



HolyTrinity News

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

Scottish Charities Number
SC008066

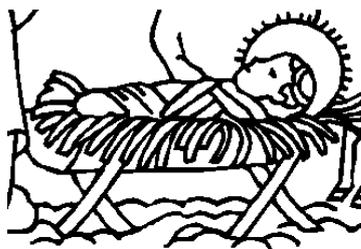
The Season of Waiting

We seem to spend lots of time waiting - particularly this month. We wait in the queue in the Post Office to buy stamps for Christmas cards. Then we wait again to post those going abroad. We wait in the supermarket to buy food. Just before Christmas it feels like there is going to be a siege with no food available for months. We wait in queues at the garage to fill up the car and in the shops at every counter when we try Christmas shopping.

So we should be well used to waiting. And yet at Advent we are reminded anew to wait. Not just for the baby to be born at Christmas but for the second coming of our Lord.

On last year's Advent Blog, Kimberly said it so well:

In advent we wait
For the coming of Christ
For the stilling of our hearts
For the time of transformation
When God will be all in all.



Merry Christmas

Inside This Issue

Rector's Letter	2
Meet Graham Revill.....	3
Growing Together	4
Points to Ponder	4
God Made Us All.....	5
No Small Talk.....	5
Hallowe'en.....	6
The Wider Church – Russian Visit.....	7

What's Ahead

In December we look forward to:

- Friday 5th December at 5.15pm Church AGM
- Sunday 21st December 3.00pm Advent Carol Service
- Tuesday 23rd December decorating the church for Christmas
- Saturdays through Advent at 5pm Evening Prayer in Church

Dates for Diary

- Friday Jan 16 Book Group venue to be advised
- Saturday 17th January 2009 Congregational Meeting with Bishop Martin

Meet Graham Revill



Graham with his daughter, Philippa

When did you first come to Holy Trinity?

I was best man at two sets of friends' weddings at Holy Trinity in the early and mid 1970s.

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

I started work in 1969 on the M6 motorway in Lancashire as a materials technician in the site laboratory. Over the next few years I worked all over England and Wales on various road building contracts – on the M6, M5, A38 in Devon and M11 and in depots in London and East Anglia. I was always on the move from flat, to house, to caravan and contract to contract.

I first met Pauline on the school bus in 1967 but it was not until after we were married in 1973 that the opportunity came to work in Scotland. (Pauline's Mum came from Aberdeen, so there was always a link north of the border). I worked on the platforms, which were being built for the North Sea Oilfields here, at Ardyne Point south of Dunoon. I lived and worked for a year in Norway, and after that, we decided that the only way to

settle down was to work with a local authority. In this area, Strathclyde Regional Council was our local authority at that time. Since starting work in 1969, I had lived at thirty six different addresses.

I joined Strathclyde Regional Council's Roads Department in 1979 and have worked for the local authority ever since.

Settling here in Argyll has enabled us to bring up our three children in beautiful rural surroundings with all the scary advantages of a big city only an hour or so away.

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

I enjoy making and building things, reading, and listening to live music. I love hill walking and am learning Scottish Country Dancing. I am essentially a practical person although some of my projects do not work out as planned and definitely take too long!

What do you like about Holy Trinity?

I love Holy Trinity's location but I am not a great fan of Victorian buildings.

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

I cut the grass in the church grounds and I organised the outside lighting project. I am a co-opted member of the focus group, which is looking at the buildings. I enjoy the intellectual challenges of Kimberly's sermons and the Bible study group.

What is your favourite hymn and why?

I have no particular favourite hymn as it depends on the situation and my mood at the time. If I am pushed it would have to be "Oh, Love that Wilt Not Let Me Go", written by George Matheson.

Growing Together



Last month, over half the congregation gathered for a Liturgy Day. Some of the topics of discussion were summarized in the November newsletter, but a few things demand further comment and explanation. The congregation made the following decisions regarding our liturgy:

1. **Start of Service.** Everyone at the Liturgy day agreed that we would like to have a time for quiet prayer before the service. Please offer each other the space needed to pray, and save non-urgent conversation for after the service at coffee time. The welcomer on duty will greet people as they come in, and make sure any visitors are offered as much (or as little) help as they would like.
2. **Incense.** There are several people in the congregation who have real trouble breathing when there is incense. In each case, this is due to genuine medical conditions rather than 'low church cough'! We had a long discussion about how to honour those for whom incense is an important and beautiful aid to worship, without excluding those who struggle with it. We made the following decisions:
 - Incense will be used on Christmas Eve and at the Easter Vigil, but not on Christmas morning or Easter day.
 - We will not use incense during normal Sunday worship.
 - We will celebrate appropriate feast days on their actual day (rather than Sunday) and use incense then. (So, Candlemas, Ascension, Transfiguration, etc.)
3. **When do we stand or kneel?** Two conversations arose about when to stand or kneel. First: there was a fairly unanimous

desire to stand at the **start of worship** as the clergy and servers came in. Please stand if you can, and sit if you need to. Second: we agreed that there was some confusion about what to do at the **beginning of the grey book liturgy**. After the first hymn, the priest says 'let us pray'. The prayers that follow are closely linked and lead straight into the confession. Since it is the custom of the congregation to kneel for confession, it would be good if we could kneel together before the prayers start. Therefore, when we use the grey book, please kneel to pray after the opening hymn.

As always, each individual should feel free to adapt their positioning as need be. Don't ever feel that you must stand/ sit/ kneel just because it is what the majority to.

I hope this helps to clarify things and eases the flow of worship for all of us.

KB

Points to Ponder

At Advent we should try the key to our heart's door. It may have gathered rust. If so this is the time to oil it, in order that the heart's door may open more easily when the Lord Jesus wants to enter at Christmas time!

Lord, oil the hinges of our hearts' doors that they may swing gently and easily to welcome your coming.

Prayer of a New Guinea Christian
from **The Lion Prayer Collection**.

God Made Us All

God made us all equal and in his own image, so why is there a third world? It got me thinking when we were asked for gifts for the Argylls in Afghanistan, small everyday things we can buy in many shops in Dunoon. I'll tell you what it is like in these countries.

I realise that more than a generation and a lot of wonderful experiences separates me from most of the congregation. I will not use words like third world, rich or poor (that is materially or spiritually) but name the countries.

Afghanistan is unfortunate because it has had two world-powers fighting directly, or by proxy, on its land recently. Immediately before this latest invasion there were four consecutive years of drought.

In Jordan in 1956 when we went out of camp we could use our PT vests (short sleeves and collars) and our best Khaki summer trousers as civvies. I was there in the forces and it was the year of the Suez Crisis. There was a T-junction in the Syrian desert of the roads from Baghdad, Damascus and Amman with a few single storied houses including a shop. I bought a look-a-like Mars Bar and a second hand shirt. It had long sleeves and would now be acceptable to the museums. However, I was proud of it. During the nine months I was there I never saw another shirt for sale.

Later when Suez started we were cut off and surrounded by the Iraqi army, food and water was short. We dug trenches at the unit and outside our houses. Breakfast was one Weetabix and a mug of tea. I was as hungry after as I was before.

In Morocco in 1995 I was walking in the Atlas Mountains, mostly where the tourists never venture. I think it must be rated as my best adventure, giving medical advice, pills and applying cream. The people all asked for something; what the kids wanted was pens. I said I had only one, a small one and needed it, they persisted so I took it out, I nearly lost it, hand as well. I lost a large hanky I used to shade my face with. I found only

one very dirty rag in two months which took much washing before I could wear it.

I used a bit of string to hold a water-bottle on my rucksack in a wet sock to keep it cool, it was wearing thin with use. I did find another but before I could pick it up a man on a mule arrived. He asked for the piece of string, I got it for him as I only had a few more days in Morocco left.

Perhaps you see now why I don't think 'Third World'.

Hugh Lyons

No Small Talk

This is a new venture for Holy Trinity – a pub lunch for conversation. The idea was for a few of us to meet in the Crown Court Lounge Bar, Dunoon at lunchtime and discuss a subject. The topics so far have been:

- God and War
- Things we don't say
- Someone who changed me
- What are we waiting for?

It is very informal. Any 2 or 3 of us will constitute it being on. So if you are wondering whether to come or not, just ring Christine or Pauline and they will know who is going. The subject will be given out on the day. The hope is that by taking the church (i.e. us) down the hill and into the town, some may question us or even join us. Watch this space!



The Organist Writes

The Russian concert went very well, thanks to a splendid group effort. We had many visitors, some of whom had never been in our church before. The crucial issues of publicity, transport, accommodation and catering were well looked after, and so may I thank once more all those who in any way shared the responsibility and contributed to the success of the evening.

Our next event is the Advent Carol Service on Sunday 21 December at 3.00 pm., when we'll be joined by 8+1 and friends. In this year's blend of words and music the choir will be singing many a favourite carol as well as some surprises, and of course there will be an opportunity for you and all who come to have a really good sing.

“The bells of waiting Advent ring” – so please do come and bring a friend!

John

From the Counting House

Thanks to Chrissie and all of you for looking after the shop while I was away.

Yaro was in great form and sends you all his love.

It is year-end time and I hope that you will look at the accounts when you get them. Please ask questions. I find them quite difficult to understand in the new format that we are required by the wee parliament to use.

I can only add my voice to Chrissie's last month please think about Gift Aid -she should know!!!.

Richard

Thanks

Thanks to all who have contributed words and photos to the Newsletter this year. Particular thanks to Christine for her spread on the Russian visit in this issue.

Hallowe'en

On Hallowe'en, some 17 or so of the congregation met for a service of remembrance for the dead. We gathered in a loose circle at the choir-stalls and celebrated the Eucharist 'in the round'. Then we were provided with tea-lights and invited to place them around the altar area whilst praying for those whom we were remembering. Photographs could also be placed on the altar.

After the service we took more tea-lights and placed them on various graves in the church-yard – relatives, friends or those chosen at random – saying prayers for them as we did so. As we moved over to the Rectory, we looked back and saw a myriad of twinkling lights in the graveyard. It was a warm and friendly sight – but it must have caused some confusion to dog-walkers on the forest path.



The party afterwards was great fun., as Kimberly had thoughtfully provided games to amuse the young (and not-so-young). The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the pumpkin-carving session. A few brave souls and the children produced some stunning efforts which were placed on a table in the hall to provide some eerie illumination to the occasion. After the moving and emotional service earlier, it was lovely to enjoy food and fellowship, games and laughter – and pumpkin.



Ann Narraway

The Wider Church – Russian Visit

Voskresenije visit to Holy Trinity



Before the concert, there was much debate about the wisdom of heating Wassail Cup in the urn.



Jurij, meanwhile, was quietly pleased at the size of the audience as they poured in - all 90 of them!



At the interval, there was a dirty rush for the refreshments. All very jolly.



Voskresenije take a bow after a performance of great power and variety. Anatoly Artomonov (with beard) sang C two octaves below Middle C during the concert.



In the morning, Jurij took a few moments to photograph a Trident submarine. No international incident ensued.



While Andrey reverted to his other life as a crooner.



And then they all had lunch, courtesy of the good fairies of Holy Trinity.



Jurij puffed a last ciggie...



..as the singers packed the bus in the icy wind.

As you can see, there is a lot of work and a great deal of new experience to be enjoyed with our Russian guests. If you are interested in helping with any aspect of their next visit, please let Christine or Pauline know.

Notable dates – December

Fri 5	Church AGM 5.15pm
Sun 7	Advent 2
Sun 14	Advent 3 lay Team
Sun 21	Advent 4 Carol Service 3pm
Tues 23	Decoration of church from 10.30
Wed 24	Christmas Eve Eucharist 11pm (incense)
Thurs 25	Christmas Day Eucharist 10.30am
Sun 28	Christmas 1

December Readings

Advent 2	Isaiah 49, 1-11 2 Peter 3, 8-15a Mark 1, 1-8
Advent 3	Isaiah 61, 1-4, 8-11 1 Thessalonians 5, 16-24 John 16-8, 19-28
Advent 4	2 Samuel 7, 1-11, 16 Romans 16, 25-27 Luke 1, 26-38
Christmas 1	Isaiah 61, 10- 62, 3 Galatians 4, 4-7 Luke 2, 22-40 or 15-21

Comments and Clippings

- The next book for the Book Group is 'Third Class Ticket' by Heather Wood. This will be discussed on Friday 16th January at a venue to be fixed.
- If you have access to the internet how about checking out the Advent Blog each day. The address is:
<http://www.lovebloomsbright.wordpress.com>

Church Contact Points

Name	Contact
Rector	Rev. Kimberly Bohan (702444)
People's Warden	Mac McLean (705497)
Rector's Warden	Pauline Revill (704731)
Lay Representative	Ann Narraway (830400)
Vestry Secretary	Di Tennent (840779)
Vestry Treasurer	Richard McGilvray (830116)
Organist	John McIntosh (703304)
Book Group	Di Tennent
House Groups	Rector
Mission to Seafarers	Pauline Revill
Christian Aid	Brian and Margaret Dineley (870073)
Bible study	Rector
Coffee Rota	Pauline Revill
Flower Arranging	Sharon Barnard (706240)
Worship Rotas	Margaret Dineley
Newsletter	Maureen McKellar (703058)

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