

**Church Family Notices**

Registered Scottish Charity SC016060, Congregation Number 080454

SUNDAY 3rd January 2021 **Minister REV MARK SMITH**

**Manse**: 01387 820475 **Mobile**: 0776 215 2755

**Email**: [Mark.Smith@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:Mark.Smith@churchofscotland.org.uk)

**10.30am Morning Worship Together** via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86939887756>

or Telephone: **0131 460 1196** enter code: 869 3988 7756 #

A note from our Minister:

**May I wish you all a ‘Happy New Year!’**

Today we will join with Christians across the world as we re-commit ourselves to God for the coming year – whatever it may hold! Twelve months ago the parish was still in vacancy, I was waiting to hear if I would be asked to preach as sole nominee, and CoVID-19 was a blip on the news radar. Even when my call to join you was sustained and an induction date fixed with Presbytery all seemed well!

How things change. As Burns says: ‘The greatest plans of mice and men are gan a go aglay’ (forgive my Scots – not quite up to Shelia’s standard yet!). We have adapted well, thanks to the hard work of so many folk in the congregations, and have stretched Zoom and tested the Cairn Valley internet connections to their limits! We have also been tested, Elders keeping socially-distant watch over their district flocks, Board members checking our buildings and applying ever-changing guidelines, our technical team, musicians and Messy Church team adapting to keep our worship fresh and varied.

As 2021 gets under way, alongside the monthly Messy Church services and ‘live’ Prayer and Reflections, we will be ‘streaming’ our organ and Minister once a month. I hope this will help enrich our worship and edify, encourage and engage us as we seek to serve God in 2021.

This month: PRAYER FOR 2021 –

Almighty God, Your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, is the Light of the world.

May we, guided by the Holy Spirit, shine with the radiance of His Glory,

that He may be known and worshipped in our hearts, our homes, our communities, our

world. We ask this for His Sake and in His Name.

**PRAYER THEME** – Re-commit yourself to God’s Service, whatever may lie ahead

Next Sunday: 10.30am – Messy Church via Zoom

3pm ‘live’ – Prayer &amp; Reflection in Dunscore Church

**Ecosnippet**

Think before you burn or throw away your Christmas tree! Apparently they are a potential culinary treasure trove.  
Any needles of the fir, spruce or pine variety can be used to make tea, full of Vit C.

Wash a handful or two, add to a pot of boiling water, leave at least 15 mins, strain, reheat and if you like, add sugar or better still, honey. If you’re not a fan, at least add some to your bathwater!

Blitz them in a blender with twice the volume of oil, leave 24 hours, then sieve. This infused oil is delicious with fish and scallops.  
Smouldering pine needles on the barbecue add a wonderful flavour to fish and meat.  
What to do with the rest of the tree? Put it into some woodland where it will enhance the habitat of many small animals. Make sure you remove every shred of tinsel first!

**First Base Food Bank ….** Please remember to support this excellent charity. Winter is here and it will be a long and a hard one for many folk living on little income. I know that many of you give through ‘**Just Giving’** on line [www.justgiving.com/first-base](http://www.justgiving.com/first-base) but as an alternative, Mark Frankland would be delighted to receive cheques to ‘**The First Base Food Agency’**, 6 Buccleuch Street, Dumfries DG! 2NH. I think the need will be greatest from January to March …Many thanks.

Join in prayer, thought and reflection. Use the weekly prayer and theme from CFNs. Light a candle. Look at pictures of friends/family/congregation. Listen to restful music. As we pray in the name of Jesus the Holy Spirit will unite us across the distancing.

PRAYER THEME – Re-commit yourself to God’s Service, whatever may lie ahead

**Notes** for inclusion in January’s CFNs to **Mary Waugh** by Friday morning please at

marypwaugh@gmail.com or phone her on 820301.

***Hymn*** ***320***

***Joy to the world, the Lord is come!***

***let earth receive Her King;***

***let every heart prepare Him room,***

***and heaven and nature sing, (x2***

***and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.***

***Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!***

***let all their songs employ;***

***while fields and flood, rocks, hills and plains***

***repeat the sounding joy, (x2***

***repeat, repeat the sounding joy.***

***He rules the world with Truth and Grace,***

***and makes the nations prove***

***the Glories of His Righteousness***

***and wonders of His Love, (x2***

***and wonders, wonders of His Love.***

***Isaac Watts (1674-1748)***

***Hymn 562***

***Through the Love of God, our Saviour,***

***all will be well.***

***Free and changeless is His favour;***

***all, all is well.***

***Precious is the Blood that healed us,***

***perfect is the Grace that sealed us,***

***strong the hand stretched forth to shield us;***

***all must be well.***

***Though we pass through tribulation,***

***all will be well.***

***Ours is such a full salvation,***

***all, all is well.***

***Happy still in God confiding,***

***fruitful, if in Christ abiding,***

***holy, through the Spirit’s guiding;***

***all must be well.***

***We expect a bright tomorrow;***

***all will be well.***

***Faith can sing through days of sorrow,***

***‘All, all is well.’***

***On our Father’s Love relying,***

***Jesus every need supplying,***

***in our living, in our dying,***

***all must be well.***

***Mary Peters (1813-1856)***

***Hymn 235***

***God is working His purpose out,***

***as year succeeds to year:***

***God is working His purpose out,***

***and the time is drawing near;***

***nearer and nearer draws the time,***

***the time that must surely be,***

***when the earth shall be filled with the Glory of God,***

***as the waters cover the sea.***

***From farthest east to farthest west,***

***where human feet have trod, >>>***

***by the voice of many messengers***

***goes forth the voice of God:***

***‘Give ear to Me, you continents,***

***you islands give ear to Me,***

***that the earth may be filled with the Glory of God,***

***as the waters cover the sea’.***

***Let us go forth in the strength of God,***

***with the banner of Christ unfurled,***

***that the Light of the Glorious Gospel of Truth***

***may shine throughout the world:***

***let us all fight with sorrow and sin,***

***to set their captives free,***

***that the earth may be filled with the Glory of God,***

***as the waters cover the sea.***

***All that we do can have no worth,***

***unless God bless the deed;***

***vainly we hope for the harvest-tide,***

***till God gives life to the seed;***

***nearer and nearer draws the time,***

***the time that shall surely be,***

***when the earth shall be filled with the Glory of God,***

***as the waters cover the sea.***

***Arthur Campbell Ainger (1841-1919)***

***Hymn 326***

***As with gladness men of old***

***did the guiding star behold,***

***as with joy they hailed its light,***

***leading onwards, beaming bright;***

***so, most Gracious Lord, may we***

***evermore be led to Thee.***

***As with joyful steps they sped,***

***Saviour, to Thy lowly bed,***

***there to bend the knee before***

***Thee, whom heaven and earth adore;***

***so may we with willing feet***

***ever seek Thy mercy-seat.***

***As they offered gifts most rare***

***at Thy homely cradle bare;***

***so may we with holy joy,***

***pure, and free from sin’s alloy,***

***all our costliest treasures bring,***

***Christ to Thee, our Heavenly King.***

***Holy Jesus, every day***

***keep us in the narrow way;***

***and, when earthly things are past,***

***bring our ransomed souls at last***

***where they need no star to guide,***

***where no clouds Thy Glory hide.***

***In the heavenly country bright,***

***need they no created light;***

***Thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown,***

***Thou its Sun which goes not down;***

***there for ever may we sing***

***alleluias to our King.***

***William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)***