



# 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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## Advent

Again we are in the season of waiting. It never seems to have the peace and stillness it should have as commercialisation overtakes the shops, people have a siege mentality in the supermarkets and we all rush about with the many preparations.

To help make us stop and think the Reverend Peter Rice has given us something more theologically based and that is on page 2. There is also a poem on the Annunciation on page 5 that could be used for meditation this Advent.

## News From + Martin



Extract from a letter from +Martin:

"With the gift from HT, I bought a Roberts Digital Radio which also accesses the internet. The latter function is not yet operative as we continue to await, after several postponements, the installation of landline telephone and broadband. The neighbourhood community is delightful and welcoming to the point of surprise. .... My sense is that here in this terrace we will look out for each other.

....

In the Love of God

Martin"

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## What's Ahead

Our Advent Carol Service takes place on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December with St. Paul's Rothesay at 3pm.

8+1 Choir are holding a Carol Service on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December in Kirn Church Centre at 3pm.

On Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm in the High Kirk, Jubilate Cowal is having a Christmas Concert. The Programme includes 'Night of Miracles' and some lesser known carols. A few members of Holy Trinity sing with the choir. Mark the date in your diary.

We are delighted to have Reverend Canon Hugh Lee with us for a number of services in December including Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning..

## Dates for the Diary

The Reverend Peter Rice is not with us in December as he is with family down south. However we look forward to seeing him back again with us in January.

## Advent



Peter Rice shares thoughts on Advent.

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

One of my tasks at this time of year is the sweeping up of the leaves from our glorious Autumn, before they mush into a winter sludge. This along with clearing gutters and stacking firewood is the age old preparation for the change of season into Winter darkness. In many ways that is what the church year is doing at present.

We are looking back at the last few months and storing into our collective memory the events of the year. Wardens will be answering the Synod Clerks requests for congregational statistics; meanwhile the Feast of the Souls of the Faithful departed at the beginning of November after the celebration of All Saints, echoes the older Catholic tradition where bonfires were lit to ward off the darkening evenings. This bonfire event was replaced in later centuries by the Protestant Remembrance of the Gunpowder Plot on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Finally the more recent Armistice Day (11<sup>th</sup>) or Remembrance Sunday allows us to sum up the month as ‘In November we remember’.

However in late November we are also now starting to anticipate the great festival of our faith namely the celebration of the Incarnation (Christmas) and its lead in, Advent.

The core of the Incarnation is direct personal encounter with God. This period, with the celebration of the Nativity at its heart, speaks of God's coming among us, and taking the risk of sharing our human life. The season of Advent,

with its pre-Advent Sundays in November at the end of the previous liturgical year, all have the sense of building towards a picture of a world that needs rescuing.

As I mentioned earlier it is the celebration of All Saints and the commemoration of All Souls that mark the turn of the liturgical year. They sum up our past and point to our future destiny, alerting us to its uncertainty. Finally the Feast of Christ the King on the Sunday before Advent focuses attention on the great Advent themes of heaven and hell, death and judgement.

### Christmas the festival of the Incarnation

The Incarnation takes place in the very human, risky, messy, physical birth of one infant, at one time, in one place. It is something every human has been through. By birth we come into a very personal relationship with God. It is the fact of the Incarnation that marks the major difference between the Christian faith and both Islam and Judaism.

To give it an even more earthy relevance there is also the Annunciation to Mary, timed in the liturgical calendar to be nine months before 25 December, when the angel comes and asks the question and the world holds its breath to see if the girl is going to say 'Yes' or 'No'.

Mary's 'Yes' is a key part theologically of our whole understanding of the Incarnation.

God does not force himself on the young girl; the angel comes as a messenger, to ask if she will, and we wait to hear her answer. This is the manner in which God acts; though all powerful, God does not come bulldozing in, over-ruling us, but patiently waiting, asking, and it requires the 'Yes' of the other.

This is an important key to understanding the nature of the relationship between God and humankind. God is entering a genuine relationship, a relationship of equality with each and every one of us.

## Annual Meeting

We had a good attendance at our Annual Meeting on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November. Pauline Revill was elected chairperson and competently took us through all the business.

There was the usual business of the reports. Richard McGilvray ably spoke to the Treasurer's Report and gave us a picture of the finances. The Accounts were adopted and the Auditors appointed. Ann Narraway, Lay Representative spoke briefly to her report. Maureen McKellar, Secretary presented the Vestry Report, which this year in the absence of a priest gave a full account of all that we had been doing at Holy Trinity. Maureen also gave an update on the fabric situation. Graham Revill raised the question that we should perhaps be looking to demolish the tower as that is the source of most of the leaks. This is something the Vestry will look into.

Elections were conducted and the following people elected:

Ann Narraway as Lay Representative  
Di Tennent as Alternate Lay Representative  
Mac McLean as People's Warden  
Christine McIntosh as Vestry Member  
Di Tennent as Vestry Member

The only item of AOCB was raised by Irene Storie who asked the Vestry to consider whether the amount spent on advertising in the local paper was wisely spent. The Vestry will review this again in the New Year.

## Vacancy News

There was a joint meeting scheduled for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm in the Rectory, of the Dean, the Diocesan Secretary, the Diocesan Treasurer, Holy Trinity Vestry, St Paul's Vestry, and a representative from Tighnabruaich. Unfortunately Graeme Cotterill from Tighnabruaich had a bereavement and had to go south and the St. Paul's contingent could not leave the Island due to adverse weather. However, with representatives of St. Paul's present by telephone, we confirmed the

process to be followed for the appointment of a new priest and it was agreed we could proceed to advertise.

Below is the advertisement that appeared in the Church Times week of 5<sup>th</sup> December and is in the December/January issue of Inspires. It is also on the Diocesan, Provincial and Church times websites.

The Scottish Episcopal Church  
Diocese of Argyll and The Isles  
**RECTOR**  
**The Linked Charges of**  
**Holy Trinity Dunoon and St. Paul's**  
**Rothsay**

**Come and Join Us?**

We are:

- small forward looking congregations with enthusiastic talented lay teams based in the beautiful county of Argyll and Bute, only one hour from Glasgow and 2 hours from Edinburgh
- strongly liturgically focused in an Anglo-Catholic setting with a love of music in our worship

We are looking for a pastoral leader who:

- can help us develop our spiritual gifts
- will encourage and guide us as worshipping communities
- will work with us in our mission locally
- will actively visit the sick and housebound

We offer:

- A Victorian Rectory in Dunoon
- Stipend at the standard rate and reimbursement of expenses

For further information including parish profiles please contact: Mrs Maureen McKellar, Vestry Secretary Holy Trinity Church, Eden Cottage, 45 Hill Street, Dunoon PA23 7AY, Argyll.  
Tel: 01369 703058 Email: [mpmckellar@aol.com](mailto:mpmckellar@aol.com)

Closing date for applications: 6 January 2010

This appointment is subject to enhanced disclosure checks.

Interviews have been set for the first week in February, so we are at last underway in our search for a new Rector. Please pray for the team involved in the interviewing and for the right person to apply and be chosen.

## Meet Maureen McKellar



*When did you first come to Holy Trinity?*

I first came to Holy Trinity in November 1992 when we came for the weekend. I came for the odd service from 2004 when we bought our cottage as a holiday cottage. We moved to Dunoon in January 2006.

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

Neil and I lived in Lenzie, near Glasgow and worshipped in St Cyprian's Episcopal Church Lenzie. I actually grew up in Lenzie, and was confirmed in St. Cyprian's. I moved away to various parts of the Central Belt and moved back to Lenzie with Neil in 1991. I have worked in Human Resources or personnel for more than 20 years and in the summer of 2001, while I was working for Railtrack, I was 'head-hunted' by Wood Group (an energy services company) to go to Aberdeen as Human Resources Director.

In 2006 I decided to give up full time work to spend more time with Neil and my Mother and we moved to Dunoon temporarily, until we found somewhere else. Neil was born in Dunoon and I loved it, so we stayed

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

I thought when I was not working full time, I might find it difficult to pass my time. I seem to

be busier than ever! I enjoy music of all types and am learning to play the piano. I love craftwork - needlework, card making, jewellery making, dolls housing (I now own the dolls house made for my Mum and my Aunt in 1930 by their uncle.) Photography is another passion which, of course, led to me meeting Neil who lectured on a course I attended.

*What do you like about Holy Trinity?*

I love the Episcopal form of service - I was baptised as a child and have attended church since, worshipping in many different Episcopal churches. At Holy Trinity I love the liturgy, the music, the building and of course, I feel at home and welcomed by the people.

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

I am currently Secretary to the Vestry. I didn't realise until recently, it also meant play an active role during a vacancy, in terms of organising interviews, placing advertisements, pulling together interview packs - it has felt just like my old day job, but happily I loved my day job! I am also the Co-ordinator on the Vestry for the Buildings working with Graham Revill and the Fabric Committee to organise all the work. And, of course, I edit Holy Trinity News. All jobs I enjoy.

*What is your favourite hymn and why?*

I love most hymns, traditional and modern - special favourites are the ones we had at our wedding 'Morning has Broken', 'the Servant Song' and Lord Whose Power has called to Being' written by Bishop Michael Hare-Duke.. I also particularly love the seasonal hymns, Advent, Christmas, Passiontide, Easter and Pentecost.

If I must really choose only one, I think it would have to be; 'Dear Lord and Father of Mankind'. It has a beautiful tune and words that are the essence of the Christian Faith - our calling to love and serve God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and serve others.

## Growing Together



### The Annunciation

The angel and the girl are met.  
Earth was the only meeting place.  
For the embodied never yet  
Travelled beyond the shore of space.  
The eternal spirits in freedom go.

See, they have come together, see,  
While the destroying minutes flow,  
Each reflects the other's face  
Till heaven in hers and earth in his  
Shine steady there. He's come to her  
From far beyond the farthest star,  
Feathered through time. Immediacy  
Of strangest strangeness is the bliss  
That from their limbs all movement takes.  
Yet the increasing rapture brings  
So great a wonder that it makes  
Each feather tremble on his wings.

Outside the window footsteps fall  
Into the ordinary day  
And with the sun along the wall  
Pursue their unreturning way.  
Sounds perpetual roundabout  
Rolls its numbered octaves out  
And hoarsely grinds its battered tune.

But through the endless afternoon  
These neither speak nor movement make,  
But stare into their deepening trance  
As if their gaze would never break

Edwin Muir 1887-1959

## Fabric

Northern Steeplejacks arrived during the heavy rain 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and fixed the loose cross and slates round about it.

While Northern Steeplejacks were on site, the Architect visited, discussing the steps involved in fixing the rot, and giving advice on the planning of the remainder of the remedial and development work on the Church building.

McNees, the builder removed all the plasterwork in the Sacristy and corridor prior to Wise Property eradicating the rot which is scheduled for week of 7<sup>th</sup> December. Unfortunately a new patch of rot has been discovered in the Lady Chapel, so Wise Property will advise on that.

The work necessary on the Rectory is scheduled to begin the first week back to work in the New Year.

Maureen McKellar

## Vestry Report

The Vestry met on 19<sup>th</sup> November.

In addition to the usual items of priest cover through the Vacancy, update on property matters and update from the Pastoral Co-ordinator, the Vestry discussed the process for recruiting a new priest, following the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> November with the Diocese. We discussed the sort of questions that we would like asked at interview and selected the three Vestry members to take part in the interviewing team to join representatives from St. Paul's, St. Martin's and the Dean..

The Treasurer reported that the accounts had been audited and there was discussion about preparations for the Annual Meeting. There was agreement that small cards could be used for those giving by standing order to allow their offering to be blessed.

There was discussion about the place of notices in the Sunday Morning Worship and it was agreed to have them before the service for a trial period.

The next meeting will be held in December.

## 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.



## The Organist Writes

The organist is currently reinstating his bookshelves after a redecoration saga, and keeps reading the books he finds instead of merely dusting them and putting them away. So, from The Cassock Pocket Book (RSCM), he offers this for your delectation:

Oft in danger, oft in woe  
Church musicians come and go,  
Undismayed by petty strife,  
Guardians of a way of life.

Through the ages, one by one,  
Organists have come and gone;  
Each one voted more and more  
Tiresome than the one before.

....

If the vicar says he must  
Have a certain tune, or bust,  
One thing's certain, you may bet –  
That is not what he will get.

But the clergy always may  
Have the last, the final say.  
So a tit-for-tat ensues,  
Each one sticking to his views.

There is more, much more, but not more space....

Do support the Advent Carol Service on 6<sup>th</sup>  
December at 3pm!

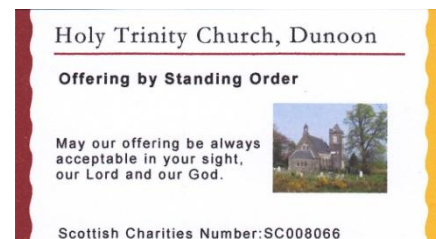
John  
Organist

## Lay Training

A Lay Training Day has been organised for us and St. Paul's by Alison Clark, Diocesan Learning and Development Officer and Christine McIntosh. This will take place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January in Cumbrae. It is designed to help anyone who assists with worship or who would like to assist. We would like a good turnout from Holy Trinity. It sounds like it will be very beneficial. If you would like to know more, please speak to Christine. If you are able to come, please tell either Christine or Maureen McKellar.

## From the Counting House

At the Annual Meeting small cards were shown which will sit at the back of the church. These are for the use of those who give by standing orders. They can be placed in the collection plate and the offering is then blessed. This also saves the plate being passed.



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.

Remember if you pay tax, it is worth gift-aiding any amount in the collection plate over £2.

At the Annual Meeting, Wylie & Bisset were re-elected as the Auditors for another year. Many thanks to them, and to Richard for all their work.

Chrissie,  
Treasurer

## The £50 Pledge Challenge

### *Silk Painting Workshop*

The silk painting workshop was held in the Rectory on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November. Altogether we had 11 people who came to be taught by Linda McClarkin. Some of the more artistic among us managed some lovely designs for cards. Others managed a small Christmas tree or a star. We all had fun and the roof fund benefited from over £100. Linda has offered to come back in the spring and do a part 2 so that we can make a scarf. Let Maureen McKellar know if you are interested – even if you could not make the last time you would be welcome.

### *Cards*

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

### *Flea Market*

Due to other commitments Holy Trinity did not do the Flea market in November but will take a table in the New Year. So any items that could be sold, 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.

## Christmas Decoration



The Church will be decorated for Christmas on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December from 10.00am. If you can help in any way by gifting flowers or helping arrange them, do please come. We also need some tall, strong people (?men) to help put up the Christmas tree.

## Fundraising made Easy

**The Easy Fundraising web site has now made us £35 to date.**

This is a fantastic effort and is producing money we would not have had without it costing us anything. Anyone who has a computer can use it. Tell all your friends about it. It really is very easy to use.

Just to remind you, here is what it is about:

**Easyfundraising** is a shopping directory listing some of your favourite online stores, including Argos, Next, Amazon, Debenhams, John Lewis, Toys R Us, HMV and over 2000 other top name stores. Whenever you shop with any one of them using the links provided on the **easyfundraising** site, you'll generate a **free** donation for us of up to 15% of the purchase price every time! It really is that simple!

It's completely FREE to register and **you won't pay a penny more for your shopping** when you use the easyfundraising site. In fact you can even SAVE MONEY as many retailers give discounts, special offers and even 'e-vouchers' exclusive to easyfundraising.

You can shop for holidays, flights, electronics, mobile phones, computing equipment, food, wine, pet supplies, finance, insurance and much more - and every purchase you make will raise funds for us at absolutely no cost to you!

All you need to do is register for free at <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/htcdunoon> and then use easyfundraising every time you shop online.

The Vestry thank Susan Watling for setting it up and being the Administrator.

## No Small Talk Lunches

These have been postponed until the New Year.

## Notable dates – Dec/Jan

Sun 6 Dec	Advent 2 - Sung Eucharist celebrated by Rev Paul Fletcher
Thurs 10 Dec	Evening Prayer 5.15
Sun 13 Dec	Advent 3 – Sung Eucharist celebrated by Rev Canon Hugh Lee
Thurs 17 Dec	Evening Prayer 5.15
Sun 20 Dec	Advent 4 - Sung Eucharist celebrated by Rev Canon Hugh Lee
Thurs 24 Dec	Christmas Eve – Sung Eucharist with incense 11.30pm celebrated by Rev Canon Hugh Lee
Fri 25 Dec	Christmas Day – 10.30 Sung Eucharist celebrated by the Rev Canon Hugh Lee
Sunday 27 Dec	Christmas 1 – Sung Eucharist celebrated by Rev Canon Hugh Lee
Sunday 29 Nov	Advent Sunday – Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament
Thurs 31 Dec	No Evening Prayer
Sun 3 Jan	Christmas 2 – Service 10.30am

## Readings

Advent 2	Baruch 5, 1-9 or Malachi 3, 1-4 Philippians 1, 3-11 Luke 3, 1-6
Advent 3	Zephaniah 3, 14-20 Philippians 4, 4-7 Luke 3, 7-18
Advent 4	Micah 5, 2-5a Hebrews 10, 5-10 Luke 1 39-45 (46-55)
Christmas 1	1 Samuel 2, 18-20, 26 Colossians 3, 12-17 Luke 2, 41-52
Christmas 2	Jeremiah 31, 7-14 or Sirach 24, 1-12 Ephesians 1, 3-14 John 1 (1-9) 10-18

## 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](mailto:mpmckellar@aol.com) or by post to: Maureen McKellar, Eden Cottage, 45 Hill Street, Dunoon PA23 7AY