

*Christ Church, Dalbeattie,
is linked with St Ninian, Castle Douglas,
and is part of the
Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway
in the Scottish Episcopal Church,
part of the worldwide Anglican Communion
and a member of Dalbeattie Churches Together*

www.christchurchdalbeattie.wordpress.com



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Christ Church News

Harvest



& Autumn

AD2018

Issue No. 29

What goes on at Christ Church ?

Regular Worship:

SUNDAYS	9.30am	Sung Eucharist
THURSDAYS	10.00am	Holy Communion

at St Ninian's, Castle Douglas:

SUNDAYS	8.00am	Holy Communion
	11.00am	Family Eucharist
WEDNESDAYS	10.15am	Holy Communion
SECOND SUNDAY	6pm	Evensong
LAST SUNDAY	7pm	'Alternative' Worship

Regular Groups and Activities:

M.A.B. (Monday at Beryl's) Group

begins with a cuppa and catch-up, then prayer followed by a Bible study looking at fresh perspectives from various resources.

Alternate Mondays, 10.30am at Islecroft House, Mill St.

CONTACT: Beryl Scott on 610283

Hard of Hearing Group (Drop-In Clinic)

is a local charity with trained volunteers who can provide help and support with various practical aspects of Hearing-Aid use.

Tea and Coffee are provided, just drop in, have a drink, a biscuit and a chat.

Second Tuesday in the month, 10am-12noon, Christ Church Hall

Ecumenical Groups and Activities:

Together with God

is a monthly time of worship, prayer and fellowship organised by members of Dalbeattie Churches Together.

Third Sunday of each month at 7pm, various locations

See Weekly Pew Sheet for further details ...

Who's Who at Christ Church

CLERGY:

Rector	Rev Canon Christopher Ketley	505894
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VESTRY (Committee):

Dr Keith Dennison	Rector's Warden/Lay Chair	630413
George Sims	People's Warden	612069
Jane Greenwood	Minute Secretary	611144
Llyn Glendinning	Honorary Treasurer	610676
Edith Thorp	Synod Lay Rep	610816
Dr Keith Dennison	Alternate Synod Lay Rep	630413
Helen Stephens	Protection of Vulnerable	610627
Robin Charlton		630265
Alison Forrest		630344
Matthew Pumphrey		630246

GROUPS & ACTIVITIES:

Bible Reading Fellowship	Dr Keith Dennison	630413
Brass & Cleaning Group	Robin Charlton	630265
Chat & Craft Group	Jane Greenwood	611144
Flowers)		
Gardens) Co-ordinator	Julie Dennison	630413
Readers)		

WEBSITE:

www.christchurchdalbeattie.wordpress.com

Sue Thomas 612863

suethomas21@btinternet.com

MUSIC:

Honorary Organist	Maggie Kelt
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CHRIST CHURCH DIARY

OCTOBER

Wed 3rd 12noon **Induction of new Rector**
Sat 6th 10am **Preparing Church for Harvest**
6pm **Harvest Supper** at St Ninian's
SUN 7th HARVEST FESTIVAL
Fri 12th 7pm **Harvest Supper** at Parish Church Centre
SUN 14th 6pm **Evensong**
SUN 21st 7pm **Together with God** at Parish Church Centre
SUN 28th 7pm **'Alternative' Worship**

NOVEMBER

SUN 11th REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
10.30am **Joint Service in Colliston Park**
6pm **Evensong**
Sat 17th 10am–12noon **Winter Sale**
SUN 18th 7pm **Together with God** at St Peter's
Sat 24th 7pm **Mark: Live!**
SUN 25th 7pm **'Alternative' Worship**

DECEMBER

SUN 2nd ADVENT SUNDAY

See Weekly Pew Sheet and website for further details ...

Remembrance Sunday

The Dalbeattie Churches are joining together in Colliston Park to mark the Centenary of the Armistice

Annual Winter Sale

in the Town Hall from 10am, Sat 17th Nov.

Any offers of help, donations, baking, etc. to Jane Greenwood

Mark: Live!

is an engaging, funny and challenging One-Man Show presenting the Gospel of Mark in Dalbeattie School from 7pm, Sat 24th Nov.

This is the ideal event to bring a friend along to.

Watch for posters and ticketing details.

From our new Rector, Rev Canon Christopher Ketley

Dear friends in Christ,

Peace be with you.

I am greatly looking forward to serving as your Rector at St Ninian's, Castle Douglas and Christ Church, Dalbeattie. My wife, Jane has had links with Galloway through her family for many years. It is thanks to her that I have come to know and love the people of Galloway, and especially the hills!

Since being ordained priest in 1996, I have served in the Dioceses of Liverpool, Manchester, and Moray, Ross, and Caithness. The towns, cities and countryside have all been very different, but the experience and needs of God's people in life can be quite similar.

Before ordination I worked in sales selling tea and coffee into catering outlets across the UK and Jane worked as a GP for many years in Todmorden, and then Elgin. Our family consists of two Labradors, Dominic and Joshua – whom, I am sure, you will meet around Castle Douglas and Dalbeattie soon.

The challenge for any priest today is to make God present in the 21st century. There is a huge temptation to aim to be relevant but Henri Nouwen would say 'we need to be irrelevant'! The great privilege of my ministry has been to be present at times of great joy and sorrow in people's lives. The Way of Jesus Christ is about relationship: with God, and our neighbours. I hope that through walking with you, on your journey, we can, together, show God's way to live life. The world in which we live is crying out to be loved. Too many people feel alone and uncared for.

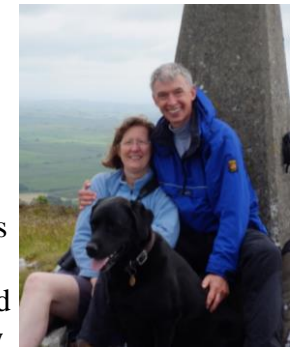
As Jesus says: "...where two or three meet in my name, I shall be with them." *Matt 18:19*

Jane and I look forward to getting to know you all. The door of the Rectory will always be open.

Yours in Christ

Christopher and Jane

***INDUCTION OF NEW RECTOR followed by lunch
Wed 3rd Oct, 12noon at St Ninian's Church, Castle Douglas***



AN AUTUMN WARMER

With the hoped-for bumper harvest well under way, what better way to use some vegetables than with a warming, hearty soup ...

Autumn Vegetable Soup...

You will need:

- 1 small leek, chopped
- 2 small carrots, chopped
- 1 small potato, chopped
- 1 garlic clove, finely chopped
- 1 tbsp fresh rosemary, finely chopped
- ½ tsp sugar
- 410g can of chickpeas, drained, rinsed
- 3 tbsp chopped fresh parsley
- 2 x 400g cans of chopped tomatoes
- 425ml vegetable stock

... with Cheesy Toasts

You will need:

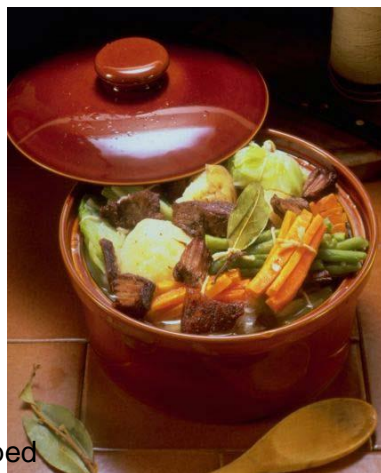
- 8 slices of baguette, cut on the diagonal
- 1 garlic clove, cut in half
- 50g edam cheese, finely grated

Method

1. Put the vegetables into a large saucepan with the garlic, rosemary, stock and sugar. Season well, stir, bring to a simmer and cover. Cook gently for 15 minutes, or until the vegetables are just tender.
2. Preheat grill to high. Whizz the tomatoes in a food processor or blender until smooth, then tip them into the vegetables with the chickpeas and the parsley. Gently heat through, stirring occasionally.
3. For the toasts, rub both sides of the bread with garlic. Grill on one side until golden, then turn the bread over, cover with edam cheese and grill until the cheese is bubbling. Serve at once with the piping hot soup.

(Recipe is taken from the BBC Good Food website.)

Miranda Brignall



From our Vestry ...

Rev. Christopher Ketley is to be our new Rector following his induction service on 3rd October. His first Sunday with us will be our Harvest on 7th October – we hope you can join us.

Christopher is anxious to be present at all the services held at St Ninian's and Christ Church each Sunday morning and feels that this is vital in order for him to get to know everyone.

In view of this the best way he can attend and oversee all the services is to move the 8.30am Communion service at St Ninian's to 8.00am and our 10.30 am Sung Eucharist to 9.30am. This would leave St Ninian's main 11.00am Family Eucharist at 11.00am.

The Vestry have spent a great deal of time and energy reviewing the situation and seeking the best way forward. We have discussed every possibility on behalf of our own congregation. We have agreed to these times because at present there is no other way around the situation, if we want to see Christopher at our services regularly. We appreciate that some people will have difficulty with the new starting time of our Sunday service. However, we have attached a proviso to our agreement that the times will be reviewed after a three-month period from the beginning of October.

We hope that you will join us in welcoming Christopher into our midst as we continue our Christian journey onwards from the strong position Mark has attained for us and in the love of Christ our Lord.

All change ...

Beryl Scott is 'retiring' from her regular Sunday and Thursday commitments after many years' service among us. We thank her for all she has given to us in so many ways.

Mark Smith has reached the end of his NSM agreement with us. He and Debbie are investigating what God has for them next as they consider Mark going back into 'full-time' Ministry. Again we are thankful for his Ministry among us over the last four years.

Saint of the Month

Saint Baithen – October 6th

Baithen was born in 536 and was a first cousin to Columba, whom he accompanied throughout all his years of exile in Britain.

While Columba was abbot at Iona, Baithen helped him administer daughter houses at Tiree and Hinba, and oversaw the work at harvest-time on Iona.

The monastery on Tiree, of which he was prior, seems to have been a house for penitents from Iona, and may have supplied food to Iona.

After the death of Columba, Baithen was appointed, at Columba's request, abbot of Iona for 3 years, until his death in 600.

The town of AbbeyStBathan's, in the Borders, is named after him.

Graham Brignall

Pop-Up Shop – 2nd, 3rd & 4th August.

We had a good busy time.
Thanks to all who helped,
dropped-in, donated ...
we raised **£800** for Church Funds!

As always it was great to chat to
our customers and get glimpses
into their lives, build on existing
contacts, make new
acquaintances and share a smile !

Thanks to everyone.



Jane Greenwood

... in need of prayer or healing?

Ministry of Laying-on-of-Hands

We offer this during our main Sunday Communion – carry the pew sheet with you to the rail and the Priest will ask your name, place a hand on the top of your head and ask God to bless you before administering Communion.

Whether a personal issue, a concern for another person or situation, or a simple desire to get close to God, this gives an opportunity to open up to God.

We offer this Ministry in faith that God wants to work in our lives and wants to use us as His channels.

Sometimes it brings healing, sometimes peace,
sometimes empowerment, sometimes wisdom
– always it opens us to God's Love, Mercy and Grace.

Healing Blankets

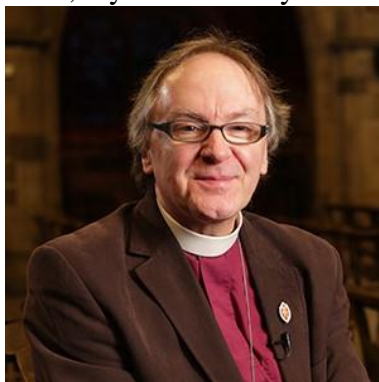
These carry a simple card assuring the recipient of our prayers and are themselves a physical 'hug' and a comfort during difficult times.

They are available at the front of church. Please take one for any relative, friend or neighbour (any age, any gender) facing a tough time of any sort (illness, bereavement, distress) **and** pray for them.

*"Healing is not in the hands of the few
it's also found in me and in you.
When you give a friendly ear
or help to dry away a tear.
just to comfort and console
really is a healing role.
So, if you know someone who is down,
make an effort to call around.
Live your life unto these ends
- the healing power of being friends-
then, if one day you're feeling blue,
your healing friends will call on you."*

From our Bishop ... **Rt Rev Gregor Duncan**

“For the avoidance of doubt”, I think, is a phrase well-beloved of lawyers. Well, I am not a lawyer ... Nonetheless, I do rather like that phrase. So, for the avoidance of doubt ... I want to [outline] to you my future plans. As I hope must be fairly obvious, my health has continued to improve and in October this year, assuming I get that far in this life, I will be 68, an age at which I have for quite some time thought it would be good to retire and lay down the pastoral staff on the altar of the cathedral. By then I will have been bishop of this amazing diocese for eight-and-a-half years, a period I guess to have been quite long enough. [So] I want to make it known that I intend to retire on 11th October 2018, my 68th birthday.



What then to say? ...
Be very personal? ...
Be theological? ...
Be effusive? ...
What might it do to say?

Well ... after Easter, I found myself reading this, from Thomas Merton's *The Power and Meaning of Love*:

“The union that binds the members of Christ together is not the union of proud confidence in the power of an organization. The church is united by the humility as well as the charity of her members. Hers is the union that comes from the consciousness of individual fallibility and poverty, from the humility which recognizes its own limitations and accepts them, the meekness that cannot take upon itself to condemn, but can only forgive because it is conscious that it has itself been forgiven by Christ.”

These words leapt out at me at the time and have stayed with me [and] help me to think that all the binding and uniting qualities listed by Merton are, surely, the work of the Holy Spirit within us, the working out of the ascended Christ's high-priestly prayer that we may all be one as He and the Father are one.

Humility, love, awareness and acceptance of our poverty, fallibility and limitations, the priority of forgiveness over condemnation, these [are] qualities which give God space to be God freely among us. For example, for quite a long time now I have thought that humility is not so much about self-abnegation as about giving the other person real space to be who they are and to rejoice in that. I think you might think the same of all these other qualities listed by Merton. And since God is the ultimate significant Other their existence among us gives space for God to be actively and graciously present at the heart of our common life, transforming us and the people around us.

So I want to suggest to you that the churches of this diocese, if they are characterized by humility, love, awareness and acceptance of our poverty, fallibility and limitations, and by the priority of forgiveness over condemnation, will be well on the way to becoming communities which give God real space to be who God is, for our good as God's people and for the good of the world. Now, of course, I know this diocese well enough and myself well enough also to know that we do not always allow that kind of freedom for God, but I also know that we do not want to be communities where vices like hardness of heart, the harbouring of long-standing grievances, persistently bad relationships, power-plays, obsession with the minutiae of our own life, shrink the space for God to almost vanishing point.

So, I suppose, my valedictory words to you are – don't be like that. Rather, as St Paul might have put it, be more and more what you already are – called and loved into being by The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and sustained in that love and call by God the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

{We wish Bishop Gregor well for his retirement and look forward to seeing him at the Induction of our New Rector (Rev Canon Christopher Ketley) on 3rd October in St Ninian's Church, CD – Ed.}

**** DIOCESAN 'FAREWELL' SERVICE**
Sunday 7th October, 6.30pm,
St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow