

# Holy Trinity Newsletter Harvest 2017

From your priest-in-charge

## **'All things bright and beautiful'**

As we celebrate Harvest Thanksgiving this year, we do so against the backdrop of a Creation that seems to be in travail. The frequency and intensity of Hurricanes in the Caribbean, earthquakes in Mexico, destructive monsoons in Asia, and the continuing drought in many areas of Africa, all serve to remind us that our world is facing grave issues in respect to our environment. While the exact causes of what is called 'climate change' are still under debate, there is little doubt that these changes are being intensified by human actions.

There is growing awareness among many Christians as to how we are called to respond to these environmental issues. It seems abundantly clear that we cannot simply continue as before. An annual service at Harvest time and using Fairtrade products, while good in themselves, are not now sufficient. Much more needs to be done.

But how are we to respond to these global issues you may ask? We could begin with the recognition that they are indeed global issues, ones that involve each and every one of us. We all have some culpability in their cause but also some responsibility in their remedy. We all have a part to play and we should never underestimate the significance of our contribution.

There are so many simple ways in which we can respond: cut out the wasteful use of energy, recycling waste, reducing our reliance on cars and fossil fuels in general. We all know about this but how often do we actually do it?

I was quite struck recently, while speaking to Primary aged children on this, as to how clued up they all were on the issue. For them the need to care for the environment was almost second nature. What was somewhat confusing for them was why the 'Minister' was talking about it to them?

My response was this. If God 'created' the world then it means that we didn't. If we didn't then it is given to us as a gift to be treasured, cared for and used appropriately. The failure of previous generations to do so seems to be self-evident despite the obvious truth that this is the only home that we have. We need to change our ways before it is too late.

So this Harvest Thanksgiving be thankful for the bounty of the earth and certainly share it with others. Reflect also on how we can both individually and as community be more respectful to our world. Consider how you could change your habits in ways that will make a positive difference to the environment.

We live in a world of many complex inter-related systems. It is a world in which every action, no matter how small, has a re-action and a consequence both for ourselves and others. Let us strive to make our actions ones that have positive and creative consequences.

Rev Ken.

## **Forthcoming events**

### **Harvest Service Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October 10.30am**

Please bring non perishable foodstuff to be donated to St Salvador's Church Food Cupboard in Dundee. (*Donations are welcome every Sunday but we try to make a special effort at our Harvest Service.*)

A soup and bread lunch will follow – please sign up in the church or contact Dorothy McFawns email

[dorothymcfawns@sky.com](mailto:dorothymcfawns@sky.com) or phone 01382796749.

### **St Andrew's-tide Ceilidh Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

Fund raising Ceilidh in aid of one of our Swaziland projects, more information to follow. (*We hope to have a special Swaziland edition of the newsletter when Pat Millar comes back from Swaziland.*)

### **Christmas Coffee Morning Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 10-12**

**noon.**

More information to follow.

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### **Being Environmentally Friendly**

If you usually get a paper copy of the newsletter but have a computer please let me have your email address and I will send the newsletter electronically. [linda@fswalls.org](mailto:linda@fswalls.org)

You can also read the newsletter and the weekly pewsheets news on our website on the news page.

[www.holytrinitymonifieth.org](http://www.holytrinitymonifieth.org)

## **Repairs and refurbishment**

Following on from our Quinquennial Inspection, the vestry have agreed to carry out the following work on the church and hall.

Church roof to be inspected and broken or missing tiles replaced, broken or damaged wooden struts to be replaced outside church and all wood painted.

Weeds cleared behind hall (for access) and the outside of the hall woodwork to be re-stained.

**New items:** a bench in memory of John and Betty Brown has been placed by the church door, down lighters have been fitted to the front of the church to illuminate the church between 8 and 10pm.

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## **Ministry Team**

**Priest-in-Charge**

**Rev'd Kenneth Gibson**

tel 01382 535920 or 07825554419

**Lay Readers**

**Linda Walls** tel 01382 533107

**Bill McFawns** tel 01382 796749

## **Services**

**Sunday Sung Eucharist 10.30am**

**Thursday Holy Communion 10am**