

# **Holy Trinity Church Monifieth Newsletter**

## **August 2015**

**From your Priest-in-charge**

**“Transformed people transform people”**

**A seemingly chance remark to my Spiritual Director has introduced me to someone who I can honestly say is transforming my understanding of the Christian faith in general and of spirituality in particular.**

**I speak of Richard Rohr, a Franciscan priest and brother who lives, works and teaches in New Mexico. I had begun to wonder if there was anything new to say about our Faith, but in Richard I have truly been ‘surprised by joy.’ He takes age old wisdom and truth and gives it a new relevant edge. He is both refreshingly insightful and disturbingly challenging while also being theologically wise and astute.**

**At the heart of his teaching and vision lie deeply biblical roots and the joys of Franciscan insights. He speaks of the infinite love of God who is present in and through all things but most especially in our experiences of weakness and failure. It is the Theology of the Cross and of the God who is supremely seen and known in the Crucified One. In an age when achievement and competence seem to reign supreme, it is a timely and gracious word to ordinary folk like myself that God is present with us always, if we have ears to hear and eyes to see.**

**Every simple action, when done in love and charity, is a prayer. Indeed, Richard says that our Prayer Life begins firstly in our actions.**

**It is not our beliefs, creeds and doctrines that transform us into God's children but what we do. It is in the doing of something that we discover God's truth.**

**At a time when the cruel killing of a lion seems to have provoked as much outrage worldwide as the plight of thousands of people fleeing oppression and violence, I find the reminder that compassion and justice are for all people and are the hallmarks of genuine faith a compelling one. If God's loving embrace is for all then it has to be made real and tangible for all.**

**Now it is not so much that I was unaware of these insights and teachings, perhaps I had just allowed them to drop off my line of vision, so to speak. Hearing them again being stated in such a profoundly fresh way has been so wonderful that I actually get excited when I read and reflect on it. That hasn't happened to me for a long time.**

**So if you hear me speaking and preaching about a unified vision of God who calls us to surrender our lives to grace and compassion which are encountered in contemplative action, then you will know where it has come from and to whom I owe a large debt of gratitude.**

**If you want to know more and discover some of these riches for yourself then just let me know and I will gladly point you in the right direction. None of us are ever old or wise enough that we cannot be surprised by joy.**

**Every Blessing**

**Kenneth**

# Events in August

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August: Annual Barbeque 3pm** in church grounds. Cost £5.00 please sign up by Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August or phone Dorothy on 01382 370367.

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August: SECMA Quiet Day at Montrose 10.30-2.15pm.** Please let Theresia or Keith know if you intend to go 01382 532026.

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August: Summer Evening Sing-along 6.30pm** in the church. (Please note change of date.)

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August: Prayer Workshop 10.30- 12.30** in the church hall. (Coffee/tea from 10am.) These sessions were very successful before the summer break. Come along and join in, challenging but not in the least scary!

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## Church Website

Kenneth & Enza have been improving the website and will be adding more features soon. If you haven't looked in lately give it a go!

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

**Ministry Team**

**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

**Services**

Sunday 10.30am Sung Eucharist  
Thursday 10am Holy Communion

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

**Little Angels Parent and Toddler Group**: starts again at 10am on Thursday 3rd September in the church hall.