



St Margaret's Parish Church, Glenrothes

April 2021



Dear Friends,

Easter has come and gone for a second time since the lockdown began on 23rd March 2020. The difference this year was that the church was open for Sunday worship from Palm Sunday onwards, including Easter Sunday.

Having received Presbytery permission to reopen for Sunday worship, we are able to have restricted numbers back in church.

A maximum of 34 people sitting in pairs socially distanced, not including duty volunteers, myself, and the organist/pianist. The maximum number is 50 for Sunday worship but our sanctuary is just not big enough to hold that number. The reality is that the majority of folk join the service via Zoom.



For an Easter display, I asked folk to draw round their hand and to pop it through the church letterbox or email it to me. The display on Easter Sunday symbolised that even although we are separated, we all belong to one church family. There were extra handprints which symbolised those who did not know or who were not able to do it on time.



We have missed your handprints and footprints over the past months! We are looking forward to the time when we hear that other parts of the church can reopen, and groups will begin to return (no doubt with risk assessments in place!).

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me (752241) and let us know your news and if there is anything we can do to support you.

Until we meet again, may God hold you safely in the palm of his hands and keep you in his tender care.

Eileen

Sunday Services

All services start at 10am

To book your place, please phone and leave a message for Sheila Filsell : 775138, or email her:

filsellsheila@hotmail.com

You may prefer to join the service on Zoom:

Meeting ID 871 7204 3700

Passcode 090012

Telephone 01314601196

If you miss any of our services you can find recordings on Youtube. Just search for **St Margaret's Glenrothes.**

We are excited to announce that Sandra Davie will be joining the ministry team from the beginning of May. Sandra Davie has been appointed as our new part-time MDS worker (children, families and young people). She brings to the role her creativity and artistic abilities, her experience along with her passion for work with children, young people and families.

Sandra covered part of the role on maternity leave cover for 12 months to August 2019. Sandra is married to Joe and they have four grown up children and Seth. Sandra and Joe are members of St Margaret's church.

We are looking forward to Sandra joining the team.....watch this space in future newsletters to hear from Sandra!



We are keen to invite anyone who has not been able to access church services online back to church. If you want to come, you do need to book a seat by leaving a message for Sheila Filsell on 775138 or email filsellsheila@hotmail.com **To manage the restricted seating, we simply ask that a booking needs to be made each week.**

Easter Activities

We've had no Monday Club meetings for over a year now, but 64 children received activity bags which were delivered to their houses.

Here are some of the contents:



The children were invited to do things they enjoy doing –

- Reading about the Easter story
- Making an Easter card to send to someone.
- Using a prayer stone on which they could write their worries.
- Colouring the egg.
- Planting some seeds.
- And, of course, eating the Easter egg.

The Good Companions and the Guild were also remembered at Easter time. Each of them received an Easter egg and an Easter card. The cards were handmade for them by Liz Rollo and May Duncan.

Wednesday@1pm.

Each Wednesday at 1pm you are invited to make space in your busy lives to sit in the presence of God who loves us. Just stop, pause and pray. A prayer is shared on our Facebook page

There is also a communal gathering to pray on Wednesday@1pm on Zoom. You are welcome to join. –
Meeting ID 84133876890,
passcode 865176,
or phone 01314601196

Covenanted Partnership

The Covenanted Partnership of six churches (four in Glenrothes, Markinch/Thornton and Leslie Trinity) has been working together during the pandemic with monthly meetings of the Steering Group and weekly meetings of Ministers and Interim Moderators. Since the first Lockdown began, the following shared events have taken place:

2020

- Shared Holy Week reflections
- Thy Kingdom Come - Praying through the Psalms
- Summer services during July
- Advent cafe church worship and discussion

2021

- Lent Bible Studies
- Good Friday service

It has been a positive experience to come together and share in these worship and study opportunities. We may not all agree on everything but we can listen to each other, grow in our faith and deepen our relationships. The Covenanted Partnership is primarily mission, and the Steering Group is working with Diane McWilliam of Cinnamon Network to undertake a community audit as part of the research required for future missional projects.

The Kirk Session unanimously agreed at the Kirk Session meeting in April to enter into a formal agreement with the other five churches in the Covenanted Partnership.

Our Car Park Extension



The long awaited car park was completed the day before Easter Sunday. We now have parking for 32 cars, including three disabled spaces. A widened access to the car park, together with disabled access from the car park to the Halls, were an important part of the work. We now have a facility that will allow users of our Church buildings to park safely and to access the buildings easily. Many thanks to all those who raised the necessary funds and to those who were part of the team over the years that was instrumental in making this happen.



And finally.....during Lent, our Moderator, Martin Fair, asked for photos of crosses “hidden in plain sight”. This one was submitted by Irene Ure. Recognise it?



