



A7 Centre of Mission  
St Peter's, St John's & St Cuthbert's  
Scottish Episcopal Churches  
20<sup>th</sup> September 2020 newsletter



**Reopening for communal worship from September.**

St John's still has no handover date for getting back to using the church.

St Peter's 10.30am services on 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays will be Communion with Simon or other clergy. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays will be Service of the Word. Thursday mornings will be a Said Communion service.

St Cuthbert's 10.30am services on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays will be Communion, 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays Service of the Word. Wednesdays at 11.00am will be Said Holy Communion

**The first time you attend you will be given a copy of the relevant Service Booklet. Please take this home, write your name on it and bring it with you each time you attend a service. Bring the current Newsletter as this will be used in place of service sheets. In addition to saving on printing this also means that those who feel they are unable to attend church for whatever reason will have the same input for their personal observance of our services.**

**Please, please, PLEASE, when you attend service you will be directed to your seat. Once there you must stay there till the end of the service. Unfortunately, we are not permitted to socialise so you must NOT pop across to have a chat with a friend. At the end of the service those at the back will leave the building first so that no one is passing close to anyone else. Social distancing is a requirement for permission to hold services. Things are nowhere near back to normal and we must do all we can to avoid transmission of Covid-19 and to protect each other from another surge of the virus.**

**Please if you wish to attend ring Sheena(01896 751694) or by e mail (smstcg1945@gmail.com) . IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU RING OR INFORM ON LINE SO WE KNOW NUMBERS AND FOR GOVERNMENT TRACK AND PROTECT.**

Members of each congregation have been sent letters from Simon regarding the reopening of our churches for services. Please make sure you have kept them and can refer to them for information that is not included in this newsletter.

These times of opening may change without warning due to the ever-changing restrictions by Scottish Government rulings. We will try to keep you informed of any changes.

Please remember to bring a face covering to wear unless you have health issues.



The Scottish Government announce last week that face coverings must be worn in all places of worship therefore anyone entering one of our church buildings for any reason is required to wear a mask or other form of face covering unless you are exempt on health grounds.



**As Reserved Sacrament has been temporarily suspended because of Covid 19 Bishop John has given Simon permission to take Communion with members of the congregation in their homes. If you have the space for 1 metre distancing this can be for up to 7 people plus 1 ordained clergy. If you would like to celebrate the Eucharist in your own home please phone Sheena on 01896 751694 or email [smstcg1945@gmail.com](mailto:smstcg1945@gmail.com) Simon will then contact you to arrange a suitable time.**

**Spiritual Communion**

Here is a prayer that can be used at 10.30 on Sundays when Simon will be celebrating the Eucharist

For an Act of spiritual Communion, the following prayer -

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.



**Collect 20th September**

**O Lord, let your constant compassion cleanse and strengthen your Church: and since, without you, we cannot continue in safety, may we ever be governed by your grace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.**

### **Exodus 16:2-15 Good News Translation**

There in the desert they all complained to Moses and Aaron <sup>3</sup>and said to them, “We wish that the LORD had killed us in Egypt. There we could at least sit down and eat meat and as much other food as we wanted. But you have brought us out into this desert to starve us all to death.”

The LORD said to Moses, “Now I am going to cause food to rain down from the sky for all of you. The people must go out every day and gather enough for that day. In this way I can test them to find out if they will follow my instructions. On the sixth day they are to bring in twice as much as usual and prepare it.”

So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “This evening you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of Egypt. In the morning you will see the dazzling light of the LORD's presence. He has heard your complaints against him—yes, against him, because we are only carrying out his instructions.” <sup>8</sup> Then Moses said, “It is the LORD who will give you meat to eat in the evening and as much bread as you want in the morning, because he has heard how much you have complained against him. When you complain against us, you are really complaining against the LORD.” Moses said to Aaron, “Tell the whole community to come and stand before the LORD, because he has heard their complaints.” As Aaron spoke to the whole community, they turned toward the desert, and suddenly the dazzling light of the LORD appeared in a cloud. The LORD said to Moses, “I have heard the complaints of the Israelites. Tell them that at twilight they will have meat to eat, and in the morning they will have all the bread they want. Then they will know that I, the LORD, am their God.” In the evening a large flock of quails flew in, enough to cover the camp, and in the morning there was dew all around the camp. When the dew evaporated, there was something thin and flaky on the surface of the desert. It was as delicate as frost. When the Israelites saw it, they didn't know what it was and asked each other, “What is it?” Moses said to them, “This is the food that the LORD has given you to eat.

### **Philippians 1:21-30 Good News Translation**

For what is life? To me, it is Christ. Death, then, will bring more. But if by continuing to live I can do more worthwhile work, then I am not sure which I should choose. I am pulled in two directions. I want very much to leave this life and be with Christ, which is a far better thing; but for your sake it is much more important that I remain alive. I am sure of this, and so I know that I will stay. I will stay on with you all, to add to your progress and joy in the faith, so that when I am with you again, you will have even more reason to be proud of me in your life in union with Christ Jesus. Now, the important thing is that your way of life should be as the gospel of Christ requires, so that, whether or not I am able to go and see you, I will hear that you are standing firm with one common purpose and that with only one desire you are fighting together for the faith of the gospel. Don't be afraid of your enemies; always be courageous, and this will prove to them that they will lose and that you will win, because it is God who gives you the victory. For you have been given the privilege of serving Christ, not only by believing in him, but also by suffering for him. Now you can take part with me in the battle. It is the same battle you saw me fighting in the past, and as you hear, the one I am fighting still.

### **Matthew 20:1-16 Good News Translation The Workers in the Vineyard**

“The Kingdom of heaven is like this. Once there was a man who went out early in the morning to hire some men to work in his vineyard. He agreed to pay them the regular wage, a silver coin a day, and sent them to work in his vineyard. He went out again to the marketplace at nine o'clock and saw some men standing there doing nothing, so he told them, ‘You also go and work in the vineyard, and I will pay you a fair wage.’ So they went. Then at twelve o'clock and again at three o'clock he did the same thing. It was nearly five o'clock when he went to the marketplace and saw some other men still standing there. ‘Why are you wasting the whole day here doing nothing?’ he asked them. ‘No one hired us,’ they answered. ‘Well, then, you go and work in the vineyard,’ he told them. “When evening came, the owner told his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with those who were hired last and ending with those who were hired first.’ The men who had begun to work at five o'clock were paid a silver coin each. So when the men who were the first to be hired came to be paid, they thought they would get more; but they too were given a silver coin each. They took their money and started grumbling against the employer. ‘These men who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘while we put up with a whole day's work in the hot sun—yet you paid them the same as you paid us!’ ‘Listen, friend,’ the owner answered one of them, ‘I have not cheated you. After all, you agreed to do a day's work for one silver coin. Now take your pay and go home. I want to give this man who was hired last as much as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do as I wish with my own money? Or are you jealous because I am generous?’”

And Jesus concluded, “So those who are last will be first, and those who are first will be last.”





### Karen's reflection on Matthew 20: 1-6

"The first shall be last and last shall be first." This has nothing to do with the current way we leave a church service!

The unemployed workers struggle to get hired so that they can earn money to feed their families. Those still waiting for work later on in the day have little chance of earning enough money to buy food for that day. Yet the landowner pays them the full day's wage. He gives them the same as he agreed to give the workers who started at the beginning of the day.

Well, it's his money he can do with it what he likes, but is it fair? We are used to functioning in a world where our rewards are proportionate to our service. Who doesn't expect a pay rise each year or a bonus for extra hard work? But here we have all day workers receiving the same as the ones who have only worked part of the day. We don't want that, we want justice, we want a bonus for working all day.

If the landowner represents God and the vineyard is the kingdom of heaven, this parable is a powerful message that in God's kingdom, displaced and unemployed workers find work that meets their needs and the needs of those who depend on them.

Entry into God's kingdom is not gained by our work or action but by God's generosity. God's grace, mercy and forgiveness are God's to give away as God sees fit. Others get the same from God as we do despite being less worthy, late arrivals or just plain worse sinners. We are all equal recipients of God's gifts. We shouldn't want what God has given to others.

This parable is about God's generosity in the kingdom of heaven and was given in response to Peter's question "What then will we have." It must have been frustrating for Peter who left everything to follow Jesus and then is told that the apostles will receive the same reward as the lesser disciples.

Nobody can claim a special place in the kingdom of heaven because they've worked hard, or because they've given up so much, or because they were in it from the beginning. This is the warning to the disciples who, as the closest friends of Jesus, might have supposed that they were going to retain the top jobs in whatever future God had in store.

The parable reaches out to us in our life of faith today. Our 'celebrity' culture favours those who manage to push themselves to the front, whether it's the people with the most obvious talents or the stars with sharpest agents. Sadly this spills over into the life of the church. Famous preachers and leaders get attention and the 'ordinary' Christians become passive spectators. We need reminding that there are no 'ordinary' Christians. All sorts of people stand out as the real heroes and heroines of faith, though nobody has ever heard of them before. These are the ones who, whether for 5 minutes or 50 years, served God with total and glad obedience, giving themselves to prayer and works of love and mercy.

Jesus says that any "labourer" who accepts the invitation to the work in the vineyard, no matter how late in the day, will receive an equal reward with those who have been faithful the longest. He, who is first *and* last, also tells us that we don't need to be afraid as the first and the last are brought together when we enter the kingdom of heaven.



### Intercessions for 20th September 2020

Holy God, you have called us here today; and so, as we gather in your house we offer to you our prayers which stem from our love for you and our love and concern for those we love and for the people of the world.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, when the Church joins together, we can show people a much fuller picture of Jesus and His Kingdom. We pray for your church, and the churches in our local community, and ask that there will be a growing desire to get together and get out. We give you thanks for those who come up with fresh ways of making your name known to the wider community and for those who work so hard to make worship possible through online and virtual services

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, we pray not only for the victims but for the perpetrators of evil and violence in our world; for all governments which run on corruption and fear. We pray for a change of heart and attitude, an awakening to a better way of living, and the courage to reject wrong principles.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Father God, forgive us when we waste our lives by being too busy to enjoy your creation. Teach us how to make spaces in the day to do the things we most enjoy. Just as you rested from your work, help us to practise the discipline of recreation and help us to become your hands and feet in our streets so that our neighbours will one day ask us to tell them more about you.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, help those we know and love to turn away from habits which are harmful to them. Help them to turn to you in times of crisis, rather than reaching for quick-fix solutions. Lord, we also bring to you those we know who are ill or suffering in any way. Give them healing and restore them in body, mind and spirit. We especially pray for members of our congregations, our communities and those we hold in our hearts.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Mighty God, we remember in your presence all those who have died, and particularly those we have known and loved. Thank you for them and thank you for your promise of eternal life and peace. Be close to those who are recently bereaved, strengthen them with the knowledge that you are always there to lean on and to carry us through difficult times.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, at the start of this new week, help us to be an example to others and show us the practical steps we need to take to develop consistency and integrity in all that we do in our lives.

Merciful Father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.**



1As part of the ongoing response to the Coronavirus pandemic the Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC) will be broadcasting video coverage of Eucharistic services via its website, social media channels and YouTube channel. The web page for the broadcast is located at [www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship](http://www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship)



For those who are not online the Archbishop of Canterbury has set up a Freephone Daily Hope service of hymns, prayers and readings. It is available 24 hours a day on 0800 8048044

Join Pip this week at Holy Trinity at <https://www.holytrinitymelrose.org/> and click on the link on the home (front) page - Holy Trinity YouTube channel. 11.00am <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJkxEgnglnze4SeN4I54Ecw>

St John's Selkirk now has their weekly Sunday services on their YouTube channel, with several (different) familiar voices each week, music, inspirational quotes and images at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9ITNAH6VHZkqM0NiH6Vt9w> available from 10am each Sunday morning. Please feel free to have a listen at any time which suits you.



11am to 11:30 every Wednesday morning.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87979280424?pwd=UEJzRXk0UFpVcnJuaUVZTzJvaE92UT09>

Meeting ID: 879 7928 0424 Password: 023545 Host: Tim Hatton



Bible Studies hosted on Zoom. Wednesday 7:30pm & Thursday 10:30am hosted by John Marsden Follow this link <https://zoom.us/j/7538094986?pwd=Q0x4YVtk2b3Y5eEt0VkoXSOZlZWVWxGUT09> or use this information to open a Zoom meeting: Meeting ID: 753 809 4986 Password: 751474

## 1882 Challenge: training update!

Tim would like to thank everyone for their words of encouragement, prayers and donations received for the Sponsored Walk that is happening on Saturday 26th September. At time of writing, together we have raised almost £190.00, including Gift Aid, towards the work of Church Army in the UK. <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tim-hatton4>

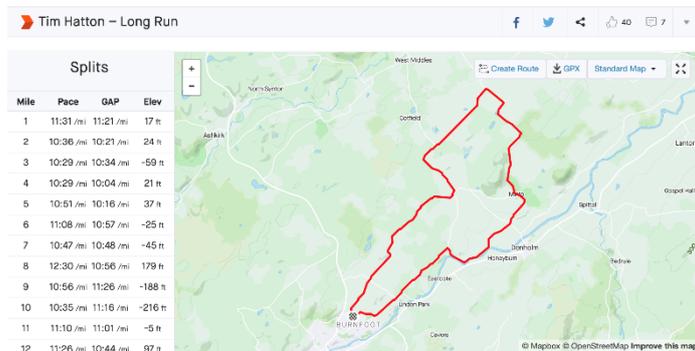
Thank you very much.

Tim has been training hard to be ready for the 18.82 mile journey from St Cuthbert's to St Peter's via St John's. His longest single walk/run so far is over 14 miles (see attached screenshot) and lots of walking with Kate and their new dog Luna is definitely helping too.

On the 26th, Tim will start at St Cuthbert's at 9am with Morning Prayer and plans to reach St John's by about 12noon, via parts of the Borders Abbeys Way, for lunch and outdoor Midday worship. If he sets off again at 1pm he hopes to reach St Peter's by 4pm having trodden parts of the Southern Upland Way. Concluding the day with Evening Prayer.

Tim hopes that, by God's grace, this event will help bind the three charges together. Inspired by Isaiah 40:31 "But those who trust in the Lord for help will find their strength renewed. They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary; they will walk and not grow weak."

Tim would be delighted to see you on the day, either to walk a few miles (socially distanced of course) or to join in prayer at one of the charges or to give him a cheery wave along the way.



Did you know that there are four Church Army Centres of Mission (CoM) in Scotland, including the A7? In Dundee, Kerry Dixon leads a weekly event 'Soup 'n Soul', which offers food and friendship to people with difficult life circumstances and a weekly group 'Pirate Monks' that encourages and challenges men in their daily faith walk. In the West Highlands, Priest Evangelist Amanda Fairclough is PiC of six charges, and finds time to lead the Cafe Kinloch project and to be Chaplain to Kinlochleven High School. In the brand new CoM in Glenrothes, Priest Evangelist Fr Gerry Dillon, is out walking and chatting to the neighbours of the two churches in Glenrothes and Lochgelly as he begins to discern the next steps.

### 27th September 15:00 at Mainhill farm, just south of St Boswells.

The information for the event and the opportunity to pre-register is at: [www.bordersdrivein.co.uk](http://www.bordersdrivein.co.uk) We look forward to seeing many of you there.

Or contact Rev Arthur Hembling at [hembling20@googlemail.com](mailto:hembling20@googlemail.com)

The borders driven team (Mark Craig, Keith Scott, James Maybury)



Many Happy Returns to Dorothy Gray who will be 90 on Sunday

#### IF YOU NEED SUPPORT

Priest in charge of St Peter's, St John's & St Cuthbert's Rev Simon Cake 07710523856

[cakekands@btinternet.com](mailto:cakekands@btinternet.com)

St Peter's pastoral support contact Monica Reynolds 01896 757114

[monica@tempelstowe.com](mailto:monica@tempelstowe.com)

St Peter's prayer support Muriel Lounsbach 01896 831418

[gordon.lounsbach@btinternet.com](mailto:gordon.lounsbach@btinternet.com)

Tim Hatton (A7 Church Army) 07784872307 [tim.w.hatton@gmail.com](mailto:tim.w.hatton@gmail.com)

St Cuthbert's pastoral and prayer contact Sue Crozier 01450 376499

[susancrozier17@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:susancrozier17@yahoo.co.uk)

St John's pastoral and prayer contact Margaret Moyes [mmoyes2@gamail.com](mailto:mmoyes2@gamail.com)

Citizens Advice Scotland [www.cas.org.uk](http://www.cas.org.uk)

Victim Support Scotland 0800 160 1985 [www.victimsupport.scot](http://www.victimsupport.scot)

Alcoholics Anonymous 0800 917 7650 [www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk](http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk)

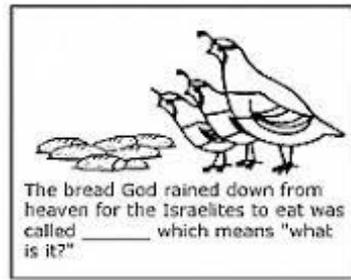
Al-Anon Family Groups Galashiels Local individual contacts 07709948205 or 07808946479

Scotland National Domestic Abuse 24-hour helpline: 0800 027 123

Cruse Scotland Bereavement Helpline 0845 600 2227

[support@crusescotland.org.uk](mailto:support@crusescotland.org.uk)





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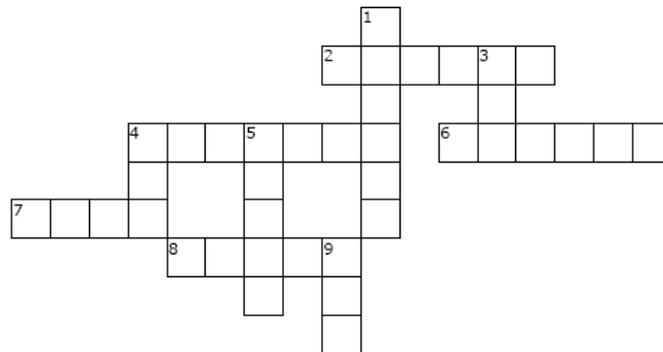
MROINGN

ANSWER:

## Manna from Heaven

When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Exodus 16:15a (NIV)

Based on Exodus 16:2-15 (NIV)



### ACROSS

2. The place where God and the angels live
4. To complain; express dissatisfaction
6. To suffer or die because there is not enough food to eat
7. Things we eat to keep us alive and help us to grow
8. A food made from flour and water, shaped into loaves, and baked

### DOWN

1. A large, dry area where there is very little rain
3. To take food into the body through the mouth
4. The creator of heaven and earth
5. The Hebrew prophet who led the Israelites from Egypt
9. The 24-hour period during which the earth completes one rotation.

DAY	GRUMBLE	BREAD	STARVE	HEAVEN
EAT	DESERT	MOSES	GOD	FOOD

**CORRECTION**

Rules for Home Communion

Please note that only 6 people including the minister can be present for Home Communion. Everyone must wear masks and leave as soon as the service is over.