

Christ Church, Dalbeattie & St. Ninian's Castle, Douglas

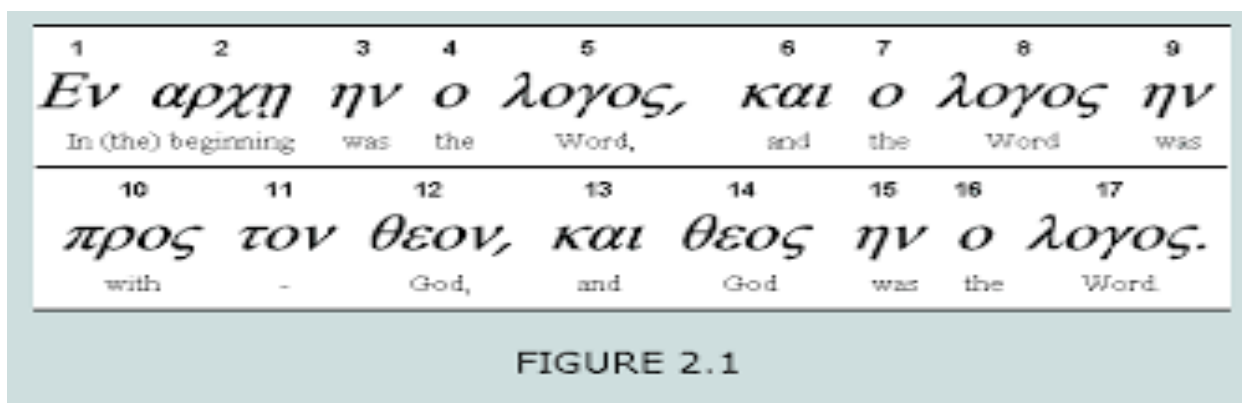
SC010918 & SC011079

12th Sunday after Trinity, 4th September, 2022

Tel 01556 505 894 <https://dcdchurches.org.uk/>

PAX

Dear friends in Christ



*1*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. *2*He was in the beginning with God. *3*All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being *4*in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. *5*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

John 1: 1-5

We are entering autumn and this autumn would appear to mark the beginning of an emerging New World. This can be read at many levels, but in church our new screens will move us into a very definite new era. You will be familiar with the advantages of the screens (we still provide large print versions of the service) and our connection to the internet and the innumerable possibilities it opens up to us. This is why I used the opening verses of John's Gospel to begin our recent Vestry meetings. You will have read in an earlier Newsletter how the Archbishop of Canterbury said at the Lambeth Conference, we need to be 'familiar with modern technology or we will not have anything to say to the younger generation'. Church is in a new era. We must preserve what is best from the past and adapt for the future!

Perhaps nothing is clear, yet there is an irresistible force pushing us on. This is happening in all walks of life but what is taking place in our church lives is exciting and reinforcing the responsibility our generation has to pass on a meaningful baton of Faith to the younger and present generations. I would normally have quoted St. Francis of Assisi at this point “Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words if necessary.” But there appears to be a controversy here.¹ A key text appears to be:

how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?

Romans 10: 14

In this new age we need to do as the Early Church and true followers of Christ have done down the ages:

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.”

Colossians 3: 16



We need to be like this cartwheel. There are many ways to God. All different! However, as we approach the centre we find they all have the same God in common! God’s and Jesus’ Ways are the same. This is surely the essence of letting the ‘*Word of Christ dwell in you richly*’. How we achieve this is a personal journey and a journey in communion with the faithful of our communion.

We are on a journey. A new beginning. What will the indwelling of the Word lead us to? What we do know is that the “⁵*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.*”² There is always Hope!

I would like to end with some familiar words of T.S Eliot:

¹ <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/factchecker-misquoting-francis-of-assisi/>

² John 1: 5



*“We shall not cease from
exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first
time.
Through the unknown,
remembered gate
When the last of earth left to
discover
Is that which was the beginning;
At the source of the longest river
The voice of the hidden waterfall
And the children in the apple-tree
Not known, because not looked for
But heard, half-heard, in the
stillness
Between two waves of the sea.”³*

My prayers are for you and me as we walk hand in hand into this new beginning.

Yours in Christ

Christopher
Rector

Please pray for: Mary Collins and George Sims.

From the Registers:

Baptism: Klara Paula Cook

Renewal of Wedding Vows: Melissa & Gary Kidd

Funerals: Janet Peckham, Marjorie Ferguson-Wright, Cynthia
Barbara Gibb

³ —T.S. Eliot, from “Little Gidding,” *Four Quartets* (Gardners Books; Main edition, April 30, 2001) Originally published 1943.”

St. Ninian's Patronal Festival 10.30am, Sunday 18th September



We shall be celebrating our Patron's feast day at our Sunday family Eucharist on Sunday 18th September. Our Eucharistic celebrations will culminate in a meal at the King's Arms Hotel, Castle Douglas. We hope that as many of you as possible will join us in our celebrations. Here is the menu. Our table is booked for 12.30pm. To help with catering please sign the form at church or let Christopher (Rector) know cg.ketley@zen.co.uk t. 01556 505894.

The King's Arms Hotel

Hot Roast Lamb & Mint Sauce
Chicken Curry served with Basmati Rice
Deep Fried Scampi & Tartare Sauce
King's Arms Salad
(Chicken, Prawns & Pineapple bound in Mayo)

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Warm Apple Pie & Custard
White Chocolate & Raspberry Cheesecake
Luxury Salted Caramel Ice Cream
Luxury Belgian Chocolate Profiteroles

Tea & Coffee

2 Courses £24



The Lang Art Gallery 'Lindisfarne Gospel' Exhibition
17/9 to 9/12 <https://laingartgallery.org.uk/whats-on/lindisfarne-gospels>