



Church Family Notices

8 December 2024

Service Time: 10:00am


Reading: Luke 1:67-68, 76-79


Join the Service Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86939887756>

Dunscore Parish Church Worship in Dunscore Church is for everyone, regardless of age, nationality, status, or ability. We'd be delighted to welcome you.

Minister

Rev Mark RS Smith


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Session Clerk

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Find Us On

 dunscorechurch.org.uk

 Dunscore Church

 Cairn Valley Churches

Message from the Minister:

Sometimes our efforts seem doomed to fail. Candles that do not light first time, PowerPoint slides which do their own 'thing', boilers which break down at the first sign of cold, dishwashers which get eaten by mice! Today we hear about a family which seemed doomed to fail. Zechariah and Elizabeth had not been able to have children ... until in their later years, God blessed them with a son who was to play an important part in Jesus' Ministry and Mission.

We know that candles will light, software glitches can be corrected, thermo-couples or outlet hoses are easily replaced. Experience tells us that all is not lost in the domestic life. But what about our spiritual life? Where do we fit in to the universe and the passing of time? Can we play a part? Or is it all a con ... nothing more than a Matrix-like scheme which we cannot escape? Sometimes we feel 'doomed' inside. With no obvious way out of the rut, no clear path forward. Well Advent is here to help! It shows us the Way out that God has put in place.

Jesus Christ, the Saviour, Son of God, Son of Man. The Way, the Truth and the Life. And you don't have to wait for Christmas either! Just believe for yourself and discover that you are part of God's loving plan for all people – an eternal relationship with God through Jesus.

God Bless, Mark

P.S. You can get into loving action this week – we will be collecting gifts of toys for local children in need, bring them (unwrapped) next Sunday (15th). Checkout the Shoebox appeal too!

God Bless, Mark



Prayer Theme:

Thank God for His plan in action, working through old and young alike.

Prayer For This Week

God of the old and the new, we praise You for the faithfulness that goes before and behind us and surrounds us at all times.

We praise You for Your compassion for all creation, big and small, rich and poor, near and far.

We praise You for this season of hope, peace, joy, truth and promise: we celebrate Your loving plan for Your people and the whole world.

In Jesus' Name.

Christmas Toy Appeal

Dunscore Church has been a great supporter of this appeal and, once again this year, we ask you to donate new (unwrapped) toys and gifts for underprivileged children in our region. Please bring them to the service next Sunday 15 December and we'll deliver them to the appeal. Thank you!

Coming Soon		
Today Sunday 08/12/24	10:00am	ALL Together NOW! Family Worship In Dunscore Church
	11:30am	Family Worship in St Ninian's Church, Moniaive
	7:00pm	Ready? Advent Reflection in Dunscore Church
Sunday 15/12/24	10:00 am	Advent Service and please bring donations for the Christmas Toy Appeal
Thursday 19/12/24	7:00 pm	Christmas Carols in the Flying Pig (outside if it's not wet or windy)
Saturday 21/12/24	4:00 pm	Cairn Chorus in Dunscore Church https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/cairn-chorus
Sunday 22/12/24	10:00 am	Dunscore Orchestra Service Favourite carols accompanied by the Dunscore Orchestra
Tuesday 24/12/24	4:00 pm	Christingle Carols and Christingles in Dunscore Church
Wednesday 25/12 24	10:30 am	Christmas Day Service in Dunscore Church
Sunday 29/12/24	10:30 am	Joint Service in St Ninian's in Moniaive

Church and Parish News

Can you help?

Contributions of mince pies and shortbread are required for the Cairn Chorus Concert on: Saturday afternoon 21st December.

We also need contributions of food for after the Orchestra Service on: Sunday 22nd December.

Volunteers also needed. Please get in touch with Mary at marypwaugh@gmail.com if you can help. Thank you.

Hymn/Worship Song Choices

If you have a favourite hymn or worship song please send it to Mark and he will include it in one of our services. This might not be immediately but will be slotted in when the service theme is appropriate.

Cairn Chorus Concert

Tickets are now on sale for this concert 'And to the Earth be Peace' taking place in Dunscore Church on 21 December at 4.00pm. Tickets are priced at £10 full/£5 under 26/free for under 13s and can be purchased on line at: [ticketsource.co.uk/cairn-chorus](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/cairn-chorus) For more information visit www.cairnchorus.co.uk

Books

There are two books available in the church. The history of Dunscore Church over the 200 years since it was built. A fascinating read.

Also, "A Nativity Who's Who" written by Christine Sime (our former minister) which is the nativity story focusing on some of the key characters that were there. It's easy to read, fun and ideal for older primary age children (and adults!).

ALL Together NOW!

Please do try and make it along to our new relaxed and fun family- friendly services and support the younger members of our congregation. These are usually on the second Sunday of the month – that's today's service. There are arts & crafts, dramatic readings, songs with Claudia, worship and, of course, snacks & refreshments for everyone. All Ages – All Stages – Bring a friend – Bring the Family!

An Amazing Opportunity!

We are looking for someone to follow in the footsteps of our lovely JD. We need a willing person to be our Clerk to the Board. We anticipate that this to be a temporary position because, we expect to join with our linked congregation in Moniaive at which time the Session and Board of both congregations will become one single Session. The Clerk to the Board agrees the agenda for the board meetings (held every other month) and sends this round with any board reports. She / he takes the minutes of board meetings, writes them up, circulates them and signs them along with the Board Chair. The Clerk does not need to be a member of the Board.

Please contact Kath or Mark if you can help with this – we are all part of the team!

Eco Snippet

Christmas is almost here - a nice idea is to make your own gift tags from old Christmas cards. It's amazing and fun to recycle them. All you need is a pair of scissors, a hole punch and some colourful thin ribbon.