



St Andrew's Parish Church

(Church of Scotland),
Inverurie

THE

MAY 2021

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Email: inveruriestandrews@outlook.com

*(To hear our services or to download them—go to
“Listen Again” on our website)*

Website: <http://standrewsinverurie.co.uk>

Scottish Charity Number: SC008791

St Andrew's is an open and inclusive Church

**The Rev. Carl Irvine, may be contacted
for pastoral care by contacting him on 01467 629163**



Our Minister's Letter

Dear Friends

This month we see three key celebrations in the Christian year that have no fixed date, because their timing depends on the date of Easter: Ascension Day on 13 May, Pentecost on 23 May and Trinity Sunday on 30 May.

Ascension Day is always forty days after Easter Sunday, celebrating the day the resurrected Jesus was taken up into heaven. There is a brief account of this at the end of Luke's Gospel and a fuller account at the start of 'The Acts of the Apostles'. In the latter account, Jesus

told His disciples, 'for John baptised with water, but you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' (Acts 1:5 NRSV)

Those 'not many days' numbered ten. Jesus' followers were together in one place, 'And suddenly from heaven came the sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit' (Acts 2:2-4a). This happened on the Jewish festival of Pentecost, which was a festival of thanks for the first of the wheat harvest and the giving of the Ten Commandments on Mt. Sinai.

The Sunday after Pentecost is Trinity Sunday. Unlike the previous two celebrations, this day does not mark an event but a reality: the reality of the 'Threeness of God' – Father, Son and Holy Spirit, each of whom featured individually in the previous two celebrations. On Ascension Day, God the Son ascended to God the Father, and on Pentecost, God the Holy Spirit came upon the believers and transformed them into, what proved to be, an unstoppable force that established Christ's church on Earth.

Much has been written about the nature of God, especially the 'Threeness', or 'Trinity', but the truth is, we are simply not clever enough to fully understand God, we can only base our understanding on what God chooses to reveal to us. Based on God's revelations, our understanding of the Trinity is one God who eternally exists as three distinct Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. More simply stated, God is one in essence and three in person.

There are many references to the Trinity in Scripture. For example: the Spirit of God hovering over the waters at the beginning of Genesis, while God spoke creation into existence with the words, 'Let there be...'. That 'Word' being sent by God to become a human, Jesus, described in the first chapter of John's Gospel as, 'the Word became flesh...' (John 1:14). After His resurrection, Jesus sent God the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Indeed, Jesus, Himself, referred to the Trinity in the 'Great Commission' to His disciples, 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit' (Matthew 28:19 NRSV).

As we move through this month, and its three key celebrations, we can do so knowing that our Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, travels with us, watches over us and showers us with love.

Blessings,

Carl

Prayer

Triune God,

Ever One and ever Three, we bow before You.

Father God, as Your children we come to You in love and trust, looking to You for all we need. We are confident that, in Your love, You will provide.

Saviour God, we thank You for You becoming one of us. We thank you for the example of Your sinless life and the enormous price You paid to allow us to rebuild the relationship with the Father that we broke.

Teaching and guiding God. Help us be more aware of the promptings of Your Spirit so that we take the right actions at the right times and resist the wrong actions at any time.

Almighty Three-in-One, for Your love, for Your mercy and for Your guidance, we thank You.

Amen



News from the combined Congregational Board/Kirk Session Meeting held on Wednesday, 14 April 2021 at 7.00 pm, via a Zoom Video Conference

Key Points

- ♦ We still urgently require to appoint a new Treasurer. We are also looking for a Fabric Convenor. Anyone interested in either of these two very important roles is asked to contact the church office for more details.
- ♦ The Treasurer reported that money was very tight and would continue to be very tight for the foreseeable future.
- ♦ The Fabric Committee reported that they had managed to get volunteers to carry out repairs to the garage roof.
- ♦ The minister reported that he had offered to serve on the Presbytery Education Committee and his appointment would be subject to the agreement of other Presbyteries in the area.
- ♦ It was agreed that we would hold a **live streamed communion service similar to the one held in the autumn of last year on 23 May 2021 at 7pm.**
- ♦ It was agreed that a review of elders' districts would take place to try and ensure that all members of the congregation had elder representation.
- ♦ It was agreed that the induction service for new elders would be held on 23 May 2021.

The office remains closed. The Church Administrator (Linsey) is working from home and can be contacted by telephone (01467 628740) during the normal office hours - Monday to Friday from 09:30 to 11:30 am.

Ken Tuach, Session Clerk



23rd May: Day of Pentecost

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was seven weeks after Easter, or 50 days including Easter.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told His disciples that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for His disciples, but He knew they could not do the work themselves. They would need His help.

And so, they waited in Jerusalem, praying together with His other followers, for many days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues, to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the disciples and followers of Jesus. The Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning, proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course, Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, He could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of His Holy Spirit.



Christian Aid Week 2021 – Inverurie

Inverurie has a tradition of supporting Christian Aid and we hope this can continue in 2021 despite the restrictions imposed by the Covid pandemic.

Christian Aid week this year runs from **Monday 10 May till Sunday 16 May**. It won't be possible to run the usual House to House envelope collection and so we invite you to support Christian Aid in the following ways. We want to highlight the issues of climate, justice and social inequality and raise funds to offset the effects that climate change has on food and water shortages in the poorest countries. You can find out more about this by visiting the CA website www.christianaid.org.uk

This year we have produced an e-envelope which is a secure way to donate.

It is customised for Inverurie CA and there will be a link to it on the St. Andrew's church website / Facebook. The envelope will allow us to keep a record of Inverurie donations.

If you are uncertain about this you can, as an alternative, make a BACS transfer to the Garioch Christian Aid account (Bank of Scotland, Inverurie, 80-08-41, 00240646, Christian Aid Garioch District).

There will also be the option to post your donation into the Christian Aid post box within the church at the Sunday services in May. There will be envelopes available in church to take away fill and return the following Sunday, or you can just fill your own envelope marked Christian Aid and pop it into the Posting box in church.

For those of you who are fit and like a challenge, there is a great opportunity to take part in the 300,000 steps in May for Christian Aid. You can raise sponsorship by sharing the Inverurie Church e-envelope with friends and family.

If you have any queries about any of this, please contact

Alison Young , 01467 625646 [alison_robin@btinternet.com]



April 2021 We are continuing to work hard to get food to those people in greatest need at this difficult and challenging time. We know your shopping habits have had to change but we would be very grateful if you would help us, if you can, by donating the following items:

Fruit Juice (1 litre long life)

Tinned rice pudding

Shower gel /deodorant

Sponge puddings

Tinned Custard

Jam

Instant mash/tinned potatoes

Currently we have good supplies of pasta, soup and tea bags, thanks to your generosity. Thank you for your continuing support and stay safe!

www.aberdeenshirenorth.foodbank.org.uk

Jennifer Ingram, Foodbank Coordinator for St Andrew's



Time Out

We met on Easter Sunday which was a lovely day to meet everyone after this lockdown. The children sat in a circle and watched a short video telling the story of the Resurrection. We then said our prayer, made our Easter Garden, which has now become a tradition, and coloured Easter worksheets.

The children were each given a little booklet to take home which told the Easter story and, with thanks to the Social Committee, they also got an Easter Egg.

Please come along and join us on the first Sunday of each month - all pre-school and primary school children welcome.

We always have lots of fun.

Time Out Team



Hello from the Boys' Brigade.

It has been a few months since we last posted and we have been remarkably busy over the last few months. Mostly our Zoom meetings and "BB at Home" badge work have kept us very active. Junior Section activities have been wide ranging: learning the phonetic alphabet, the parable of the long spoons, building a survival shelter, and Junior Easter Taskmaster. Both the Junior and Anchor Sections competed in the North Scottish District Easter Jumper colouring-in card and we were delighted to learn we had great success in the competition with a winner in primary 4, a 4th place in primary 2 and primary 6, and 3rd place in primary 3. Well done to all boys who participated.

Company Section have been busy as well with various activities making sausage rolls

and compiling a family tree and they also prepared and hosted a Burns' Supper at home.

Anchor Boys have been busy making a BB 2021 promise, a colour spinner.

We managed to meet outdoors face to face for all three sections with a VIP trail and World Theme day which included games. Anchor Boys played rock/paper/scissors, and heads/shoulders/knees and cone and discussed Lent and the lead up to Easter.

The boys have been on holiday for the last two weeks and we resume Monday 19th April and will now start preparing for our Award Ceremony in May. The two senior boys are actively serving their service in the company towards their President's Badge.

Hoping the weather holds up so we can continue outside.

Stay safe and well

Boys' Brigade team

St Andrew's Parish Church

Volunteer Rota 2021

		Door	Register	Steward	Steward	Steward
May	2	<i>A Smith</i>	D Stuart	S Hepburn	A Young	M Conn
	9	C Clark	J Bruce	R Milne	Y Clark	I Fraser
	16	<i>R Young</i>	M Vernal	J Ingram	H Christie	M Keith
	23	<i>R Green</i>	K Pawson	J Lawson	J Green	P Wink
	30	<i>R Young</i>	J Bruce	S Hepburn	I Fraser	V Binnie

June	6	C Clark	Y Clark	<i>A Smith</i>	D Stuart	A Young
	13	<i>R Milne</i>	H Christie	M Keith	K Pawson	S Davidson

If you are unable to attend please arrange for a replacement and let Linsey know. (It's not her job to find one for you). Note: All those on Duty please ensure that you are at the church in good time (**9.30 am**). Those with Beadle Duties are highlighted in Bold/Italic. (I have kept Beadles at Door where I can so they can pop away if needed)

COVID Regulations Update ... At the time of writing, it is possible that from 26th April the Scottish government will remove the cap of 50 for communal worship. This means that, as of the 2nd of May, we will be able to increase numbers at our services, where this is possible.

As with all these relaxations it is more difficult to plan the way out than the way in. The new requirements mean that we have to set the maximum capacity of the building while maintaining social distancing and display this number at the entrances to the building.

This is difficult for us, as we cannot determine easily who will come in a group of 2 or 3 family members or supporters, and those who come on their own. We will therefore need to plan for each Sunday in a more detailed way and this may mean you are not able to sit in your usual area but as directed by the duty Elders in order for us to reach our capacity in a fair way and to comply with our legal obligations. You will also be asked at the time of booking your space if you are part of a group that will be sitting together or will be attending on your own.

The first few weeks will be a bit of an experiment to see how this works and we ask for your patience and understanding at this time of change. Please remember that our priority in what we do is to protect you and your families from the virus. //....

We have been fortunate to have been able to open last year and since the last relaxation of lockdown due to the support of the volunteers who have acted as guides and allowed us to comply with the regulations. If we had not had this and the support of the congregation to follow the rules to this date, our permission to open would likely have been removed. Now we have resumed weekly worship in our church building, we would greatly appreciate if you will follow the guidelines previously stated - **A BOOKING SYSTEM IS NOW USED AND IF THE FIRST SERVICE BECOMES FULL A SECOND AND, HOPEFULLY, THIRD SESSION WILL BE HELD. BOOKINGS CAN BE MADE THROUGH THE OFFICE. Unfortunately there will be no Taxi Service or Flower distribution until we are advised this is allowable. Similarly, there will be no teas and coffees after the service at this time.**

- Please do not come to Church if you have symptoms or if you or someone in your household is isolating.
- On arrival all worshippers will be asked to enter by the main doors on the High Street. If the weather is very inclement, we may change this so all will enter through the Chapel door from the carpark. **Please maintain the 2m separation if you need to queue.**
- On entry you will be greeted by a steward wearing a face covering and reminded **it is mandatory for you to wear a face covering while in the building and during the service. Please sanitize your hands on entry and please leave any offering in the receptacle at the door to the Church.**
- Please provide your name and a contact number or email address to allow us to comply with the Test and Protect protocols. There will also be a smartphone app and QR Code which will be used alongside the paper record. This information must be kept for at least 21 days and will be destroyed between 21 and 28 days after collection
- You will be escorted, at a suitable distance, to the first available seating position, starting from the front of the Church and working to the back. As necessary the Chapel of Apollinaris will be used for additional seating.
- **Please remain in your allocated location. You may sit beside members of the same household but do not sit with others outwith your social bubble.**
- If you feel unwell or need to leave during the service, please attract the attention of one of the Stewards who will assist
- Hymn books will not be provided. You may bring your own and/or a bible if you wish but singing is not currently permitted, and these should not be shared outwith your household.
- **After the service, please wait until a Steward asks to you leave. You will be asked to leave from the back to the front and through the door you entered by.**
- Please do not congregate in groups in front or to the side of the Church
- **Use the sanitisation point on your exit to sanitise your hands**

Remember at all times the Governments advice – F.A.C.T.S.

FACE COVERINGS

AVOID CROWDED PLACES

CLEAN YOUR HANDS REGULARLY

TWO METRE DISTANCE

SELF-ISOLATE AND BOOK A TEST IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS

ROBIN YOUNG

A Suggestion for the Great Day Out

Now that restrictions are being lifted, why not explore some of our historic treasures within a short travelling distance of Inverurie.



Crathes Castle, Garden and Estate, near Banchory

Standing against a background of rolling hills and set within its own glorious gardens, Crathes Castle is every inch the classic Scottish tower house—a fantastic day out for all the family, and even the pet dog! (Special areas for dog walking are available.)

The Burnett family, who lived in the castle for over 350 years, had roots in the area dating back to 1323 when Robert the Bruce granted them near-

by land. Alexander Burnett built the castle in the 16th century, an intricate maze of turrets, towers, oak panels

and painted ceilings, many of which survive beautifully to this day. Don't miss the Horn of Leys, which hangs in the Great Hall, given to the Burnett family in the 14th century by Robert the Bruce.



But one of the best features at Crathes is undoubtedly the grounds. The walled garden is split into eight sections that encompass every green delight imaginable—soft herbaceous colours and modern exotic blooms. The sculpted topiary hedges, which were planted as early as 1702, are particularly impressive.

//....



Nature spotters will love the waymarked trails along the Coy Burn. Keep an eye out for buzzards, herons and kingfishers as well as other native wild life.



Information of Openings

The Castle and Shop are open from

30th April to 31st October,

Thursdays to Mondays, 10.00 am - 5.00 pm

The Cafe serves Takeaways from

2nd April to 31st October,

Thursdays to Mondays, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm.

The Gardens are open from

1st April to 31st May,

Thursdays to Mondays, 10.00 am - 3.30 pm

1st June to 31st August, daily, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

1st September to 31st December, Fridays to Mondays, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

The Grounds are open from 1st January to 31st December, daily, dawn till dusk.

National Trust for Scotland members = free entry to everything

Adult = £14.50

Concession = £11.00

One Adult family = £27.50

Family = £33.00

Young Scot = £1.00

With many thanks to -

Jim Henderson

*(Official NTS Grampian
Photographer, retired)*

for his stunning photographs

Dear Members,

We shall feature other interesting "day out" suggestions in the June, July and August magazines. If some of you manage to visit any of them, do send us your photos so we can include them in The Saltire. Indeed, we would be interested in any of your holiday snaps -- whether Aberdeenshire or further afield. Thank you.

Kit and Diane

Congregational Roll

ST ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH CHANGES IN ROLL 24th March—28th April 2021

Recently Deceased

Service conducted by

Mr P Mitchell, Lofthillock, Inverurie	26/3/2021	Rev. I Telfer
Mr H (Bert) Cadenhead, 55 Middlepark	8/4/2021	Rev. S Craggs

Sunday Services & Readings

MAY

2nd	10.00 am Parish Worship "Time Out"	Minister:	Rev. S Craggs
		Reader:	Alastair Smith
9th	10.00 am Parish Worship	Minister:	Rev. C Irvine
		Reader:	Rosie Milne
16th	10.00 am Parish Worship	Minister:	Rev. C Irvine
		Reader:	Robin Young
23rd	10.00 am Parish Worship "Pentecost Day" Ordination of New Elders	Minister:	Rev. C Irvine
		Reader:	Ralph Green
	7.00 pm Communion Live Stream	Minister:	Rev. C Irvine
30th	10.00 am Parish Worship	Minister:	Rev. C Irvine
		Reader:	Robin Young

JUNE

6th	10.00 am Parish Worship "Time Out"	Minister:	Rev. C Irvine
		Reader:	Alastair Smith
13th	10.00 am Parish Worship	Minister:	Rev. C Irvine
		Reader:	Rosie Milne

My Garden?? By Nigel Beaton (*Parish Pump*)

I thought I owned a garden	A pheasant flapped and squawked so loud
A lovely place to be	I scarce could hear me think!
A bird said, "Beg your pardon,	"Get off my ground, for two's a crowd!"
This land belongs to me!"	He kicked up such a stink!
A squirrel dropped a nut on me	The wild-life around me
Which wasn't what I'd planned	So loudly do protest!
"Get lost!", said he, "for can't you see	They growl and screech till I can see
You trespass on my land?"	That I am just a guest!

Who's Who at 'St Andrew's'

Church Office
St Andrew's Parish
Church
High Street,
Inverurie AB51 3QJ

Phone:01467-628740

Email:

inveruriestandrews@

outlook.com

http://.standrews

inverurie.co.uk



LISTEN **"Online"**

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 Services are on the
 internet and
 are available for
 downloading or by
 listening directly.
www.standrewschurchinverurie.org.uk
 Click on
 "listen again".

MINISTER :

The REV CARL IRVINE	(01467 629163)
SESSION CLERK KEN TUACH	(01467 620896)
CLERK TO THE BOARD JOYCE LAWSON	(01467 620903)
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR LINSEY STEWART	(01467 628740)
CHURCH TREASURER - TOM CRAGGS	(01358 723055)
WFO TREASURER ALASTAIR SMITH	(01467 623148)
GIFT AID CONVENER ALLAN DUFF	(01467 621040)
MONTHLY COLLECTION CONVENERS	(01467 622275 &
VERA BINNIE & DIANE STUART	(01467 620931)
FABRIC CONVENER (INTERIM) TOM CRAGGS	(01358 723055)
ROLL KEEPER TOM CRAGGS	(01358 723055)
ORGANIST IAN MILNE	(01467 620606)
"TIME OUT" LEADER MO VERNAL	(01467 628778)
PRESBYTERY ELDER VERA BINNIE	(01467 622275)
SOCIAL COMMITTEE CONVENER MOLLY CONN	(01467 620612)
FLOWER CONVENER EILEEN ROBERTSON	(01467 625895)
TRANSPORT TO CHURCH CONTACT DIANE STUART	(01467 620931)
HALL CLEANER AGNIESZKA MYSZKOWSKA -	
SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR ALISON YOUNG	(01467 625646)
LETTINGS COMMITTEE - KIT PAWSON	(01467 628740)
SALTIRE EDITORS DIANE STUART	(01467 620931)
KIT PAWSON	(01467 372389)

JUNE 2021 SALTIRE ... Will be available for distribution from Sunday, 30th May 2021. Please email material for the June Saltire to The Church Office by 20th May 2021.

St Andrew's Safeguarding Statement

*(Relating to the Protection of Children and Young People in the Church.
 Adopted by the General Assembly, May 1997.)*

The Church of Scotland has a deep concern for the wholeness and well-being of each individual. It seeks to safeguard the welfare of all people, regardless of age, who come into contact with the church and its organisations. It is the responsibility of each individual within the fellowship of the church to prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse of children and young people and the vulnerable. St Andrew's Parish Church has a Zero Tolerance Policy to any form of abuse.