

## Church of Scotland: Orphir and Stenness Parish

**Interim Moderator:** Rev June Freeth 721449

**Locum Minister** Rev Martin Prentice    **Session Clerk:** Nicol Sclater 811242

### Intimations

**Sunday 21st Mar** at 11am – Zoom Service – The first 5 minutes will be used to get everyone logged in and the service will start at 11.05am.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5901432179?pwd=aEhgejNGR1RWc1oyek9RSXBZcXJpQT09>

Meeting ID: 590 143 2179

Passcode: 927045

*(These details are the same every week)*

Please contact Kathryn if you have any questions. Phone 811 242 or email [k\\_sclater@hotmail.com](mailto:k_sclater@hotmail.com)

- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April. "...Zoom Easter Service with Communion – details to follow
- If you, or someone you are in contact with, would like to access pastoral care by telephone, please contact Carol Mainland 873596, Nicol Sclater 811242, Olivia Tait 811392 or Martin Prentice 851139.

**“Sir, we would like to see Jesus.”** (*John 12:21, NCV*)

Imagine that simple request coming through the switchboard at Church of Scotland HQ in Edinburgh – at ‘121’. The request is passed to one department after another, from secretary to secretary; it is left on voice-mails and emails and on scribbled notes on people’s desks. Everybody is very busy dealing with the everyday concerns of the kirk and its outreach to the parishes and the country. The message goes out to all the Presbytery Clerks, and they start ringing 121 for advice.

Or suppose you are on door duty at the church – any church, on any Sunday, and a group of people comes in, and makes the same request: *“Sir, we would like to see Jesus.”* How would you reply? What would you do?

An unlikely scenario, you may say. Yet, as we progress through Lent, as we follow Jesus in his journey to Jerusalem and the Cross, maybe it is good to be stopped in our tracks, and, as individuals and as congregations, to ask ourselves what we do that might help us to respond to such a request. Could we welcome the people into the church, and could we tell them honestly that, although we cannot show them Jesus in the flesh, yet we believe that we live our lives in a living relationship with him, and that they will see a little bit of him in each one of us?

Jeremiah tells us:

“People will no longer have to teach their neighbours and relatives to know the Lord, because all people will know me, from the least to the most important,” says the Lord. (*Jer. 31:34, NCV*).

If that is true for us, does it help us to answer the question?

Martin.  
*(Durham)*

*(Derived from a comment by N.T. Wright, Former Anglican Bishop of Durham)*