

ST. NINIAN'S NEWS

December 2023, January & February 2024



**Welcome to the Newsletter for
St Ninian's Troon**

All are welcome to our Services
10.30am Said Eucharist with Hymns on Sunday
10.00am Morning Prayer with music on Monday
10.00am Holy Communion on Wednesday

Rector: Rev Keith Thomasson

01292 313731 or email: troonrector@myphone.coop

Email: stninianschurchtroon@gmail.com

Facebook: Saint Ninian's Episcopal Church Troon

Website: www.stniniantroon.org.uk

Address: Bentinck Drive, Troon, Ayrshire KA10 6HZ

Message from Rev Keith Thomasson....

My prayer for you is that during Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany prayer becomes real. Encounter with God through Jesus is renewed. Worship becomes a joy.

It was a delight to be part of the organisation team that with Bishop Kevin and Dean Reuben shaped the Diocesan Clergy Conference, Bricks without Straw. We stayed at the Buchanan Arms in Drymen, explored the vastly different contexts of Dumbarton and Helensburgh, and climbed Conic Hill. We worshipped, learned, ate, and spent time in the cosy bar together. I love being part of this diocese and value my colleagues immensely.

Bricks without Straw has three strands: Spirituality, Mission, and Finance. Following a diocesan-wide consultation, in which we participated, the emerging ideas fed into three sessions each led by a skilled external speaker, namely Alison Clark, Diana Hall and Dave Richards. Below I outline some of my main take-aways from Alison. I begin with comments on personal spirituality, then turn to the spirituality of the Vestry, and the spirituality of the congregation.



We are invited to pray as though God is real, and the more we hope to do the more we should pray. We pray as we can. We shout out loud. We pray with gratitude. For, we cannot be simultaneously anxious and grateful. Thomas Traherne was called to mind. Here are words from his poem, **Eden**,

Joy, pleasure, beauty, kindness, glory, love,

Sleep, day, life, light,
Peace, melody, my sight,
My ears and heart did fill and freely move.
All that I saw did me delight.
The Universe was then a world of treasure,
To me an universal world of pleasure.

There is a crucial link between prayer and action, and sometimes we just pray, or we just act without prayer. In the words of the Franciscan monastic, Richard Rohr, ‘Action without contemplation is the work of hamsters and gerbils’.

Alison posed several questions for personal reflection, and I offer these to you:

- What helps you feel close to God?
- What are the barriers to maintaining your own spiritual health?
- What do you need to support your spiritual health?

Perhaps with Troon in mind, Alison asked, ‘How does your golf relate to spirituality?’ Of course, you can substitute whatever you like doing for golf in this question.

Alison turned her attention to the spiritual life of the Charge in which we serve. The spiritual welfare of the Vestry is of paramount importance, and this is enshrined in Canon 60. Alison asked:

- Do we expect God to be involved?
- Do we pray as though God is real?

Alison asked who commissioned their Vestries using text from Canon 60. One hand went up.

Alison commended the importance of Vestries ‘dwelling in the Word’. She also pointed out that this often led to shorter meetings. Again, asking who facilitated this within their context, one hand went up. The challenge for us is carrying this learning into our meetings, and making it present at all our meetings.

Finally, Alison considered the spirituality of the congregation. She explained this was about the spiritual welfare of all to enable them to be 'living stones'. Holding onto scripture and being steeped in scripture, encouraging an active prayer life, praying for others, receiving prayer ministry, introducing silence, and introducing pilgrimage were all suggestions. Clearly offering prayer ministry and going away together are welcome suggestions and everything else, whilst present in our corporate life, should be further developed.

Alison ended by recalling the words of Isaiah. That we are called to be 'repairers of the breach'.

Within society, within the natural world, within our communities. What a vocation! Healing, healing, healing.

I wonder how you will receive this message of spiritual nurture? With excitement? With desire? With reluctance? With a great big YES?

In the next edition of the newsletter, I will share with you the insights from the Mission presentation given by Diana, whose church recently won a national award.

<https://www.scotland.anglican.org/two-scottish-episcopal-churches-win-at-the-national-church-awards/> (see page 20)

My prayer for you is that during Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany prayer becomes real. Encounter with God through Jesus is renewed. Worship becomes a joy.

Shalom
Keith

ADVENT LEARNING

Advent Learning will take place on Wednesday mornings, December 6, 13, & 20 at 70 Bentinck Drive KA10 6HZ. We will gather at 10.45 for 11.00 - 12.00.

We will talk about Steve Aisthorpe's book. *Rewilding the Church* (Saint Andrew Press).

Please buy your own copy and come having read chapters 1 - 3.

Advent Plainsong Compline will take place in St Ninian's on Thursday evenings December 7, 14 & 21 at 19.45.



MUSIC AT CHRISTMAS

Following a consultation by Vestry, to which all have been invited to contribute, the hymns chosen for the Christmas services, to enrich the type of services requested, are your collective choice. Please turn out to worship together over Christmas and make this a special year.

Carol services

We are hosting two carol services. The Advent Carol service: *from darkness to light* is on **Sunday 3 December** and the Nine Lessons and Carols on **Sunday 17 December**. Both will be held by candlelight.

Anyone who wishes to share in leading the singing, whether a member of St Ninian's or a friend from elsewhere, is invited to meet in church ready to sing at 16.00 - 17.00, share in a tea at 17.00, ready for the 18.00 service. Music will be led on the organ by Greg, Dan, and Reuben. Come dressed warmly.

Expressions of interest in participating in the singing: please contact Keith.



ADVANCED NOTIFICATION FOR COMMUNICANT ROLL

Following guidance from the Dean after his visitation earlier this year, the Communicant Roll should be regularly revised, at least annually. To enable this to be done it is requested that everyone completes the form that will either be emailed to them with the AGM papers or issued with their December Newsletter, and return this along with the Declaration form by **31 January 2024**.

The forms can be returned electronically if you save the document first, complete the information required and then save it again.

You can then return the form by email to:

stninianschurchtroon@gmail.com

There will also be a sealed box, emptied each week, at the back of the church for your completed forms.

If you wish to send the forms back by post please send to:

F.A.O. Administrator
70, Bentinck Drive,
Troon
Ayrshire
KA10 6HZ





**CHRISTMAS SERVICES
AT ST. NINIAN'S**

SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER ADVENT SUNDAY
18.00 Candlelight Service with readings and
hymns for Advent - preceded by refreshments from 17.00

SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
18.00 Lessons & Carols for Christmas
preceded by refreshments from 17.00

SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS EVE
10.30 Said Eucharist 15.00 Nativity for all
20.00 First Eucharist of Christmas with carols

MONDAY 25 DECEMBER WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS DAY
10.00 Book of Common Prayer - Holy Communion
with children's story and Christmas Carols.

SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER
Troon Churches Together Joint Service
11.00 for 11.30 - 12.45 worship at
Lighthouse Church, Ailsa Road, Troon.
(no service at St Ninian's)

ALL are welcome to the services, come as you are.

**SHOULD YOU WISH TO TALK ABOUT FAITH
OR A PASTORAL MATTER, PLEASE CONTACT
KEITH THOMASSON 01292 313731**



FINANCIAL SUMMARY - NOVEMBER 2023

Income & Expenditure Account Summary (excluding depreciation and changes in investment valuation) for the financial year 2022 - 23 — October 2022 to September 2023 :

Total Income	£116,283
Total Expenditure	£121,587
Surplus/(Deficit)	-£5,304

Total income exceeded expenditure resulting in a deficit of £5,304 (excluding depreciation and changes in investment valuation).

The only significant restricted fund at 30 September 2023 was the Window/Building Fund; the value of which was £16,575.

Karen McPherson Bookkeeper



Bank Account Name: St Ninian's Church Vestry

Sort Code: 82-68-21 **Account Number:** 20510140

Reference: OFFERING GIFT AID envelopes available

Donations can also be made on our **Just Giving page:**

<https://www.justgiving.com/stninianschurch>

or by cheque made out to: St Ninian's Church Vestry

KNITTING FOR MISSION TO SEAFARERS

When Rev. Tim Tunley, Chaplain to Mission to Seafarers, visited St Ninian's recently he spoke about knitting woollen hats for the seamen. Here is a pattern to knit these hats, in any colour, including black. He hopes to arrange another visit next year to receive any donations we have gathered.



You will need:

Double knit or 4 ply wool. Size 8 (4mm) Needles. 2 oz of wool. (60g)

Cast on 120 stitches. Rib (2 plain 2 purl) for 12 inches

Next Row: Knit 2 together to end of the row Purl next row.

Repeat these two rows once more.

Knit 1 row. Purl 1 row.

Pull thread through all stitches and sew up seam.

Remembrance Sunday



SCOTTISH GUILD OF SERVERS

We are now into the season of Advent taking us forward to Christmas Day the Birth of Jesus, and on the 6 January 2024 we enter into the season of Epiphany.



On Sunday 1 October, I had the pleasure of attending St. Oswald's, Maybole as Guardian of Ayrshire, when two of their servers were made members of the Scottish Guild of Servers. Both Susan and Dan were presented with a Silver Cross to be worn when serving.

I also attended the service at Holy Trinity Church, Kilmarnock for the Ordination of Tony Clapham, as a Deacon, which was on Saturday 7 October. Tony was with us for a period up to Easter this year.

The Servers of St. Ninian's will faithfully serve at the extra services over the Christmas period continuing their commitment of assisting the Celebrant at the Altar for Communion.

This may be a good time to ask you wish to think of becoming a server; I will be delighted to hear from you.

Roger Robinson

Guardian of Ayrshire and St. Ninian's, Troon

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL INSTITUTE (SEI)

Anna-Claar, Keith's wife, has been appointed as the Scottish Episcopal Institute Director of Studies. Currently, Anna-Claar is serving as a Chaplain at the Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre, where she is responsible for the spiritual and pastoral care for the men and women detained to be deported.

Anna-Claar has extensive experience in theological education and pastoral ministry. At Sarum College, she served in a variety of roles including Director of Studies for the Sarum Centre for Formation in Ministry; in the Southern Theological Education and Training Scheme, she served as Vice Principal, MA Programme Leader and Tutor in Biblical Studies.

Just before they moved to Troon, she was the Team Vicar in the Chalke Valley Benefice in the Diocese of Salisbury.

Please know of Scottish Episcopal Institute's joy in Anna-Claar's appointment and hold her in prayer.



ORDINATION OF ANTHONY CLAPHAM TO THE DIACONATE

The rains on the first weekend in October may have been of biblical proportion, but so were the streams of Grace and Gratitude flowing from Holy Trinity, Kilmarnock as the Diocese ordained its newest Deacon. Congratulations to the Rev. Tony Clapham on this wonderful new chapter in his life with Christ. Alleluia! A wonderful day for the Church!

Tony was ordained Deacon by Bishop Kevin at Holy Trinity, Kilmarnock on Saturday 7 October 2023, where he will also serve his curacy. Please pray for Tony, his family, and the community of Holy Trinity, Kilmarnock.



Tony with Bishop Kevin and Rev Matthew Little, the Bishop's Chaplin.

ST. NINIAN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship continues with the Beetle Drive which will take place on **Tuesday 5 December at 7.30pm on the Church Hall.**

In the New Year the group will recommence on **Tuesday 9 January** when Linda will be giving an illustrated talk on a journey through some of the National Parks of Western America.

On **Tuesday 6 February** Richard Wiggins will be talking about the Street Pastors that work on Saturday nights on the streets of Ayr and Prestwick. The speaker for March is still to be confirmed.



Attendances so far have been disappointing and we encourage folk to join in to ensure the continuation of this group.

All our welcome to the meetings.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE REPORT - NOVEMBER 2023

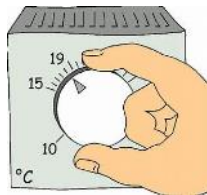
Rectory inspection 31 May.

- The work of installing electrical extractor fans has been further inspected by the plumbers and myself. Some changes to specification needed before proceeding after discussion with Rector. Advice being sought in terms of electrical specification. *Ongoing.*
- The trellis fencing between the Rectory and the adjacent property has disintegrated or come away from brick wall. Tenders to be sought. *Ongoing.*

Ceiling lights for the hall have been delivered 11 November 2023. Installation to take place after Christmas. Cost of lights £1,600.

Heating schedule for winter months' had been set for church and hall. Further adjustments to be made due to complaints of inadequate temperature in church.

Will continue to monitor.



The strip light at the organ foot well has broken. New LED light strip to be installed. Temporary light in place.

Annual gas boiler maintenance due for Church, Rectory and three flats at Sandilands in December.

Clearing of gutters at Church and Rectory to take place this month once leaf fall completed.

Should anyone require any clarification on the above items. Please just speak to me or phone me on 07774 432740

Joe Cassidy

MEMORIAL BENCH

The memorial bench to Iain Ogg, gifted by the congregation, is now in poor condition.

The Vestry agreed that an appeal be made to the congregation for donations to replace the

bench. Any donations should be handed to Joe Cassidy (tel. 07774 432740). Thank you. The Vestry.



ST NINIAN'S GARDEN UPDATE

The last few months have seen a lot of activity around the community garden. We had a lovely garden party with 20 people at the end of September. We shared what we hoped for the garden in one or a few words: ... *they will Love it, find Peace, Praise God for it, find Sanctuary and Community, Joy, Ecology and Resources.*



At the beginning of October, we had a positive meeting with residents from Sandilands, it was good to get to know each other and share ideas. From this meeting has come the idea to use the saplings that the woodland trust has donated as a hedge that will provide privacy, a sense of safety and seclusion and of course a haven for wildlife. We also agreed that when the garden starts to be in use there will be times it will be open and times it will not be open.

The fifteen little trees from the Woodland Trust have arrived, and we are awaiting final approval from the diocese to plant them. Our pre-application for permission to plant the trees has been approved and our application will be discussed in December. If all goes well, we will have a tree-planting party mid-December!

It is also wonderful to be working with the people from Re-Pollinate (a charity Hewlett-Packard work with) who are helping both with financing and designing the garden. We are hoping that later this spring a water butt, a compost bin, some storage for tools and a few raised beds will find their way into our garden.

Anna-Claar

ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH

We remember those close to our hearts whose anniversary falls these coming months,

including, in December, Dojay Meek, Dorothy Baguley, Barry Norman, Daisy Jackson, David Ritson, Roy Hardwick and Kathleen Livingstone;

...in January, Connie Parkinson, Myra Laird, Frances Watson, David Henderson, David Sutherland, Bertie Collie, Bridget Robinson, Vic McLeonard, Nessie Hull, and Jan Collins,

...and in February, Alan Williamson, Betty Aitkenhead, Pat Haigh, Lynn Deason, Walter Collins, Judith Robinson, and Marie Hawker.



SCOTTISH PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM – 2023

This was my second visit to the “The Shrine of Our Lady Walsingham” as part of a small number of Episcopalians, who went on the Scottish Pilgrimage over the weekend of September 22 to 25 and happily I was once again one of them.

We left Glasgow on a coach at 8.20am joining other pilgrims from Edinburgh on the way to Norfolk; finally arriving at Walsingham at 5.30pm.

After being shown our accommodation and eating our evening meal, we all made our first visit to the Shrine Church for a service of welcome and thanksgiving.

Over the next two days a programme of worship had been arranged for us, intertwined with the services that were on throughout the day at the Shrine, which you could attend if you wished.



The extra services I attended were the “Stations of the Cross”; “The Homily and Procession of our Lady and Benediction”; this was a candle light procession around the grounds of the Shrine. Also the “Sprinkling, Procession of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction,”

involving going down to the well and being blessed with its water. After the “Sprinkling” I felt as if I had been cleansed.

On Sunday we all attended the Parish Church of St. Mary’s for Mass in the morning and in the afternoon took the opportunity to visit the Slipper Chapel, where the pilgrims left their shoes to walk the last mile to the Shrine in bare feet.

The ambiance of Walsingham has an atmosphere of calm, a togetherness with the other Pilgrims from all around the UK; and of the friendships made. It is wonderful to worship with so many likeminded Christians. Walsingham has again reinforced my faith.

I was asked if I would serve while I was at Walsingham, “what an honour and privilege”, at our two Eucharist services. You will see from the photo I was robed in a Cassock and Cotta.



It is programmed that there is free time and I took the opportunity to ride on the narrow gauge steam railway from Walsingham to Wells-next-to-the-Sea. Walsingham Village is delightful, untouched by the modern world, even today.



The departure from the Shrine after the Eucharist followed by breakfast on the Monday morning was reflective and thoughtful, leaving behind many memories and friends.

On the journey home, all agreed that it had been a wonderful Pilgrimage and to repeat it next year, but also to meet during the year in friendship and worship.

Roger Robinson

MEDITATION GROUP

Starting in January, it is hoped to start up a monthly Meditation Group to meet the last Monday of each month.

We will meet in the Church from 10.30am to 11.00am to share readings and guided meditation.

The first meetings will be:

Monday 29th January 10.30am - 11.00am

Monday 26th February 10.30am - 11.00am

Please speak to Emma Cassidy or Val Bryant if you require any further information.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next edition is **Wednesday 21 February**

THIS EDITION WILL COVER

MARCH, APRIL & MAY

Articles should be emailed to

stnianschurchtroon@gmail.com





What a WONDERFUL turn out to the Christmas Fair, thank you to everyone who supported it in any way. A great total of £2,341.00 has been raised so far.





CHURCH PORCH NOTICE BOARD

As you have walked into church recently we hope you have noticed the new notice board on the right side of the porch. We have used headings from the Appreciate Inquiry held at the beginning of the year - **PEOPLE, PLACE AND PRAISE**. The words on the circles surrounding the congregational photograph echo what as a church community we should be focussed on:

Faith, Love, Tolerance, Understanding, Sharing, Compassion, Listening, Generosity, Spirituality, Fellowship & Communication.

The leaves depict what St Ninian's offers to the congregation and the wider community.

We hope to update the board each Easter with a new photograph.

Julia & Shona



CREATIVE COMMUNITY GROUP

The Creative Community Group continues throughout the season on the first Saturday of the month from 10.00 - 12noon. Remember everyone is welcome to come along. Even to pop in for a chat to see what we are doing and to have a coffee with us.

Our December meeting will be on **Saturday 2 December** when the project will be an Appliqué Christmas aperture card. There will also be some festive food to enjoy. In January the session will be on **Saturday 6 January**. We will have a relaxed session then. Please bring in your own work that day (or just come for a chat) and we will also have a meeting to discuss what the group would like to do in the coming months.

Our February meeting will be on **Saturday 3 February** with the project to be decided.

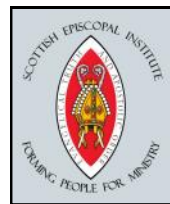
Happy Crafting, *Shona*

Items from the
Show & Tell



THE COMING OF THE CHRIST

As we observe Advent and Christmas in the twenty-first century, it is worth reviewing a first-century Christian take on the coming of the Christ by rereading some of Christianity's oldest texts, particularly the Gospels.



If we lament Christianity's waning in a post-Christian age, it is worth asking what Christians projected in a pre-Christian age. What did our forebears in the faith think about the coming of the Christ before the disciples were called 'Christians' (Acts 11.26)?

This Series considers this question in three parts. First, what Jesus means when he says that he has come down to earth from heaven (Jn 6.38). On the one hand, the coming of the Christ had been anticipated in Judaism for centuries; on the other hand, the first Christians had to interpret the Old Testament to read the signs of their times.

Second, Jesus tells us he came to save the world (Jn 3: 17). The coming of the Christ, in what St Paul calls 'the fullness of time' (Gal. 4:4 – 7), inaugurates a series of events yet unfinished until the Christ comes again 'that God may be all in all' (1 Cor. 15: 28). Third, Simeon prophesies bewilderingly about the Christ child. Whilst Simeon rejoices in the salvation wrought in the Christ, who is 'revelation for the Gentiles' and 'glory for Israel', he discloses that the baby Jesus is 'a sign of contradiction' (Lk. 2: 25 – 36).

The Series is offered on the Mondays of Advent 2023 at 7pm (GMT) on YouTube as a resource for individuals or groups to use creatively during the Season of Advent.

Presenter: Rev Canon Prof Michael Hull, Principal and Pantonian Professor of Divinity, Scottish Episcopal Institute.

1. The Christ: God come down to earth (**Monday 4 December 2023**)
2. The Christ: God come to save us (**Monday 11 December 2023**)
3. The Christ: A sign of contradiction (**Monday 18 December 2023**)

The Series is free and open to all. Register at [The Coming of the Christ \(brownpapertickets.com\)](https://www.brownpapertickets.com).

Or get the links directly from Prof Hull at principal@scotland.anglican.org.

CHURCH AT HOME



With not driving for a few weeks, there was quite a gap since I last did some home visits, so I found Nan Inglis markedly more frail. She is sleeping for more of the time, and less inclined to eat. Her carers still come four times a day, and the nurses twice a week, while her husband, Bob, makes the meals and does most of the household chores.

Doreen Jardine had a bad fall, and had to spend a night in Ayr hospital, but she has recovered, and attended the last service I did at Queen's View Harbour. She now takes Home Communion with a friend in the home, as both find the service very helpful and meaningful.

Owen Light, who hadn't been well for a while, died very peacefully in his sleep, and his funeral took place in Masonhill Crematorium. His daughter Katherine will be known to many of you, so please remember her in your prayers.

Edith Cooper is very happy in Belhaven, which she thinks is a lovely house. Unfortunately she has had a few falls of late, and her back is still giving her quite a lot of discomfort, which means that she doesn't always feel like receiving communion. When she does though, she can still say the prayers from memory. She also talks fondly about St. Ninian's, and remembers walking to church along the prom, and able to rest every now and again on all the benches so generously supplied along the way.

The Wrights were both well and bright, and full of the joys of the recent wedding of their granddaughter. They always inquire about St. Ninian's and the people they remember in the congregation.

Norma

CHURCH REGISTER



FUNERAL

Tuesday 14 November Owen Light

INTERMENT OF ASHES

Wednesday 13 September Dorothy Dojay Meek

Tuesday 26 September Michael Holm

Wednesday 1 November Robert and Nancy Denney



NATIONAL CHURCH AWARDS

Two Scottish Episcopal Churches have been announced as winners at the 2023 National Church awards, organised by the National Churches Trust.

St Anne's, Dunbar won in the Scotland Category of the Nayler Award for Excellence in Church Maintenance, and St James the Great, Stonehaven won the Church and Community Volunteer Award, run in partnership with the Marsh Charitable Trust. The awards were presented at a ceremony in London on 6 November.

St James the Great was commended for its community work in Stonehaven and the surrounding area. "I am very pleased to have been able to receive this award on behalf of the people of St James the Great and the wider Stonehaven community" said the Rev Mary Jepp, Priest-in-charge at St James. "I strongly believe for any church to survive and flourish, we need to be embedded in the community. Much of the work we have been doing at Saint James was sparked by being out and about in the community."



St James runs a weekly refugee drop-in programme as well as a community garden in the grounds of the church alongside the Inspire Charity in Stonehaven, an employability-focused day service for adults with learning disabilities. This project has also attracted the support of other local groups including the Men's Shed and the Masons.

Rev Mary continues: "This award is hugely appreciated, and it attests to the fact that we don't think of ourselves as volunteers in addition to our faith. It is because of our faith that we are all called. For us in Stonehaven it's about being open to that call, responding, and allowing the creative spirit to wriggle its way in without getting too hung up on yourself."

St Anne's, Dunbar was given the award in recognition of its recent maintenance projects. The Buildings Convener at St Anne's, Mike Ling, said: "The application of skills towards the care and

maintenance of a listed religious building is an expression of worship and at the same time a privilege. It is also an opportunity to apply the skills acquired over one's working life for the benefit of the community, to learn about specialist maintenance techniques."

Much of the work of the congregation is carried out by volunteers. Mr Ling continued: "Bringing people together to undertake tasks allows connections to be made and strengthens relationships."

St Anne's collaborates with many different organisations across the town including Dunbar Primary and Grammar Schools, Sustaining Dunbar, Belhaven Hill School, East Lothian Council and The Ridge, to continue to strengthen the social fabric of the community.

The congregation's Rector, The Rev Diana Hall, said "I'm delighted to see the hard work and dedication of Mike and our other volunteers recognised in this way. Our church building is an important focal point, but church is also so much more than a building. It's a community of love and hope with an amazing story to tell. It makes an important contribution to our common life. We look forward to continuing to explore how St Anne's and its people can serve and work with other organisations to be a blessing in Dunbar and beyond."



SUNDAYS@3

At our last Sundays@3 in November we focused on John 12 v 8 which says, *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

Anna Clear demonstrated lots of ways we can use light to show our way. We then decorated jars and lit them with battery tea lights. *Julia Izatt*

On the **24 December** we will do a Nativity. For next year please save the following dates
Sunday 4 February 2024 – Valentines Day
Friday 29 March 2024 – Good Friday
Sunday 5 May 2024 – Ascension

Sunday 7 July 2024 – Twelve-year-old Jesus in the Temple

For more information please email iolanthe.stack@gmail.com



SUNDAY LECTIONARY READINGS (YEAR B)

The numbers in brackets refer to the page in the pew bibles

Sunday: Said Eucharist with hymns 10.30am

Wednesday: Holy Communion 10.00am

Sunday 3 December Advent 1

Isaiah 64: 1 - 9 (606), Psalm 80: 1 - 7 + 16 - 18, 1 Corinthians 1: 3 - 9 (926)
Mark 13: 24 - 37

Wednesday 6 December

Sunday 10 December Advent 2

Isaiah 40: 1 - 11 (581), Psalm 85: 1 - 2 + 8 - 13, 2 Peter 3: 8 - 15a (988)
Mark 1: 1 - 8

Wednesday 13 December

Sunday 17 December Advent 3

Isaiah 61: 1 - 4 + 8 - 11 (603), Psalm 126 or Canticle: Luke 1: 46b - 55
1 Thessalonians 5: 16 - 24 (961), John 1: 6 - 8 + 19 - 28

Wednesday 20 December

Sunday 24 December Advent 4

10.30am: 2 Samuel 7: 1 - 11 + 16 (245), Canticle: Luke 1: 46b - 55,
Romans 16: 25 - 27 (926), Luke 1: 26 - 38

8.00pm: Isaiah 52: 7 - 10 (596), Psalm 98, Hebrews 1: 1 - 4 (5 - 12) (970),
John 1: 1 - 14

Monday 25 December 10.00am Holy Communion

Wednesday 27 December No service

Sunday 31 December Troon Churches Together shared worship,
no service at St Ninian's.

Wednesday 3 January No service

Sunday 7 January The Baptism of the Lord

Genesis 1: 1 - 5 (1), Psalm 29, Acts 19: 1 - 7 (903), Mark 1: 4 - 11

Wednesday 10 January

Sunday 14 January Epiphany 2

1 Samuel 3: 1 - 10 (11 - 20) (), Psalm 139: 1 - 5 + 12 - 17
1 Corinthians 6: 12 - 20 (929), John 1: 43 - 51

Wednesday 17 January

Sunday 21 January Epiphany 3

Jonah 3: 1 - 5 + 10 (753), Psalm 62: 6 - 14, 1 Corinthians 7: 29 - 31 (930),
Mark 1: 14 - 20

Wednesday 24 January

Sunday 28 January Epiphany 4

Deuteronomy 18: 15 - 20 (153), Psalm 111, 1 Corinthians 8: 1 - 13 (930),
Mark 1: 21 - 28

Wednesday 31 January

Sunday 4 February Epiphany 5

Isaiah 40: 21 - 31(582), Psalm 147: 1 - 12, 1 Corinthians 9: 16 - 23 (931),
Mark 1: 29 - 39

Wednesday 7 February**Sunday 11 February** Sunday next before Lent (Transfiguration

2 Kings 2: 1 - 12 (290), Psalm 50: 1 - 6, Readings)
2 Corinthians 4: 3 - 6 (939), Mark 9: 2 - 9

Wednesday 14 February Ash Wednesday

10.00 am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion

Sunday 18 February 1 Lent

Genesis 9: 8 - 17 (6), Psalm 25: 1 - 9, 1 Peter 3: 18 - 22 (985),
Mark 1: 9 - 15

Wednesday 21 February**Sunday 25 February** 2 Lent

Genesis 17: 1 - 7 + 15 - 16 (11), Psalm 22: 22 - 30,
Romans 4: 13 - 25 (916), Mark 8: 31 - 38

Wednesday 28 February

WEDNESDAY ROTA	
6 Dec	D. Combe
13 Dec	S. Henderson
20 Dec	N. Rayner
27 Dec	No Service
3 Jan	No Service
10 Jan	L. Rayner
17 Jan	D. Ferguson
24 Jan	D. Combe
31 Jan	S. Henderson
7 Feb	R. Robinson
14 Feb	L. Rayner
21 Feb	D. Ferguson
28 Feb	N. Rayner



COFFEE ROTA	
3 Dec am	G. & E. Wilson
3 Dec pm	G. & E. Wilson, L. Rayner
10 Dec	J. & I. Stack
17 Dec am	R. & J. Keene
17 Dec pm	E. Wilson, L. Rayner, C. Milne
24 Dec	G. & E. Wilson
7 Jan	J. & I. Stack
14 Jan	E. Wilson & S. Henderson
21Jan	A. & N. Livingstone
28 Jan	H. Henderson & J. Greenwood
4 Feb	R. & J. Keene
11 Feb	G. & E. Wilson
18 Feb	J. & I. Stack
25 Feb	H. Henderson & J. Greenwood

ROTAS FOR DECEMBER 2023, JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024

DATE	TIME	WELCOMERS	OFFERING COUNTERS	READER (R) INTERCESSOR (I)
3 Dec	10.30am	M. O'Leary A & N Livingstone	L. Rayner & M. O'Leary	L. Rayner (R) N. Livingstone (I)
3 Dec	6.00pm	J. Cassidy J. Keene & E. Cassidy	J. Cassidy & M. O'Leary	J. Deason, G. Wilson) E. Cassidy, L. Rayner) (R) P. Dowson) A-C. Thomasson-Rosingh (I)
10 Dec	10.30am	J. Cassidy E. Wilson S. Henderson	J. Cassidy & L. Rayner	G. Wilson (R) D. Ferguson (I)
17 Dec	10.30am	M. O'Leary L. Rayner & E. Cassidy	C. Milne & M. O'Leary	S. McKernan (R) C. Phillips (I)
17 Dec	6.00pm	M. O'Leary & J. Cassidy	E. Cassidy & M. O'Leary	L. Rayner, S. McKernan) C. Phillips, E. Wilson) (R) P. Dowson) A-C. Thomasson-Rosingh (I)
24 Dec	10.30am	C. Milne Milne Family	C. Milne & J. Keene	P. Dowson (R) E. Wilson (I)
24 Dec	3.00pm	(Nativity for all) J. Keene	R. & J. Keene	A-C. Thomasson-Rosingh (I)
24 Dec	8.00pm	M. O'Leary G. & E. Wilson	M. O'Leary & R. Keene	G. Wilson (R) A-C. Thomasson-Rosingh (I)
25 Dec	10.00am	L. Rayner		
31 Dec	10.30am	No Service at	St Ninian's	
7 Jan	10.30am	J. Cassidy J. Keene S. Henderson	A. Livingstone & J. Cassidy	J. Deason (R) C. Phillips (I)
14 Jan	10.30am	M. O'Leary & G. Wilson	J. & E. Cassidy	P. Dowson (R) T. Steed (I)
21 Jan	10.30am	J. Cassidy N. & L. Rayner	J. Stack & M. O'Leary	S. McKernan (R) N. Livingstone (I)
28 Jan	10.30am	M. O'Leary A. & N. Livingstone	C. Milne & J. Cassidy	R. Fallows (R) C. Phillips (I)
4 Feb	10.30am	M. O'Leary & G. Wilson	M. O'Leary & J. Stack	L. Rayner (R) E. Wilson (I)
11 Feb	10.30am	C. Milne & L. Rayner	N. Rayner & J. Cassidy	J. Deason (R) D. Ferguson (I)
18 Feb	10.30am	J. Cassidy A. & N. Livingstone	J. & E. Cassidy	A. Livingstone (R) T. Steed (I)
25 Feb	10.30am	C. Milne L. Rayner & S. Henderson	A. Livingstone & C. Milne	P. Dowson (R) N. Livingstone (I)

Responsible Person in **BOLD (for Health & Safety issues only)**