

PRESS RELEASE BY THE THREE CHURCHES IN THE PARISH OF CRUDEN

*Cruden Church of Scotland
St James Episcopal Church
Cruden Bay Congregational Church
Prepared 6 July 2012*

Please note it is intended to produce further press releases immediately prior to the three events mentioned below. These would provide more information on each of the events.

**Celebratory events to mark 1,000 years of Christian
Worship in Cruden Parish in North East Scotland.**

The Churches of Cruden are planning to celebrate 1,000 years of Christianity in the Parish of Cruden. It was in 1012 that there took place around the sand dunes of Cruden Bay the Battle of Crochdane between the Scots and the Danes.

After the battle, out of sorrow for the many left dead on the battlefield, there was established a chapel dedicated to St Olaf. So in 1012, Christian worship started in Cruden and has continued to the present day.

The Churches of Cruden are celebrating this millennial anniversary by holding three events over coming months.

29 July 2012 9:30 am Open Air Service



St Olaf's Well

The last Sunday of July is St Olaf's day and it was thought appropriate to have a special service that day near the site (precise location no longer known) of the first Christian chapel in Cruden parish which was built in the dunes where the Battle took place.

By the 17th hole on Cruden Bay golf course, there still exists today St Olaf's Well and, by permission of the Golf Club, the service will take place beside the Well.

18 / 19 August 2012

From 10 am to 5 pm people can visit each of the three parish churches which will be enhanced by the many flower arrangements and accompanied by information on the 1,000 years history. Details of refreshments being available on the Saturday will be given nearer the time. On the Sunday, the churches will be holding their usual services of worship to which visitors will be especially welcome

Flower Festival Weekend



CRUDEN BAY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

28 October 2012 11 am



Cruden Parish Church

Thanksgiving Service

After the first chapel was buried by sand, another was built beside the Water of Cruden as it flows into Cruden Bay.

That too did not last long and a third site was chosen to build a pre-Reformation church. Still standing on that site is the present Cruden Parish Church, the oldest church building in the parish and this will be the venue for a Thanksgiving Service to round off the millennial celebrations

The Rev Rodger Neilson, minister of Cruden Parish Church, says that these events have been getting planned over the last twelve months and the three churches have been pleased to work together to celebrate 1,000 years of Christian worship in the parish of Cruden. They are looking forward to welcoming visitors to the planned events.