

Newsletter

Crown Church, Inverness

OCTOBER 2022: No. 784

Parish Minister: Rev Douglas Robertson



SUNDAY SERVICES

We are now back meeting regularly for our two Sunday Morning Services. Douglas is however continuing 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 2nd October

Morning Worship 9.30am and 11.00am followed by special prayers

Sunday 9th October

Morning Worship at 9.30am and 11.00am

Sunday 16th October

Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am

Sunday 23rd October

Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am

Sunday 30th October

Morning Worship at 9.30am and 11.00am

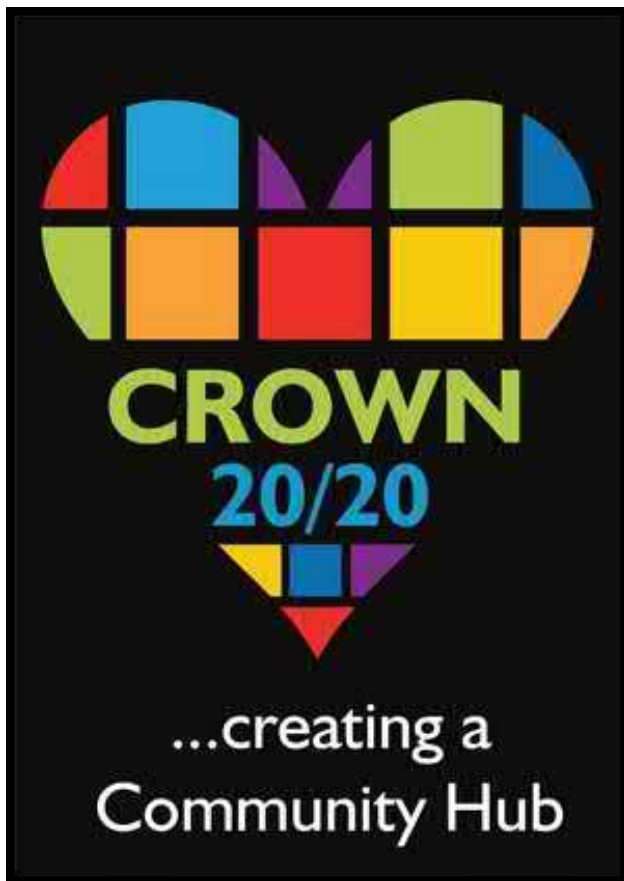
Sunday 6th November

Morning Worship 9.30am and 11.00am followed by special prayers



Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'

Matthew 19:26



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

It has been quite a journey over the past three years, but the Crown 20/20 Group is nearing the completion of the first phase of our ambitious renewal project at the church.

Once work is completed in the Sanctuary to upgrade the lighting and install a state-of-the-art audio visual system, we will take a breather and reflect on the significant progress we have made in upgrading the church building and providing modern and accessible facilities for our congregation and the wider community.

We estimate that the investment in our buildings, via the new Crown Primary School nursery in the lower hall and related refurbishments, the installation of the lift and the removal of asbestos, together with the refurbishment of the upper hall and all the work in the Sanctuary comes to more than £1.7 million.

Given our forthcoming link with Old High/St Stephen's, we believe it is time to take a breather with the redevelopment of the buildings. Future decisions will be made by the new congregation.

Meanwhile, we can report that we recently received a delivery of almost 40 boxes from Rosehill, delivering - at long last – some of the chairs we ordered in November, last year.

We still await the majority of chairs we ordered with arms and hopefully they will be with us soon. The arrival of 70 chairs without arms came almost at the same time we were asked to return the chairs and tables which we had borrowed from Dingwall Town Hall! Our grateful thanks go to the Town Hall staff for the loan and for their patience! The new chairs are stacked and stored temporarily in the vestry.

While the work is progressing in the Sanctuary with the lighting, the audio visual equipment upgrade will also be installed, and we look forward to trouble-free streaming of services as well as high quality projection to a new main screen. And to finish it all off, while the scaffolding is up, the insulation in the attic of the Sanctuary will be much improved. We can only apologise for being out of the Sanctuary for a few weeks, but we hope you agree the wait will be worth the inconvenience experienced. In the November Newsletter, when the first phase of the redevelopment is completed, we will catalogue all the work that has been undertaken at the church since we began our project. Thank you again for your support throughout our journey.



HARVEST 2022



The above is a photo of the Harvest Loaf, gifted every year by Sanders Campbell and baked by Deas bakery of Dingwall. And it tastes as delicious as it looks!

Notice the little Harvest mouse bottom right.

Prayer Diary

October 2022

This prayer diary has been prepared by the Discipleship Team. We hope that you will find it useful. You may like to detach it from the newsletter and use it to pray for our church and community

October 2-8

Loving God, we pray for leaders and governments, that they will acknowledge the needs of the people and to respond with generosity. Give them wisdom as they seek solutions to the rising costs that everyone is facing.

Lord Jesus, forgive us when we get things wrong. Lead us into right thinking and right living. As you loved us when we didn't deserve it, help us to love one another and so show we are your followers. Amen

Bless us Lord with hope in you and the power to share this hope with those around us. We love you; we praise you, and we put our faith and hope in you, knowing that you and you alone have everything in the palm of your mighty hands.

Loving God, Blessed be the work of Your hands. Your Spirit inspires trees and birds and waves into song and dance. It is that same Holy wind that breathed on Your disciples and on all creation. Let Your Spirit blow us to creative love and stewardship that shows reverence for Your creation. Blessed be the works of Your hands, O Holy One, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen

October 9-15

On this day, 10th October World Mental Health Day, remember all those who are struggling with mental health and emotional illnesses, pray for them and their families; pray for the church to prioritise people with mental health issues and to be recognised in the community as a loving and supportive environment.

Pray for the wellbeing of all those suffering from anxiety, depression and other mental illnesses; that they continue to receive the help and support.

Pray for peace for every person experiencing the challenges and concerns arising from a diagnosis of dementia. Pray that those with poor mental health will find encouragement and solace in places and people as they travel through their journey to recovery.

Pray for a resolution and an end to the conflict in Ukraine. Give thanks to God for the generosity of so many people how have opened their homes to those running away from the conflict, and for providing financial help and support and prayers to all those affected.

October 16-22

The health of loved ones has been a significant concern throughout this year. Thank God for His faithful presence in worrying as well as joyful times. Oh God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their

darkness be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord. Lord, help us not to lean on our own understanding but in everything acknowledge You so that You can direct our words, thoughts and actions, In Jesus' Name, Amen.

God Our Father, grant us stillness to pray; to acknowledge your presence with us as we travel through this life journey.

October 23-29

Pray for the children and young adults you know. Pray that they will know that they are loved by God, and that they would have an awareness of their value in Christ. Pray for opportunities to support and love the young people in your life.

Remember those in prison and pray they may feel a sense of peace and purpose as they serve their sentence. Pray that they can maintain a positive relationship with their families, wherever possible, and remembering those who have no visitors.

Pray for our neighbours, for people who live alone, for people who are struggling with illness and for God's peace to fall on them. Pray for protection and safety over our neighbours' homes and families, and ask God to give us opportunities and courage to share His love with those around us.

Pray for each and every member of the congregation, that God's spirit continues to flow throughout their lives whatever their circumstances; Pray that each of us will place God at the centre of our lives and seek Him and His purpose in our lives.

October 30 – November 5

Loving Father, help us to trust You when we have financial worries. Open our eyes to those around us who need our help and give us the courage and opportunities to be generous. Amen. Give thanks for the Lord's promise that says when we are weak He makes us strong and that when we are weary and heavy burdened we can go to Him and He will make us strong and give us peace.

Pray for those who are less fortunate than ourselves; those who live in developing countries and countries where there is conflict and very little stability; for those who are weary with the relentless struggle to keep alive; for those who can never look forward to a good meal and a comfortable bed, and those who barely have the necessities of life.

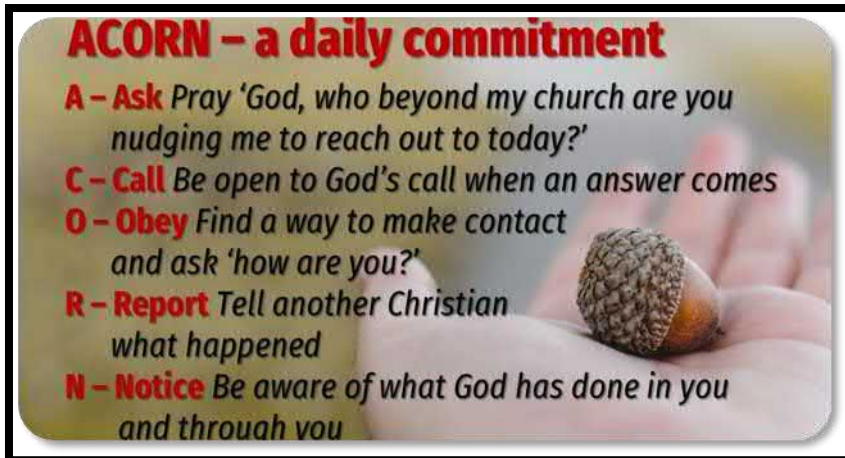
Dear Jesus, help me to spread Thy fragrance everywhere I go. Flood my soul with Thy spirit and love. Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly that all my life may only be a radiance of Thine. (Mother Theresa of Calcutta, 1910 – 1997)

If you have particular prayer requests for the next month (November 2022) please do send them to our *church secretary, Gloria* who will pass them on, or e-mail Jude Madeleine; judedmond@yahoo.co.uk



ACORN Meeting
Church Lounge
Wednesday 19th October at 7.30pm

A few of us has been meeting together via Zoom and in person to explore a new way of exploring about discipleship known as **ACORN**. ACORN is based on praying to God and asking Him to help us in reaching out and being a blessing to others, based on the following:



This is based on the work of the missiologist Vincent Donovan who wrote the book *Christianity Rediscovered*, wherein he said 'we make the mistake as Christians of thinking we are taking God with us into any given situation'.

God is already there. Our job is to find out what God is doing and join God in that conversation.' God then reveals deeper hurts, desires and opening for the Gospel.

Christians then frequently gather to disciple and encourage each other by just seeing how they are and find out what God might be doing. We are not called to (necessarily) tell them the Gospel, but join God in His work in them and figure out where they might be on the Engel Scale.

The basic idea behind an ACORN group is that God is always prompting us to make connections with other people, so it's our job to listen and act.

If you are interested in finding out more about ACORN, come along and bring a friend also to the meeting on Wednesday 19th October.

**To find out more you can also speak to Jude Madeleine, Lesley McRoberts,
Morven Archer, Janet MacPherson, Jane Wilson, Marion Barbour or
Georgine Suman.**

Daily Bible Readings for October

Sunday, October 2, 2022, Exodus 14:10-14, 21-29 Rescue at Sea

Monday, October 3, 2022, Exodus 15:1-21 Songs of Moses and Miriam

Tuesday, October 4, 2022, Exodus 15:22-27 Bitter Water Made Sweet

Wednesday, October 5, 2022, Exodus 16:1-21 Bread from Heaven

Thursday, October 6, 2022, Exodus 17:1-7 Water from the Rock

Friday, October 7, 2022, Exodus 17:8-16 Amalek Attacks Israel and Is Defeated

Saturday, October 8, 2022, Exodus 18:13-27 Jethro's Advice

Sunday, October 9, 2022, Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17 Covenant and Commandments

Monday, October 10, 2022, Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Moses Dies

Tuesday, October 11, 2022, Joshua 1:1-9 God's Commission to Joshua

Wednesday, October 12, 2022, Joshua 2:1-21 Spies Sent to Jericho

Thursday, October 13, 2022, Joshua 3:1-17 Israel Crosses the Jordan

Friday, October 14, 2022, Joshua 6:1-14 Jericho Taken and Destroyed

Saturday, October 15, 2022, Joshua 6:15-27 Jericho Destroyed and Rahab Spared

Sunday, October 16, 2022, Joshua 24:1-15, [16-26] Joshua Renews the Covenant

Monday, October 17, 2022, 1 Samuel 1:1-28 Samuel's Birth and Dedication

Tuesday, October 18, 2022, 1 Samuel 3:1-18 Samuel's Calling and Prophecies

Wednesday, October 19, 2022, 1 Samuel 7:3-15 Samuel as Judge

Thursday, October 20, 2022, 1 Samuel 8:1-22 Israel Demands a King

Friday, October 21, 2022, 1 Samuel 9:27 – 10:8 Saul Anointed as King

Saturday, October 22, 2022, 1 Samuel 16:1-13 David Anointed as King

Sunday, October 23, 2022, 2 Samuel 11:1-5, 26- 27; 12:1-9 David and Bathsheba

Monday, October 24, 2022, 2 Samuel 12:15b-23 Bathsheba's Child Dies

Tuesday, October 25, 2022, 2 Samuel 12:24-25 Solomon Is Born

Wednesday, October 26, 2022, 1 Kings 1:1-21 The Struggle for Succession

Thursday, October 27, 2022, 1 Kings 1:22-27 The Struggle for Succession

Friday, October 28, 2022, 1 Kings 1:28-53 The Accession of Solomon

Saturday, October 29, 2022, 1 Kings 2:13-25 Solomon Consolidates His Reign

Sunday, October 30, 2022, 1 Kings 3:4-9, [10- 15], 16-28 Solomon's Wisdom

Monday, October 31, 2022, 1 Kings 6:1-22 Solomon Builds the Temple

Tuesday, November 1, 2022, 1 Kings 8:1-13 Dedication of the Temple

Wednesday, November 2, 2022, 1 Kings 8:54-61 Solomon Blesses the Assembly

Thursday, November 3, 2022, 1 Kings 10:1-13 Visit of the Queen of Sheba

Friday, November 4, 2022, 1 Kings 10:14-29 Visit of the Queen of Sheba

Saturday, November 5, 2022, 1 Kings 11:1-13 Solomon's Errors

Sunday, November 6, 2022, 2 Kings 5:1-15a, [15b-19] Elisha Heals Naaman

Monday, November 7, 2022, 2 Kings 2:13-18 Elisha Succeeds Elijah

Tuesday, November 8, 2022, 2 Kings 2:19-25 Elisha Performs Miracles

Wednesday, November 9, 2022, 2 Kings 4:1-7 Elisha and the Widow's Oil

Thursday, November 10, 2022, 2 Kings 4:8-37 Elisha Raises the Shunammite's Son

Friday, November 11, 2022, 2 Kings 4:38-41 Elisha Purifies the Pot of Stew

Saturday, November 12, 2022, 2 Kings 4:42-44 Elisha Feeds 100 Men



Juel off to the University of Glasgow to study medicine



At the beginning of September, Juel moved to Glasgow to start his 5-6 years of study in medicine at the University of Glasgow. Just before his departure, Minister Douglas Robertson presented Juel with a lovely Study Bible and a financial donation contributed by the Crown Church family, in support of his studies.

Juel responded to the whole Crown Church family, saying, "I would like to express my utmost appreciation for the advice, guidance and support that you have provided me with throughout my childhood. Thank you for all the advice, prayers and well wishes for the future. I would also like to thank everyone for the contribution towards the Study Bible and the monetary donation which will be of great assistance towards my studies."

The Leprosy Mission Coffee Morning



The Annual Coffee Morning will take place on Saturday 29th October at 10am in the Free North Church Hall (entry from Church Street). Donations for Bring and Buy stall welcome.

Marion Barbour

At the time of writing, I am enjoying two weeks in Sydney, Australia, and here I witnessed something that disturbed me.

Sydney is a modern, progressive city. Wherever I look, there are beautifully-designed high-rise office blocks and shopping malls offering expensive designer clothes and goods bearing the sought-after logos of all sorts of luxury brands. There is nothing intrinsically wrong with any of that.

But there is another side to the city: homelessness and rough sleeping. I am talking about folk who “carry their home in two carrier bags”, and often their only friend is a dog.

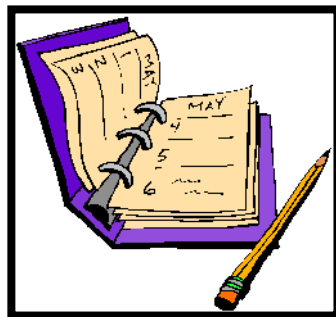
Wealth and poverty exist side by side.

So, what was it that touched me? It is that I came upon the bed of a homeless person. The bed was makeshift, and the 'owner' was absent. The bed looked clean, and the absent 'owner' had made it with great care.

The 'owner' of the bed had seemingly lost much, perhaps all they ever had, and was at rock bottom. Although they had lost much, they had not lost their sense of pride. It did not matter that they had lost everything: they valued what they had, even if it was not much.

Food for thought!

Stewart Robertson



A Date for your Diary

Launchpad are holding a Soup and Sandwich Lunch with a Christmas Stall, on Sunday 20th November after the 11am service. Donations for the stall welcomed.

Please plan to come!

Eileen Ardern



Old High St Stephen's
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Suitable for the
whole family
all ages & physical
abilities

SWEATY CHURCH

St Stephen's Church Hall
Southside Road

SATURDAY,
29 OCTOBER
4PM-6PM

COME ALONG FOR
FREE FUN,
PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES
& GAMES



pizza & Juice

Scottish Charity No. SC035073

Crown Church Kingsmills Road



We welcome you back to our Cafe

The Olive Grove

which is now within Crown Church



Open Wednesday & Thursday
10am - 3pm

Coffee, Teas & Light Lunches

Come along to enjoy friendly chat and tasty home
baking in warm cosy surroundings.

Enter by the Garden Door. Easy Access

New Item on Church Website

Avid users of the church website will already be aware that we now have a new heading on the website entitled "This Week".

The intention is that this will appear at the beginning of every week and will list those activities which are taking place within the church buildings, with details of the time and place. The list will include both church organisations and organisations from out with the church.

It is also possible for organisations to include within each week's bulletin information about their own organisation should they so wish.

It is hoped that this initiative will make it easier for us all to keep track of what is going on within our church.

Anyone who would like any further information or who would like me to post information on this section of the website should contact me at sessionclerk@crowne-church.co.uk

Bob Forrest
Session Clerk

Alex features in Inverness Football Memories Project



A project to chart the history of football in Inverness since the first clubs were formed in 1885 features our very own Alex Grant, who played for Inverness Thistle and Caledonian in the 1950s and 1960s.

Alex's memories are recorded at www.ambaile.org.uk/inverness-football-memories. Am Baile is the history and culture web site of High Life Highland, who are partnering Inverness Caledonian Thistle Community Trust in promoting the project.

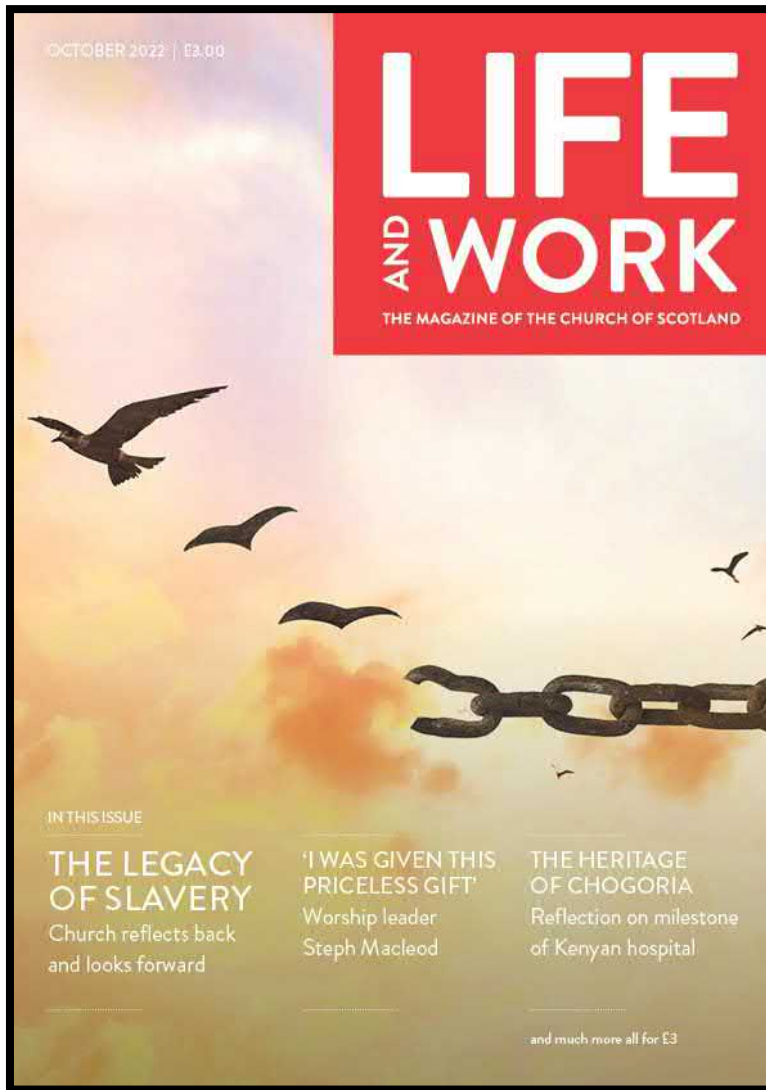
Alex played as a winger, mostly on the right, with Inverness Thistle between 1954-59 and Caledonian (1959-63). Alex recalls some memories of his career, including the day a Highland League game ended with a rope acting as a crossbar after it snapped under the weight of a goalie who had swung on it.

Alex has been providing invaluable advice and guidance on the project, which is being led by another member of our congregation, Gordon Fyfe, who is Joint Chair of the ICT Community Trust. Gordon played for Caledonian for 9 years in the 1970s.

Gordon Fyfe

LIFE AND WORK

OCTOBER



The Legacy of Slavery

As World Anti-Slavery Day approaches, Jackie Macadam learns how the Church is reflecting back and looking forward

'I Was Given This Priceless Gift'

Thomas Baldwin meets songwriter and worship leader Steph Macleod and learns more about his struggles with addiction and the importance of faith

The Heritage of Chogoria

Alison Wilkinson reflects on the history and mission of Chogoria Hospital in Kenya, which celebrates its centenary this year

A New Set of Clothing

In the continuing journey through the

book of Colossians, the Very Rev Dr Martin Fair urges us to wear the qualities of Christ

'Do Not Put Yourself Into a Box'

The Moderator of the General Assembly argues it is important not to believe there is only one way forward

A New Design

The Very Rev Albert Bogle emphasises the need to explain why restructuring in the Church is necessary

Faith in Action

Official monthly update from the Faith Action team

Plus

News, letters, readers' pictures, crosswords and registers

Buy or subscribe, in print or digital, at www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe, or speak to your church's Life and Work promoter.

Online

Visit www.lifeandwork.org for more news, and exclusive features.

You can also find us at facebook.com/lifeandwork or on Twitter @cofslifeandwork and now on Instagram.

Welcome Team

2nd October	Kay MacDonald, Robert MacKintosh
9th October	Heather Beck, Vi Gollan, Kay MacDonald
16th October	Heather Beck, Vi Gollan, Kay MacDonald
23rd October	Kay MacDonald, Douglas and Jane Wilson
30th October	Lena Clarke, Kay MacDonald, Robert and Gloria MacKintosh

As we look forward to enjoying our newly refurbished premises, perhaps now more so than ever it is important that 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.

Readers

2nd October	Mairi Mtui
9th October	Alastair Macleod
16th October	Liz Forbes
23rd October	James Gray
30th October	Lena Clarke
6th November	Donald Mackenzie

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations

To Jimmy and Liz Gray who recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary



Items for the November newsletter by Sunday 30th October please!

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

Please send any articles, photographs or news to :

newsletter@[crow-church.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@crow-church.co.uk)

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