

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

TODAY, SUNDAY, 17 December

We welcome Retired Presbytery Deacon

Miss Margaret King

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

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 AFTERNOON (17 December)

There is a Joint churches' choir rehearsal in St Rufus Church at 4 pm.

THIS TUESDAY (19 December)

The Bible Study Group meets in the hall at 7.45pm 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'

THIS THURSDAY (21 December)

The Fly and Friendship Club meets at 2pm in the Scout Hall for their Christmas Party.

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS: -

(a) 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)

(b) Joint Churches Christmas Day Service at the North Church at 10.30 am.

(c) SUNDAY, 31 December

10.15 am – Joint Churches Service at St Rufus. (Sunday Club on holiday)

(d) SUNDAY, 7 January

10.15 am – St Rufus

11.45 am – Botriphnie

7 pm – Youth Group

(e) The Guild have their members night on Monday, 8 January at 7.30 pm. Members are reminded to bring with them, if possible, a poem, story, song, etc.

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) Heather Street and Isabel Russell have given a donation to the church from the recent sales from

their Traidcraft Stall. Thanks for all their hard work.

4) The Fly & Friendship Club will be on holiday on Thursdays, 28 December and 4 January. Resumes on Thursday, 11 January.

5) There will be a Boxing Day lunch served by the volunteers of the Tuesday Table in the North Church Hall 11.30 am – 1.30 pm.

6) 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.

7) 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.

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

9) 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

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