

# Views From the Hill



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Winter/Spring 2013 Volume 7, Issue 1

## From the Rector



Dear friends – welcome to the first 2013 edition of ‘Views from the Hill’, the newsletter of Holy Trinity Scottish Episcopal Church.

2013 promises to be a busy and an exciting year for our church community.

This year will see the end of my initial three years with you (more on which in the summer) – and it is pretty clear that things are going well enough that we will be able to continue together for some more time to come.

As you will read in this issue, we are now confident that the restoration work so urgently needed for our building will be beginning, after much hard work from so many people. The contractor is being selected, the work plan refined, the next phases of money applied for. We will find ourselves displaced from our beautiful building for worship for some time this year. This will present both challenges and opportunities to try things differently.

Our now ‘usual’ programme of fundraising events, from the summer fair to bag packing in the Co-op, as well as varied and interesting ‘challenges’ will continue to give us opportunities to meet socially, raise our profile in our wider community and raise much needed funds!

The life of our church community revolves around our worshipping community, of course. The Sundays and Thursdays every week have a comforting seasonal heartbeat, and it is wonderful that people come and see what we are doing and then often continue to come. The renovation of the building, raising funds for ministry, all the activities we do are based around keeping a healthy, God-centred worshipping community alive. My thanks to all in

the Lay Team and on all the rotas who do much to help in this, of course.

Other excitement and challenges face us. The new vestry, a mix of old and new members, will meet in January and onwards to begin their task of prayerfully and wisely guiding the charge in its management and stewardship. A modern charity requires committed people who are not afraid to get their hands dirty as they get on with business. The vestry carry this burden with great humour and competence.

So, so sum up, what are my hopes and resolutions for us this year in Dunoon and in Cowal and Bute?

...I hope and pray that we will continue on our journey.  
...that we will grow in confidence as a Christian community  
...that we will deepen our relationship with God through prayer and worship

and that we will continue to be a worshipping community where people are drawn, again and again, to encounter the living God.

Bless you all.

### Annual Meeting Report

We had a good attendance at our Annual Meeting on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2012. The Rector was in the chair and took us through all the business very competently.

Maureen McKellar spoke to the Treasurer's Report explaining that the new Constitution adopted earlier in the year allowed a Draft Report and Accounts to be presented to the Annual Meeting and thus enabled an Annual Meeting to be held earlier. (The Report and Accounts were signed off by the Independent Examiner later in November with no changes.) The Treasurer explained that not only had Holy Trinity managed to break even against budget, there was a small surplus of £694. In addition the drawdown of investments of £5,000 from the previous year had been reinvested. She added that that was a great effort. She said in addition Holy Trinity had succeeded in raising almost all the partnership funding required to receive the Heritage Lottery/ Historic Scotland grant. This had been done by the generous donations from the congregation, much effort in fundraising and help from the Government in terms of changes to the rules on VAT reclaim. The Treasurer reiterated that everyone had worked really hard to make this a very successful financial year. She cautioned against complacency, however, given that the stipend support from the Province was reducing from 50% to 35% in the year 2012/13 and further reducing thereafter. She added that the fundraising needed to continue if other work such as the toilet installation and new heating system were to be considered. The Accounts were adopted and the Independent Examiners re-appointed.

Ann Narraway, Lay Representative spoke briefly to her report which had been circulated and Pauline Revill, Secretary, presented the Vestry Report which had been circulated.

The Rector presented his report. He said he felt that Holy Trinity felt like a warm community. He said he thought the profile of Holy Trinity had been raised considerably since he came and that the church was experiencing a period of growth. He said that some of what Holy Trinity has been through was being experienced elsewhere in the Diocese and we were being used as an example for other charges of what was possible. The Rector said he loved being Priest at Holy Trinity and thought that there was much work and many challenges ahead. He added that he

saw many encouraging things happening here. He said that he expected to be doing more Diocesan work ahead in his new role as Dean.

Elections were conducted and the following people elected:

Ann Narraway as Lay Representative  
Di Tennent as Alternate Lay Representative  
Val Taylor as Priest's Warden  
Dinkie McEwen as People's Warden  
Maureen McKellar as Vestry Member  
Liz Gorman as Vestry Member  
Louisa Grant as Vestry Member

The Rector gave an update on the building situation and the Restoration Project (see separate article).

There was no other competent business and the meeting closed.

### The Installation of The Very Reverend Andrew Swift as Canon of The Cathedral of The Isles, Cumbrae



All Welcome - Please sign up on the list in Church for numbers & to share Transport

## Treasury Team Report

We ended the financial year (30 September) with a surplus of £694 which was a great effort as that included re-investing the £5,000 we drew down from the investments. The 2011/12 accounts were signed off by the Independent Examiner in November and the OSCR report has been completed.

We are now at the end of the first quarter and I am pleased to report the giving has exceeded budget by a small amount. That is very good news and we need to do our best to maintain that throughout the year.

Meanwhile our expenditure has been in line with budget. We monitor carefully all our outgoings against budget each month so that we have no nasty surprises at the year end. From January onwards our monthly contribution to ministry expenses has risen from £1600 to £1700 and we will begin to feel the effect of the reduction in stipend support from 50% to 35%.

As far as fundraising is concerned, the Ceilidh raised £319, Christmas Fair £1014, Easy Fundraising £38 and card sales £21. Allowing for hall hire and advertising the total for fundraising for general funds was £1304 in the quarter which is an excellent effort.

The hamper raised £272 but that was toward the matched funding for the Restoration Project. We also received two grants one of £1000 from the Society of Antiquaries and one of £750 from the Cruach Trust towards the Restoration Project.

The Rectory path was repaired at a cost of £1110 taken from the Appeal Fund.

In summary, a good beginning to the financial year, which we need to maintain in order to break even at the year- end or hopefully again have a small surplus.

Many thanks to everyone for their continued support and particular thanks to the other members of the Treasury Team - the Rector for assistance and overview, Mary Swift for the books and Gift Aid and Ann Narraway for banking and cash.

Maureen McKellar Treasurer & Paying Officer

## What does it cost to run our church?

This question was asked at last year's annual meeting. The answer is not too complicated. The vast majority of the running costs of our church are the cost of employing a full-time stipendiary priest. This cost of ministry, shared with St Paul's Rothesay, is also supported with provincial and diocesan grants. The total cost of ministry is over £40,000 per year.

The real sense of the question, however, was the day to day running costs of Holy Trinity as church and rectory buildings. This year there will be a significant capital expenditure on conserving the fabric of the church to prevent water ingress and to start to make good many years of water damage. But there is a regular cost of heating, lighting, maintaining and insuring our fabric. To answer the question, the figures for 2011-12 (or budget figures where 2011-12 was unusual) are shown below:

Church costs:

Heating and Lighting costs	£1,872
Buildings and Contents Insurance	£1,802
Minor repairs (not grant funded)	£1,090
Grounds – winter salt, summer mowing	£686
Worship – catering costs	£510
Flowers & Christmas Tree	£113

Rectory costs (heating and light are borne by the incumbent)

Council Tax	£1,921
Repairs (normal budget)	£1,500
Telephone & internet	£468
Gas maintenance Contract	£240
Buildings Insurance	£290

The rectory costs are included in the ~£40,000 ministry costs so are shared with Rothesay, but have been shown for completeness.

It is an expensive business to run a church and a full-time priest, so may I express my gratitude for the generosity of congregation in allowing us to do this. In the next magazine we will again discuss our finances and the inevitable need to keep reviewing our giving levels. My thanks to you all. Andrew.

# Holy Trinity Newsletter

## Vestry Report

The Vestry met briefly after the Annual Meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> November and on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

The purpose of the first meeting is for the Vestry to elect a Treasurer and Secretary. Maureen McKellar was re-elected Treasurer.

The Rector reported that Pauline Revill had asked to stand down as Secretary and as an interim measure Maureen McKellar had agreed to be Acting Secretary. He therefore proposed that Maureen McKellar be appointed Secretary. The question was raised as to whether that was too great a workload and the Rector confirmed that given the way the Treasurer's role had been split and due to the Restoration project, it would not prove problematic on a temporary basis. The meeting approved the proposal.

It was agreed that Vestry meetings would be held approximately every two months and that a training session would be held soon.

At the meeting on 15 January the Rector welcomed everyone to the meeting and particularly to Liz and Louisa who had just been elected to the Vestry.

In the Rector's report he discussed the proposed Vestry training session. He talked about the recent Experience Christmas that had taken place in Dunoon Grammar School. He added that he had received feedback from those pupils who had attended and the feedback was positive.

The Treasurer reported on the financial position for the quarter. She talked the Vestry through income and expenditure against budget and reported that so far progress was good but that we could not be complacent. She reminded the Vestry that stipend support from the Province would be 35% this year instead of the 50% it has been.

The Rector and the Treasurer updated the Vestry on the progress of the Restoration Project and the Treasurer confirmed that the application to Heritage Lottery Fund for the delivery income had been submitted on 14<sup>th</sup> January as agreed.

The Rector reviewed with the Vestry the Advent and Christmas services under the Worship agenda item and then looked forward to Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

There were updates from St Paul's, Rothesay, the Diocese and other churches in Dunoon area. We discussed the up and coming World Day of Prayer on 1<sup>st</sup> March and the ecumenical services for Holy Week.

There were the usual discussions on fabric for church, grounds and rectory. The Rector has applied for a government grant for a new heating system and improved insulation for the Rectory as the old boiler failed an inspection at the recent service.

There was an update from the Events Group on the proposed bag pack in March and it was agreed that the challenges should be encouraged.

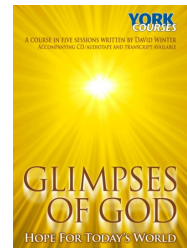
Maureen McKellar, Secretary to the Vestry

## Holy Trinity 2013

# Lent Course

## Glimpses of God Hope For Today's World

We live in turbulent times. In this course Canon David Winter draws on the Bible as he shows where we can find strength and encouragement as we live through the 21st century. Under the title Glimpses of God, this course brings a message of hope.



**Session 1** – The God who hears our cry

**Session 2** – The Shepherd who guides and guards his people

**Session 3** – The Son who is the Way, Truth and Life

**Session 4** – The God who shares our pain

**Session 5** – The God who calms our fears

Sign up for your course booklet in church (£3.50)

More details from Andrew on 01369 702444 or email [rev.andrew@familyswift.org.uk](mailto:rev.andrew@familyswift.org.uk)

**Venue:** The Rectory

**Time:** Thursdays at 1.30pm

**Dates:** Feb: 14, 21, 28 and March: 14 & 21

## What's happening in Holy Trinity?

As you can see from the Vestry & Treasury Team reports elsewhere in the magazine we have had a very successful start to the year with our fundraising events. So a huge THANK YOU to everyone who has come along and helped or supported the Ceilidh and Christmas Fair. A special thanks to Maureen McKellar & Dorothy Scriven for all their hard work on the 'Luxury Christmas Hamper' challenge and congratulations to Eleanor Hollie and Gwen Miller who won the two hampers! – Have you got a challenge you would like to do?

This month we are looking forward to our social outing to Cumbrae on the 26<sup>th</sup> to attend the installation of The Dean & Provost as Canons of The Cathedral of The Isles. With both a pre service lunch & post service refreshments this promises to be a good day out!

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February we are having an 'afternoon at the movies' – this will have a musical twist as we plan to watch the film of the stage show of Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical 'Jesus Christ Superstar' on our own big screen! Tickets priced at £5 are available from Mary Swift or Pauline Revill and include tea & cakes after the film. Doors open at 2pm for our 2.15 showing at St Mun's Hall. Everyone is welcome so bring your friends along.

Then it will be time for our annual 'Bag Pack' at the Co-Op in Dunoon to raise both our profile in the town & funds for the Restoration Project. This year we are packing from 10 till 6 on Friday and Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> of March. All volunteers are welcome - look out for the signup sheets which will appear in church soon, even if you can only do a short an hour it is a huge help – this is definitely a team effort!

Future plans include a quiz & baked potato evening at the end of April and our coffee morning in June so watch this space for more details of these nearer the time.

Thank you for your continued support.

The HT Events Team – Mary Swift, Pauline Revill, Susan Watling, Ann



**Holy Trinity Bag Pack**  
In aid of the Restoration Project  
**Dunoon Co-Op**  
**Friday & Saturday**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> March**  
**10am to 6pm**  
**VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED**  
Please sign up in Church  
All offers of help greatly appreciated!  
Thank You H. T. Events Team  
Details from: Jennifer Woodward / Mary Swift

## Holy Trinity Films - an afternoon at the musicals



Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. St Mun's Hall  
2pm for 2.15 showing

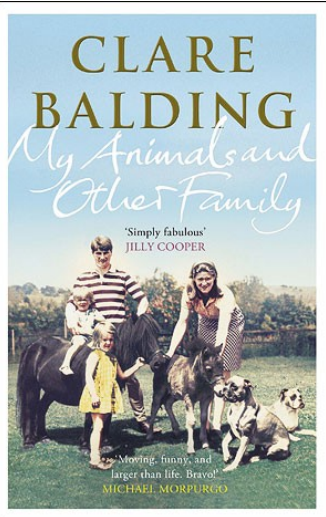
Tickets £5.00 including Tea & Cakes

All Welcome - bring your friends!

Tickets & details from Mary Swift (702444) or Pauline Revill



Holy Trinity Dunoon, Scottish Episcopal Church Scottish Charities no.SC008066



Book Group is next meeting on:  
**Thurs. 7th February**  
**at 11.30am**  
Eden Cottage, 45 Hill Street, Dunoon  
See Maureen McKellar for Directions!  
We will be discussing:  
**My Animals  
& Other Family**  
by Clare Balding  
All Welcome, Please Join Us!  
More details from: Di Tennent (840779)

Holy Trinity, Scottish Episcopal Church, Dunoon Scottish Charities no.SC008066

# Restoration Project Report

## Status

As of 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013, we have lodged our formal application to proceed to the full delivery phase of the restoration project. Much work has taken place on the specification for the work, obtaining tenders and refining the scope of the project to match the original budget and specification. If HLF are happy with the specification, the quote and the plans, then we should be given the go ahead to start this work.

## Specification & Quotes

The architects, ARPL of Ayr, produced a very detailed and comprehensive specification of ALL the work that could be done to conserve and restore the church building. This specification went well beyond the original scope of the HLF bid, and will form the basis for ongoing work AFTER this work is done.

Six contractors were invited to tender for this work, and all provided quotations. The lowest cost tender is now being used as the basis for the project, and all specification development work to be carried out will be discussed with this contractor.

The specification that is being submitted at this stage is:

- repairs to some areas of the roof structure (esp. rotten rafter ends)
- complete replacement of the nave floor (rotted at joist ends)
- restoration of several windows
- repointing of damaged stonework, especially at high level on tower, skews & walls
- repair of damaged roof lead
- repair of cracks on some internal walls
- stripping west wall of paint
- stripping narthex of plaster
- new electric wires & controls & lighting
- improved drainage around the church boundaries

The repaired/stripped internal surfaces of the church will be left unpainted for as long a period as possible, to allow the repaired walls to fully dry out.

## Fundraising

The work to raise our share of the funds for the project is nearly complete. We are now within the last £6,500 raised of the total £79,000 funding, and we have two 'live' grant applications awaiting responses. We have sufficient unrestricted money in the Appeal Fund to allow us to proceed with the next phase on schedule in 2013. We will, however, have to continue to fundraise to carry out some essential work that is not eligible for grant funding but must be done: a new tube heater in every pew once the new floor goes down must be done. More information on this and other costs will be given in later editions.

## Worship planning

While the church is being conserved, we will have to leave the building for health and safety reasons. It is hoped that our 'normal' place of worship for this period will be the High Kirk Hall, as offered most generously by the congregational board of that church.



"...and keep in mind that 'No' is still an answer."

## Holy Trinity Newsletter

### Experience Christmas at Dunoon Grammar 2012

A team of volunteers from HT, with help from Dunoon Baptist Church and the Church of Scotland, took the 'Experience Christmas' stations back into Dunoon Grammar School on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Five interactive stations were constructed, covering:

The Announcement (a simple kitchen where Mary meets the angel Gabriel)

The Promises (the wise men's mysterious study)

The Journey (from Nazareth to Bethlehem by donkey)

The Message (the shepherds' abandoned campsite after they ran to the stable)

The Gift (gathering around the crib)

All of S1 came in classes and moved around these stations, hearing the story and imagining their own response or part in the accounts. The volunteers did a wonderful job of teasing out questions and answers and guiding the young people through the event.

Mr Gair Porter, the head of Religious and Moral Education, was again delighted with the event, and provided some of the students' feedback:

"I thought the xmas experience was educational & fun. I liked the interactive bits in the xmas experience e.g. the nan bread"

"We loved the various stations and enjoyed experiencing the true meaning behind Christmas."

"If young children experienced it they would understand the story more. It was a very exciting part of our education and we shall never forget it :p"

"I found the Christmas experience really good and all the different activities we did were good because they were all a bit of the Christmas story. The people that did the different activities are really nice and were really generous. I liked Simon's station with the nan bread and the salt I really liked the part of the story Simon did I also really liked Mary's station where it was about the shepherds and

you also wrote a little thing for anyone on a little angel"

"I enjoyed the one you smelled all the other stuff and had a bit of paper and then put what you were give the wee baby as a gift."

"I gave the baby some money. It was a great time and i would love to do it again one day!!x"

It is planned to repeat the Easter and Christmas stations each year as part of the Religious and Moral Education activities in the school.



**World Day of Prayer**

**Friday 1st March**

**Service at**  
**The Matheson Church**  
**Innellan**  
**At 2pm**

**This year's service has been prepared by the women from the churches of France**

**All Welcome**

**More details in Church or from Ann Narraway**

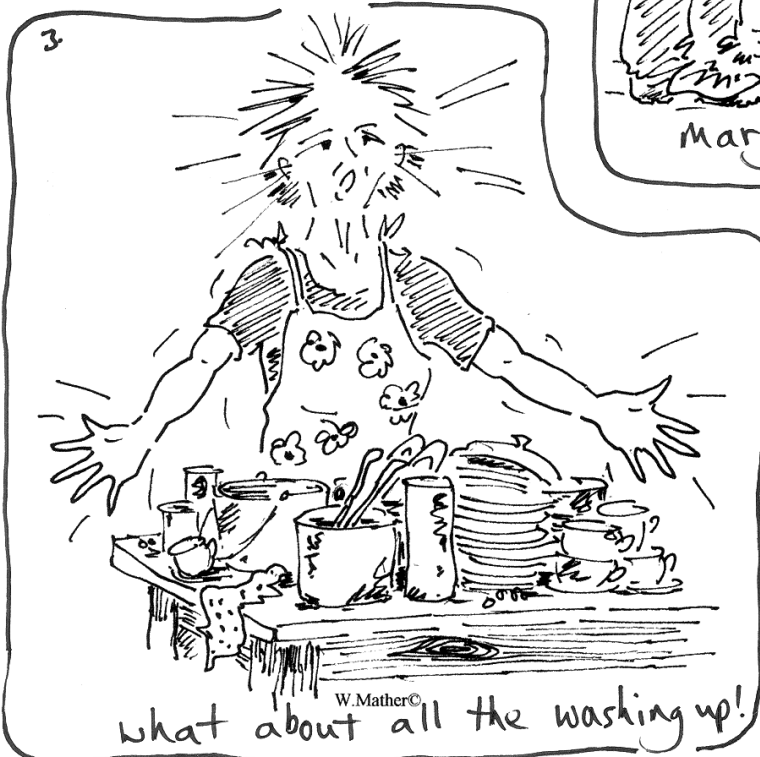
**Bible Sketchbook**

# Time to be a little less frenetic!



Let's try being a little bit less frenetic as we come into Lent. Martha was one of those people who welcomed Jesus into her house and her life but got so caught up with restless busyness that she couldn't hear what he was trying to say to her. Her sister Mary was different. She stopped. She sat at Jesus' feet. She listened and took in what he was saying. So despite all those things that need doing, let's make time to welcome Jesus into every area of our lives and go his way.

**Read more in Luke 10:38-42**





## Services

### Holy Trinity, Dunoon

Sundays: 10.30a.m. Eucharist

Thursdays: 5.30p.m. Holy Communion

## Church Contacts

Rector and Dean	V. Revd Andrew Swift	702444
People's Warden	Dinkie McEwen	705257
Rector's Warden	Val Taylor	702739
Lay Representative	Ann Narraway	830400
Acting Secretary	Maureen McKellar	703068
Vestry Treasurer	Maureen McKellar	703068
Organist	John McIntosh	703304

# Easyfundraising



As I write in the middle of January the total raised for Holy Trinity via the Easyfundraising website over the last 6 months is £100 & since we started the scheme a bit over 3 years ago we have made £652.09 for church ministry funds. This is testament indeed to the well known saying that 'every little helps'. You may not think you buy much on the internet or that the 10 pence Amazon will donate for your £4.00 book purchase isn't really worth the effort however when combined with everyone else's purchases those 10 pences do add up –

and it doesn't cost you a penny!

So how does it work?

Firstly you need to register (for free) with the Easyfundraising website at:

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hctdunoon> - then when you go to do your online shopping you log on to Easyfundraising and from there use the links to shop directly with the retailers as you normally would. You can shop with most major retailers through the site e.g. Amazon, M & S, Boots, Argos and many many more.....As long as you access these retailers via the link from Easyfundraising they will then donate a small percentage of the cost of whatever you purchase to Holy Trinity – but you still only pay the same as everyone else!

So if you use the internet but still haven't registered with Easyfundraising why not give it a go! If you are unsure or would like help to register please speak to the Swifts, Maureen McKellar or Susan Watling all of whom are happy to help.

## Holy Trinity Newsletter

### Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

1.00pm - Advent Group, 'The Scriptures Sing of Christmas', at the Rectory - Session 3

### Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2013 - Installation of Dean Andrew Swift & Provost Nicola McNelly as Canons of The Cathedral of The Isles, Cumbrae

1pm – Lunch followed by Service at 3pm & refreshments at 4pm

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2013 - Candlemass

3pm – Vestry Training, Holy Trinity Dunoon

4pm – Cowal for Christ Prayer Meeting – Free Church Annexe, Argyll Street

### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2013

1.00pm - Advent Group, 'The Scriptures Sing of Christmas', at the Rectory - Session 4

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2013

11.30am – Holy Trinity Book Group – Meets at Eden Cottage, 45 Hill Street, contact Maureen McKellar for directions

### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2013 - Ash Wednesday

7.30pm -Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes, Holy Trinity

### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2013

1.30pm – lent Group, 'Glimpses of God', at the Rectory - Session 1

### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2013

1.30pm – lent Group, 'Glimpses of God', at the Rectory - Session 2

### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2013

2pm – Holy Trinity Films, an afternoon at the musicals, come & see 'Jesus Christ Superstar', St Mun's Hall

### Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013

1.30pm – lent Group, 'Glimpses of God', at the Rectory - Session 3

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2013

2pm – World Day of Prayer – Service at Matheson Church Innellan, All Welcome.

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2013

4pm – Cowal for Christ Prayer Meeting – Community Church, Victoria Road

### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Diocesan Synod, Oban

### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2013

7.30pm – Holy Trinity Vestry Meeting, the Rectory

### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2013

1.30pm – lent Group, 'Glimpses of God', at the Rectory - Session 4

### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013

1.30pm – lent Group, 'Glimpses of God', at the Rectory - Session 5

### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> & Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2013

10am to 6pm, Holy Trinity Bag Pack, Co-Op, Dunoon

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2013 – Palm Sunday

10.30am Sung Eucharist at Holy Trinity

*Holy Week – look out for details of Holy Week Services & Experience Easter Dates – Coming soon!*

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 – Easter Day

10.30am Festival Eucharist followed by Easter egg hunt, Holy Trinity