

ST MARGARET'S NEW GALLOWAY

DECEMBER 2021



St. Margaret's Church

NUMBER 439

Charity No: SCO12084

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

2nd Sunday of Advent, 5th December 10.30am Sung Eucharist

Revd John McHale

3rd Sunday of Advent, 12th December 10.30am Sung Eucharist

Revd John Martin

4th Sunday of Advent, 19th December 10.30am Said Eucharist

Canon Barry Gilbert

Carol Service, 19th December 4.30pm

Christmas Day 25th December 10.30am Sung Eucharist

Canon Barry Gilbert

1st Sunday of Christmas 26th December 12 noon Said Eucharist

Professor Revd Rob Gilbert

NB the church will be open for private prayer 10.30-12 noon on 1st, 9th, 15th and 22nd December.

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
	Mr N. Wise	Tel: 430218
	Mrs P. Gilbert	Tel: 420665

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

UPDATE FROM THE VESTRY

On the last Saturday of November, two members of the Vestries of St Margaret's New Galloway and All Saints Challoch were invited to make a presentation to the Diocesan Council to support their application for a Mission Support Grant which would enable the process of advertising for a shared Priest-in-Charge to start before Christmas.

We are delighted to say that our application has been successful, and the Diocese have agreed to contribute towards the cost of the stipend for at least 3 years.

This represents a great step forward for us all. It is hoped that interviews will take place in February with the successful applicant taking up the appointment in May.

Our AGM was held following the service on Sunday 28th November, which Barry Gilbert kindly chaired as our interim Priest-in-Charge. All the various reports and accounts were approved, and the Vestry re-elected with the addition of Pat Gilbert - if anyone has not received these reports, please contact Christine. And as in the past, we discussed the Christmas collections which it was unanimously agreed should go to Shelterbox this year.

Just before the AGM, Barry made a presentation to Jean Marsden on behalf of us all at St Margaret's. He spoke about how much Jean and Peter did for St Margaret's and the whole community, over many years, and how much she will be missed. Jean is moving to Norfolk to be nearer to her family and we all wish her the best of luck and hope she will come back and visit soon.



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>

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 in their pew seat.

Death of the Rt Rev John Taylor, former Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway

Bishop John was ordained to the priesthood in 1957, and served as Curate at St Margaret's, Gallowgate, Aberdeen before becoming Curate in Charge and then Rector at Holy Cross, Knightswood, Glasgow. He remained in the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway for the rest of his active ministry, including many years as Rector at St Ninian's, Pollokshields and then at St John's, Dumfries.

He served as a Canon of St Mary's Cathedral in Glasgow from 1979 and was consecrated Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway in May 1991. He retired in 1998, and latterly held a warrant in the diocese.

In recent years he lived in Kirriemuir, and it was there that he died on Thursday, 18 November 2021, aged 89.

Upon the news of Bishop John's death, Bishop Kevin said: "Just as Bishop John began his episcopal ministry in Glasgow and Galloway, I began setting up the first Provincial-wide Discernment, Selection and Recruitment process. Bishop John's kindness and encouragement were a great help to me in establishing the post of Provincial Director of Ordinands. His kindness was matched by his wisdom and, through the College of Bishops, his holiness was a gift to all. Both he and his secretary Monica provided me with much-needed support and confidence. We thank God for Bishop John's ministry among us."

May Bishop John rest in peace and rise in glory.

FEELING STRESSED?

Peace and quiet can be hard to find during the frantic countdown to Christmas. In order to help, we are offering an escape from the stresses of the world during December. No readings, hymns or sermons; no phones, computers, TV or social media – just a quiet (and Covid-compliant) space for silent contemplation and reflection.

All are welcome. Whether you are a church-goer or not, a safe and sacred space can help you unwind and de-stress. As the psalmist said, ‘be still and know that I am God’.

Open 10.30 – 12 noon on Wednesday 1st,

Thursday 9th, Wednesday 15th and Wednesday 22nd December.

Pop in for five minutes, or stay an hour, to find some peace and tranquillity.

DECEMBER FLOWER ROTA

No Flowers during Advent

Saturday 18th December - Decorate the Church for the Carol service

from 2pm

Please come and help make the Church look festive if you can

JOINT CHURCHES CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

The Christmas Coffee Morning held jointly with the Kirk Guild will take place on Wednesday 8th December in New Galloway Town Hall from 10.30 am until 12pm. All proceeds will be split equally between St. Margaret's Ladies Guild and the Kirk Churches Guild. All donations of baking, produce, gifts or raffle prizes will be gratefully received. The Town Hall will be open from 9.30am on that day for donations; non perishables can be brought to Church or delivered to Dalgowan in advance if preferred. Please support this enjoyable Ecumenical event. Entry £2.50, (children free) to include tea or coffee, mince pie and shortbread.

Christine Rankin
Ladies Guild President

CAROL SERVICE

Following the 4th Sunday of Advent Eucharist in the morning, our Carol Service this year will be held at 4.30pm on Sunday 19th December. The traditional mix of popular carols and readings will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies. The church will have been decorated for Christmas and it will be lovely to sing our favourite carols, even wearing masks! A great opportunity to ask friends and neighbours to what is always a joyous occasion for the community.

POETRY CORNER

The Lord Will Come and not be Slow

The Lord will come and not be slow
His footsteps cannot err;
before him righteousness shall go,
His royal harbinger.

Truth from the earth, like to a flower,
shall bud and blossom then;
and justice, from her heavenly bower,
look down on mortal men.

Surely to such as do him fear
salvation is at hand!
And glory shall ere long appear
to dwell within our land.

Rise, God, judge thou the earth in might,
this wicked earth redress;
for thou art he who shalt by right
the nations all possess.

The nations all whom thou hast made
shall come, and all shall frame
to bow them low before thee, Lord,
and glorify thy Name.

Or great thou art, and wonders great
by thy strong hand are done:
thou in thy everlasting seat
remainest God alone.

by John Milton

DECEMBER READINGS

5th December

Baruch 5

Nicolette Wise

Philippians 1. 3-11

Christine Rankin

12th December

Zephaniah 3. 14-end

Rosalind Hall

Philippians 4. 4-7

Helen Keron

19th December

Micah 5. 2-5a

Nicholas Wise

Hebrews 10. 5-10

Clive Brayshaw

Christmas Day

Isaiah 9: 2, 6 - 7

Christine Rankin

Titus 2: 11 - 14

Nicolette Wise

26th December

1 Samuel 2. 18-20, 26

Cathy Agnew

Colossians 3. 12-17

Nicholas 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.