



## Holy Trinity Newsletter Christmas 2015

From your priest-in-charge

‘Christmas come but once a year’, or so the saying goes. Given all the preparations involved at this time of year most of us are quite glad that it is only once a year.

The glorious truth that we celebrate at Christmas is not though a once a year thing. What is true at Christmas is true for every day and always. God, the One who is often thought of as being beyond and unknowable to us, is revealed in the person of Jesus.

The birth narratives as they have been given to us are infused with that sense of wonder and awe that the Divine can be known in human form; especially so in an infant child with all that it reveals concerning our human vulnerability and essential humility. But beyond wrapping the story of Christmas in layers of sentimentality what does it say to us today?

I believe that it speaks to us of God’s glorious YES to humanity. It is good to be human, to be created and fashioned in the image and likeness of God who is the Source and Sustainer of all that lives. More than this, if that were possible, it reveals to us that we are all, like Jesus, of Divine origin. St. Augustine wrote that “God became man that we might become as God.” Heady stuff, I agree, but it is the truth that is revealed at Christmas.

The Incarnation, the religious word for God becoming as one of us in Jesus, is nothing more or less than God demonstrating the extent and nature of His love for the whole of the created order, especially us humans. Some say that the first Incarnation, or outpouring of God's love, took place when time and space began. Some call it the Big Bang. The second takes place in Jesus the Christ. God's love is made real and tangible in the human life of Jesus, not to change God's attitude towards us but rather, to change our attitude towards God.

The idea of Incarnation has been called the 'scandal of particularity'. How can God be present in the individual life and person of a man, of Jesus? The greater scandal is how God can be present in all humans! This is the true gift of Christmas, 'Christ within us, 'the hope of glory' as St. Paul says.

A gift then, not just for Christmas but, for every day for everyone! How many of us take the time and effort to unwrap this gift, to enjoy it, and share it? I pray that you may take time this Christmas to sit and reflect on the wonder of God's love for you and for everyone. Ponder and pray over it and come to realise the one who is 'veil'd in flesh' in Jesus, is also within you. Emmanuel: God-with-us, God-for-us, God-within-us. Now that is something worth celebrating!!

May God bless you with Peace and Joy this Christmas and every day.

Revd. Kenneth

## News from Swaziland

Money donated at Olive McAusland's funeral has been used to set up two vegetable gardens at Luve and Hlathikhulu Parishes in Swaziland.

500 children are being fed daily in these parishes at the Neighbourhood Care Points.

The gardens will provide vegetables to help enrich the children's diet.

They are to be known as Olive's Gardens and are a wonderful memorial to Olive who supported our Starfish Project so faithfully.



## How time flies!



Carole and David Binnie were married at Holy Trinity on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 1965.

They haven't changed a bit!

Congratulations from all at Holy Trinity 2015.



## **News of recent events**

### **St Andrew's Ceilidh**

A great night out was the response from those who attended the ceilidh. Members of the congregation entertained us with music, song and dance. The visiting Ukulele band added a bright note and the Phenobarbitone Ceilidh Band had everyone up on the floor.

Sales from tickets and a very generous Raffle raised over £400 for the Angus Food bank.

### **The Christmas Fayre**

The Fayre held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December was another success despite the poor weather. £420 was raised for church funds. Thanks to all who helped and those who came along on the day.

### **As the Rev. Ken said in the pewsheet -**

In the past few weeks we as a congregation have raised over £800. Half has gone to charity, as it should, and we have been blessed by receiving the same back. Isn't God amazing!!

## Future Events

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January ay 6.30pm**

**Evening Service for Epiphany followed by a Party in the hall.**



**Friday 22 January 2016 7.30pm**

**Burns Supper – an evening of song and Poetry and haggis, neeps and tatties.**

**If you missed the ceilidh don't miss out on this event!**

## **Priest-in-Charge**

**Rev'd. Ken Gibson**

tel. 01382 535920 Mobile: 07825554419

### **Lay Readers**

Mr. Bill McFawns tel. 01382 370367

Mrs Linda Walls tel. 01382 533107

If you require a visit or wish to talk with any member of the Ministry Team then please contact them using the numbers above.

Baptisms& Weddings Please contact Rev'd Ken Gibson in the first instance

**Sunday 10.30am Sung Eucharist**  
**Thursday 10am Holy Communion**

**Monday Group:** meets for fellowship at 2pm in the church hall.

**Little Angels Parent and Toddler Group:** meets in the hall at 10am on Thursdays. £2.00 per family.

Scottish Charity no. SC009085

## Christmas Services



**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am Sung Eucharist  
6.30pm Carol Service with readings**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December 10.30pm Carols by candle light  
followed by Christmas Eucharist**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am Sung Eucharist**

