

### WELCOME TO OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Keep up to date with what's happening in Falkirk Trinity by visiting our website at [www.falkirktrinity.org.uk](http://www.falkirktrinity.org.uk) or our social media pages on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

**Email any items for May Church News to [trinitynewsletter@outlook.com](mailto:trinitynewsletter@outlook.com) by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April please. We welcome information about Church Life which might be of interest to our members. Anything received after this date may not be included.**

### EASTER MESSAGE

Friends, we may live in uncertain times, but as one preacher said, "It's Friday, but Sunday's coming!" As we continue to reflect on our faith during Lent, our travels take us to the Cross... "Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all." We give thanks that "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life." Sorrow turned to dancing, fear turned to joy, and the end turned out to be a new beginning. In some ways it may feel more like Friday in the situation we face as a nation and in the wider world, but hold strong, hold faith, follow all the sound advice, Sunday's coming! Our thoughts and prayers are with all those bereaved and affected by coronavirus around the world and with all seeking to care, research and manage the situation. Our Easter message brings the good news of hope: Jesus is risen! Hallelujah!

Take care until we can once again gather together to praise the Lord!

### Church Information

#### Worship

During 2020 we will continue a weekly theme as we follow the Church lectionary. What is the lectionary? It is a series of set readings that actually run on a three-year cycle which cover most parts of the Bible. 2020 is year two of that cycle.

#### Prayers

If you are interested in helping to lead prayers at future Church services then please let the minister know. We can meet for discussion later in the year.

#### Café Church

Plans to continue this pilot project are now on hold.



## CORONAVIRUS

Help us to help others

If you call 111 with **mild symptoms** you will be stopping us from helping the most unwell and vulnerable patients.

Advice for **mild symptoms** and **isolation notes** are available at [www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus](http://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus)

Only **very unwell** people with coronavirus should call 111.

Your GP can help with non coronavirus matters, as normal.



## **An Important Message from our Minister**

The phrase we have all heard many times in recent weeks is “we are now living in unprecedented times” and how true that is. The coronavirus has affected the world and we must do all we can to contain and, in time, eradicate this virus. We have, and will continue, to follow the best advice and guidelines from the Church of Scotland, NHS Scotland and the Scottish and UK Governments in deciding what action to take. Consequently:

1. There will be no Worship Services until further notice. We will seek to produce some form of online worship and keep communication lines as open as possible. Where? Falkirk Trinity website: [www.falkirktrinity.org.uk](http://www.falkirktrinity.org.uk) - click on “worship”, click on “watch live”, then click on “view archived services” and there you will find a weekly form of worship in the weeks ahead plus previous services to view. Check our Facebook pages for the latest information, both the Church - Falkirk Trinity - and my own - Robert S.T. Allan. I hope to continue my blog and information on my own website [www.reformthechurchofscotland.org](http://www.reformthechurchofscotland.org) Look out for the occasional tweet also on RevRabRants and Falkirk Trinity Church. You can get a daily reading, reflection and prayer online at Sanctuary First website [www.sanctuaryfirst.org.uk](http://www.sanctuaryfirst.org.uk)
2. All activities at the Church have been cancelled until further notice. The office will be closed and Gillian Gardner will be working from home where she will monitor phone calls re-directed from the office.
3. The Kirk Session will deal with any urgent matters by e-mail.

### **What can we do?**

1. Pastoral Visitors will try to keep in telephone contact with members, especially our housebound members, if possible.
2. We would hope that many people would have family/friends/neighbours who would be able to assist with shopping etc. if someone has to self-isolate. However, if you or you know of someone that may need help, then please leave a message with the Church office (01324-611017 or e-mail: [office@falkirktrinity.org.uk](mailto:office@falkirktrinity.org.uk)) and we will endeavour to assist, if possible. If you are not in a high-risk category and might be available to assist, please leave your name and contact details with the Church office – we will only contact you if your services are required.
3. Everyone at Trinity can play our part as we look out for others in the church and in the community around us – text, e-mail, phone calls, etc. - and continue to pray for those who are charged with dealing with all aspects of this unprecedented situation.
4. If you have any questions or concerns, then please contact either the Minister (01324 625124 or mobile 07895 388644 or e-mail: [robertst.allan@btopenworld.com](mailto:robertst.allan@btopenworld.com) or [RAllan@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:RAllan@churchofscotland.org.uk)) or the Church office (01324-611017 or e-mail: [office@falkirktrinity.org.uk](mailto:office@falkirktrinity.org.uk)).
5. Voluntary Services CVS Falkirk will continue to be available for information and support, however there may be a short delay in responding to your initial enquiry. If you are an individual looking to volunteer your time or skills, please complete this form: <https://bit.ly/3b5Dj6k> Further information can be found on their website [www.cvsfalkirk.org.uk](http://www.cvsfalkirk.org.uk) and through social media platforms: Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CVSFalkirk](http://www.facebook.com/CVSFalkirk) Twitter: [www.twitter.com/CVSFalkirk](http://www.twitter.com/CVSFalkirk)
6. Church members who may wish to move their offerings to standing order should contact the Church office to obtain a form to complete and send to their bank. (01324-611017 or e-mail: [office@falkirktrinity.org.uk](mailto:office@falkirktrinity.org.uk))
7. All our employees are important to us and therefore we will set a good example as employers and continue to pay their salaries for the foreseeable future.
8. Many people will be struggling at this time to cope and therefore members who wish to continue to contribute to the work of the Falkirk Foodbank or volunteer to help in some way should contact the Foodbank on 01324 630366 or contact Marianne Pattison on 07306 134528 for more information.
9. Christian Aid: We may be limited in terms of how we may be able to support Christian Aid Week in May – our Big Booksale will have to be delayed now until later in the year – but please keep an eye on the Christian Aid website for the most up to date information and ways in which you can continue to support some of the poorest in our world: [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)
10. We have a WhatsApp group for the Youth Station – for more information please contact Helen Smith on mobile 07757 041449.
11. Specific requests for prayer can still be sent to our team of “prayers” – please contact Moira Simpson by e-mail: [moirasimpson@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:moirasimpson@blueyonder.co.uk)