

NEWSLETTER

ST. FILLAN'S

PARISH CHURCH

OF

ABERDOUR

from the year

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PUBLIC WORSHIP: Sunday at 11.15 a.m. and on the first Sunday of every month except January at 6.30 p.m. ALL ARE WELCOME

HOLY COMMUNION: Celebrated on the third Sunday of March, June and October, and at Christmas and Easter.

HOLY BAPTISM: By arrangement with the minister.

Minister: Rev. John Scott, The Manse, Manse Street . . . 860349
Session Clerk: Mrs. Catherine Duncan, 43 Humble Terrace. 860611
Clerk to Board: Mrs. Karyn Crowe, 13 St. Fillan's Cresc. 860721
Treasurer: Mr. Fred Jeffs, 3 Inch Avenue 860820
Organist/Choirmaster: Mr. Alan Wark, 1 Bellhouse Road . 860816
Church Officer: Mr. Michael Cook, Whitehill Cottage. . . 860739

March 1994

No. 113

The Manse
Aberdour

Dear Friends,

The great Christian festival of Easter will soon be upon us - it is early this year, 3rd April. Many people wonder why it does not have a fixed date like Christmas which would make holiday arrangements and such like so much easier. In the early church there was controversy from the 2nd century concerning the proper time for the observance of Easter and it was not until the Council of Nicea in 325 that it was decided that it should be on a Sunday rather than on a certain day of the month or moon. In determining the date, various factors were taken into consideration - Passover, calendar moon, equinox - bearing in mind that Christ celebrated the Passover with his disciples just before his arrest. The time of the Jewish festival of Passover is determined by the phase of the moon. It is all rather complicated and I would not pretend to understand exactly how it is calculated but basically Easter Day is always the first Sunday after the paschal (Passover) full moon. It can fall on any Sunday between 21st March and 25th April. In 1928 Parliament passed an Act recommending that Easter Day be celebrated on the Sunday following the second Saturday in April provided that it had the agreement of the Church and other Christian bodies - so far this has not been forthcoming. I hope I do not sound heretical, but for me the date is of little consequence - it is the event that we celebrate, moving from the darkness of Good Friday's shadows and death into the brightness of Easter's Resurrection and Life.

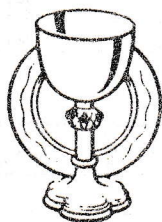
We need to know every day of our lives that Easter is coming. It is a time when we celebrate God's most remarkable

victory over all the forces that pull us down. Our lives do swing between the darkness of our Fridays and the brightness of God's gift of Sundays. Life is neither one of the two realities without the other. If we think all is gloomy and sad, we will be filled only with despair. If we think life is only goodness and light we will be living only within a naive wish-dream.

God is good! Rejoice in His goodness through the joy of worshipping together in His house through this Easter season. Bring your friends with you to sing and rejoice in God's gift of Life.

Your friend and minister

John Scott



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: This will be celebrated on Sunday 20th March at 11.15 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. The retiring offering at both these services will be for Ballingry Parish church. To enable the parents of young children attend the morning service there will be a creche in the vestry at the church.

Sunday 13th March: 11.15 a.m. Admission of First Communicants - Kirk Session meets in the Session House at 11.00 a.m.

Sunday 20th March: 11.15 a.m. Service of Holy Communion
3.00 p.m. Service of Holy Communion

Sunday 27th March: 11.15 a.m. PALM SUNDAY - Family Service

Friday 1st April: 7.30 p.m. GOOD FRIDAY Service - Offering will be for the Fife Hospice

Sunday 3rd April: 11.15 a.m. EASTER DAY - Morning Service
6.30 p.m. Evening Service - EASTER PRAISE

Please note there will be no Sunday School or Bible Class on 27th March, 3rd and 9th April because of the Easter Holidays. Boys and girls of the Sunday School will be particularly welcome at the Palm Sunday Family Service on 27th March.

Happiness, like pure gold, is rarely found in huge nuggets, but is scattered in precious, glittering particles through the common rock of daily living. It is only when we gather these shining particles together that we realise how rich we are in joy.

PARISH AND CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Baptisms

Nov. 7 - Kyle Robert, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bendy, 14 Morayvale
Feb. 27 - Jack Leon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Grossman, Priory House

Marriages

Dec. 10 - David Currie, 49 Humble Terrace, to Marion Walker,
Edinburgh

Deaths

Oct. 22 - Helen Waterson, formerly 26 Humble Terrace
Nov. 8 - Mrs. Catherine Hamilton, 9 Livingstone Lane
10 - Donald Smith, 14 Dovecot Park
20 - Ian Stuart, 35 Hawkcraig Road
28 - Eric Jubb, Wayside, Inverkeithing Road
Dec. 16 - William Young, Templehall Farm
17 - Peter Sinclair, 21 Morayvale
18 - Stanley Cannon, 5 Manse Place
Jan. 28 - Mrs. Isabel Drummond, 8 Morayvale
Feb. 9 - Mrs. Amy Gray, Murano, The Shore
19 - Alastair Hunter, 4 Manse Place
20 - Robert Mitchell, 1 Home Park
24 - Mrs. Isabella McKinnon, 11 Hawkcraig Road
28 - Mrs. Marjorie Grocock, 79 High Street
Mar. 1 - Mrs. Jean Nelson, 7 Hawkcraig Road

Members Joining

By Confession of Faith

Stephen Kerr, Bouprie Farm
Linda Wood, 6 The Inches, Dalgety Bay

By Resolution of Kirk Session

Johann Heuser, Pentland View, Aberdour Road, Crossgates
Kenneth Nicolson, 80 Main Street
Kenneth Jeffs, 19 Bellhouse Road
Mrs. Janet Bendy, 14 Morayvale

Members Leaving

Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, 34 Shore Road (to Pitlochry)
Mrs. Sheila Hanlon, 15 Linburn Grove, Dunfermline (to Dalgety)
Mrs. Gabrielle Hodge, 19c Belhaven Road, Dunbar

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Members of the Church moving into the area and wishing to join St. Fillan's should obtain a Certificate of Transference from their previous congregation and hand it in at the church door at any service. Members moving away from the district should obtain a Transference Certificate from the minister. **The minister or Session Clerk should be notified of any change of address so that the congregational roll can be kept up to date.**

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES - ABERDOUR

With the closure of the Aberdour Office on 31st December 1993, Registration for those residing within the parishes of Aberdour and Dalgety is now available at:

The Registrar's Office,
6 Heriot Street,
Inverkeithing.

(Telephone: Inverkeithing 417742)

Opening Hours: Monday and Tuesday - 9.30 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.
Thursday and Friday - 1.45 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
(There is no opening on Saturday)

In emergency, the Registrar at Cowdenbeath should be contacted:

Mrs. Margaret Clark - Telephone Cowdenbeath 510855

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - 1994

The Annual Christian Aid Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 12th May in St. Fillan's Church Hall between 10.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon. Tickets are available from Committee members or at the Hall door - 50p. Donations for bric-a-brac, books, baking, plants and gift stalls would be much appreciated.



CHURCHES IN
ACTION WITH THE
WORLD'S POOR

Christian Aid Week for 1994 is 14th to 19th May.

A CHORAL EVENING for Christian Aid and the Church Hall Fund will take place in St. Fillan's Church on Sunday 15th May at 7.30 p.m. St. Fillan's Church Choir, supported by members of the Kirkcaldy Choral Union, will sing Vivaldi's Gloria, Blest Pair of Sirens, and Zadok the Priest.

Entrance will be by programme costing £2, available at the church door.

IAN STUART

(Pulpit tribute to Ian Stuart on Sunday 28th November 1993:

A familiar face is missing from church this morning, that of Ian Stuart, one of our senior elders. He died last Saturday 21st November, having been a member of this congregation for 52 years and an elder for 40. He was born in Edinburgh but spent most of his life here in Aberdour, commuting daily to the city to his work in the insurance business which he had entered on leaving school. He was called up in 1939, serving in the army throughout the war, mostly on secondment to the Indian army. Ian was a man who was involved in many different activities,

not least in the village where, having been a founder member of the Flower Show, he continued to serve as Treasurer for many years and retained a life-long interest in its continuing success. He was also Secretary to the Golf Club for a time.

His constant interest however was the church and it was a rare Sunday that he was not present at worship. He was I believe a Sunday School teacher for a spell, but it was as an elder and member of the Congregational Board that he served best and longest. He willingly took on the Convenorship of the Property Committee after he retired from work and carried it out over the next five years with the diligence and care he always gave - idleness was never a word in his vocabulary. Two or three months ago he wrote asking to be relieved of his district duties and his letter spoke of the pleasure that that part of his work had given him. In every activity he expected from others no more than he was prepared to give himself resulting sometimes in impatience and frustration when that was not forthcoming.

A minister relies totally on his Kirk Session, and no minister could have a more reliable elder than Ian Stuart; a Kirk Session depends totally on its members and no Kirk Session could have a more dependable elder than Ian Stuart; a congregation depends entirely on the faithfulness of its members, and no congregation could have a more faithful member than Ian Stuart. That's why he will be so greatly missed; that's why we are so grateful for having known him and loved him as a brother in Christ.

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SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

Scottish Country Dancing takes place in the Church Hall on Monday nights from 6.45 to 9.00 p.m. Mr. Findlay and Mr. O'Donnel come on alternate weeks to play the accordion for us. There are nearly 50 members who attend regularly. We learn new dances although the emphasis is on having fun and meeting new friends. Our end-of-term party will be on March 21st and dancing will start again in September. New dancers are always very welcome. For further details phone Barbara 860810.

CHURCH HALL RENOVATION FUND

This currently stands at £21,260. This is the amount that has been raised since the appeal was launched in October 1992 and is about half the amount required for the proposed renovation of the small hall and kitchen area. After the initial good response from the village, the Committee anticipated that the balance required could be raised from appeals to various companies and charitable bodies but this has not had the hoped-for response. It may well be that the Congregational Board will have to re-think the scale of the renovation, but whatever happens those who have donated money can be assured that the entire Fund will be used to upgrade the amenities in the Church Hall. Meanwhile donations are still welcome and should be sent to the Congregational Treasurer.

St Fillan's Church

EASTER

Church Services

GOOD FRIDAY - 7.30 p.m. - a quiet
time of meditation

EASTER DAY - 11.15 a.m. - a time of
celebration

