



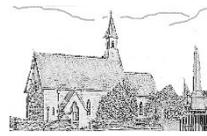
Holy Trinity



St Andrew's



Kilmaveonaig



All Saints'

The Newsletter of Highland Perthshire Linked Charge

**HOLY TRINITY, Pitlochry
KILMAVEONAIG, Blair Atholl
ST ANDREW'S, Strathtay
& ALL SAINTS', Kinloch Rannoch
SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES**

**Rector - The Reverend Canon Liz Baker
01796 472005**



SPRING 2026

March, April & May



'Snowdrops at Kilmaveonaig' photo by John Martin



Rector's Reflections Spring 2026

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

I write to you today about endings and beginnings. As we journey towards Holy Week and Good Friday we come to that sorrowful moment on Christ's journey which ends with the Cross. What comes after, of course, is the beginning, the Resurrection, the Ascension and the beginning of the life of the Church with the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

I too am coming to an ending and a new beginning, on the 1st of March there will only be 9 Sundays before it is time to say goodbye and begin a new life in retirement in Blairgowrie.

I have been reflecting on how Jesus must have felt knowing that he was leaving his followers, because it is very hard to walk away from you all after what I can only describe as a wonderful 11 years, which I have had the privilege of sharing with you.

For you too it will be a new beginning, as you work through the next few months to prepare for your new Rector, and as you plan a future for the Charge.

I have chosen to reflect on the words above from Micah in my last reflection to you all, because for many years they have been for me a template of what we are called to be and to do as Christians.

Our world can be a cruel and dangerous place, too many people are following a path of hatred and division, and who knows where this will end. As people of faith we owe it to all those who will come after us to care about justice, to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to treat all we meet as if they are Christ himself. To love kindness, the cruelty of the cross has not faded in centuries, people are still metaphorically crucified every day, and yet a kind word or gesture can make such a difference, think of the woman who wiped the bloody and suffering face of Jesus on the Via Dolorosa, every small act of care and compassion that we do can be life changing for someone.

To walk humbly with God is so hard and yet, I know how much you all care for your communities and the people around you, you serve with

generosity and patience. The love that you share and the lack of arrogance that you display, shows your basic humility, which means that your new Rector will be truly blessed to have such congregations.

Our churches are places of welcome and inclusion, displaying the love and care that God gives to all people, all creatures and to creation.

Now I do not know, and I am not going to predict, where your new beginning will take you; that is for the future, your future. Just remember, neither did the disciples on that first Easter Morning. George Macleod wrote that 'becoming a Christian is a total affair, a mind-spirit-soul-body affair, a total immersion.

The disciples found that to be true, they realised that following Christ is a whole life experience, so my prayer for you all, as I write this, is that your journey, (as a community of churches in Highland Perthshire, and as individuals), will bring you to a place of blessing, strength, wisdom and compassion.

Thank you for sharing part of that journey with me.

Love and blessings
Liz Baker February 2026



*Photo taken in December last year when Liz and the Bishop were recording a Christmas video greeting to our partner diocese of Amazonia
Submitted by John Martin*

The Reverend Canon Liz Baker

After eleven years it is the time to reflect on the ministry Liz has offered us. Liz has always been keen to develop a team to facilitate ministry and when anyone is brought into that team I have always warned them about the early morning phone call when Liz says "I've had an idea". This usually means that you will be involved in an interesting and time-consuming activity. Under Liz's leadership a large number of new projects have developed some long lasting, some brief. The Serenity Garden is most notable for its benefit to the community and the opportunity for non church goers to be included. We have had prayer walks, outdoor stations of the cross, evensong at Weem Church, co-operation with the theatre, house group and a developing relationship with other churches in the area leading to joint services and the memorable time when Holy Trinity was flooded and she was able to celebrate in the Roman Catholic church. Liz has been closely associated with activities in the Province and the Diocese which has kept us in touch with the latest thinking in the Scottish Episcopal Church. The training of Rachael for three years brought a new dimension for all the churches and under Liz's supervision Rachel's ministry blossomed which gave all the churches great benefits.

Churches are living bodies and Liz has seen the wisdom of creating really welcoming spaces for our worship: thanks to Andrew, Kilmaveonaig has a wonderful log burner, St.Andrew's has felled the trees hiding the church and opened up a small orchard and Holy Trinity has started a major reordering to make the space flexible. Congregations also develop, some members leaving for pastures new, others joining and bringing new skills and enthusiasm. All our churches are noted for their friendliness and welcome, offering coffee, cake, sherry and companionship and this can only happen with caring leadership.

We will miss Liz's enthusiasm and wish her all the best for "retirement" although I have warned her that retirement can be very busy and no doubt she will be drawn in to all sorts of activities in the next few years. We all thank her for the time she has devoted to us and the way in which she has allowed us to develop as a linked charge.

Lesley Whitwood



DUNKELD AREA COUNCIL MEETING - 18th APRIL 2026 at St. Mary's CHURCH, Birnam, 10.00 TO 1.00PM

A meeting of the Dunkeld Area Council has been arranged for Saturday 18th April at St Mary's. Bring a packed Lunch to share. All are welcome to attend , Area Councils are part of the governance of the diocese, but are also a way to enabling us to get to know each other and share our stories. Those in ministry and Lay Reps are asked (if available) to attend but all are welcome. If you would like a lift on 18th April contact Liz. 01796 472005

EASTER SERVICES

Holy Trinity Holy Week & Easter

Monday of Holy Week 1pm Prayers for Human Flourishing at the Painting of 'The Lord's Supper, in the Churchyard, followed by a simple lunch of Soup and Bread. Collection for **The Bishops Lent Appeal** supporting Christian Aid in their work with communities in Burkina Faso being devastated by Climate Change.

Maundy Thursday 8 pm Eucharist of the Lord's Supper, with Washing and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday 12.00 noon – 2 pm Silent Prayer and Meditation, 2pm to 3pm The Final Hour

Holy Saturday 8 pm The Easter Vigil

Easter Day 9.30 am Communion of Easter Day

St Andrews Holy Week & Easter

Good Friday 2pm The Final Hour

Easter Day 11.15am Easter Communion

Kilmaveonaig Holy Week & Easter

Good Friday 7pm Service of Prayer & Meditation

Easter Day 11.15am Easter Eucharist

All Saints Holy Week & Easter

Wednesday of Holy Week 2.30pm to 4pm Stations of the Cross

Sunday 19th April 9.30am Holy Communion

Zoom Services

Holy Week – The Journey to the Cross 10.30am Morning Prayer Monday to Wednesday & Good Friday

On the afternoon of Sunday 15th February we welcomed Bishop Ian to Holy Trinity for an evensong with Confirmation and to acknowledge the authorisation of 3 new Worship Leaders for the Highland Perthshire Linked Charge.

It was a lovely occasion with family and friends attending, beautiful singing by the Choir arranged by our Lay Reader Lesley, and plenty of cake for the small celebration after the service.



Bishop Ian, Reverend Canon Liz Baker with John Martin & Mary Barclay. Two of our newest Lay Worship Leaders, sadly the third of our Lay Worship Leaders, Alison Wyllie was still recovering from a hospital stay.

Bishop Ian, Gary Merralls & Paul Whalen, after Gary's Confirmation. Gary and Paul will be married at Holy Trinity on 25th April.



Photos by Seonaid



On Thursday 26th February the **HPLC Lenten Lunch** was very kindly held at the home of Lavinia Gordon of Kilmaveonaig Church, Blair Atholl.

Reverend Ross Stirling Young talked to us about his work with the Arumina Hospice in the Diocese of Calcutta and his links with the children who live at the Hospice.

Delicious soup, fabulous bread, spectacular cakes, and coffee and tea were served.

A very generous raffle of donated gifts and goodies was held, and £300 was donated from the Lunch and Raffle to the Arumina Hospice.

Many thanks to Lavinia for her wonderful hospitality and to all those who donated prizes, whether they were able to come to the lunch or not.

For more information on Ross's work with the hospice in Calcutta please see below his report of his 4th and most recent visit to the hospice in the Diocese of Calcutta.

[Diocese of Calcutta Report from Visit to the Arumina Hospice November 2025 – The Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane](#)



Please give as generously as you can in 2026 to my **LENT APPEAL** supporting **CHRISTIAN AID** in their work with communities in **BURKINA FASO** in north-west Africa, being devastated by drought caused by **CLIMATE CHANGE**.

With my thanks and blessing for a holy Lent and a joyful Easter.

+ the Sisters

Climate Change and Burkina Faso

In an area where a changing climate has been expanding the Sahara Desert southwards, securing local agricultural resilience is important both in the lives of local communities, and globally for our shared environment.

Burkina Faso is one of the poorest countries in the world, with more than 40% of the population living in poverty. The country also remains one of the most vulnerable, impacted by climate change, armed conflict and political instability.



The Centre-North and Sahel regions are especially vulnerable, and a humanitarian crisis is fast unfolding. Local communities are witnessing increasingly erratic and damaging weather patterns and events, including droughts, flooding, epizootic disease and locust attacks. For a population reliant on agriculture, who depend on crop and livestock production for their income and food, this is devastating.



in Burkina Faso

In this part of north-west Africa, where the changing climate has been expanding the Sahara Desert southwards, local agricultural resilience is needed for local communities, and for our shared environment. Christian Aid and its partners are working with local communities to enable them to adapt and change to meet the crisis being caused by climate change.

Working in the Centre-North and Sahel regions of Burkina Faso, this Christian Aid project, working with local churches and other partners, is aiming to reach about 10,000 people in 14 communities.

The project will bring a range of long-lasting benefits:

- **Improved and strengthened livelihoods**, with more diverse and sustainable income and opportunities. This will help people to meet their basic needs and to reduce levels of poverty, as well as building their resilience.
- **Greater food security and improved nutrition** through improved shared action and education, as well as the creation of jobs and monthly cash payments to the most vulnerable.
- **Improved environmental management and sustainability**, through training to ensure the better use and management of natural resources, as well as adapting techniques and approaches to become resilient to climate change.
- **More peaceful, stable and secure communities** thanks to a range of activities aimed at strengthening social and living conditions, as well as boosting peace and cooperation amongst neighbours.



More information can be found at

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/our-work/where-we-work/burkina-faso>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION TO THE LENT APPEAL 2026.

Please send it to your Scottish Episcopal Church Treasurer
or by Bank transfer to:

Diocese of St Andrews Lent Appeal (SC017654)
Sort Code: 82-68-31
Account No: 00187750
using Ref. 'Lent Appeal 2026'.

Easter time One way to celebrate at this time of year is to make Simnel Cake & Hot Cross Buns



Simnel Cake, is a light fruit cake, which containing eggs, is a symbol of life. The cake is made with 11 balls of marzipan to represent the Apostles, not including Judas.

The cake is a very straightforward fruit cake, where the fruit is soaked before adding to the rest of the mixture. A simple, yet a delightful Easter bake that will enhance any celebration at this time of year.



Hot Cross Buns are the more traditional Lenten delicacy , particularly Good Friday, as they symbolise the crucifixion of our Lord. The eating of hot cross buns signifies the end of the Lenten fast. The tradition spans from the 21th century when a monk made them as an honour to Good Friday.

The recipe is a essentially a bread one, with spices and fruit to give depth to the buns produced.

Hot cross buns

Preparation 30 mins

Proving: 1 hour

Cook: 20 mins 200C/180C fan/gas 6.

Ingredients:

For the buns

300ml full-fat milk

plus 2 tbsp more

50g butter

500g strong bread flour

1 tsp salt

75g caster sugar

1 tbsp sunflower oil

7g sachet fast-action or easy-blend yeast

1 egg beaten

75g sultanas

50g mixed peel

zest 1 orange

1 apple, peeled, cored and finely chopped

1 tsp ground cinnamon

1 tsp mixed spice

For the cross

75g plain flour

plus extra for dusting

For the glaze

3 tbsp apricot jam

Method

Boil milk, remove from heat; add butter and cool to hand-warm. In a bowl, combine flour, sugar & yeast. Add the milk mixture and 1 beaten egg. Mix to a sticky dough. Knead on a floured surface for 5 mins until smooth. Place in an oiled bowl, cover, and let rise 1 hr until doubled.

Add sultanas, mixed peel, orange zest, chopped apple, cinnamon and mixed spice. Knead to distribute. Cover and rise again for 1 hr. Divide into 15 balls (about 75g each). Place on lined trays with space to expand. Cover and prove 1 hr.

Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. Mix 75g plain flour with 5 tbsp water to make a thick paste. Pipe crosses over the buns. Bake 18–20 mins until golden (lower tray may need slightly longer).

Simmel Cake

Heat oven to

Preparation: 30 mins

Cook: 2 hrs 150C/130C fan/gas 2.

Ingredients:

250g mixed dried fruit

1 orange zested and juiced

500g pack marzipan

250g pack butter softened

200g light brown soft sugar

4 eggs plus 1 beaten to glaze

175g plain flour

100g ground almonds

1 tsp baking powder

1 lemon zested

2 tsp mixed spice

1 tsp vanilla extract

100g glacé cherries

halved

3 tbsp apricot jam

Method

Soak the dried fruit in orange juice, zest and 2 tbsp water. Microwave 2 mins (or gently heat in a pan) and let cool completely.

Heat oven to 150C/130C fan/gas 2. Roll out one-third of the marzipan and cut a 20cm circle. Line the tin. Beat butter and sugar, then add eggs, flour, almonds, baking powder, lemon zest, mixed spice and vanilla. Stir in soaked fruit and fold in cherries.

Put half the batter in the tin, add the marzipan disc, then the rest of the batter. Bake 2 hrs, checking with a skewer and adding 10 mins if needed. Cool 15 mins in the tin, then fully on a rack.

Brush the cake with apricot jam. Roll out half the remaining marzipan, cut another disc and place on top. Shape 11 marzipan balls and arrange around the edge. Brush with egg and grill briefly until lightly caramelised. Cool and decorate with ribbon if you like. Keeps up to a week in a sealed tin.

A Serenity Garden Update from Pam Godwin

The winter months have not been kind to us gardeners – rain, rain and more rain interspersed with snow, frozen ground and the occasional flood!

However, during the winter months, Lorna, one of our volunteers constructed a squirrel feeder on one of the trees at the rear of the garden, which has succeeded in bringing a new squirrel family to the garden – mummy, daddy and no less than three baby squirrels! A new wildlife video camera has been set up opposite the feeder and has captured some lovely shots of the baby squirrels as well as a whole host of different birds.

After such a wet and dismal start to the year, we are now looking forward to the Spring. The faithful snowdrops seem oblivious to the bad weather and have popped up all over the churchyard and the daffodils are beginning to show their heads on the bank and under the hedge – a good sign that Spring is on its way.

Happy gardening x



All photos taken with the video cameras and submitted by Lorna and Pam





The Bishop with Liz at the Opening of The Serenity Garden 2019



(above) Harvest Festival, October 2020 during the Covid epidemic (& below)



The Bishop with Liz & Rachael



Baptism of Jessie at Holy Trinity 2021

**Gallery
2015 - 2026
Eleven years of memories**



(above) Zoom Service during the pandemic



Harvest Festival Lunch - St Andrew's



HPLC Pilgrimage to Iona 2017



Liz visiting Calcutta



**February March 2015 (right)
Liz & Robin Baker featured in our Newsletter
two weeks after Liz's inauguration**

MUSIC IN BLAIR ATHOLL 2026

www.musicinblairatholl.org.uk

We continue our Scottish traditional theme but this time with fiddle and cello – a truly lovely combination as you will discover.

ALASTAIR SAVAGE - *fiddle* & ALICE ALLAN - *cello*

Saturday 7th March at 6.00pm at Blair Atholl Village Hall

“Their music skips across the genres – Folk music from Scotland and beyond, featuring classic Scots fiddle melodies alongside original compositions featured in the duo’s groundbreaking 2024 album

Where the Good Ship Lands

Tickets £20 - £10 for under 16s

all proceeds will go to

The Scottish Association for Children with Heart Disorders.

Tickets are available from www.musicinblairatholl.org.uk and at the door

Further information from alaviniaagordon@gmail.com

or 07850 268820.

There will be a pay bar and cheese biscuits .

NEXT DATES FOR THE DIARY:

THE 33rd ANNUAL RECITAL BY STUDENTS FROM THE YEHUDI MENUHIN SCHOOL

FRIDAY 1st MAY AT 6.30pm - THE KIRK OF THE CANONGATE,
EDINBURGH

SUNDAY 3rd MAY at 3pm AT BLAIR CASTLE (Preceded by The Friends' Lunch at the Steading, Lude, Blair Atholl.)

CANONGATE CONCERT TICKETS £15/£7.50 CASTLE CONCERT £20/£10



Music in Blair Atholl was set up some 30 years ago as a small organisation with charitable status to bring classical music of a high standard to the Highlands of Scotland where it had little representation. At that stage Sebastian and Henrietta Thewes were living at Strathgarry where they had converted 18th Century farm buildings to include a small concert hall seating 100 ("A musical jewel off the A9" – The Scotsman). Since the sale of Strathgarry our concerts moved to Lude House, Blair Atholl, home of Andrew and Lavinia Gordon, and have now moved to the Ballroom of Blair Castle, with occasional concerts at The Village Hall and Kilmaveonaig Church, Blair Atholl.

As a charity (SC017667), Music in Blair Atholl survives only by donations from its Friends. Ticket prices never exceed costs. To become a Friend costs £50 per year or £80 for a couple and entitles you to a delicious lunch with wine, before a selected concert.

Happy Easter

*Christ
is
Risen!*

Highland Perthshire Linked Charge

Holy Trinity Church is a Registered Scottish Charity No SC007020
Kilmaveonaig is a Registered Scottish Charity No SC005481
St Andrew's is a Registered Scottish Charity No SC017058
All Saints' is a Registered Scottish Charity No SC003117

Contacts



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Holy Trinity & All Saints' Vestry

The Rector		
Robin Baker	<i>Secretary/Treasurer/Investments</i>	01796 472005
Gina Charleson	<i>Lay Rep./Rector's Warden</i>	01796 473025
Ann Covell	<i>People's Warden</i>	01796 470129
Paul Covell	<i>Technical Co-ord.</i>	01796 470129
Val Holton	<i>Zero Carbon Co-ord.</i>	01796 549235
Agnes Keegan	<i>Fabric Convenor</i>	01796 549235
Peter Wickes	<i>Alt. Lay Representative</i>	01796 635139
Pam Godwin (co-opted)	<i>Serenity Garden Co-ord.</i>	01796 482826
John Martin (co-opted)	<i>Archiving / Kilmaveonaig Rep.</i>	07801 233412
Carol Powell	<i>All Saints' Rep.</i>	01882 634205
Charlotte Baker	<i>(All Saints') PVG Co-ord.</i>	07940 907712

Kilmaveonaig Committee

The Rector

Lavinia Gordon	<i>Secretary</i>	01796 481230
Duncan Gordon	<i>Treasurer</i>	01796 481642
Pam Godwin	<i>Lay Rep.</i>	01796 482826
John Martin	<i>Alt. Lay Rep.</i>	07801 233412

St Andrew's Vestry

The Rector

Lesley Whitwood	<i>Lay Reader & Secretary</i>	01887 840416
Jennifer Valentine	<i>Rector's Warden & PVG</i>	01796 474444
Mary Barclay	<i>People's Warden</i>	
Alison Wyllie	<i>Lay Representative</i>	
Loretta Davis Reynolds	<i>Treasurer</i>	01887 840266
Angela Gibbs		01887 840223
Sue Sherriff		01887 840332
Roger Pope (Vacancy)	<i>Fabric Convenor</i>	

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[HPLC Webpage](#)

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Copy for the Summer issue to the Editor

by

Noon on Monday 25th May

We cover many of the notices weekly in the pew sheet but the newsletter allows opportunity for interesting and relevant articles, posters for special occasions such as fairs, special lunches, Festivals (Christmas!) and reports etc. Also, In Memoriam obituaries. Most welcome are poems, stories, accounts, historical items linked to the Charge and anything you may feel might interest others.

Scottish Episcopal Church HIGHLAND PERTSHIRE LINKED CHARGE SERVICES

Holy Trinity, Perth Road, Pitlochry & **All Saints'** Kinloch Rannoch
Contact – Robin Baker - 01796 472005

Kilmaveonaig (St Adamnan's) Blair Atholl
Contact - Mrs. Lavinia Gordon 01796 481230

St Andrew's, Strathtay
Contact - Ms. Lesley Whitwood 01887 840416

Usual Service Times

Holy Trinity 9.30am
St Andrews 11.15am
Kilmaveonaig 11.15am
All Saints – 9.30am 1st Sunday of month

ONLINE ZOOM SERVICES

Sundays - 6.00pm Evening Services
Thursdays - 10.30am Morning Prayer – from Holy Trinity

Events

Holy Trinity Serenity Garden Group – Tuesdays 11.00am and Open Church with Coffee and Conversation. All welcome

St Andrew's House Group – Last Wednesday of the month contact Ms. Lesley Whitwood 01887 840416 for details

Sundays and other Festivals

March	April	May
Sun1 Lent 2	Thu 2 Maundy Thursday	Fri 1 St Philip &
Sun 8 Lent 3	Fri 3 Good Friday	St James Apostles
Sun 15 Lent 4	Sat 4 Holy Saturday	Sun 3 Easter 5
Thu 19 St Joseph	Easter Vigil	Sun 10 Easter 6
Sun 22 Lent 5	Sun5 Easter Day	Thu 14 Ascension Day
Wed 25	Sun12 Easter 2	Sun 17 Easter 7
The Annunciation	Sun 19 Easter 3	Sun 24 Pentecost &
Sun 29 Sunday of the	Sat 25 St Mark Evangelist	Whitsunday
Passion	Sun 26 Easter 4	Sun 31 Pentecost 1
Palm Sunday		
Mon 30 Holy Week		