



St John the Evangelist

Scottish Episcopal Church, Jedburgh

MAGAZINE



Spring 2020

St John's — A community of welcome in the Borders

Dear Reader

2020, and the start of a new decade; will much change is an open question!

The Snowdrops on the front cover of this magazine herald the coming of spring and of new beginnings in the natural world; known in some parts of the country as ‘Candlemas Bells’, they also remind us of our Christmas celebrations. So, once again, our magazine looks both backwards and forwards.

There are certainly many challenges that face us all, both individually and collectively throughout the world. The challenges that we face here at St. John’s may seem trivial in comparison with the ones faced in the wider world, but they are the ones that we, personally, can do something about, and in our own small ways make a difference in the lives of those around us.

We may be an “ageing” congregation,
but we are not a “helpless” one and
little things mean a lot

The Prie-Dieu

Beginning a New Day

This is the beginning of a New Day.

God has given me this day to use as I will.

I can waste it - or grow in its light and be of service to others.

But what I do with this day is important, because I have exchanged a day of my life for it;

when tomorrow comes, today will be gone forever.

I hope I will not regret the price I paid for it.



Amen

FROM FATHER ANDREW

As I write, it's blowing a gale outside as Storm Dennis passes over Scotland and all is wintery and cold. As you read this though, Spring will be in force and if all goes as it should we'll be surrounded by the flush of green and all the signs of new life and leaf. It's the hope we cling to when things seem to be firmly rooted in a winter experience.

Some of what I've been working on lately can seem to be a bit like that winterlike phase. Recently the Committee that has faithfully organised many of the activities of Jedburgh Churches Together voted to cease activities in its current format and, like our Messy Church ministry, has put some time-honoured activities on hold so that they can be reassessed for the future. I don't think these pauses are signs of death, decay or diminishment but a Spirit given opportunity to potentially clear space, time and energy for what new life might be in store for us. Just like Jesus says when he talks of the seed that must die so that new life can occur.

Vietnamese philosopher Thich Nhat Hanh echoes this....

"We are often sad and suffer a lot when things change, but change and impermanence have

a positive side. Thanks to impermanence, everything is possible. Life itself is possible. If a grain of corn is not impermanent, it can never be transformed into a stalk of corn. If the stalk were not impermanent, it could never provide us with the ear of corn we eat. If your daughter is not impermanent, she cannot grow up to become a woman. Then your grandchildren would never manifest. So instead of complaining about impermanence, we should say, 'Warm welcome and long live impermanence.' We should be happy. When we can see the miracle of impermanence, our sadness and suffering will pass."

God is at work in us as always. The Holy Spirit continues to move among us and I am confident the Gospel message of transformation and hope will still be preached among us. The pruning and dormancy of winter is necessary for the vigorous growth that nature shows all around us. May we be ready for the greening and possibilities for growth that our God promises us too. May God's blessing stir renewed and vigorous hope in us all.

Andrew



INVITATION FROM THE CHOIR STALLS

“Simple, modest and well understood” is how Elizabeth Tudor wanted music to be in her nation’s churches. As a choir, we fully endorse this, especially since we are few in number at present.

If you enjoy music and want to share that enjoyment, please consider joining our choir. If you have doubts about a long-term commitment, we would welcome ‘seasonal’ members, to help us celebrate our festivals in style.

Music is good for our well-being as it touches us in many different ways and on many levels. If you, or someone you know, could benefit from singing with others, please think about joining us; you would be warmly welcomed.

Unfortunately (for us!) we are having to say a *partial* farewell to Lesley Thompson; partial because she will be back, spasmodically!

Lesley has been a part of St John’s for a long time and has been active in many roles. She was Treasurer at one time, a valued member of the choir, and has also administered the chalice and served at the altar.

Hopefully we shall continue to see her from time to time, but she is finding that living the other side of Coldstream is posing problems for a regular commitment to St John’s. We wish her well.



ABERLOUR

Scotland's Children's Charity

St John's Advent appeal

Aberlour has existed for over 145 years but has changed much in that time. Their house (in fact a bungalow) at St Boswells has been regularly supported by St John's for many years and again last Advent.

The St Boswell's Bungalow provides respite care to a maximum of 4 children or young people who have learning and/or physical disabilities at any one time. It is currently caring in particular for children with autism and the ratio of staff to children, which is always one to one, sometimes has to be increased to two to one, depending on the child.

At the beginning of December, at the 10.30am Sunday service, we were visited by the Service Manager at St Boswell's Bungalow, Jess Entwistle, who gave us an insight into the work carried out there. During the service, members of the congregation were asked to write a specific prayer on a card and to hang it on the 'twinkly tree' at the front of church. Aberlour donation envelopes were available at this service and throughout Advent.

In January, Margaret Grover, Liz Kiteley and myself took the donations and the prayer cards to Jess at 'The Bungalow', met the dedicated staff team and were shown around.



Jess has written to say 'thank you' to all those who donated cash and cheques to the sum of £243.00 for the work of Aberlour at the Bungalow in St Boswell's and for the prayer cards, which were very much appreciated.

Ann Beck

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

The Christmas Market was held in the High Street in the middle of December and for many months beforehand the Sewing Group, members of the congregation and friends of St. John's had been busy making Christmas gifts to sell on our stall. There was a wonderful selection of gifts from many talented people.



On the day Kathleen, Jill, Ruth, Callum, Isobel and Lily spent a cold morning manning our stall at the bottom of the High Street and we were up against strong competition from other craft stalls. The Lucky Dip was a great success with the youngsters and we were kept busy with interest in the goods we had to offer, and selling raffle tickets. Although we were 'frozen' (!) our spirits were high and we enjoyed chatting with everyone.

The final total raised was over £400, but perhaps the fact that we were part of a Community Project was more important.

Next year we hope there might be mulled wine and hot-dogs to keep us warm!

The Christmas Services started with the Carol Service on 15th Dec; this annual event has been held for some years now in conjunction with Jedburgh Rotary Club. It is a chance for members from other churches and all the Jedburgh Community to join together in celebration of the great festival of Christmas. After the service we share refreshments and any money collected is split between the Rotary Club's local charities and St John's.



On Christmas Day it was lovely to have the church filled with people of all ages, including many visitors. Few of us who were there that morning will forget the little lass who, under the guidance of Fr Andrew, checked that all the figures in the Christmas story were in their rightful places (the shepherds first having to be moved from their 'fields' under the altar). Her beaming smile and raised 'thumbs-up' as each check was made, was of sheer joy.



Epiphany (6th Jan) saw the Three Kings joining the scene, which formed a link with Helen's beautiful flower arrangement in the porch;

to symbolize the gifts of the Wise Men she had used elements of gold, white flowers for perfume (incense), and greenery for myrrh which comes from a green shrub.



ST JOHN'S LUNCHES



The lunches at St John's have been provided once a month for the last thirteen years to allow friends to enjoy a good meal together, as well as giving an opportunity to make new friends.

- A two course hot meal is provided, with tea or coffee, for £3:50.
- Special diets are given consideration.
- Transport is provided where required.
- All this is provided by volunteers.



If you are reading this, please come along and join us; you will receive a warm welcome.

Should you wish for more information, please contact Elizabeth or Isobel.

VESTRY NEWS

At the AGM of St John's, held last December, two members of Vestry stood down after serving for three years. Thanks were given to Patrick Copsey and to Cathy Lees for their service and commitment to St John's.



Two new members of
Vestry were elected:
Adam Bolam-Peel and
Rosemary Wilson.
Rosemary will be our
representative to Synod.



Jedburgh Churches Together now has Paul Beck
as St John's Representative.

Names and contact details of all Vestry members
are found on page 13 of the magazine.

Vestry meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month
and the minutes of each meeting can be found in
the yellow folder on the bookshelves at the
entrance to church.



*Colin and Helen say a sincere Thank You
to the Family of St. John's
for sustaining us through last year
with prayers, phone calls, visits and offers of help.
God Bless one and all.*

EASTER TRADITIONS

Most of the customs that we have come to associate with Easter have in fact got nothing to do with the Christian Festival that we celebrate today; they pre-date Christianity and celebrate the coming of Spring.

The name “Easter” derives from the Anglo-Saxon name for April (Eostermunath) which in turn was named after Eostre, the Saxon goddess of spring whose feast day was the day of the Spring Equinox. Eggs were sacred to her as a symbol of fertility and from this we get the Easter Egg symbolizing New Birth.



Devotees of Eostre also considered the hare, always very evident in the springtime, to represent fertility and the regeneration of life. When German immigrants took the tradition of a hare who brought coloured eggs to children to the USA, the people there were unfamiliar with hares, and so the Easter Hare became the Easter Bunny!!

The link between Hot Cross Buns and Good Friday is somewhat obscure. On a practical level it may be a relic from pre-Reformation days when all bread was marked with a cross as a charm against evil spirits that might prevent the dough from rising. Another suggestion for their connection to Easter is that the four quadrants formed by the cross symbolised the four seasons of the year.



Whatever the reasons for having these seasonal ‘treats’, they are certainly very welcome!

Website :
www.stjohnsjedburgh.org.uk



This magazine is also available on our website,
with further information about St John's in Jedburgh.

March 22nd Mothering Sunday
March 29th Passion Sunday
April 5th Palm Sunday
May 10th – 16th Christian Aid Week

HOLY WEEK

Ash Wednesday 26 February

11.00 am Eucharist and imposition of ashes, followed by the Old School Lunch
5.30 pm Evening Prayer and imposition of ashes

Evening Prayer/Reflection: Tuesdays in Lent at 5.15pm

Maundy Thursday 9 April

Events
cancelled

6.15pm shared Agape meal in Centre with Liturgy of the Word
7.00pm Eucharist in St John's

Good Friday 10 April

10.00am Stations of the Cross
2.00pm Meditation around the Cross

Easter Sunday 12 April

7.00am Dawn/New Light service in the bandstand
10.00am Easter Eucharist

REGULAR DATES

Old School Lunch	12.30pm	in the Centre on 25 Mar, 29 Apr, 27 May
Sewing Group	10.00am	in the Centre on 1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays
Choir Practice	6.15pm	in Church each Friday. All welcome to join in
Vestry Meetings	6.15pm	in the Centre on 17 th Mar, 21 st April, 19 th May
Messy Church		being restructured to resume in late summer.

ANNUAL SPRING COFFEE MORNING

2020

Yes Folks, the last 12 months have flown by and its that time of the year again! Our main fundraiser is on:-

SATURDAY 14th MARCH
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION HALL
10.00am - 11.30am(ish)

The Coffee Morning has become quite an institution over the years and preparations are gearing up. It's a smooth well-oiled machine that relies so much on the generosity of time and effort by members of the congregation and supporters, mostly working quietly away in the background.

Thank you to everyone who contributed items for the Market stall and surplus stock will go for sale on the Gift Stall. We are also looking for new and quality gifts (please, NO bric-a-brac!); homemade cakes and edible goodies for the Cake Stall; prizes suitable for the Raffle and items e.g. bottles, small prizes for the Tombola.

**Events
cancelled**



Helpers are always required on the day so please get in touch if you have some spare time. Or just come along and support the morning and enjoy a cup of coffee and chat.

Items can be given to any Vestry member or brought along on the morning.

For further information or suggestions/offers of help please get in touch with myself on:-

01835 822314 or
info@wellrig.co.uk

Liz Kiteley

**Looking forward
to seeing you
there!**

THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Saint John the Evangelist

Website: www.stjohnsiedburgh.org.uk

Priest in Charge Revd A Cooper, 46 Castlegate, Jedburgh TD8 6BB
stjohnsiedburgh@outlook.com (07864 047824)

Lay Representative Rosemary Wilson
Churches Together Mr P Beck

VESTRY

Mrs A Beck
Mr A Bolam-Peel
Mrs C McLachlan
Mr J Ogilvie
Mrs I Portch
Mrs E Martin
Rosemary Wilson

Contact
details
removed

Treasurer Mrs E Kiteley
Vestry Secretary Mr G Watt
Protection Officer Mrs R Johnson
Organists Mr T Ferguson
Mrs I Portch
Sacristans Mrs J Bennet, Mrs M Taylor

MAGAZINE TEAM Mrs M Grover
Mrs A Beck
Mrs J Coulson
Miss K Turnbull
Mr P Beck

If you have any concerns or questions about anything at all connected with the life of St John's, or feel that you might like to become more involved in some way, please talk to any member of Vestry.

You might be just the person that is needed!

We are always keen to receive articles from you for inclusion in the magazine. The deadline for anything to be included in the Summer magazine is Sunday 17th May

Saint John's Church – Services

SUNDAYS

9.00 am Holy Communion 1970 Scottish Liturgy
 10.30 am Sung Eucharist 1982 Scottish Liturgy

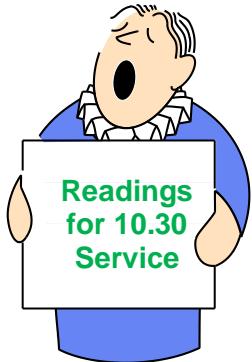
THURSDAYS

10.00 am Holy Communion

Also Communion on important saints' days

READINGS FOR 10.30am SERVICE

08 March Lent 2	Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17	19 April Easter 2	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 161 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31
15 March Lent 3	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42	26 April Easter 3	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35
22 March Lent 4	2 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 127 Colossians 3:12-17 John 19:25b-27	03 May Easter 4	Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10
29 March Passion Sunday	Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45	10 May Easter 5	Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14
05 April Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31 Philippians 2:5-11 Passion story from Matthew	17 May Easter 6	Acts 17:22-31 Psalm 66 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21
09 April Maundy Thursday	Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14 Psalm 116 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-3	24 May The Ascension (from 21 May)	Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53
12 April Easter Day	Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118 Colossians 3:1-4 Matthew 28:1-10	31 May Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23



MYSTERY

*I know not by what methods rare,
But this I know – God answers prayer.*

*I know not when He sends the word
That tells us fervent prayer is heard.*

*I know it cometh – soon or late;
Therefore we need to pray and wait.*

*I know not if the blessing sought
Will come in just the way I thought.*

*I leave my prayers with Him alone,
Whose Will is wiser than my own.*

LIZ KITELEY

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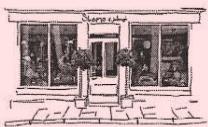
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