

Holy Trinity Scottish Episcopal Church, Monifieth NEWS November/December 2012

FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Members of the Congregation and friends,

As I sit here trying to write this letter fireworks are still going off at regular intervals which seems to make it particularly hard to focus on writing about Christmas and the New Year. In church we are still in what we call the 'Kingdom' season – when we think about the things that Jesus taught us about the kingdom of God. We still have 'Advent' to come before we reach Christmas itself! So it is quite hard to get into the mood for Christmas at this time. The whole of December, prior to Christmas day, is a time for quiet preparation for the great feast that is to come and yet in the shops and High Streets the Christmas lights, decorations and special gift ideas are much in evidence and preparations are well in hand for the annual frenzy of spending and rushing around.

Of course, even in church, the last few days before Christmas are a bit of a whirl with Carol/Crib services adding to the growing excitement and expectation as we approach Christmas Day itself. But what a joy that day is – the beginning, not the end of the Christmas season! So often I am saddened by people who seem to have had enough of Christmas long before it has even got here. Perhaps it is time for us to look again at what we are celebrating, and how we do it, so that Christmas can be, once again, the simple time of peace and joy that it should be. Just as the birth of Christ offered a new start to the people of his day, so we too can look forward to making a new start – in our homes, in the world and with God.

I hope that you will all have a happy and peaceful Christmas, and that the New Year will bring you renewed hope. May we all find time to make a little extra room for God in our lives this Christmas and in the coming year.

With best wishes to you all,

Revd Angela



(Please see Advent/Christmas services over the page,)

Swaziland visit

In the middle of November Pat Millar is travelling to Swaziland with Bishop Nigel and his wife to attend the consecration of the new bishop. Bishop Elect Elinah will be the first woman bishop in that part of Africa.

Pat will also visit the groups who are aided by our Starfish Projects. Our good wishes go with them.