



ST MARGARET'S NEW GALLOWAY

JANUARY 2026



EPIPHANY

NUMBER 487

Charity No: SCO12084

SERVICES FOR JANUARY

Our regular weekly service

10.30am Eucharist on Sundays each week

CHURCH OFFICERS AND VESTRY

Priest in Charge	Revd. 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

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 dalgowantraining@aol.com

PRIEST IN CHARGE

A Farewell Message

Dear St Margaret's Family,

As I write this final newsletter, my heart is full of gratitude for the time we've shared together in so many different ways. While my time here will soon be coming to an end, the memories, the relationships, and the work we've done will stay with me. This is a bittersweet moment for me. There is so much joy in knowing that God's work will continue here, but it's also hard to leave a community that has supported me, prayed with me, and been such an important part of my journey.

Reflections on the Past Year: Reflecting on the past year, I want to take a moment to highlight the milestones and growth we've seen together. From the Plant and Bake Sale to the recent Community Carol Service, I have seen God at work among us – in the life of the church and the community - and it's been a privilege to be a part of it.

- New Faces: We've welcomed new people into our church family, and I've witnessed God's transformative work in so many lives.
- Outreach and Service: Whether it was the Alternative Games, the Harvest Lunch or our random acts of kindness, it's been wonderful to see how our church has made a difference in our community and beyond.
- Personal Milestones: For me personally, it's been an honour to see people grow in their faith – not least of all my own daughter, Dominique, who will begin training for ordination next Autumn. I have seen God's hand at work in ways that I will carry with me as I begin the role of Canon Missioner for the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.

A New Beginning for You and for Me: Change can be difficult, but it also brings new opportunities for growth. I am excited for the future of St Margaret's, and trust that God has big plans ahead – you have a solid foundation to build on, a wonderful Bishop and Rural Dean, and of course, the Holy Spirit! I encourage you all to continue seeking God, supporting one another in love, and being a light in this world. As I take the next step in my journey, I am confident that God will lead this congregation through its next chapter.

Thank You: I cannot thank you enough for your love, encouragement, and prayers throughout my time here. The kindness, laughter, and sometimes the tears we've shared will remain in my heart always.

Please know that I will continue to pray for each of you as you walk through the coming months. Though I may be leaving, I will never truly be far from the St Margaret's family.

Looking Forward to a Farewell Service: Before I go, I would love to see as many of you as possible at our Farewell Service on Sunday 1st February at 10.30am. We will take time to celebrate the last three years together, and I'd welcome the chance to say a farewell to you all.

I will be installed as Canon Missioner at St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow on Sunday 15th February at 5.00pm. You are all most welcome to attend.

Scripture for the New Year: As we begin 2026, I want to leave you with this verse:

Jeremiah 29:11 *For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.*

No matter where God takes us next, I trust that He has wonderful plans for all of us! Thank you once again, for the privilege of getting to know you, and to have served the Lord alongside you. I will remember our time together fondly, and I trust that God's presence will continue to guide you all.

With love and gratitude,
Revd Dawn Matthew

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

The Rt Rev Dr Gregor Duncan

11 October 1950 - 21 November 2025

A Requiem Mass was held for Bishop Gregor, former Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway, on 11th December at St Ninian's Pollokshields. The service was led by Bishop Nick, the current Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway, with Verity Brown, the Rector of St Ninian's, assisting. The preacher was the Rt Rev Dr Michael Ipgrave, 99th Bishop of the Diocese of Lichfield, a lifelong friend of Bishop Gregor's ever since they started as ordinands together over 40 years ago.

Over 200 people attended the funeral - family and friends as well as people from all across the Diocese who had worked and worshipped with Bishop Gregor over many years. And of course lots of clergy and I counted at least seven Bishops. It was a very moving service with wonderful music and readings (and lots of incense), all of which had been chosen by Bishop Gregor himself. The only change made to his stipulations was the sermon - apparently he had told his old friend, Bishop Michael, only to preach on the Gospel (Matthew 11: 25-30) and not to turn it into a eulogy. However, Bishop Michael chose to disregard this and gave an excellent tribute, as well as preaching on the Gospel! It was all a most fitting 'goodbye' for a kind, intelligent and deeply spiritual man.

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)

Nicolette Wise
Lay Representative

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>

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

ST. MARGARET'S GUILD

The Christmas Coffee Morning held in New Galloway Town Hall on Wednesday 3rd December was very well attended and a joyous ecumenical occasion. Over £400 was raised on the day benefitting each Guild by over £200. Thank you to everyone who donated, help on the day or attended.

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

Christine Rankin
Guild President

POETRY CORNER

Epiphany – The Three Kings

Although they did not know his name, they sought
Him in the bleak darkness of wintry night.
It defied all the wisdom they'd been taught,
Yet they were drawn to a mystical light.
With pilgrims' keen eyes that see beyond stars,
They followed the light until they found Him.
They offered gold, frankincense and myrrh
To the new born King of Kings without sin;
In a humble stable of hallowed ground.
They wondered how such bright glory dwelt there.
Yet through it all, He slept without a sound.
They realised their riches weren't so rare,
Not compared to divine innocence's worth.
That blessed night they perceived heaven on earth.

By Dominic Windram

CHURCH ASSISTANTS' ROTA

Intercessions

Chalice

4 th January	Cathy	
11 th January	Dominique	Cathy
18 th January	Christine	Dominique
25 th January	Nicolette	Christine

WELCOMERS ROTA

4 th January	Cathy
11 th January	Nicolette
18 th January	Julian
25 th January	Christine

FLOWERS

4 th January	Nicolette Wise
11 th January	Nicolette Wise
18 th January	Kate Maxwell
25 th January	Kate Maxwell

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

JANUARY READINGS

4th January

Isaiah 60: 1-6
Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14
Matthew 2: 1-12

Cathy Agnew

11th January

Isaiah 42: 1-9
Psalm 29
Matthew 3: 13-17

Christine Rankin

18th January

Isaiah 49: 1-7
Psalm 40: 1-11
John 1: 29-42

Dominique Pope

25th January

Acts 9: 1-22
Psalm: 67
Matthew 19: 27-30

Nicholas Wise

COFFEE ROTA

4 th January	Christine Rankin
11 th January	Nicolette Wise
18 th January	Sarah Watson
25 th January	Christine Rankin

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.