit at the bend – the most notorious part of the drive.

We set about trying to acquire more grit and were told that we could pick up some from the Depot in Hamilton Street on Christmas Eve. At 9am a little group of us assembled with Hugh and his trailer and several buckets at the said depot.

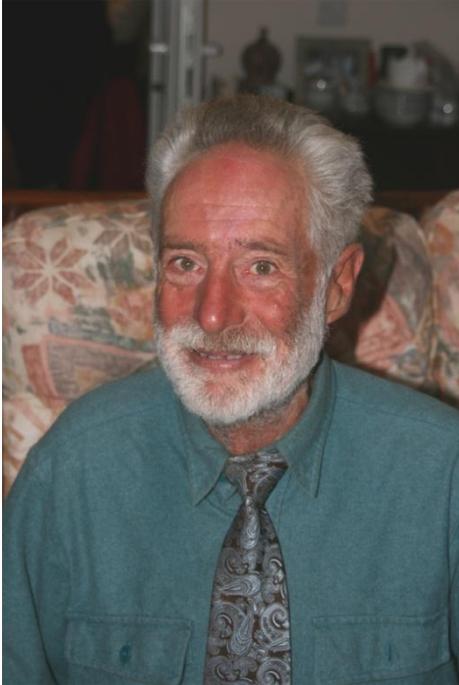
Armed with the grit and with the help of some lads on their tea break, we managed to get the rest of the drive gritted, including a pathway to the Rectory.

Never was a Midnight Eucharist so good, as it almost couldn't take place.

Our joy was short-lived. On Sunday, a late freeze of some snow again rendered the drive impassable. This time, with some quick thought we all adjourned to Eden Cottage for a Home Communion with Hugh celebrating. Roll on spring!



## Meet Hugh Lyons



*When did you first come to Holy Trinity?*

My first visit to Holy Trinity was a wedding in the early '60's. I came a few times in 2003/2004 and then regularly from 2006.

*Tell us a little about where you were before and what brought you to Dunoon?*

My Mother took me to both Sunday school and Cubs. My first church and school was St. Peter's and then we moved to the Quinton, both Churches of England. Going away with the Scouts, canoeing and climbing meant that visits to church were then reduced.

In 1956 I was posted 80 miles from Jerusalem in the Syrian Desert. There church was in a tent. I was confirmed in Jerusalem, having visited some holy sites before that. In 1962 I hitched there. In 2000 I planned to cycle in the area but a coach crash finished that. I was then posted to Cyprus and joined the Mountain Rescue. We had exercises at the weekend so again no time for church.

My wife, small child and I came to the area in 1966 to Benmore Centre. I went to one of the local churches of Scotland but not regularly. I would always go with my Mother which eventually was 10 times a year. I was unemployed in 1987, so had time and I would go into churches and pray. 10 years later my Mother died. I walked to Santiago, had Mass for Pilgrims at Le Puy and in the Cathedral at Santiago. Only two weeks into the walk I decided I would go to church regularly when I returned. I went to Kilmun Church but was surprised communion was only three times per year. Later I was invited to a prayer group, which followed Mass at St. Mun's.

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

I enjoy walking and cycling and working on my old cottage, it has helped me after my accident when I was a vegetable on crutches for eighteen months, could not compose a sentence and had to learn to walk again.

*What do you like about Holy Trinity?*

I enjoy the service at Holy Trinity, regular communion, John our Organist, Hugh and Kimberly and friendly congregation.

*What do you do (or have you done) around Holy Trinity? What do you enjoy about it?*

Once or twice I have joined in tidying up the grounds but out of sight, around the back I repaired a drain, put another alongside it, below the tap and led two pipes into them.

*What is your favourite hymn and why?*

My favourite is 'How Great thou Art', most times when I sing this a bird will start to sing, sometimes on cue or when I have not heard one for a while.

## Growing Together



Recently Christine preached on the journey of the magi and referred to this poem. What can it tell us of our own journey?

### Journey of the Magi

A cold coming we had of it,  
Just the worst time of the year  
For a journey, and such a long journey:  
The ways deep and the weather sharp,  
The very dead of winter.  
And the camels galled, sore-footed, refractory,  
Lying down in the melted snow.  
There were times when we regretted  
The summer palaces on slopes, the terraces,  
And the silken girls bringing sherbet.  
Then the camel men cursing and grumbling  
And running away, and wanting their liquor and women,  
And the night-fires going out, and the lack of shelters,  
And the cities dirty and the towns unfriendly  
And the villages dirty and charging high prices:  
a hard time we had of it.  
At the end we preferred to travel all night,  
Sleeping in snatches,  
With the voices singing in our ears, saying  
That this was all folly.

Then at dawn we came down to a temperate valley,  
Wet, below the snow line, smelling of vegetation;  
With a running stream and a water mill beating the darkness,  
And three trees on the low sky,  
And an old white horse galloped away in the meadow.  
Then we came to a tavern with vine-leaves over the lintel,  
Six hands at an open door dicing for pieces of silver,  
And feet kicking the empty wineskins.  
But there was no information, and so we continued  
And arrived at evening, not a moment too soon  
Finding the place; it was (you may say) satisfactory.

All this was a long time ago, I remember,  
And I would do it again, but set down

This set down  
This: were we led all that way for  
Birth or Death? There was a Birth, certainly,  
We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth  
and death,  
But had thought they were different; this Birth was  
Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death.  
We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,  
But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation,  
With an alien people clutching their gods.  
I should be glad of another death.

T.S.Eliot (1888-1965)



## Vacancy News

There has been a good response so far to our advertisement in Inspires and the Church Times. The closing date for applications is Epiphany. Thereafter there will be a meeting to shortlist candidates for interview. The interviews have been set for the first week in February.

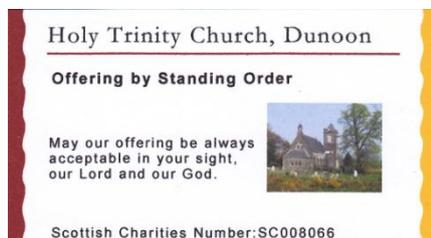
Please continue to pray for the team involved in the interviewing and for the candidates who have applied.

## Thank You

Thank you so much to the very kind person who left me a lovely card and a candle. I was really touched, it was a lovely thought.

Maureen McKellar.

## Standing Order Cards



This is just to remind those of you who give by Standing Order, that these small cards are available as you come into church. Please take one and put in the plate at the collection, enabling your offering to be blessed.

## The £50 Pledge Challenge

### **Cards**

There are still some lovely cards donated by Maurice Smith at the back of the Church. These are for sale at 50p each.

### **Books**

There are more of the Christian Chuckles books at £2 each donated by Maurice Smith. These will also be found at the back of the church.

### **Flea Market**

Any items that could be sold at the Flea Market, please pass to Robin or Susan Watling or Maureen McKellar.

### **Holy Trinity Recipe Book**

Sharon has a few recipes now, but is still looking for more for the Holy Trinity Recipe Book. If you have a favourite recipe, either a main course, desert or perhaps baking, please pass it to Sharon for inclusion.

## From the Counting House

Donations for the Appeal Fund can be made either by Standing Order to the Appeal Fund account in the Bank of Scotland account number 00427603, Sort Code 80-13-46 or by specially prepared envelopes which will be kept on the bookcase inside the door and which can be placed in the Offertory plate during the service. Gift aid envelopes are available both for the ordinary giving and for the appeal fund. Please consider it

Chrissie,  
Treasurer

## The Organist Writes

The Organist has been busy with all his musical events so we thought he might enjoy the following:

I wonder how the organist  
can do so many things;  
He's getting ready long before  
The choir stands up and sings;  
He's pressing buttons, pushing stops,  
he's pulling here and there,  
and testing all the working parts  
while listening to the prayer.

He plays it with his fingers and  
he plays it with his toes,  
And if he really wanted to  
he'd play it with his nose;  
He's sliding up and down the bench,  
he's working with his knees;  
He's dancing round with both his feet  
as lively as you please.

I always like to take a seat  
where I can see him go;  
He's better than a sermon, and  
he does me good, I know;  
I like the life and movement and  
I like to hear him play;  
he is the most exciting thing  
in town on Sabbath day.

George W. Stevens

## The Wider Church

### Diocese of Argyll and The Isles

Following Bishop Martin's retiral as Bishop of Argyll and the Isles in September, nominations were due with the Primus by 7th December. The Preparatory Committee met in mid December to sift the candidates and to finalise a questionnaire for the nominees. Based on the responses the Preparatory Committee will meet in January to shortlist those for interview.

Thereafter the candidates will be interviewed on the 16th March. The Annual meeting of the Synod will take place on the 17th March and then the Election of a Bishop will take place on the 24th March.

### Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway

Three candidates have been short-listed for the office of Bishop of Glasgow & Galloway which became vacant in July following the retirement of the Rt Rev Dr Idris Jones, who served the diocese as Bishop for 11 years.

The candidates have been selected by a Preparatory Committee. The next stage in the selection process is a meeting of each of the candidates with members of an Electoral Synod (representatives of clergy and lay church members from the Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway only). That meeting will take place on 9 January 2010, with the election of the new Bishop taking place on 16 January.

The candidates are:

The Venerable Dr **John Applegate**, (born 1956), Course Principal, Southern North West Training Partnership, Diocese of Manchester and part-time lecturer at the University of Manchester

The Very Rev Dr **Gregor Duncan**, (born 1950), Rector of St Ninian's Church, Pollokshields and Dean of the Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway

The Rev Canon Dr **Alison Peden**, (born 1952), Rector of Holy Trinity Church, Stirling; Chaplain of Forth Valley College, Stirling and Canon of St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth



## Shadow over the Stable

### A Christmas reflection from the Most Rev David Chillingworth, Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church:

"I enjoy Christmas. I like the warmth when it's cold outside. I like having my family around me. I especially enjoy going to church at Christmas - lots of people think that church with family is an important part of Christmas and our churches are busy. I like making them feel welcome.

"So what's the shadow over the stable at Bethlehem? Well just that Jesus didn't come to usher in contentment - he came to bring love to a hard and unfeeling world.

"So Christmas becomes a lens through which I look at the world. Contentment shouldn't become smugness - or enjoyment become self-indulgence. As a pastor and a human being, I have always been keenly aware of the bitter-sweet dimension of Christmas. Loss, pain and loneliness are sharper at Christmas.

"There are people who are particularly in our thoughts and prayers this Christmas. First among them are young servicemen and women in Afghanistan and their families at home - particularly the families who have been bereaved during the year. Then there is the economic bleakness of this Christmas for many people - particularly the Flyglobespan staff and many others.

"Our world has a long way to go. At Christmas, remember in your thoughts and prayers the needs of a troubled world - a world of inequality and injustice; a world full of pain, suffering and fear.

"To remember, to share and to pray will connect you to the true meaning of Christmas - God's loving answer to the needs of a troubled world.

"I wish you all a happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas."

## Notable dates – Jan/Feb

Sun 3 Jan	Christmas 2 – Morning Prayer led by Pauline Revill
Wed 6 Jan	Epiphany Eucharist with incense 5.15pm celebrated by Rev Canon Hugh Lee
Sun 10 Jan	Baptism of Jesus– Sung Eucharist celebrated by Rev Canon Hugh Lee
Thurs 14 Jan	NO Evening Prayer
Sun 17 Jan	Epiphany 2 - Sung Eucharist celebrated by Rev Peter Rice
Thurs 21 Jan	Evening prayer 5.15pm
Sun 24 Jan	The Conversion of St. Paul - Sung Eucharist celebrated by the Rev Paul Fletcher
Thurs 28 Jan	Evening Prayer 5.15pm
Sunday 31Jan	Epiphany 4 – Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament
Thurs 4 Feb	Evening Prayer 5.15pm
Sun 7 Feb	Morning Prayer

## Readings

Epiphany	Isaiah 60, 1-6 Ephesians 3, 1-12 Matthew 2, 1-12
Baptism Jesus	Isaiah 43, 1-7 Acts 8, 14-17 Luke 3, 15-17, 21-22
Epiphany 2	Isaiah 62, 1-5 1 Corinthians 12, 1-11 John 2, 1-11
St. Paul	Acts 26, 9-23 Galatians 1, 11-24 Matthew 10, 16-22 or 19, 27-30
Epiphany 4	Jeremiah 1, 4-10 1 Corinthians 13, 1-13 Luke 4, 21-30

## Church Contact Points

Name	Contact
Rector	Vacancy
Pastoral Care	Dinkie McEwen (705257)
People's Warden	Mac McLean (705497)
Rector's Warden	Pauline Revill (704731)
Lay Representative	Ann Narraway (830400)
Alternate Lay Rep	Di Tennent (840779)
Vestry Secretary	Maureen McKellar (703058)
Vestry Treasurer	Chrissie Holliday (704927)
Organist	John McIntosh (703304)
Book Group	Di Tennent (840779)
House Groups	To be advised
Mission to Seafarers	Pauline Revill (704731)
Christian Aid	Brian Dineley (870073)
Bible Study	To be advised
Coffee Rota	Pauline Revill (704731)
Flower Arranging	Sharon Barnard (706240)
Worship Rotas	Dinkie McEwen (705257)
Newsletter	Maureen McKellar (703058)
Charity Web Site	Susan Watling (701037)

Please send any articles or views by email to [mpmckellar@aol.com](mailto:mpmckellar@aol.com) or by post to: Maureen McKellar, Eden Cottage, 45 Hill Street, Dunoon PA23 7AY