***St Ebba's Church Newsheet***

 ***One of more than 300 congregations in the Scottish Episcopal Church***

***Fort View, Paxton Terrace, Eyemouth, TD14 5EL***

 ***November 2017***

***Development Project***

We did it! Viridor Credits Environmental Company (landfill) has granted St Ebba's £50,000 towards the extension of the church from the south wall. This will provide a kitchen, meeting room, disabled toilet and baby change along with storage area and a disabled entrance from the west. The work is out to tender just now with the successful contractor to be chosen before Christmas. Work is expected to start in the New Year with completion by the end of July. Watch this space!

***Farewell to Sheila***

On 27th August Sheila Cox celebrated her last Eucharist in St Ebba's having been told to cease all church work for the sake of her health. She has given many years of excellent service to St Ebba's being renowned for her lovely pastoral care, witty down-to-earth sermons, not forgetting the pink and purple hair colour! Sheila symbolically returned her church keys to Richard Oldale at the end of the service. Members of the congregation then provided a buffet lunch in the church hall and Sheila received a Lewis' Gift Card.

***Christening of the Year***

Jacob John Peter Aitchison, son of Antonia and Daniel, was baptised on Sunday 29th October by Revd Gabrielle Ayerst. What an occasion! 90 people packed the church, 20 of them children. Jacob had no less than 6 godparents.

***Free Will Offering Envelopes***

Due to our small numbers, it is not worth ordering a new set of FWO envelopes for the the new year as they are quite expensive. I intend using unused envelopes from the current year. This will mean that you will have a new number and the dates of Sundays will not quite correspond with the 2018 calendar. I hope you can bear with this to save our hard earned funds.

***Annual General Meeting – Sunday 26th November, 11.45 a.m.***

This will probably have taken place by the time most people read this but it will take place in the church after a shortened service and refreshments. Debbie Higson is coming off the Vestry and we could really do with two more Vestry members. A small number of people are doing a lot of work for St Ebba's – please consider if you could help in any way.

***Christmas Services***

The Revd Gabrielle Ayerst will celebrate the Eucharist on 24th December.

Watchnight Service – Coldingham Priory at 11.30 p.m.

Christmas Day – Family Service in Eyemouth Parish Church Hall 10.30 a.m.(NO service at St Ebba's)

Sunday 31st December – Gabrielle Ayerst will celebrate the Eucharist and this will be the last service in St Ebba's until the work is completed.

***While the work is being carried out …......***

The Revd Andy Haddow and the Kirk Session of the Parish Church of Coldingham and St Abbs with Eyemouth Parish Church have very kindly offered members of St Ebba's use of Coldingham Priory while our building is being extended. The Vestry are extremely grateful for this kind offer and intend to join Priory members at their 9.45 a.m. Services with the addition of a short communion service on the 4th Sunday of the month at 11.15 a.m. We will join in with the Priory quarterly communion dates the first of which is 29th January. 5th Sunday services are held at the Ebba Centre, St Abbs. Our March communion Sunday will be deferred to Easter Sunday on April 1st.

So the first Sunday that we will join the Priory congregation will be 7th January.

***Vestry Contacts***

Interim Rector – Revd Canon Jeffry Smith – 01668 283978

Treasurer – Simon Furness – 018907 50337

Secretary – Frankie Taylor – 018907 51123

Minutes Secretary – Joan Thomas

Lay Representative – Brian Payne – 018907 81825

2 vacancies

OSCR number SCO23275 Website: www.stebbas.org.uk