

# Holy Trinity Church Monifieth Newsletter

## Candlemas 2021



Dear Friends,

On Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of February, the Church celebrates the feast of Candlemas when the infant Jesus was presented in the Temple by Mary and Joseph. It marks the end of the Christmas season. That season which has been very different this year, like so many other aspects of life during the Pandemic.

We were all set to celebrate Christmas in our church building when the call came to close in-church worship again. The flowers and other decorations were all in place when we locked the doors. A month later when I went into church to put the Christmas crib away the flowers were still blooming. It was so cold the Chrysanthemums looked good as new. (And we're saving on the electricity!)

Christmas was different. Most people didn't see as many of their family and friends as they would have liked. Some spent the day alone.

Holy Trinity had a short service on Christmas Day via Zoom when friends could share greetings and carols were sung. It was not like being in church, but we were still worshipping together as a church family.

We have continued to meet via Zoom each Sunday morning and also for a short service of Evening Prayer on a Wednesday night. Not everyone one has the technology to access these services, but I hope you have been able see the Provincial Services on Facebook and You tube or some of the televised services.

Like the Chrysanthemums we're still blooming, and the days are getting longer. God our Father is with us and holds us all in his saving power. Spring will come!

God Bless

Linda Walls Lay Reader.

## **News** **Advent Appeal**

This year our Advent Appeal was for the Rock Solid Community Food Larder. We raised £100 for this worthy cause. Any money that comes in later will be passed on by Keith Florence, Treasurer.

### **A message from Bishop Andrew**

“Last week representatives from the two vestries interviewed three shortlisted candidates by Zoom as the latest part of the discernment process for the new priest and transitional minister. On Friday, the candidates all presented very well to this panel and gave an excellent impression. Following careful discussion on Sunday with the vestry reps and Bishop Andrew, one of the shortlist will be invited, once regulations permit, to come to Monifieth/Carnoustie to visit the churches/Rectory, lead worship for the vestries and meet some key people. We hope and pray that this in-person stage may mean that this candidate can be confirmed as the next priest for Carnoustie and Monifieth.”

### **A message from the Stewardship Group**

Our Holy Trinity, Starfish Projects have supported several young people through education at school, college and most recently university. We normally make these educational sponsorship commitments for periods of 3 years, extendable as required. Over the past 13 years, this has been a most successful and worthwhile project. The Stewardship Group would be grateful to know if our congregation would wish to continue with this commitment for the coming three years. Please pass your views to Derek, Keith, or Pat, so that the Vestry can consider this at its next meeting on 19th February.

### **Sad news from eSwatini**

We heard the sad news from eSwatini/Swaziland that Bishop Ellinah had died. Her funeral was on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January and many people from our Diocese were able to access the funeral by Facebook and You Tube. Bishop Ellinah visited us at Holy Trinity when she brought some young people from Swaziland to the Diocese. Our companion links with Swaziland and Iowla remain strong. Bishop Ellinah was the first female bishop in Africa and a wonderful role model for girls. She championed environmental matters and worked to improve the care of orphans. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

