

Newsletter

Crown Church, Inverness

NOVEMBER 2021: No. 775

Parish Minister: Rev Douglas Robertson



SUNDAY SERVICES

With the easing in Coronavirus restrictions there is no longer a limit placed on the number who can gather in a place of worship. However we **do** still have to maintain 1 metre distancing and so in practice we still are limited in the numbers we can accommodate. However it is no longer necessary to continue to contact the office to let us know if you would like to attend on a Sunday morning.

Douglas will continue to broadcast on Sunday mornings at 11.00 am. To watch these and previous recordings please go to the Crown Church Facebook page (a Facebook account is not required to see the service) .

Sunday 7th November Morning Worship at 9.30am and 11.00am followed by special prayers

Sunday 14th November Morning Worship at 9.30am and 10.50am
(Remembrance Sunday)

Sunday 21st November Morning Worship at 9.30am and 11.00am

Sunday 28th November Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am

Sunday 5th December Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 9.30am and 11.00am followed by special prayers



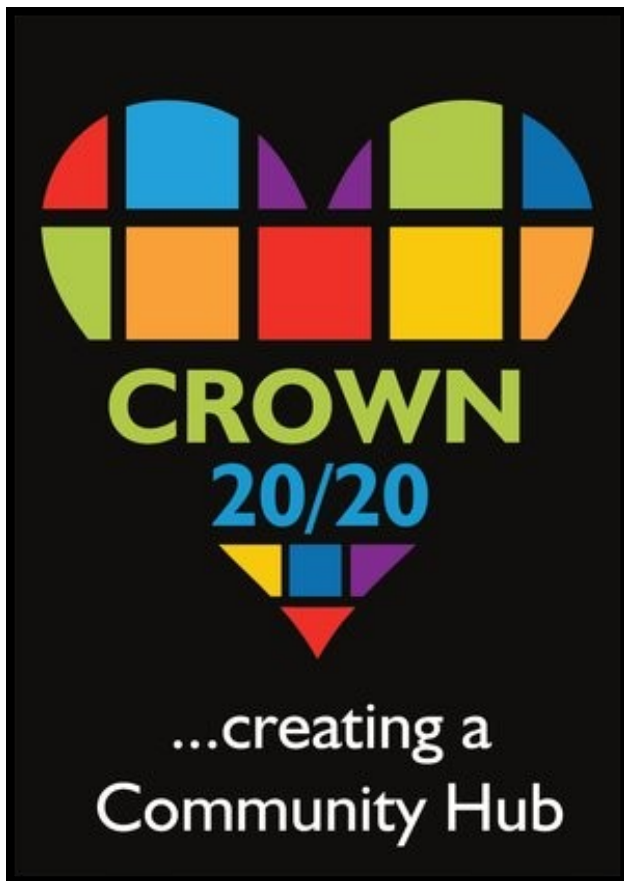
'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it'

Psalm 24:1

Harvest Thanksgiving Service



The chancel decorated for the Harvest Thanksgiving Service.
Our thanks to Sanders Campbell and helpers for such a superb display
and to everyone who donated items for Blythswood



Update from Crown 20/20 Group

“Crown Church aims to invest in a major upgrade of our church buildings to provide a warm and welcoming home for worship, equip us with modern and accessible Facilities to support Christian outreach into our community and to help our church meet the needs of that community.”

Dear Members of the Congregation

Potential use of Pews

Several people have been in contact regarding their interest in acquiring part of or a whole pew when they become available. These are people who are both from within the Crown Congregation and from the wider Community. The preference would be to give regular attenders of Crown Church or their families first option should they wish to have a unique memento of the church. So anyone who has an interest should waste no time in letting us know.

People would have seen in several places their potential use and pews can be extremely attractive, if not the most comfortable, form of seating. Anyone who is passing the café immediately adjacent to the Old High Church can see a full pew in regular use.



(continued on next page)

The photo of a shortened pew gives a reasonable idea of how they can be reduced to make something unusual, -in this case a piece of front hall furniture.

In other instances, they are kept longer to fit a greater space. Or they can be painted or treated to sit in a garden. So, it all depends on the set of circumstances of those that wish to acquire one.

We have had discussions with some people with the knowledge and skills to adapt the pews. If you are interested, please let us know and we will try our very best to come up with a solution that fits your needs.

Drop a letter into the Church Office marked for Crown 20/20, or email the secretary of Crown 20/20, eileenardern@hotmail.com

Once we are granted all the necessary permissions to remove the pews, we will hopefully be in a better position to come up with a price, reasonable in all circumstances, to allow those from within the church to acquire a unique keepsake from Crown Church.

Jimmy Gray.

Crown Church Choir

Crown Church choir have been meeting regularly throughout the pandemic, albeit only by zoom, in our usual slot on a Thursday evening.

Following the departure of Peter and, more importantly, our organist and choir director, Brigid, Mary Robb, was persuaded to take over as choir director and excelled in that role right up until the point when the first lockdown prevented us (and every other choir in the country) from meeting face-to-face.

The choir (all of us) were and continue to be extremely grateful to Mary for her commitment to the choir whose practices continued in the same cheerful, (occasionally even boisterous) fashion as before. Mary's musicianship and patience are now legendary.

Mary has now, sadly, decided that the time is right for her to retire from that role. To mark our appreciation of her time as choir director, the choir (special thanks to Vi Gollan and Elspeth Gibson for making the arrangements) held a really splendid afternoon tea at the Glenmoriston hotel. Speeches were made, flowers were presented and, to no one's surprise, a really great time was had by all. The pictures prove it! Thanks to Alison Robertson.

Furthermore, the choir is now set to have its first proper practice since lockdown on Thursday 4th November in the church lounge. We will be having a cup of tea together at 7 o'clock and then move into our first practice which will be taken by Adrian Marple.

We are all very much looking forward to working with Adrian whose organ playing has been greatly appreciated at Sunday services.

It goes without saying that anyone who would like to join us will be made very welcome.

Bob Forrest





Crown Church Band has resumed practices on Monday nights from 7 pm until 9 pm.

The Band plays classical music, marches, folk music, jazz, mild rock and music from the shows. New members, experienced and learners are always welcome. Several instruments including a set of drums are available to lend.

Should you be interested in joining us phone Linda Moncur 01463236738 or email Gloria at: office@crown-church.co.uk

Daily Bible Readings for November

Sunday, November 7 : 1 Kings 19:1-18, God Speaks to Elijah

Monday, 2 Kings 2:1-12, Elijah Ascends to Heaven

Tuesday, 2 Kings 2:13-18, Elisha Succeeds Elijah

Wednesday, 2 Kings 2:19-25, Elisha Performs Miracles

Thursday, 2 Kings 4:1-7, Elisha and the Widow's Oil

Friday, 2 Kings 5:1-19, Elisha Heals Naaman

Saturday, 2 Kings 9:30-37, Jezebel's Violent Death

Sunday, November 14 : Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24, Amos: Justice Rolls Down

Monday, Amos 3:1-8, Israel's Guilt and Punishment

Tuesday, Amos 5:18-20, The Day of the Lord a Dark Day

Wednesday, Amos 6:1-8, Complacent Self-Indulgent Punished

Thursday, Amos 6:9-14, Complacent Self-Indulgent Punished

Friday, Amos 7:1-9, Locusts, Fire, and a Plumb Line

Saturday, Amos 9:22-25, The Restoration of David's Kingdom

Sunday, November 21: Isaiah 9:1-7, Isaiah: A Child Is Born

Monday, Isaiah 11:1-9, The Peaceful Kingdom

Tuesday, Isaiah 22:1-14, A Warning of Destruction of Jerusalem,

Wednesday, Isaiah 25:1-12, Praise for Deliverance from Oppression

Thursday, Isaiah 27:1-11, Israel's Redemption

Friday, Isaiah 30:8-17, A Rebellious People

Saturday, Isaiah 32:16-20, The Peace of God's Reign

Sunday, November 28: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14, Jeremiah's Letter to Exiles

Monday, Jeremiah 1:4-19, Jeremiah's Call

Tuesday, Jeremiah 2:1-8, God Pleads with Israel to Repent

Wednesday, Jeremiah 3:1-5, Unfaithful Israel

Thursday, Jeremiah 30:1-9, Restoration Promised for Israel and Judah

Friday, Jeremiah 31:1-6, The Joyful Return of the Exiles

Saturday, Jeremiah 31:31-37, A New Covenant

Sunday, December 5: Ezekiel 37:1-14, Ezekiel: Valley of Dry Bones

Monday, Ezekiel 1:1-14, The Vision of the Chariot

Tuesday, Ezekiel 1:15-28, The Vision of the Chariot

Wednesday, Ezekiel 2:1-3:11, The Vision of the Scroll

Thursday, Ezekiel 40:1-19, The Vision of the New Temple

Friday, Ezekiel 40:20-37, The Vision of the New Temple

Saturday, Ezekiel 40:38-47, The Vision of the New Temple



Update Jamaica



A huge thank you to everyone in Crown Church and beyond who contributed to our Jamaican Appeal earlier in the year. We had set ourselves a target of £1,750 to repair 15 computers in the North Street Church Cyber Centre, which duly happened.

However, thanks to the generosity of all and a special thank you to Christian Gudgeon of Gairloch, who contributed £500 from an extended and quite enormous Lenten beach clean, the final amount sent to Kingston, including Gift Aid, reached £5,008.

With this our partners in Kingston were able to purchase 3 additional desktop computers for the Cyber

Centre and to refurbish the air conditioning in the Cyber Centre to make it more comfortable for users, something particularly important in the heat of downtown Kingston.

Covid lockdown has most severely disrupted the education of poorer pupils without access to online learning. So, the remaining funds were used to secure 15 tablets for students in Primary School and learners in most need in the Church School. Some of a number of photos showing the award ceremony, which was part of North Street's 184th Anniversary Service are included. We also hope to place, on Crown Church website, a video of the most recent award ceremony of scholarships from the North Street United Educational Development Fund to which Crown Church has contributed with funds which are rolled forward for the support of the next group of students.

As well as being extremely grateful to everyone who contributed, we are greatly indebted to our partners in Kingston who run the NSU Educational Development Fund so carefully and effectively. We pray God's blessing on their continuing efforts and on the students they support.

Mairi Main



Christmas Cards



The chancel lit for Christmas.

Photo by Iain MacDiarmid

Pack of 5: £3

Inside reads : The word became flesh and dwelt among us ... full of grace and truth. John 1:14

With warmest wishes in this Christmas season.

Three of our previously issued Christmas Cards, maybe destined to become collector's items! There are only a few packs left - found when we were emptying cupboards for the renovations. Watch out for them later in November when we have appropriate space.



Digitally edited photo of the church at night

by Iain MacDiarmid.

Pack of 5 £2.50

Inside reads: May you know the true peace of Christmas

And quotes Isaiah 9:6.



Pack of 4 small cards with envelopes, ideal for children to send to all their friends.

3 packs for £1

Inside reads: With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

The back reads: Sold by the children at Crown Church of Scotland, Inverness. All proceeds will be used for our church building restoration.



Stamp Appeal 2021.

This year the Stamp Project proceeds will benefit The Women's Development Centre (WDC) in Kandy, Sri Lanka which runs a project to support women and girls who have been victims of rape and sexual violence.

The WDC gives these women somewhere to stay, and supports them in caring for their children, helps them return to education if they wish, and trains them in skills they can use to make a living when they leave. The WDC has a social enterprise and café where the women can work and sell their hand-made products. The team at WDC care for and heal girls who are vulnerable and often discarded by their families. It is impossible not to be moved by what they do. Help support them by collecting used stamps which are then sold on.

Place your stamps in the boxes in the vestibules on your exit. Please separate the UK and foreign stamps. If anyone would like their stamps collected this can be arranged.

Liz Munro

My Glider Adventure

So after almost 2 years of waiting, I finally got to go up in a glider thanks to the gift you gave me.

I wonder how many of you remembered that gift? It seems such a long time ago.

Was the wait worth the while you might ask?

Absolutely!

The flight exceeded my expectations by a country mile. The weather was kind and the conditions great. It was fun, exciting and I was treated to some spectacular views of the wonderful country in which we live.

I took photos. If you want to see them I have posted them on my Facebook page.



My thanks go especially to Bob for taking me up and even letting me have a go with the controls - brave man.

That was pretty cool. I could have stayed up there for a lot longer than we were able to do so. What was even more amazing was that the flight happened the week after my birthday. It could not have worked out better if it had been planned. As you have gathered I really enjoyed myself and even have thoughts of maybe trying to have another go in the future.

Thank you all again for the opportunity.

Morven

Footnote by Bob

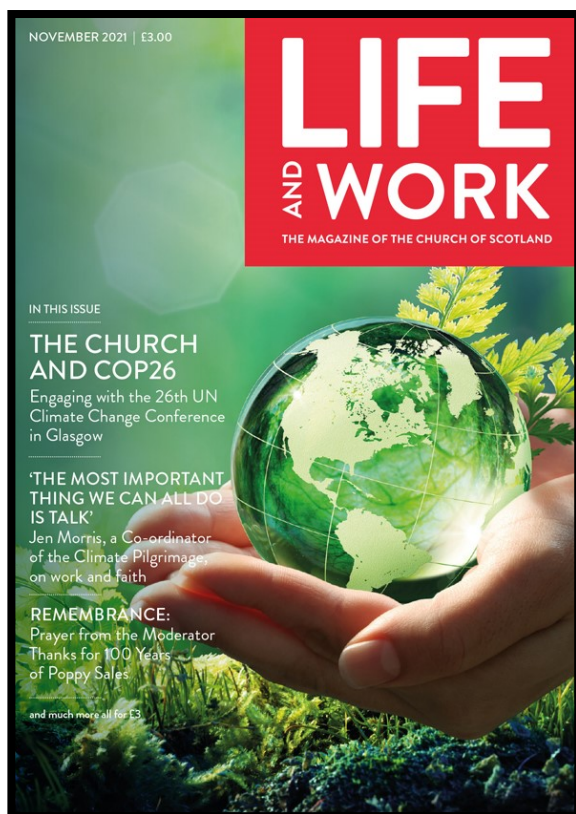
Morven was a brilliant pupil and we had a very jolly time. In addition, I also managed to fly with Doug McRoberts the following week and we also had a very jolly time but neither of us had a camera with us so the photographs are all courtesy of Morven.

Doug was similarly adept at flying the glider but he has "previous" and told me that in the distant past he was allowed to take the controls of a Shackleton. I was very jealous.



LIFE AND WORK

NOVEMBER 2021



COP26

The Church of Scotland and COP26

How the Church and wider Christian community is engaging with the climate conference in Glasgow

'The Most Important Thing We Can All Do is Talk'

The work and faith of Jen Morris, a co-ordinator of the YCCN climate relay

'Our Faith Demands Our Commitment'

The Moderator emphasises the importance of speaking up for the vulnerable at COP26

'We Love Our Neighbour – and We Demand Change'

In this month's youth column, Rachel Walker highlights a global day of action on climate change

Remembrance

100 Years of Poppy Sales

Marking the centenary of the first Poppy Day

Freedom Isn't Free

With Remembrance season approaching, the Very Rev Dr John Chalmers reflects on the withdrawal from Afghanistan and its impact on the injured and the families of those killed in the conflict

Remembrance Prayer

From the Moderator of the General Assembly

The Big Question

What Does It Mean to You to Wear a Poppy?

Plus

The first in a new series of studies by the Rev David Searle looking at the Lord's Prayer
The Very Rev Albert Bogle urges us to let go of the familiar to create new memories of worship for future generations

John R Hume reflects on the history of New Laigh Kirk in Kilmarnock
News, letters, readers' pictures, crosswords and registers

Online

Visit www.lifeandwork.org for news and exclusive features, including Coronavirus Diaries from Church of Scotland partners across the world. You can also find us at facebook.com/lifeandwork or on Twitter @cofslifeandwork and now on Instagram.

You can now buy a single issue of Life and Work online. Visit www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe, where you will also find options to subscribe to either the print or digital magazine

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

Baptisms

Brodie Jack Douglas Trotman and Torridon James Trotman, on Sunday 24th October

Welcome Team

Alison Harbison

The Boys Brigade

Readers

November 7th Sheena Ferguson

November 14th Douglas Taylor

November 21st Marion Barbour

November 28th Linda Moncur

December 5th Blair/Isla McAra

As will be evident from the above we are very much in need of volunteers to help with the welcome team over the months of November, December and January.

As restrictions are easing and we look forward to enjoying our newly refurbished upper hall, perhaps now more so than ever it is important we can offer a friendly presence at our doorways. If you feel you could help, even if it is just one Sunday, please do contact Gloria at the Church Office.

Items for the December newsletter by Sunday 28th November please!

*****Please note our new email address*****

Please send any articles, photographs or news to :

newsletter@crowns-church.co.uk

Minister Rev Douglas Robertson, 39 Southside Road, 07547976054 drrobertson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Crown Church Office: office@crowns-church.co.uk

Session Clerk Bob Forrest: bobforrest_1999@yahoo.co.uk

Published by Crown Church, Inverness (Church of Scotland)

Registered charity SC 018159

The Church website is to be found at www.crown-church.co.uk