



LOGIE & ST. JOHN'S (CROSS) PARISH CHURCH

NEWSLETTER No.13

WHEN WILL WE GET BACK IN TO THE BUILDING?

You have probably asked yourself that question a few times recently. Whether it refers to our place of work, school, or our church we wait in anticipation of the announcements from the First Minister. This week we enter Phase 2 of leaving lockdown and with that there is news that places of worship can begin to plan to reopen, in the first instance as a place for private prayer and to allow funerals to take place. So, the answer to the question is **we can't go back yet** but we will keep you informed of what will happen at Logie & St. John's Cross in the weeks to come. The Church of Scotland has produced very useful guidance for Kirk Sessions to consider before making any decisions and we intend to pay close attention to that.

However, some of you may have read in the national press a view that that accused the Church of issuing guidance that is cruel to people in vulnerable groups. The opinion piece attacked the Church for its guidance to congregations on reopening buildings, which have been closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. What follows is an extract of the response to the article from the Church of Scotland:

"The guidance in fact suggests that those over the age of 70 should consider carefully whether they should be attending church, and that anyone who is in the extremely vulnerable category, who has been advised by the NHS to shield at home, would be best advised not to come to church for the time being. This follows the clear and unequivocal advice which has been consistently given by the Scottish Government, the NHS and the Chief Medical Officer to the effect that anyone who is in the clinically extremely vulnerable group should stay at home.

We would not ask you to do this if it was not necessary. We believe that it is needed to save lives and protect the NHS.

Our published guidance is also explicit in expecting congregations to take steps to ensure that those people who are in the vulnerable category must be appropriately supported in their choice to participate in church life in a way that meets their own individual needs and preferences whilst safeguarding their own health, safety and welfare and those of the wider congregation.

In the days that followed the lockdown announcement, we have seen creativity across our congregations on a level that has not been replicated in living memory. Congregations have come together, in absence, to support each other and those around them. Along with creativity has come a real sense of loss as, for the first time in generations, church doors were ordered to be closed on government authority. But the church is its people, not its buildings, and we are confident that relationships that have been forged, or deepened, over the past months will serve to allow us to continue to serve our communities in the months and years ahead, regardless of how our public worship may require to be configured."

WORSHIP

Please join in our online worship this Sunday 21st June. The Rev David McLeod will lead our reflection. You will find it from 11am onwards at www.logies.org

All of our recorded times of worship are available on the website so you can catch up on some you may have missed or listen again to a favourite.

And don't forget our Zoom Connect cuppa each Sunday at 11.45am. Details on how to join are on the website



FOR OUR YOUNG MEMBERS (AND YOUNG AT HEART)

It's Father's Day on Sunday 21st June. It's a day when we 'look out' for our dads. Usually we will be kind and helpful – offer them breakfast in bed, make them a cup of tea, help prepare a nice meal or maybe keep them happy by being quiet and not arguing with our brother or sister!

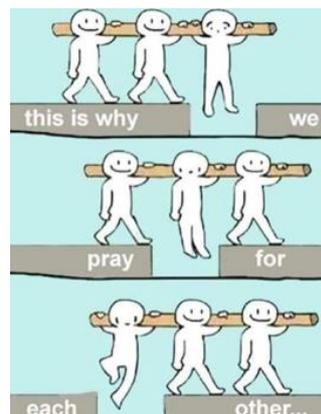
We can't always be with our dads on Father's Day because we don't stay in the same town as them but this year many more of us won't be able to see our dad because of lockdown restrictions but that doesn't mean we can't help them. Praying for them is a great way to help.

*God, please help my dad to be a good dad.
Thank you for the fun that we have together.
God, please help him when he is tired and worried
And lastly help me show my dad how much I love him.
Amen*



One way we can all support one another is to pray. This picture captures that so well.

This week try to help others, when you can. Tidy up, do some shopping for someone who can't get out, or maybe like Norma's friend you might find yourself helping a wee bird. Whatever you do to help, add to it by praying for that person (or bird) too.



MIDWEEK MEETINGS

The eight week *Discipleship Explored* series is coming to an end. The participants have become familiar with meeting each other by Zoom on Tuesday evenings and we are now wondering about starting a different series in July. This might be on the basics of Christianity, reading through a particular book of the Bible or following some other pattern.

If you are interested in taking part in these Tuesday evenings please contact administrator@logies.org. Let us know if you have any thoughts about the topics to be looked at.

PASTORAL CARE

If you are, or know of anyone else, in need of immediate pastoral care please contact our Session Clerk, Mike Duffy by emailing sessionclerk@logies.org