



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**



**Summer 2023 (June-August)**



*Photograph: Mhairi Hastie Smith*

## Rector's Reflection - For the Beauty of the Earth



I am constantly reminded of the beauty and wonder all around us; last week on a quick visit to the Highland Wildlife Park with young Jessie, we were lucky to see 3 of the Wildcat kittens recently born there, and today, 31<sup>st</sup> May, after the House group and beautiful walk through bluebell woods in Strathtay, as well as feeling grateful to be alive and to be lucky enough to live in such a beautiful environment, the awareness that our world is so fragile kept surfacing.

Whether you believe in the Climate Crisis or not you cannot fail to see the impact humanity has had on the planet, the abuse of soils and earth's resources, the cruelty that makes our fellow creatures suffer, die and even become extinct.

Human beings have damaged creation and as Christians we should be aware that all created reality has its origin in God 'the Creator'.

I personally am drawn to the teachings and spirituality of St Francis of Assisi who understood the whole world as relational, sister, mother, and brother with God as Father. One of St. Francis of Assisi's legacies was his great insight that God reveals Himself in the beauty and diversity of nature. As such, creation is the primary revelation of God, and St. Francis loved it because he saw in it, God's handiwork.

This links with the Celtic Tradition in which God speaks through two books, the Bible and the book of Creation, and this short prayer by Thomas Merton should help us to see creation not as separate from ourselves or from God but part of the whole.

*Open our eyes, Lord, as we walk through this world,  
feel the wind and sunshine,  
see the majesty of creation unfolding before our eyes.  
Help us to see you. Amen*

As Linda Hogan (a Chickasaw Poet and Novelist in 'Dwellings') writes  
'the land and every life form is a part of God, a divine community,  
with the same forces of creation in plants and well as humans'.

A prayer to use during summer days -

*May your summer days and the time you spend in creation  
refresh your spirits and help you come closer to God.*

*O Holy Spirit, who gives life and moves in all things.*

*Help us to find your radiant life in all creation,*

*in all that lives; In the wind that blows; in the air we breathe;*

*In the earth we walk upon.*

*Help us to find the presence of God in all things and all things in God.*

*Amen*

Blessings to you all

Liz Baker

May 2023



Photographs Liz Baker

Bluebells at Strathtay  
Wildcat at Highland Wildlife Park, Kingussie

## **In the Garden**

Whilst on the theme of Creation in this edition, I wondered how many of you have walked around the Serenity Garden looking for carved creatures that are in the garden and churchyard. See if you can find them and the 2 birds within the church.

### **OUR WONDERFUL WILDLIFE**

We have many animals and birds that visit the garden and the churchyard when it is quiet. See if you can find some of the carved creatures that are in the garden and churchyard. Can you find ?

#### **1 Blackbird**

*The common blackbird is a species of true thrush. It is also called the Eurasian blackbird, or simply the blackbird. Commonly seen in gardens and woodland.*

#### **2 Butterflies**

*Butterflies are insects.. Adult butterflies have large, often brightly coloured wings, and conspicuous, fluttering flight.*

#### **2 Magpies**

*Magpies are birds of the Corvidae (Crow) family. Like other members of their family, they are widely considered to be intelligent creatures. The Eurasian magpie, is one of the few non-mammal species able to recognize itself in a mirror test.*

#### **1 Mouse**

*A mouse is a small mammal. The best known mouse species is the common house mouse. Mice are also popular as pets.*

#### **2 Otters**

*Otters are carnivorous mammals that are all semiaquatic, with diets based on fish and invertebrates. They are a branch of the Mustelidae family, which also includes weasels, badgers, mink, and wolverines, among other animals.*

#### **2 Owls**

*Owls are nocturnal birds of prey typified by an upright stance, a large, broad head, binocular vision, binaural hearing, sharp talons, and feathers adapted for silent flight.*

#### **1 Salmon**

*Salmon are native to tributaries of the North Atlantic and Pacific Ocean. Check the Salmon Ladder at Pitlochry Dam if you want to see a real one.*

#### **1 Snail**

*A snail is, in loose terms, a shelled gastropod. (They are Invertebrates and fond of raiding the vegetable garden)*

The cat is a domestic species of small carnivorous mammal. It is the only domesticated species in the family Felidae and is commonly referred to as the domestic cat or house cat to distinguish it from the wild members of the family. ( The Scottish Wildcat ((*Felis silvestris silvestris*) is one of our rarest and most threatened mammals. Once widespread, wildcats are now on the brink of extinction in Scotland.

**Lord's Prayer - A new way to pray the Our Father  
that I would like to share:**

from [https://cac.org/daily-meditations/the-  
divine-strategy](https://cac.org/daily-meditations/the-divine-strategy)

"Our Father, who are in heaven and whose essence permeates every molecule in the universe, Holy are all Your Names! May your kingdom come, may Your will be done throughout the universe as it already is in Heaven.

Please give each of us humans, plants, drops of water, pieces of the earth, sea creatures, creatures of the air, and all animals what we need for this day for our bodies, our minds, our hearts, and our spirits.

Please forgive us our sins, and help us forgive ourselves, those who trigger us, or sin against us, or sin against people we love, or sin against any vulnerable person, and please protect us from being seduced by temptations, but deliver us from evil in all its forms, for yours is the only kingdom I want and You are deserving of all my faith, awe, respect and love now and forever,

Amen

**EVENTS AND SERVICES**  
**June, July & August**  
**(Further details to follow)**

<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>2.00 to 4.00pm Strawberry Tea at Holy Trinity</b>
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Grandtully Gala</b>
<b>Wedne 14<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>2.00 to 4.00pm</b> <b>Quiet Afternoon at Angela's Fishing Hut</b>
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	<b>Open Garden at Gina's</b>
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Joint Charge Service at All Saints Kinloch Rannoch</b>

**REGULAR SERVICES**

**Holy Trinity Church**

Holy Trinity is open daily during daylight hours

**Sunday services** – Normally 9.30am Holy Communion or All Age Communion

**Thursday Services** – 10.30am Morning Prayer also on zoom

**2<sup>nd</sup> July Open Garden** at Gina's

**Kilmaveonaig (St Adamnan's Church)**

Kilmaveonaig is open daily throughout the year

**Sundays at 11.15am** – First Sunday All Age Communion third Sundays, Holy Communion. Second and fourth Sundays Matins/ Morning Prayer or Communion by Extension

**St Andrew's, Church, Strathtay**

**Sundays at 11.15am** - First Sundays Mattins, second and fourth Sundays Holy Communion; third Sundays Service of the Word/ Communion by Extension; fifth Sundays Joint Service Church of Scotland.

**All Saints, Kinloch Rannoch**

**2<sup>nd</sup> July 9.30am** Holy Communion

**30<sup>th</sup> July 10.30am** – Joint Charge Service

**6<sup>th</sup> August 9.30am** Holy Communion



# **Gina's Open Garden**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> July 2.30 to 4.30pm**

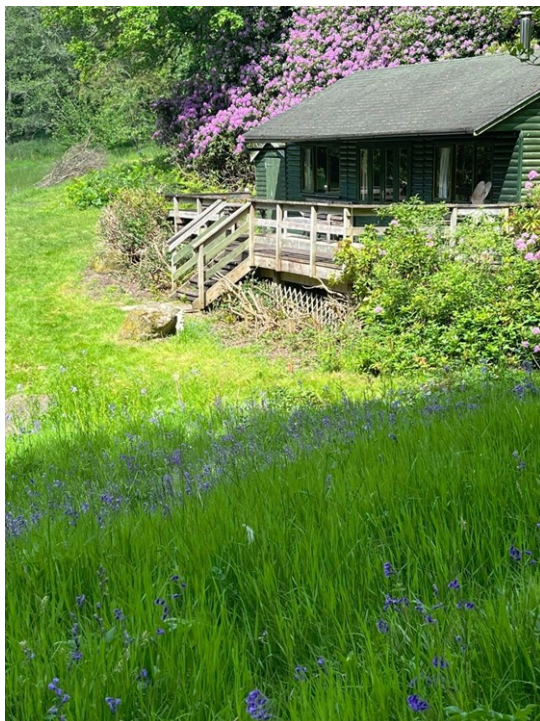
*Donations for Serenity Garden & CHAS*  
*All Welcome*



### **Message from Editor**

As of now Liz and I have decided to publish the Newsletter four times a year - every three months - to match the Seasons.

Summer Issue	June, July & August
Autumn Issue	September, October, November
Winter issue	December, January, February
Spring issue	March, April, May



**HIGHLAND PERTSHIRE LINKED  
CHARGE  
QUIET AFTERNOON  
FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH**  
*FINDING GOD IN CREATION*  
**2.00 TO 4.00PM**  
**14<sup>th</sup> JUNE**  
**AT**  
**THE FISHING HUT**  
*Donations for St Andrews*



**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Visit of**  
**Rt.Reverend Paritosh Canning**  
**( Bishop Of Calcutta )**  
**to Pitlochry**

In July the Bishop of Calcutta  
and a small group are visiting  
The Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane.

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July they will visit Pitlochry because of its close links with Kolkata through Alexander Duff who was born here.

Bishop Paritosh visited us in 2017 as Chaplain to the then Bishop of the Diocese of Calcutta and it will be lovely to welcome him again.

We are organising a day of events and visits and anyone who has an interest or a connection with Kolkata or West Bengal - please contact Liz.



## The Bell of St Andrew's, Strathtay

I have previously written about the bell at Kilmaveonaig and the lack of bells at Holy Trinity, so I thought I would bore you some more with a little information on the bell at St Andrew's. The marvellous thing about this bell is just how easy it is to access. It once was in a wooden belfry above the old porch but when the porch was rebuilt, the bell was moved to a splendid free-standing wooden bellcote in the church grounds in 1995. This work was made possible by a generous legacy left by Mrs E.M. Ferguson-Smith who is commemorated on a plaque on the structure. It is all at ground level, so very easy to visit and to ring.

The bell is about 356mm (14 inches) in diameter. The inscription reads "St John's Foundry, Perth, 1849." I was quite delighted to find a locally made bell, and more so because St John's Foundry still exists! Well, it no longer makes bells but is a restaurant-bar situated by the bus station in Perth. (Their mushroom pie is yummy!) The foundry was well-known for producing manhole covers and its walls now have many photographs and drawings of the old foundry. As you can see from the photograph, the casting is rather rough but the bell has a very pleasing tone.

*John Martin*





## **Update from the HPLC climate change group**

It seems no time since the last newsletter when we were updating you on the SEC's net zero strategy consultation! But since then, our group met again on 10<sup>th</sup> May. We're sad to have lost Sue Hoare from St Andrew's and are keen to have someone else from St Andrew's to join us..... anyone interested? The other folks who come to the group are: Pam Goodwin, Ann Covell, Peter & Mary Wickes, Jean Kirby, Benita Wylie, Agnes Keegans & Val Holtom.

A few things we're looking to take forward:

- Starting a WhatsApp group to encourage car sharing. The idea would be that people who have a car & can offer lifts use it to let people know when they're going somewhere & can provide a ride – and anyone who needs to go somewhere can post on the group that they're looking for a lift, and see if anyone's going their way and can provide one. We thought it would be useful for church, trips to Perth or Dundee, or even locally around Pitlochry, Dunkeld, Aberfeldy etc. Obviously it will depend on people joining the group to make it work, so we'll be asking around over the next wee while to see if people are interested.
- Recycling – all our churches now have basic recycling, but we're interested in looking at other items. You may already know that if you have old glasses (eyeglasses, that is!), then Agnes will take them from you & deliver them to Specsavers for recycling. Similarly with blister packs from tablet, Agnes will take them from you & take them to Perth. We're also interested in finding a way of collecting coffee grounds from local coffee shops for people to use in their gardens... we're working on that one. If you have any other ideas for recycling, please let us know - & if you have glasses or blister packs for recycling, do get in touch with Agnes or leave them in the hall at Holy Trinity. Agnes will take them off your hands.
- We're looking to install a bike rack at Holy Trinity. A lot of people cycle past the church, & quite a few stop and come in to wander round the garden or church – but we thought it might encourage cyclists to stop and visit if we have somewhere for them to put their bikes. Escape Route have offered to supply us with a preloved bike rack- the serenity garden group are just working out where to put it!

/over

### **Perth and Kinross Mobility Strategy:**

People might be interested to know that Perth and Kinross is currently consulting on the development of a Mobility Strategy that will develop and manage everything to do with transport in the area over the next 10 years. The consultation is called "Let's talk transport" and will be open until 11<sup>th</sup> June. Here's the link, for anyone who's interested: [The Big Place Conversation – Let's Talk Transport](#)

### **Update on SEC's net zero strategy:**

The provincial environment group (PEG) are currently working on updating the net zero strategy following their consultation, and it will be discussed at General Synod in June. We hope and expect that the strategy will be finalised soon after that. You may have noticed that the SEC is currently looking to recruit a net zero delivery director – a post that will be closely followed by the appointment of net zero delivery managers for each diocese. These new posts will be responsible for driving & supporting the implementation of the strategy.

For us in Highland Perthshire, some of the things in the strategy that we need to start thinking about are:

- Moving towards renewable energy, i.e. making sure that we're on 100% renewable electricity contracts
- Insulating and draught-proofing our church buildings as effectively as we can
- A process to re-assess our carbon footprint in each church each year
- Establishing an area in each church to post climate change and net zero information - among other things, we'll be asked to publicly post information about our carbon footprint in each church building
- Getting the rectory to an EPC C rating: there are other challenges with the current rectory building and we are planning to organise a meeting in the summer to discuss options for the future of the rectory. It would be great to have people there from all our churches.
- Considering how we manage our churchyards to support biodiversity and sustainability – the provincial environment group will be developing guidance on this.

### **Summer tips for supporting biodiversity:**

So on that last point, as we're coming into summer, we thought it might be useful to share some summer tips from the NatureScot website to support and help restore biodiversity:

## **1. Go natural**

If you have paving, artificial grass or gravel in your garden, think about adding flowering pots or window boxes to encourage pollinators and other beasties to take refuge, and act as stepping stones for wildlife around urban areas. Help alleviate flooding in your local area by reducing the amount of paving in your garden.

## **2. Mow less**

And make a butterfly border. Reduce mowing to create an undisturbed wildflower patch, strip or meadow, and encourage your council to do the same at suitable green spaces. These create natural corridors for wildlife to move through towns and cities, and will continue to be important as our climate changes.

## **3. Love weeds**

Weeds may traditionally have a bad name, but many, such as dandelions provide food for all types of pollinators such as bees, butterflies, moths, hoverflies and beetles. Think of them as amazingly resilient wildflowers - rather than weeds! Get out a magnifying glass or take a close up photo to see how beautiful they are.

## **4. Start small**

Many plants do well in containers such as window boxes, pots and hanging baskets. Herbs such as lavender, rosemary, sage and thyme are popular with pollinators, and brighten life up!

## **5. Hedge not fence**

Hedgerows offer a habitat that fences can't match. Plant flowering trees and shrubs such as hazel, willow, blackthorn and hawthorn - these also allow wildlife to move through gardens.

## **6. Share cuttings**

Plants and seeds can be expensive, but for many pollinator friendly species, existing plants can be divided or new plants can be grown from cuttings and shared with friends and neighbours.

## **7. Be a lazy gardener**

Allow vegetation to dieback naturally - leave twigs, leaves and natural debris as shelter for insects and other wildlife. Leave seedheads - a food source for birds and homes for insects.

## **8. Help local birds**

Add a bird box and feeders to your garden or outdoor space. Feeders that attach to windows are available, and are a great way to observe local birds, particularly if you don't have a garden or are housebound. Chicks need protein to grow quickly so having more flowers to attract insects helps, and adding meal worms to bird feeders provides a snack for hungry chicks!



## **9. Feed the soil**

63% of the total carbon locked in our soil is found in our peatlands - help conserve them by using only peat-free garden products. Use local farmyard manures and composts, or make your own. Avoid pesticides – great alternatives are available. Take a closer look, observe the wee beasties helping recycle our waste, control pests, and keep the nutrient cycle running.

## **10. Litter pick or beach clean**

When outdoors take a bag and pair of gloves and, where safe to do so, dispose of litter you find. Whether in our oceans, parks, rivers, or woods, it's dangerous to wildlife - animals get trapped or try to eat it. Much of our waste doesn't biodegrade so will stay in our natural environment for years! Get neighbours, friends and family involved and clean up your area.

## **11. Provide water**

Ponds attract wildlife such as frogs, bees, newts, and birds, and also help sustainably manage water in intense rainfall. A pond doesn't have to be a big outlay, even using a washing up bowl of water or saucer of water on a windowsill can help. Add twigs or stones for somewhere insects can rest above water.

## **12. Explore underwater**

With 41% of Scotland's population living within 5km of the coast, there's likely a great rock pooling site near you. Walk or cycle your net and buckets to the water's edge and see what you can find hiding between the rocks. Remember to put anything back you find.

## **13. Be a citizen scientist**

Get involved in this fun way to help your favourite wildlife. Submit sightings of birds, frogs, butterflies and more to the NatureScot website, to help us know where wildlife is (and isn't) and contribute to biodiversity and climate change research. Find something suitable on the NatureScot [list of projects](#).

## **14. Volunteer near and far**

This can be a fun way to make a difference, meet new friends and get outdoors. Find out more about NatureScot's [volunteering opportunities](#), or search on the [Volunteer Scotland](#) website. Take inspiration from [projects helping communities manage their local green spaces](#) or start your own.

### And finally, a **Prayer of Intercession for Creation**

Shining, light-bringing sun, you tell us about God. Let us conserve your energy carefully, limiting ourselves where we are rich that we may not all choke and burn and die.

Glowing, birth-announcing moon, you tell us about God. Let us honour your wisdom reverently, respecting the ebb and flow of the tides, and the rhythms of the seasons.

Surging, hearth-warming fire, you tell us about God. Let us direct your power creatively, putting people before profit and preserving livelihoods and land.

Rippling, thirst-quenching water, you tell us about God. Let us use your refreshment sparingly, protecting its sources and restoring purity to rivers and lakes.

Blossoming, breath-bearing tree, you tell us about God. Let us love your beauty joyously, sustaining its fruitfulness and greening the air.

Toiling, load-lifting tool, you tell us about God. Let us use your capacity responsibly, tilling and building peaceably, gently tending soil and city alike.

Life-giving, nurturing earth, you tell us about God. Let us share your bounty equitably, cherishing your diversity of species and eco-systems and stewarding your precious gifts of land and sea.

*(from ARocha website, courtesy of Christian Aid)*

Val Holtom



## The Oystercatcher

You don't need to be an ornithologist to recognise the distinctive orange bill of the Oystercatcher. The bird in the first picture is one of a pair that arrived in the field next to Kilmaveonaig late in March. By the time you read this, they may well have returned to the coast, having bred, and be feeding on cockles and mussels rather than Blair Atholl worms. Their visit to Kilmaveonaig is particularly joyful because we have an Oystercatcher in one of our stained-glass windows (second picture). It features in a panel with St Bride (also known as Brigid). The Gaelic for Oystercatcher is *Gille-Brighde*, meaning *Servant of Bride*.



Legend has it that the 6<sup>th</sup>-century St Bride was being chased by would-be attackers and found herself on a beach with nowhere to hide. Some Oystercatchers pulled seaweed over her to hide her until the would-be attackers had passed. We are never sure what to make of these old stories but, even today, we hear stories of dolphins protecting divers and swimmers from sharks. The story speaks perhaps of a time past: halcyon days when mankind and nature were more in harmony than now. Were they real or mythological? It also reminds me of some well-known verses in Isaiah 11:

*The wolf will live with the lamb,  
the leopard will lie down with the goat,  
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;  
and a little child will lead them.  
The cow will feed with the bear,  
their young will lie down together,  
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.  
The infant will play near the cobra's den,  
and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.  
They will neither harm nor destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.*

Isaiah, of course, was not looking back to an Eden-like paradise but was speaking prophetically about a future time. There is no doubt that the current generation is developing a greater respect for nature and working to restore that earlier harmony, thanks largely to people like Saint (oops, I mean Sir) David Attenborough—who surely deserves his own stained-glass window! How much will be achieved in our lifetimes—or even in *this life*—remains to be seen. Meanwhile, the Oystercatchers will return to Kilmaveonaig next year and be as welcome as ever.

*“... and a little child will lead them ...”* Could this child be Christ Himself?

*John Martin*



*Photographs John Martin*

## Getting Married or Planning a Renewal of Vows?

Holy Trinity are pleased to announce that from September we are able to offer Weddings in the Serenity Garden,.  
Contact our Rector Liz for further details.



## 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



<b>The Rector</b>	Reverend Canon Liz Baker	01796 472005
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<b>Treasurer to The Linked Charge</b>	David Noble	07977 574697
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### Holy Trinity Vestry

The Rector		
Robin Baker	<i>Secretary/Treasurer</i>	01796 472005
Alison Crocker-Tough	<i>Book Keeper/Investments</i>	01887 840267
Gina Charleson	<i>Lay Rep./Rector's Warden</i>	01796 473025
Ann Covell	<i>People's Warden</i>	01796 470129
Paul Covell	<i>Reordering &amp; Technical Co-ordinator</i>	01796 470129
Val Holton	<i>Alt. Lay Representative</i>	01796 549235
Agnes Keegan	<i>Fabric Convenor</i>	01796 549235

### Kilmaveonaig Committee

The Rector		
Lavinia Gordon	<i>Secretary</i>	01796 481230
Andrew Gordon	<i>Treasurer</i>	01796 481230
Pam Godwin	<i>Lay Representative</i>	01796 482826



## **St Andrew's Vestry**

The Rector

Lesley Whitwood	<i>Lay Reader &amp; Secretary</i>	01887 840416
Jennifer Valentine	<i>Rector's Warden</i>	01796 474444
Sue Hoare	<i>People's Warden</i>	01887 820315
Cecily Hill	<i>Lay Representative</i>	
Loretta Davis Reynolds	<i>Treasurer</i>	01887 840266
Angela Gibbs		01887 840223
Sue Sherriff		01887 840332
Alistair Barclay		01887 840380
Roger Pope		
Tony Taucher	<i>Fabric Convenor</i>	07874 024352

## **All Saints' Vestry**

The trusteeship of All Saints', under OSCR rules, is in the process of being transferred to Holy Trinity.

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**HPLC Website:**

**Facebook:**

**The Rector's Blog:**

**& e-mail:**

**Lay Reader: Lesley Whitwood:**

**Website co-ordinator:**

**Book Group Co-ordinator**

[HPLC Website](#)

[Highland Perthshire Linked Charge](#)

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**Copy for the next issue for the next issue to the Editor  
by midday on  
Monday 28 August 2023**

In addition to notices, relevant and interesting articles are welcome.

# Scottish Episcopal Church

## HIGHLAND PERTSHIRE LINKED CHARGE SERVICES

**Holy Trinity**, Perth Road, Pitlochry  
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

**All Saints**, Kinloch Rannoch Square  
Contact – Robin Baker—01796 472005

### 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 am 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

June			July		August	
Sun 4	Pentecost 1	Sun 2	Pentecost 5	Sun 6	The Transfiguration	
Sun 11	Pentecost 2	Tue 4	Independence Day	Sun 13	Pentecost 11	
Mon 12	St Barnabas Apostle			Tue 15	St Mary Virgin	
Sun 18	Pentecost 3	Sun 9	Pentecost 6	Sun 20	Pentecost 12	
Sat 24	Nativity of St John the Baptist	Sun 16	Pentecost 7	Thu 24	St Batholomew Apostle	
Sun 25	Pentecost 4	Sat 22	Mary Magdalene			
		Sun 23	Pentecost 8	Sun 27	Pentecost 13	
		Tue 25	St James Apostle			
		Sun 30	Pentecost 9			