

ST MARGARET'S NEW GALLOWAY

APRIL 2022



St. Margaret's Church

NUMBER 443

Charity No: SCO12084

SERVICES FOR APRIL

5 th Sunday of Lent	3 rd April	10.30am	Eucharist	Canon Barry Gilbert
Palm Sunday	10 th April	10.30am	Eucharist	Revd John McHale
Maudy Thursday	14 th April	6pm	Eucharist	Canon Barry Gilbert
Good Friday	15 th April	2pm	Service	Canon Barry Gilbert
Easter Day	17 th April	10.30am	Sung Eucharist	Canon Barry Gilbert
2 nd Sunday of Easter	24 th April	10.30am	Sung Eucharist	The Ven Stuart Bain

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

Although last month the Scottish Government lifted many of the legal restrictions put in place to slow the spread of Covid-19, face masks are still required in indoor public places, including Places of Worship. This will be reviewed again sometime in April. Covid infections continue to be high in Dumfries and Galloway and we stress that you should be careful and only attend services if you are feeling well. We still have hand sanitiser available, and at the Eucharist we ask that individuals or household groups continue to go up to the chancel step to receive the consecrated bread, those in the front pews going first.

The SEC Advisory Group has been keeping abreast of all the rules relating to worship and church life since the start of the pandemic. However, this role is now diminishing with the emphasis changing to individual churches assessing the risk in their local area when deciding on future practice. The Vestry are taking a cautious approach to plans for when we are allowed to return to pre-Covid worship. When the rules are dropped, it will be up to us as a congregation to care for ourselves and each other, Our collective worship has been a source of strength to many of us during the pandemic and, as the rules are relaxed, we do not want to cause any additional anxiety.

Our advertisement for a Priest-in-Charge, shared with All Saints' Challoch, has been in the Church Times since the beginning of March. The closing date is 22nd April, with first interviews pencilled in for 17th May. Please pray for a successful outcome to this recruitment process as we follow God's call for our future ministry here in New Galloway.

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 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

We are aware that some people may wish to set up a Bank standing order for their 'giving' but feel uncomfortable not putting something into the collection bag on a Sunday. We are therefore producing small laminated cards that can be placed in the collection bag during the Offertory. These will be removed and placed at the back of the Church to be collected and reused. Please take a few if you wish to use them.

REFRESHMENTS IN CHURCH

Refreshments are now able to take place after services and on other occasions. Currently 'face coverings' are still required while moving around but we await the Government's announcement as to when these restrictions will be lifted.

NEWSLETTERS

If you know of anyone new to the area or have a new neighbour please give them a newsletter or put it through their door. Extra newsletters are being printed this month in order to let more people know about St. Margaret's.

ST. MARGARET'S GUILD

The annual Cake and Plant Sale is planned to go ahead this year on Saturday 7th May in aid of Blood Bikes. Plants will be outside in the Gazebo, with the baking stall and teas served inside the Church as in previous years. In order for this event to be a success we require donations of plants and home baking. Please spread the word to anyone you know who may have propagated extra plants or who may bake to support this good cause.

Christine Rankin
Ladies Guild President

LENT LUNCHESES

The Lent Lunch in aid of Cancer Research took place at Dalgowan and raised £180. Sadly the Lunch planned to take place in the Church had to be cancelled due to a number of positive Covid cases. It is envisaged that the Lunch planned to take place at Whinnymuir on Friday 8th April in aid of Combat Stress will go ahead. Please support this if you can.

EASTER FLOWER ROTA

April 15 th	3pm	Congregation
April 24 th & 1 st May		Barry Gilbert

If you read our Newsletter and would like to join our flower Rota, please phone or email Pat Gilbert - 01644420665/p.a.gilbert@hotmail.co.uk

BALLIOL SINGERS CONCERT

You may remember this was originally planned to take place in April 2020 but had to be postponed due to the pandemic. It has now been rescheduled to take place in St. Margaret's on Tuesday 3rd May at 7.30pm. Entrance fee £10 (children free), payable at the door. There will be a raffle with all proceeds going to Church funds. Donations of raffle prizes much appreciated.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

DIOCESAN SYNOD 2022

Although it had been planned to meet in person for this year's Synod on 5th March, at the time of making the arrangements the Omicron variant had caused a level of uncertainty. In addition, Glasgow Academy had cancelled our booking for their theatre. The decision was therefore taken to hold this year's Synod virtually, using Sanctus Media again to run it for us, from the Cathedral.

As well as the normal Synod business, two important items were the revision to 1982 Liturgy and the climate change action plan:

Revision to 1982 Liturgy

The revisions incorporate changes in language both in reference to humans and to God in order to reflect the changes in English usage that have come about since 1982 and to improve on and make formal the changes to gendered language permitted since 2010. In addition, formal adoption of the Alternative Eucharistic Prayers for Christmas and Epiphany that were added to the 1996 seasonal prayers (Advent, Lent and Easter). Like the other Alternative Eucharistic Prayers, use is suggestive not prescriptive.

Revd Canon Dr Nicholas Taylor, Chair of the Liturgy Committee, commented as follows:

“We are coming to the end of a fairly lengthy process which started long before I was involved. So the mandate to the Liturgy Committee would have been framed in terms of the understanding of the issues in the Faith & Order Board probably at least a decade ago. The Committee would have drafted the amendments and submitted to the Board, who in turn referred to the Bishops for authorisation for experimental use. At the (delayed on account of the pandemic) end of the experimental period, during which the

changes have hopefully been received and accepted, the revisions were submitted to General Synod last year for a first reading, and are referred to Diocesan Synods before receiving a second reading. Only then does the revised text become the definitive liturgy of the Church. This does not mean that the process of liturgical renewal will have come to an end; there will surely be another phase during the coming years.

While mitigating gendered language of God, there was no mandate to eradicate it altogether, especially in the context of the Trinity, and in reference to the person of Jesus. Texts like the Nicene Creed are ecumenical, and we are therefore very reluctant to deviate from the consensus English translation of the Greek original, the work of the English Language Liturgical Consultation (ELLC).

I have no doubt there will be some who think we haven't gone far enough, and others who think we have gone too far. But I hope we will be able to conclude this phase, so that the next can begin –and so that we can have a printed booklet of the revised text, to discourage congregations printing the entire service every week, which from an environmental perspective is important and urgent.”

Climate Change

Following the climate change action plan agreed at the 2021 General Synod we are in danger of being swamped with information about this from the Province, duplicated by the Diocese. The main concern at Synod was how to heat church buildings and how buildings could be adapted. There are some sessions being organised to help and advise on this over the summer.

Diocesan Council

Following the changes to the Constitution, a new Diocesan Council was elected, consisting of four clergy (Paul Watson, Lee Johnston, Janice Aiton and Willi Nesbitt) and six laity (Jenny Whelan, Beth Routledge, David Simmons, Nigel Rayner, Ronnie Orr and Nicolette Wise).

If anyone would like further information about the other items on the Agenda for the day, such as accounts, please email me at nicolette.wise2@gmail.com or speak to me after a Sunday service.

Nicolette Wise
Lay Representative

THE BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL

The Bishop's Lent Appeal this year is for *Children in Distress* – a small, Glasgow-based, Anglican-rooted charity that provides a children's hospice and care centre in Romania. Last month's Newsletter has more information about the charity and their work but it is worth noting that the *Children in Distress* website offers new information about the work they are doing to help Ukrainian refugees and orphans in the current crisis.

<https://www.childrenindistress.org/>

Anyone who would like to donate to this worthwhile cause, please follow this link to the Bishop's Lent Appeal Just Giving page - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Diocese-of-Glasgow-Galloway1>

POETRY CORNER

The Reason We Celebrate Easter

‘We celebrate the resurrection
and hail the risen Christ.
We kneel before the rugged cross
where Jesus gave His life.’

“We lift our hands in total praise
and give thanks to God above
for the great sacrifice, He made
to declare His unfailing love.”

“If we look back to Calvary
where Jesus was crucified,
we can see His nail-pierced hands
and the wounds in His side.”

“We marvel at Christ’s suffering
and give thanks for His sacrifice
’cause it was for us that Jesus died
so we could have eternal life.”

“But God raised Jesus from the dead!
And with gratitude, we can say,
“Our sin debt has been paid in full,”
so we celebrate Resurrection Day!”

by *Lenora McWhorter*

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE ANAGRAM QUIZ ANSWERS

1. NO RAMS ROMANS
2. USED OX EXODUS
3. AID A HOB OBADIAH
4. I SELECT CASES ECCLESIASTES
5. SINE PHASE EPHESIANS
6. AH! CLAIM MALACHI
7. WE HERBS HEBREWS
8. BORE RSVP PROVERBS
9. ONE MORE DUTY DEUTERONOMY
10. WHET MAT MATTHEW
11. NATIONAL STEM LAMENTATIONS
12. HOP IN ELM PHILIPMON

APRIL READINGS

3rd April

Isaiah 43: 16 - 21

Cathy Agnew

Philippians 3: 4b - 14

Christine Rankin

10th April

Isaiah 50: 4 – 9a

Rosalind Hall

Philippians 2: 5 – 11

Helen Keron

17th April

Acts 10: 34 - 43

David Humphries

1 Corinthians 15: 19 - 26

Clive Brayshaw

24th April

Acts 5: 27 – 32

Nicholas Wise

Revelation 1: 4 – 8

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.