



A7 Centre of Mission
St Peter's, St John's & St Cuthbert's
Scottish Episcopal Churches
6th September 2020 newsletter



Reopening for communal worship from September.

St John's Unfortunately our main contractor has yet again been unable to ensure all work was completed in time to meet the promised handover date and has not yet given us a new date. We're all very disappointed. 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

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.

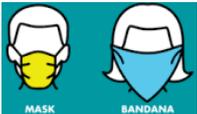
Please if you wish to attend ring Sheena(01896 751694) or by e mail (smstcg1945@gmail.com) .

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 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.



Words from Brother Lawrence

"It is not needful always to be in church to be with God. We can make a chapel of our heart, to which we can, from time to time, withdraw to have gentle, humble, loving communion with Him."

Collect 6th September Sunday

Almighty and eternal God, make us grow in faith, hope and charity: and that we may be worthy of your promises, cause us to love what you command; 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 33:7-11 Good News Translation

“Now, mortal man, I am making you a lookout for the nation of Israel. You must pass on to them the warnings I give you. If I announce that an evil person is going to die but you do not warn him to change his ways so that he can save his life, then he will die, still a sinner, and I will hold you responsible for his death. If you do warn an evil person and he doesn't stop sinning, he will die, still a sinner, but your life will be spared.”

Individual Responsibility

The LORD spoke to me. “Mortal man,” he said, “repeat to the Israelites what they are saying: ‘We are burdened with our sins and the wrongs we have done. We are wasting away. How can we live?’ Tell them that as surely as I, the Sovereign LORD, am the living God, I do not enjoy seeing sinners die. I would rather see them stop sinning and live. Israel, stop the evil you are doing. Why do you want to die?”

Romans 13:8-14 Good News Translation Duties toward One Another

Be under obligation to no one—the only obligation you have is to love one another. Whoever does this has obeyed the Law. The commandments, “Do not commit adultery; do not commit murder; do not steal; do not desire what belongs to someone else”—all these, and any others besides, are summed up in the one command, “Love your neighbour as you love yourself.” If you love others, you will never do them wrong; to love, then, is to obey the whole Law. You must do this, because you know that the time has come for you to wake up from your sleep. For the moment when we will be saved is closer now than it was when we first believed. The night is nearly over, day is almost here. Let us stop doing the things that belong to the dark, and let us take up weapons for fighting in the light. Let us conduct ourselves properly, as people who live in the light of day—no orgies or drunkenness, no immorality or indecency, no fighting or jealousy. But take up the weapons of the Lord Jesus Christ, and stop paying attention to your sinful nature and satisfying its desires.

Matthew 18:15-20 Good News Translation When Someone Sins

“If your brother sins against you, go to him and show him his fault. But do it privately, just between yourselves. If he listens to you, you have won your brother back. But if he will not listen to you, take one or two other persons with you, so that ‘every accusation may be upheld by the testimony of two or more witnesses,’ as the scripture says. And if he will not listen to them, then tell the whole thing to the church. Finally, if he will not listen to the church, treat him as though he were a pagan or a tax collector.

Prohibiting and Permitting

“And so I tell all of you: what you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and what you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven. “And I tell you more: whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them.”

Simon's reflection for 06/09/2020

The Most amazing thing about being a Minister/Priest/Vicar/Pastor/Padre. What every you're known as, is that sometimes you find yourself in some bizarre situations.

One such time for me was when I was called to a marital situation where a husband had been locked out of his house and his wife refused to let him back in.

He had come back from from Exercise after 6 days in the field with all his kit very tired grubby etc. He couldn't get in to his house.

I was called to see if I could help sort things out.

I went round to see the wife and hear what it was about.

She told me He does not love her any more. He is obviously having an affair with someone else. So, I ask her why she felt that. It's his behaviour that has changed. Doesn't appreciate her any more.

When we got down to it, lately he'd been coming home from work, sis in arm chair falls asleep for ages then watch TV, then goes to bed .

The last straw was when he left for the exercise last week. He did not kiss her good bye . Just said “bye” and ran out of the house. She said she has had enough.

Well, when I finally got her to agree and meet with him and let him in the house, I asked her to share with her husband what she had said to me.

He then explained of course he still loved her, but has had to do a lot of extra work and he was coming home NACKERD. When he ran out of the house last week it was because he was late for the exercise.

Of course, he still loved her and was very sorry about seemingly taking her for granted.

Well he saw the errors of his ways and realized he had to show his appreciation and love for her and make time for her.

I'm pleased to say there was a happy ending even if he did end up spending a couple of nights on a mate's sofa. He learnt from his mistake.

Now he's made it a policy to have a weekend away together about every 6 weeks and go out somewhere once a week .

But the point of me sharing this with you that in our Gospel Reading Jesus points out to us that rather just going out and getting at each other with fists and hammers and tongs. We should try and work out our differences and if we feel that we won't be heard take someone with us to help mediate and help us understand and to listen and hear what both parties are saying. It's funny to think that even then Jesus was setting an example and principles of how to work out disputes and upsets.

In Employment today in most places of work the Discipline procedure is usually:-

1 Quite Word.

2 Verbal Word with someone present

3 Written Warning

4 A hearing of some kind

5 A session is made.

But in all cases from 1-4 The parties are given time to adjust their actions.

Jesus is always doing that with us. The difference in us and him is that he never gives up on us and always loves us. Even when we are out of order. Yes, he corrects us, but never stops loving us.

Perhaps when we find ourselves in such similar situations, we should remember that God is with us and perhaps we should try and adopt his methods rather than just to go in to a full-blown conflict with someone. Let's always ask God to help us. Amen.



Intercessions for 6th September 2020

Through these prayers, we come with an openness to express our concerns for the Church and the world, to the God of compassion and gracious understanding.

Everlasting God, whenever we start to get offended by your generosity or open-mindedness, give us the grace to repent and join your rejoicing. Guard the Church against self-righteousness and all rules and limits which you would not own, but keep always before us the rule of love.

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

Creator God, increase in us love 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. Keep safe those who are brave enough to demonstrate on the streets as they try to instigate change in their communities. We pray too for all those who are researching the Covid-19 Pandemic asking that they be successful in finding a way forward for all humanity.

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

Father God, may our closeness to family and friends make us never exclusive shutting others out, but always inclusive, welcoming others. Encourage us in outgoing hospitality and keep us from becoming possessive with those we love. We ask this whilst remembering the rules of social distancing where it is both appropriate and the safe thing to do.

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

Loving God, we pray for all offenders in prison, that on release they will not re-offend but find enough support to start a new life in the community. We pray for all who are vulnerable and unable to cope with the demands of life, for alcoholics, drug addicts and all who struggling with mental health issues. We pray for proper, compassionate help for them. We remember in our hearts all those know to us who need support of any kind.

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

Merciful God, we pray for those who have died both those known to us and those who have died alone, and unnoticed. We pray for those who have committed suicide or died in accidents. We commend them, to your merciful love and ask your comfort to their loved ones.
Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, thank you for helping us to pray; deepen our loving so that as we pray through this coming week we may do it with your heart of compassion.

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



As 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



BBC 1 TV. Songs of Praise usually Sunday afternoon 13:30hrs.
RADIO 4 Morning Worship Sunday. 08.10hrs RADIO 4 LONG WAVE Daily morning service Mon-Fri 09:45.

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/UCJkxEqnglnze4SeN4I54Ecv>

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.

During the lockdown and the phased easing of restrictions, 14 Christian churches and organisations across the country have joined in prayer. Rt Rev Dr Martin Fair, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, encourages us to join him in praying on Sunday.

"And what better than to join with brothers and sisters from across the nation at 7pm on Sunday to pray our way through this ongoing crisis. I commend it to you and look forward to being with you, in Spirit, on Sunday evening."
We pray:



Most High God, you are far above us and beyond our knowing. And yet in Jesus you came among us and you are here.

With glad and grateful hearts, we praise you.

Ever faithful God, when waves threaten to overwhelm us and when fire is burning all around us, still you are with us. There is no point at which you run for cover or leave us to manage on our own.

With glad and grateful hearts, we praise you.

Guiding God, you are a lamp for our feet, a light for our path. In uncertain times, with so much that is unknown and unknowable, go before us, we pray, that being attentive to your voice we might sense your leading.

With glad and grateful hearts, we praise you.

Eternal God, there is much that is transient in our experience; we ourselves flourish as flowers and then are gone. But You, Lord, are without beginning or end; the same yesterday, today and forever. Help us to keep our eyes fixed on you and to lay up for ourselves treasure in heaven which shall not be subject to decay or destruction.

With glad and grateful hearts, we praise you.

Loving God, in all things we marvel at your goodness and long only to see you more clearly and to know you more nearly. Put salt on our lips, then, that we might thirst for you more.

With glad and grateful hearts, we praise you.

In Christ's name, AMEN.



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 Wednesday 7:30pm & Thursday 10:30am Reading Matthew 13: 1-9

<https://zoom.us/j/7538094986?pwd=Q0x4YVvk2b3Y5eEt0VkoXSOZWVWxGUT09>

Meeting ID: 753 809 4986 Password: 751474 Time: Wednesday 7:30pm and Thursday 10:30am

Sessions will open ten minutes before listed time. Host: John Marsden

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

Foodbank 07977330074 galashielsfoodbank@gmail.com

TD1 Youth Hub www.facebook.com/td1youthhub/



Congratulations Rosie on passing your exams and winning a place to study medicine at Glasgow University

Some of you will remember Rashi, a PHD research student at Herriot Watt in Gala. She brought us face masks being made by a community of daily wage workers in India which Rasji and her friend support. These are washable and cost £5 for a pack of three. (a donation of £1 goes to Gala Foodbank)



Now she has found that there are shipments of kaftans which have not been picked up by a US retailer.

There are printed and embellished kaftans in sizes S,M,L,X The fabric specification and the prices of the kaftans and the tops:

- 1) orange and blue printed ones are 100% polyester. And they are for £7 each.
 - 2) white and black embroidered long tops are 100% Rayon and are for £12 each.
 - 3) off- white yoke embroidered top is 98% cotton and 2% lurex and is for £9.
- with a donation of £1 each going to the Galashiels Foodbank.

If you are interested please contact Rashi Jain by e-mail 16rashijain@gmail.com



This is something that I really have to focus on some days as I guess the experience of lockdown has depressed me more that I realised. I have been shielding, not just for myself, but for other members of my family who have serious health issues.

I am reminded that I still cannot go into my daughter's house though she does visit me in mine.

This means that, unlike many people, I am not ready to go back to church, travel on buses or go into shops. It is not yet time for me to meet up with friends for a coffee. Actually the thought of doing this is quite scary!

I must admit that for most of the time I am quite positive to continue in this way, but, occasionally, I feel trapped. Music, books and TV films and series keep me occupied and cheerful. Of course, compiling this newsletter and getting it printed and ready for distribution keep me feeling useful and exercise my brain.

I found the following when I was trawling through websites and thought I would share it with you.

The Bible is filled with reminders of how important it is to pray for one another. Jesus gave us the best example as He prayed for those who followed Him. Paul also left us prayers written for the churches he had visited over time. The truth that rings through all is this: "Keep on praying" (Matthew 7:7), "Pray at all times" (Ephesians 6:18), "Pray continually" (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

It's that important.

So, if we're called to pray for the "church," what is the church, exactly? The Bible reminds us that the church is more than just a building or a gathering place of people. And it's much bigger than any single denomination, social status, or country. The church quite simply is the body of believers all around the world who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. It is referred to in the Bible as the Greek word "ekklesia" and is defined as "an assembly," or the "called out ones."

In a world that is often very dark, and in times that we know the end is drawing nearer, may we be found faithfully praying for one another until Christ's return. Many believers are persecuted, even killed, daily all around our world. Many are being intimidated by others around them, or are ridiculed and attacked because of their beliefs. We can be sure of this – Satan is very aware of the power of our prayers. And he will do everything he can to render us ineffective and to silence our voices. May God help us to recognize those traps and do all we can to show His love and light in this world that so desperately needs Christ's hope and healing.



Matthew 18: 15-20



I HAVE TO GO THROUGH ALL THESE STEPS BEFORE I CAN TELL SOMEONE TO GET LOST?

TED!



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

IT DESCRIBES THE ATTITUDE YOU HAVE & THE LENGTHS TO WHICH YOU'LL GO TO BE RECONCILED WITH THEM—



MATTHEW 18: 15-21

AND EVEN IF THEY REFUSE YOU ALWAYS PRAY FOR THEM & LONG FOR RECONCILIATION BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!



THIS GAME NEEDS A 'GO DIRECTLY TO JAIL, DO NOT PASS 'GO', DO NOT COLLECT \$200' CARD.

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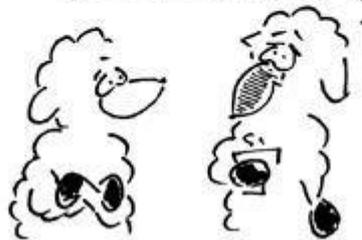
DO THESE STEPS EVER WORK?

SURE.



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

BUT EVEN WHEN THEY DON'T SEEM TO WORK, THEY GUIDE US IN A COMMITMENT TO RECONCILIATION!



OH, I GET IT! THE JOURNEY IS ITS OWN REWARD!



MATTHEW 18:15-20

THANK YOU HOMER, BUT NO.



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