



Holy Trinity News

Newsletter of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Kilbride Road, Dunoon, Argyll
www.holytrinitydunoon.wordpress.com

Scottish Charities Number
SC008066

A New Priest

At last the announcement we have all been waiting for, our new Priest will be the Reverend Andrew Swift. There has been quite a delay in the process but the Primus and Bishop Mark Strange, our interim Bishop have accepted the unanimous recommendation put forward by the interviewing panel.

We are in the process of discussing dates with both Andrew and Bishop Mark for an Institution but it is likely to be June or July.

On page two is a letter from Andrew and some photos to introduce himself. We look forward to an exciting future

Morag Fowler kindly agreed to write something for us on Lent this month. This is to be found on page 3. Many thanks Morag

Episcopal Election

Argyll and The Isles Diocese

The Preparatory Committee was not able to produce a list of between three and five candidates by the required date. The Committee is therefore seeking further nominations by 12 March, with a view to producing a List of Candidates to present to the Electoral Synod in mid-April.

The Canon does not allow the process to be spun out indefinitely, so the timescale for the next stage is compressed.

Let us remember all involved in the process in our prayers.

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What's Ahead

At the end of this month we are in Holy Week. On Palm Sunday (28th March) we are having a joint service with St. Paul's and St Martin's at 3.00pm at Tighnabruaich. This will be a Eucharist led by Reverend Canon Hugh Lee. There will be no service at Holy Trinity that day, so if you need a lift to Tighnabruaich please speak to one of the Vestry.

Hugh will be celebrating the Eucharist on Maundy Thursday at 7.30pm at Holy Trinity followed by a vigil until 10.00pm.

Hugh will also be taking a service from 2.00-3.00pm on Good Friday at Holy Trinity.

The Easter Vigil and Lighting the New Fire will take place on Holy Saturday (3 April) at 8.00pm

Easter Day is Sunday 4th April and Hugh will celebrate the Eucharist with us at 10.30am

Dates for the Diary

Thursday May 13 – Ascension Day
Sunday May 23 – Pentecost
Sunday May 30 – Trinity Sunday

Letter from our New Priest

Dear Friends

I am delighted to introduce myself as the next priest to serve the linked charges of Holy Trinity, Dunoon, St Martin's, Tighnabruaich and St Paul's, Rothesay.

I am 42 years old, and am presently serving as full-time curate in a semi-urban parish in Gloucester City, in the south-west of England. I trained for ministry at Ripon College, Cuddesdon, in Oxford. Before that I worked for 15 years in the shipbuilding industry, in Fife, Glasgow, Bristol and around the world. I was born in Aberdeen, and grew up in Dunblane.



Peter, Frances and Elly with Andrew



Mary and Andrew

I am married to Mary, who is from Stranraer, and we have three children: Elly (13), born in Kirkcaldy, Peter (11), born in Paisley and Frances (8), born near Bristol. We are all very excited about the move to Cowal and Bute, and we are looking forward very much to getting to know the people of the churches and the local communities.

We are praying for the churches of Cowal and Bute: please keep us in your prayers as we get ready to move ourselves (and our narrowboat) northwards.

Every Blessing

Andrew

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.



Tuning Time

How tuned are we to God's love? I have a sense this Lent of God looking lovingly at us, watching how we live our lives, noticing where we are out of tune with Him or with other people, or where our lives sing with love.

Luke, in his preface to the parable of the good Samaritan, has a lawyer explain what is necessary to inheriting eternal life. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your strength and with all your mind" and "Love your neighbour as yourself." (Luke 10.27) How do we match up? On a human level, when we give ourselves in love, more love can grow in us. Yet many people do not feel that they love as they might.

Where does our ability to love come from? It comes from God. "We love because He first loved us." (1 John 4.19) As we go through Lent we watch the inexorable movement of Jesus to the cross. Jesus took the ultimate risk with His love. He didn't protect or defend himself. He valued us so highly, He obeyed His Father so closely, that he let himself be crucified by those who could not tolerate the invasiveness of God's love.

Yet the choice is ours. God does not force us to love, but if we let His love in, we don't know where it might take us. We can open ourselves to let God's love flow through us, cleansing and transforming us, and fitting us for His purpose. Or we can hold back, distorting the song that our lives could be.

Lent can be a time of self-denial, the aim of which is to help us focus more clearly on God and His love. It can be a time of self-examination, to see what blocks our Christian walk with God. It can be a time of reading more about God in Jesus. It may be a time of being more open to God in prayer, whether spoken or the unspoken prayer of the heart. However we use it, let us aim to let God tune our hearts to His love.

Morag M Fowler

Growing Together



The Upper Room, Jerusalem

Blessed are you, O Upper Room, so small in comparison to the entirety of creation, yet what took place in you now fills all creation – which is even too small for it.

Blessed is your abode, for in it was broken that Bread which issues from the blessed Wheat Sheaf, and in you was trodden out the Cluster of Grapes that came from Mary to become the Cup of Salvation.

Blessed are you, O Upper Room, no one has ever seen nor ever shall see, what you beheld; Our Lord became at once True Altar, Priest, Bread, and Cup of Salvation. In his own person he could fulfil all these roles, none other was capable of this: Whole Offering and Lamb, Sacrifice and Sacrificer, Priest and the One destined to be consumed.

A reading from a hymn on the crucifixion by Ephrem of Syria (c. 306-373)

Meet Christiane Lee



When did you first come to Holy Trinity?

I first came to Holy Trinity for the Midnight Eucharist on Christmas Eve in 1980, the last Christmas Bishop Martin and Elspeth Shaw were in Dunoon.

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

I grew up in France with a Catholic upbringing. Every year from the age of 14 I was sent to England for a visit. I decided to come as an au pair to Scotland and ended up in Dunoon. I loved it in Scotland. It was here I met John, my first husband and we were married in St. Mungo's Cathedral in Glasgow. Although he was Anglican, we worshipped at Toward Church. I so missed the liturgy that I looked to see where we could worship and found Holy Trinity. We began attending regularly in the days of Allan MacLean as Rector.

After John died, I remained in Toward and continued going to Holy Trinity. I have been so fortunate to be married to Hugh now for 7 years and must say I enjoyed my spell living in the Rectory!

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

I love gardening and used to be passionate particularly about Rhododendrons. I love porcelain, all kinds of antiques and being surrounded by beautiful things. I also enjoy history.

What do you like about Church life in Holy Trinity?

I love everything about Holy Trinity. In particular I think the Church has a spirit – I mean both the people and the building. The building has a beautiful atmosphere and the people who come to Holy Trinity usually feel at home and are happy. I love the simplicity and the music.

What is it like being married to a Priest in Argyll Diocese?

You don't get a lot of time for yourself, that is for sure. With Hugh as Synod Clerk in a Diocese with few stipendiary clergy, we are often travelling around the Diocese and worshipping in lots of different churches. I love interacting with people so I really quite enjoy that, but it does mean I cannot do as much for Holy Trinity as I have done in the past and would like to do.

What is your favourite hymn and why?

I love 'Halleluiah, my Father, for giving me your Son'. I love the words and the music. I feel so thankful to God for all He has given me.

A rhododendron



Fund Raising

Just over a year ago the £50 challenge was launched. It has been a tremendous success, raising around £4000, with everyone sharing in the fun and interest of each project. We need to be more ambitious now and we know that there are plenty of ideas and talents in our congregation.

At the Vestry meeting on Monday 1st March it was agreed that we set up a fundraising committee. Initially the membership of this team will be Ann, Dinkie, Pauline, Susan, Robin and Jennifer. An initial meeting will lay out the scope and scale of the work to be tackled.

The team will be looking for lots of creative and inventive ideas to include large one off events as well as smaller ones which have proved so successful during the £50 challenge.

Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will have read about the work to be undertaken in the church buildings. At a meeting on Tuesday 23rd February with the Diocesan Architect, the Dean and the Diocesan Treasurer it was decided to apply for as many grants as possible. Grant applications involve a great deal of exhaustive research and leg work. Grant applications are also required to demonstrate a serious commitment from the Vestry and the congregation. As part of this commitment we need to undertake a serious and concerted fundraising function.

Please support us in any way you can - by making suggestions, helping out at an event, making donations of time, skills and money too, taking part in projects or events, or simply with a word of encouragement.

Thank you everyone.

Pauline Revill
Acting Chair of Vestry



The £50 Pledge Challenge

Flea Market

A very successful stall at the Burgh Hall Table sale raised £46. Congratulations to Robin and Susan Watling who did most of the work and Maureen McKellar who helped too.

Cards

There are still some lovely cards donated by Maurice Smith at the back of the Church. These are for sale at 50p each. Chrissie also made some cards, including some lovely Valentine cards which were snapped up. Thanks to Chrissie

Silk Painting

Anyone interested in a more advanced session, making scarves, please see Maureen McKellar. The expert has offered to come and lead another session. This is likely to be a Saturday in April.

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.

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.

Easyfundraising

Susan Watling reports that we have had our first cheque from Easyfundraising. We have now made £60 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. Susan will help if you ask.

The web site is www.easyfundraising.org

Please do tell your friends so that they can support us too.

From the Counting House

Your Finance Team is grateful for the response to the request for more standing orders, more appeal fund standing orders and more cash. As you can see from the Fabric Report elsewhere, we really need you to continue thinking about ways we can all raise more money.

Those who count the cash remind anyone who is putting cash in the plate to gift aid it if at all possible. If you pay any tax at all (even on a pension), please fill in a gift aid envelope.

You will see elsewhere in the Newsletter that we have applied for our first grant. We will be applying to anyone we can think of to help us. If you have any ideas, please let us know. However, even with grant aid, we need to show them that we are making every effort to raise funds ourselves.

The Treasury Team

The Organist Writes

As we enter the next chapter in the life of the congregation, we are beginning to plan the new year's music by arranging for the return of "our" Russian choir, Voskresenije. When we went to hear them in Ayr last November, we asked Jurij if it would be possible for them to visit us in November rather than later as so much tends to be happening in December. So please put Wednesday 3rd November in your diaries, and think of inviting friends to the concert – and perhaps of hosting a singer or two yourself!

John

Diocese Lent Appeal

It has been decided that the Diocesan Lenten Appeal this year should be for our twin Diocese, Zanzibar. Please note that this year it will be called the Diocese Lenten Appeal, rather than the Bishop's Lenten Appeal, since we do not have a Bishop at present. Please mark 'Lenten Appeal' on any offerings.

Publications Group

A sub-group of the Vestry has been formed to deal with the business of keeping our publications up to date. This task includes not only the week-to-week presence in the local paper, but also material such as the history of the church, publicity leaflets and the weekly pew sheet, along with responsibility for a recognisable "house style" in what is produced.

Christine

Fairtrade

We recently received a letter from the Dunoon Fairtrade Group asking us to remember Fairtrade, particularly during Fairtrade Fortnight, this year 22nd February to 8th March. Dunoon is a Fairtrade Town and in order to maintain the status a submission showing continuing activity is submitted every two years. Although we do not have a Fairtrade stall at Holy Trinity, we do buy Fairtrade coffee and of course, we can all buy Fairtrade goods at the local supermarkets.

Obituary

We regret to announce the death of Cecilia Porchetta on 12 February 2010. Cecilia and her husband Alan were well known at Holy Trinity and we send sincere condolences to Alan and all the extended family.

The Dean

Bishop Mark rang to tell us that unfortunately the Dean is not well and receiving treatment at hospital. We send best wishes to Dean Norman and his wife Barbara. Please remember them in your prayers.

Fabric

The Meeting scheduled between the Vestry, Architect and Diocesan Representatives took place on Tuesday 23rd February. The Architect, Dean and Diocesan Treasurer inspected the problems in the Church, particularly with the steel beams and the rot in the sacristy and tower.

The Architect advised that she thought we should apply for grant aid as we were a B listed building. The question was asked as to whether the tower would be better demolished and the Architect's advice was that we were unlikely to receive permission to demolish the tower as the repairs were of an order and type that would qualify for grant aid.

The Diocesan representatives confirmed that they thought that we should endeavour to repair the buildings and seek whatever grant aid was possible, while continuing to raise funds. They were impressed with the fund raising to date by the congregation.

Meanwhile work has proceeded at the Rectory. A problem arose with the window in the dining room. Apparently there had been a fire there in the past and the lintel was completely destroyed.



Fortunately the lintel has now been replaced and the remaining windows all completed. The roof is now wind and watertight and only a few small items remain (such as the manhole cover at the back).

Some decoration will be needed before our new Rector and his family move in but the Rectory is looking good.

Maureen McKellar

Vestry Report

As well as the Vestry Meeting on 23rd February with the Architect and the Diocesan Treasurer, the Vestry met on Monday 1st March.

There was a discussion on the fact that the Disclosure Certificate was still not through for the new priest despite a call to the Provincial Office. There was an update on the schedule of services and a Lay Team Planning Meeting was fixed.

There was an update on the Rectory fabric situation and it was noted that there was a gift from a member of the congregation for the cleaning of the carpets. The Vestry was very grateful for this. There was discussion following the meeting with the Diocese regarding the church fabric problems and it was reported that the grant application to Heritage Lottery had been sent in by the deadline of 28th February. It was agreed to press on and apply to as many other organisations as we could.

It was agreed to set up a fund raising group to co-ordinate ideas and to prepare a plan of events.

It was also agreed to set up a group to ensure that all our publicity material is up to date.

The next meeting is planned for 24th March.

Grant Aid

The grant application to the Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic Buildings Scotland has now been sent away and acknowledged. A large box of documents and photographs had to be sent to them. Now we can only wait and see what happens.

If we happen to be successful, everyone should be aware that we must have the church open to the community for 40 days per year. We can include concerts (such as the Russian Concert), Open Doors weekend and other similar community events. However, if we can receive help with repairing the church, it will be well worth it.

Notable dates – March/April

Thurs 4 Mar	Evening Prayer 5.15pm
Sun 7 Mar	Lent 3 – Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament
Thurs 11 Mar	Evening Prayer 5.15pm
Sun 14 Mar	Lent 4 Mothering Sunday – Eucharist celebrated by Rev Canon Hugh Lee
Thurs 18 Mar	Stations of the Cross 5.15pm
Sun 21 Mar	Lent 5 - Sung Eucharist celebrated by Rev Peter Rice
Thurs 25 Mar	The Annunciation of the Lord 5.15pm
Sun 28 Mar	Palm Sunday – Joint Service at Tighnabruaich 3pm
Thurs 1 Apr	Maundy Thursday - Celebration of the Last Supper 7.30pm Vigil until 10.00pm
Fri 2 Apr	Good Friday Service 2pm – 3pm
Sat 3 Apr	Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil with lighting of new fire 8.00pm
Sun 4 Apr	Easter Day celebrated by Rev Canon Hugh Lee 10.30am

Readings

Lent 3	Isaiah 55, 1-9 1 Corinthians 10, 1-13 Luke 13, 1-9, 21-30
Lent 4	Joshua 5, 9-12 2 Corinthians 5, 16-21 Luke 15, 1-3, 11b-32
Lent 5	Isaiah 43, 16-21 Philippians 3, 4b-14 John 12, 1-8
Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50, 4-9a Philippians 2, 5-11 Luke 22, 14 - 23, 56
Easter Day	Acts 10, 34-43 1 Corinthians 15, 19-26 John 20, 1-18

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 or by post to: Maureen McKellar, Eden Cottage, 45 Hill Street, Dunoon PA23 7AY