

**ST MARGARET'S
NEW GALLOWAY**

FEBRUARY 2024



CANDLEMAS

NUMBER 464

Charity No: SCO12084

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

2 nd Sunday before Lent	4 th February	10.30am	Eucharist
The Transfiguration	11 th February	10.30am	Eucharist
Ash Wednesday	14 th February	6pm	Eucharist
Lent 1	18 th February	10.30am	Eucharist
Lent 2	25 th February	9.30am	Said Eucharist
Scout Founder's Day	25 th February	11.00am	

CHURCH OFFICERS AND VESTRY

Priest in Charge	Revd. Dawn Matthew	Tel. 420431
Secretary	Mrs C. Rankin	Tel. 420259
Treasurer	Mrs C. Agnew	Tel. 430212
Lay Representative	Mrs N. Wise	Tel. 430218
Guild President	Mrs C. Rankin	Tel. 420259
	Mr N. Wise	Tel: 430218
	Mrs P. Gilbert	Tel: 420665
	Mrs L. Garretty	Tel: 420829
	Mr Marcus Maxwell	Tel: 420328

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS

Dawn Matthew Tel: 07543247180 or email: revdawnmatthew@gmail.com

ST MARGARET'S WEBSITE

Our website is proving useful as another source of information. Any changes to our services will be posted on the website, as well as events outwith our normal Sunday worship. News from the Diocese can also be accessed via our website.

<https://stmargaretsnewgalloway.org>

PRIEST IN CHARGE

Embracing God's Sacrificial Love

Dear St Margaret's Family,

As we step into the month of February, the air is filled with a sense of love and reflection. This month brings us closer to each other and to God's boundless love, especially as we prepare for the solemn observance of Ash Wednesday.

Embracing Love

February is commonly associated with expressions of love, and as a church family, we are reminded of the greatest love of all—God's love for each one of us. Let us take this month as an opportunity to deepen our connection with one another and with our faith. Through acts of kindness, compassion, and understanding, we can reflect the love that God has showered upon us.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season—a time of repentance, reflection, and preparation for Easter. Join us on Wednesday 14th February for a special Ash Wednesday service where we will come together to receive ashes as a sign of humility and a commitment to turn our hearts towards God, as we receive his love.

The Christian Fellowship Group

Join us every **Tuesday at 7.15 – 9pm**, in the Session House at Dalry Church for our ecumenical Bible study and friendship, as we delve into the Word of God and explore its relevance in our lives.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you're looking for ways to participate in our church life more actively, why not think about volunteering for upcoming events, Bible reading, prayers, welcome, or serving at Communion?

Prayer Requests

We are a family that supports and uplifts each other in prayer. If you have any prayer requests or praises, please share them with us so that we can pray and stand with you in God's love.

May this February be a month of love, reflection, and spiritual growth. May the grace of God guide us through this journey, and may our hearts be open to the transformative power of His love.

Blessings,

Revd Dawn Matthew

CHRISTMAS GENEROSITY

For many years, St Margaret's have dedicated their collections at Christmas to a charity chosen by the congregation. Choosing a worthwhile cause is always difficult when there are so many places and people desperate for help and this year at the AGM it was decided to share the money raised between two charities - ShelterBox and CHAS.

On the international stage, ShelterBox's simple strategy of sending emergency shelter and tools to where they are most needed is both practical and useful. Closer to home, CHAS (Children's Hospices Across Scotland) offers a full family support service for babies, children and young people with life-shortening conditions.

The Vestry are delighted to report that just under £1,000 was raised from collections at the Carols by Candlelight service held at St Margaret's and from the Christmas Day service - this money will be divided equally between ShelterBox and CHAS.

Many thanks to all who gave so generously.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SUNDAY SERVICE TIME CHANGE

Please note there will be a Said Eucharist on **25th February at 9.30am** to allow for the Founders Day service to take place at 11am.

TUESDAY MIDWEEK SERVICES

Every Tuesday, 11.00-11.45am, we will be holding a short service with refreshments available. We hope that this morning provision will be helpful to many, and that it will be an ecumenical opportunity for us to worship together and build good relationships.

EVENING PRAYERS ON ZOOM

In line with our vision to broaden the accessibility of our worship provision at St Margaret's, alongside All Saints Challoch we will also be offering a weekly time of joint online evening prayers on Thursday evening, which will start at 7.30pm and last around 20 minutes. Our hope is that this will be another way that anyone can join in with our church families to worship and pray together. The Zoom link will be the same each week, as follows.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://Thursday Evening Prayers>

Meeting ID: 865 7597 6261

Passcode: 116824

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

St. Margaret's is hosting this year's World Day of Prayer which has been compiled by the Women of Palestine. The theme is 'I beg you, bear with one another in love'. The service will take place at **2pm on Friday 1st March**. Please support this Ecumenical service if you can.

ASH WEDNESDAY

There will be a Communion Service with the Imposition of Ashes, to mark the start of Lent at **6pm on Wednesday 14th February**

THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP GROUP

This will be starting up again in Dalry. It will meet at the newly decorated Session House (adjacent to Dalry Church) on Tuesday Evenings 7.15-9.00pm. This is an open, friendly, opportunity for Christians or those seeking to know more, to meet casually together to look at and discuss the Bible in relation to our lives today. Refreshments are always served! The first meeting will be on **Tuesday 6th February**, with a Pancake social on 13th February. From the 20th February we will be starting a Lent series leading up to Easter. Anyone is welcome at any time without needing to commit.

LENT LUNCHESES

The dates, venues and the charities being supported in this year's Lent Lunches are as follows. Please support them if you can.

Friday 16 th February	at Dalgowan	Cancer Research
Friday 23 rd February	in the Church	Turning Point Scotland
Friday 8 th March	Whinnymuir	Scottish Charity Air Ambulance
Friday 15 th March	TBA	
Friday 22 nd March	TBA	

SCOUT FOUNDERS DAY SERVICE

Sunday 25th February 11am. Every year the Scout movement acknowledge the birthday of their founder Lord Baden-Powell who was born on 22nd February, 1857. This usually takes the form of a church service. This year Glenkens Cubs are holding their service in St. Margaret's and have issued an invitation to other Scout Groups to join them. It is hoped that there will be a Flag Parade before the service and refreshments afterwards. All are welcome to join in this special service.

REFRESHMENTS IN CHURCH

St Margaret's Guild will continue to offer refreshments as part of the church Fellowship after the Sunday service and on special occasions. The Guild is always grateful for any donations in the 'pig' at the back of the church or of tea, coffee or biscuits.

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 every month in order to let more people know about St. Margaret's

ST. MARGARET'S GUILD

The Guild met on 15th January and discussed arrangement for the Lent Lunches and The World Day of Prayer, please see details under Dates for your Diary. The annual Cake and Plant Sale will be taking place again this year on Saturday 4th May in aid of Blood Bikes. More details in the next newsletter.

The next Guild meeting will be held on Monday 8th April at 10.30am in Dalgowan. All welcome.

Christine Rankin Guild President

FLOWER ROTA

4th February

Sarah Watson

11th February

Sarah Watson

NO FLOWERS DURING LENT

If you read our Newsletter and would like to join our flower Rota, please phone or email Nicolette Wise - 01644430218/nicolette.wise2@gmail.com

CHURCH ASSISTANTS ROTA

11th February

Intercessions

Chalice

Nicolette

Christine

25th February

Cathy

Linda

GLENKENS HUB

The recently launched Glenkens Hub (see <https://glenkens.scot/>) is a great source of information about absolutely everything that is happening in the Glenkens. Amongst other things, the comprehensive calendar lists everything that is happening on any particular day, including all the St Margaret's church services. If you haven't already visited the Glenkens Hub, please do so as there really is something to interest everyone.

RECIPE

From the World Day of Prayer Resource to celebrate Palestine

Date Slice

Ingredients

8oz chopped dates
6 oz sugar
4 oz plain flour
4 oz porridge oats
4 oz butter/marg
1 tsp bicarbonate
1 tsp baking powder
Small carton apple juice – 4 oz
1 tsp vanilla essence

Instructions

Chop dates, add apple juice and cook gently until soft, stir in vanilla essence and cool. Mix flour, bicarbonate, baking powder and oats, rub in butter or marg to make a crumble. Stir in the sugar.

Press half the mixture into an 8in square baking tin, spread the dates over the top and cover with the remaining mixture. Press down.

Cook for 25 -30 mins in an oven at 180c. Cut into square to serve.

POETRY CORNER

Candlemas

The Angel-lights of Christmas morn,
Which shot across the sky,
Away they pass at Candlemas,
They sparkle and they die.

Comfort of earth is brief at best,
Although it be divine;
Like funeral lights for Christmas gone,
Old Simeon's tapers shine.

And then for eight long weeks and more
We wait in twilight grey,
Till the high candle sheds a beam
On Holy Saturday.

We wait along the penance-tide
Of solemn fast and prayer;
While song is hush'd, and lights grow dim
In the sin-laden air.

And while the sword in Mary's soul
Is driven home, we hide
In our own hearts, and count the wounds
Of passion and of pride.

And still, though Candlemas be spent
And Alleluias o'er,
Mary is music in our need,
And Jesus light in store.

by John Henry Newman

FEBRUARY READINGS

4th February

Isaiah 40: 21 - 31

Nicholas Wise

Psalm 147: 1- 11, 20c

1 Corinthians 9: 16 - 23

Nicolette Wise

Mark 1: 29 - 39

11th February

2 Kings 2: 1 - 12

Simon Davidson

Psalm 50: 1 - 6

2 Corinthians 4: 3 - 6

Andy Jones

Mark 9: 2 - 9

14th February

Joel 2: 1 - 2, 12 - 17

Dominique Matthews

Psalm 51: 1 - 17

2 Corinthians 5: 20b 6: 10

Christine Rankin

Matthew 6: 1 - 6, 16 - 21

18th February

Genesis 9: 8 - 17

Helen Keron

Psalm 25: 1 - 10

1 Peter 3: 18 - 22

Rosalind Hall

Mark 1: 9 - 15

25th February

Genesis 17: 1 - 7, 15 - 16

Kate Maxwell

Psalm 22: 23 - 31

Romans 4: 13 - 25

Cathy Agnew

Mark 8: 31 - 38

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 His Majesty the King and his family and for all who serve under him.
- Saturday Pray for the work of missionary societies and aid agencies in the troubled parts of the world.