

GRAPEVINE

St Matthew's Rosslyn – Winter 2021 Issue 97



Vicarage View

Advent 2021

As I write this, we are in Advent; the beginning of the church year. It will, I believe be a year of many new beginnings. We, like everyone else, have been labouring for almost two years under the cloud of COVID. Now, for the new year, we seem threatened by a new variant – Omicron – the pronunciation of which, to those who never suffered a classical education, seems to be causing a problem all of its own!

Advent is always a good time for reappraisal, a spiritual stocktake, if you like. This year, especially, this is true. There will be many changes and challenges this year, but as my old housemaster used to say about school detention, it is not a threat; it is an opportunity!

Firstly, as we approach some sort of normality, we need to consider how we rebuild in what for many feels like a different world. Many of our community and worship commitments have had to be either postponed or attenuated these last two years and now is the time to consider how we rebuild; do we just revert to our former ways and functions or do we look further; how can we extend and improve our mission?

We have, as you know, live-streamed our Sunday services during the pandemic which has brought new adherents from worldwide to our worship. The downside of this has been a reduced attendance in person and we have perhaps become disconnected. Whilst I am aware and understand the trepidation that COVID has inspired, I believe that live attendance is now safe – we assiduously follow



the health and safety guidelines of the Scottish Government and the Scottish Episcopal Church – and attendance will help us reconnect.

We should, I believe, start by reinstating many of our former practices and commitments. It will be brilliant to see the Prayer Ministry back in full flow and increased congregational participation in our worship; intercessions and reading rotas restored and special services, such as our Patronal Festival, restored. Once all of this is in place – essentially, we are back to where we started - where do we go from there?

It is important that we begin these processes now. As you know I retire at the end of May 2022. Following an interregnum, which will hopefully be quite short, it will be incumbent on my successor to work with you to shape the continuing mission of St Matthew's, but I believe that you as the members of our congregation need to reflect now on preparation for the future and about the part you want to play.

Remember! This year is not a threat. It is an opportunity. Carpe Diem!

Father Joe

Vestry Report



2021 has been a game of two halves! The first half of the year was quiet for the Vestry as the ongoing global pandemic kept us at a distance and operating under heavily restricted circumstances. However, the second half of this year has brought some freedoms that have allowed a little more normality!

Services resumed for the Easter weekend and relaxation of restrictions saw our first baptism, since lockdown began, at the end of June. While some restrictions remain, our services at St. Matthew's largely returned to normal in the Autumn. We were also able to hold the annual parish lunch in September. For many it had been over eighteen months since we had seen each other, so there was plenty of catching up to do.

Father Joe Roulston has decided to retire at the end of May 2022. Fr Joe has been at the heart of the St. Matthew's congregation for many years and whilst he richly deserves his retirement, his presence will be greatly missed by us all. We will confirm more details regarding Fr Joe's leaving as well as the process to appoint a successor to the role of Priest in Charge at St Matthew's in due course.

We continue to enjoy a strong relationship with the Rosslyn Chapel Trust, and I am grateful to Ian Gardner and his team for all their support, particularly in helping us recommence services.

The finances of the Vestry remain sound and my sincere thanks to our Treasurer, Ian McLeish for all his hard work here. We continued to make charitable donations this year of £2,000.

I would like to conclude by thanking everyone who has contributed and supported the activities of the Chapel and the local community through what has been another challenging year. The Vestry Team and I are very appreciative and wish everyone a merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

James Cardwell Moore
Vestry Chair

Rosslyn Chapel Trust Report

November and December are usually quiet months for visitors and, unsurprisingly, this year is no exception.

We have been pleased to welcome back our Junior Tour Guides in person this year, as the P7s from Roslin Primary have been transformed into their new roles to welcome other young visitors to the Chapel. This year, we decided to change the programme slightly and, instead of inviting other Midlothian schools to hear from our Junior Guides, we have welcomed other classes from Roslin Primary over the past few weeks.

We also look forward to welcoming local families when the Chapel will be the finishing point in this year's torchlit parade, on Saturday 18th December and, weather permitting, we will have some carols in the grounds.

We have also been pleased to welcome a great number of Beavers, Cubs and Brownies over the past few weeks for some evening activities.

It was lovely to have some members of the congregation, as well as staff (past and present) and three of the Smith family, for the scattering of William's ashes in the Chapel grounds in late November and thanks to Joe for leading the proceedings. Our new portrait of William, by artist and former Guide, Grace Maran, is now on display in the visitor centre.

We are reintroducing some festive music to the Chapel in the run-up to Christmas, with 20-minute performances in selected lunchtime timeslots; please have a look at our website for more details. And, of course, our gift shop has some unique ideas for presents, so do come



and have a look. Our 'Gift Experience' includes admission to the Chapel, and tea/coffee/cake for 2, as well as a copy of our Guidebook and your Christmas tree will not be complete without one of our exclusive decorations on it!

It has been great to welcome back the Prayer Ministry team and to have 2 weddings in the past few weeks. We all look forward to more normality returning in 2022 and, in the meantime, on behalf of all the Trust team, I wish you a Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year..

Ian Gardner
Director, Rosslyn Chapel Trust

Who's Who at St Matthew's (The long version)

As the hope of a return to a more normal life for 2022 is alive and well we thought it would be a good time to highlight the sterling work done by so many people behind the scenes and the face masks over the last 20 months to keep things going at St Matthew's (yes it has been that long!!) It will also provide people looking for New Years resolutions of some ways to get more involved and let you know what you might be signing yourself up for 😊

The Vestry

Along with the apprentice pillar holding us up, we also have this group of pillars who look after the general management and administration required for St Matthew's to run as a Church and as part of the Edinburgh Diocese in the Scottish Episcopal church. As those of you at the AGM on Sunday 5 December will know, members sign up for different lengths of time – from 1 to 3 years – depending on the role; and if you're having fun you can be re-elected.



For those of you not at the AGM here are the guys that sit at the table, chair the meeting and provide all updates:



James Cardwell-Moore is our Chairman. He keeps everyone in line and makes sure we follow the rules



Mike Fitchett is our Secretary. He keeps everyone up to date on what they're meant to be doing



Ian McLeish (aka international man of mystery) is our Treasurer and looks after the money

(Anyone who would like to get involved with the vesty at some point in the future but aren't good at keeping people in line, don't like counting money and don't have a tweed jacket; there are a host of other roles to be undertaken that are equally as fun and exciting as these ones (see Who's Who on the back page of Grapevine). Mike has a super useful document with a list of the vestry roles and details of what each one entails.

The Prayer Ministry



Many of you will know Rosie Wild who led our Prayer Ministry for many years before retiring a while back (see previous Grapevine). Since then, Jo Barrow (Vestry member) and Doris Nelson (our People's Warden) have been at the helm.

The Prayer Ministry team is made up of 7 volunteers from the congregation who offer 10 minutes of Prayers for Visitors three times a week at noon. Currently because of COVID regulations this has been reduced to once a week. Each team member can choose the prayers they wish to use. These are from a variety of sources, and this adds to the rich experience of all those who attend – whether they are regular church goers or not.

As Jo and Doris noted “It feels worthwhile to continue the tradition of offering Prayers on behalf of others in the Chapel. This is a tradition that was established many years ago and which is a gentle reminder for visitors that the Chapel is very much a

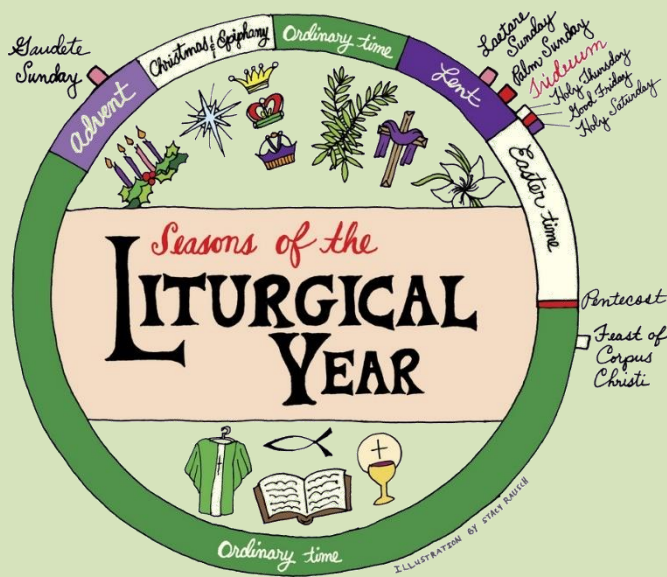
working Church and not just an historical building. Saying prayers in front of strangers is a challenge but there's an inward sense of peace afterwards. On those occasions when a few visitors indicate their thanks, it feels so worthwhile.”

The prayer ministry is very much the face of the congregation at the Chapel during the week and can encounter all sorts of people who visit the Chapel. Recently at the start of Prayers, there was chanting coming from the crypt. One of the guides went and spoke to the people who ceased during Prayers. Alas they had gone by the end of the 10 minutes so it wasn't clear what the chanting was about. People visit the Chapel for their own reasons – very often from a spiritual perspective and many do appreciate the working church.

Jo and Doris enjoy coordinating our prayer ministry team that builds on a rich heritage of prayer and is one of the founding principles for the [Chapel being built in the first place](#). They hope that Prayers for Visitors will continue well into the future as it serves as a core part of our outreach ministry. Prior to Covid a couple from Michigan, USA expressed their gratitude to be able to write in our Prayer Request Book (unfortunately not used at present) asking for God's blessings to help her sister who had had an accident the day before. Her request was during Prayers offered up to God. This type of feedback is one of the 'gifts'; that our Prayer Ministry does and can make a difference to so many of the visitors who come to the Chapel.

For more information and to find out how you can get involved, please speak to Jo or Doris

Our Liturgical Year & Decorative Tradition



The altar doesn't dress itself; those candles don't light themselves and that vicar doesn't iron ... so who looks after everything?

Our church year – which begins on Advent Sunday has seasons and each has a colour and traditions associated with it. Just like the seasons of the year, the colours change as we progress through our year. The liturgical year informs what colours are placed on the lectionaries and what colour vestments the priest wears. The symbolism of purple, white, green, red, gold, black and rose serve to underline moods appropriate to a season of the liturgical year or may highlight a special occasion. Additionally, the flowers and decorations in the Chapel reflect the symbolism of the season.

Sacristan Team

The role of Sacristan is split between Jill Black and Domhnall Dean.



As well as coordinating the Social Committee (more of that later) Jill liaises with Fr Joe and the team to make sure we have everything we need for our services at the Chapel – wafers and communion wine, baptism candles etc.

Domhnall does everything from making sure the altar is set up to checking oil levels in the altar candles (hands up who didn't know they were oil fuelled?) as well as setting up the microphones for Fr Joe and Harry. He is also one of the only people who can open the safe!



Shonagh Toulouse (Priest in Charge's Warden) has for many people been the main contact throughout the pandemic when we had to book to attend Church. As well as being the keeper of the falls, as the PIC's warden she is Fr Joe's right-hand person and is the main communication link between him and the congregation. This has been especially important during the pandemic.



Belle (Vestry member) has been attending the Chapel for ... well forever. As part of the Sacristan team she keeps the vestments looking fantastic, and as part of the congregation she keeps us all right.



The Flower Team

It was fantastic to see the full force of the flower team at work for Easter 2021 which marked our first return to worship in the Chapel since Christmas 2020.



Those of you with a good memory will remember the article in Issue 88 of Grapevine in October 2017. Rosemary Buchanan wrote a wonderful article about the symbolism behind decorating the Chapel throughout the Church year.

There is a huge amount of thought that goes into the flowers and the decoration around the Chapel. In addition to the beautiful floral displays that are created every single week, the main festivals are marked with seasonal floral creativity and displays that add to the beauty of

the Chapel and continue our decorative tradition of the Church year.



In recent years our decorations have been augmented by a fabulous white metal support for the Advent Wreath made by Domhnall and an amazing Crib scene commissioned by Belle and created by the Roslin Men's Shed.

Since the last team photo (above), Rosemary has stepped back, and Sue Fitchett has taken over the rota and liaising with the Chapel. If anyone is interested in getting involved with the flower rota or helping with the decoration of the Chapel at main festivals, please speak to Sue.

Children's Church



We were not able to resume our Children's Church at all in 2021 but hope to move back to the Visitor Centre perhaps on the first Sunday of every month early in 2022.

Prior to the pandemic we had a small but busy Children's Church, meeting every 2 weeks during term time and over the years have put on some great Christmas nativities, Christingle services and Easter Passions.



Charity has also been high on the list for us – regular stalls and money to children's charities have kept everyone busy and again so many initiatives come from the children.

Over the years our 'graduates' continue to come back and help at Christmas and services when we need readers, musicians, elves and general help.

As we look forward to 2022, we hope that some of our families will return and our forthcoming Christmas Carousel will appeal to some of the new families moving into the ever expanding Roslin, encouraging them to

come during the year. After all

Church isn't just for Christmas 😊

We are very lucky that we have a dedicated and multi-talented team that continue to come up with ideas year on year – and regular Children's Church catch ups at the pub are obviously vital to the planning process. If you think you might enjoy getting involved with Children's Church, please contact Sue Fitchett or Jacqui Roulston.



Social Committee

Jill Black and Ann Buchanan coordinate the Social Committee - our social events and catering engine.



Over the years the social committee have been responsible for us all enjoying great social gatherings - the biannual ceilidh to the annual summer and harvest lunches - at the Original in Roslin, the Masonic Hall or some willing volunteer's home. They also organise the tea and coffee after the service. Covid has obviously had a huge impact on all social events as well as regular social committee meetings, but through the power of email and a fabulous team who are a well-oiled machine, we all thoroughly enjoyed the parish lunch in September of this year which was our first social gathering in 18 months.



Here's to our social activities restarting next year ... but not before they help out once again at the children's service on Christmas Eve. It's not really the same without some good catering served by elves and Santas.

If anyone would like to get involved in the social committee, please contact Jill or Ann.

Harry's Advent Sermon

Advent 2/ 2021 sermon. Luke 3v6. '

All mankind will see God's salvation'

In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Thought I might have to call the local police last week I came home to find the doors wide open, and everything gone, but then, ... it was only my Advent calendar after all! Joking aside, the season of Advent advances a more precious gift in our lives, it alerts us to the reality of Christ approaching our world - a door of hope, allowing us to recognise again that rich sense of knowing that God gets alongside His creation, whatever the condition, and by His Spirit, occupies the world in which we all live.

The word Advent, comes from the Latin term: 'Adventus' literally meaning, 'coming to' and so, this unique season of hope-filled preparation within our Christian tradition is also a time of remembering that the veil between heaven and earth, is remarkably thin ... for this love, that we are looking for, is the one who is full of promise, even if society outside our view, sees Advent slightly differently to us. I used to feel anxious about this, but as time has passed, I have grown to realise that Advent (and Christmas) - although seemingly hijacked by commercialism and a modern secular society - still holds the power to break down divisions and allows room for love to manifest between people. Old friendships are restored, and kindness abounds, in a most remarkable way and because of this, people are more prepared to stop and to listen, and are perhaps - just perhaps - are more open to what the Christian message is actually about. And in loving others, we are all set free to experience the creative love of God that is deep within us.

Advent is a season for reaching out, as the Holy Spirit and light of Christ is given centre stage, active in our lives - whether religious, or secular - and all that we must do is remain open to, and to celebrate this beauty and love, as we prepare ourselves for a true Christmas. This quiet, but active love, is like a steady inner evangelist of healing, in all of us, and reaches out to the unconvinced stranger, and the doubter, with the Spirit of truth and hope, and in this sense, the very light of heaven is nearer to us than we think. In the long shadows of winter, the light of Christ appears to shine ever brighter, telling us of an incarnation that can transform our lives in a most beautiful way. This season of hope, is therefore, a time for reflection and the prayerful retelling of the story of Christ coming into the world and entering history.

We know that the Bethlehem event took place in the midst of 1st century secularisation, religious and social change, it was at a time when a national census was under way; the area around Bethlehem was a place of administration, no doubt with long queues, and fully booked accommodations - no rooms could be found for love nor money sounds very like our modern world, which can often be full of so many obstacles and inconveniences. As Christ approaches our time and place at Christmas, we have an opportunity to remind the secular world exactly what all of this represents, for it is something much greater than the obvious, much more wonderful than the imagination, and more important than anything material. Our experience of faith and Christian

tradition is exactly what the world needs, more than ever at this time, for the coming of Christ is a decisive event, an action of love, between God and the world, even if it seems to be almost hidden from sight and originated in a darkness and inconvenience of a stable: God turns up anyway.

From the very beginning, the word of God had prophesied that He would be seen by humanity, and would become present to His creation, and visible to it. If you think about it, it makes perfect sense that an eternal creator, who began all universal dynamics and natural life as we know it, would wish to occupy every particle of creation, and would want to be involved in this small, suspended ball of dust, that we call home, and that God is therefore, always approaching us. God is always near, whither His creation is conscious of Him, or not, and because of this the possibilities of our lives are limitless.

In the words of Henri Newman: 'Life is advent, life is recognising the coming of the Lord'

God reveals His Son to the world, He enters our life circumstances, our un-preparedness and chaos. He turns up to heal our short-sightedness, to restore our inward vision and gives us that divine illumination that we all need, of a light that is beyond the decorations, and twinkle of Christmas. So perhaps during this great season, we might allow God the Spirit to enrich our thinking and our senses, to touch our imperfect human condition and consciousness with the luminosity of heaven.

Advent is indeed our journey towards Bethlehem, a significant liturgical season, a time for listening and an opportunity for sensing Gods love and presence, and as we read the Gospels stories with even a little faith and insight, truly they will come alive for us. The story of Bethlehem is rich with meaning from the ground up, from the ordinariness of life, as heaven comes down to attend to the very ground of our being. This is indeed a time of great expectation, a time of hope amidst all the inconveniences of normal life, a time of recognising that God is involved with His creation. Even with all that has gone wrong, through our human indecision, our lack of belief, and the part of us that says: 'there is no room at the Inn' and with all that seems wrong, all that is causing us to become distracted, whether covid, global conflicts, or mass migration of people; the creator of the universe, turns up anyway. In all of this, God does not give up on us, even in the hectic pace of our lives, where some of us can barely keep ahead of the days demands, or in the complexities and distractions around us, where it seems genuinely, that there is no room at the Inn of our lives...God turns up anyway.

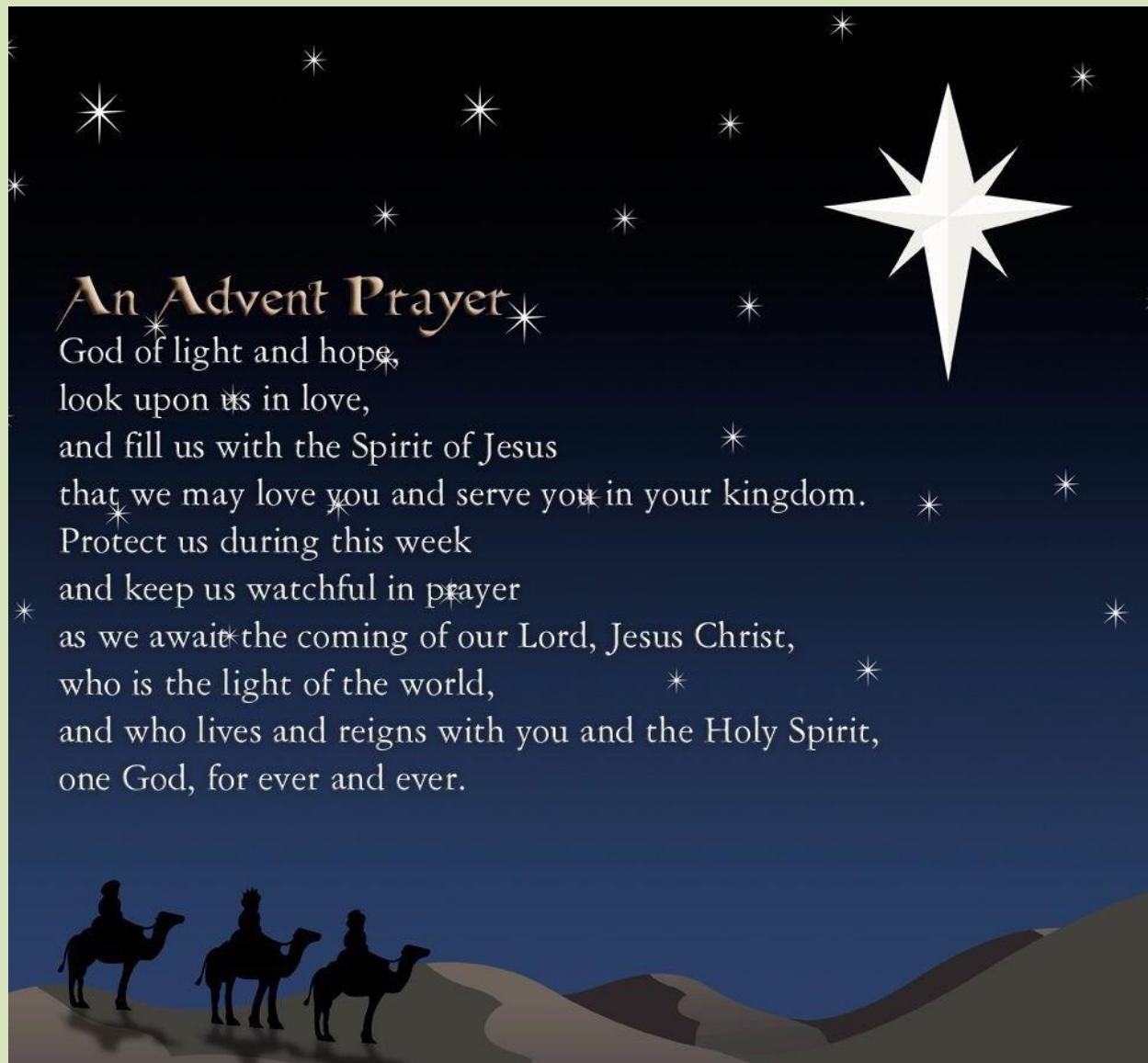
God chooses to be born into our lives moment by moment, breath by breath, in the interior richness of every little thing that happen to us, and everyone around us, and everything that we feel or are going through presently, with all the ragged unfinished business of things, where it seems that there is no room for anything else; God turns up anyway.

And here's the thing: in order to re-discover this reality of love, all that we must do is divert ourselves a little from the hurly burly of our lives, even if only for a tiny moment; and in doing this small thing, we catch the light who leads us through the darkness and the busyness of our lives. In

all the superficiality of things we then find that rather imperfect stable within us is fit for Christ, with an agreeable reality, liberating us in humility and simplicity of life, where the delicate nature of what is unfolding in the depths of our lives becomes God's business, as Christ is born in us. And we discover that Christ is born into the world in order for 'for all of humanity to see Gods salvation', and in this deep part of our lives, there is a childlike purity that exists and it is God given, and Godlike - hidden from sight - for it is a deep purity of who we are in God: then we know that we have found our shelter for the night, for we have discovered that God loves us; and that Christ turns up anyway.

Amen

(Sermon preached by our Lay Reader Harry Stoddart on Sunday 5 December; Advent 2)



Classic Christmas Stollen



Ingredients

300ml whole milk 300ml
100g unsalted butter 100g
10g fast action yeast 10g
500g strong white flour 500g
75g caster sugar 75g
12g sea salt 12g
1½ tsp mixed spice
½ tsp almond extract
flavourless oil for the bowl
85g dried cranberries
100g dried mixed fruit
50g, chopped blanched almonds
1 orange, zested and juiced
250g marzipan
Good glug of rum

TO DECORATE

25g butter, melted
Icing sugar

To Make

1. Place the orange, mixed fruit, cranberries and almonds in a medium bowl and pour the rum over it. Set aside in a warm corner of the kitchen.
2. Warm the milk in a small saucepan to just below the boil, then remove from the heat and stir in the butter. Leave to cool slightly.
3. Mix the yeast, flour, sugar, salt and mixed spice together in a large bowl.
4. Pour the lukewarm milk into the dry ingredients and add the almond extract.
5. Mix together, then knead on a lightly floured surface for 8 minutes or in a stand mixer for 5-6 minutes until smooth and stretchy.
6. Put in a lightly oiled bowl, cover with a damp tea towel and leave for 1-2 hours to double in size.
7. Once the dough has risen, turn it out onto a lightly floured surface.
8. The fruit should have absorbed the rum by now (if not cook's treat, drain into a glass and drink that 😊)
9. Add the rum-soaked fruit and nuts to the dough and knead for 1-2 minutes, then roll the dough to a 30cm x 40cm rectangle.
10. Roll the marzipan into a log the length of the rolled out dough and press the marzipan gently into the middle of the dough
11. Fold the left side of the dough over to cover the marzipan, then fold right side over on top of the left side so that the edge of it sits just left of the middle of the stollen.
12. Put on a lined baking tray seam-side down, tuck under the ends and leave to prove for 45 minutes.
13. Heat the oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas 4. Bake the stollen for about an hour.
14. Once baked allow to cool then brush with the melted butter and dust with a thick layer of icing sugar.

Alison's Tribute to her father Tim Russian

We said goodbye to Tim last year and managed this year to hold a memorial Eucharist service for him that was attended by his family and friends. Tim's family have gifted the congregation some beautiful altar cloths, embroidered with a memorial to Tim; another pillar of St Matthew's Rosslyn Chapel.

First of all, on behalf of the family, I would like to thank Father Joe for allowing us to use this service to remember our father. Also, thank you to everyone who has come to celebrate Tim's life with us – members of the congregation, other friends (some of whom knew him for over 60 years) and members of our own extended families.

A brief reminder of Tim's career – he was born in Staffordshire and attended St Edward's School, Oxford, before going up to Selwyn College, Cambridge to read Natural Sciences. Following this, his National Service in the RAF was to shape his future career – he trained as an air traffic controller, a job about which he was passionate. He married Margaret in 1960 and I was born a couple of years later, as Tim's time in the RAF ended, immediately prior to the move to Scotland. Tim's first post was at Edinburgh airport (then known as Turnhouse). The births of Catherine and Peter followed, both in the family home in Cammo, (coincidentally just about half a mile from Lyle Court to which Tim moved many years later). In 1971 we moved to north Lancashire, as Tim's job was now at an air traffic centre near Preston. Four years later we moved to the Buckinghamshire village of Long Crendon, and Tim worked in London, first planning airspace at the Civil Aviation Authority headquarters and then as a controller at West Drayton, before retiring in 1988.

Tim had an active early retirement in Buckinghamshire; probably the most significant aspect was the role of the church in his life. As well as being church warden at Long Crendon, he also became the founding Business Editor of "The DOOR" which was the newspaper for the Diocese of Oxford. His contribution here was recognised when he was made a member of the Order of St Frideswide, the highest honour to be bestowed on a member of the laity by the Diocese of Oxford.

What do we remember of Tim as a father? His pattern of shift work during our childhood meant that he was able to be very much a "hands-on" Dad – collecting us from school and helping and encouraging us with homework, to name but a few examples. As we became teenagers and began to develop interests and hobbies, he provided encouragement on the touchline at matches and in the audience at musical performances. As well as placing great emphasis on the importance of education and encouraging us to do our best, he and my mother also introduced us to the world around us, on frequent family walks and on many memorable family holidays; these were mostly north of the border, and instilled a love of Scotland in us all. It has to be said that we were also introduced to the realities of the Scottish climate – I don't think any of us have forgotten watching a cricket stump sink with amazing ease and almost fully into the sodden ground on a camp site on the edge of Loch Tay!

Tim's encouragement and interest in all our lives continued well into our adulthood; he was always there to provide a listening ear, friendly advice and reassurance. He welcomed Nicola, Bob and Stephen into the family as daughter-in-law and sons-in-law and took great delight in his three grandchildren- Louis, Lottie and Ruaridh,- giving the same encouragement to them by celebrating their birthdays with them and watching them perform in shows.

About 6 weeks ago we gathered in Long Crendon to carry out Dad's wishes for his ashes to be interred with those of our mother. We were joined by family and friends who are based in the south of England. It is important that we also gather in Rosslyn – this was Tim's wish. To understand fully what this Chapel meant to him, a little background on his move to Edinburgh may help.

Tim was deeply affected and saddened by Margaret's death from cancer in the year 2000, after a happy marriage of 40 years. He took the decision in 2003 to return to Edinburgh, where Catherine and Peter were both now working. He was able to resume old friendships from the 1960s and we observed him making a new start - developing his garden, exploring the Scottish countryside, becoming secretary of the Edinburgh branch of the Cambridge Society and- who could forget?- he also became the besotted owner of Monty the basset hound!

An important part of this new start was his decision to attend Rosslyn Chapel. Gregarious by nature, he was delighted to be asked to take up a range of tasks relating to the organisation of Chapel services. He particularly enjoyed taking part in the prayer ministry with visitors at 12.00 on weekdays. I once came across an article he had written giving guidance for sides persons – he must be the only person who has ever compared the duty of directing people up to the communion rail with that of directing aeroplanes!

He made some firm and lasting friendships amongst members of the congregation and he continued to attend services even when his illness made this very difficult, thanks to Michelle who drove him here. On several occasions during his final summer here, I accompanied him to services and was very moved by the support which members of the congregation offered. So throughout the 15 years that Tim lived in Edinburgh, the Chapel played a major part in his life and we as a family are all grateful to you as the congregation for the love and friendship you gave him. One of the greatest demonstrations of this was actually about a month before he died, when he found communication very difficult. I was showing him pictures from the Rosslyn Chapel calendar which had been very thoughtfully sent to him the previous Christmas. To my delight, his face lit up as he looked at the photos of people he recognised – the most positive response I had seen from him for some time. Visitors travel from all over the world to visit this beautiful and unique building; those visiting on a weekday may not realise that it is also the spiritual home of a wonderfully friendly and supportive congregation.

When Tim moved to a care home near Carlisle, close to where Stephen and I live, he enjoyed attending services at Carlisle Cathedral; as had been the case at Rosslyn, he took comfort from receiving communion and from the familiarity of the liturgy and the hymns, some of which he was able to sing from memory. We are indebted to Kate, one of the cathedral staff, who continued to visit him at the care home when he was no longer able to attend services in the cathedral.

So we come together today with sadness, yes, as we all miss Tim very much, but also with a profound sense of gratitude for the rich quality of his life, for his faith, for the example, the unconditional love and the many opportunities he gave us as his children, and for the support, care and kindness showed by so many during his long, final illness. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

And finally...

Christmas Viewing

Anyone looking for a quiet movie night in over Christmas can enjoy spotting our very own Tim Barrow in a Netflix film!



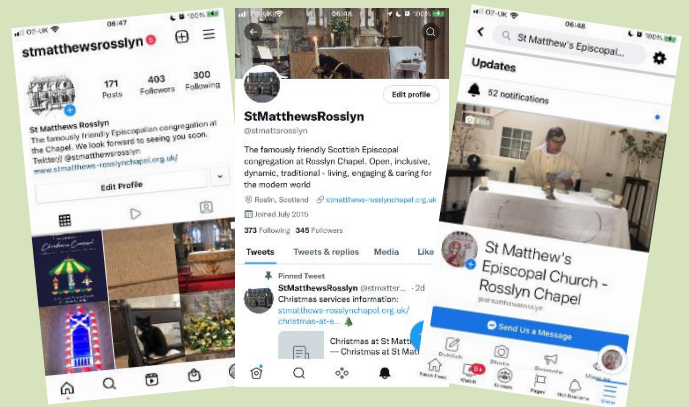
Arran's New Job!

Speaking of Children's Church graduates, Arran was looking great in the Chapel as our newest acolyte



Communications Group

Our communications team disbanded a few years back and we are looking to resurrect this. If anyone is interested in getting involved in producing Grapevine, our newsletter, helping with social media or has any bright ideas for keeping our congregation up to date with what's going on as well as reaching out to our ever-growing Roslin community and wider global congregation please contact Jacqui Roulston



The Music Man

To echo Sue's note of thanks at the AGM – our thanks to Phillip Kear our organist who has continued to take all the changes and restrictions on music at services throughout covid in his stride!



RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS

TEN APPROACHES



ADVERTISING



MAKING SUBTLE REFERENCES



GETTING EXISTING VOLUNTEERS TO BRING FRIENDS



TARGETING INDIVIDUALS



MAKING THREATS



PRAYER



BRIBERY



FLATTERY



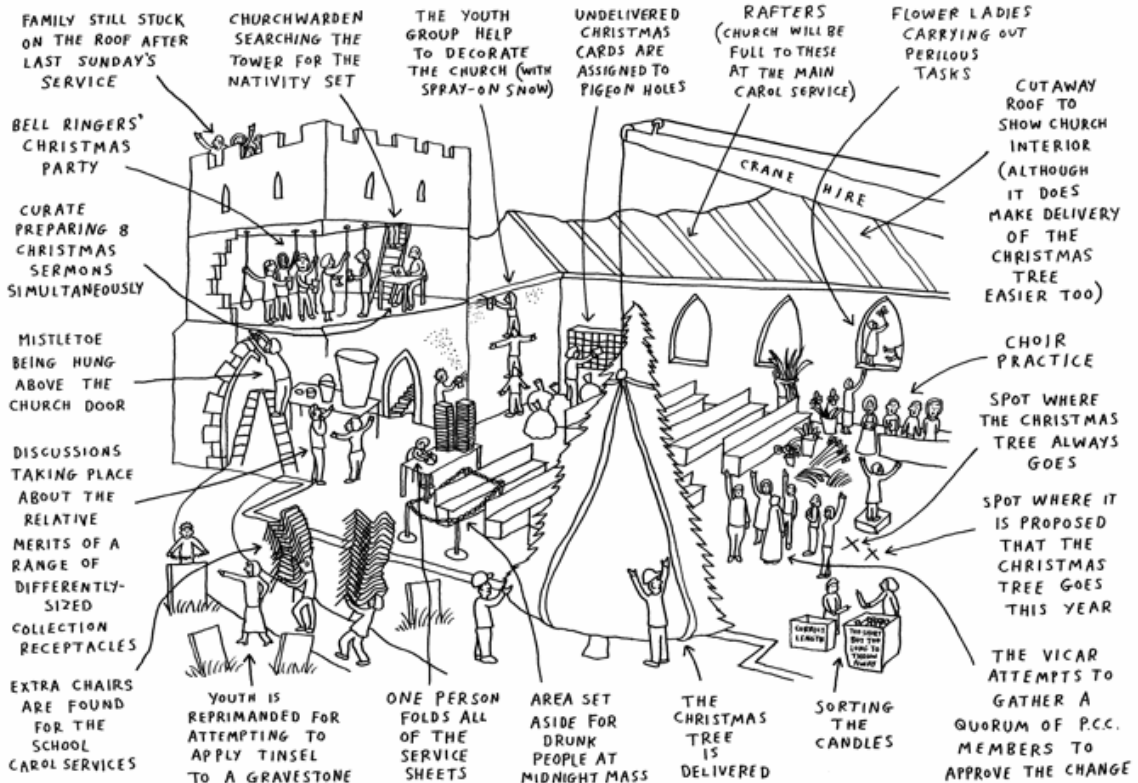
USING A CARROT



USING A STICK

CartoonChurch.com

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS



CartoonChurch.com

SERVICES

Date	DAY	SERVICE	TIME
All services below are subject to change based on direction from the Scottish Episcopal Diocesan guidelines and the Scottish government directives			
19 December	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
24 December	Friday	Christmas Carousel (Children's event – see poster) Midnight Mass	3pm 11.30pm
25 December	Saturday	Christmas Day Family Eucharist	10.30am
26 December	Sunday	St Stephen's Day Eucharist	10.30am
2 January	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
9 January	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
16 January	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
23 January	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
30 January	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
6 February	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
13 February	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
20 February	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am
27 February	Sunday	Eucharist	10.30am

Please note that we are reviewing Children's Church and when this will restart and in what format.

WHO'S WHO AT ST. MATTHEW'S	
Ministry team	
Revd Dr Joe Roulston <i>Priest in Charge</i>	0131 654 1068
Harry Stoddart <i>Lay Reader</i>	-
Vestry	
James Cardwell Moore <i>Chair of Vestry</i>	0131 448 1935
Mike Fitchett <i>Vestry Secretary</i>	0131 440 4569
Ian McLeish <i>Treasurer</i>	0131 667 6561
Doris Nelson <i>People's Warden</i>	-
Harry Stoddart <i>Lay Representative</i>	-
Shonagh Toulouse <i>Priest's Warden</i>	0131 629 9020
Belle Dieckfoss <i>Alternate Lay Representative</i>	0131 440 2824
Jo Barrow	0131 440 2136
Lyn Smith	-
Roger Whait	07593 641724
Jill Black <i>Sacristan</i>	0131 443 2116
Domhnull Dean <i>Sacristan</i>	0754 0657 360
Jacqui Roulston <i>Grapevine editor</i>	0131 654 1068
Sue Fitchett <i>Flowers</i>	0131 440 4569
Rosslyn Chapel Trust	0131 440 2159