



**Dunscore Church Family Notices**  
**Registered Scottish Charity SC016060, Congregation Number 080454**

## **SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

**Minister REV MARK SMITH**

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### ***A Message from our Minister:***

As the schools have a break for the next fortnight in order for the children to help bring in the harvest (potatoes or otherwise) ask any children you see to sing the 'Big Red Combined-Harvester' song – a real ear-worm for the shortening Autumn days! Our various Harvest celebrations have challenged us about how we express our thankfulness for the good gifts which surround us.

Jesus likes to challenge us – the parables are often about turning what we think we know upside down! Today we think about persistent prayer and a tenacious widow. What can that tell us about God? About ourselves? About our relationship with God?

Another challenge of Harvest is that of justice for those who are without. Those who lack clean water. Those who lack enough food. Those who have no shelter to call home. Our children have been learning about this at school – ask them about it after they sing the 'Big Red Combined-Harvester' song for you!

Jesus wants to be part of our life and to inspire us to live His way of love and justice, however faltering our faith. The widow asks for help from an unjust, reluctant judge. We can ask the Holy Judge knowing that He wants to hear from us and is more than willing to do what is best for us.

Are we willing to be persistent and tenacious in prayer, patient in waiting, then obedient in doing? Our faith may feel a bit 'chuggy' and 'clattering' like the 'Big Red Combined-Harvester' but, with God's grace, we can play our part in His Harvest of Love and Justice for this world.

God Bless,

Mark

### **PRAYER for this Week:**

*Lord, thank You that You are our place of help.*

*Where others fail us and circumstances change, You remain and You are unchanging.*

*Your Love supports us, underpinning us with a strength beyond ourselves.*

*We praise You for Your passion for justice, for Your kindness towards Your people.*

*We thank You that You call us to a life-giving existence, that we may give and receive in Your Name, learning Your ways and caring for Your world.*

**PRAYER THEME** – Ask God to give you His sense of justice as you pray for those in need.

*Next Sunday:*

10am – **Together with KiKs** in Dunscore Church (also via Zoom)

Zoom live – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86939887756>

11.30am – **Café Church All Hallows prep** in St Ninian's, Moniaive

**ALPHA COURSE** on **Thursday evenings at 7pm in Dunscore Church.....**

A meal, a short talk, lots of discussion

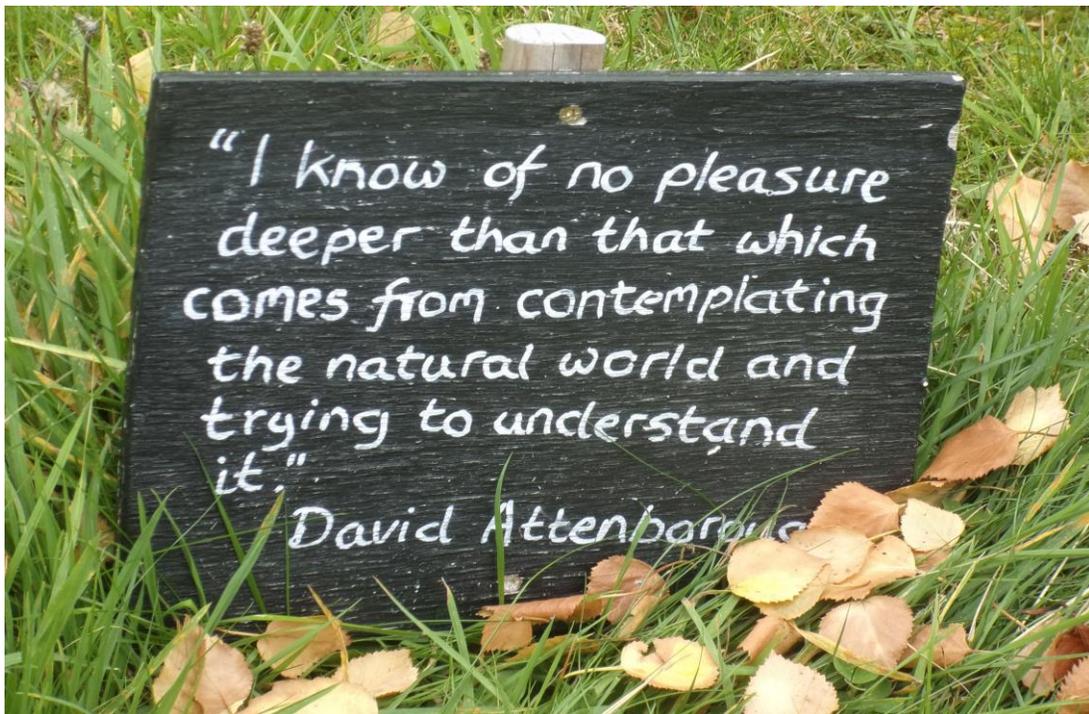
Bring your questions, bring your doubts, bring your faith

A chance to grow your faith



**Help! We volunteers to be on CFN Rota** - There are vacancies to assist with CFN collation and production. This is not a very onerous task and help is always available. Please contact John Drabble if you can help.

**Eco-snippet** ... *in words and pictures!*



**“Attenborough’s Blue Planet II showed the staggering scale of plastic contamination. You may feel that using plastic is inescapable but often it is just a case of taking a moment to stop and question whether there are other options.”** (C Jones 2019)

***Heritage Centre. Open 2-4pm on Sundays until end October***

Do visit and tell your friends about our Heritage Centre in the church. Lots of information about the history of the village and Jane Haining. Friendly welcome and good coffee guaranteed.

***The First Base Food Bank is more important than ever!***

Mark Frankland of First Base has told us that they distribute around 1,400 food parcels a week.

YOU CAN: Donate through 'Just Giving' online - [www.justgiving.com/first-base](http://www.justgiving.com/first-base)

OR Mark Frankland would be delighted to receive cheques made out to 'The First Base Food Agency' at First Base Food Bank 6 Buccleuch Street, Dumfries DG1 2NH. Or I will be happy to take a donation in church and send it. Many thanks for your help. Sheila.

**Quote of the week**

**The two most important days in your life are the day you are born  
and the day you find out why.**

*Mark Twain.*

Please send any items for the October CFNs to John Drabble

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