

Dates for your diary



1st Wednesday 7pm Holy Communion and Compline at St. John's.

2nd Thursday Candlemas 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.

4th Saturday Noon Holy Communion at Meadowbank, Newtonmore.

5th Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.

8th Wednesday 7pm Holy Communion and Compline at St. John's.

9th Thursday 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.

12th Sixth Sunday after Epiphany 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.

14th Tuesday Holy Communion at Hillside Ave., Kingussie.

15th Wednesday 7pm Holy Communion and Compline at St. John's.

16th Thursday 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.

19th Sunday before Lent 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's.

22nd Ash Wednesday 10.30am and 7pm Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion at St. John's.

23rd Thursday 1.15pm Holy Communion at Scot House Hotel, Kingussie.

26th First Sunday of Lent 10.30am Holy Communion at St. John's - with

29th Wednesday Holy Communion and Compline at St. John's.

Weekly Bible Study: Tuesday 2.30 – 4.30pm at Meadowbank, Main Street, Newtonmore.



February 2012



St. John the Baptist Rothiemurchus

Pancakes and personal growth.

February 21st is Pancake Day! But do you know the roots of Shrove Tuesday? The early Christians took their faith so seriously that they spent much of Lent fasting. Because they abstained from meat, eggs and dairy produce, housewives cleared out their cupboards on the day before Ash Wednesday and made pancakes from the ingredients.



But Shrove Tuesday was a red-letter day for another reason. This was the day when all newcomers or enquirers enrolled for the compulsory pre-Baptism classes. Every day, in the weeks leading up to Easter, these young Christians would receive instruction in the form of Bible teaching and personal prayer ministry so that by Easter Sunday, the day of their Baptism, they would be ready to take their vows: to promise to turn to Christ and live their lives for Him.



It was on Shrove Tuesday, too, that more mature Christians resolved to review their life and commitment to

Christ: to embark again on the journey from winter to spring, from death to life.

So Lent isn't really about 'giving up chocolate'. It's a prolonged period of time when God invites us to 'tone up' spiritually. A time to examine our lifestyle, to own up to the things that take us away from God. A time, not just for 'giving up', but for 'taking on' – taking on extra reflection, extra prayer, a midweek service, more serious repentance.



It doesn't have to be heavy or dull – why not go for a Prayer Walk each day and use the time to worship God. Or reflect on the practical blessings we enjoy in Scotland – and make a donation to a more needy part of the world through Christian Aid or Oxfam. Or spend 15 minutes in silent prayer each day. Or clear out a cupboard or two and consider how you can live more simply. If you want to look at your faith more deeply, then use some Bible Reading notes (available at the back of church).

Here are some good websites which may be of help:

wwwFOUNDATIONS21.net

www.sacredspace.ie

www.livelent.net

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/getinvolved/lent-2012/download-resources.aspx>

A Prayer for Candlemas

Lord of Light,
enable us to carry with us
through our daily lives,
the light of your presence.
May we fear no danger,
may we reflect your love and light
in our words and deeds.
Amen.



Begin the day with prayer and you will end it with praise.

Buy your Easter Eggs here!

The Real Easter Egg is the first and only Fairtrade chocolate Easter egg to explain the Christian understanding of Easter on the box. It also supports development projects. You can buy it for £3.99, including a Free 8 page storybook. The Diocese is encouraging us to support this project... and we will be selling them at



St. John's.

Opportunities during Lent.

Watch out for details of all the events and opportunities coming up during Lent both at St. John's and St. Columba's Grantown – beginning with special services on Ash Wednesday - February 22nd.