

It seems a long time since Christmas but memories of this time are still fresh for some of us. The Torchlight Procession took place around the village and finished at the village hall Christmas tree. Our thanks to Fraserburgh Salvation Army band for they're wonderful playing and support. Following on was Our Christmas Eve service this year it was different to previous ones. The Nativity was performed by Children from the Village and supported in background by the Singing Group. It was a Fantastic success and a huge thank to all who took part and helped. There was a lot of hard work, commitment and dedication from the children, Mrs Carol Irvine and Mrs Kerry White and of course Mums and Dads, they had been meeting on a weekly basis for seven weeks.

**Update: Mrs B Coull and family would like to thank everyone for their continued support and to inform you that 'Betty' is now living at Kinnaird House Fraserburgh.**

**If anyone wishes to add anything to the next issue June "Summer" Please pass to any church member or give one of us a call.**

**St Drostans Office Bearers contact details:**

<b>Miss Ruth Mackenzie</b>	<b>01779 480680 (Interim Moderator)</b>
<b>Mr Gordon Duguid</b>	<b>01346 561411</b>
<b>Mrs Sheila Duguid</b>	<b>01346 561411</b>
<b>Mr Graeme Bruce</b>	<b>01346 561368</b>
<b>Mr Bryan Coull</b>	<b>01346 561308</b>
<b>Mrs Ruth Reekie</b>	<b>01346 561464</b>
<b>Mrs Sheila Thomson</b>	<b>01346 561741</b>
<b>Miss Gladys Chapman</b>	<b>01346 571231</b>
<b>Mr Duncan Chapman</b>	<b>01346 571231</b>
<b>Mrs Margaret Grant</b>	<b>01346 561341</b>
<b>Mrs May Merry</b>	<b>01346 561304</b>
<b>Mrs Irene Stephen</b>	<b>01346 561216</b>



## Newsletter

# Spring Issue 2017

## St Drostan's Church New Aberdour

### “The Prayer Tree”

We believe that prayer is an important element of Christian life and worship.

“The Prayer Tree” on the table in the entrance is a way of saying a silent prayer to God using different coloured ribbons, each with a different meaning: Sometimes, we are not able to find the words or we would prefer anonymity just the fact that adding to the tree is all that is needed.

**PURPLE** is for praising God

**YELLOW** is for thanking God

**RED** is for asking God to help

**BLUE** is for saying sorry

**WHITE** is a prayer for peace

Choose a piece of coloured ribbon from the basket nearby, tie it to a branch as a prayer to God.

When the tree is full, ribbons will be removed and placed back in the basket for future use. One ribbon of each colour will be left on the tree to symbolise the prayers made.

**LEAVES** can be used for a message or a request for prayers for a specific Person, Family, Country, Disaster, Group, Organisation, pets or anything you would like.

The leaves will be taken off the tree, every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday and during the service when prayers are said these details will be offered.

Alternatively prayer requests can be put in an email or telephone call, or letter.

Contact details are on this newsletter, and in the church notice box.

**Our Prayer Tree will begin from Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup> indefinitely**

It is said that no matter how old you are, You are never too old to learn something new every day and I have just learnt something new after reading about Easter Celebrations and those leading up to Easter.

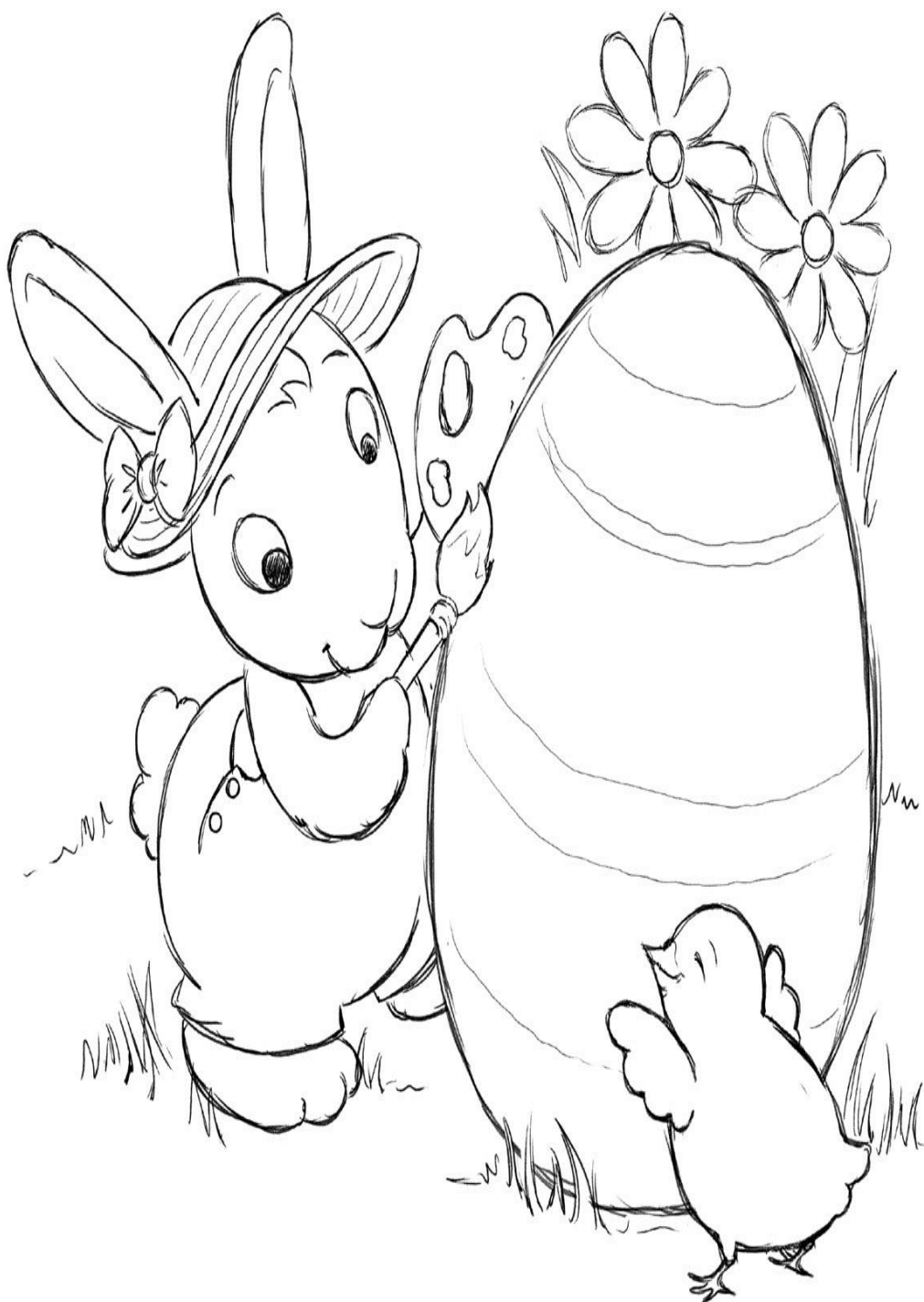
**Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday)** The word ‘Shrove’ comes from the term ‘shrive’ which means to free you from sin. It always falls 47 days before Easter Sunday. In the past families would be encouraged to clear out their cupboards to remove the fattening and indulgent foods from their houses before Lent. An easy way was to use all the ingredients in a simple meal the batter from Pancakes is the same as Yorkshire pudding, and just the same can be eaten savoury or sweet. The tradition of pancakes is believed to originate from pagan ritual. The day after is **Ash Wednesday** It marks the start of Lent, where people all over the globe give up certain luxuries, foods or habits to improve their health or demonstrate self-restraint. This lasts for 40 days until Easter Sunday. (Actually it is 46 days.)

### Do You Know the Answers...

1. What type of newly hatched bird is a common symbol at Easter time?
2. Unscramble the letters to find everyone's favourite treat at Easter TSAERE GSEG ?
3. What is the name of the person who took animals onto an Ark two by two when the floods came?
4. What type of Bun is traditionally eaten on Good Friday?
5. How many days does Lent have?
6. What is another name for Pancake Tuesday?
7. Unscramble the letters to see one of our favourite Easter characters RESTAE NYNUB ?
8. What grows from a bulb, comes out in spring and is green and yellow ?

**Turn to the next page and have some fun.**

Give the Rabbit and Chick a name, colour the picture, put on your name and a contact telephone number and win an Easter Egg. Entries can be given to any church member or you can hand into the church no later than Easter Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2017



**Looking ahead into 2017 we have a good calendar  
of events ahead of us**

**New Aberdour Church Guild meetings 2.00pm New Aberdour School**

7th March - Heather & Gail Overseas Travels

28<sup>th</sup> March - Margaret Simpson Singsong and AGM

**St Drostan's New Aberdour Singing Group will be visiting**

**Fraserburgh Hospital** in 2017: Meet @ 2.30pm in Car Park.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March @ 2.30pm

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May @ 2.30pm

**Soup and Sweet Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 12.00pm – 2.00pm @ New  
Aberdour Parish Hall.** Sale of tickets £4.00 & £3.00 There will be a raffle  
and any donations will be gratefully received.

**The Congregational Annual General meeting - Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
at the close of the service

**The Service on Easter Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> April** In Aberdour Church  
10.00am Service taken by. Mr Richard Sneddon.

**Communion Service Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May**

In Aberdour Church 10.00am Service taken by, Rev Fred Coutts.

**Followed By:**

**Sponsored Walk and BBQ 28<sup>th</sup> May** Leaving from the village hall at  
3.00pm. Afterwards there will be a selection of BBQ food available,  
and for the little ones a Bouncy Castle.



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

## Thoughts From Your Interim Moderator - Miss Ruth Mackenzie

As I look out of the window I see snowdrops in bloom, so fragile looking as they are battered by the strong winds, yet they survive undamaged. There is also an ever-increasing array of the vibrant colours of crocuses. These, along with the lengthening days offer us the hope of spring to come – milder days, new growth in the garden as the first green shoots appear.

As we look forward, we have an even greater hope, the hope of the Christian of new life to come. We have this hope because we look forward to Easter, that day called ‘Good Friday’ when Jesus suffered and died on the cross for each one of us.

‘Christ himself carried our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness. It is by his wounds that you have been healed’

(1 Peter ch 2 v24)

That had to be the blackest, darkest day, along with early on, Easter Sunday morning, when Mary Magdalene went with other women, with broken hearts to the tomb where Jesus had been taken. And what a sight met them. The stone was rolled away, the grave clothes were lying folded up and then Jesus, the Risen Saviour came to them in the garden.

‘The Son of Man must be handed over to sinful men, be crucified and three days later, rise to life’.

(Luke ch 24 v7)

This is the eternal hope of the Christian; this is the hope we have in Him, as surely as the season of winter gives way to the season of spring. Yes, we have the darkness but beyond this is always the light and the hope of the time when ‘every tear will be wiped away’. We have the darkness of this time of vacancy yet we can look forward with hope in our hearts and the absolute certainty that our Saviour is there for us.

It is a thing most wonderful, almost too wonderful to be,  
That God’s own Son should come from Heaven  
And die to save a child like me.

It is most wonderful to know His love for me, so free and sure;  
But tis more wonderful to see  
My love, for Him so faint and poor.

(William Walsham Howe 1823-97)



## Mothers Day 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Did you know Mothering Sunday is always the fourth Sunday in Lent It is on a Different date each year because it is linked to Easter, which is determined by the Luna Calendar.

It is believed to go back to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century when a Vicars daughter called Constance Smith, read a newspaper article about American activist Anna Jarvis who campaigned tirelessly for an official day to celebrate Mums. Her mother Ann Jarvis had been a peace activist who cared for wounded soldiers on both sides of the American Civil War, and created Mother’s Day Work Clubs to address public health issues. Anna Jarvis wanted to honor her mother by continuing the work she started and to set aside a day to honor all mothers, because she believed that they were "the person who has done more for you than anyone in the world". After a period of protesting President Woodrow Wilson agreed to introduce the celebration in 1914. After reading more about this Constance Smith began a campaign in the whole of the United Kingdom to revive Mothering Sunday, traditionally observed by the Anglican Church. However this was not with cards and gifts it was more to do with daughters and sons who had left home to go into domestic service the fishing and farming communities or another town to work in the mill industries. This meant that they got a full day off and were able to travel sometimes, long distances to spend the day with their “Mothers” and where able to attend their own local church. Those who did so were said to have gone ‘A Mothering’. Many used to pick flowers from the verges along the way to leave in the church or to hand to their mothers when they got home.

### Easter Poem

It was not the nails that held Him  
My Saviour to the tree  
But love it was that held him there  
His love for you and me

“Forgive then for they do not know  
What they do this day”  
In love our Saviour pleaded  
As His life ebbed away.

It was not the crown of thorns He wore,  
That gave my Lord such pain  
But the sin of man He bore that day,  
So heaven we all could gain

It was not the nails that held Him  
My Saviour to the tree.  
Love it was that held Him there,  
His love for you and me,

It was not the sword that pierced His side  
That made Him shed His blood  
It was not the pain that made Him cry  
To His Father up above.

*Supplied by Mrs Margaret Grant*