

Faith Hope Love
Holy Trinity Church Kilmarnock

Iss. 1



Holy Trinity Spring 2026 Newsletter.

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Welcome!

Hello, and welcome to your new-look newsletter!

Previously, the Social Committee have produced a regular newsletter, keeping you up to date with all the goings on at Holy Trinity. They have rested their over-worked fingers, so I have picked up the pen instead!

My aim is to keep you all up to date with all news and events of the past season, and to let you know what is coming up in the next few months. I hope to have updates from the Vestry Committee regarding what is happening in Holy Trinity, from property to local news, social nights to fundraising. It will be produced bi-annually in the Spring and Autumn – so look out for it!

Hopefully you will find the newsletters both informative and entertaining!

Kat x

Other ways you can keep up to date is by our website –

www.holytrinitykilmarnock.org

Or on our Social Media Channels –



holytrinitykilmarnock



@holytrinitykilmarnock



@HolyTrinityKilmarnock



Worship Words...

“The Risen Christ” (Matthew 28:6)

It gives me joy to reflect on the risen Christ this season of Easter and what that means for you and I as Christians, and the salvation and hope it brings to us as well as to unbelievers that we evangelise and hope to bring to the salvation that is in Christ Jesus.

When I reflect on the “Risen Christ” words like Joy, Deliverance, Victory, Salvation, Eternity, Prosperity (of mind, body and soul), Humility, Healing and Freedom from guilt ,etc. quickly comes to mind. I don’t know if these words resonate with your thinking about Jesus? I encourage you today to try God through faith and believe in His Son Jesus Christ, I did like many other faithfuls, and we can tell you that it is a story or journey of no regrets.

If you are led, I will encourage you to find time and worship with us in person or online or any place of worship where God’s children gather to experience the power of the “Risen Christ “ and I assure you that your burdens will be lifted, faith made firm, love experienced and above all hope for eternal life in God’s Kingdom through Jesus Christ. Amen. Thank you and God bless you we are looking forward to sharing fellowship and God’s goodness with you.

Jesus Christ is Lord Forever.
Christ is risen; He is risen indeed!!!

Chizitere.

Worship Team –

Rev Tony Clapham

Rev Liz Kirby

Ian Arbon

Chizitere Azogama

Pat Smith

Latest News

We had a very busy festive period and would like to extend a big thank you to all those who arranged and supported events for Holy Trinity.



We had a very successful **Christmas Fayre** at the end of November, complete with all the usual stalls, plus, tea, coffee and home-baking for the shoppers. This annual event always draws a large crowd due to the hard work and logistical planning of our diligent Fayre organisers – Elizabeth and her team.



The following week we had our annual **Congregational Christmas Dinner**, arranged by the Social Committee.

This is a fairly new annual event for Holy Trinity, and I think I can say with some certainty – one we can keep! More from the Social Committee on p8.



Next came our **Christmas Market & Tree Festival!** This was officially opened by Deputy Provost, Councillor John McGhee and supported by many worthy charities that serve the people of Ayrshire and Kilmarnock. It was a shame that due to bad weather, the footfall was quite low – here's hoping next year will be drier! More from Fundraising Committee on p9.



In January, we said 'Goodbye' to **Rev Harriet**, Lee and the children, as they set off for pastures new, in Dunbar. We wish them all the best at St Anne's.



This departure was followed very quickly by a visit from our new **Bishop – Nicholas Bundock**. It was lovely to meet him and his wife Rachel. He had a marvellous time at Holy Trinity and, after a further visit with the Vestry, has some very exciting plans for the future of Holy Trinity!



In March we had our annual **Spring Fayre**, again always successful, with lots of stalls with crafts and home-baking. The event raised over £1000 for the church! Many thanks to Elizabeth and her team for this mammoth annual event – a special mention to Andrew who worked non-stop in the kitchen!



A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped with our **Big Spring Clean!** A brilliant, and hard working team turned up and got stuck about all those nooks and crannies and gave the church a right good, deep clean. Helped, no doubt by all the tasty hot rolls and tea!



Well done to the winning team – winners of a curly wurly and a fancy pen each at the **No.1 Hits Music Quiz** held by our Social Committee! A great evening of quizzing, food, and friendship – more on p8.

Congratulations!



A special congratulations to Rebecca as she recently earned her Gold Award at Brownies. This takes a lot of hard work, time and patience. I was delighted, as Vice-President of Girlguiding Ayrshire North, to make this presentation to Rebecca!

Kim Main

See p19 – Dates for your Diary, for more events being held in Holy Trinity!

Vestry

For your Vestry Committee, the last few months have been extremely challenging, not only with what has happened, but what we face in the future.

Rev. Johnston announced her resignation and left in January. We then entered an interregnum facing the task of extensive repairs and upgrading of both the parsonage, and church building. Bishop Nick, along with the Vestry, after much discussion and exploration of ideas, came up with a plan that will ensure, with a lot of hard work, the future of Holy Trinity. This will be guided by a focus team made up from members of the congregation and the diocesan staff, and it is hoped that it can be completed within 2-3 years.

To ensure that this is a success, please help when asked, and trust both the process, along with your Vestry Committee.

As to the immediate future your Vestry will continue to ensure that all legalities are observed, both canon and common law, the bills are paid, the services are held, the buildings are comfortable, pastoral visits undertaken, etc.

If you have anything that is Vestry relevant and you wish us to consider it, please speak to any Vestry Member, preferably either the Peoples, or the Priest in Charge, Warden. Remember for most issues you can, initially, speak to the relevant coordinator or group - i.e. the Convenors of the garden, property, hall, kitchen; the members of the Social and/or Fundraising Committees; the Sacristan; the Worship Team; the Hymn Choosing Group; Discoverers Team; the Rota Co-ordinator; the Flower Co-ordinator; Social Media contacts; PVG Co-ordinator, etc. Thereafter if the issue cannot be settled then it can be put forward for your Vestry to consider.

Next meetings will be held on 22nd April / 3rd June / 19th August / 30th September / 28th October, all at 7pm.

The AGM will be held on 15th November 2026.

Pat Smith, Vestry Secretary.

Property News

What a busy time we've had over the last 5 months!

We have a **new church boiler** bringing warmth to our Sunday services with thanks to the Diocese for funding.

During routine maintenance, we found that three underground drains from the gutter downpipes had collapsed. Thankfully this was covered by the insurance company and have been **repaired**.



Loose masonry above the church outer porch window has been removed, for safety reasons. The masonry blocks have been kept below one bench in the porch, to allow for it to be replaced at a later date.



Repair to the church hall wall above the door has been repointed with loose concrete removed.

The doors remain off in the small hall and church hall due to a wet rot outbreak to allow air to circulate and dry out the area. **Extensive treatment** will need to be done, but this will come at a future date when we have managed to secure funding.



Bishop Nick is keen to have a small working party comprising office staff from the diocese office, along with Ian Arbon and myself, to look at a possible feasibility study of the church/church hall, parsonage and the spare land to identify how **best we can move forward**.

Currently we are trying to establish and maintain a **maintenance programme**, covering all the premises, to try and ensure that gutters are cleared regularly and that loose slates are repaired/replaced timeously.

Thank you for your patience with all the disruption over the last few months.

Barbara Cowley, Property Convenor.

Social Committee News

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation and guests who attend our social events, the Social Committee were able to fund a Christmas day out to the ten pin bowling for our children. They had a great time! Although they were all extremely adept at this, our smallest children showed extreme talent and nearly wiped the floor with the older ones!!! They also had lunch at the Garage and went home with a selection box to round the day off.
So, thank you everyone who helped to fund it all!

Also in December, we had our congregational Christmas Dinner at the Longhouse. Those who managed to come along had such a good time. Delicious food, great company, lots of laughs and a Christmas music quiz to boot!! One of our best nights so far.
Let's make it equally enjoyable in December on the 11th of December 2026.

By the time you read this, we will also have begun our social calendar for this year. On the 17th of April there will (hopefully!) have been a No. 1 Hits music quiz night.

We had such a successful Music Quiz Night, that we are now having a rest until autumn – look out for news for our next event in pew leaflet and our social media channels.

Meantime, thank you again for your support and friendship. When we get together socially, it always shows how well we mix!

Fiona, Pat and Clare.

Fundraising Committee News

A big thank you to all those who supported our recent fundraising events!

Jigsaw Race Night

In February we held a Jigsaw Race Night, and it was very well received. It all started with fish and chips, and plenty tea and cold drinks, then we split into teams and the race was on!



There was a race to get to the puzzles, pick one and do as much as we could within 30mins. Turns out, jigsaw-ing is very stressful! We then had tea and biscuits while the raffle was drawn and the winning team announced – winning a box of Tunnock's teacakes each.

We raised £170 for church funds 😊

Soup Lunch

A popular venture launched last year was our monthly Soup Lunches after the Morning Service. A selection of soups, bread, butter, cheese and fruit are provided for anyone who wishes to take some, and a small bowl left out for any donations people want to give.

We will continue this on a monthly basis until the warmer months kick in and then take a well-earned rest!



We regularly raise between £40-60 a month for church funds 😊

HT Groups



Bible Study

The Bible study group at HTK, well-established over many years, is lay-led, rather than a clergy initiative. We **meet monthly** on **the second Wednesday**: coffee at 10.30, Bible study 11.00 to 12.00. People take turns to lead, recently using Life Builder Study books from Scripture Union. Currently we're reading 'Spiritual Gifts' and enjoying stimulating discussions on exercising our God-given spiritual gifts to build us up as individuals and as a church.

This session ends in June; we'll be studying a similar book when we recommence in the autumn. We meet to learn from the Scriptures; no one is an expert and **we welcome new members**.

Ian M. Arbon



As All-Age Worship is put on hold, we are putting more emphasis on spiritual provision for our youngsters through the Discoverers Group. The Team Leaders got together and planned activities for each meeting, that is both relevant to scripture and fun.

So far the kids have decorated cookies, made their own liturgical calendars and learnt what a Bishop is, including making their own Mitres.

Most recently, the planted a wildlife garden to brighten the side entrance and provide food for pollinators!



HT Groups



Last year we celebrated 30 years of our branch reforming at HT and this year the organisation across the world celebrates it's 150 year anniversary. Events across country include a service of thanksgiving in St Paul's Cathedral in June and then our own Diocesan service of thanksgiving in St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow in August where Bishop Nick, our patron, will be enrolled as a member – please note, **membership is open to all.**

Our branch helps locally by supplying household cleaning materials for distribution by EACHa – thanks to the wider congregation for helping with this work. Some members knit items for use by premature babies at Ayrshire Maternity Unit. We also raise funds to help the MU Diocesan 'Away from it All' project that provides an annual weekend break at the Field Study Centre in Cumbrae for disadvantaged families.

We continue to meet on the second Wednesday of each month and would love anyone to come and find out more about the organisation.

Elaine McAlpine, Branch Leader.

Craft Group

We've had a rare old time of it the past few months, since the start of our new season!

We have welcomed 3 new regular attenders and tried some new things, including macrame and diamond art.



As with anything we do, we do it for entertainment rather than perfection and always with the aim of fun and friendship.
Please join us!

1st Thurs of the month Sept – Jun.



Interview!

Let's find out about a member of the congregation.

For this edition, Shirley Donaldson has agreed to answer some quick fire questions!

1. Where were you born? *Blackburn, Lancashire.*
2. When did you join HT? *1973*
3. What jobs do you do at HT? *Door Welcomer, Reader, Intercessions, organise the tea/coffee rota, wash the altar linens, clean the brass and silverware, maintain flowers both inside the church and the pots outside.*
4. Where do you like to sit for a service in HT? *Where I've always sat! When I joined HT it was the only space available as the congregation was so big.*
5. What is your favourite hymn? *Immortal, Invisible, God only wise*
6. What is your favourite part of the service? *It's hard to pick, I like it as a whole.*
7. What is your favourite thing about HT? *The people!*
8. What do you think God loves about HT? *The people!*

Volunteer Focus



Every newsletter will cast the spotlight on a volunteer – singular, or group – who through the regular giving of their free time, makes Holy Trinity run. This edition, we will focus on - **The Door Welcome Team!**

This team of volunteers do more than say hello at the door on a Sunday morning and give you a hymn book!

- They must be the first to arrive at the church, to unlock the doors and gates to let us in.
- They put the welcome flag outside and sweep the porch if needed too.
- Then they ensure that all the hymn books have a liturgy book/pew leaflet included.

Once everyone is seated and the service has begun, they take a seat at the back, in special chairs, one at the door to the hall to help with anyone who needs through to the halls/facilities during the service, and one near main door to ensure that any latecomers are welcomed.

- During the Offertory Hymn, they pass the offering plate around for the collection and present it to the Worship Leader.
- During the Communion, if required, they stand at the Chancel steps to assist anyone who requires help to navigate the steps.
- At the end of the service, they collect the books back in, put them away, put left over pew leaflets in the recycling, wave off all those who cannot stay for tea and coffee, bring the flag in, lock the gates and the main door, and make sure the back of the church is tidy.

We thank everyone on the Door Welcome Team for all their hard work, and dedication to keep everyone organised on a Sunday Morning.

If you would like to give this a go, please speak to our Rota Co-ordinator, Elaine McAlpine.

Intimations

Happy Birthday!

October 2025 – we celebrated **Pat's 70th** birthday, when she was surprised with family members from England!

December 2025 – **Kim turned 80!** Although we couldn't celebrate at church, Kim enjoyed a lovely Afternoon Tea with friends and family.

March 2026 – **Emmy's 90th birthday!**

Unfortunately, due to illness she couldn't attend church for her cake, but we all wished her well, and sent a card.



Happy Anniversary!

In June 2025, we had the honour of celebrating the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of **David and Ann McCubbin** – a fantastic achievement! Many blessings to you both!



Sadly...

Several members of our congregation lost loved ones in the past few months. In April, we said our goodbyes to a much loved member of our own church family. Willie McKellar was a beloved friend to many in Holy Trinity – practical, helpful and always hardworking behind the scenes to keep our church going for many years. We will all miss him very much. All our prayers go to Clare and her family, and all in our church family in need of some peace and comfort at this time.



May they rest in peace and rise in Glory

Pause for Prayer

The Church in Society Committee has developed prayer guides which focus on a different topic each month, available from -

<https://www.scotland.anglican.org/spirituality/prayer/faith-in-action/>

May – Aid Agencies

Lord, you come to us in neighbours we do not know and are unlikely to meet. You come to us when people's needs are measured in statistics, argued about in political programmes, or estimated in development plans. Give us the grace to see past numbers to the real lives behind them. So that we might, with you, build your Kingdom. AMEN

June – Peace and Justice

O Christ the light, illuminate and cleanse the dark corners of the world where hang the cobwebs of apathy and the dust of neglect; shine on faces made grim by poverty and war; melt the icicles of despair and the hard frozen wastes of selfishness; and let your searching rays enclose the whole in one great radiance. In Your name we pray. AMEN

July – Children & Young People

God, we thank you for the energy and vitality of young people. Young adulthood can be a difficult time of change and transition; leaving school, leaving home, finding a first job. Help young people to know you as a constant presence through all changes, and the church as a place of welcome and rest and refreshment. Provide them with a deepening knowledge of your love as they continue to mature and grow and allow them to discover their own gifts and talents, discerning your future for them. Help us to provide examples of Christian life for them to follow, and to offer friendship where it is wanted. AMEN

August – The Elderly

Lord, We thank you for the gifts of Age, the wealth of memories; the peace of prayer; the wisdom that has grown beyond all striving to rest in your grace alone. When increasing frailty of mind or body threaten, be with us as living water in the desert, a rock to give shelter. In word and sacrament, in the fellowship of your people give us the assurance of your everlasting care. And to us give the grace to receive all that your love brings to us. AMEN



Kat has lots of fabric in the Craft Group stores, if anyone needs any for projects, let her know!



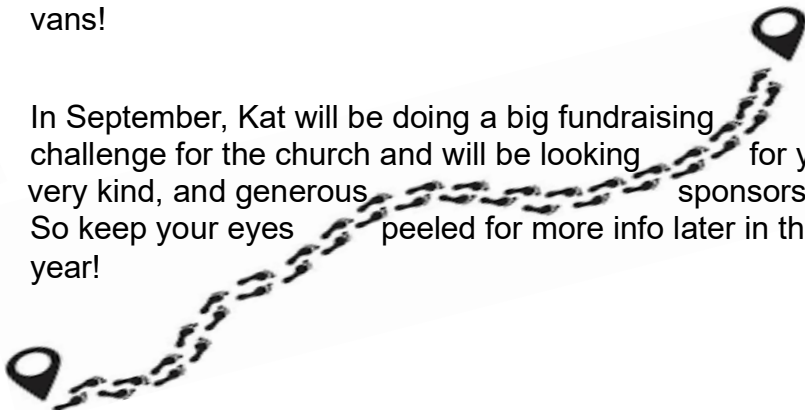
If anyone wants the old metal cupboard in the small hall, please take it! It will be emptied in May and taken for scrap in June.



REMEMBER! – the driveway at the main church door, isn't a free parking space! The ground surface is uneven and cracked due to the weight of modern vehicles. The Vestry has tried many subtle deterrents but now have stated clearly to all (please, please, pretty please) – **NO MORE PARKING!** This includes any work/contractor vans!



In September, Kat will be doing a big fundraising challenge for the church and will be looking for your very kind, and generous sponsorship! So keep your eyes peeled for more info later in the year!



Who's Who

Priest in Charge

Vacancy

Assistant Priest

Rev. Tony Clapham

Worship Leaders

Rev. Liz Kirby
Chizitere Azogama

Prof. Ian Arbon
Pat Smith

Vestry Secretary

Pat Smith

Treasurer

Ian Westcott

Priest in Charge Warden

Doreen Tannock

People's Warden

Elizabeth Copinger

Property Convenor

Barbara Cowley

Garden Convenor

Rose-Ann Cuninghame

Hall Convenor

Kat Michael

Kitchen Convenor

Kim Main

Health & Safety

Paul Scoular

PVG Co-ordinator

Kat Michael

Climate Action Group

Prof. Ian Arbon

Doreen Tannock

Kat Michael

Social Media Contacts

Kat Michael

Paul Scoular

Discoverers Children's Group Leaders

Mary Cunninham
Kim Main

Pat Smith
Clare McKellar

Fiona Meakin
Kat Michael

Hymn Choosing Group

Elaine McAlpine
Hannah Arbon

Dorothy Davidson
Maureen Smith

Pat Smith

Rota Co-ordinator

Elaine McAlpine

Trinity Teasers!

Quick! Grab a Pen, no time to study, get ready for the
Holy Trinity Hymn Test!

How _____ the name of Jesus sounds
O for a thousand _____ to sing
Love _____, all loves excelling
You shall go out with _____
Thy hand, O God, has _____
Rock of _____
I, the Lord of _____ and sky
Now let us from this _____ rise
Immortal, _____, God only wise
Tell _____ my soul
You are the _____ of Glory

Holy Trinity General Knowledge (answers p10)

1. Which is the oldest part of the Church buildings?
A – the parsonage; B – the nave; C – the porch
2. How many kneelers hang in each full length pew?
A – 7; B – 8; C – 9
3. Who was the first Minister of our congregation?
A – Brien; B – Penney; C – Wildbore
4. When was the Parsonage built?
A – 1859; B – 1857; C – 1861
5. Where did the floor tiles in the outside porch originate?
A – the old chancel; B – another church; C – gifted

Dates for you Diary...

May

Friday 29th – Games Evening!

Food and fun, with board games, cards, dominoes etc. Suitable for all ages and abilities. A light supper served at 6.30pm followed by your choice of games, either in teams or 1 on 1, it's up to you. Then pudding and a raffle! Tickets £10 from Kat and Kim.

June

Sunday 28th – Congregational Family BBQ!

Straight after the Morning Service, a lunch party in the church gardens, with a BBQ, games and fun – free and open to all congregational members.

July

Saturday 25th – Strawberry Cream Tea!

Due to the success of last year's event, we are holding another! Scones, cream and jam, with tea galore, a live pianist and raffle. Tickets £5, from Fundraising Committee.

August

Sunday 9th – Dedication Festival

Our annual celebration of our church's birthday – join us for a congregational lunch after the Morning Service – all welcome!

Animals in the Bible

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