

Holy Trinity Church Monifieth

Vestry News Update July 2020

Dear Friends,

This newsletter is an extra to bring you news from the Vestry. Although not a lot seems to be happening at church, your Vestry have been working hard, with the help of Bishop Andrew, to look at the short-term future at Holy Trinity and of our longer-term needs. With your support and prayers, we trust that God will guide us to where he wants us to be.

God Bless,

Linda Walls (Lay Reader).

Reopening of the Church Building - Not Yet

In the past two weeks members of the Vestry have taken part in several meetings, on Zoom, with Bishop Andrew and other members of the Diocese to look at the regulations covering the re-opening of church buildings for worship.

It is much more complicated than it would appear from announcements in newspapers and television.

The vestry have taken the decision that we cannot re-open safely, just yet, but we will continue to work towards a time when that can happen.

A small group is going into the church this week to measure up the available space in the church and see how many worshippers could be fitted in safely with 2 metre distancing.

We are also looking at how the church will be cleaned and the cleaning materials that may be needed.

As soon as we think we can meet all the Government requirements we will pass on the arrangements to Bishop Andrew for his approval. No charge can open without his consent.

We will continue with our Sunday Services via Zoom for the time being.

Long Term Future of Holy Trinity.

The Vestry have been working with Bishop Andrew since Canon Kenneth's departure looking at the possibilities of finding a new Priest.

Bishop Andrew has suggested that sharing a Priest with Holy Rood Carnoustie would be our best option.

This is not a link as such. We would retain our independence from one another, have our own Vestries and keep our own regular service times.

The Priest would lead the Service every second Sunday at 10.30am and the Lay Team would lead on the other Sunday.

The Priest would lead the midweek service every week at each church as they have it on different days.

The finances have been carefully considered and both churches think they could meet these. Holy Rood would provide a rectory.

The Vestries of both churches have discussed the details with Bishop Andrew, taking into account the difficulties that we experienced in the past. Bishop Andrew would have oversight of the Priest and the post would have an initial limit of three years.

Bishop Andrew would have an active role in finding and choosing a new priest. We would not be left to do it all ourselves.

These proposals have the support of the Vestry. The alternatives would be to either finance a Priest solely for Holy Trinity or to continue with the present rota system, neither of which are really practical. If you have any comments or questions however, please contact Derek Buchan, Vestry Secretary as soon as possible as our decision needs to be conveyed to the Bishop in the next 10 days.

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