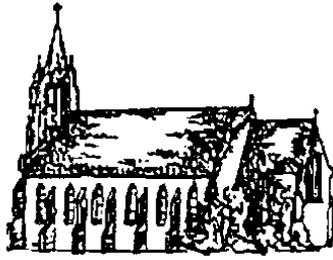


Saint James



Cruden Bay

Saint Mary



Ellon



September 2016

***WE SEEK TO BE CHURCHES FILLED WITH GOD'S LOVE,
GIVING IT AWAY TO OTHERS***

Saint Mary's and Saint James's are congregations of the Scottish Episcopal Church, the Scottish part of the worldwide Anglican Communion, which includes the Churches of England, Ireland, Wales, the Episcopal Church of the USA, and the Anglican Church of Canada as well as churches in most countries of the world.

However, even more important than that, we are members of God's family and all members of that family, from whichever denomination (or none), are welcome to worship with us. We try to welcome everyone in a non-judgmental way. Our congregations seek to develop the ministry of everyone, allowing people to find what God is asking of them and the gifts that he is giving to them.

The usual Sunday worship times are -

*8-15am Early Eucharist in Saint Mary's
9-30am The Eucharist in Saint James's
11-0am The Eucharist in Saint Mary's
4pm Story Time Service in Saint Mary's*

During term-time, there is *Whizz Kids* in Saint Mary's Hall at 11am, with a crèche for younger children.

There are celebrations of the Eucharist each Wednesday at 10-0am at Saint Mary's. Other services as announced in Church. The Sacrament is reserved in both Saint Mary's and Saint James's.

OUR PARISH PRAYER

Father, pour out your Spirit upon us and grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your word and a new consecration to your service, that your love may grow among us and your kingdom come: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Front Cover

Forvie Chapel

Tuesday, 20th September 11.00am

Saint Adamnan Autumnal Equinox at Forvie Sands, weather permitting.

In this month's magazine:-

❖ Community News - Are you involved in Community Events in our area involving church members, which will be of interest to our readers in Cruden Bay and Ellon? Let us know about them!

❖ The Rector's Letter

❖ Mothers' Union

❖ A Date to Remember

❖ Herod's Home Brew

❖ What's in a Name?

❖ The Loom of Language

❖ All our usual features:-

- Diary of weekly church services and events
- Bible Quiz
- Recent events in both churches

Rector's Letter

The Rio Olympics, the 'greatest show on earth', has now come to end and the athletes have returned home. Team GB certainly excelled themselves and are hailed as having had the most successful Olympics ever with a medal haul of 67, two more even than London 2012. Much air time and print has been devoted to discussing how Team GB are the first team to have increased their take of medals in the games following those they hosted. Many factors will have influenced this result, but perhaps four stand out as good reasons.

First, the dedication of the athletes to their given disciplines. Without constant training and competition it is impossible for any athlete to do well, and no one can doubt the huge effort every athlete will have put in over many hours simply to be present at the Games.

Secondly, each athlete will have been supported by coaches, trainers, family and friends. It is almost without exception that having won the race or competition, the athletes would search out their families and loved ones to embrace and celebrate together.

Thirdly, funding and resources have been made available to the athletes. It's interesting to note that the rise in funding since 2006 has been followed closely by the rise in the medal tally. How important good resources are to fulfil any task, not least in competing to the highest level.

The fourth 'ingredient', I would suggest, is inspiration. Time and again it was reported that those who were competing at Rio were those who had been inspired by watching sportsmen and women excelling in previous Olympics. It was the example of those who went before that spurred them on to devoting themselves to that sport and inspiring them to achieve great things for their nation.

Surely as a church and as Christians we can learn something from the success our Olympic Team has enjoyed. Dedication: as Christians we want to give the best we have to God and do the best we can for Him – for we know that only the best is good enough for Him. May we devote

ourselves to prayer, worship, study of the Scriptures and service in His name. Support: we know we cannot achieve God's purposes for our lives in our own strength. He has given us the gift of fellowship in His Church, and given brothers and sisters in Christ to encourage us in our walk with Him and in the use of the gifts He has given. Let us encourage one another in using those gifts to serve the church and the needs of those amongst whom we live. Resources: we need resources if we are going to achieve those things we believe God wants us to achieve. If we want more young people, children and young families to be part of our church, which many people in both churches have expressed to me, we need to prayerfully consider how we are going to resource that aim, for without doubt, it won't happen by itself. Inspiration: this word, broken down, simply means to breathe into ourselves the Spirit. May we be truly inspired by the Holy Spirit. This was what happened that first Pentecost when the apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit. They were then inspired and empowered to spread the Gospel far and wide – the very reason we are here now. May we be inspired by the Holy Spirit, that in His power and with His gifts we may spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to those around us, and those to whom He sends us.

We rejoice with those who took part and those who did well at Rio. But far greater is our rejoicing when we see the church grow and lives transformed by the saving work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Yours in His service

Andrew

3rd July 2016 – A Date to Remember

Nichola Stephen writes:

Like most children, I was taken along to church on a Sunday with my parents. There's not a lot I remember except hearing the Minister preach from the pulpit and then being sent out to another room for Sunday School class. Maybe it's because I had no choice, my questions weren't answered and eventual experiences, but I lost faith and was no

longer happy attending church. What was the point; so many bad things were happening. The death of my grandmother was the final straw – she was a woman who would go out of her way to help family, friends and even strangers. She became ill with Dementia, an illness I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy. If there was a God up there, why would he let this happen? There are so many evil people out there, why not have this happen to them instead? Of course I got no answers.

Last year, while at work I would often hear a couple of colleagues talking about their time in church. I would ask them questions; did they like the sermons, how did you feel in church, etc? Janice and Brenda then told me about their new minister Andrew and an “Alpha” course he was arranging. Would I be interested? I hummed and hawed, but eventually I decided to attend. I loved it! The reception I received from the others attending the course and from Andrew the minister felt like a “welcome home.” All questions were welcomed. By the end of the first night I felt calm and uplifted. Throughout the course and on our visit to the Westhill Community Church my questions never stopped. We were invited to share our experiences and insights to try and answer our questions with help from Andrew. By the end, I embraced the Christian faith fully. Yes, bad things do happen and bad people are out there – but it is not my place to judge and demand answers. God has a plan, has had it since the beginning, and things happen for a reason..... If we are faced with challenges he will give us the tools and strength to cope, all we need do is pray.

So.... on Sunday 3rd July, 2016 at Saint James-the-Less, I, Nichola Stephen at 46 years old, *chose* to become a Christian and was Confirmed by the Reverend Bishop Bob in the company of my minister, Andrew Tucker, my family, friends and my Christian brothers and sisters. This was a decision made almost unconsciously, through prayer. I no longer felt as though “something” was missing from my life. I was more accepting of things and I felt calm.

I am pleased to say I am a Christian and can discuss openly my faith.
God bless x

Mothers' Union

Carole Fox writes:

I am delighted to say that a cheque for £650 has been sent from our branch to Mary Sumner House (the MU headquarters in London) in response to the Mothers' Union Big Summer Appeal! This was as a result of donations made at Chris Crosley's open-house day on 5th July (thanks again, Chris, for organising all the coffees and teas) - and also the collection taken at St. Mary's on 9th August when we had our special service for Mary Sumner Day and the 140th anniversary year of the MU. Thanks go to Andrew, our Rector, and all who took part in the worship, and of course to all who helped with providing the tea afterwards. We welcomed visitors from other parts of the diocese, and all in all it was a very happy afternoon.

Agnes Robertson, accompanied by her husband Martin, attended that service on 9th August. Although very frail, she was determined to be there - which was so typical of Agnes. Sadly, she died in the Auchmacoy Unit in Ellon two days later, and her funeral was held at St. Mary's on 18th August. May she rest in peace. We remember with gratitude Agnes' friendship and all that she contributed to the life of the MU, both as a branch committee member and as a diocesan trustee. Martin and the family are very much in our prayers at this time of such great loss.



Our next meeting will be in St. Mary's hall at 1.45 p.m. on 6th September. As we no longer have a committee, we shall do some "stock-taking" on the running of the branch, and think about future arrangements such as the proposed harvest lunch in October. I hope that as many members as possible will be there, and any others who may be interested in the MU. There will be a Mothers' Union Hour in the hall at 11.15a.m. on Saturday, 17th September.

Herod's home brew

Sam Coull writes:

While digging at Herod's palace near the Dead Sea in the 60's archaeologists came across a small cache of date seeds from way back when Herod ruled Judea, during the years before Jesus was born. As is sometimes the way with archaeologists, these seeds were squirreled away in an archive until they were finally given to a botanist working in the Negev desert.

After soaking some in growth hormone one began to sprout and botanist Elaine Solowey named the plant 'Methuselah.' Unfortunately, there was no fruit from what turned out to be a male plant but its pollen was crossed with a modern female date tree which resulted in it carrying dates having at least 50% of its DNA from the Herod period. Amazing what they dig up!!

More seed discoveries, dating back 2,000 years, have also been found. These other finds provoked a Jerusalem brewery to produce a beer when yet another scientist came upon grains of a "heritage wheat" from antiquity growing near Rosh Pina in 1906. These latest discoveries were grown, dried and roasted, producing a cloudy beer that the brewer proclaimed was "unlike anything I've tasted."

As a one-time beer drinker, I often wondered how potent the biblical beers and wines were. Maybe Herod was just an evil child killer,

annoyed at being duped by the Wise Men. But then again, did too much 'cloudy beer' play a part in that order to kill all the children up to two years old in Bethlehem and surrounding coasts? From a 21st century perspective Herod has to have been mad, bad or rolling drunk to have given that order .. maybe all three.

What's in a name?

Sam Coull writes:

My extended family are mainly teachers and gatherings can occasionally feel like sitting in on a staff room session. A family member once told us that some pupils had names which predictably and inevitably meant class trouble and this brought grim nods of agreement from all around...

Most children have Christian names taken from the bible, although anything goes, especially with pop stars, who inflict the very strangest names on their offspring. My own name didn't depart from tradition and in early years I took to heart my biblical namesake's leaving Hannah his mother and family to live with an elderly Eli in what I then supposed was a dark, cold, lonely temple. Almost embarrassed towards teenage years, I sometimes responded in introductions by explaining that I was too young to protest when my name was being decided.

Perhaps not alone, I had wondered at the ancestry of Kezia, a political leader in the Edinburgh Parliament.... she didn't look any different from many people in Scotland; where did her parents find that name? I stumbled upon Keziah while reading the Epilogue to chapter forty two of Job, whose Keziah had two sisters and seven brothers. Along with her siblings she was granted an inheritance, a share in fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys. This was after her father's trials and tribulations came to an end and life became a bit more settled and prosperous.

The Loom of Language.

Sam Coull writes:

Oh the utter humiliation! When a local lapses from the Queen's English into their native Doric. One legendary tale of such a lapse tells of a young lady, who after a short sojourn in England came back to the North-east after acquiring what she thought was a new and impeccable accent. It all fell down flat when an energetic young man bumped into her at a local dance and was shortly warned by the returnee to "watch who you are backing tee to!"

So it is when doing a reading at church, where the worry then is not of slipping into the Doric, but coming up cold against a biblical name unrehearsed which defies an instant and correct pronunciation... and be left staring tongue-tied at the page.

Most who do service readings will have read their bible passage beforehand for reassurance about both the punctuation and pronunciation - just to make sure. But a reader's bonus comes with discovering how much of the bible is incorporated into everyday language usage, which is probably true of most Christian countries.

The German soldier's belt buckle carried the words 'Gott mit uns' (God with us) and I often wondered just where they got that from. While looking over the text from Numbers, chapter 14 v 1-9, I may have stumbled upon its origins ... 'only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them.'

Editor's Note

Due to a family holiday, the next magazine will be a double edition covering October and November. Blame our children for living in far-flung places! So there will plenty of time to send in your articles!!

**SAINT MARY-ON-THE-ROCK - ELLON
AND
SAINT JAMES'S - CRUDEN BAY**

**CALENDAR OF SERVICES AND EVENTS:
JULY/AUGUST 2016**

Usual Sunday services are:

8.15am	Early Eucharist in Saint Mary's
9.30am	Eucharist in Saint James'
11.00am	The Eucharist in Saint Mary's

Holy Communion is held every Wednesday at 10-0am in Saint Mary's Hall.

Saint Mary's Music & Praise Group meets at 7-30pm every Thursday during term time in Saint Mary's Hall.

Book and Traidcraft shop open in Saint Mary's Hall on Sundays at 12.15pm and on Wednesdays at 10.45am

Please note that certain services/events can be subject to change:

- Please check with the Weekly Notice Sheet
- OR check the website: www.stmarystjames.org.uk
- OR Contact the Parish Office on 01358 720366

IN ADDITION:

Friday, 2nd SEPTEMBER

10-11.15am	Mainly Music in Saint Mary's Hall.
11.00am	Service at Slater Court – Ellon.
1.40pm	Meiklemill School Assembly.
7.30pm	Marriage Preparation Appointment in Saint Mary's Hall.

Saturday, 3rd SEPTEMBER

7.30am Saint Mary's Men's Breakfast in the hall.

10-4pm Saint Mary's Flower Festival in church and refreshments in hall for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Sunday, 4th SEPTEMBER

Usual services plus

6.00pm **Evening Prayer & Meditation** in Saint James.

Tuesday, 6th SEPTEMBER

11.30am Meeting at Ellon Resource Centre.

1.45pm Mothers' Union meeting in Saint Mary's Hall.

7.00pm **Prayer Meeting** followed by **Bible Study** at 7.30pm in Saint Mary's Hall.

Wednesday, 7th SEPTEMBER

Usual service plus

11.15am Wednesday Fellowship Group in the Saint Andrew's Room in the hall.

1-3.30pm CREATE! in Saint Mary's Hall.

7.00pm Saint James Bible Study.

Thursday, 8th SEPTEMBER

3.00pm Wedding Rehearsal in Saint Mary's.

Friday, 9th SEPTEMBER

10-11.15am Mainly Music in Saint Mary's Hall.

2.00pm Wedding at Saint Mary's.

Sunday, 11th SEPTEMBER

Usual services plus

2.30pm Cruden Bay Congregational Church Ecumenical Service.

Monday, 12th SEPTEMBER

11.00am Julian Meeting in Saint Mary's Hall.

Tuesday, 13th SEPTEMBER

7.00pm Film Night in Saint Mary's Hall.

Wednesday, 14th SEPTEMBER

Usual service plus

12 noon Saint Mary's Lunch Club in the hall.

2.00pm Saint Mary's Visiting Team in the hall.

7.00pm Saint James Bible Study.

Friday, 16th SEPTEMBER

10-11.15am Mainly Music in Saint Mary's Hall.

10.30am Service at Bonnyton House – Ellon.

1.00pm Saint Mary's Clergy Lunch in the hall.

Saturday, 17th SEPTEMBER

11.15am Mothers' Union Hour in Saint Mary's Hall.

2.00-4.00pm Messy Church in Saint Mary's.

Sunday, 18th SEPTEMBER

Usual services plus

6.00pm **Service of Healing & Wholeness** in Saint James.

Tuesday, 20th SEPTEMBER

11.00am Saint Adamnan Autumnal Equinox at Forvie Sands, weather permitting.

7.00pm Prayer meeting followed by **Bible Study** at 7.30pm in Saint Mary's Hall.

Wednesday, 21st SEPTEMBER

Usual service plus

- 11.15am Wednesday Fellowship Group in the Saint Andrew's Room.
1-3.30pm CREATE! in Saint Mary's Hall.
7.00pm Saint James Bible Study.

Thursday, 22nd SEPTEMBER

- 2.00pm Worship Planning Group in Saint Mary's Hall.

Friday, 23rd SEPTEMBER

- 10.00-11.15am Mainly Music in Saint Mary's Hall.

Sunday, 25th SEPTEMBER

Usual services plus the 11.00am Eucharist is followed by a Stall in the Hall after the service.

- 6.00pm **Service of the Word** in Saint James.

Tuesday, 27th SEPTEMBER

- 7.00pm Prayer meeting followed by **Bible Study** at 7.30pm in Saint Mary's Hall.

Wednesday, 28th SEPTEMBER

Usual service plus

- 11.15am Wednesday Fellowship Group in the Saint Andrew's Room.
7.00pm Saint James Bible Study.

Thursday, 29th SEPTEMBER

- 7.30pm Saint Mary's Vestry meeting in the hall.

Friday, 30th SEPTEMBER

- 10.00-11.15am Mainly Music in Saint Mary's Hall.
11.30am Service at Ythanvale – Ellon.

Answers to "General" Quiz

Bertha Dawson writes:

- 1 Paul was born in **Tarsus** of Cilicia (Acts 21.39)
- 2 **Joseph** was the father of Ephraim and Manasseh (Genesis 41.50-52)
- 3 Jesus was **30 years old** when He was baptised (Luke 3.21-23)
- 4 **David** was the shepherd boy who became king of Israel (1 Samuel 16.1-13)
- 5 Samson was betrayed by **Delilah** (Judges 16.6-22)
- 6 **Zacchaeus** climbed a tree to get a better view of Jesus (Luke 19.1-6)
- 7 **Esau** and **Jacob** were the sons of Isaac and Rebekah (Genesis 25.19-26)
- 8 The bible says **the love of money** is the root of all evil (1 Timothy 6.10)
- 9 **Solomon** was known for his wisdom and greatness (1 Kings 4.29-30)
- 10 **Solomon** built a magnificent temple for the Lord (1 Kings 6)

“Running the Race” Bible Quiz

(Complete the following verses NIV)

- 1 “Let us run with the race marked out for us” *Hebrews*
- 2 “Those who hope in the Lord will their strength, they willand not grow weary, they will and not be faint” *Isaiah*
- 3 “You were a good race. Who on you kept you from obeying the truth?” *Galatians*
- 4 “Do you not that in a all the runners ..., but only one gets the ?”
1 Corinthians
- 5 “Forgetting what is and straining towards what is, I press on towards the for which God has called me “*Philippians*
- 6 “I have the good, I have the, I have the”
2 Timothy
- 7 “I do not run like a man running,; I do not like a man ... the air” No, I beat my ... and make it my slave” *1 Corinthians*
- 8 “Hold out the of life – in order that I may boast in the day of Christ, that I did not ... or for nothing” *Philippians*
- 9 “..... .. to enter through the door, because many will try to enter, and will not to” *Luke*
- 10 “Whether you eat, or drink, or, do it all for the glory of God”
1 Corinthians

Answers in next magazine

PARISH DIRECTORY

Rector

The Reverend Andrew Tucker
(01358 720366)
(07804 926522)

Clergy:

The Reverend Carole Fox (01358 789693)
The Reverend Robert Spencer (01358 723193)
The Reverend Sylvia Spencer (01358 723193)
The Reverend Peter Whalley (01779 812511)

Saint James Assistant Ministry Team

Marna Cruickshank, Brenda McRobbie, John Palmer,
June Riddle, Peter Robinson.

Saint Mary's Assistant Ministry Team

Hayden Barrett, Blanche Beattie, Alison Cowe, David Cowe, David Crosley,
Henna Cundill, Norman Davidson, Mandy Davis, Charles Fox,
Sarah Goodyear, Kim Leonard

The Vestry Secretary of Saint Mary's is Mandy Davis (01358 721197) and the Treasurer is Colin Frost (01358 721249). The Stewardship Promoter is Jim Pittendrigh (01651 842739) and the Director of Music is Alison Stephen (01358 789613). The Child Protection Officer is Hayden Barrett (01358 789703)

The Vestry Secretary of Saint James's is Tricia Robinson (01358 751343) and the Treasurer is Irene Dooley (01779812661). The Stewardship Promoter is Peter Robinson (01358 751343). The Child Protection Officer is Brenda McRobbie (01779 473634).

The Rector's Secretary is Carol Marr. She can be reached in the Parish Office (01358 720366) from Tuesday to Friday from 10-0am to 3-0pm.

Email – parish@stmarystjames.org.uk

Web address: <http://www.stmarystjames.org.uk>

The magazine is produced and printed "in house".

*Contributions for Saint Mary's should be given to Mandy and Dick Davis
(01358 721197)*

E-mail: melric@btinternet.com

Deadline for articles for the October/November magazine: 20th September