



ST MARGARET'S NEW GALLOWAY

DECEMBER 2025



ADVENT

NUMBER 486

Charity No: SCO12084

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

Our regular weekly service

10.30am Eucharist on Sundays each week

Special Services this Month

4pm – 19th December – Blue Christmas

4pm - 21st December – Carol Service

4pm – 24th December – Family Nativity

10.30am - 25th December – Christmas Day Eucharist

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

PRIEST IN CHARGE

A Merry Christmas to all!

In the hustle and bustle of this season, it's important to remember why we celebrate Christmas - the gift of Jesus Christ. This season reminds us of God's love and the hope we have through Him. As a church family and community, may we celebrate together and show God's love to those around us.

As ever, we have lots of different opportunities for everyone to be welcomed in this Christmas time. We hope that you will find the services and events that are right for you. Our Christmas season begins with the New Galloway Lights Walk Down on Sunday 7th December. St Margaret's hosted this for the first time last year, and we are thrilled to repeat the experience. It's a real collaboration of time and resources from across our community, and we look forward to working with LING, the Golf Club and the Catstrand to bring this Christmas gathering to life. Details are in the Christmas brochure and our Christmas flyers.

For the first time, this year we will be holding a Blue Christmas Service on Friday 19th December at 4.00pm. If you've not encountered this service before, let me tell you more. Sometimes we don't 'feel' Christmassy – we might have lost a loved one, or be feeling sad, lonely, or overwhelmed. This gentle service offers a moment of quiet reflection in the midst of the busyness of the season. There will be an opportunity to light a candle in memory, or choose a blue bauble and place it on the Christmas tree.

These services go alongside our Carol Service for the community, our Christmas Eve Interactive Family Nativity (come dressed as a character from the nativity, or borrow one of our costumes) and of course, our Christmas Day Communion, as we celebrate the joy of Christ's birth.

This is a little bit in advance, but I wanted to take a moment to thank everyone who is making our Christmas services possible by supporting them in prayer and with practical help – we couldn't manage Christmas without you all! If anyone would like to volunteer over Christmas, or indeed in the New Year, please do get in touch – whether that's welcoming, the flowers, prayers or coffee, it all helps!

I will be taking some time off post-Christmas to rest and recharge, but for now, may I wish you all a blessed, joyful and peaceful Christmas! Merry Christmas to all, and to all, a good night.

Revd. Dawn Matthew

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>

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.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

It is with great sadness that the Diocese report the death of Rt. Rev. Dr Gregor Duncan on 21st November at the Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice in Bellahouston. Bishop Gregor served as Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway from 2010 to 2018. His funeral will be held in St. Ninian's Pollockshields in due course – details will be available on the website.

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)

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

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON – 7th December – 5pm

This will start at the Golf Club car park. The Piper will lead the walk down to St. Margaret's for Mulled wine and shortbread, with entertainment from the Glenkens Singers in the church.

CAROL SERVICE – 21st December – 4pm

We welcome our community to join us in our carol service to sing carols we all know and love, and to hear the Christmas story told in word and song. Geoff Davidson will be playing the organ with a few of the Glenkens Singers to lead the Carols. Refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies will be served after the service.

FAMILY NATIVITY - 24th December – 4pm

An opportunity for families to attend an informal service and for children to make items to hang on the tree.

CHRISTMAS DAY EUCHARIST – 25th December – 10.30am

All are welcome at our Christmas Day service. The collection will be donated to the charity chosen at the AGM

ST. MARGARET'S GUILD

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING – 3rd December – 10.30am – 12 noon

This will take place in New Galloway Town Hall. Entry £3 to include coffee or tea, mince pies and shortbread. This is a joint event held annually with the Kirk Guild. Donations of Christmas Gift items, baking and produce would be much appreciated. Donations can be brought on the day or to Christine the day before. There will also be a raffle, prizes for this have already been sourced.

The next Guild meeting will be 19th January at 10.30am in Dalgowan

Christine Rankin
Guild President

CHURCH HELPERS

We could do with more people assisting with Sunday services. If you would be willing to help with Welcoming, Reading, Intercessions, Communion or making Coffee after the service, either regularly or occasionally please contact Christine on Tel: 07749212201 or dalowantraining@aol.com

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and all the best for 2026

POETRY CORNER

Advent Poem

Festival of Light – Advent
Come, loving God,
into our worship and into our world;
Come with the light of love,
Come with the light of peace,
Come with the light of hope.
Come, loving God,
into our worship and into our world
and banish the darkness of night
with the dawn of your coming.

© Carol Dixon

CHURCH ASSISTANTS' ROTA

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

WELCOMERS ROTA

7 th December	Cathy
14 th December	Nicolette
21 st December	Christine
25 th December	Nicolette
28 th December	Christine

FLOWERS

No flowers during Advent

10.30am - 20th December we will be decorating the church for Christmas
All help much appreciated. Music and refreshments provided.

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

COFFEE ROTA

7 th December	Nicolette Wise
14 th December	Christine Rankin
21 st December	Sarah Watson
28 th December	Nicolette Wise

DECEMBER READINGS

7th December

Isaiah 11: 1-10
Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19
Matthew 3: 1-12

Cathy Agnew

14th December

Isaiah 35: 1-10
Canticle Magnificat
Matthew 11: 2-11

Christine Rankin

19th December

Luke 2: 1-7
Luke 2: 8-20

Dominique Pope

21st December

Isaiah 7: 10-16
Psalm: 80: 1-8, 18-20
Matthew 1: 18-end

Nicolette Wise

25th December

Isaiah 9: 2-7
Luke 2: 1-20

Dominique

28th December

1 Corinthians 1: 26-29
Psalms 124
Matthew 2: 13-18

Rosalind Hall

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.