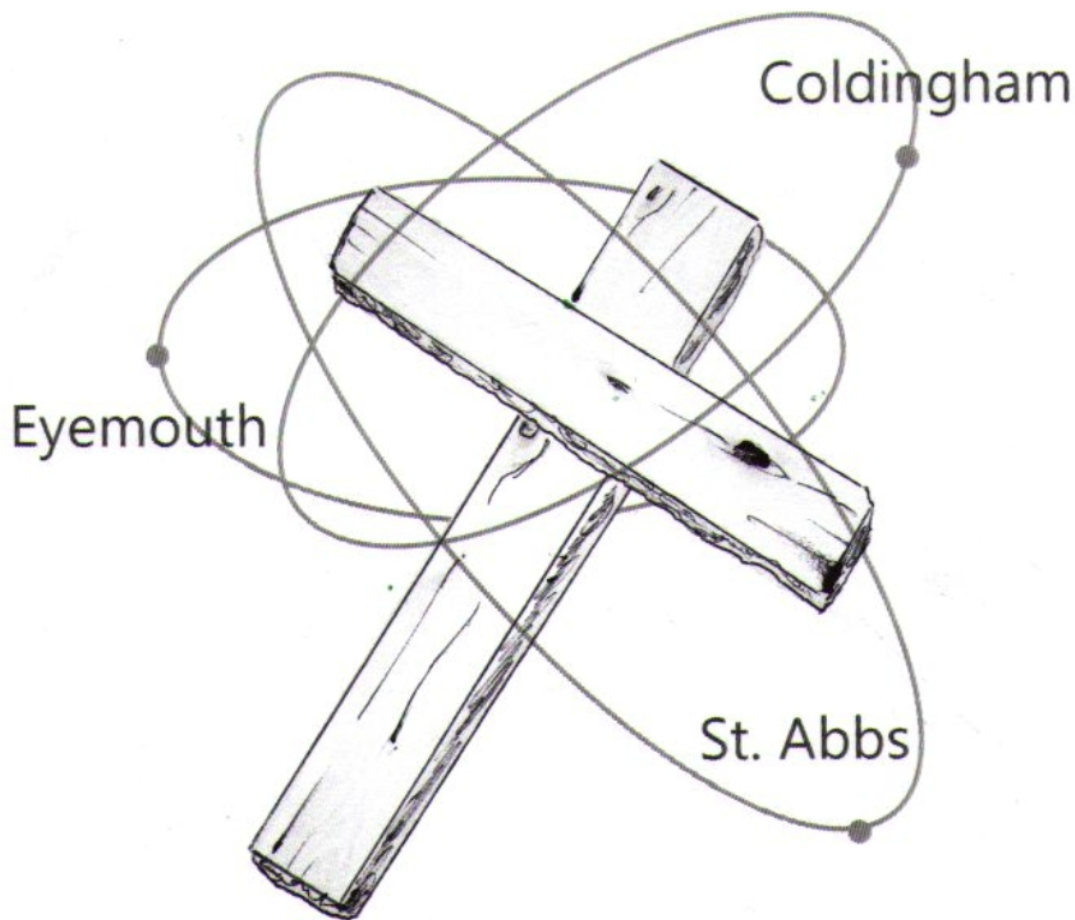


UNITED UPDATE

Easter 2023 Edition



Newsletter of the Parish Church of Coldingham &
St. Abbs linked with Eyemouth Parish Church

One man died for everyone.

That puts everyone in the same boat. He included everyone in his death so that everyone could also be included in his life, a resurrection life, a far better life than people ever lived on their own.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 (The Message Translation)

Directory

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Regular Events

Sundays	Morning Worship, Eyemouth, 10.15am Morning Worship, Coldingham, 10.15am
Mondays	Busy Bees, Coldingham, 9–10.30am
Tuesdays	Prayer time on ZOOM, 9am Guild in Eyemouth Session Room, 7pm
Wednesdays	Busy Bees, Eyemouth, 10.30am–12noon Busy Bees, Eyemouth, 1.30–3pm
Fridays	Tea & Toast, Eyemouth, 9–10.30am Busy Bees, Eyemouth, 10.30am–12noon

Renewing and Resurrecting

“take on an entirely new way of life—a God-fashioned life, a life renewed from the inside and working itself into your conduct as God accurately reproduces his character in you.” Ephesians 4:23–24 (The Message)

Dear friends,

it's been equal parts scary and exciting as we've seen the first physical steps of our RENEW project happening. Soon we'll be worshipping in our renewed space, enjoying the warmth, accessibility, comfy chairs and bright sense in our new rejuvenated space. It can be quite hard to imagine what that change will be like, but the experiences of other congregations who have gone through similar changes is that they ask themselves why they didn't do it years ago!

Yet at the same time as we renew our building we are being called to renew our faith. If the only reason we are doing this project is to make our worship on a Sunday more warm, welcome and comfy then we have lost sight of why we decided to do this major work in the first place. Many years ago we constructed a 5 year plan that included our desire to make our building work not just for us, but for our whole community. A working building was to be an act of service for the community giving all kinds of possibilities for the community to use it. Why? Because we felt God was calling us to make use of everything we had for those we were called to serve. William Temple a former Archbishop of Canterbury from the 1940s is oft quoted for saying “The Church exists primarily for the sake of those who are still outside it.”

We also believed that a renewed building might also be a catalyst for a revitalised congregation. Yet once again no matter the money we spend or the number of builders we get in, it will require each of us as individuals consciously to decide to daily renew our own faith, to challenge ourselves to grow as followers of Jesus and to reach out to our neighbours, our friends and even our own families. Lets take up this challenge this Easter time and revitalise our congregation before the completion of the RENEW project, so that inside and out this congregation might be renewed.

God Bless

Andy

Listening to Eternity

Our free will is a mysterious gift
But when does it work, how is it controlled?
Neither action nor plan, mood nor belief
It's a glorious gift from God of Old.

Straining to hear the eternal whisper
Will-drilling to God's artesian will
To irrigate with infinite power
From whence living waters spill.

Striving to stay in step with Your purpose,
Your plan and Your time, not our will but Thine,
The blessing, the blessing of Spirit's force!
Who fills us to do God's will in His time.

Listening constantly merges our will,
Attuning each minute to Jesu's word.
Pouring Christ's light into darkness, we fill
Brief human lives with Your light for the world.

Richard Bond, January 2023

Away Day to North Berwick, Saturday 15th April

It's great to once again return to St Baldred's church hall, North Berwick where as well as a time of fellowship and worship there will be time to relax and explore the town. In the morning we will be hearing about the work of the International Justice Mission. It is a global organization that protects people in poverty from human trafficking, modern-day slavery, violence and police abuse of power. Sign up sheets are available in both Eyemouth and Coldingham churches or you can email jidorward@gmail.com. The numbers are needed so that we can cater for a simple lunch together.

THE GUILD

The Guild will be restarting on April 4th at 7pm in the Session Room.

Since we meet every week we have a very varied syllabus.

We will learn about and discuss many aspects of the Church and church life – in particular the projects which the Guild is supporting.

The strategy for the 3 year period 2021–2024 is 'Look Forward in Faith' and this year's theme is 'Wee Seeds, Big Trees' and we'll be thinking about the importance of planting seeds which will grow the Guild, physically and spiritually. Simply we need to plant to provide for future generations. But we also have many light-hearted evenings full of fun and fellowship.

We look forward to seeing 'old' friends again but welcome any new members into our 'family'

Audrey, Carole, Elizabeth, and Jean (Joint leaders)



SILENT AUCTION...

With the Renew project on the cusp of beginning physically it is still important to raise money for the work. And so it is planned to have another silent auction in late June. So after Easter is the time to look out donations to go up for sale.

Berwickshire Christian Youth Trust (BCYT)

Youth workers Mark and Stuart are once again back in almost all the schools in Berwickshire taking assemblies and RME (religious education) classes. In addition, Home Together which was started during lockdown with videos and craft activities for families continues and there have been 2 afternoons when the families came together for similar fun and stories in Whitsome. Another afternoon is planned for the end of March.

A weekend camp for children in P5-7 is planned for the end of April at Scoughall near North Berwick. The camp gives children the opportunity to have fun together and to learn more about Jesus and what it means to follow him.

For children at high school a fortnightly group called Explore is run when they explore what the bible teaches about some of the issues facing young people today.

Priory Live



On Tuesday 6th June Coldingham Priory will be buzzing with activity as all the children in P6 from Coldingham, Eyemouth, Cockburnspath, Ayton and Reston schools come to learn a bit about life in a 13th Century monastery. This is a joint venture with Berwickshire Christian Youth Trust.

On the day the children will learn something about St Ebba and what life was like for the monks. They will have the opportunity to take part in a range of activities which include bread making, script writing, music making, willow weaving, herb growing, bee keeping and pressing apples. They will also hear the same stories about Jesus that the monks would have been familiar with as well as learning about prayer which was such a feature of the monks' day. If you are free that day and could come and help a small group of children get from one workshop to the next please speak to Andy, Marianne or Ishbel

supporting



Christian Aid Week 14th – 21st May

The focus this year for Christian Aid Week is on projects giving practical help to people who are often hungry or forced into poverty as a result of crop failure due to climate

change causing either droughts or flash flooding. One such project is supporting groups of women in Malawi to grow, process and sell pigeon peas and the products made from them.

There are a number of different ways we are planning to raise money. There will be envelopes available at church but for people who would prefer to give online please click on the link –

<http://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/Eyemouth-envelope>

Saturday 13th May there will be a coffee morning in the Mason's Hall, Eyemouth.

Wednesday 17th May there will be an afternoon tea in Coldingham Priory.

Sunday 21st May there will be a soup and sandwich lunch in the church hall in Eyemouth.

A sponsored walk will take place from Berwick to St Abbs along the coastal path on Saturday 3rd June. As in previous years there is no requirement to walk the whole distance as there will be a car available at Marshall Meadows, Burnmouth and Eyemouth as well as St Abbs to take people home or back to their car. Alternatively you can start in Burnmouth and walk to Eyemouth or start in Eyemouth and walk to St Abbs. For further information please contact Audrey (71429) or Ishbel (51732)

Presbytery Update

It was with a little bit of excitement and a little bit of trepidation that elders and ministers attended the very first meeting of our brand new presbytery, the Presbytery of Lothian and the Borders, which includes Mid and East Lothian as well as all of the Scottish Borders area.

However it was a particularly uplifting and encouraging meeting. Our new presbytery is a much larger entity with over 70 minsters and nearly 100 congregations, stretching down to Berwick upon Tweed, across to Hawick and beyond then up past Peebles and to Penicuik before skirting the South-side of Edinburgh to Musselburgh and along the East Coast back down to us.

With a larger presbytery there is a larger pool of resources to draw upon and already we've seen many of the administrative tasks of Presbytery and our responsibilities outlined clearer and more concisely than before.

Unfortunately the biggest questions are of course around the Presbytery Mission Planning process, that frankly appears not much clearer than it was this time last year! However now there is a new planning committee and they have the feedback from the central church to help them shape it further. The main issue appears to be around the reduction of buildings and there is a call to close more of our buildings in this area. Thankfully both Eyemouth and Coldingham's buildings are not in any danger at this time, but that will only remain the case while both congregations continue to be viable and engaged with their community. Although how we administer the parishes may change under a new plan.

However the ongoing push for more folk to be involved in the ministry of the church will not be changing and we will continue to support those who have been taking on pastoral work and leading worship and leading prayers, as well as encouraging folk to get involved in other aspects of the churches ministry.

Our new presbytery clerk Norman Smith is keen to point out that the mission of this presbytery is to bring every soul in our area to Christ and with God's help even what seems impossible becomes possible!

Eyemouth Foodbank

With the ongoing rise in the cost of living the foodbank continues to be needed and well used. The foodbank covers the East Coast of Berwickshire and inland towards Ayton, Foulden and Grantshouse. The numbers for each month have remained fairly steady and in the first three months of the year the foodbank has delivered 78 food parcels feeding around 140 people.

DONATIONS NEEDED

**EYEMOUTH
FOOD BANK**



The two biggest needs for the foodbank is volunteers to help with organising the foodstore and for money to pay for the fresh produce that goes into each parcel. If you can help please speak to Andy. Do remember to continue to collect food and your donations can be dropped off on a Sunday for the foodbank. Once again, if you would be interested in helping out with food parcel deliveries, or taking collected food to the Foodbank store then please contact Andy.

The Food List

Tins or packets of Soup

Tins of mince, stew, meat balls, curry pies in tins

Corned beef, spam, ham, tuna, sardines, pilchards, baked beans

Tinned veg and potatoes

Pasta

Pasta sauce

Tea & Coffee

Breakfast cereal

Dried or UHT milk

Custard

Tinned fruit

The following items are added when the parcel is made up and delivered, so donations of money are always accepted: bread, margarine, fresh milk, fresh potatoes (nappies and baby food, if required)

Eyemouth RE:NEW Project Update

Work has very much picked up pace and become much more visible around the RE:NEW project. Ever since we had enough funding pledged we've been trying to get a contractor on board. This has not been an easy process, although we've had a huge amount of help from a friendly Quantity Surveyor, John Lockhart, who has been advising the RENEW team through this whole process. That help and advice now means we have been able to take on a contractor and we have an initial start date of 2nd May!

However now that we have a start date there is a huge amount of preparatory work required. One of the biggest challenges has been what to do about the organ. We've been working hard to find a new home for the organ, but unfortunately every option turned into a dead end, so it was decided that recycling and reclaiming the parts of it was the most cost effective option, especially after seeing how much we had been quoted to protect the organ through the works! Andy Leach who as many of you will know is a dab hand with organs has been able to recycle a lot of the materials inside the organ and we are planning to use some of the reclaimed wood to be used in some furnishings in the church, so the organ will still be with us as we move forward.

The sanctuary also needs cleared of the pews and we hope that folk would be willing to "buy a pew" to help raise some money for the project too.

We are also planning to have a silent auction in June time to raise more money for the project, so keep an eye out for that.

If you have any questions about the project or ideas for fundraising, then please feel free to speak to any member of the project group.

Ishbel Dorward, Pete Gage, Andy Haddow, Carrie Haddow, Ian Hankinson, Andy Leach, Dixie Scott & Donald Wood

Help While You Shop

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be collecting free donations for the Church?

There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/coldinghamstabbs/> or <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/eyemouthparishchurch/> and join for free.

2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping, or download the easyfundraising donation reminder for your web browser.

3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and the Church will be really grateful for your donations.

You can now even download a handy reminder that reminds you to activate your donation when shopping on participating webpages.

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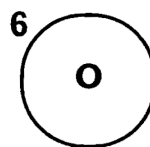
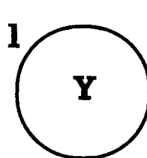
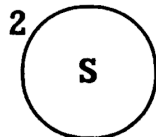
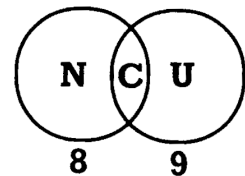
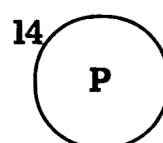
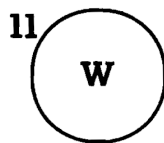
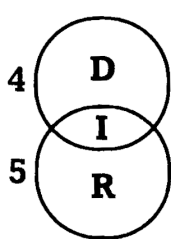
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Hard

PUZZLE PAGE

What happened
when Peter and the other
disciple saw the empty
tomb?

Use this Easter code to find John 20:9



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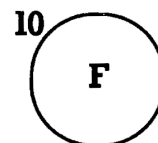
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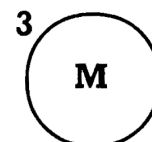


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