

# **ST MARGARET'S NEW GALLOWAY**

**OCTOBER 2021**



## **St. Margaret's Church**

**NUMBER 437**

**Charity No: SCO12084**

## SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

18 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	3 <sup>rd</sup> October	10.30am Eucharist
19 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	10 <sup>th</sup> October	10.30am Eucharist
20 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	17 <sup>th</sup> October	10.30am Eucharist
Last after Trinity	24 <sup>th</sup> October	10.30am Eucharist
All Saints Day	31 <sup>st</sup> October	10.30am Eucharist

## CHURCH OFFICERS AND VESTRY

Priest in Charge	Canon B. Gilbert	Tel. 420665
Secretary	Mrs C. Rankin	Tel. 420259
Treasurer	Mrs C. Agnew	Tel. 430212
Lay Representative	Mrs N. Wise	Tel. 430218
Ladies Guild Pres.	Mrs C. Rankin	Tel. 420259
Property Convenor	Mrs J. Marsden	Tel. 420419
	Mr N. Wise	Tel: 430218

## BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS

Barry Gilbert our Priest-in-Charge, is the point of contact for baptisms, marriages or funerals. Telephone 01644 420665 or email: [barry\\_gilbert@talk21.com](mailto:barry_gilbert@talk21.com)

## UPDATE FROM THE VESTRY

We are grateful to Barry Gilbert for leading our Harvest Festival on 19<sup>th</sup> September. The church looked colourful and seasonal and many thanks to all who helped decorate it. Hilary Craig joined us on the organ and it was wonderful to be able to sing again, albeit behind masks. This was followed by a most enjoyable Harvest Lunch for the congregation, kindly hosted by Derick and Venetia Forbes.

Also on 19<sup>th</sup> September, a short ceremony was held outside the church by the memorial stones in order to inter Mary Johnstone's ashes with those of her husband and daughter. Mary's son Murray and daughter-in-law Dorothy were pleased that those who knew his mother were able to join them. On a beautiful autumn day, it was nice to remember Mary and her husband George, who were long-standing and active members of the congregation, including in Mary's case a long stint as President of the Ladies Guild.

All Saints' Day falls on a Monday this year so we have decided to celebrate it on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October instead, in line with many other churches. As in pre-Covid times, the Ladies Guild are planning a special celebration after the service instead of the usual coffee and biscuits..

## FROM THE TREASURER – GIVING

Thank you to all those who have sent cheques in lieu of your usual giving during this challenging time. Please continue to do so if you can. If you would prefer to donate by standing order the Church bank details are below.

**Bank** Clydesdale Bank

**Account Name** St. Margaret's Episcopal Church

**Account Number** 70077006

**Sort Code** 82-66-33

## **ST MARGARET'S WEBSITE**

Our website is proving useful as another source of information about our worship – particularly with Covid rules changing all the time. Any changes to our services will be posted on the website, as well as news from the Diocese and in our own Newsletter. The website can be accessed at:

<https://stmargaretsnewgalloway.org>

## **FROM THE DIOCESAN - LETTER FROM THE BISHOP**

Dear Friends

Afghanistan is a long, long way away: despite news coverage, newspaper reports, radio interviews, the country itself is on another continent. The news coverage makes many of us feel powerless, makes us ask ourselves the question “What can I do? Or, indeed, “What has the situation there to do with me?” When I find myself asking those questions then I become full of fear: fear not of military force, but fear of losing real hope in God who is love. Real hope, not simplistic optimism, that in the end the situation will sort itself out, but real hope in God because, as the liturgy states, there is no room for fear in love.

What Afghanistan teaches us is that to have ideas about God is right; it is only when we believe that our ideas about God are the only right ideas to have and to hold, then we lose real faith for a fraudulent certainty. Whatever faith is, it is not ideological certainty but faith in God who is love, removes fear and gives each one of us power. The power to empathise with the refugee and the exile, as they seek asylum in our midst. The power to recognise, and face, the refugee and the exile we recognise within ourselves. The child at school who is not interested in sport in a school famous for its prowess on the athletics track or football field, that child can feel isolated, excluded, exiled within and without, a refugee from the common experience.

Remember the gospel stories of Jesus eating with tax collectors and sinners. Making friends with women, never mind women taken in adultery. Certainty stoned them, but with love, understanding, acceptance, Jesus showed empathy and real love. That is the power of love, the sign of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in our world: real hope searches to understand, to accept, to open ourselves to new experience, to new ideas in which we encounter God in new ways through new people. There is no room for fear in love because life with God is so exciting, love is exciting, life giving, and brings us to power.

We have power in the tiny donations of money we are able to make to aid agencies. We have power in keeping ourselves informed of what is going on in our communities and in the worldwide family of humanity. We have power in prayer for those whose lives are torn apart by violence, war, being somehow different, a refugee, in exile.

Remember the Biblical stories of God's people who were exiled, refugees, wanderers in strange lands. This is our history, our heritage as people of faith. It is the story of God's people, searching for God in the wilderness of their experience and of their hearts.

Recently, I have visited several projects helping those with addictions recognise what actually drives them to substance abuse of whatever sort, drugs, alcohol. Walking in certain areas of our city many of our people, especially young people, feel powerless and hopeless. The dedication, the love of those working in those areas, walking those streets: that is the dedication and the love which seeks to give power to those who feel powerless so often.

When we pray for Afghanistan, we pray for the peace of love which comes from understanding and acceptance. When we pray for those with addictions in our own communities we pray for the peace of love, which comes from understanding and acceptance. When we pray for ourselves, we pray that we may show the power of the Holy Spirit in understanding and acceptance. That is the blessing of God, which passes all understanding...

## SCOTTISH EPISOPAL INSTITUTE 2021 LECTURE

**On Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October, 5pm:** our Diocese is honoured to be hosting this annual event, which will be introduced by Bishop Kevin, who hopes that as many as possible might attend, either in person at Glasgow University Chapel (there is space for 100 people) or online. The lecture is organised by Canon Anne Tomlinson, Principal of the SEI, and is being given by the Revd Dr Michael Hull, on the topic of *To Filioque or Not to Filioque*. Further publicity, and registration details for attending either the physical or online event can be found at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/to-filioque-or-not-to-filioque-the-warrant-of-holy-scripture-tickets-169336888191>

Nicolette Wise

Lay Representative

## OCTOBER FLOWER ROTA

2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Barry Gilbert
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Barry Gilbert
16 <sup>th</sup> October	Nicolette Wise
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Nicolette Wise
30 <sup>th</sup> October	Cathy Agnew

## **REFRESHMENTS IN CHURCH**

The Ladies Guild will be serving tea and coffee after the Sunday service each week. The Scottish Government guidelines now enable us to mix more freely, however anyone who would rather have refreshments served to them should remain seated.

## **HARVEST LUNCH**

The Harvest Lunch held after the Harvest Service at Earlstoun was a lovely occasion. The hospitality was warm, the weather lovely and the food delicious. Although fewer people than usual attended, it was especially enjoyable as it has been so long since we have been able to hold a social event. Many thanks to Venetia and Derick for their hospitality, and for providing the wine; Dorothy Faulds for serving and clearing up, and the Ladies Guild for providing the food. We hope this is the start of more 'get togethers'.

## **LADIES GUILD**

The Ladies Guild meeting took place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. It was lovely to meet 'face to face' after so long. Having catered for the Harvest Lunch we hope to be holding the Christmas Coffee Morning jointly with the Kirk Guild in December. More details to follow.

Christine Rankin  
Ladies Guild President

## **ALL SAINTS DAY**

We will celebrate All Saints Day on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October. The Ladies Guild will be providing canapés and fizz after the service to mark this special day.

## POETRY CORNER

### Keep Going

Is the goal distant, and troubled the road,  
And the way long?  
And heavy your load?  
Then gird up your courage, and say 'I am strong,'  
And keep going.

Is the work weary, and endless the grind  
And petty the pay?  
Then brace up your mind  
And say 'Something better is coming my way,'  
And keep doing.

Is the drink bitter life pours in your cup -  
Is the taste gall?  
Then smile and look up  
And say 'God is with me whatever befall,'  
And keep trusting.

Is the heart heavy with hope long deferred,  
And with prayers that seem vain?  
Keep saying the word -  
And that which you strive for you yet shall attain.  
Keep praying.

- *Ella Wheeler Wilcox*



## OCTOBER READINGS

3<sup>rd</sup> October

Genesis 2: 18-24

Christine Rankin

Hebrews 1: 1-4; 2. 5-12

Nicolette Wise

10<sup>th</sup> October

Amos 5: 6-7, 10 - 15

Cathy Agnew

Hebrews 4: 12-end

Helen Keron

17<sup>th</sup> October

Isaiah 53: 4-end

Nicholas Wise

Hebrews 5: 1-10

Clive Brayshaw

24<sup>th</sup> October

Jeremiah 31: 7-9

Rosalind Hall

Hebrews 7: 23-end

Christine Rankin

31<sup>st</sup> October

Wisdom 3: 1-9

Cathy Agnew

Revelation 21: 1-6a

Nicolette Wise

## **PRAYER FOCUS**

- Sunday Pray for Bishop Kevin, the Clergy of the Diocese, Lay Readers and Vestry Committees.
- Monday Pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to inspire churches and congregations around the world through prayers and worship.
- Tuesday Pray for all those who suffer and are persecuted for their faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Wednesday Pray for all of those who suffer severe hardship, for those who face famine and thirst around the world and those suffering the effects of the coronavirus pandemic
- Thursday Pray for the world-wide Anglican Communion and Church leaders of all Denominations.
- Friday Pray for Her Majesty the Queen and her family and for all who serve under her.
- Saturday Pray for the work of missionary societies and aid agencies in the troubled parts of the world.