



NEWSLETTER ❖ 15TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Dear friends

A friend recently commented 'Worse things happen at sea ... like, all-day Zoom meetings ... at sea.' While there are many, many things worse than Zoom meetings, what was for some of us a new medium for communication has worn thin as the number of months with restrictions on social contact have piled up. There is something tiring and frustrating about what seems to be face to face communication but that in reality significantly attenuates our ability to express ourselves and understand others. Someone has commented, 'I don't know what *ferences* are, but based on how I feel about *conference* calls, I must be *proference*'.

Different ways of communicating have different strengths and weaknesses and a hierarchy of effectiveness has been suggested with face-to-face conversations at the top and text messages at the bottom. How we would order telephone calls, emails and written letters might be a good discussion - best conducted face to face, no doubt. However, the nature of what is to be communicated is also important. Simple, urgent messages would not be committed to the postal service when a text message or 'phone call are viable means of conveying the information. But I have little sympathy with those who get into difficulties for passing important or delicate information by text.

I am one of those many priests who does not really enjoy administration, but I know that a certain amount of it is necessary to avoid creating chaos and being a nuisance to those I am supposedly trying to support. However, one can approach administration in a fixated and proud manner to the extent that being well organised usurps more direct forms of ministry. Being too precious about admin can skew the balance of ministry and, even if it doesn't, the appearance of too much efficiency can be intimidating and cause resentment.

Years ago, a member of the College of Canons at St Paul's Cathedral 'phoned me to complain that I had sent him a date for preaching that was not on his list of offered dates. I apologised, but within ten seconds was looking at the form he had sent me - it was on my desk and just came to hand very quickly. I then noted as gently as I could that I had offered him his *first* choice of the three dates that he had submitted. My assumption was that I had made the mistake and I really did not enjoy the archdeacon's discomfort when he realised it was his mistake, not mine, even though deep down I was a little proud of (as well as relieved at) my efficiency. Unwittingly, I gave the impression of being a bit too smart for my own good, which was to cause me considerable difficulties with the man a few years later.

Administration within the life of the Church always has a pastoral dimension since it is undertaken to support the ministry of the Gospel and so demands an attitude of care and attentiveness. However, there is a creative balance to be struck between, on the one hand, obsessively checking details, records and diaries and, on the other hand, actually being with people, leading them in prayer and worship, listening to them, reading their letters and messages, and responding to them with fitting care. It's not always easy to manage that balance but I suspect that an administrative cock-up here and there could be the better of the two faults, rather than necessarily being a sign of creeping incompetence. If you fear it's the latter and I'm simply delusional, please do let me know by any available means, even Zoom!

Fr Alasdair

THIS WEEK

Sunday	0800 Mass 1000 Sung Mass 1800 Evening Prayer 1900 Mass	TRINITY 15
Monday	0800 Morning Prayer 1800 Evening Prayer followed by Mass	St Matthew
Tuesday	<i>as Monday</i>	
Wednesday	<i>as Monday</i> + Compline at 2100	<i>St Adamnan</i>
Thursday	<i>as Monday</i>	
Friday	<i>as Monday</i>	<i>St Finnbar</i>
Saturday	1100 Morning Prayer followed by Mass 1800 Evening Prayer	

Next Sunday's Evensong at 1800 will also include **Benediction**.

Zoom Meeting

To help keep in touch with other members of the congregation, join the Zoom meeting on Wednesday at 10 am using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82546386442?pwd=Nklvc005SGINVldDSlJTZEFlkUT09>

Audio recordings of some services will continue to be placed on the website here:

<https://www.allsaints-standrews.org.uk/category/virtualservices/>

MALAWIAN RICE

A renewed supply of Malawian rice is available from Lil at the Rectory, should you wish to purchase some. With thanks to Margaret Duffy who first made us aware of this source of excellent, ethically-sourced food.

MARMALADE & OTHER PRESERVES

Jill Cameron has produced a good supply of items that would normally be available at the produce stall, which we cannot arrange at present due to restrictions on gatherings. If you would like to receive some jars of preserves to support church funds, please let Jill know your requirements and she will bring it to church. If you are not coming to church at present, other arrangements might well be possible. Jill can be contacted by email jillcameron38@yahoo.com or telephone 01334 474474.

UPDATE FROM THE TREASURER

Rapidly approaching financial year end

In conversation with the Rector recently he mentioned that last Monday was the fifth anniversary of his appointment as our Priest, which reminded me that 30th September is the fourth anniversary of my becoming Treasurer. During the four years we have accomplished a great deal – restoring the Tower Flat, improvements and major repairs to Rectory Lodge and Castle Wynd House. This summer has seen the refurbishment of the former Ladyhead premises and by mid-October the church and halls restoration project will have been completed. Just prior to my appointment the church entrance courtyard had been resurfaced and the restoration of the Rectory had been completed.

All of these achievements have enhanced our buildings and secured our income from the rented properties, which has been crucial during these past months of lockdown and partial re-opening. A big vote of thanks is due to each of us who have contributed to this success; should you wish to make any last minute donations within this financial year I will be on Church supervision duty on Thursday 24th September between 4pm and 6pm to receive any contributions and to answer any questions or simply to say hello. Bank and contact details are below if you wish to contribute in other ways.

My thanks to all who contributed to the collection for the Reverend Malcolm Aldcroft, which raised £380. The Rector will be presenting a substantial gift and cheque in the next few days. Thanks are also due to Jill Cameron for promoting the Produce Stall again and to Tig and others who are supporting this activity which assists the Heritage fund whose work has continued during the lockdown and which I hope will make it possible to achieve significant improvements in the new financial year.

Our bank details:

<i>Bank</i>	Royal Bank of Scotland
<i>Branch</i>	113 – 115 South Street, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9QB
<i>Sort code</i>	83-26-28
<i>Account name</i>	All Saints Episcopal Church – St Andrews
<i>Account number</i>	00104363

Treasurer's contact details:

Mr Ian Palfrey
8a Howard Place, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9HL
01334 472358
treasurer@allsaints-standrews.org.uk

With my good wishes to you all, and my thanks to those who have continued contribute so generously through the crisis.

*Ian Palfrey
Honorary Treasurer*

CHURCH OPENING

Members of Vestry (the Trustees of All Saints') wish to continue opening the church each day ostensibly for private prayer but also for those who might like to come inside and have a look; people are naturally moved towards prayer in churches like ours, where tourists perhaps become pilgrims rather easily. While we are mindful of the amount of time that is involved for those who supervise these openings, it does seem an important thing to do when many churches remain closed.

Should you be willing to spend a couple of hours in the church every so often, it would be much appreciated. Sometimes several people come in during those hours, sometimes none; some are chatty, others are silent. However, the Government asks that we supervise the building and encourage people, when necessary, to observe protocols to minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission taking place.

If you are able to help - once or twice a month would be splendid - you can use the online rota to book times here: <https://bit.ly/allsaintssupervision>

Alternatively, if you would prefer to book a time by 'phone or email, please contact the Rector.

INTERCESSIONS

In particular need

Debbie & Priscilla White, Eleanor Ross, David McLean, Anne Zweers, *Priest*, Amy Cox, Robyn Seenan, Anne Clayton, Ian Sadler, Wilson Sibbett, Janet Reid, Julie Quantrill, Dorothy Clark, Berenice Smith

Continuing need

Lenora Mahoney, Effie Keracher, Jonah & Chris Andrews, Gareth & Jenni Saunders, Judy, Ashley & Kathleen Cummins, Charles & Thomas Ware, Ann Noltie, Lawrence Reynolds, Sally-Marie Gardner, Edie, Alice Bullough, Joan Day, Catherine Rowe, Bill Hyland, Samantha, Steve Scott, Angela Allaway, Lori-Mark Quate, Elizabeth Talbot, Rebecca, Beatrice, & Alexander

Residential care

Catriona, Fiona Ingham, John Shillaker, *Priest*, Marie-Louise Moffett, *Priest*, Charlie Mather, Robin White

Recently departed

Jean Munro

Year's mind

- 20/9 William Melville, 1920, Jean Barry Duncan, 1932
- 22 Evelyn Featherstone, 1992
- 23 Henry Gourlay, 1930, George Littlejohn Munro, 1941
- 25 Alexander William Mair Loudon, 1936, John Haselhurst, 1993,
Robert James Vodden Clark, (*Priest*), 1998,
William Robert Brown, 2012
- 26 Graham John McCabe, 2010, Margaret Pyke, 2018