



ST MARGARET'S NEW GALLOWAY

SEPTEMBER 2025



HARVEST

NUMBER 483

Charity No: SCO12084

SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

Our regular weekly service

10.30am Eucharist on Sundays each week

Monthly Sunday @ 4

4pm Sunday 14th September

Harvest Festival

10.30am Sunday 21st September

CHURCH OFFICERS AND VESTRY

Priest in Charge	Rev. Dawn Matthew	Tel: 07543247180
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
Property Convenor	Mr Marcus Maxwell	Tel: 420328
	Mr N. Wise	Tel: 430218
	Mrs P. Gilbert	Tel: 420665

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 out with our normal Sunday worship. News from the Diocese can also be accessed via our website.

<https://stmargaretsnewgalloway.org>

PRIEST IN CHARGE

Autumn Harvest Church Newsletter - September 2025

Dear Friends,

As the leaves start to turn and the air becomes crisp (although we do seem to be enjoying rather a lot of sun at the moment), our minds turn to thoughts of Harvest. It's a time of reflection and gratitude as we gather to celebrate the blessings of the past season and anticipate the joys of the coming one.

Harvest Festival: A Time of Thanksgiving

Save the date! Our annual Harvest Festival is just around the corner on Sunday 21st September at 10.30am. Join us for our service as we celebrate God's loving goodness in the world, and give thanks for the abundance of his provision for us. Living in a predominantly rural area, the rhythm of the seasons and farming life are especially important to us.

Everyone is invited to bring along donations of tinned and long-life foods, as well as toiletries and household products. These will be donated to local Foodbanks and Community Cupboards. In these austere times, we want to share God's love by helping those in need.

Sign In Sheet for the Harvest Lunch to be held at the Town Hall following the service, will be at the back of the church or let Christine know, and we will be joining with the Kirk for this event.

Particularly with the summer having been a 'bit of a scorcher', it's very much felt like a time of rest and reflection. The church has been open on Tuesday mornings, and we've welcomed lots of visitors and some new folk too – both on Tuesdays and Sundays. A variety of people have found their way through the doors of St Margaret's; some have come to look around our beautiful building, some have come to pray, while others have come for a coffee and chat. It's been wonderful for our church to be open for those in our communities, and those pilgrims just passing through. The Zoom Evening Prayer has continued every Wednesday (7.30pm lasting around 20 minutes), please do ask for the link if you'd like to join in with that.

As we prepare for our Harvest Service and all that follows, giving thanks for God's provision, please do continue to pray for the life of our church, its people and the communities we serve. As we enter this next season, may we continue to grow in faith, compassion, and love for God and for one another.

Blessings and peace be with you,

Rev Dawn Matthew

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

The new Diocesan monthly e-news – 'Together' is now available. You can sign up to receive it at: <https://www.glasgow.anglican.org/> (just scroll to the end of the home page)

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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SUNDAY SERVICES TIMES 10.30am

Everyone is welcome to attend our services at 10.30am every Sunday.

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

HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Harvest Festival Service will be held on Sunday 21st September at 10.30am and be followed by the Harvest Lunch, in New Galloway Town Hall from 12 noon. We will again be inviting The Kirk to join us. Payment will be by donation but booking is essential. Please add names to the sheet in church or let Christine know you wish to attend as soon as possible as numbers are limited.

DATES OF FUTURE EVENTS

PET BLESSING SERVICE

We will be holding an outdoor service to celebrate our pets (weather permitting!) on Sunday 5th October at 4pm. This will be our Sunday @4 service for the month, and will be a service for the whole community to bring their pets along and thank God for how wonderful they are – people might want to bring a photo if they can't bring the pet! Please do save the date and let people know it's happening – word of mouth works wonderfully here in the Glenkens.

EVENSONG – Sunday 19th October at 4pm in Challoch

This will be a joint service with Challoch so please save the date.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will be held after the service on 30th November. The annual reports will be available at the end of October.

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

This annual event held jointly with the Kirk Guild will take place in New Galloway Town Hall on Wednesday 3rd December. Further details will be in the November Newsletter.

ST. MARGARET'S GUILD

At the Guild meeting held on 25th August it was agreed to once again invite members of the Kirk to our Harvest Festival Service and Lunch. We will also be joining with the Kirk Guild to run the annual Christmas Coffee Morning, which this year will be held in New Galloway Town Hall on Wednesday 3rd December, further details to follow in the November Newsletter.

Christine Rankin
Guild President

ALTERNATIVE GAMES

The St Margaret's Guild held a most successful Raffle at this year's Alternative Games in New Galloway, with all proceeds going to the Scottish Charity Air Ambulance. We were grateful for all the prizes that were generously given by members of the congregation, as well as the main prize of a food and wine hamper kindly donated by Bill and Val Chalmers from their shop in Dalry.

And mindful of the number of children present at the Games, we also had a 'Guess my Name' competition for a soft toy – the jury was out on whether the toy was a cow or a bull until the draw when we learned that the winning name was Belle!

We are delighted to have raised just over £350 for the SCAA which is Scotland's only charity air ambulance and is funded entirely by members of the public. Thanks to public support, SCAA are able to respond to time-critical accidents and emergencies throughout Scotland.

Christine and Nicolette

FLOWERS

7 th September	Rosalind Hall
14 th September	Nicolette Wise
21 st September	Congregation for Harvest
28 th September	Nicolette Wise

We will be decorating the church for the Harvest Festival on **Saturday 20th September at 10.30am** – please help if you can or call Nicolette if that time doesn't suit on 07748631820 or email: nicolette.wise2@gmail.com

POETRY CORNER

HARVEST FESTIVAL

When on a glorious day – one such as this –
you're overcome with awe and wonder, praise,
and part-formed gratitude... which seeks some one
to thank for this, by laying at their feet
all that the world has brought us unannounced
as seedcorn turned to golden harvest wheat –

then who would hesitate, to draw in light
a greater One as whom to kneel before,
to make of our humility, a 'One'
as if we were some grateful 'other'; we,
less worthy, painting pure duality..

..don't hesitate: praise is beyond a 'two';
what now we praise, becomes our very self;
in praise, name radiates as kingdom, come;
and kingdom hallows all, as all its own;
so, glory in that sound of praise so fine;
for when you shine with praise – then all things shine.

By Michael Shepherd

CHURCH ASSISTANTS' ROTA

	Intercessions	Chalice
7 th September	Nicolette	Cathy
14 th September	Christine	Dominique
21 st September	Nicolette	Christine
28 th September	Dominique	Dominique

WELCOMERS ROTA

7 th September	Cathy
14 th September	Julian
21 st September	Nicolette
28 th September	Christine

COFFEE ROTA

7 th September	Nicolette Wise
14 th September	Sarah Watson
21 st September	Harvest Lunch
28 th September	Christine Rankin

SEPTEMBER READINGS

7th September

Philemon 1- 21

Psalm 1

Luke 14: 25 - 33

Cathy Agnew

14th September

1 Timothy 1: 12 – 17

Psalm 51: 1 - 10

Luke 15: 1 - 10

Rosalind Hall

21st September

Amos 8: 4 – 7

Psalm: 113

Luke 16: 1 - 13

Nicolette Wise

28th September

Amos 6: 1a, 4 - 7

Psalm 146

Luke 16: 19 - 31

Nick Wise

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.