



Parish Profile

Logie & St John's (Cross) Church of Scotland, Dundee

An exciting opportunity of an unrestricted call involving
60% Parish commitment and 40% Presbytery work

www.logies.org
www.facebook.com/LogieStJohns



Logie & St John's (Cross)
Parish Church, Dundee

We are a forward-thinking,
outward-looking, innovative
congregation who are looking for
a minister to work in harmony
with us to develop God's kingdom.



Introduction

Logie & St John's (Cross) is a fellowship of approximately 200 members situated in the west end of Dundee. We are a mixed aged congregation, sharing a vision in serving God in this diverse part of the city. We have been in formal vacancy since November 2020. The previous minister had not been working for the parish since mid February 2020.

As a Kirk Session we have sought to nurture and nourish the congregation and have been encouraged by the desire of the church family to engage and join with us. We place great importance on identifying and developing members' gifts with a view to practical Christian service, both in and outside the church.

We, therefore, seek a minister to work alongside us in delivering our mission strategy for the parish in the following ways:

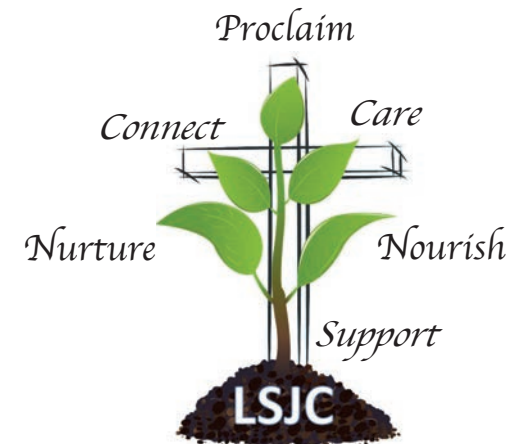
- High quality teaching
- Nurturing the faith of church members
- Guiding people to faith, via profession of faith and church membership
- Offering Christianity Explored/Alpha type courses to provide a link from community events to church
- Being part of a Chaplaincy Team at the schools
- Reaching into our local community.

Our Strengths

Since March 2020, we have coped well with the combination of the pandemic and no minister. We established a weekly newsletter, which is distributed by email and post. It is sent to the homes of members and regular worshippers, and posted on the church website. Currently around 100 copies are sent by email and around 20 by post. This includes people who are alone, and those currently housebound. This has been well received and is co-ordinated by a team of three elders. We also organised regular phone contacts with the housebound and those who live alone.

Online worship has taken place from the end of March 2020. We used our website to provide a weekly service of worship, this was a mix of recorded video content, provided by ourselves, and sourced from elsewhere, brought together on a web page. In-church worship took place fortnightly from early September to mid December 2020, with online worship on alternate Sundays.

We restarted in-church services from Easter 2021, and took a deliberate decision to offer both in-church and online (recorded) weekly worship. We envisage that this will continue whilst the pandemic restrictions are in place. We are currently supported by our Interim Moderator and Locum Ministers, Rev Catriona Morrison and Rev Marc Prowe who share the ministry at Invergowrie Parish Church. This has enabled us to share content with both congregations contributing.



Other strengths we have identified include:

- We have shown great resilience and are led by a strong Kirk Session
- We have members who are confident to lead Bible Study/discussion sessions
- We have taken a leading role in establishing links with other congregations in our proposed West End cluster
- We are well supported by congregation members, for example, a fundraising project to raise £20,000 for our roof, was completed well within the two year timeline planned (originally it was £20,000 by end of 2020)
- Our Guild has 20-30 members, both men and women, with a strong leadership. The Guild:
 - Takes a role in pastoral care, including celebrating birthdays, supporting those who are unwell, and with the distribution of church flowers
 - Established the 'Connect with a Cuppa' initiative, which runs on alternate Wednesday afternoons, as a community drop-in event, aimed at those living alone, or the frail elderly who come with carers, but is open to everyone
- Our building which is in a prominent location on Blackness Avenue, very visible to the local community, and is well maintained
- Our halls are well used by external groups, including uniformed organisations, West End Community Council, exercise groups and others (eg AA), giving us an opportunity to connect with them
- Our connections with schools in local area, including leading school assemblies, providing Chaplaincy support and hosting Easter and Christmas services.



Community Profile

The Logie & St John's (Cross) parish is located in the west end of Dundee, as shown on the Church of Scotland census information. The church is located at the eastern edge of the parish, and the manse is five minutes walk away.

The parish is a mostly residential area including large private homes to the west, and areas of social housing to the north east. Based on the 2011 census, just over 7,000 people live in the parish. Within the parish boundary is a hospital and hospice, and a school campus containing two primary schools (one catholic and one non-denominational) and a nursery school. There is also a university hall of residence and several hotels. Additionally, a 1,200 pupil secondary school is located on the parish boundary, ten minutes walk from the church.

To the east of the parish boundary is the University of Dundee, local shops, and an additional non-denominational primary school. Our ministers have forged good links with the schools in the community leading school assemblies and offering Chaplaincy support. Both non-denominational primary schools and the secondary school hold their Christmas and Easter services in the church building. The Kirk Session have a desire to grow these important links.

The City of Dundee has a population of around 150,000. It is situated on the north banks of the River Tay, is the "sunniest city in Scotland", and enjoys stunning scenery.

Like many cities, Dundee has a strong industrial heritage which disappeared during the last quarter of the twentieth century. This was replaced by emerging new industries in the creative arts, computer games and biotechnology, mirroring the strengths of the city's two universities.

The City Council developed an ambitious project to revive the waterfront and is well on the way to achieving this. The central feature of this is V&A Dundee, which opened in 2018, along with new hotels, a new leisure pool, the redevelopment of the railway station and much more. The next phase will include a Dundee branch of the Eden project.

Image courtesy of Google Maps.



Worship Life

Worship Life at Logie & St John's (Cross) is changing. We are looking forward to developing this further.

Pre-pandemic our worship life looked like this -

Sunday

- 11am morning worship service with crèche and Sunday School
- Post-service time of fellowship with coffee, and monthly pot-luck lunch
- 6.30pm 'Connect' event which took the form of evening worship service, prayer focus or book club.

Tuesday evening - 'Connect with the Bible' group which had up to 15 attendees, this moved online using Zoom, and we have studied various books of the Bible, and other Bible themes.

Wednesday afternoon - 'Connect with a Cuppa' provided a fortnightly opportunity for fellowship to the local community, this has restarted under Covid restrictions.

Alternate Wednesday afternoon - the Guild held their normal meetings.

Friday morning - a long established, very popular Toddler group (for pre-school age children with carers), with around 30-40 families each week including many families from the international community associated with the universities.

We use our church website, Facebook, email and postal newsletter, paper publications and physical noticeboards, to communicate well with our church family, local and wider communities.

Organisationally, we have a Kirk Session of thirteen elders and we follow a Unitary Constitution (since December 2014).



Staffing

This post is an unrestricted call involving 60% Parish commitment and 40% Presbytery work.

Active and competent volunteers provide support, for example administration, building and grounds maintenance, publicity and technical matters. We have a contract for regular cleaning and grass-cutting.

Church, manse and halls

Our Church building is a mixture of old and new in excellent condition, including the attractive church sanctuary, halls, kitchen and meeting rooms. The church sanctuary is able to seat in excess of 350 people comfortably for Sunday morning worship, weddings, funerals and other special services.

The ground floor comprises a session room and vestry as well as two bright, well-equipped halls and kitchen which are well used regularly for our own activities. The halls are also used by community groups, including uniformed organisations, community council and many others.

There is also a suite of smaller meeting rooms and a well-equipped church office.

Audio Visual facilities are available in many parts of the church building, including portable projection in the sanctuary.

There is a well-apportioned church manse within walking distance of the church. The manse has four bedrooms and

three public rooms all centrally heated, with a wood-burning stove in the main living room and a modern kitchen. There is also a good-sized study with all the usual connections for telephone and broadband. There is a small, easily maintained garden to the front of the manse. More specific details of the manse are available on request.





Logie & St John's (Cross) Church of Scotland, Dundee

Web links

Our website: logies.org

Our Facebook page: facebook.com/LogieStJohns

Dundee Waterfront: dundeewaterfront.com

Church of Scotland census data: cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/resources/documents/statistics/parish-profiles/291770.pdf

If you would like more information please email: vacancy@logies.org