

Saint James

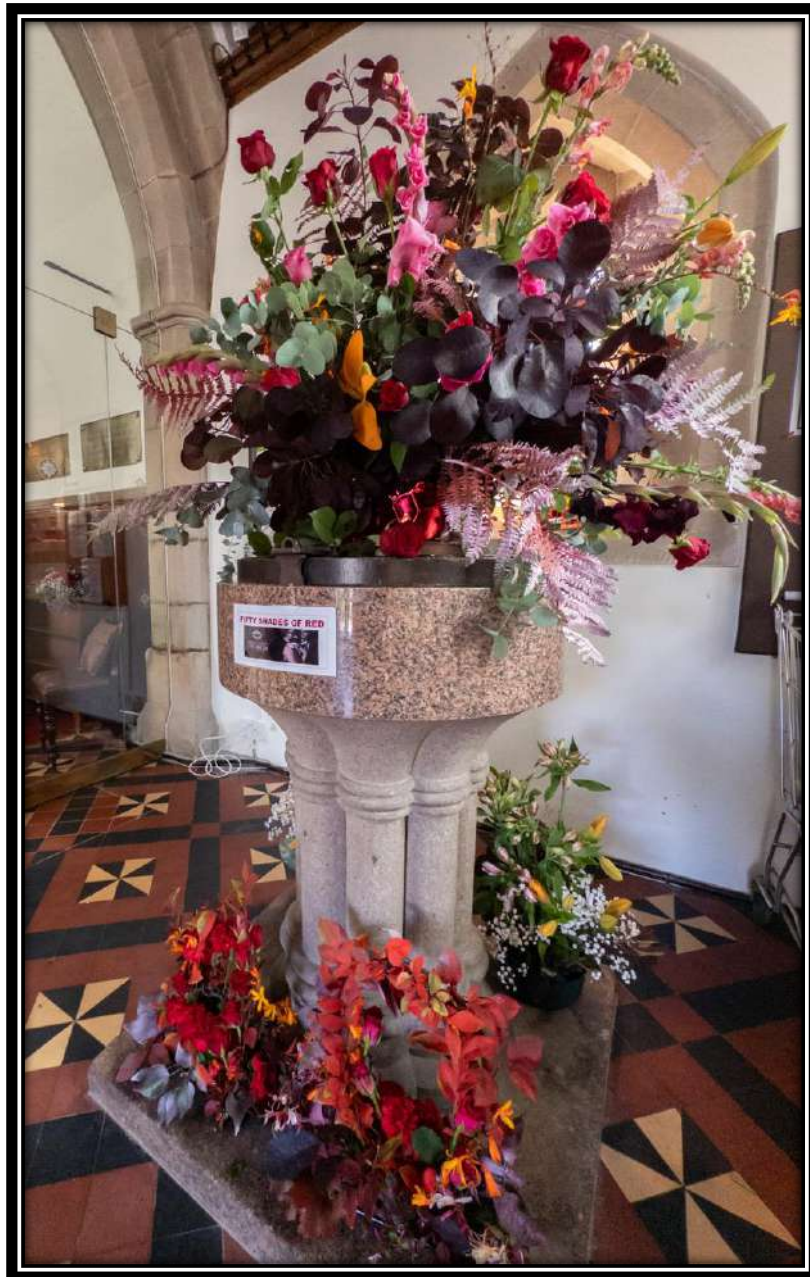


Cruden Bay

Saint Mary



Ellon



**OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
2024**

***WE SEEK TO BE CHURCHES FILLED WITH GOD'S LOVE,
GIVING IT AWAY TO OTHERS***

Saint Mary's and Saint James's are congregations of the Scottish Episcopal Church, the Scottish part of the worldwide Anglican Communion, which includes the Churches of England, Ireland, Wales, the Episcopal Church of the USA, and the Anglican Church of Canada as well as churches in most countries of the world.

However, even more important than that, we are members of God's family and all members of that family, from whichever denomination (or none), are welcome to worship with us. We try to welcome everyone in a non-judgmental way. Our congregations seek to develop the ministry of everyone, allowing people to find what God is asking of them and the gifts that he is giving to them.

Our churches are open for communal worship:

The present Sunday worship times are -

9-30am The Eucharist in Saint James's

11-0am The Eucharist in Saint Mary's

Other services as announced in Church. The Sacrament is reserved in both Saint Mary's and Saint James's.

OUR PARISH PRAYER

Father, pour out your Spirit upon us and grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your word and a new consecration to your service, that your love may grow among us and your kingdom come: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Front Page Photo:
Saint Mary's Ruby Flower Festival
(More Photos in the Magazine)**

RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS:

Sharing our Harvest



Each year we set aside a Sunday in October for the celebration of our *Harvest Festival*. That is an annual occasion when we offer our thanksgiving for the bounty of this fertile land in which we are blessed to live. Produce, both fresh fruit and vegetables grown on local farms, and tinned items bought in local shops, beautifully decorate our churches in Cruden Bay and in Ellon. Visual evidence of the agricultural abundance that so generously is offered for display on that festive occasion is provided in the two photographs showing food goods arranged in front of the altar at Saint James-the-Less and at the font in Saint Mary-on-the-Rock.

But all that food is not brought into our two churches merely for the adornment and decoration of the buildings. The Collect used every year when we celebrate the harvest reminds us of a very important mission task given to each one of us when we pray these words: *“God, you crown the year with your goodness and give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory so that none may hunger.”* Autumn’s harvest, always so artistically arranged by a group of volunteers, certainly makes our churches look especially festive and even more beautiful. But all these items are being brought to Saint James and to Saint Mary’s so that we can fulfil the mandate given to us in that Harvest Collect when we commit ourselves to *“use them to God’s glory so that none may hunger.”*

At our *Harvest Festival*, which this year falls on Sunday, 13th October, we collect all manner and sorts of edible (and hygiene) goods for the two Food Banks that serve this area of Aberdeenshire. Once we have finished our festive celebrations, those items are bagged and boxed up for delivery to the *Ellon Food Bank* and the *Peterhead Food Bank*: both of which are branches of the ‘Aberdeenshire North Food Banks’ run by the *Trussell Trust*. In this way, Harvest Thanksgiving is an integral part of our stewardship because we are called by Christ to care for the poor, the hungry, and those in need. As we have done in previous years, let us continue to act compassionately towards all those who are in need: sharing with those persons who have very little from the bountiful abundance with which we are so richly blessed.



Have a happy Harvest Thanksgiving Festival.

Didn't Dampen Our Spirits



The rain on 15th August prevented us from gathering outside around the 19th century statue of *Our Lady of Ellon*, forcing us indoors for the service of Marian Prayers. However, it definitely did not dampen our spirits. On that wet day, twenty-nine hardy people gathered inside Saint Mary-on-the-Rock for our annual celebration, which featured Bishop Hugh Gilbert (of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen) as the Guest Preacher. Following the worship service in the church, everyone dodged the rain drops and went over to the Hall where a magnificent buffet of savoury and sweet foods filled a table in the centre of the room. Everyone gathered around, chatting and enjoying the culinary feast as we celebrated the Blessed Virgin Mary who is our parish's patron.



**Logie Buchan Kirk
Annual Service**



HARVEST FESTIVAL
on Sunday, 20th October
at 3.00pm



Guest Preacher: Revd Alex Noble

Music by the *Ythan Singers*

***TEAS TO FOLLOW AFTERWARDS
IN DENHEAD HALL, AUCHMACOY***

St Mary's Ruby Flower Festival

Susan Barrett writes:

What a beautiful display of imaginative floral creations adorned our beloved church over the Patronal Festival period! Who would have guessed such a variety of interpretations could emerge from this year's theme of "Ruby"! From special days (Valentine), to sport (football and cricket), to music (Taylor Swift's Red album), to films (Wizard of Oz) and of course to the weather (red sky at night!). All these and more making up the fine array!

Our Flower Festivals are a chance for members of our church and the Ellon community to come together and show their talents. Flowers were the focal point but there was a supporting role involving refreshments throughout the day. This was a chance to show a different set of skills - baking and serving! In all a very satisfying day!

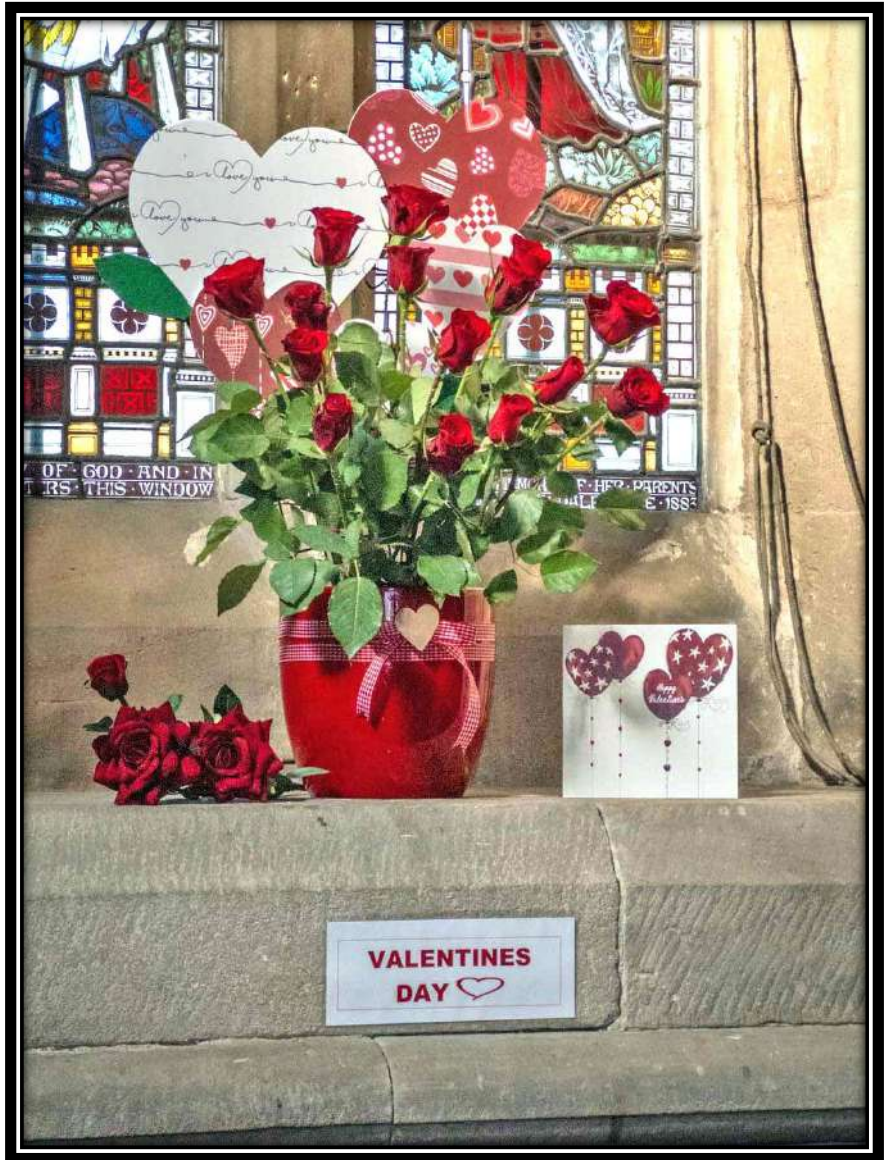
Our thanks not only go to all these kind folks, but also to those who came along to support the event. We hope you enjoyed your time with us.

Finally, we acknowledge that it's due to the combined efforts of everyone above we have been able to raise the princely sum of £1283.62 for the work of MacMillan Cancer Support.

Thank you and well done everyone!

Memories of the “Ruby” Flower Festival











AUTUMN **FILM NIGHTS**

on

TUESDAY 29th OCTOBER

and

TUESDAY 26th NOVEMBER

at

7pm in Saint Mary's Hall, Ellon



All are welcome!

Refreshments served at the interval.



Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2024

Mandy Davis writes:



Thank you in advance to all those who plan to fill a shoebox or bag for this year's appeal.

Just to remind you

Please bring your filled shoebox or bag to Saint Mary's on any Sunday from the beginning of October, or to the Church Office, by

**Sunday 3rd
November.**

ALL boxes/bags from both churches will be collected from Saint Mary's during the first week of November. For those at Saint Mary's who are unable to get to the church, the box/bag can be picked up from your home – call me on 01358-721197 or email melric2@btinternet.com for further details, or to arrange pickup.

If you have difficulty in finding empty shoeboxes, please use a **drawstring bag** instead (like a school shoe bag). The maximum size should be 40cm x 30cm (16ins x 12ins) which can hold as much as an average sized shoebox. It is requested that the bag is not plastic as the bag itself is a useful item to give to people. These can be handmade or sourced cheaply online.

In the past, we have received generous contributions of items from the list which can then be made up into boxes, this is a great way to be involved in the appeal if you find time is short! Just add a few items into your weekly shopping and pass them in – thank you to those who have already done this! It's a great help.

The list of suggested contents is available in this magazine, or can be obtained from me, from the Parish Office, or from the back of both churches, along with some wrapped boxes, and unwrapped shoeboxes for those who enjoy the challenge of wrapping them! Lists can also be downloaded to print from:-

<https://blythswood.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Blythswood-Shoe-Box-Appeal-Leaflet-2024-1.pdf>

Your gifts will be very gratefully received. Thank you!



CHECKLIST

Please ✓ items included and firmly secure this list on your shoebox lid.
Include the essential items highlighted in the red box.
IMPORTANT: PLEASE ONLY INCLUDE NEW ITEMS.

<input type="checkbox"/> TOOTHBRUSH & TOOTHPASTE	<input type="checkbox"/> TOY*/GIFT	<input type="checkbox"/> SWEETS
<input type="checkbox"/> SOAP	*small toy for children such as cars, dolls, balls etc. Please only include new shop-bought toys.	<i>No chocolate, split multipacks or any other food items.</i> No loose sweets, lollies or undated bags of sweets. Best before date no earlier than 31st March next year.
<input type="checkbox"/> UNDERWEAR		
<input type="checkbox"/> SOCKS/TIGHTS	<input type="checkbox"/> SCARF, HAT, GLOVES	

Do not include used or damaged items; war related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; chocolate or any food other than sweets. Chocolate eclairs and chocolate limes are not allowed; books that are mainly words should not be included.

TOILETRIES (No talcum powder)

- Shampoo or shower gel
- Face cloth/moist wipes
- Deodorant
- Moisturising cream
- Comb/brush
- Sanitary products
- Shaving foam/razors

MISCELLANEOUS

- New make-up
- Sewing equipment
- Household candles
- Screwdrivers/pliers
- Kitchen utensils

STATIONERY

- Pens/pencils/sharpener
- Notepads/colouring books
- Rulers/rubbers

CLOTHES and other items

-
-
-
-

Please tick the box next to who you have packed your shoebox for

- MAN
- BOY (Teen)
- BOY (8-12) Age
- BOY (3-7) Age
- ELDERLY WOMAN
- WOMAN
- GIRL (Teen)
- GIRL (8-12) Age
- GIRL (3-7) Age

Community Café and Concert in Cruden Bay



On Friday evening, 13th September, Cruden Bay's Church of Saint James-the-Less hosted a *Community Café and Concert*. This event was supported by a grant from the *Recovery & Renewal Fund* that was established following the Coronavirus Pandemic to help congregations reach out and engage with their local communities after the enforced isolation and separation caused by the restrictions implemented due to Covid-19. Previously, Saint James has hosted several Community Cafés with these grant funds. But this time we wanted to reach a larger audience, so we added a concert to draw in more people. Vocalists and instrumentalists from the *Cruden Bay Folk Club* performed a marvellous concert. On that mid-September evening, 59 people came together inside Saint James's Church for a convivial time of entertainment. After an hour of music, refreshments of sandwiches and traybakes were served at the interval. Then the concert resumed with a further hour of music. It was great seeing quite a few new faces in Saint James. For some people it was their very first time inside the church, and it was a pleasure to welcome them into a place which we hope might one day become a spiritual home for some of them.



Photo Competition Contributions



The previous edition of this *Magazine* included the photograph alongside and invited you to contribute a humorous caption to accompany this picture of the Rector that was taken at *Mainly Music's* end-of-term party. Quite a few of you used your creativity and contributed a witty caption. Below are all of your marvellous submissions:

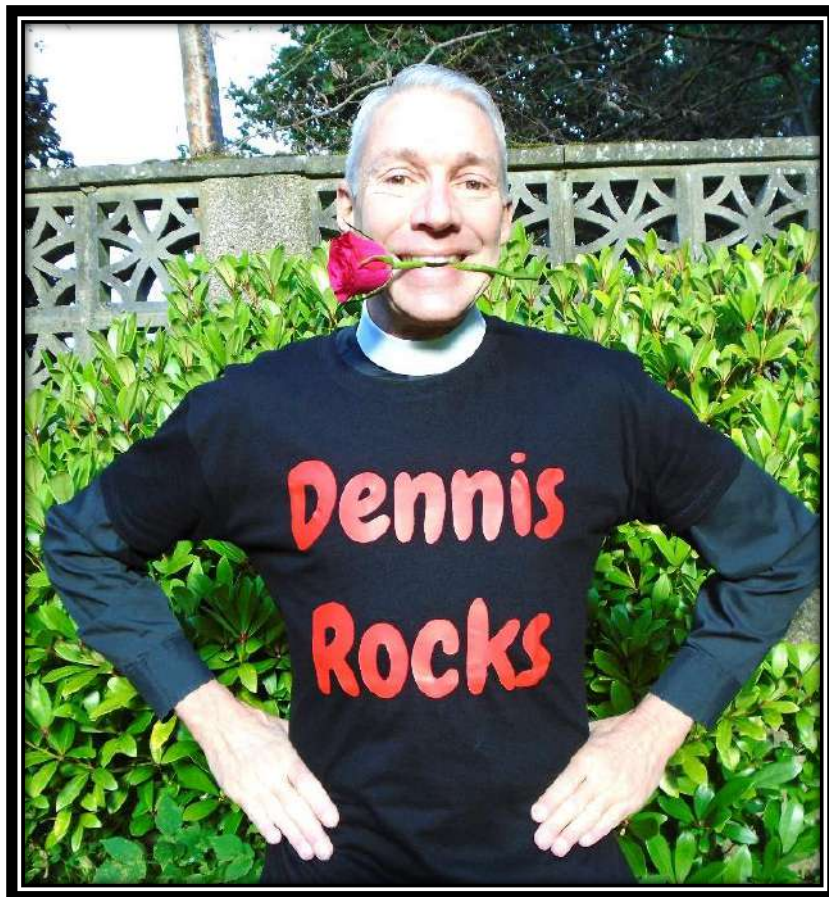
- Fr Dennis explains that: if there are six cakes cut into eight squares then he shall have to eat this much; now that's math for you!
- Fr Dennis is explaining how you divide a cake into even pieces where the lowest half is slight bigger!
- Room for one more?
- It's no use distracting us, Dennis, we've seen the empty plates and noted your happy face!
- Der Cake Meister!

Each one of those captions brings a smile to our face, and it was indeed an extremely difficult task to select one of them as the winner of the *Cadbury's* chocolate bar. However, after careful deliberation the Editors of this *Magazine* have selected the following caption, as their personal favourite:

Room for one more? - contributed by Sheila Alborough

Well done Sheila – you’ve hit the nail on the head! For Dennis, there’s always room for one (or two) more!

THANK YOU to everyone who exercised their brains and came up with such an array of amusing captions. We now leave you to ponder this final photograph, which certainly will not need the addition of a caption since the words on the shirt say it all.



PARISH DIRECTORY

Rector

The Reverend Dr Dennis Berk
(01358 720366)

Clergy:

The Reverend Robert Spencer (01358 723193)
The Reverend Sylvia Spencer (01358 723193)

Saint James Worship Leader

John Palmer

The Vestry Secretary of Saint Mary's is Mandy Davis (01358 721197) and the Treasurer is Jim Pittendrigh (07925 785224). The Stewardship Promoter: Vacancy. PVG Officer is Lesley Paterson (07774 938549)

The Vestry Secretary of Saint James's is Mary Ferguson (01779 812556) and the Treasurer is Steve Rainey (01358 751372). The Stewardship Promoter: Vacancy. PVG Officer is Mary Ferguson (01779 812556).

The Rector's Secretary is Carol Marr. She can be reached in the Parish Office (01358 720366) from Tuesday to Friday from 10-0am to 3-0pm.

Email – parish@stmarystjames.org.uk

Web address: <http://www.stmarystjames.org.uk>

The magazine is produced and printed "in house".
Contributions for Saint Mary's and Saint James' Magazine should
be given to Mandy and Dick Davis
(01358 721197)

E-mail: melric@btinternet.com

Deadline for articles for the December/January magazine: 20th November