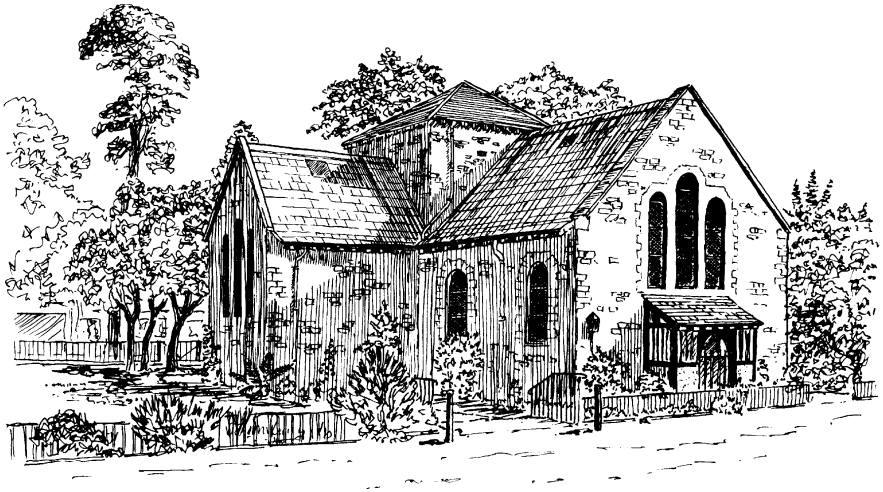


# Church of the Holy Cross

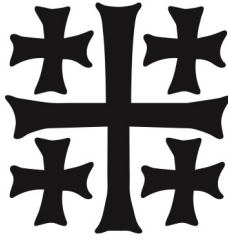
DAVIDSON'S MAINS

EDINBURGH

FEBRUARY 2022



THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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The Rectory, 18 Barnton Gardens, EH4 6AF  
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Copy date for the March magazine is 19th February.  
All material should reach the Editor by then.

**Website:** [www.holycrossedinburgh.org](http://www.holycrossedinburgh.org)

**Twitter:** [@HolyCrossEdin](https://twitter.com/HolyCrossEdin) **Facebook:** [Holy Cross, Davidson's Mains](https://www.facebook.com/HolyCrossDavidsonMains)  
**YouTube:** [Holy Cross Church Edinburgh](https://www.youtube.com/HolyCrossChurchEdinburgh) **Instagram:** [@holycrossedinburgh](https://www.instagram.com/holycrossedinburgh)

**Bank account** Royal Bank of Scotland Name: Church of the Holy Cross  
Sort code 83-18-47 Account number 00170278

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## FROM THE RECTOR

Dear friends,

As I write this, the current 'Omicron wave' of the pandemic is slowing and new green shoots are springing up in our gardens. Hope is in the air at the start of this new year. We can look back at Christmas and thank God it was more normal than last year, even though it was still under restrictions. It was lovely to see so many new faces (as far as the masks allowed) at our Christmas services. Christmas is literally 'Christ's Mass' and 'Mass' is one of our words for the service of Holy Communion. The first Anglican Prayer Book called it 'the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion, commonly called the Mass' and today Anglicans often use 'the Eucharist'. Each brings out different aspects of the sacrament, which is too big to be encompassed by one word.

'Mass' unites us with our Lutheran and Roman Catholic friends, with whom we have so much in common, but it literally comes from the last words of the service as our ancestors would have known it in Latin: '*ite missa est* – go, this is the dismissal' or, in our modern form, 'go in peace to love and serve the Lord'. Our worship is not an end in itself, nor is it a place we own, where we indulge ourselves in what we like or moan about things we don't like. It is a place where we meet God, are transformed by Christ, and sent out by the Spirit to transform the world.

Do we let God do this when we come to church? Two ways we are trying to allow Him to act are, within our limited resources, to have a variety of services and to make the seasons of the Christian year stand out. It is helpful to have different types of services because we all have different needs at different times in our lives. Emphasising the seasons is useful because it is through encountering Christ in his incarnation (Advent to Epiphany) and death and resurrection (Lent to Pentecost) that we allow ourselves to be transformed in our daily lives (Ordinary Time between these two great seasons). Taking part in this great drama of salvation as it develops Sunday by Sunday is life-changing.

There are a few new developments in our worship which contribute to this variety, all of which pick up things that have happened here in the past. Elsewhere in the magazine is news of exciting new initiatives in our children and families ministry. We have also started an experimental 9 a.m. Eucharist on Sundays using the traditional Scottish Liturgy. This has proved useful for those who need to do other things on a Sunday but wish to worship, those who desire quieter and more contemplative worship, and those who prefer more traditional language in worship.

On 4th February we are starting an experimental Healing Service at 2 p.m. on the first Friday in the month, a simple Eucharist with prayers for healing and optional anointing and laying on of hands. It is for those who desire healing of body, mind or spirit, those who wish to pray for healing for others, and anyone who wants to join us. More about Christian healing and its relationship to medicine is found elsewhere in the magazine in an extract from our new website which we hope to publish after Easter.

You are invited to come along to these new services, but, as always, the key thing is to go in peace, out into the world, to love and serve the Lord. May you and your families and friends be blessed in this new year and may it see an end to the pandemic.

With love in Christ,



## FROM THE REGISTERS

### **Wedding:**

Mervyn Loveridge and Beatriz Sanchez Val on Friday 10th December

**Funeral:** Nicholas Dawson, at Warriston on Thursday 27th January

## SEC MISSION ASSOCIATION

Holy Cross as a congregation is a member of the Scottish Episcopal Church Mission Association (SECMA) and pays an annual subscription, in return for which we receive the twice-yearly magazine. I have spare copies of last autumn's issue, so please tell me if you want one.

Despite the pandemic, SECMA continued to support a variety of projects, and even, by releasing some capital, increased the donations. There is a list of them on the church noticeboard. Covid has made the needs greater in so many places and, with reduced opportunities for fundraising events, donations from supporters have become even more important. We don't have a collecting box in church at present, so if you want to make a contribution please give it to me and I will pass it on.

*Margaret Deas*



## FLOWERS IN CHURCH

Thank you to everyone who helped to decorate the church for Christmas.

Flowers in January were arranged by Sarah, Yvonne, Jenny H and Kate C.

6th February	Yvonne Boughton
13th February	Margaret Deas
20th February	Kate Corliss
27th February	Janette Miller
6th March	Lent – no flowers until Easter



### Flower Rota 2022

The new rota is on the noticeboard. Please sign up for the Sundays when you would like to provide the flowers. A simple bunch of flowers in a vase or a more complex arrangement are equally welcome. There is a variety of vases in the cupboard in the vestry.

If you would like to donate the flowers but not arrange them yourself please contact Sarah ([sarahmillee@aol.com](mailto:sarahmillee@aol.com) or 237 5147).

## EMERGENCY WINTER APPEAL

Edinburgh Direct Aid has launched an emergency appeal for funds to buy heating fuel for Syrian refugee families in Aarsal, high in the Lebanese mountains.

Getting through the winter in a flimsy tented shack in deep snow at an altitude around that of Ben Nevis was never easy. But this year, in the collapsed economy of Lebanon, with the removal of government subsidies on fuel, little support from UNHCR, and no employment, the situation is critical. Snow is forecast, and temperatures will drop below zero. It is estimated that \$345 (~£256) will be needed to provide each and every family with enough heating oil to survive this winter's bitter cold.

Edinburgh Direct Aid is working with local charities to provide fuel for as many families as it can, while lobbying much bigger NGOs to help avert this impending disaster. But calls on their resources are many, and time is short.

Donations can be made by phoning 0131 552 1545, or through the Edinburgh Direct Aid website <https://edinburghdirectaid.org/Winter%20Emergency/WinterEmergency2021-2.htm> (where you can read more about this).

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**2nd MARCH**  
**HOLY COMMUNION**  
**with Imposition of Ashes**  
**10.30 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.**

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AT HOLY CROSS**

Stephen is currently working on the new Holy Cross website – he will let you know when it is available online. Over the coming months he will share with you via this magazine various sections of the website text. He has written about many aspects of our faith and community at Holy Cross. To start off the series of articles in the magazine, here is the piece I have written for the Children's Ministry section of the website:

At Holy Cross we are in an exciting phase of starting up a new ministry for children and families. Izzy Holmes was appointed as our Children's Minister in 2021. We are building up a new team and trying out different types of services and events. These include Sunday afternoon family services with songs, stories and crafts; a weekday toddler service; and using the church for quiet time for families during Lent. We also plan to put on concerts for children and have hosted the Diocesan Play Church, a portable, child-sized altar with child-sized vestments and communion vessels.

We'd love to have feedback from local children and families about what they'd like to see happening in our church. You can get in touch with Izzy, our Children's Minister – her contact details are below. We also welcome contact from community groups and schools who would like to come along to one of our services or visit the church, or get involved in any other way. As an example, we are hosting evenings for the Brownies and Beavers to come and explore the church, learn a bit about its history, and find out the meaning behind different things that you see in church.

Children's ministry at Holy Cross is based on up-to-date knowledge of child development. We acknowledge our children and young people as individuals in their own right, with their own gifts and ideas to bring into our community. It is for us adults to listen to them and to guide them. We welcome their questions, comments and criticisms, and their joyful and often amusingly-timed noises. God put the wiggle in children!

We want to pass on the Christian faith in all its fullness to our children and

young people, teaching them about our beliefs and traditions, offering them good music and beautiful liturgy, and allowing them to get involved with our worship. They might, for example, want to contribute to our music, help plan services, or serve at Mass. Younger children are often more spontaneous in their contributions, such as ‘helping’ the priest by putting battery tealights on the altar in the middle of the service...! They are welcome too and we hope that any encounter that any child or young person has with us is positive and welcoming, and that they might find a home at Holy Cross.

Izzy Holmes

Children’s Minister: [families.hce@gmail.com](mailto:families.hce@gmail.com), 07464 611553



## **From our new website CHRISTIAN HEALING**

An important part of Christianity is healing the soul, the mind and the body. Jesus said, ‘I have come that you may have life and have it to the full’ (John 10.10). A large part of his public ministry was spent healing the sick and delivering people from evil spirits, and this power was given to his Apostles to be handed on in the Church and used for the good of humanity.

Science and medicine are part of God’s good creation and authentic Christianity values them highly. One of the Gospel writers, Luke, was a doctor and we give thanks for the healing work of the NHS and scientific research.

We believe that God can help this healing process through prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit. This is not magic; sometimes the grace given is to endure suffering and die well. Life is good but heaven is better so we do not pray to prolong life beyond its allotted span. God loves everyone as they are and sometimes a disability or an illness can itself be a source of grace. Good health is not a sign that you have God’s favour.

Jesus did, however, command his disciples to heal the sick. This can be done through the caring professions and also by prayer and the laying on of hands. Everyone can pray and Jesus can give anyone a gift of healing but it must be exercised with the blessing of the Church or it may be a source of pride. One powerful sacrament of healing has been given by Jesus to his Apostles and is available today from his priests and bishops: anointing of the sick (James 5.14-15).

## TREASURER'S REPORT

It has been a busy period for the Treasurer as is normal at this time of year.

Following on from the Annual Meeting in November when the church accounts were approved, a series of reports must be done. In the last two months I have:

- Completed and submitted an Annual Report to the Scottish Charities Regulator (OSCR), which thankfully can now be done entirely online
- Completed and submitted the Finance Schedule to the Episcopal Church which enables them to calculate our quota for next year
- Reapplied to Scottish Water for exemption from water rates (this must be done annually)
- Applied (successfully) to City of Edinburgh Council for brown garden waste bins.

All these reports were expected – part of the annual cycle for the Treasurer. There was, however, another, unexpected and unwelcome task.

Last year, I had been congratulating myself for having signed a favourable four-year contract with CNG Gas for heating in the church and hall. In November, I heard that they had ceased trading. I have now signed us up to a new deal with British Gas. The switchover went smoothly in that we were never without heating (unlike some poor people, including my mum, who were affected by Storm Arwen). However, the outcome is that we are now paying about 25% more for our gas than we were previously. This comes at a time when hall heating usage is higher than ever because its users are keeping windows open to ventilate the hall (in line with government guidelines).

On a positive note, we are fortunate that the Playgroup and After School Club have been able to continue operating (unlike last year's lockdown). This means we have continued to receive some much-needed rental income to help pay for the increased heating bills.

*Colin Mair*

P.S. Thank you to all who have paid their magazine subscription. If you have forgotten, it is not too late. £8 for a year of paper copies, or £15 if your magazine is posted to you every month.





**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022**  
**FRIDAY 4th MARCH**  
**2.30 p.m.**  
**DAVIDSON'S MAINS PARISH CHURCH**

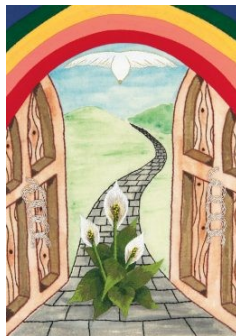
**Theme: 'I know the plans I have for you.'**

Through the World Day of Prayer (WDP), Christians all over the world affirm their faith in Jesus Christ. Each year, women from a different country share their hopes and fears, their happiness and sorrows, their opportunities and needs through presentation of a service which then deepens our understanding of their country. This year's service has been written by the Christian women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

In the midst of all the uncertainties we are living under this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the WDP 2022 theme emerges like a balm of confidence. It is an invitation to place our trust in God in times of suffering.

The theme is based on the letter that the prophet Jeremiah wrote to the exiles in Babylonia (Jeremiah 29.1-14). The exiles were in a context of suffering, uncertainty, and opposing views on how to respond to the moment. In the service, we come together to hear the stories of women who feel excluded.

For Jeremiah, God's plan was clear. "For surely I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord, "plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you."



The image depicts key words: Freedom, Justice, God's Peace and Forgiveness. Over all is a rainbow, a symbol of the overreaching love of God.

## **FEBRUARY KALENDAR and READINGS**

Tuesday 1st February – Bride of Kildare, Abbess, c.525 – 11.30 a.m. King Charles the Martyr Mass at the Cathedral (King Charles I founded our diocese of Edinburgh). Vestry Meeting 7.30 p.m.

**Wednesday 2nd February** (the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is kept on the previous Sunday) – **Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

*Readings:* 2 Samuel 24.2,9-17 Psalm 86.1-6 Mark 5.21-43

**Thursday 3rd February** – Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg, Missionary in Scandinavia, 865 – **Evening Prayer on Zoom 5 p.m.**

**Friday 4th February** – Modan, Bishop, c.750 – **Buggy service for toddlers, 10.30 a.m. Healing Eucharist with anointing, 2 p.m.**

Saturday 5th February – Agatha, Martyr, c.300

**Sunday 6th February – FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY – Eucharist 9 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.**

*Collect:* Almighty God, by your grace alone we are accepted and called to your service: strengthen us by your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Readings;* Isaiah 6.1-8 Psalm 138  
1 Corinthians 15.1-11 Luke 5.1-11

**Wednesday 9th February – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

*Readings:* 1 Kings 10.1-10 Psalm 37.1-7,32-33,41.42 Mark 7.14-23

**Thursday 10th February** – Scholastica, Abbess, c.543 – **Evening Prayer on Zoom 5 p.m.**

**Friday 11th February** – Our Lady of Lourdes – **Buggy service for toddlers, 10.30 a.m.**

**Sunday 13th February – SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY – Eucharist 9 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.**

*Collect:* Almighty God, you alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise that, among the many changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Readings:* Jeremiah 17.5-10 Psalm 1  
1 Corinthians 15.12-20 Luke 6.17-26

Monday 14th February – Cyril and Methodius, Apostles to the Slavs

Tuesday 15th February – Thomas Bray, Priest and Missionary, 1730

**Wednesday 16th February – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

Readings: James 1.19-27 Psalm 15 Mark 8.22-26

**Thursday 17th February – Evening Prayer on Zoom 5 p.m.**

**Friday 18th February** – Colmán of Lindisfarne, Bishop, 676 *Second anniversary of the institution of Stephen Holmes as Rector of Holy Cross* – **Buggy service for toddlers, 10.30 a.m.**

Saturday 19th February – Martin Luther, Priest, 1545 – Memorial Service for Mrs Helen Allan, 2.30 p.m. (details to be confirmed)

**Sunday 20th February – SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY – Eucharist 9 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.**

*Collect:* Most loving Father, it is your will for us to give thanks for all things, to fear nothing but the loss of you, and to cast all our care on you who care for us: preserve us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties, that no clouds of this mortal life may hide from us that light of love which is immortal, and which you have manifested to us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings: Genesis 45.3-11,15 Psalm 37.1-12,41-42  
1 Corinthians 15.35-38,42-50 Luke 6.27-38

**Wednesday 23rd February** – Polycarp of Smyrna, Bishop and Martyr, c.156 – **Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

Readings: James 4.13-17 Psalm 49.1-9,16-20 Mark 9.38-41

**Thursday 24th February – Evening Prayer on Zoom 5 p.m.**

**Friday 25th February – Buggy service for toddlers, 10.30 a.m.**

**Sunday 27th February – SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT – Eucharist 9 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.**

*Collect:* Almighty Father, your Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings: Exodus 34.29-35 Psalm 99  
2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2 Luke 9.28-36

Tuesday 1st March – David of Wales, c.601

**ASH WEDNESDAY 2nd March – Eucharist 10.30 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.**

*Collect:* Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new

and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Readings:* Joel 2.1-2,12-17 Psalm 51.1-18  
2 Corinthians 5.20b-6.10 Matthew 6.1-6,16-21

**Sunday 6th March – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – Eucharist 9 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.**

*Readings:* Deuteronomy 26.1-11 Psalm 91.1-2,9-16  
Romans 10.8b-13 Luke 4.1-13

## WORSHIP

Our usual services are:

Sunday 9.00 a.m. Said Eucharist – 1970 liturgy (experimental)  
10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist – 1982 liturgy

Wednesday 10.30 a.m. Eucharist

Thursday 5.00 p.m. Evening Prayer on Zoom

We pray together for about half an hour, using the fixed words of the service with a space for free prayer. To join us contact the Rector.

Fridays in February - 10.30 a.m. – Buggy Service for Toddlers

First Friday in the month 2.00 p.m. – Healing Eucharist with anointing

Any variations to the above are noted in the Kalendar.

