



# **ST MARGARET'S NEW GALLOWAY**

**MAY 2025**



## **ASCENSION**

**NUMBER 480**

**Charity No: SCO12084**

# **SERVICES FOR MAY**

## **Our regular weekly service**

10.30am Eucharist on Sundays each week

## **Special Services this month**

11<sup>th</sup> May – 4.00pm – Informal Service

29<sup>th</sup> May – 12pm – Ascension Day Service

## **CHURCH OFFICERS AND VESTRY**

Priest in Charge	Rev. Dawn Matthew	Tel: 420431
Secretary	Mrs C. Rankin	Tel: 420259
Treasurer	Mrs C. Agnew	Tel: 430212
Lay Representative	Mrs N. Wise	Tel: 430218
Alternate Lay Rep	Ms D. Pope	Tel: 07817582879
Guild President	Mrs C. Rankin	Tel: 420259
	Mr N. Wise	Tel: 430218
	Mrs P. Gilbert	Tel: 420665
	Mr Marcus Maxwell	Tel: 420328

## **BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS**

Dawn Matthew Tel: 07543247180 or email: [revdawnmatthew@gmail.com](mailto: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 out with our normal Sunday worship. News from the Diocese can also be accessed via our website.

<https://stmargaretsnewgalloway.org>

## **PRIEST IN CHARGE**

### **Rejoicing in the Risen Christ: A Season of Hope and Anticipation**

As we journey through the season of Easter and move towards Ascension, we find ourselves in a time of reflection, joy, and anticipation. The resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of our faith, and the weeks following Easter serve as a reminder of the new life we have in Him.

During this season, we celebrate the profound truth that Christ is alive, and through His resurrection, we are made new. The Easter season is not just a day to celebrate, but a season to reflect on the victory of life over death, hope over despair, and light over darkness. It's a time when we, as a church community, are called to live in the fullness of this resurrection life, sharing its joy and message of hope with those around us.

As we move toward Ascension Day (which falls on 29<sup>th</sup> May this year), we are reminded of Christ's final moments on earth. When Jesus ascended to the Father, He left His disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, empowering them - and us - to continue His work. The Ascension is a reminder that though Jesus has returned to the Father, He is not distant from us. He is always present, guiding, and empowering His people to spread His love and truth.

This is a season to renew our commitment to that mission - to be Christ's hands and feet in a world that so desperately needs His light. Whether it's through acts of kindness, sharing a word of encouragement, or praying for those in need, we are called to embody the risen Christ in every area of our lives.

Let's use this prayer each day during May, and may it guide our faith and actions.

As we approach the Ascension, Lord, would you guide us and be with us. May we allow the Holy Spirit to fill us anew, empowering us to live as witnesses to the resurrection. Let us also remember to pray for one another, for our community, and for the world, that all might come to know the hope and love that only Christ can offer. Amen.

### **Upcoming Events**

**Ascension Service:** Join us on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May, 12 noon at St Margaret's for our special service commemorating Christ's ascension. This will be a

joint service, not only with our sister church of All Saints, Challoch, but also with the SEC Region of Galloway churches.

Pentecost Sunday: Mark your calendars for Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June, as we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit.

In this Easter to Ascension season, may our hearts be filled with the joy of the risen Christ, and may we share that joy with everyone we meet.

With blessings in Christ,

*Revd Dawn Matthew*

## Easter Experience

This year I spent Holy Week on placement with the exceedingly brilliant Rev. Elizabeth Breakey in St. Ninian's Portpatrick and St. John's Stranraer. This was a chance to be part of a different church during one of the busiest weeks of the year, all to help me discern my vocation and figure out what God is calling me to do.



It is remarkable how much variance there is in the Scottish Episcopal Church considering our set liturgy, and how much that can depend on the priest-in-charge, the congregation, and even the church building itself. I managed to do a bit of everything, from the expected (preaching, intercessions, visiting a local primary school, reading Bible stories round a campfire) to the unexpected (wielding an electric screwdriver to make

‘pew skateboards’, making a crown of thorns out of holly found in Elizabeth’s garden). I think they call the latter ‘practical theology’ ...!

It was such a joyful week, and I was amazed by how much I learned in a relatively small amount of time – both through practical experience and through casual conversations with Elizabeth and her generous congregations throughout the week. If you ever find yourself in their area on a Sunday, then I strongly suggest that you pay these churches a visit because they are very special places full of very special people.

Dominique Pope

## **GLENKENS HUB**

The 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.

## **BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL**

Bishop Andrew has selected Refuweege, a Glasgow based charity that offers a warm welcome and valuable support to refugees and asylum seekers in Scotland. You can find out more about their work at: <https://www.glasgow.anglican.org/bishop-lent-appeal-2025-refuweege/>.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **SUNDAY SERVICES TIMES 10.30am**

Everyone is welcome to attend our services at 10.30am every Sunday.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays: 4.00pm Afternoon Service

### **MIDWEEK PROVISION**

The Church will continue to be open most Tuesday mornings between 10am – 12noon. Revd Dawn is usually in the church during those times, so if you'd like to pop in for a chat and a coffee, you'd be most welcome. Please look out for the **CHURCH OPEN** sign.

### **THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP GROUP**

This takes place on Tuesday Evenings 7.15-9.00pm, in the Session House, Dalry Kirk. 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! For more information, please contact Julian Watson on tel: 07966157848

## **EVENING PRAYERS ON ZOOM**

Each week, together with our sister church, All Saints, Challoch, we hold joint online evening prayers on Wednesdays, which begin at 7.30pm and last around 20 minutes. Our hope is that this is 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://Wednesday Evening Prayers>

**Meeting ID:** 865 7597 6261

**Passcode:** 116824

## **LENT LUNCHESES**

Thank you to everyone who hosted and supported the Lent Lunches. The following charities will benefit from funds raised.

The Food Train raised £300

Dementia Scotland £320

Castle Douglas Hospital League of Friends £140

## **ST. MARGARET'S GUILD**

Annual Plant and Bake Sale which took place on 26<sup>th</sup> April raised over £700 for the Scottish Charity Air Ambulance. Many thanks to all who donated baking and plants, or who helped on the day with sales tables and serving teas and coffees.

The next Guild meeting will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June, All Welcome.

**Christine Rankin**  
**Guild President**

## **EASTER QUIZ ANSWERS**

1. Passover
2. A Young Donkey
3. When Jesus entered Jerusalem on a Donkey people welcomed him by covering the road with garments and Palms?
4. Peter
5. Three times
6. 30
7. With a Kiss
8. Hanged himself
9. Barabbas
10. "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews"
11. Three hours
12. 33
13. Mary Magdalene
14. Easter falls on the first Sunday after the full Moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox which is when Passover takes place
15. Lamb

## POETRY CORNER

### ASCENSION DAY

“A Cloud received Him out of their sight.”  
When Christ went up to Heaven the Apostles stayed  
Gazing at Heaven with souls and wills on fire,  
Their hearts on flight along the track He made,  
Winged by desire.

Their silence spake: “Lord, why not follow Thee?  
Home is not home without Thy Blessed Face,  
Life is not life. Remember, Lord, and see,  
Look back, embrace.

“Earth is one desert waste of banishment,  
Life is one long-drawn anguish of decay.  
Where Thou wert wont to go we also went:  
Why not today?”

Nevertheless a cloud cut off their gaze:  
They tarry to build up Jerusalem,  
Watching for Him, while thro’ the appointed days  
He watches them.

They do His Will, and doing it rejoice,  
Patiently glad to spend and to be spent:  
Still He speaks to them, still they hear His Voice  
And are content.

For as a cloud received Him from their sight,  
So with a cloud will He return ere long:  
Therefore they stand on guard by day, by night,  
Strenuous and strong.

They do, they dare, they beyond seven times seven  
Forgive, they cry God’s mighty word aloud:  
Yet sometimes haply lift tired eyes to Heaven—  
“Is that His cloud?”



## FLOWERS

4 <sup>th</sup> May	Cathy Agnew
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Kate Maxwell
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Kate Maxwell
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Barry Gilbert

Please contact Nicolette if you are able to help - phone or message on 07748 631820, or email [nicolette.wise2@gmail.com](mailto:nicolette.wise2@gmail.com)

## CHURCH ASSISTANTS' ROTA

	<b>Intercessions</b>	<b>Chalice</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Dominique	Cathy
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Cathy	
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Nicolette	Christine
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Christine	Dominique

## WELCOMERS ROTA

4 <sup>th</sup> May	Nicolette
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Cathy
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Nick W
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Christine
29 <sup>th</sup> May	Nicolette

## MAY READINGS

### 4<sup>th</sup> May

Acts 9: 1 – 6 (7-20)

Rosalind Hall

Psalm 30

John 21: 1 - 19

### 11<sup>th</sup> May

Acts 9: 36 - 43

Cathy Agnew

Psalm 23

John 10: 22 - 30

### 18<sup>th</sup> May

Acts 11: 1 – 18

Nicholas Wise

Psalm: 148

John 13: 31 - 35

### 25<sup>th</sup> May

Acts 16: 9 – 15

Christine Rankin

Psalm 67

Revelations 21: 10, 22 – 22.5

John 14: 23 - 2

### 29<sup>th</sup> May

Acts 1: 1 – 11

Nicolette Wise

Psalm: 47

Luke 24: 44 – 53

## COFFEE ROTA

4<sup>th</sup> May

Nicolette Wise

11<sup>th</sup> May

Christine Rankin

18<sup>th</sup> May

Carrie Winger

25<sup>th</sup> May

Sarah Watson

## **PRAYER FOCUS**

- Sunday**      Pray for Bishop Reverend Canon Dr Nicholas John Bundock, the Clergy of the Diocese, Lay Readers and Vestry Committee.
- 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.