



# Parish Press

## *Special Edition*

**South Holburn Church**

**New Year 2021**

## From the Manse...

Welcome to this second 'special edition' of our magazine.

Inside the magazine you will find details of our Lent and Easter services and activities. Preparing these I am reminded that it was during Lent last year that we first went into lock down and moved our services and activities online. It almost feels 'normal' now to be planning for Church services and events to be online only! But of course, it is not normal!

A colleague asked his congregation by Facebook recently what things they were most missing from worship, and what they would like to get back to when all are vaccinated and we can return to some form of normal worship. He was expecting to hear things

like hymns and saying the Lord's prayer together. But his few responses all said 'hugging' or 'shaking hands' or talking around the table with a cup of tea and biscuit.

How true those comments are! While for the last year we have kept church going and shared services online, held meetings online, had quizzes and parties and study groups and vestry hours online, it has never really felt like church. It is our coming together, our fellowship, our chat and laughter that really make us a church FAMILY.

As I write this article, I have also been planning services for coming weeks, and one of the themes we reflect on during this time of year is Jesus choosing his disciples. One of

the questions asked is “Why did Jesus choose disciples at all?”. “As helpers in his ministry” is one answer offered. But, more often than not, the disciples say and do the wrong things, they misunderstand, they are confused and not that much help.

Jesus could easily have achieved all that he did without them. I honestly think that one of the reasons Jesus chooses disciples is for friendship, to share the journey with him. If that was true of Jesus and his ministry, then it should come as no surprise that sharing together is such an important part of the lifestyle of the God’s kingdom. When the disciples come to build the church after Jesus, fellowship and meeting together is one of the key elements.

No wonder then that lockdown and isolation make church life so difficult. At our core, we are called to be a people together. Watching the services online is a poor substitute for being together. Technology has allowed us to at least see one another and talk to one another through online programmes such as Zoom and Facebook,

though these are not to everyone’s taste. In our programming over the last months, we have tried to provide as many opportunities as possible on these platforms for sharing activities to take place. And that remains the case in our plans for Lent and Easter as well. If you are able, please join us for some or all of these activities.

As we look to the future and wonder what we can learn from this awful time that we have all been through, let us make sure never to take our times of fellowship for granted. Let us never miss the opportunity to visit with a friend, to spend time with one another. Let us make sure that we live true to our calling to be a church family, a fellowship. Until that time, let us continue to support one another through prayer, through phone calls and messages and through the online activities of the church.

Keep safe and well.

Your friend and minister,

*David*

# My Life is in Christ

by

*Right Rev. Martin Fair  
Moderator of the  
Church of Scotland*

The one-time legendary Arsenal FC manager, Arsène Wenger has said the following: ‘All I watch is football. In the morning I watch the games that were on last night. It’s my passion.

When you’re born, your first instinct is to survive. Then you must find the meaning of your life. My life is football.’

I like football too. Okay, let me be clearer.

I love football! I played football from my youngest years and continued with five-a-side football till more recently. I’ve supported

my favourite teams – including Arbroath FC where I presently minister – and I’ve travelled home

and away as part of the Tartan Army to cheer on Scotland.

And it’s one of the ways in which I’ve most enjoyed being a dad. Going to football with my three boys, just as I went with my dad. If I live to be a hundred I’m not sure there will be a more special father-sons moment than when we were celebrating together at Hampden after Leigh Griffiths’s

second goal had put Scotland 2-1 against the Auld Enemy! A moment to cherish – especially as Harry Kane equalised for England just a short time later! Yes, all of that. But football is not my life.

I love the Scottish mountains too but mountains

are not my life. In fact I’ve got lots of interests and hobbies and passions but none of them define me. I have political and cultural



persuasions but neither do these define me.

The meaning of my life – what defines me – can be in nothing other than my relationship to Christ. So much else flows out of that, of course, but the starting and finishing points are in Christ. And with that the final whistle blows.

I guess there's another way of thinking about this. If Arsène Wenger and I were to have headstones erected after our respective deaths, would he want a picture of a football on his? I'd want a cross on mine.

The apostle Paul is very clear on this throughout his writing. He tells us that in former times he was one thing but now, Christ is all that matters to him – all else being so much refuse. He tells us that he's a new creation in Christ; that the old has gone and the new has come. And he makes clear that in the final analysis, whether he lives or dies, Christ is his all in all.

This is so very different to that version of Christian faith in which it functions as some kind of bolt-on, or as one of our interests among many. What Paul speaks of is an all-consuming love for

Christ and it's what we're all called to.

As we navigate our way through what remains of this pandemic and as we continue to think about where we are as a Church, I'd want to argue that the first and most important consideration is the vitality of our life in Christ – individually and collectively.

Whether we focus on back-in-the-building worship or online; whether we join forces with the neighbouring presbytery to the north or the one to the south; whether we look to close some of our buildings or raise more money to patch them up – all of that is secondary to who we are in Christ.

I love football.

But my life is in Christ.

### The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



I press on toward the goal to win the game ... Ph 3:14

## Hope Gatherings

*Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February – Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February.*

*(Part of Virtual Vestry)*

*7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.*

**Have you been struggling during this latest lockdown?•Do the long hours of darkness, limited contact with others, and the increasing pandemic restrictions play havoc with your emotions?**

I will be honest and say I am finding “staying at home” very difficult!•My mom used to say my first words were “I go out”!•Hahaha, it was probably true, since I do love a good coffee shop, a get together with friends, a walk about, and even picking up my shopping!

Having our actions restricted and being in the midst of a world pandemic can be a bit wearing.•It’s been about 10 months of having lived under restrictions of some sort or another, and that is enough to make even the strongest person feel a bit wobbly!

In addition to being trained in ministry, I trained in social work and have a bachelor’s and master’s degree in that discipline.•I worked in mobile therapy for several years before going full time into ministry, and what I have learned in social work has always served me well in the parish.•I am hoping that I can use some of my skills to provide some HOPE during these dark times.

We have planned a weekly online gathering throughout February to provide some tips on handling anxiety amid this difficult time.•Please feel free to invite anyone who you think might find this time helpful.•You can come on and just listen if you do not feel like contributing.

My email is

[jpizzuto-pomaco@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:jpizzuto-pomaco@churchofscotland.org.uk)

if you have questions or want to follow up.

**Starting on 3<sup>rd</sup> February and running on Wednesday nights through 24 February, we will add an ½ hour onto the Zoom virtual vestry.•So, from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays we will discuss ways we can stay strong in the midst of struggle!•We will start with a time to learn a tip such as “keeping routines” or “engaging through isolation” and then will allow everyone to chip in their thoughts or questions related to the topic.•Folks can also share ways they are coping with the pandemic.•We will finish with a time for sharing prayer requests and hearing a brief encouraging Scripture for the week.•If you are not able to join us via Zoom and would like to receive the written comments via email or post, please contact me. *Julia***

# ***New Years Around the World***

*Julia Pizzuto-Pomaco*

Maybe you attended or heard about the event we held at the beginning of January called 'New Years around the World'? It was a fun time where we came together to talk about our traditions of celebrating the New Year.

We live in Stonehaven, and, of course, it was also a very different New Year here.

Usually, the size of the town would double as people come in from all over to see the fire ball swingers marching through the center of the old town and finally casting out the last year into the sea

<https://stonehavenfireballs.co.uk/>! We certainly could have used that this year. Well, truthfully, there were a few rogue fire swingers who cast out the year for us! Not too many folks were there to watch, and we were warm in our home while we caught a glimpse of it on Facebook!

I have a friend whose mother grew up in Edinburgh and moved to the States as a young

woman. She carried her traditions with her and always insisted on making sure the whole house was clean for the start of the New Year. I don't think I am well-suited for that tradition! I am a bit more lazy and used my week off to read books, play games with the kids and catch up on movies I wanted to see!

In my family growing up, we always had special treats on New Year's Eve. We would stay up to watch the ball drop in Times Square in New York City on television. We would go outside and bang pots and pans when it turned midnight. We thought it was great this year that we were able to enter the New Year five hours earlier than our friends and family back home in the U.S.! In Philadelphia, on New Year's



Day there is always a great parade that lasts all day called the 'Mummers' Parade'. This year because of COVID-19, it was cancelled, but you can read about it here:

<https://phillymummers.com/extended-history/> . Here also is a youtube video of the parade: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QzNwlltaUQ> .

So many of our traditions had to change this year in order to be respectful of others and not spread the virus to our neighbours. It may seem unfair and maybe even a bit depressing. Yet we did it all for a good reason. We are called as Christians to love our neighbours as ourselves. This does not just mean people we know or like, but it means the people we are in community with, some who perhaps we might never meet. The consequences of infecting a nurse, a doctor, a teacher, a caregiver, an older person or someone with health issues is far reaching. You might think 'I do not come in contact with anyone like that', but the reality is whenever you go into the supermarket or the main street you are passing by people who do all of those jobs. If COVID-

19 has shown us anything it is how inter-connected we all are in our world. Each of us impacts one another and our actions have good and bad consequences for those in our society.

As a church we are called to be a light on a hill, to share Jesus' love with the parish around us and indeed with the world. Consider this scripture:

*'You are the light of the world. •A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. •Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.'* (Matthew 5:14-16, NIV).

As we think about impacting our neighborhoods for good in the year ahead, what thoughts do you have that might make a positive difference? I would love to hear them! Part of my role this year is to help South Holburn consider ways it might be an influence with young

people, families and children. If our church is not just going to survive but thrive in the next decade, we must be responsive to the society around us. If you have ideas please email me at: [jpizzuto-pomaco@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:jpizzuto-pomaco@churchofscotland.org.uk).

I look forward to finding new ways we can connect and stay part of the community of God's people in the months ahead. If you know anyone who needs a pastoral call, please reach out to David or me. If you have a friend who seems down, why not send them a note or phone them up? We can each be a light to others and in so doing we will share the love of God that has been given so freely to us by Jesus. Let's take some good out of this terrible time of pandemic and change our community for the better!

Love,  
Julia

*'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these.'* (Mark 12:30, 31, NIV)

### **A Coronavirus Prayer**

*By Nick Fawcett*

We thought it was over, Lord –  
well, nearly, at any rate: the end in sight,  
the conclusion of this ghastly episode,  
this nightmarish year,  
at last becoming a reality.  
But it hasn't worked out like that; not a  
bit of it.

Things have got worse rather than better:  
more people infected, more fighting for  
their lives,  
more dying, and, inevitably, as a result,  
more restrictions, more pressure,  
more devastating consequences,  
not just now, but potentially for years to  
come.

We're not just frightened, Lord –  
anxious for ourselves and our loved  
ones,

More than anything, we're weary,  
drained, exhausted,  
wondering just how many more punches  
we can take.

Strengthen us, protect us, support us,  
renew us.

And grant, in particular,  
your guidance to all tasked with  
responding to this crisis –  
politicians and administrators,  
scientists and researchers,

doctors, nurses and other health workers  
as well as those whose jobs put them,  
personally, at risk.

May their service help to see us safely  
through the coming weeks and  
months, until we can truly say that this  
pandemic is over,  
and finally look forward to a better to-  
morrow.  
Amen.



# Membership Updates

*Jesus said ... "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. (John 11:25-26)*

Sadly the following members of our Church passed away last year.

Mr. Alfred Donald (Don) Fraser

Mr. William Dalgarno

Rev. William Alexander

Mrs. Elizabeth Anderson

Mrs. Margaret Mutch

Mrs. Iris Mowbray

Mrs. Murial Ritchie

Mrs. Betty Rattray

Mrs. Catherine Gillanders

Mrs. Nan Dunn

Mrs. Hazel Stuart

Mr. Harold Gibson

Mr. David Gray

Mrs. Agnes Mann

Ian would like to thank all friends at South Church letters, cards and telephone calls on the sad occasion of Agnes' death. It was comforting to know that so many people cared.

Unfortunately due to the coronavirus regulations we were unable to have a full Church service with the opportunity for more friends to attend and pay their respects, however I am very grateful for the services of Rev David Stewart, Rev Julia Pizzuto-Pomaco, Bill Manclark, and Adeline Gray for the limited services that took place, longing to see you all again as soon as possible.

Ian Mann

# **The Story of Sergeant Frank Alexander Bandeen (FVR 1374522)**

**By Marion Miller**

My good friend Pat Moir of your congregation suggested that I might like to help with a query received by South Holburn, from Bob Van Wyk, a Canadian of Dutch descent, who hails from Woodstock, Ontario in Canada. Bob was looking for living relatives of RAF Sergeant Frank Alexander Bandeen (RAFVR 1374522).

His search had been ongoing for some time and in exploring all avenues, he came on the website of the Imperial War Museum. There it stated that a Frank Bandeen is mentioned on the memorial board which hangs on the wall of your church and commemorates the brave men who gave their lives during the 1939 – 1945 world war. Bob's

research verified that it was the Frank Bandeen he was looking for. Hence his query direct to your church. (Incidentally, I haven't managed to ascertain Frank's

connection with the church although it is believed that the plaque originally hung in Holburn Central).

Now you may be wondering why a Canadian of Dutch descent was looking for relatives of an Aberdeenshire man who was killed in active service almost eighty years ago

at the age of twenty one. So here is the story.

On March 30, 1943, an Avro Lancaster of 57 Bomber Command was shot down by the Germans. The stricken bomber came down just north of Waverveen which is located in the province of Utrecht in Holland, south east of Amsterdam. The



entire crew of seven was killed. One of them was flight engineer Frank Bandeen.

Bob's father Ted, was amongst a group of neighbouring farmers who were tasked by the Germans to recover the remains of the crew.

They were placed in two wooden coffins and loaded onto a cart pulled by horses. Ted took the reins. With a German escort marching alongside, the sad procession proceeded to Waverveen church where they were buried. A traumatic event for the 19 year old Ted, and one which stayed with him all his life.

Until a few years after the war ended, when the bodies were interred in the Canadian War Cemetery at Bergen-op-Zoom , every year on May 4<sup>th</sup>, Dutch Remembrance Day, the crew was remembered at Waverveen Church.

In the years to follow, few people knew or remembered the location of the crash site and now, thanks to the efforts of local historian the late Chris van der Linden, they will forever be remembered. In November 2018 a memorial was erected to ED761 and also to five other aircraft and their crews who

perished in crashes in the locality. Funding from the local government and historical society ensured that the six memorials could be erected and the sacrifice of so many lives would never be forgotten.

Following a visit to the site in 1998, and out of respect for his father, Bob determined to carry on the connection and got to know Chris van der Linden. He had researched in depth not only the circumstances of the crash but together, Chris and Bob succeeded in tracing the families of almost every crew member – except Frank Bandeen. The intention was to put the families in contact with each other if they so desired and to return some of the fragments of the crashed plane to the crew's relatives.

Chris sadly died in August 2019 at the age of 46 and Bob has doggedly carried on with the search. When I made contact with Bob, he was in possession of quite a lot of information about the Bandeen family

Frank Alexander Bandeen was born in 1922 and was the youngest son of George and Elizabeth Bandeen of Rose Cottage, Garlogie.

Frank was well known as an accomplished piper and played with the pipe band of the Aberdeen Battalion of the Boys Brigade, 15<sup>th</sup> Company of which he was a member. He worked with Campbell's Rubber Company, Bridge Street, Aberdeen before volunteering for the Royal Air Force Voluntary Reserve at the beginning of



1941. He was eager to fly and eventually became a Flight Engineer on an Avro Lancaster. His final flight was as described above, and fate decreed that on that night, he was a substitute engineer on the Lancaster which was on its first flight after delivery

from the Avro factory. The airmen were on their 18<sup>th</sup> sortie as a crew. The family had an agonising wait until May 1943 when he was officially pronounced dead. The family was no stranger to tragedy. Frank's uncle, also Frank, his father's brother, died in 1920 from lung damage after being gassed in the first world war. Following that particular conflict, his bravery was recognised when he was awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous bravery during an attack on enemy lines.

He is remembered on the War Memorial at Skene Churchyard where some family members are buried.

There was a time when I felt that I was going to fail in helping Bob progress this story. I was able to verify what between us we already knew, and I amassed really interesting stories about members of the extended Bandedeen family. Pat knew of people who added to the story and slowly it began to come together.

But the final piece of the jigsaw eluded us all.

However, I am now firmly convinced that it's not what you know, it's who you know!

In a casual conversation with a friend, he happened to mention that there is a lady called Bandeen living not too far away. I made a speculative phone call and she did have connections, but didn't know much about that side of the family history. She put me in touch with her sister, who put me in touch with her cousin, and again, moved us a little bit further forward. They were all charming ladies with their own interesting stories to tell.

I was getting so frustrated that I eventually suggested to Bob that he submit the story to the Press and Journal, who duly published it, and lo and behold, within about ten days, a gentleman got in touch with Bob to say that Frank Alexander Bandeen was his father's uncle! His father is still alive so hopefully, there will be more information for Bob to share with the 'family' of the crew of 'ED 761'.

Now brought together by Bob's determination to find the last link, this wartime tragedy will not be forgotten and the story hopefully give comfort to those who remain. Frank's name appearing on the commemorative board in your church played a big part in bringing the story to a conclusion. Mission accomplished!!

## **SONGS FOR SUNDAY**

A theological college and a professional musician have launched a new project offering ideas for music each Sunday in the Church year.

Songs for Sunday, a collaboration between Iain McLarty and Trinity College at the University of Glasgow, will suggest appropriate hymns and music for use in churches each Sunday (and special services), based on the seasonal themes and that week's Lectionary readings.

The music is drawn from a wide range of sources, both traditional and contemporary, Scottish and from further afield.

There is also a YouTube playlist with videos of many of the pieces of music suggested.

Iain McLarty is an experienced conductor of choirs and orchestras, currently the musical director of the Scottish Chamber Choir and a church musician who has both played and presented at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. He is regularly involved in planning and leading worship at various national and international events, including for the World Council of Churches. He is also a worship development officer with the Church of Scotland Priority Areas Team.

Access Songs for Sunday at <https://www.trinitycollegeglasgow.co.uk/songs-for-sunday>

## **Meet...**

### **John Amalanand, Parish Assistant**

*Dear Friends,  
New Year Greetings!*

It gives me immense joy to be writing to you and to be given the chance to send my love and best wishes to you and to your dear ones for a healthy and peaceful 2021. I would also like to use this opportunity to briefly introduce myself to you through this post as your Parish Assistant at South Holburn Church and I very much await the day we will enjoy the freedom to meet each other in person.

When the British Missionaries sailed all the way to India, to spread the good news of Jesus in the late 1800s, my great grandparents were the first of my ancestors to have accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and became Christians. Finally, when the missionaries had to leave India to return to Britain in the early 1900s, a missionary baptized and named my new born grandpa 'Clement John' but he was later given an Indian name as many did not speak English in India.

However, the name was passed on to me many decades later and just few months after my birth, I was baptised with an English name 'John Clement' and surnamed 'Amalanand' which means 'pure joy' in my Indian

language. Growing up in India for more than two decades, I was the oddball in the field called by an English name and I fully never understood the deeper meaning until I received the call to serve God in Scotland and personally, I consider it one of the greatest honour of my life to be offered the grace to serve the Creator, the Almighty God and His much-beloved creation, the Church.

In 2014, the Lord helped me finish my Masters in IT and I was fast on track to pursue my career as a Software Engineer when the Lord very graciously called me for something better and far more glorious to HIS Service. Since then, I have had many wonderful opportunities to serve people of all ages in the last decade in many different ways.

Later, I joined Garthdee Parish Church as a Parish Assistant where I served for 5 years. I am and will always be ever-grateful to the congregation for their best love, support and care I received from the dear ones of Garthdee who loved me like one of their own family.

In 2018, God gave me one of the greatest blessings under heaven- to be married to a God fearing, extreme-

ly loving and caring Indian lassie, Achsah (pronounced 'Axa'). Achsah also grew up in India and moved to Scotland after our marriage. We are both looking forward to our next holiday trip to India as both our families live there and we haven't seen them in the last two years.

My current post with South Holburn is a 0.5FTE and entitles me to work for 19 hours per week for Garthdee. In the last 2000 years, there have been many moments when many thought the Church will end but history showcases again and again that the Church never dies, in fact it only has increased from glory to glory. The present numbers of Church membership may challenge ones big-hope and strong-faith, but we must be encouraged that this is not how it will all end. In saying that, there is only one thing expected of me and you- "to be faithful in the little we have", for Christ promised that a person who is faithful in the little will be blessed with much. Looking through windows of faith, I sincerely look forward to being faithful with the little God is giving me now and God will do the rest.

I am very glad to be serving you alongside, Rev David Stewart who has been very kind and has taken much care and is being very thoughtful to make sure I feel comfortable and confident at South Holburn. I am

also looking forward to be working with Rev. Julia Pizzuto-Pomaco, the kirk session and every member of South Holburn.

*Best Wishes*

*John Amalanand, Parish Assistant*



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glasbergen.com



"This week's sermon is about how we all need to simplify our lives. Unfortunately, I lost the whole thing when my computer crashed."

# **Don't Slip Back**

*The Very Rev Albert Bogle*

*reflects on the lessons learned from social distancing for the Church.*

2020 will be remembered as the year that brought about a great deal of sadness, hurt and change into all of our lives due to the virus that created a world pandemic.

of the body of Christ seeking to work in harmony with each other and in honour preferring one another will affect Christ's mission in the world.

We learned a new phrase in our vocabulary 'social distancing'. But perhaps the more lasting and profound change to be remembered will be lessons learned from social distancing. Could it be a parable waiting for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear and faith to remember? So what could we be learning from social distancing? There is a truth relating to the more sinister role that an unspoken 'social distancing' has played when it comes to our attitudes to racism and 'Black Lives Matter,' but also to our attitudes as Christians towards one another and Christ's call for unity among his followers. How we as individuals respond at this moment in time to the injustices faced by so many throughout the world because of their skin tones will help to define the way the world is shaped for future generations. And how we respond to each other as members

There can be no 'social distancing' when it comes to any form of racism. The Black Lives Matter movement has proved that the silent majority can be motivated to speak out against injustice and cruelty. Christians must be part of that social conscience and be at the forefront of movements for peace and justice in the world. Speaking out, of course, is never enough – we need to live out what we believe. This brings me to reflect upon another type of 'social distancing' that I have observed within the church. You might call it 'social spiritual distancing.' I refer to the various camps that have grown up in all our churches and presbyteries. These camps become spiritually and socially distanced from each other; politely acknowledging each other but never truly working together. Often those who are part of this 'social spiritual distancing' are influenced by others who have



strong opinions and because they don't wish to lose friendships or lose face, or perhaps even their faith, they adhere to principles and views that really belong to someone else. Perhaps we need a movement entitled, 'Christ's living body matters' We are certainly moving into a period of transition, change and discovery and, as a Christian community, finding out more about our ability to adapt and change.

What the future impact of Brexit on our lives will be is totally unknown but we will have to get on with it regardless. Many have surprised themselves by the transitions they have been making using new technology to communicate with friends and family and in doing so have begun to understand the value online worship offers to those unable to attend in-person services.

The word Zoom has taken on a new meaning for us all. I think many of us know how it feels to be 'Zoomed out'! Yet we are also coming to see how used wisely this technology has the ability to free up time and create space for more family time and to explore a wider understanding of what it means to be part of the body of

Christ. It is this understanding that I believe God is using to create a movement longing for a more united church.

How we as individuals respond at this moment in time to the injustices faced by so many throughout the world because of their skin tones will help to define the way the world is shaped for future generations.

As we begin to return to a more normal way of existence we shouldn't forget that we have set the reset button and we cannot allow our thinking to slip back into old ways.

There is much that we have gained from this time of lockdown and we need to become more familiar with the 2021 slogan "Build back better". When the restrictions are over let's make sure 'social distancing' is no longer practised in any of its incarnations in our lives. Let us strive to build up the body of Christ no longer as distant friends but as vital parts of the body.

*This article first appeared in the February edition of "Life and Work", the Church of Scotland's magazine. More details here: <https://www.lifeandwork.org/>*

# Lent and Easter 2021

## The Great Daffodil Craft Challenge

We are looking for daffodils, lots of them, lots and lots of hand-crafted daffodils. If you can knit, sew, crochet, you can make a daffodil. There are lots of patterns on the internet – just google ‘Daffodil Patterns’. Just make sure you choose one with a stem as well.

This Easter Sunday we are hoping to fill our Daffodil Cross with all your hand-made Daffodils. And then we are going to send our daffodils out as presents to care homes and members.

If you prefer a printed plan and pattern, we have some available – just email

[jpizzuto-pomaco@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:jpizzuto-pomaco@churchofscotland.org.uk) or  
[dstewart@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:dstewart@churchofscotland.org.uk).



### Riverside Churches Valentine's Day Quiz

Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> February  
7 p.m.

See Church Website for Zoom  
Details

(If you cannot attend, but would like a list of some questions you could use at home with your family please, contact Julia at [jpizzuto-pomaco@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:jpizzuto-pomaco@churchofscotland.org.uk))

### The Hope Noticeboard

We are using the South Holburn Noticeboard on Holburn Street to show messages of hope for 2021.

If you would like to add your hopes for the new year, you can send them on a postcard to South Holburn Church, 539A Holburn Street, Aberdeen AB10 7LN or email:

[DStewart@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:DStewart@churchofscotland.org.uk)

## Shrove Tuesday Picture Challenge

**Shrove Tuesday** is the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday and traditionally the final chance to eat sugar and other goodies before fasting begins for Lent. It's more commonly known now as "**Pancake Tuesday**" because many people make pancakes or donuts that day.

If you make donuts or pancakes please post on the South Holburn Facebook page or email us what you have made, including pictures and we will post it for you.

Let us know what recipe you used.

We want to see all the gooey toppings!

We want to see pictures of the baking process too!

Let's get messy!

Email either David or Julia (or phone or even send a picture in the post)

[jpizzuto-pomaco@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:jpizzuto-pomaco@churchofscotland.org.uk) or

[dstewart@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:dstewart@churchofscotland.org.uk).



## Lent Challenge

Though many of us do not fast during Lent anymore, it is a great opportunity to consider if we could give up perhaps one thing that might stand in the way between us and God. •Maybe there is a favourite show that we rather like watching that takes up more time than our Bible reading! •Perhaps drinking too much coffee is getting in the way of feeling healthy and well, so maybe we could give up a couple of coffees each day and give the money instead to a food bank or charity.

Perhaps if we watch tv or movies less we might want to spend our extra time sending encouraging cards to people we know are on their own or who are in a care home and saying a prayer for them.

So what will you give up for Lent?

Make your challenge public - **Post what you have decided to give up or do or change during the Lent season on our Church Facebook page or send us an email and we will post it for you!**

**Riverside Churches  
Online Lent Study**

*Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> February – Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> March  
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.*

**“The Ridiculous Journey”**

This 7-session series on Jesus' invitation to follow him includes films by Nadia Bolz-Weber, Greg Boyle, Brené Brown, Emmanuel Katongole, Rachel Held Evans, Richard Rohr, and Rowan Williams, visual liturgies from Kelly Stewart Hall, Thomas Merton, Travis Reed, and Ann Voscamp and reflections by Rich Nelson.

“In two days I will set out on a 200 mile dirt-trail bike ride with my wife. Neither of us have ever done anything like it before. I am excited but also nervous. I yearn for the adventure but I also fear the unknown. I could do any number of other more “sensible and productive” things with the coming week and yet there is something that calls me and beckons me to go. And I say the same about Jesus and his invitation to “come, follow me.” It’s an invitation to a ridiculous journey. But what else is life for?”

*Rich Nelson*



**Online Holy Week Services**

*Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> March –  
Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> April*

*7 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.*

*(Includes online Communion  
Service for Maundy Thursday)*

**Easter Family Event**

*Palm Sunday*

*Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> March*

*More details on South Holburn  
Church website  
[www.southholburn.org](http://www.southholburn.org)*

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