

**WELCOME TO KIRK OF KEITH: ST. RUFUS,
BOTRIPHNE, AND GRANGE**

TODAY, SUNDAY, 3 December

First Sunday in Advent

10.15 am – St Rufus (Sunday Club)

11.45 am – Grange

Traidcraft stall will be at the door today for last minute shopping.

Rev Alastair Gray is our Interim Moderator and he can be contacted on 886840 or on email at agray@ChurchofScotland.org.uk

Mr Eckhardt Bosch is our Parish Assistant jointly with the North Church. His role also includes pastoral care. He is happy to be contacted on 01542882799, 07871959996 or on email at ebosch@churchofscotland.org.uk
Please Note: Eckhardt is on holiday 7-30 December.

THIS WEEK: -

THIS MONDAY (4 December)

1) The Guild Christmas lunch is in the Royal Hotel at 12.30 for 1 pm.

2) There is a Service of Remembrance at Moray Crematorium at 7.30 pm.

THIS TUESDAY (5 December)

The Bible Study Group meets in the hall at 7.45 pm for 8 pm start. The passage to be studied is Matthew 16:18-19 – “You are Peter”

THIS WEDNESDAY (6 December)

1) Keith Primary School Craft Fayre 9.30 – 11.30 am

2) Joint Churches’ choir rehearsals at 6 pm at St Rufus Church.

THIS THURSDAY (7 December)

The Fly and Friendship Club’s Christmas meal in the Golf Club at 2 pm.

THIS SATURDAY (9 December)

Outside Keith North Church at 4 pm there is the Stars of Thought in aid of the Sunshine Playgroup. There will be carols sung and hot chocolate provided.

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS: -

(a) SUNDAY, 10 December

Second Sunday in Advent

10.15 am – St Rufus (Sunday Club)

11.45 am – Botriphnie

(b) The Fly and Friendship Club meets on Thursday, 14 December at 2pm in the Scout Hall. Tea rota – Agnes Riach, Cath Fell and Vera McLarren.

(c) SUNDAY, 17 December

Third Sunday in Advent

10.15 am – St Rufus (Sunday Club)

11.45 am – Grange

2.30 pm – Weston View Service with rota of Isobel Shanks, Ann Hutton, Mary Gray, Fiona Young, Douglas Milne, Eric McWilliam (or their deputies) faithful friends.

7 pm – Rotary Carol Service

(d) The Bible Study Group meets on Tuesday, 19 December in the hall at 7.45 pm for a cuppa with the discussion starting at 8 pm. All are welcome. The passage to be studied is Mark 9:1 – ‘The Kingdom Coming with Power’

(e) The Fly and Friendship Club meets on Thursday, 21 December at 2 pm in the Scout Hall for their Christmas Party.

(f) SUNDAY, 24 December

Fourth Sunday in Advent

10.15 am – United Service in St Rufus led by the Sunday Club followed by family lunch at a cost of £1 a head provided by the Picnic and Parties Committee.

6 pm – Christingle Service at Grange (Collection for the Grange Flower Fund)

11.30 pm – Watchnight Service at St Rufus (Collection for Keith Foodstore)

ANNOUNCEMENTS...

1) If any of the congregation would like to take part in the Christingle service at Grange at 6 pm or the Watchnight service at St Rufus at 11.30 pm, please see Nicola Smith who has all the parts of the services scripted out ready to be read.

2) The newsletters and Christmas parcels are ready for elders to uplift.

3) There will be two joint services at the end of the month. A Christmas Day service will be held in the North Church at 10.30 am and a joint Sunday morning service for both Keith congregations will be held in St Rufus on 31 December at 10.15 am.

4) EDEN Bus - Outreach Ministry to Young People
Some of you may have seen the EDEN Bus at Refuel in Fochabers last summer. It is a Christian outreach initiative to young people which tours around the country, usually going back to each location for 10-12 weeks at a stretch. It is run by representatives of The Message Project with support from a team of local volunteers who are trained up to engage more effectively with young people in their area. Most initiatives end up with 10-20 youngsters signing up for a Youth Alpha course and thereafter forming a lasting youth group. The bus itself is fully equipped with all the latest 'techie' gadgets as well as a climbing wall in the stairwell of the bus.

The Forres Youth and Families Outreach Project is keen to invite the Bus to come up to Moray - it is available at the moment in May/June - but in order to make it more manageable would ideally like to share it with other locations when it is up here. This would not only defray the cost per se but also allow the bus to stay up here for a longer period without having to go backwards and forwards up and down the A9. More information about the EDEN Bus can be found at www.message.org.uk/Edenbus. If anyone is interested in exploring the options for joint outreach, please get in touch asap - royand@btinternet.com.

5) 'Life in the Spirit Seminars' - speaker Marie Beirne. Talks on God's love for us, how we can live in a closer personal relationship with Jesus and how we can experience the power of the Holy Spirit to transform our lives and of those we love.

St Thomas' Hall Friday, 8 December 7-9 pm, Saturday, 9 December 9.30 am -4 pm and Sunday, 10 December 11.30 am-3 pm. Lunch will be provided on Saturday and Sunday

For more information contact Ged Farrell 882116 or Tony Milnes 870250

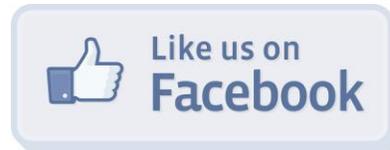
6) World Mission Stamp Project

During 2017, used stamps will be collected to raise funds for Church of South India's (CSI) eco-spirituality centre, Othara, near Kerala. Stamps can be dropped into the box at the door. **Please**

ensure when you cut the stamp off the envelope that you leave 1 cm (1/2 inch) of paper all around.

7) Could any elders who know of someone who should receive church flowers please put their details in the book in the counting room.

8) June Cairns co-ordinates the rota for **church transport. She is looking for more volunteer drivers.** Her contact number is 01542 882336.



Check out the Kirk webpage which can be found at www.strufus.org

Moray Food Bank/Keith Foodstore

Our local Keith Foodstore organiser, Tanya Dunlop, will be moving from Keith in the next few months, and is looking for a team of volunteers in the local churches to hand over this work. If anyone is interested in being part of a team to help carry on what she has started, please see Alastair or Eckhardt for further details.

More volunteers would be a great help even if it were only for a few hours during the run up to Christmas. If you are interested or would like to know more about the Foodstore in Keith please contact Joan MacBeath.

Please help those in need of emergency food by donating any long-life foods.

The items must be non-perishable (dried or tinned), in date, and not high in salt, sugar, or saturated fat. Suggested items are long-life milk (UHT or powdered), soup, pasta sauces, cereals, tea, instant mashed potato, rice/pasta, tinned meat/fish, tinned fruit, jam, biscuits or snack bars. Toiletries for both men and women are also welcome.

The blue box inside the main door at St. Rufus has been supplied for donated items.

Intimation sheets are **edited** by Joan MacBeath, 13 Broomhill Court, Keith. 01542 882185

✉ joanlmacbeath@aol.com