



# 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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## Welcome to the Swift Family

We are all delighted to welcome Andrew, Mary, Elly, Peter and Frances among us. We pray that they settle well in the area and that their ministry and ours may be enriched and produce much fruit in the Cowal Peninsula.

We also welcome all visitors and guests present for the Service of Introduction. We appreciate having you with us and hope you enjoy learning a little about us through this Newsletter. We would love to see any of you back with us any time.

A number of us found Hugh's sermon on Trinity Sunday very special. I requested some notes from him to write about it, and he spent much time and effort and has produced a written version for us which has been used in its entirety. Thank you so much Hugh it really does speak to a lot of us.

## Episcopal Election

### Argyll and The Isles Diocese

The Electoral Synod met on 13 May 2010 and adjourned after discussion. The result of this is that the right of election will lapse to the Episcopal Synod, as provided in Canon 4 of the Church's Code of Canons.

This means the Bishops will now consider suitable candidates and we wait in anticipation.

Let us continue to pray that the right person is called and chosen to lead our Diocese. Let us also remember all the Bishops in our prayers as they consider who is right as next Bishop of Argyll and The Isles.

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## What's Ahead

Sunday June 6<sup>th</sup> – First service led by our new Priest

Thursdays at 5.15pm – resumption of Eucharist.

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June – Fund raising event, Great Eachaig Raft Race at Benmore

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June – Ceilidh & Supper at Uig Hall (see details on page 7)

## Dates for the Diary

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Sea Sunday

## Comments & Clippings

The Dean has completed his planned hospital treatment in Edinburgh and says he is beginning to feel stronger .

## Trinity Sunday

What is human wisdom but a noise that reaches the ear!

Firstly let me quote from Arch Bishop Romero of El Salvador who was assassinated 30 years ago.

'I would not want human wisdom & eloquence to intervene in my poor speech because I would be giving you the world's vanity and not the wisdom of the Crucified.

What is my word, what is human wisdom but a noise that reaches the outer ear? But from the ear to the heart lies a road that only God can travel.'

Here are two thoughts for us to meditate on - 'The wisdom of the Crucified & From the ear to the heart is a road that only God can travel.

The proper name for this Sunday, which we call Trinity Sunday, is 'The solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity'. Not an event like Christmas or Easter nor the commemoration of a person like St Peter or St Columba.

It is a most awesome dedication for a congregation to bear. Saints have their feet of clay and so we excuse ourselves when we fail, but to have as our dedication the very Being of God and his infinite love calls us to the highest heights.

It is the feast that commemorates a Doctrine formulated in the face of heresy. Our word orthodox is used to express two slightly different Greek words. We usually use it to speak of something being 'right belief' but in the Eastern Church it means 'right worship' and the Athanasius creed speaks in those terms. 'we worship one God in Trinity, and the Trinity in Unity'. The teaching is implicit in scripture as in today's Gospel (John 16:12-15) but more especially it has been the experience of the Christian community from the earliest times. In our worship and prayers we find that we cannot separate God the Father from God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

An analogy that can be given is the sun. It has a material mass, it gives light and it gives warmth. Without the sun we would not exist. Without its light we would stumble in darkness. Iguanas and other creatures need to bask in its heat before they can even move each day. In the same way without God the Father, our creator we would not exist. Without the light of the Son we stumble in moral darkness and without the life giving warmth of the Holy Spirit we are spiritually dead.

St Paul wrote 'Now we see in a mirror dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know in part , but then **I will know fully even as I am known.**'

The penetrating love of God has searched our very being, even those parts which we hide from ourselves. We are fully known. Our first hymn spoke of '*though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see*'

We are called on a journey on which our sight is restored so that 'then we will know fully even as we are known', and our hearts respond to God's love for us to begin to penetrate the mystery of God, who has revealed himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Our Christian journey began with our baptism 'In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; and as we die the words of commendation are 'go forth on thy journey O Christian soul, in the Name of God the Father, who created thee, In the Name of God the Son who redeemed thee, in the Name of God the Holy Spirit who sanctified thee'. Our lives are 'hid with Christ in God' - Our living, our redemption, our transfiguration.

The 'wisdom of the crucified' is God's way. 'We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ' (today's epistle). Peace - the rupture of our sin is healed. We are called to that same pattern, where the love of God, poured into our hearts by his Holy Spirit, supports us 'in our suffering, knowing that suffering leads to endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope and hope does not disappoint us.'

The wisdom of the Crucified is God's way – there can be no other for us. But from the ear to the heart lies a road that only God can travel.

You await your new priest. The success or otherwise of his ministry among you will be entirely dependent upon you. He will preach to you 'the wisdom of the Crucified' but whether it travels the road that lies from the ear to the heart will be dependent on your willingness to allow God's love to penetrate your hearts.

© Hugh Lee



We celebrated our Patronal Festival in style. After a wonderful service, we had cake with our coffee and socialising. We noted that it was 160 years since Holy Trinity had been built and consecrated.



## Prayer



Father, behold thy child:  
Creator, behold thy creature:

Master, behold thy disciple:  
Saviour, behold thy redeemed one:

Spirit, behold thy cleansed one:  
Comforter, behold one whom thou dost uphold:

So I come to thee,  
O infinite and unimaginable,  
To worship thee.

Margaret Cropper (1886-1980)  
from **Draw Near** (SPCK, 1957)

## Meet our new Priest

### The Reverend Andrew Swift



*Tell us a little bit about your background before you were ordained?*

I have travelled in a few directions on my journey to Cowal & Bute! I was a chartered mechanical engineer, initially trained in the Royal Air Force. I left the RAF pretty early on to join the Admiralty in Rosyth, working in research and development on ship structures. From there I joined the shipbuilding industry and ended up part of the design and management teams for the Type 45 Daring destroyers and, just before I went to theological college, the Queen Elizabeth class aircraft carriers. While all this was going on I also had a church journey! I grew up as a catholic in Dunblane, but was married in St John's Episcopal church in Stranraer and our Scottish-born children were baptized as Episcopalians. Mary grew up as an Episcopalian in Stranraer. I was officially received as an Episcopalian by Bishop Idris in

Clarkston in 2000, just before we moved to England. Living near Bristol, I became a youth leader, lay worship leader and a church warden in a vacancy. We have moved a lot – Holy Trinity Rectory is the eighth house that Mary and I have lived in during nineteen years of marriage! The children have also got used to being mobile...

*What led to your calling to become a priest?*

While I was living in Glasgow, working for a naval consultancy, I had a strong sense that God wanted something more from me, something different in my life. I explored the possibilities of charitable work, humanitarian organisations and so forth – but I kept on coming back to the church and priesthood! As a married Roman Catholic, a priestly vocation didn't seem practical, but after about ten years, becoming an Episcopalian, moving to England and having a spiritual journey that has occasionally made my hair stand on end, it became apparent that becoming an Anglican priest was what God has planned all along.

*What have you enjoyed most about your ministry in Gloucester?*

I have loved the people that I have met as a priest and a minister. Some of those are members of the church and some are not, just the people of the city and the surrounding areas. It has been an amazing privilege to walk with people through some incredibly rich and challenging times in their lives and to try and help them to meet God through their Christian journey. I also love the idea of a priest as a 'walking sacrament': by walking around and meeting strangers and friends alike, a priest is a visible sign that the church is living in a community and that the body of Christ is working away in the world today. It has been incredibly hard to say goodbye to so many friends in Gloucester, and the cards and e-mails have been so wonderful. We bring many, many prayers and warm wishes with us to Cowal & Bute!

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

There is always a danger that church can swamp everything, but with three active children there is always family as a welcome distraction. We have our narrowboat, Dalriada, currently moored in Kirkintilloch, and I enjoy sailing her and also getting coveralls on and going down into the bilges to work on her systems – once a naval engineer, always a naval engineer, perhaps! I also love painting and drawing, reading all sorts of stuff, hacking about with computers and the internet, cycling, good coffee... the list is so long I don't really know where to stop! What am I passionate about? I really get passionate about a church community being a welcoming, warm, transforming place where hurt people can be healed and made whole by being drawn closer to this amazing person Jesus Christ! It sounds a bit off-pat, but that is what I really get excited about – I am amazingly fortunate that that is my day-job!

*What are your first impressions of Holy Trinity?*

I love what I have seen. Everybody I have met has been warm and positive and welcoming. As a church, I sense that you are in good spirits, even after such a long vacancy. You love your worship and your music, but you are also friends, and enjoy each other's company. Your buildings are wonderful, even if they need a bit of tender loving care to get them back to their original state. My first impressions of the Scottish Episcopal church in Cowal and Bute are very positive. I am looking forward to the next few years of journeying with Holy Trinity, St Martin's and St Paul's!

*Is music important to you? What sort of music do you like? What is your favourite hymn and why?*

Music is very important to me, as a listener and as a singer. I learned to play the trombone as a child, but don't currently play anything! I listen to a wide range of music, as a glance at my iPod would reveal. I love popular classical music and modern

rock and pop, although my children would disagree with the word 'modern', I suspect. I relax with gentle reflective music and a wide range of Christian and religious music. I have Delirious in my playlists, a leading Christian rock band, and also Benedictine chants from a monastery in California! I love to sing, from chant as part of worship, to choral music (at which I work hard to be competent) to just singing for the love of it! I have many hymns that I love, some of which we will sing at the services of introduction on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June, but 'Crown Him with Many Crowns' is probably my favourite. This hymn, scheduled for the Rothesay service, has such a strong melody in Diademata and Bridges' rich theological imagery in the lyrics is awe-inspiring. The final verse is my favourite, with its richness of language:


Crown Him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time,  
 Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.  
 All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou has died for me;  
 Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.



## Message from + Martin

Dear Maureen,  
 Perhaps it is inappropriate to be proud of what you and the Cowal Episcopalians have achieved with regard to the appointment of Andrew Swift as Priest in Charge of Holy Trinity and St Martins. Presumably the arrangement includes St Paul's Rothesay, Elspeth and I would like to be with you all on 5th June and appreciate receiving the invitation. For obvious reasons, we regret that we will not be with you.  
 May God bless you and all concerned at this exciting time.  
 You are all in my prayers  
 In the love of God  
 Martin

## Message from the Primus



THE MOST REVD DAVID CHILLINGWORTH  
 Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane  
 Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church

Mrs M McKellar  
 Eden Cottage  
 45 Hill Street  
 Dunoon PA23 7AY


17<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Dear Mrs McKellar

Thank you very much for your invitation to the Service of Introduction for the Reverend Andrew Swift on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

I am very sorry that I won't be able to join you. I am writing simply to express my support and good wishes to you, your congregation and your new Priest In Charge at the start of his new ministry. I hope and pray that this will be fruitful and creative for all of you.

With all good wishes.



The Most Reverend David Chillingworth  
 Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane

Diocesan Office, 28A Balhousie Street, Perth, PH1 5HJ  
 Tel: +44 (0)1738 580426 Email: bishop@standrews.anglican.org  
 www.standrews.anglican.org www.bishopdavid.net

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## The Organist Writes

The vacancy has been a long journey, but as we reach the end of it (Andrew will be with us by the time you read this), I hope that we might again have the time and energy to get together for a sing at some stage, to learn new repertoire and have some fun at the same time – remember Psalms and Psalms? Watch this space.

Forthcoming attraction: The Russians (Voskresenje - from Russia with Love).

John

## Easyfundraising

We have now made over £120 on our **Easyfundraising** site. That is a fantastic achievement. If you haven't tried yet, please do have a go. Use it for buying things and tell your friends. It is very easy. You pay the same or less than you would in the high street from all your favourite shops AND Holy Trinity benefits. Susan Watling will help if you ask her. Soon we will have little cards to put beside your computer to remind you.

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

## Fundraising Team News

The Fundraising Team is busy planning and preparing for two events in June. At the first we are taking the opportunity of showing face at a local event. The second is as much a social occasion as it is a fundraising event.

On Saturday 19th June – the start is usually at around 1.30 p.m. We are joining in the Great Eachaig Raft Race. Over the years this event evolved from the Benmore and Rashfield Show previously held in September. This event has become a traditional family fun day on the River Eachaig at Benmore and at the Uig Hall.

Holy Trinity will be represented on at least one raft. As this Newsletter goes to print water levels are unusually low. A great deal of ingenuity will be required by rafters to travel the course at all. The race ends at the bridge at the Uig Hall where you will find stalls selling food and drink and entertainment. Members of Holy Trinity will be running a coconut shy to raise funds too.

Support for all rafters is always very welcome and when struggling over the shallows can be an enormous help. Afterwards there is plenty of time to meet friends and have a good time.

Come and support the Holy Trinity rafters and do not forget to try your hand at the coconut shy.

On Friday 25th June – 7.30 p.m. to approximately 11 p.m.

Holy Trinity is hosting its very own Ceilidh and Supper at the Uig Hall. The Uig Hall has good parking and disabled access. (The hall has been renovated by a small group of volunteers and now boasts a new kitchen).

The programme for the evening will include some good old fashioned and well known ceilidh dances like the St Bernard's Waltz, The Gay Gordons and (Gay Gordons Two Step), Eva Three Step, Britannia Two Step, The Pride of Erin Waltz and many more. We may even venture into some Scottish Country Dances – a Dashing White

Sargent and Broun's Reel, and if we are all feeling energetic can Strip the Willow. There may be some singing too.

Above all this is an evening for socialising – there will be a break for a finger buffet and shorter breaks for talking and for meeting the Swifts and catching up with friends in a relaxed fun environment between dances.

It has been decided not to set a ticket price. As this is a fundraising event a suggested donation of £7.50 per person for the evening will be welcomed.

Live music will be provided by The Old Bores, there will be a good spread of food and a great opportunity to relax with friends and enjoy ourselves. We will not be running a bar, but there will be soft drinks and bottles of water available for sale and we are all welcome to bring our own favourite tipple along.

Pauline Revill

## From the Counting House

Thank you for all your flowerpot donations at Pentecost. We raised more than £450. If you still have a flower pot at home, it is not too late to hand it in, just put it on the plate on a Sunday (with a gift aid form completed if appropriate).

We are beginning to hear back from the grant aid bodies we applied to for help and we have had some generous donations from members of the congregation. It looks like we will have sufficient funds to repair the tower very soon. There will be more about this in the next Newsletter.

Meanwhile our day to day giving needs to be maintained so that we can pay stipend, utility bills and all the ongoing expenses you hear about at our Annual Meeting.

With effect from 10<sup>th</sup> May, Richard McGilvray became Treasurer again with Chrissie Holliday still helping in the background.

The Treasury Team

## Notable dates – June/July

Sat 5 June	Service of Introduction of Andrew Swift 3.00pm
Sun 6 June	Pentecost 2 Sung Eucharist celebrated by Rev Andrew Swift
Thurs 10 June	Eucharist at 5.15pm
Sunday 13 June	Pentecost 3 Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament led by the Lay Team
Thurs 17 June	Eucharist at 5.15pm
Sat 19 June	Raft Race at Benmore from 1.30pm
Sun 20 June	Pentecost 4 Sung Eucharist
Thurs 24 June	Eucharist at 5.15pm
Fri 25 June	Ceilidh and Supper at the Uig Hall from 7.30pm
Sunday 27 June	Pentecost 5 Sung Eucharist
Thurs 1 July	Eucharist at 5.15pm
Sun 4 July	Pentecost 6 Sung Eucharist

## Readings

Pentecost 2	1 Kings 17,8-16 (17-24) Galatians 1, 11-24 Luke 7, 11-17
Pentecost 3	1 Kings 21, 1-10 (11-14) 15-21a Galatians 2, 15-21 Luke 7, 36 -8, 3
Pentecost 4	1 Kings 19, 1-4 (5-7) 8-15a Galatians 3, 23-29 Luke 8, 26-39
Pentecost 5	2 Kings 2, 1-2, 6-14 Galatians 5, 1 13-25 Luke 9, 51-62
Pentecost 6	2 Kings 5, 1-14 Galatians 6, (1-6), 7-16 Luke 10, 1-11, 16-20

## Church Contact Points

Name	Contact
Rector	Rev Andrew Swift (702444) from 5/6/10
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	Richard McGilvray (830116)
Organist	John McIntosh (703304)
Book Group	Di Tennent (840779)
House Groups	Rector
Mission to Seafarers	Pauline Revill (704731)
Christian Aid	Brian Dineley (870073)
Bible Study	Rector
Coffee Rota	Pauline Revill (704731)
Flower Arranging	Ann Narraway (830400)
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