

Aberdour Parish Church Registered Scottish Charity: SC007197

Once again Christmas is fast approaching and many folks thoughts will be turning to parties, presents and the seemingly endless Christmas shop. This year will be different for the Church – we have our own 'Good News' story as after 14 years of vacancy we will have our own Minister, Rev Wm. Ross who was inducted on 25 November and he has kindly given us a piece for the Newsletter.

Another busy year in the Church is nearing its end and I would like to thank you all for supporting us in the various events we have held throughout the year. Our Harvest Appeal once again has resulted in a number of boxes being filled. Various items, from toiletries, pencils, notebooks, hair accessories, balls and clothing, just to name a few, were donated and will be sent to Ekwendeni. A big thank you to everyone who supported this worthwhile appeal.

We will be decorating the Church on Saturday 21 December at 10.00 am why not come along and help. Although we will still have our parade this year on Christmas Eve the rest of the Services at this point we are unsure of as Bill has just arrived and there has not been an opportunity before writing this letter to establish what exactly will be happening therefore keep an eye out for posters detailing these events. Luke 2:7 And she gave birth to her first born son; and she wrapped him in cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

A young woman and her betrothed husband found Bethlehem in chaos because hundreds of people had been forced to travel from other parts of the country to register in the census; lodgings were at a premium and they had to accept the offer of a stable, there she gave birth to her first born, a son. If this was the Son of God, why did God not manage things better? The truth, dear friends, is that our faith like that of Joseph and Mary is not removed from life; they do not glide through this nativity drama in a glow of religious rapture. That is not what the Christmas story is about; Christmas is about God fulfilling his promise. Christmas is about God using ordinary human beings; it is about God being in real – life situations. Can I say as we come to share our first Christmas from Maureen and myself; May the Lord bless you and yours at this special time.

Rev William B Ross

Forthcoming Services:

Family Service: Sunday 22 December 2013 @ 10.00 am.

Christmas Eve Parade & Service: Tuesday 24 December 2013 – Parade will start from the Car Park @ 6.00 pm followed by a Service in the Church at approximately 7.00 pm. The Salvation Army will provide the music for the singing of Carols throughout the parade. Tea/Coffee and mince pies available after the Service.

A warm welcome awaits anyone wishing to join us at any or all of the above Services. We also have a cup of tea/coffee at the end of the Service on the first Sunday of each month and at special services – please feel free to join us in fellowship at this time.

Note - our website address <u>www.aberdourstdrostans.org.uk</u>

We hope you have a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year from the Board and Session of Aberdour Church