



A7 Centre of Mission
St Peter's, St John's & St Cuthbert's
Scottish Episcopal Churches
27th September 2020 newsletter



opening 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 1st and 4th Sundays will be Communion with Simon or other clergy. 2nd & 3rd Sundays will be Service of the Word. Thursday mornings will be a Said Communion service.

St Cuthbert's 10.30am services on 2nd & 3rd Sundays will be Communion, 1st & 4th Sundays Service of the Word.

Wednesdays at 11.00am will be Said Holy Communion

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.

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.

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 27th September

O Lord, may your grace at all times go before us, and follow on behind: and so continually direct us to good works; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Good News Translation Individual Responsibility

The LORD spoke to me ²and said, "What is this proverb people keep repeating in the land of Israel?"

'The parents ate the sour grapes, But the children got the sour taste.'

"As surely as I am the living God," says the Sovereign LORD, "you will not repeat this proverb in Israel any more. The life of every person belongs to me, the life of the parent as well as that of the child. The person who sins is the one who will die.

"But you say, 'What the Lord does isn't right.' Listen to me, you Israelites. Do you think my way of doing things isn't right? It is your way that isn't right. When a righteous person stops doing good and starts doing evil and then dies, he dies because of the evil he has done. When someone evil stops sinning and does what is right and good, he saves his life. He realizes what he is doing and stops sinning, so he will certainly not die, but go on living. And you Israelites say, 'What the Lord does isn't right.' You think my way isn't right, do you? It is your way that isn't right.

"Now I, the Sovereign LORD, am telling you Israelites that I will judge each of you by what you have done. Turn away from all the evil you are doing, and don't let your sin destroy you. Give up all the evil you have been doing, and get yourselves new minds and hearts. Why do you Israelites want to die? I do not want anyone to die," says the Sovereign LORD. "Turn away from your sins and live."

Philippians 2:1-13 Good News Translation Christ's Humility and Greatness

Your life in Christ makes you strong, and his love comforts you. You have fellowship with the Spirit,^[a] and you have kindness and compassion for one another. I urge you, then, to make me completely happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and mind. Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast, but be humble toward one another, always considering others better than yourselves. And look out for one another's interests, not just for your own. The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had: He always had the nature of God, but he did not think that by force he should try to remain equal with God. Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like a human being and appeared in human likeness. He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death—his death on the cross.

For this reason God raised him to the highest place above and gave him the name that is greater than any other name. And so, in honour of the name of Jesus all beings in heaven, on earth, and in the world below will fall on their knees, and all will openly proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Shining as Lights in the World So then, dear friends, as you always obeyed me when I was with you, it is even more important that you obey me now while I am away from you. Keep on working with fear and trembling to complete your salvation, because God is always at work in you to make you willing and able to obey his own purpose.

Matthew 21:23-32 Good News Translation The Question about Jesus' Authority

Jesus came back to the Temple; and as he taught, the chief priests and the elders came to him and asked, "What right do you have to do these things? Who gave you such right?" Jesus answered them, "I will ask you just one question, and if you give me an answer, I will tell you what right I have to do these things. Where did John's right to baptize come from: was it from God or from human beings?" They started to argue among themselves, "What shall we say? If we answer, 'From God,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe John?' But if we say, 'From human beings,' we are afraid of what the people might do, because they are all convinced that John was a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We don't know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you, then, by what right I do these things.

The Parable of the Two Sons

"Now, what do you think? There was once a man who had two sons. He went to the older one and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' 'I don't want to,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. 'Yes, sir,' he answered, but he did not go. Which one of the two did what his father wanted?" "The older one," they answered.

So Jesus said to them, "I tell you: the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the Kingdom of God ahead of you. For John the Baptist came to you showing you the right path to take, and you would not believe him; but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. Even when you saw this, you did not later change your minds and believe him.

Simon's reflections

I wonder if you have ever come across those people who because they have a piece of paper that says they have done a course they know it all and you don't because you haven't got the correct qualifications or you have not been to a University.

The last place you would expect not to see that would be the Army. Sadly, you did it was all too common. Usually It was from the young officers, Just occasionally you might get someone in who's just joined the Army and may have got qualifications outside in civi street, but had not yet learnt to adapt them to life in the military and in the operational field.

Any way we used to get these young officers posted to us and during their time they would learn to adapt their skills. If there were Know It All's. We would play a game with them it's called the N.C.O. Game.

You would only do as they told you to. Nothing more. You would also ask their permission to P or leave the room in fact anything, even ask could you use a pen. You wouldn't do anything until you got their permission. You constantly saluted them.

It wouldn't take long for them to realize you were there to help them and we were a team.

Occasionally you would get those that just would not change. They didn't tend to last that long and found themselves posted out to do some menial job for the rest of their military careers.

In our Gospel reading today we see again Jesus challenge the system. Challenge their authority. He's already turned the tables over in the Temple and said these are manmade rules and not God's ways. Here he is doing the same thing to the Priest of the temple.

Of course, they are still trying to catch Jesus out. But again realize Jesus has out smarted them with his answer.

They decide to give the safe answer to his question knowing if they said anything else they would be discredited in front of everyone and lose their status. Here they are the priests the leaders of their time, virtually unaccountable to anyone. Power in their hands to control the people. Jesus challenges them.

Then we go on to see Jesus tell a story of the two sons and how the sons are asked to work in the field for their father. One said yes and decided not to and then the other says No and then realizes the error of his ways and changes his mind.

Then Jesus asks those who were listening to him "Which of the 2 sons did what the Father wanted?" They said "the one that changed his mind."

Yes he said. But it also shows to us and those who listened and opened their minds to God and realized that Christ's teaching was truly God's Way. Then the Kingdom would be open to them as well. A new life with God. Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Reborn. A new chapter in their lives because they have opened their hearts up to God.



But he shows us more than that. He shows us that the Kingdom is open to all regardless of who or what we are black, white, big, small, doctor or bin person, God treats us all the same and that at any point in our lives we can change our ways and follow and believe in God, who is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God is always there to help us and accept us if we are prepared to see the way forward. We may have to turn to Christ more than once in our lives because we lose our way. Or get to stuck in our ways that we become blinkered or blind and no longer see God's way. God is always there again for us to welcome us back to Kingdom and Christ's Family. All we have to do is say I'm sorry and I wish to turn my life over to you God. Just as the prodigal son found that his father still loved him. So he does with us. Amen



Intercessions for 27th September 2020

Everlasting God, you do everything possible for our spiritual growth and well-being, but yet we so often choose the path of hostility and rejection.

Let us pray trustfully to the God who has loved us into being and cherished us all our lives.

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

Almighty God, we pray for your Church; for Bishops John, Simon our priest that they will know how to strike the right balance between their work and family lives. We pray that You will give them courage when they need to resist being controlled by others, and will teach them to take control with understanding, always reflecting the love of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

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

Creator God, refugees continue to flee from crisis throughout the world, and over half of them are children. We remember those who live in the huge camps and especially those who lost everything when their camp was destroyed by fire. Lord God, we pray for all those who have willingly invested their time and energy in serving the most vulnerable in the world, that they will find opportunities to rest, and will be strengthened for their work. We also remember aid workers throughout the rest of the world working in places and situations that are no longer newsworthy because of the Pandemic; give them the encouragement to continue their invaluable contribution of love and care for those people rebuilding their lives after man-made or natural disasters.

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

Father God, we pray for all those working on the land growing food for us all. Help them in their labours especially in these times of climate change and enable them all to get a fair price for the tremendously hard work they undertake. We pray also for the world's supermarket chains asking that they put the welfare of the farming community before massive profit achieved through exploitation. We pray that people will not panic buy through fear of shortages with a new period of lockdown, and that there will be enough for those who have lost their jobs and need to access the foodbank.

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

Loving God, we pray for abundant life for anyone we know who has recently been given bad news about their health or the health of a loved one. Lord, help us know what to say and when to speak. May we always be ready to give practical help whenever we can and to ensure that those on their own are able to manage and cope with the day to day life. We pray for Simon and his son, Oliver, who is recovering from an accident. We pray for everyone in care homes and hospitals whose relatives cannot visit them. All who are self-isolating and help us do what we need to protect one another.

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

Merciful God, when death separates from us those we love and we find it hard to live without them, take from us all bitterness and resentment and help us to remember that death has no power at all over the peace you give and the love we shared with the departed goes beyond the grave.

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

Holy God, as we prepare for the week to come, help us to know Christ and the power of his resurrection day by day and in the sharing of his sufferings to become more like him in his death.

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



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/UCJkxEgnInze4SeN4I54Ecw>

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/UC9ITNAH6VHZkqMONiH6Vt9w> 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*
 For this week Tim Hatton will host the studies. So please use this revised link for this week's studies only.: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87979280424?pwd=UEJzRXk0UFpVcnJuaUVZTzJvaE92UT09>
 Meeting ID: 879 7928 0424 Password: 023545

Gala Fairydean Rovers

Thanks to one half of our new Club Chaplain team- Tim Hatton for making his debut as Assistant Referee in our closed door PSF v Pumpherston yesterday
 Our chaplains Tim & Simon were appointed just under 3 weeks ago & are now becoming familiar faces at the club through all sections
 Pastoral care encompasses a wide variety of issues & offers support at times of personal crisis as well as everyday life



IF YOU NEED SUPPORT

Priest in charge of St Peter's, St John's & St Cuthbert's Rev Simon Cake
 07710523856 cakekands@btinternet.com
 St Peter's pastoral support contact Monica Reynolds 01896 757114
monica@tempelstowe.com
 St Peter's prayer support Muriel Lounsbach 01896 831418
gordon.lounsbach@btinternet.com
 Tim Hatton (A7 Church Army) 07784872307 tim.w.hatton@gmail.com
 St Cuthbert's pastoral and prayer contact Sue Crozier 01450 376499
susancrozier17@yahoo.co.uk
 St John's pastoral and prayer contact Margaret Moyes mmoyes2@gamail.com
 Citizens Advice Scotland www.cas.org.uk
 Victim Support Scotland 0800 160 1985 www.victimsupport.scot
 Alcoholics Anonymous 0800 917 7650 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

It's ok to not be ok.
 Some days are just harder than others.



What have you been reading lately? I have just finished The Shoes of the Fisherman by Morris West, though written in 1963 some of the thoughts are surprisingly current.
 Another I recently finished is The Good Pilot Peter Woodhouse by Alexander McCall Smith. The last paragraph reads – "You can go on loving people a long time after they have left you; you can love them every bit as much as you loved them when they were still here. Love lasts. Love grows stronger. Love lasts a lifetime, and beyond." A sentiment I find really comforting.



Please BEWARE of scammers trying to sell you Coronavirus testing kits either at your door, online or by phone. NEVER give them your bank details. You only need to be tested if you have symptoms. Call the NHS on 111 for advice.

AWAY ON TRAINING

Please be aware that Simon is unavailable from 1st – 7th October

P	S	N	O	N	X	C	O	L	D	CHIEF	PRIESTS	ELDERS
A	R	L	E	D	H	A	T	R	S	OPINION	SONS	VINEYARD
N	O	I	N	I	P	O	A	X	R	SECOND	FIRST	TAX
T	T	O	E	N	O	Y	S	E	E	COLLECTORS	KINGDOM	PATTERN
T	C	F	I	S	E	C	O	N	D			
E	E	D	O	N	T	I	N	I	L			
N	L	S	I	A	L	S	S	T	E			
O	L	V	X	E	L	D	R	F	S			
M	O	D	G	N	I	K	S	I	T			
E	C	N	R	E	T	T	A	P	F			

