

Church of the Holy Cross

DAVIDSON'S MAINS

EDINBURGH

DECEMBER 2020/JANUARY 2021



THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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All material should reach the Editor by then.

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FROM THE RECTOR

Dear friends,

As we approach Christmas, we are aware it will be a Christmas like no other. No communal carol singing is just one example of this (although we do have some singing at our Advent and Christmas Meditation services). Perhaps we are even fed up with people reminding us what a strange situation we are living in or, more likely, we are worrying about whether we will be able to spend Christmas with our family. The new vaccines are hope on the horizon, but we Christians are the carriers of a deeper hope that was born with that baby in Bethlehem.

As I write this in mid-November, the plans for our Annual Meeting and our Christmas services are in place. The former will take place online, with opportunities to take part for those who do not do ‘online’, and our Christmas services, although fitting our coronavirus plan, are designed to allow as many of us as possible from congregation and community to take part. I know the government is working to allow us to celebrate Christmas in as full a way as possible, but it may be that we have another full lockdown or a local outbreak and can’t open Holy Cross. If this happens Christmas will not be cancelled: Jesus will still be born, with ox and ass, Mary and Joseph, angels, shepherds and wise men from the East following a star. Perhaps a slimming down of Christmas will enable many to see more clearly what it is all about. Perhaps this year the season of Advent, which tends to get swallowed up in the world’s Christmas Season, will stand out in all its stark beauty.

One exciting event this year is the Holy Cross Community Nativity video. The idea of our Reindeer Playgroup, it has been enthusiastically taken up by local children’s groups and the congregation – who can forget the bell-wielding Heavenly Host we experienced at church one Sunday and many members of Holy Cross have their individual parts. We have a great tradition of involvement in our local community. I have noticed that Holy Cross is closer to the usual Anglican sense of a ‘parish church’ than many Episcopalian congregations, and I hope we will find new ways of rebuilding this after this crisis. I have certainly found it good to work with the Davidson’s Mains Christmas Lights Committee who will be using part of our grounds and have been pleased to allow the local Scouts and Guides to use our property when they needed somewhere to meet.

Advent and Epiphany are from a Latin and a Greek word that mean the same thing – the coming of an emperor to a city. When we use them in a Christian context Advent is the season of waiting for the coming of Christ and

Epiphany, like Christmas, is the celebration of that coming. The waiting for Jesus in Advent may be a bit like waiting for normality to return after the pandemic, but Jesus likes to keep us waiting!

First the human race waited for him to be born of the Virgin Mary, and then he ascended to heaven and inaugurated another period of waiting for him to return in glory at the end of time. These are the two comings of Jesus we celebrate in Advent, but we also know of a third ‘advent’ of Jesus, an intermediate coming. In this he comes to our souls, often when we least expect him. We feel his presence, but he is elusive, always disappearing round the corner. We can prepare for this by prayer, good works and study, but if we don’t clear space for Jesus within us we may be keeping him out – although he is an expert at getting through the stoutest doors!

May you and those you love experience the presence of the Lord this Advent and Christmas, and in the loneliness of waiting may you feel the gentle touch of his love. In whatever way we have to celebrate it, Izzy, Bess and I wish you, your families and friends, a peaceful Advent and a happy Christmas.

With love in Christ,



FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms:

Elizabeth Anne Agnes Holmes on 18th October

Emilia Michelle Kirkpatrick on 25th October

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will happen online in early December. There will be more information in the Rector’s weekly e-news and in the Sunday notices explaining timing and how those of us who can’t do Zoom can still participate.

The papers for the meeting will go out by email. Paper copies will be in church on 29th November. If you need one please pick it up then, or contact the Rector or Vestry Secretary.

If you have any questions or to vote please contact the Secretary.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

There has never been a Christmas like this, so we have tried to adapt to the new situation. All these plans presume that we are able to worship in person in our church. We can't have the Christingle Service this year, so we are working with the Reindeer Playgroup, Rocka Hillbillies, Scouts, Guides and Brownies to produce the **Holy Cross Community Nativity Video** (see *From the Rector*).

Under our coronavirus plan we have limited space at Holy Cross, space that varies depending on the size of the household groups attending. Recently at the Baptisms and on Remembrance Sunday we were at capacity with about 40 people. We will thus have to use a simple booking system for the Christmas services:

Booking will open for the services below on **Friday 11th December**. You may book a place by sending an email to me at rector.hce@gmail.com (if you don't have email a letter will do). If you have booked a place for you and your household and can't come, please let me know as soon as possible so the place can be given to someone on the waiting list.

20th December – Fourth Sunday of Advent

7.00 p.m. A Christmas Meditation in Words and Music

Hannah Rarity, BBC Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year

Readings from the Bible and poetry, favourite Christmas carols and Scottish folk songs explore the meaning of Christmas.

24th December – Christmas Eve

11.30 p.m. Midnight Mass

a Christmas celebration of Holy Communion with music and incense.

25th December – Christmas Day

9.00 a.m. Eucharist

a quiet and short Christmas celebration of Holy Communion using the traditional 1970 Liturgy of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

10.30 a.m. Eucharist

a joyful family celebration of Christmas Holy Communion with music.

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

The church remains unadorned during Advent.



Christmas Flowers

Sarah and Janette would appreciate cash donations in advance. Thank you to everyone who has already contributed. Offers of flowers and greenery are also welcome, but please consult Sarah or Janette about what is needed – there will be an overall plan.

The church will be decorated on **Wednesday 23rd December at 11.30 a.m.** (after the service). Helpers welcome.

Flower Rota 2021

The new Flower Rota will be on the noticeboard soon. Please sign up for the Sunday(s) when you would like to do the flowers. For further information, or if you would like to donate the flowers but not arrange them, please contact Sarah or Janette.

TREASURER'S REPORT

It is now approaching my first anniversary as Treasurer at Holy Cross; how time flies. I would like to offer my grateful thanks to you all for your ongoing support which has been an enormous help to me in taking on this role.

My proud achievement this month is to have completed our Annual Accounts and had them approved by our Independent Examiner, Kenneth Ramage C.A. in time for our AGM. Kenneth is the Treasurer for two churches in Edinburgh Diocese and has many years' experience. He praised us as a congregation for the way we had dealt with the financial challenges of the past two years: the stonework project last year and the central heating project this year, in obtaining grants and in making generous personal donations to cover the cost of these major improvements to the fabric of the church. He also praised us for the cost-effective way we had overseen the refurbishment of the rectory for Stephen, Izzy and Bess. This leaves us in a strong position to move forward as a congregation with sufficient financial reserves to meet the challenges that 2021 may throw at us.

Colin Mair

P.S. Still no refund from Scottish Power

CHRISTMAS GIVING

PILTON YOUTH & CHILDREN'S PROJECT



For several years now the collection at our Christingle Service has gone to Pilton Youth & Children's Project to support their work with deprived children and young people in the Pilton area. There is more information about the project's work on the website pycp.co.uk

The Vestry has decided the PYCP should not lose out because there is no Christingle Service. Neville Long is collecting our donations. Please speak to him at church for more information.

EDINBURGH CITY MISSION

Christmas Hampers for Syrian Refugees in Edinburgh

The Vestry has also made a donation to Edinburgh City Mission, who run the Basics Bank which we support with our harvest gifts and throughout the year, to supply Christmas hampers to Syrian refugees in Edinburgh. Anne Williams and Neville have more details.



BETHANY BOOKSHOP NEEDS YOUR HELP

Bethany Christian Trust works to prevent homelessness and to support those who are homeless with initiatives such as the Care Van.

The Trust has several charity shops selling clothes, furniture and bric-a-brac. The latest venture is the Bethany Bookshop at 33a Haddington Place (part of Leith Walk) which opened last November. It is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 to 4.30.

The shop manager, Ross Webber, says:

‘With everything that’s been going on we are in a unique position of being very busy, which is great! However, it makes things challenging for volunteers. Having a constant pool of volunteers is really important. Once the current coronavirus situation is sorted we should be able to increase numbers of volunteers in the shop at any one time.’

Shifts are available every day, from 10 till 1 or 1 till 4 – or longer if you wish. All Covid precautions are in place. If you would like to help, please contact Ross on 561 8989 or email rosswebber@bethanychristiantrust.com

FRESH START COOKERS FOR CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2020

From the Fresh Start newsletter:

As we launch our Cookers for Christmas campaign, we are reflecting on how this year has been particularly difficult for everyone and many people will be dreading Christmas approaching with many facing new financial challenges that they will never have experienced before.

We hope through our campaign we will be able to help people and families throughout Edinburgh during these difficult and uncertain times and provide a glimmer of hope on the darkest days.

This Christmas, please think of those who are struggling and support our campaign. By supporting Cookers for Christmas, you could be giving someone the chance to get a brand new cooker and cook Christmas dinner and meals for themselves all throughout the year. Or to access a new fridge freezer to store their food safely and save money by being able to do so. Or have their own washing machine, providing them with dignity and confidence and meaning they no longer need to use costly laundrettes.

When you provide people with the basic means of carrying out day-to-day tasks that we all take for granted, the possibilities are endless.

Any leftover funds from our Cookers for Christmas appeal will be used for our essential starter packs.

You can donate online at freshstartweb.org.uk or by sending a cheque to Fresh Start Cookers for Christmas appeal, 22–24 Ferry Road Drive, Edinburgh EH4 4BR. You can change not only someone's Christmas, but their life.

THE JESUS PRAYER

In the 1960s I was working in London and staying for convenience with a religious community in the centre of London, adjacent to Westminster Abbey. During my stay a delegation of Russian monks arrived to visit Anglican monks in England – three Orthodox monks with (mysteriously) 24 suitcases. Among the things emerging from these suitcases and distributed to all and sundry were prayer ropes made of wool with 100 knots, beads between every ten knots and a woollen Cross on the end. The Anglican monks received posher ropes made of silk. Through this encounter I uncovered the meaning of what is called the 'Jesus prayer'. The prayer that is typically said on each bead is: Jesus Christ, son of God, have mercy on me a sinner. This prayer can be abbreviated in any way that suits the individual – Lord have mercy or just the name of Jesus himself.

Many Protestants would consider such repetitive prayer to be vain repetition. As this form of prayer has been used since early Christian times there must be something about it that is meaningful to sincere Christians. Far from vain repetition each time, for example, the name of Jesus is repeated as one moves from one bead to another, one enters into the meaning of his name and into the presence of God himself.

St Paul said: ‘You were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ’ (1 Cor 6:11). ‘Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow’ (Phil 2:9). ‘There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved’ (Acts 4:12).

Thus the name of Jesus encapsulates everything that Jesus is – his birth, death and resurrection. The wholeness and completeness that belief in Jesus brings – Salvation – can be found in prayerfully repeating his name, the name that is above every name. In uniting ourselves with the name of Jesus, we unite ourselves with our ‘advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous’(1 John 2:1). In a sense, the advocacy of Jesus before the father, who brings with him our humanity and our concerns, is the only prayer that counts. Our job is to hitch our prayer to his in the way that suits us best.

Our Rector, Stephen, mentioned in his sermon on All Saints day that each unique individual must pray to God in his or her unique way. Some people find discursive prayer that keeps reminding God what he knows already not very helpful, but for others it is their preferred way of praying. I would advocate trying the Jesus prayer with its complete economy of expression and its versatility as it can be prayed silently in any place and at any time – waiting at the surgery or on the bus and without, necessarily, using a prayer rope. It need be no more than one word because that word contains all that needs to be said: it is the name of Jesus. Spiritually speaking, by pinning the name of Jesus on any person or situation requiring our prayer, unites that person and situation with our eternal advocate, who carries all our needs with him. Whenever the name of Jesus is prayerfully invoked at any time and in any place the rich meaning of that name is united with the one who is praying and those over whom it is prayed. Once the habit of using the Jesus prayer is formed it will come to mind in difficult and surprising situations.

Neville Long

Note: A more erudite explanation of the Jesus prayer and its use can be found in: *The Jesus Prayer* by Bishop Kallistos Ware, who is an Orthodox bishop, formerly an Anglican priest. Through Google a path may be found to a prayer rope. Many other introductions to the Jesus prayer may also be found there.

BOOK REVIEW

The Shattering of Loneliness: On Christian Remembrance by Erik Varden (Bloomsbury, 2018). 175pp.

In the first few years of this century, I was involved in an ecumenical group of Anglicans, Orthodox and Roman Catholics from Europe and the Middle East. In the group were the Syriac and Greek Orthodox Archbishops of Aleppo, Mor Gregorios and Paul Yazigi. In 2013, during the Syrian civil war, they left Aleppo to help free some hostages, were themselves captured and were never seen again. This book is dedicated to another Christian from Aleppo who disappeared at the same time, the Armenian Catholic priest Michael Kayal, and it shows how our faith can help us live in our modern world.

The century from the bloodbath of the First World War has seen suffering on an epic scale, a suffering which affects the mind as much as the body. Today the enforced isolation of lockdown has, even in our comfortable society, revealed an epidemic of loneliness which seems to be part of the modern human condition. Erik Varden characterises it thus: ‘the experience of loneliness is as universal as hunger or thirst. Because it affects us more intimately, we are less inclined to speak of it. But who has not known its knowing ache? The fear of loneliness causes anguish. It prompts reckless deeds’. This book faces this disease of the soul and refutes it with the Christian idea of memory. Jesus told us to celebrate the Eucharist ‘in memory of me’ and in six short chapters we are summoned to remember who we are: broken people called to communion with a God who is himself Love, a communion of three persons who are totally one.

If the Church is to have any relevance today (and in many ways it looks like it doesn’t), it must give answers to our deepest desires. Answers that are not just words but experiences that grow and can be felt to be true. Erik Varden has been seeking these answers since his rather solitary childhood in Norway. He sought the answers in academic study by which he came to teach at Cambridge University, and then gave his life to this search as a Cistercian monk at Mount St Bernard Abbey in England. As a sign that there are no fixed answers in this life, he is now, at the age of 46, Bishop of Trondheim in Norway.

The six chapters draw on his varied experience and look at the words said when we are ‘ashed’ on Ash Wednesday, ‘remember that you are dust’ (Genesis 3:19); God’s words to Israel, ‘remember you were a slave in Egypt’ (Deuteronomy 5:15); Jesus’ words, ‘remember Lot’s wife’ (Luke 17:32); ‘do this in memory of me’ (Luke 22:19); and ‘the Holy Spirit will call everything to mind’ (John 14:26); and Moses’ words to Israel, ‘beware lest you forget the Lord’ (Deuteronomy 6:19). In each chapter the meaning of the remembering is explored using all the riches of Christian tradition and then it is related to the lives and works of people who have gone

through the hell of the 20th century. Not all are Christians. We begin with the poet Stig Dagerman who committed suicide in 1954 at the age of 31, and others include a heroine of the French Resistance and a Russian woman who survived the Soviet Gulag. We also hear the story of the repentant prostitute, Mary of Egypt.

This is a short but rich book and not for those who are content with the superficial. In it are hints at how the Mystery of Christ responds to the deepest desires of the human heart; it doesn't really 'answer' these needs but comes alongside them and transfigures them. Towards the end, writing about a painting of the disciples and Jesus at Emmaus, 'we are invited to sit down and share our story, assured that we have never been out of God's mind. The old has passed. The new has come. There is a golden shimmer of glory to things'. Read this book and you will receive hints of this glory.

Stephen Holmes

A BOOK REVIEW FOR CHRISTMAS

***The Forgotten Ways Handbook* by Alan Hirsch**

This book is about having outreach activities. Hirsch tell us that, 'from Jesus we learn to engage with people in different non-churchy ways'. We need to contextualise the gospels into other contexts. So, outreach is not just about inviting people to a sale or a barbeque, a service, or a social evening. It is about doing these things plus giving them some discursive material on Christianity at the same time. We can only contextualise the gospel into other contexts once we empathise with doubters' scepticism, and like Mark Anthony in Shakespeare's famous play, bravely present and argue our case in the appropriate language of the bystanders. I am aware that traditional Christianity suited an age of belief and so does not always challenge the doubters, so I try to point out how Christians of the past, such as Francis, were so inspired by God that they were able to develop the resilience we all need to cope with life. Perhaps others can see writing for the magazine as an outreach activity and perhaps copies of our magazine should be made available for visitors to our silent auction sales, bridge clubs, services or other activities.

As our congregation becomes smaller than it once was, like many churches we find it becomes more difficult for us to reach out. But we have some of the qualities which Hirsch thinks can speak for us – even if we don't always realise that these qualities are catalysts assisting the Holy Ghost to work in people's hearts. I am not a trad Episcopalian but I can say that in this church we have an extremely warm caring atmosphere, which has been promoted by two excellent rectors – one of them now retired. Many of you are also engaged with other small Christian groups and also community groups which

make you conduits who can help other people to find their way through our doors. And as we celebrate Christmas and make our New Year resolutions, we need to think about how the story of Christ's birth helps us reconnect with the forgotten ways which society needs so badly to reconnect with. The baby Jesus was a magnet for visitors who were hardly respectable. The shepherds, for example, were on the margins of Jewish society – not regarded as very good people! And the wise men from the east were foreigners and astrologers (if alive today they might be avid readers of conspiracies from populist websites – who knows!). Jesus did not judge books by their covers. Neither do we. A successful church is made up of people who play the small parts which their skills thrust on them. This church is very successful. Our New Year resolution must be to consolidate, while we await better times. Merry Christmas.

Andrew Vass



HOLY CROSS KALENDAR – DECEMBER

Saints and services for January will appear in the newsletter.

Tuesday 1st Charles de Foucauld, priest and hermit, 1916

Charles was a loose-living French cavalry officer who was converted to a strict Christian life and, after trying various monasteries, lived as a hermit in the Sahara desert where he was killed.

Wednesday 2nd Nicholas Ferrar, deacon, 1637 – **Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

Nicholas and his family lived as a Christian community at Little Gidding and inspired many.

Thursday 3rd Francis Xavier, missionary, 1552 – **Evening Prayer on Zoom 5 p.m.**

One of the first Jesuits, he was a pioneer missionary in Asia and converted many to Christ.

Friday 4th Clement of Alexandria, teacher of the faith, c.210

A convert to Christianity who taught the faith at Alexandria in Egypt integrating the insights of Greek philosophy.

Sunday 6th SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.

Collect: O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday 7th Ambrose of Milan, bishop and teacher of the faith, 397

Ambrose was the Roman Governor of the area around Milan who was elected bishop before he was baptised. He was a great teacher who faced down tyrants and was the first to write hymns.

Tuesday 8th The Conception of Mary, Mother of the Lord

Nine months before the feast of her birth, this feast has been kept since the seventh century but goes back to stories about Mary's conception and birth from the second-century. Anglicans and Orthodox keep it as the 'conception' but Roman Catholics call it the 'immaculate conception', holding that Mary, as the mother of Jesus, did not inherit original sin like the rest of humanity.

Wednesday 9th – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.

Thursday 10th – Evening Prayer on Zoom 5 p.m.

Saturday 12th Finnian of Clonard, abbot, c.550

An early Irish monastic founder who trained Columba in the monastic life.

Sunday 13th THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.

Collect: O Lord Jesus Christ, at your first coming you sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday 14th John of the Cross, priest and teacher of the faith

A Spanish Carmelite priest, he joined St Teresa of Avila in reforming his order and suffered greatly in the process. He was a great teacher of Christian mysticism and among his writings is 'The Dark Night of the Soul'.

Wednesday 16th Ember Day – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.

Thursday 17th O Sapientia (O Wisdom) – Evening Prayer on Zoom 5 p.m.

Advent changes gear today and turns its attention towards the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Each day at Evening Prayer has a special and very beautiful antiphon sung before and after the Magnificat, each of which develop titles of Christ.

Today it is: 'O Wisdom, who proceeded out of the mouth of the most high, reaching from one end of creation to the other and ordering all things powerfully and gently, come and teach us the way of prudence'.

Friday 18th Ember Day; Flannan, pilgrim, 640; O Adonai (Sacred Lord)
Flannan was an Irish monk who studied under St Maelrubha and lived in the Western Isles, settling in the Flannan Isles off Lewis.

Saturday 19th Ember Day; O radix Jesse (Root of Jesse)

Sunday 20th **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

A Meditation for Christmas, with Hannah Rarity 7 p.m.

Collect: O God our Father, you prepared the blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our Saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our Judge; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday 21st O Oriens (Morning Star)

Tuesday 22nd O Rex Gentium (King of the Nations)

Wednesday 23rd O Emmanuel (God with us) – **Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

Thursday 24th Christmas Eve – **Midnight Mass 11.30 p.m.**

Collect: Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light; bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday 25th **CHRISTMAS DAY : THE LORD'S NATIVITY**

Eucharist 9.00 a.m. (Scottish Liturgy 1970)

Eucharist with music 10.30 a.m.

Collect: Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday 26th **St Stephen, deacon and martyr**

Sunday 27th **FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

Collect: Almighty God, you wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may be partakers of his divine nature; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday 28th **St John the Apostle and Evangelist** (transferred from 27th)

Tuesday 29th **The Holy Innocents** (transferred from 28th)

Wednesday 30th – **Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

WORSHIP

Our main service is the Sunday Eucharist which is celebrated in the church at 10.30 a.m. and is open to the public. All are welcome although numbers are limited – although we have been full on a couple of occasions, we have not yet had to turn anyone away. Coronavirus precautions are in place and everyone is required to wear a mask or similar face covering (unless they have valid reasons not to) and to use hand sanitiser. The Eucharist is also celebrated at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesdays with the same precautions.

Information about Christmas services can be found on page 5.

On Thursdays at 5 p.m. a group from Holy Cross meet online on Zoom to say Evening Prayer. All the words are provided. I send out an invitation each week to those who regularly take part and if you wish to join us, email me at rector.hce@gmail.com and I will send you the invitation and password to enable you to join in on your computer, tablet or smartphone (it needs to have a camera).



WEDNESDAY READINGS

2nd Dec.	Isaiah 25.6-9	Psalm 23	Matthew 15.29-39
9th Dec.	Isaiah 40.25-31	Psalm 103.1-10	Matthew 11.28-30
16th Dec.	Isaiah 45.5-8,18-25	Psalm 85.8-13	Luke 7.19-23
23rd Dec.	Malachi 3.1-5	Psalm 25.1-14	Luke 1.57-66
30th Dec.	1 John 2.12-17	Psalm 96.7-10	Luke 2.36-40
6th Jan. (Epiphany)	Isaiah 60.1-6	Psalm 72.1-7,10-14	Matthew 2.1-12
13th Jan. (St Mungo)	1 Thessalonians 2.2-12	Psalm 16.5-11	Matthew 28.16-20
20th Jan.	Hebrews 7.1-3,15-17	Psalm 110	Mark 3.1-6
27th Jan.	Hebrews 10.11-18	Psalm 110.1-4	Mark 4.1-20
3rd Feb.	Hebrews 12.4-7,11-15	Psalm 103.1-2,13-18	Mark 6.1-6

SUNDAY and CHRISTMAS READINGS

6th Dec.	ADVENT 2 Isaiah 11.1-10 Psalm 72.1-7,18-19 Romans 15.4-13 Matthew 3.1-12	Galatians 4.4-7 Luke 2.22-40
13th Dec.	ADVENT 3 Isaiah 35.1-10 Magnificat James 5.7-10 Matthew 11.2-11	3rd Jan EPIPHANY Isaiah 60.1-6 Psalm 72.1-7,10-14 Ephesians 3.1-12 Matthew 2.1-12
20th Dec.	ADVENT 4 Isaiah 7.10-16 Psalm 80.1-7,17-19 Romans 1.1-7 Matthew 1.18-25	10th Jan. BAPTISM of the LORD Genesis 1.1-5 Psalm 29 Acts 19.1-7 Mark 1.4-11
24 Dec.	CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT Isaiah 9.2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2.11-14 John 1.1-14	17th Jan. EPIPHANY 2 1 Samuel 3.1-10 Psalm 139.1-5,12-17 1 Corinthians 6.12-20 John 1.43-51
25th Dec.	CHRISTMAS DAWN Titus 3.4-7 Psalm 97 Luke 2.8-20	24th Jan. EPIPHANY 3 Jonah 3.1-5,10 Psalm 62.6-14 1 Corinthians 7.29-30 Mark 1.14-20
25th Dec.	CHRISTMAS DAY Isaiah 52.7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1.1-4 Luke 2.1-14	31st Jan. PRESENTATION Malachi 3.1-5 Psalm 24.1-10 Hebrews 2.14-18 Luke 2.22-40
27th Dec.	CHRISTMAS 1 Isaiah 61.10-62.3 Psalm 148	7th Feb. EPIPHANY 5 Isaiah 40.21-31 Psalm 147.1-12,20 1 Corinthians 9.16-23 Mark 1.29-39