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**The Magazine of Holy Trinity
Episcopal Church, Haddington
December '08/ January '09**

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Dear Friends,

November is a month of remembering—sometimes even called the month of the dead. We have remembered all the saints, and particularly those we have known at All Saints and All Souls; we have remembered those who fell in war; and some of us will have remembered Guy Fawkes, that 17th century terrorist, with a local bonfire. Remembering is good—or at least it should be. Sadly, the wrong sort of remembering is responsible for much of the strife we see in the world today. I remember as a child studying the so called “War of 1812” between Canada and the United States on both sides of the border. It was amazing. Different people, different battles, even a different outcome—you’d hardly have thought it was the same war! Yes, “we” were always right, and “we” won in the end. Fortunately, those memories have faded, and there is peace along one of the longest boundaries in the world. Partly this is because people have forgotten some things. More importantly it is because people have met one another and learned more about one another. Other parts of the world are not so fortunate.

Everyone suffers in times of conflict, and there has been a lot of suffering at Holy Trinity this year. No, don’t forget about it; try to see how others remember. Whoever “we” are, we are not always right. God never calls us to pity ourselves, and rarely calls us to attribute blame. We are called to pity others, and in understanding them to help them understand us. This is all the more important during a vacancy, when the search to find a new Rector is in part a search to learn more about one another and the vocation of this congregation.

The new Church Year will have begun by the time you read this. Happy New Year! The word Advent simply means “arrival” and had they had trains in ancient Rome, the arrivals board would have been headed “ADVENTUS”. The remarkable story of the census in Luke’s gospel, makes Bethlehem a very busy place, but once again, we are all called to go there in heart and mind. The Vestry and the Team hope that we can do something to help some of our younger friends travel with us — more about that later.

With love and best wishes

Bob

INTERREGNUM

Dear All,

Thank you to those who came along to our congregational meetings. (More than a third of our adult Roll.) Each group expressed its appreciation of the opportunity to be involved in the consultation process and the Vestry, in its turn, was delighted with the response. Thanks, too, to those who contributed by letter, telephone or any other means. Your comments and responses have been collated and discussed at a follow-up Vestry meeting and will now contribute to the final form of the Profile and Specification to be submitted to the Bishop.

The next step will be in his hands. At a recent meeting, he suggested that there are Clergy he knows of who might be interested in, and suitable for, Holy Trinity. If this proves to be the case it will not be necessary to advertise – which would be the preferred option. As Christmas is fast approaching, it is likely to be into the New Year before there are any further developments.

With something of a lull in the production of paperwork and all the talk of profiles, job descriptions and specifications, and before we move into preparation for interviews - we hope! - now would seem to be the right time to focus more on the spiritual dimension which, for some, has not been as much in evidence as it might have been. For that purpose, it is proposed to set up a prayer group or groups. If you would be interested in joining us please make contact with the Church Office (details on front cover) or myself (details below).

The overall impression created by the consultation process, which still continues, is that whilst there is anger and disappointment out there, there is also hope and expectancy. By looking at recent events in the light of what we can learn from them we hope to be able to move forward together for the benefit of our Rector, to be appointed, and the future of Holy Trinity.

With every good wish for a Holy and Happy Christmas and a Good New Year from all on the Holy Trinity Vestry.

Davina

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A letter from Valerie Elcock

I was pleased to attend the congregational meeting yesterday evening (Wednesday 12th November) to join in discussions with other members of our congregation. The extremes of feelings expressed concerning recent events came as some surprise to me. I was unable to share my feelings as the memories of the effects are still too painful to voice.

However, my concern is that from whatever angle we are coming from, we have to move on. We have to work TOGETHER to move forward and rise to the challenge of choosing and welcoming a new rector. We must forget our differences and work together as a congregation to rebuild Holy Trinity's warmth and fellowship that we have all benefited from over the years.

We can only do this with God's help, and I pray that he will give us the strength to get through the difficult months ahead.
Valerie

OPENING UP OUR WORSHIP

From January until Easter the team, in response to a request received through the Vestry, will plan worship at 10am on certain selected Sundays to try to be more accessible to families as well as all other members of the congregation. The ministry of the Word—the first half of the service—will be affected by this. The second half—the ministry of the Sacrament following the Offertory, will be as normal in the Blue Book—the 1982 Liturgy.

The first Sunday we shall try this is 4th January when we celebrate Epiphany, the visit of the Wise Men, the Manifestation of Christ. We ask for your support in this move which will be evaluated after Easter. We hope that you will encourage people to worship with us. We welcome your comments, ideas and any constructive feedback you may wish to offer.

The Post Office is to issue both secular stamps and Religious stamps but like last year, you have to stipulate if you want religious! Apparently each PO has been asked to send in to HQ totals for each (possibly to say there is no demand for the latter!) Please make everyone you know aware of this and the Christians amongst us should ask for religious stamps in order to keep Jesus at the centre of the event.

CAROL SERVICE

Sunday, 21st December, 2008



A joint service of Carols with St. Mary's

Parish Church will take place in Holy Trinity, at 6.30 p.m.

Afterwards there will be mulled wine and mince pies in the Trinity Centre.

All contributions of mince pies will be gratefully received.

received by Margaret Fairbairn.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

O come let us adore Him

Come and bring your families and friends. All are welcome

Sunday Dec.21st

6.30pm. Joint Carol Service with St. Mary's Parish Church in Holy Trinity, followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Trinity Centre.

Christmas Eve Wednesday 24th December

10.00 am, - decorating the Church

5.00pm Come to the Stable—join Mary and Joseph and the donkeys and greet the Baby.

11.30pm Midnight Eucharist

Christmas Morning

8.30am Holy Communion

10.00am Family Eucharist with Christingles.

The Christmas Collection this year is to go to Christian Aid, for help in the Congo. An estimated 200,000 people have fled their homes in the past 2 months to escape fighting which is taking place between government troops, rebel forces and UN peacekeepers in Kivu and around Goma. For further information see the internet.

MARK'S GOSPEL

For many hundreds of years Mark's gospel attracted less attention in lectionaries (the readings set day by day and week by week) in church and from scholars and commentators than the other gospels. During the last century this has changed and there has been much study and reflection on this gospel. Our present practice of sticking mainly to one gospel each year for Sunday readings gives us the chance to follow through the proclamation of the Gospel by each evangelist. Gloria hopes to draw on the insights of different scholars through a series on Mark's Gospel between now and Easter. If you have comments or questions please send them to the editor.

John Wood starts us off:

The Church's New Year begins on the first Sunday of Advent, November 30. This brings about a change in our lectionary readings in church for the coming year. We move from Matthew's gospel to that of Mark.

It is generally agreed by New Testament scholars that Mark's gospel was the first to be written soon after the deaths of Peter and Paul, probably in AD 65. It is the shortest of the four gospels. The writer has been identified with John Mark, son of Mary, at whose house the first Christians used to meet in Jerusalem.

Mark has been described as Peter's 'interpreter', writing down the narrative and death of Jesus based on what he had heard from Peter himself. In reading the gospel we might notice from time to time evidence of eye-witness reporting, which reflects the part that Peter's talk and preaching played in the composition of the book.

In reading Mark's gospel we are reading the gospel in its basic and earliest form, written not more than a generation after the events it describes. People were still alive who could challenge its accuracy. This can give us confidence that we are reading a faithful account of what actually happened, allowing for the fact that no human record is infallible.

What are the characteristics to look for in Mark's gospel which we shall be focusing on in the months ahead?

William Barclay has said that it is the nearest thing we will ever get to a report of Jesus's life. Mark tells the facts of Jesus's life in a simple, straightforward, yet dramatic way.

He never forgets the divine side of Jesus. He begins with a declaration of faith: 'The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.' Again and again Mark speaks of the impact Jesus made on the minds and hearts of those who heard him.

At the same time there is no gospel which gives such a human picture of Jesus. To Mark he is simply 'the carpenter'. Mark tells us about the emotions of Jesus. 'He was moved with compassion'. 'Jesus sighed deeply in his spirit.' 'He marvelled at their unbelief'. He was moved with righteous anger'. The sheer humanity of Jesus brought out in Mark's picture of him can bring Jesus very near to us.

Another of the great characteristics of Mark is the way he inserts little vivid details into the narrative – the hallmark of the eye witness. When Jesus rebuked the disciples for keeping the children from him, only Mark among the gospel writers finishes: 'And he put his arms around them, laid his hands on them and blessed them'. All the tenderness of Jesus is in this little vivid addition. And there are others to note in Mark's gospel which seem to point to Peter seeing these incidents again with the eye of memory.



LAST CALL FOR CHRISTMAS BAZAAR!



This is my last chance to appeal in Gloria for helpers for the set up on Friday evening, 5th December, and assistants on Bazaar Day, Saturday, 6th December.

If you are able to help in any way, please let me know as soon as possible if you haven't already done so! If you can't, please support us by turning up between 10 am and 12.30 pm to take the opportunity to buy Christmas gifts and Christmas fare as well as having some fun.

As well as physical help, I shall need contributions, please, of Tombola gifts, raffle prizes, items for Sari's deli, homebaking, mince pies for the café and items for Jim's Christmas gift stall.

Thanks, and I look forward to seeing you all there in one capacity or another. Last year we raised £1,000 so I hope we can match that or even better it! Let's work together to try; it is after all God's

work.

Judith



RECONCILE YOUR PEOPLE

Worship in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th –25th January 2009

Bob Fyffe, General Secretary of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, writes:

‘Each year the material offered (for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity) has originated in a different country and this year we are pleased to offer the insights from the Churches of Korea. For them the division of their country since the Korean war and the division of the Church has a poignant resonance. The material explores something of the pain of division but also looks with faith to God who can make all things well, gathering us, reconciling us.’

The Rev. Jennifer Macrae, minister of St. Mary’s parish church, will share our 10.00 am worship on Sunday 25th January and preach.

Prayer will be shared with other Christians in Haddington and around from Monday 19th January through till Friday in Holy Trinity at 12.30 pm.

A Prayer written by Janet Morley

God of peace and plenty
You cherish all that gives life.
May we see our instruments of war
Rust with irrelevance,
Our children dream their future,
The earth produce its food
And the people flourish.



BOOK REVIEW

The Jesus Prayer



By Simon Barrington-Ward, £4.99 brf new edition
2007

Simon Barrington-Ward, Bishop of Coventry in 1985, takes us through the Jesus Prayer:

“Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me” and the different ways it may be prayed, singly or as a group with a leader or altogether and at any time of the day or night to link whatever we are doing with Jesus Christ and the whole creation. He gives the history of the Jesus Prayer from the Bible to the early church, Desert Fathers and on to the 14th century and to the present day, and how it evolved to be used in different churches world wide in a very interesting manner. If you don't know anything about the Jesus Prayer, or would like to know more, then this is an easy way to find out.

Vicky Fletcher

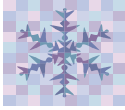
Christmas Communion

If anyone would like to arrange Christmas Communion at home or see a member of the Team for any reason, the Team will be glad to come. Please get in touch.

Telephone numbers are on the front cover of Gloria.

Members of the Team enjoy opportunities to know you better, and would be glad to respond to any indication that you would like a visit. We are also always grateful for news about illness which we may not have heard.





THANK YOU

Several people have written to express appreciation of Harvest gifts and of those who delivered them, so thank you all again Sari.

From Ian Paton, Rector of Old St. Paul's

Thank you to every one at Holy Trinity who made us welcome last month for our team quiet day

Ian very kindly enclosed a donation to say thank you to Holy Trinity and to contribute to costs.

Funerals in October



10th October Catherine Jamieson

31st October Elizabeth (Betty) Keddie

Let light perpetual shine on them.

The Notice board

SARI'S VAN

We have made £640 this year for the Trinity Centre. This has been a shared effort: it includes Sheena with her tomato growing green fingers. Kathie who continually picks (and brings her husband to help), makes soup, spreads produce around, all our friends at Knox Court, all the "Sunday folk" who look after the van and use the produce—so many are involved. The van will now rest its vegetable wheels until the spring when it hopes to meet you all again.

Sari



Film Club

Thursday 11th December

1.30 pm Trinity centre

**This month's film is to be
Mama Mia**

As this is the Christmas film, there will be Sherry and Mince Pies to follow. Do come and bring your friends.

Thursday 8th January 2009

This will be the A.G.M.

Decision time for any future programme, Including films to be shown and breaks in programme.

Afterwards the film showing will be

Chariots of Fire

Followed by tea, biscuits and gossip.

JARS OF GRACE FOR UNICEF

I have been asked again this year if Holy Trinity will participate in the Jars of Grace scheme to raise funds for UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund). Vestry has given its approval to Holy Trinity's participation.

For those who may not know what this is all about, please let me explain!

UNICEF provides labels for you to wrap around on an empty jar which sits on your kitchen/dining table (or anywhere else you tend to eat). The idea is that every time you sit down to a meal, you drop some loose change (or notes or cheques!) into the jar as you say grace and when it is full, you hand it over to me for transmission to UNICEF. Then you can start on another jar if you feel so inclined.

The collection period will last from Advent Sunday (November 30th) until Epiphany (January 4th). The labels will be available at the back of the church very soon so, as soon as you spot them, please do take one and make up your jar. Christmas is coming so you'll probably have lots of guests to ask to help fill your jar.

This year's UNICEF appeal is for that tragic area of Africa, Congo. Please help.

Thank you all and have a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Judith Wilkinson



**Decem-
ber**

Daily Readings

1st	Matthew	8	5 — 13
2nd	Luke	10	21— 24
3rd	Matthew	15	29—39
4th	Matthew	7	21—27
5th	Matthew	9	27—31
6th	Matthew	9	35 —10 1, 5—8
8th	Luke	5	17—26
9th	Matthew	18	12—14
10th	Matthew	11	28—30
11th	Matthew	11	7—15
12th	Matthew	11	16—19
13th	Matthew	17	9—13
15th	Matthew	21	23—27
16th	Matthew	21	28—32
17th	Matthew	1	1—7 17
18th	Matthew	1	18—25
19th	Luke	1	5—25
20th	Luke	1	26—38
22nd	Luke	1	46—56
23rd	Luke	1	57—66
24th	Christmas Eve,	Luke 1	67—79
25th	Christmas Day,	John 1	1—14
26th	St. Stephen,	Matthew 23	34—39
27th	St. John,	John 20	1—8
29th	Luke	2	22—35
30th	Luke	2	36—40
31st	John	1	1—18

January Daily Readings

1st	The Naming of Jesus, Luke 2 15—21		
2nd	John	1	19—28
3rd	John	1	29—34
5th	John	1	43—51
6th	The Epiphany of the Lord, Matthew 2 1—12		
7th	Matthew	4	12—17, 23—25
8th	Mark	6	3—44
9th	Mark	6	45—52
10th	Luke	4	14—22
12th	Mark	1	14—20
13th	St. Kentigern (Mungo), Matthew 28 16—20		
14th	Mark	1	29—39
15th	Mark	1	40—45
16th	Mark	2	1—12
17th	Mark	2	13—17
19th	Mark	2	18—22
20th	Mark	2	23—28
21st	Mark	3	1—6
22nd	Mark	3	7—12
23rd	Mark	3	13—19
24th	John	8	51—59
26th	Mark	5	1—20
27th	Mark	5	21—43
28th	Mark	6	1—6
27th	Mark	5	21—43
28th	Mark	6	1—6
29th	Mark	6	7—13
30th	Mark	6	14—29
31st	Mark	6	30—34

Lectionary readings



Dec. 7th **Advent 2**, Toy Service. Isaiah 40 1-II,
2 Peter 3 8-15a, Mark 1 1-8

14th **Advent 3** Isaiah 6 1 1-4, Thessalonians 5 16-24,
John 1 6-6 19-28

21st **Advent 4**, Samuel 17 1-11 16,
Romans 16 25- end, Luke 1 26-38

28th **The Holy Innocents**. Jeremiah 31 15-17,
Corinthians 1 26-29, Matthew 2 13-18

Jan. 4th **Epiphany**, Isaiah 60 1-6, Eph 3 1-12,
Matthew 2 1-12

11th **Baptism of the Lord**, Genesis 1 1-5,
Acts 19 1-7, Mark 1 4-11

18th **Epiphany 2** Start of Week of Prayer for Christian
Unity. 1 Samuel 3 1-10, 1 Corinthians 6 12-20, John 1 43-
51

25th **Conversion of St. Paul**. Acts 26 9-23,
Galatians 1 11-24

Feb. 1st **Presentation of Christ in the Temple,**
(Candlemas), Malachi 3 1-5

Hebrews 2 14-end, Luke 2 22-40



THE TOY SERVICE

On the second Sunday in Advent, 7th December, we again have an opportunity to make Christmas a little happier for Children whose fathers are in prison. Parcels properly wrapped with some indication on the outside of the sort of present—boy/girl and age, or gift tokens are all most welcome and will form one part of our offering to those less fortunate than ourselves and so an offering to God. Bring them with you to the 10 am Eucharist that morning or give them to one of the Vestry or Team if you are unable to come.

December

DATE	Coffee & Tea
Dec. 7th	Diana Dee Cindy Sykes
14th	Jean Blackadder Alison Brown
21st	Ena Briggs Alison Cowe
28th	Kay Kemball Helen Willing
	Sidespersons
Dec. 7th	Margaret Fairbairn Vicki Galt
14th	Jean Blackadder Effie Bowman
21st	Jeremy Willing Eileen Banks
28th	Julian Tennant Jim McAndie
	Readers
Dec. 7th	Astrid Ritchie, Jim McAndie, Jonathan Creel
14th	Judith Wilkinson Christopher Stephens Vicky Fletcher
21st	Jean Fairbairn Mary Wallace Jeremy Willing
25th	Christmas Midnight and 10.0 am to be arranged
28th	Sandy Wilkinson Brian Young Astrid Ritchie
	Flowers
Dec. 6th	Advent. No Flowers
13th	Advent. No Flowers
20th	Advent. No Flowers
24th	FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS
27th	Mona Cook and Aileen Lamb

January

DATE	Coffee & Tea	
January 4th	Jean Fairbairn	
11th	Jennifer Green	Liz Wilson
18th	Wendy Wilkinson	Sheena Wood
25th	Effie Bowman	Mary Wallace
	Sidespersons	
Jan. 4th	Mary Wallace	Peter Green
11th	Martin Lugton	Elizabeth Cooper
18th	David Hinley	Graham Hook
25th	John Elcock	Kathy Warrender
February 1st	Margaret Fairbairn	Vicki Galt
	Readers	
January 4th	John Elcock Wendy Wilkinson Davina Briggs	
11th	Rosemary Brannan, Judith Wilkinson , Jim McAndie	
18th	Effie Bowman Julian Tennent Margaret Fairbairn	
25th	Brian Young Jean Fairbairn Mary Wallace	
	Flowers	
January 4th	Mona Cook and Aileen Lamb	
11th	Christine Glass and Andrea McLean	
18th	Christine Glass and Andrea McLean	
25th	Margaret Alder and Lady Ogilvy	
Feb. 7th	Margaret Alder and Lady Ogilvy	

Dates for the Diary

December

- 2nd Vestry Meeting
6th Christmas Bazaar
7th Toy Service
11th Day Centre Carol Service, 2.00 pm (with sherry and mince pies). Tickets from the Day Centre.
17th 10am Eucharist at Friars Croft. Church will be locked in preparation for Compass School Carol Service.
18th Pumpkin Patch Carol Service, 2.00 pm
Joint choirs practice for Carol service.
19th Compass school Carol Service
20th Morning rehearsal 10am-12noon as suits for all I Christmas readers,
21st Joint Carol Service with St. Mary's Parish Church, 6.30 pm. Followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Trinity Centre.
24th Decorating the Church 10.00 am onwards.
24th-25th See special notice re Christmas Services.
26th St. Stephen — martyr.
27th St. John the Evangelist
28th The Innocents Day

January

- 1st Circumcision of Christ
4th Feast of the Kings—The Wise Men—celebrated at 10am Eucharist.
6th Feast of the Epiphany and Vestry Meeting
11th Charity Concert for Hindu Church. See notice
18th—25th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
25th Conversion of St. Paul - Apostle.

February 1st Celebration of the Presentation of the Lord—Candlemas - 10am Eucharist

St. Anne's, Dunbar

As most of us are aware, Paddy Allen has now left St. Anne's for a charge in the St. Andrew's Diocese. Members of the team have been invited to lead worship in St. Anne's from time to time on Sundays and Thursdays. We invite you all to pray for the Vestry and Congregation of St. Anne's as they begin to look to their future.

WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES

Sundays	Eucharist	8.30am
	Family Eucharist	10.00am
	Eucharist	11.45am*
	<i>*(First Sunday of the month only)</i>	
	Evening Prayer	6.00pm
Wednesdays	Eucharist	10.00am

For details of Christmas Services please see

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DEADLINES... You can greatly assist the production process by submitting information and articles as soon as possible and not waiting for the deadline.

The deadline for the February issue is Sunday 18th January 2009

Please send all material to Sari:

s.salvesen@btinternet.com



THURSDAY, 18TH DECEMBER 2008

We would like to erect the Christmas Tree in the church on this date. We usually meet at 7.30 pm and this is a job made easier by man power. Your help is appreciated in advance: it cannot happen otherwise.

Stewart Glass 01620 822 965

Christmas Eve

Yes, Christmas is coming upon us very soon and this is when we come together as a team to decorate the church. We are keen amateurs who happily set about decorating windowsills, the font and any other flat surfaces. If you feel that you would like to join the fun, please do come along: no one will be judging what you do. Labours of love are most acceptable. We usually begin at 10.00 am and if we have a goodly number of bodies, we will be finished before 10.45am. Thanks again, Margaret and Christine Glass.



CHARITY CONCERT

In aid of

St. Peter's PCEA Ihindu, Kenya

**EAST LOTHIAN PLAYERS
(Leader Philip Taylor)**

**Sunday, 11th January, 2009
Holy Trinity Church, 7.30 pm**

Tickets £10 inc. refreshments

Available from:-

The Trinity Centre

Gibsons, Market Street

Mary Wallace 01620 810 382

Or at the door

