

# *St Columba's*

*Scottish Episcopal Church*

*Largs*

*December 2015 & January 2016*



*An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said,  
“Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt,  
and remain there until I tell you.”*

*Matthew 2:13*

The Scottish Episcopal Church is a self-governing province of the world-wide Anglican Communion. This is a family of over 70 million Christians in more than 160 countries. Our nearest relations are the Church of England, the Church in Wales and the Church of Ireland. Through the Porvoo agreement we are also in full communion with many other branches of the Church.

St Columba's in Largs, is one of over 60 Episcopal congregations that work and worship within the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway. We are part of Ayrshire Region and our neighbours include congregations in Ardrossan, Dalry, Irvine, Troon, Kilmarnock, Prestwick, Ayr and Maybole.

The area covered by St Columba's includes Largs, Skelmorlie, Fairlie and West Kilbride and ecumenically we play a very active part in Largs Churches Together.

## **SERVICES AT ST COLUMBA'S**

**Sunday: 8.00am Said Eucharist**

**11.00am Sung Eucharist** (*Choral Matins on second Sunday of the month*)

**6.30pm Evening Prayer** (*check noticeboard for details*)

*Refreshments are served in the hall following the 11.00am service*

**Wednesday: 10.00am Said Eucharist** (*Scottish Liturgy 1970*)

*Festivals and Saints Days as announced*

The Daily Offices of **Morning Prayer** (8.00am) and **Evening Prayer** (5.00pm) are offered publicly in church on most weekdays.  
Please check the church noticeboard for details.

The church building is also open for private prayer on most days.

Visit our website:

**[largs-church.co.uk](http://largs-church.co.uk)**

Dear Friends,

During Advent we prepare to celebrate the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus. It is a time of preparation to greet the holy One who seeks to come into our midst. This he did long ago in Bethlehem as the child of Mary. This he does today; continuing to ask that we, too, make room for him in the midst of our life.

As we celebrate with joy this sacred story and mystery, we do so in the context of a troubled world; a place that knows so much conflict, violence and upheaval.

As we reflect on the Incarnation of our Lord, we are reminded that Christ came to such a world and shared our human plight. The Holy Family knew what it was to go from door to door seeking refuge; and the Gospel of Matthew relates the story of them escape the tyranny of King Herod and having to flee to the relative safety of neighbouring Egypt.

It is important that we never compartmentalise our faith and keep it in the manageable safety of sacred history and the pages of the scriptures alone. Our Christian faith and hope is completely relevant to today's troubled world. Christ is still to be discovered in the thousands who seek refuge from warfare and is to be seen in the faces of all displaced and vulnerable people.

May we know the blessing of his presence in one another and in our calling to serve those most in need today. May this broken world come to know the just and lasting peace of the Prince of peace this Holy Season and always.

Yours in the faith,

**Gordon**

# Year's Mind

*Please remember before God those who have died  
and whose year's mind falls in December and January*

## DECEMBER

1<sup>st</sup> Phyllis Douglas  
4<sup>th</sup> Susan Dayman, Isabella Anderson, John Gutherson  
6<sup>th</sup> Dick Barnes  
7<sup>th</sup> Margaret MacKay  
8<sup>th</sup> Norman Barrett  
11<sup>th</sup> Tom Stott  
12<sup>th</sup> Sonia Hunter, Doreen Barnes,  
13<sup>th</sup> Jack Clough  
15<sup>th</sup> Margaret Goldie  
16<sup>th</sup> Sarah Spencer, Hilda Logue, Heather Fletcher  
17<sup>th</sup> Ann Sadler  
25<sup>th</sup> Connie Donaldson, Ernest Pow  
29<sup>th</sup> Marjorie Jones  
30<sup>th</sup> Jessie Ferguson, Peggy Dagnell, Terry Witt  
31<sup>st</sup> Alfred Thomas

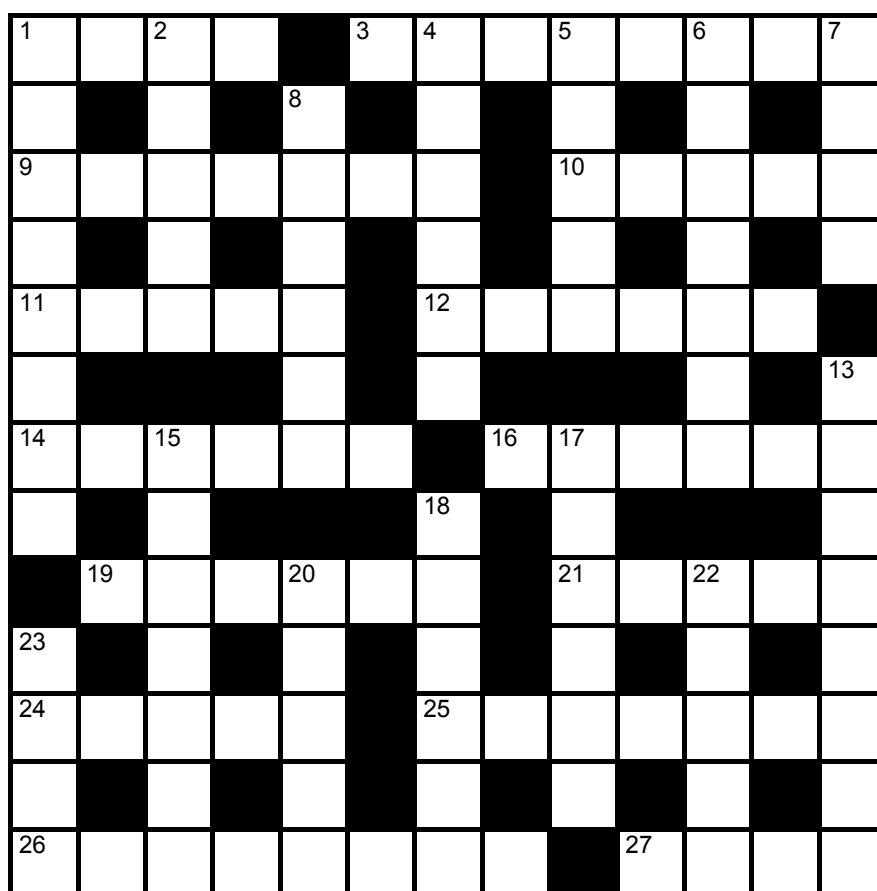
## JANUARY

1<sup>st</sup> Gwen Lawson  
2<sup>nd</sup> James Rankin, Leslie Estill, Elizabeth McGlashan  
3<sup>rd</sup> Louise Boyle  
5<sup>th</sup> Doreen Pow  
6<sup>th</sup> Vivienne Somerville  
7<sup>th</sup> Sybil Evans, Grace Saxton  
10<sup>th</sup> Joyce Doreen Downham  
12<sup>th</sup> Jessie Harvey  
14<sup>th</sup> Ian Angell  
16<sup>th</sup> Tiger (John) Lyon, Harry Powell  
17<sup>th</sup> Gerald Jolley, Lesley Heath, Jean Duguid  
20<sup>th</sup> Gordon McTavish  
23<sup>rd</sup> Doris McFarlane  
24<sup>th</sup> Amy Fryers, Don MacLiver  
28<sup>th</sup> Audrey Cooper  
31<sup>st</sup> Ann Cuthbertson



*May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

## Quick Crossword



### Across

- 1 Spirit (4)
- 3 Adherent (8)
- 9 Retreat (4,3)
- 10 Audacity (5)
- 11 Communion table (5)
- 12 Robust, uninhibited (6)
- 14 Listener (6)
- 16 Place of worship (6)
- 19 Podium (6)
- 21 Stay (old English) (5)
- 24 Model of perfection (5)
- 25 Pertaining to Easter (7)
- 26 Athlete in world games (8)
- 27 Boast (4)

### Down

- 1 Sundays (8)
- 2 Not trimmed (5)
- 4 Vent (6)
- 5 Cruise ship (5)
- 6 Praise, revere (7)
- 7 Regrets (4)
- 8 Unrefined (6)
- 13 US name for an iris (4,4)
- 15 Severely (7)
- 17 Funeral car (6)
- 18 Ideal place  
(Sir Thomas More's version) (6)
- 20 An abnormal growth (5)
- 22 "Blood" of mythical gods (5)
- 23 Luxurious type of car (4)

*(Solution on page 20)*

# For your Diary

- 29 November - 3.00pm Largs Churches Together Service at St John's  
30 November - 7.00pm St Andrew's Day Eucharist  
2 December - 11.00am First of four weekly Advent Bible Studies  
3 December - 2.00pm Meditation Group  
*5 December - 10.00am for 10.30am Diocesan Advent Quiet Day, Paisley*  
5 December - 2.00pm Yuletide Afternoon  
6 December - 4.00pm Taizé Service for Advent  
12 December - 2.00pm Service of Light & Remembrance  
*18 December - 4.00pm Christian Aid Carol Singing at Morrisons*  
*20 December - 3.00pm Service at Auchinlea Nursing Home*  
20 December - 6.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols  
21 December - 10.00am Largs Monday Toddlers Christmas Party  
*21 December - 6.30pm Carol Singing at Hutton Park Nursing Home*  
21 December - 7.15pm The Rector's 'At Home'  
*22 December - 4.00pm Christian Aid Carol Singing at Morrisons*  
24 December - 4.00pm Children's Christingle Service  
24 December - 11.00pm Christmas Midnight Mass  
25 December - 10.00am Christmas Day Eucharist  
7 January - 2.00pm Meditation Group  
*10 January - 12.30pm Congregational Lunch at the Willowbank Hotel*  
*13 January - 1.30pm Christian Aid Committee meeting at Clark Memorial*  
*17 January - 3.00pm Service at Moorburn Manor Nursing Home*  
*22 January - 5.00pm Unity Vespers at the Benedictine Monastery*  
22 January - 7.00pm 'Burns Light' Scottish Night  
31 January - 6.30pm Largs Churches Together Candlemas Evensong



## **From the Registers**

Funeral: *Mrs Ellen Battle - 17 November*

## Food Bank

The North Ayrshire Food Bank were glad to receive the produce from October's Harvest Festival. Sadly a proportion of this had to be disposed of because some items were past their sell-by date. This is unhelpful to the Food Bank staff and also embarrassing for our congregation. Please remember to check the sell-by dates on any items you place in the Food Bank box to avoid this happening in future. There is a list of items on the box in church. This is a handy guide to what will be most useful to those who must make use of our local Food Bank.

Thank you for your continued support! *The Rector*



## Yuletide Afternoon

The Yuletide Afternoon will take place from 2.00pm on Saturday, 5 December. Donations of seasonal goods would be most welcome. Please speak to Vicky or Norma for details of setting up etc.

### ***A Burns Night with a difference!***

*Keep a look out for tickets to the 'Burns Light' Scottish Night to be held at 7.00pm on Friday, 22 January.*

## Toddlers

There will be a volunteer meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> November after toddlers where we will be organising our Christmas party which is on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December, we look forward to Santa appearing again with his sack again. This will be followed by our volunteers Christmas lunch. *Hilary*



## Christmas Cards for Greenock Prisoners

This year I have offered to organise the sending of a Christmas card to every prisoner in HM Greenock prison and I would appreciate your help. The Mothers' Union do this in many prisons around the UK and Ireland as a gesture of love to all. I volunteer in Greenock prison as a play person when family visit with their children at weekends, it is much like what we do at toddlers, but we have older children also. So it is a big task to get 250 Christmas cards signed (there are about 250 inmates)! As soon as I receive the cards I will bring them to church and at coffee time I would like your help signing them. We have heard feedback from prison officers that it really does make a difference to even the most hardened criminals to know that someone is thinking of them, as often it can be the only card they receive at Christmas. So please help to send out a Christian message of love. The advice is to just use your Christian name and maybe suitable greeting of your choice.

*Hilary Moran*

### Diocesan Advent Quiet Day

The Advent Quiet Day will be led by Bishop Gregor and the title is; ***'The Advent Season: its nature and purpose'***.

This event will take place at Bishop Court, Holy Trinity & St Barnabas Church, Moss Street, Paisley, from 10.30am - 3.00pm on Saturday, 5 December.



Participants are asked to bring their own lunch, but tea and coffee will be provided from 10.00am. Please apply to Jennifer Fitzgibbon (secretary), Development Team for Prayer and Spirituality, e-mail [j2fg@aol.com](mailto:j2fg@aol.com); phone 01294823992.



## **FairTrade Fortnight**

Fairtrade fortnight 2016 will run from 29th February till 13th March, so please start collecting labels off the Fairtrade food/drink etc which you buy over Christmas.

There will be a draw for a hamper of Fairtrade goodies in the hall after church on Sunday 12th March.

Raffle tickets will be exchanged for Fairtrade labels from Sunday 28th February; 1 raffle ticket per label or 5 raffle tickets for 3 labels. A wine bottle - or its label is worth 2 raffle tickets.

So start collecting now! All the supermarkets sell Fairtrade goods - though you may sometimes have to look for them! If not immediately obvious, it is a good idea to ask, as it registers interest. Also Traidcraft offers a wide range of produce (eg dried fruit and sugar if, like me, you haven't got round to making your cake/ pudding yet!), as well as a variety of other goods for Christmas presents - all fairly traded and sourced from all over the world. They can be ordered through Linda Young, and are usually delivered within a few days. *Jennifer Fitzgibbon*

## **Regional Council Meeting**

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November at St Ninian's, Prestwick

As the new congregational representative for St Columba's, I attended my first Regional Council Meeting this month. Together with the Rector and Lay Representative we went to the meeting at St Ninian's church in Prestwick. Although the format was not as expected in that it was not a formal meeting, it was nonetheless interesting. The first portion of the meeting was given over to the Diocesan Prayer and Spirituality Group, who despite the time constraints upon them posed some very interesting group discussion points including:

**What spiritual resources do we find when we go to church?**

**How do you describe the experience participating in worship and compare it with a concert or going out with friends?**

**What happens in church and how do we respond to God and the claims on us?**

The points raised were of great interest and they are certainly questions that we all can ask ourselves.

The remainder of the meeting was given over to a presentation concerning the Asylum Seekers and Refugees who in their plight are arriving in the UK. As Christians the question posed was what can we do, both physically and spiritually for those in need. North Ayrshire Council and the Interchurch Project were looking for ideas and assistance for the refugees. A very thought provoking presentation for what is a time of change perhaps socially for our region. How best do we respond?

### **A Local Picture of Violence against Women**

The UN 16 days of activism against Gender Violence are from 25<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> December. It has been commemorated by Largs Churches Together for the last two years, with a special service held here. Gordon helped to put the service together with me. I have also been supported by the Mothers' Union, a worldwide Christian mission organisation, who are calling for ZERO women to be affected by gender violence this year. Gender violence cover many aspects from physical violence, rape, mental and psychological abuse, coercive and controlling behaviour, human trafficking, female genital mutilation and a few more instances.

I feel it is so important to raise the awareness of this issue as the abuse is nearly always hidden and out of site. Women and young people who are living in abusive relationships might gain strength in reading about our service, by knowing that people are praying for them and campaigning for laws to change and bring prosecutions. A few people have said to me how welcome it was to have a service to raise this hidden issue, more people should be outspoken to let men know it isn't right.

The statistics are horrifying in Scotland. One incident of domestic violence is reported to the police every 10 minutes in Scotland (Scot.gov. 2009). In one year there were 7,000 reports of sexual offences (2011-2012). At least 1 in 5 women in Scotland will experience domestic violence in their lifetime. Innocent children live in these families so are very much affected by their experience. One such local story I have heard since I advertised the first service is Mary's story, here is a glimpse of it.

“I was 10 years old when mum was diagnosed with cancer; she died when I was 14 years old. Beatings were for the tiniest of mistakes; for me not managing my maths, not putting enough sugar in his tea, curtains not being pulled so the amount of fabric was the same both sides, not hearing him the first time he called. Life got so bad at home I ran away at 16 years of age and I tried to get custody of my little brother, but didn't win, my father was clever and extremely articulate, I was told my case was hopeless because of our background -nice family, big house etc.

In my 30's a routine chest x ray was taken and the consultant asked me if I'd been in a car accident, because he could see at least 17 fractures. You can move on from domestic violence, life turned around for me, God was always there in the darkest scariest days.”

We have a collection at the service for North Ayrshire Women's Aid (WA) who support women and children who have left their home. During the service we will make a cairn of stones which will represent those women and children who are living in violent circumstances, this will then be laid in the garden of rest after the service.

Contact details; North Ayrshire Women's Aid 01294 602424.

Domestic Abuse helpline 0800 027 1234.

*Hilary Moran*

## **Congregational Lunch**

Remember to sign-up for the congregational lunch. This will take place at the Willowbank Hotel at 12.30pm on Sunday, 10 January.

Make your selection from the menu in the porch and pass your payment of £15 to John Lamb.

## **Save your Stamps!**

With Christmas coming up, can you please save used stamps and pass them to me. I sort them and send them on to Hessilhead Wildlife Sanctuary in Beith, so that they can be sold to stamp collectors to raise funds. Many thanks

*Heather Upfield*



# CHRISTMAS



A very happy Christmas to  
all our friends. *Hilary & Freddie Moran*

With love and best wishes for Christmas  
and the New Year. *Nessie & Jim*

Wishing everyone a Very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year. *Jean and John*

Wishing all a Blessed Christmas  
and a Good New Year *Rose Stevenson*



Christmas Greetings *Sheila Ferguson*

Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year. *Eileen*

Festive Greetings to all. *Joan Hutton*

Peace and Joy to all, from *May Kidd*

Best wishes to all for a happy Christmas. *Ken & Elsie*

Christmas Greetings. *Elizabeth Ferguson*

To all our lovely friends, Happy Christmas!  
*Jane and Aubrey McCance*



Warmest greetings to each and every one of you. *James and Anna*

## GREETINGS

May the blessing of Christmas be with you  
now and in the coming year.

*Gordon and William*

With warm good wishes to you all.

*Peter & Elspeth Robertson*



Best wishes for Christmas & 2016. *Fionna Ferguson*



May the Christmas Light fill you with joy. *Gill B*

Greetings to all. *Susan, Sophie & Lucy Birch*

With every blessing to the Vestry and Congregation.

Ray and Linda Young

Wishing you all a very joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year

*Chris and Jane*

A Happy Christmas to all, and a peaceful New Year.

*Stuart Robertson*

Good health and happiness to all my lovely friends.

*Joy Chalmers*



Happy Christmas and a Good New Year.

*Alice and John MacDonald*

Season's Greetings to All. *Margaret Stewart*

Christmas Greetings. *Gib & Jennifer*

## Slaves in Scotland

Shamsul Arefin promised four men jobs at his hotel in the Highland and charged each of them £18,000 to escape poverty in Bangladesh. But what was meant to be a new start became a nightmare. In July this year Arefin was jailed for three years on human trafficking charges at Fort William Sheriff Court.

But the four victims still live in fear of him with his links to organised crime and are struggling with emotional scars and huge debts. Sheikh described: “He forced us to work from morning to night, sometimes starting at 5am and not finishing until after midnight. I paid him £16,000 to bring me here. I borrowed it from several people so I’m still in a lot of debt. Arefin barely paid me - sometimes not at all, and I had to live in a broken caravan with four men. There was no water or heating and it was damp as the window was broken. One of my money lenders has threatened to take out my kidney if I go back to Bangladesh.”

What is slavery? It is inflicted on the **vulnerable**, often more on women who are the weaker sex. It is caused by **prejudice**, victims come from communities which the wider society dislikes/ or ignores, due to race, faith, caste, homeless, orphan etc. There is **failure of the rule of law** and often no culture or capacity to enforce it.

Someone is in slavery if they are, forced to work, through mental or physical threat. Are owned or controlled by an ‘employer’, usually through mental or physical abuse. Dehumanised and treated as a commodity or bought and sold as property. Physically constrained or have a restriction placed on his/her freedom of movement.

Could you identify a victim in your home town? Would you be willing to contact the police? These are the general indicators of victims of human trafficking. People who:

- Show fear, anxiety, illness and are under nourished
- Suffer injuries that appear to be the result of an assault, such as bruises and scars
- Seem isolated from the local community and are under control of others

- Live in over-crowded conditions, often with heavy security
- Are regularly collected very early and returned late at night
- Have frequent visitors to premises, often a stream of men arriving and leaving at unusual times, or they rarely leave the house without be accompanied
- Are unwilling to engage with others in a social or work setting
- Who are house bound and can only wave for help from a window

Police Scotland should be contacted to report suspicion of human trafficking, 101. Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance (TARA) offers support, advocacy and advice to trafficked women. Migrant Help provides support and safe accommodation to migrant workers. Scottish Guardian Service supports trafficked children and young people. ACTS human trafficking group aims to campaign against human trafficking.

The Parable of the Good Samaritan - Luke 10:25-37

Through his eyes ('when he saw him...'33). With his heart ('....he took pity on him.'33). With his feet ('He went to him...'34). With his hands ('...and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him.' 34).

## Service of Light and Remembrance

Each year the funeral directors William Tyre & Son, together with the local clergy, arrange a service for those who have been bereaved in the past year. This special service is hosted by a different congregation each year. This year our congregation will be the venue for the service which will take place at 2.00pm on Saturday, 12 December and refreshments will be offered in the hall afterwards. If you can assist with us hosting this service, please speak to the Rector.

*The Rector*



## Vestry Notes

The following matters were discussed at the Vestry meeting on 27 October and actions and decisions taken as shown:

***Labyrinth-*** There was a lengthy discussion and exchange of views on the proposed labyrinth, its location on the back lawn and the maintenance thereof as reservations had been expressed by two Vestry members regarding future maintenance. The Rector reported on the wholehearted support of the Regional Council for the labyrinth and for the cost of the works (estimated at £3,200) to be met by the Diocese, subject to the agreement of Bishop Gregor and the Convener's of the Diocesan Network which was currently being sought. The Vestry agreed to continue with the current proposals to outline the labyrinth in monoblock on the north lawn as it would attract locals and visitors to our Church grounds and meet our MAP goal of reaching out imaginatively into the community.

***Institution of James Currall-*** The Rector reported that he had attended the Institution of James Currall in Dornoch on 20 September along with Ray and Linda Young.

***Congregational Awayday-*** The Vestry Awayday will consider whether the Congregational Awayday should be to Lindisfarne or to a closer venue such as the Rosslyn Chapel.

**PROBUS-** PROBUS had decided not to move from the Brisbane House Hotel to our Church hall.

**Mothers' Union-** The Mothers' Union Autumn Network magazine was circulated.

***Spiers Gumly-*** A letter had been received from Spiers Gumley on behalf of tenants at Aubery View expressing concerns regarding trees overhanging the lane. Chris Evans met with two of the tenants on site to identify the problems and was seeking quotes from tree surgeons to lop branches as necessary, including trees around the Church grounds affecting Church property.



**Lighting:** Chris Evans confirmed that an Electrician had been engaged to resolve problems with the lighting at the Church hall and back of the Church, which were on all of the time, and the lights in the alley way which were not coming on. In addition he would be checking the extractor fans in the Gents and Ladies toilets, the Gents one being particularly noisy.

**Vestry Steps:** Chris Evans undertook to power wash the Vestry steps which are slippery.

**Deep Clean:** The Vestry members will undertake the required deep clean of the hall on Saturday 14 November at 10.00 a.m. Nessie had kindly agreed to deep clean the oven.

**Hedge Cutting:** Chris Evans will check why the hedge cutting and removal of clippings wasn't carried out on 19<sup>th</sup> October as planned and arrange an alternative date.

**Pot Holes:** The pot holes in the drive require to be filled with concrete as a longer term solution but meantime Ray Young will rake chips back to fill the holes.

**Treasurer-** A report on Receipts and Payments against the Budget from 1 September to 22 October had been circulated. Chris Evans reported that Income was down by £1,347 but payments were less than expected by £4,146 giving a surplus of £2,799. It was however early days and Chris would continue to monitor the situation.

**Social/Fundraising-** Vicky Johnson and Norma McLellan are working on Yuletide which will be held on 5 December and a box for donations will be located at the back of the Church. William Ferguson is arranging a fundraising event between the New Year and Lent and it was suggested that this be a "Burns Light" Scottish Night

**Music Inventory-** Colleen Anderson and Heather Upfield had compiled a comprehensive spread-sheet of music held in store for the Choir which had a value of £5,027. A copy of the spread-sheet will be kept in the music library. The Vestry recognised the

considerable amount of work involved and recorded their thanks to Colleen and Heather in the Minutes.

The Vestry will next meet at their Awayday on 28 November from 9.30 a.m. until 2.30 p.m at St. Peters, Dalry. *Ray Young, Vestry Secretary*

### **Prayer Calendar for December**

- 1: All who live with HIV and AIDS
- 2: Justice and Peace
- 3: All Carers
- 4: Residents of local Nursing Homes
- 5: Gregor our Bishop
- 7: Voyagers and Travellers
- 8: (*Conception of the BVM*) The Mothers' Union
- 9: Vacant Charges
- 10: The College of Bishops
- 11: Local Businesses
- 12: Those who mourn
- 14: (*John of the Cross, Teacher, 1591*) Those who teach the faith
- 15: Those forced to make use of Food Banks
- 16: The Unemployed
- 17: Local Schools and Colleges
- 18: The frail elderly
- 19: All voluntary workers
- 21: The leaders of the nations
- 22: All Refugees
- 23: Our family and friends
- 24: Those who receive Blythswood Care Christmas Shoebox Gifts
- 25: (*Christmas Day*) Thanksgiving for the Incarnation of our Lord
- 26: (*St Stephen, First Martyr*) All who suffer for their faith
- 28: (*Holy Innocents*) Those who suffer from the violence of others
- 29: (*Thomas Becket, Abp, Martyr, 1170*) The Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby
- 30: Those whom we find it difficult to love
- 31: The healing of memories



## Prayer Calendar for January

- 1: (*The Naming of Jesus*) God's blessing on this new year
- 2: Housebound and Home Communicants
- 4: Those who are new to our congregation
- 5: Organisations that use our hall
- 6: Those visited by our Pastoral Team
- 7: The depressed
- 8: Those who work at sea
- 9: Those living with longterm illness
- 11: The lonely
- 12: The recently bereaved
- 13: (*St Kentigern*) The people of Glasgow
- 14: The Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway
- 15: Those separated from loved ones
- 16: All displaced peoples
- 18: Those who promote and depend upon Fair Trade
- 19: Action of Churches Together in Scotland
- 20: Churches Together in Britain and Ireland
- 21: Largs Churches Together
- 22: Religious Communities
- 23: A strong joint witness to the love of God for the world
- 25: (*The Conversion of St Paul*) Openness to God's Spirit
- 26: A renewing of vision and of our individual vocation
- 27: Families in crisis
- 28: The Social Services
- 29: The anxious
- 30: Those living with problems of addiction



## **'God is our Refuge and Strength'**

*A Taizé Service of Advent - 4.00pm, Sunday 6 December*

*Refreshments will be offered in the hall following the service and the offering will go to the Refugee Crisis Appeal of Christian Aid*

## **'Preparing the Way'**

*An Advent Bible Study*

*This year's 4 session Advent Bible Study, based on readings for year C of the Revised Common Lectionary, will meet in the Rectory each Wednesday*

*from 11.00am until 12.15pm; 2nd - 23rd December*

*Come along and prepare yourself for Christmas!*

### **Quick Crossword Solution**

1	S	O	2	U	L		3	F	O	L	L	O	6	W	E	7	R
	A		N		8	C		U		I		O					U
9	B	A	C	K	O	U	T			10	N	E	R	V	E		
	B		U		A			L		E		S					S
11	A	L	T	A	R			12	E	A	R	T	H	Y			
	T				S			T					I			13	B
14	H	E	15	A	R	E	R		16	C	H	A	P	E	L		
	S		C					18	U		E						U
		19	P	U	L	20	P	I	T		21	A	B	22	I	D	E
23	L		T		O						R		C				F
24	I	D	E	A	L			25	P	A	S	C	H	A	L		
	M		L		Y			I		E		O					A
26	O	L	Y	M	P	I	A	N			27	B	R	A	G		

**Across:** 1 Soul, 3 Follower, 9 Back out, 10 Nerve, 11 Altar, 12 Earthy, 14 Hearer, 16 Chapel, 19 Pulpit, 21 Abide, 24 Ideal, 25 Paschal, 26 Olympian, 27 Brag.

**Down:** 1 Sabbaths, 2 Uncut, 4 Outlet, 5 Liner, 6 Worship, 7 Rues, 8 Coarse, 13 Blue flag, 15 Acutely, 17 Hearse, 18 Utopia, 20 Polyp, 22 Ichor, 23 Limo.

*Please check these rotas and note if you are included.  
Please feel free to swap with others to ensure duties are covered for all services.*

## Services and Rota for December 2015

Day	Services and Sunday readings	Duty at Sunday 11.00am
Wednesday, 2	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
<b>Sunday, 6</b> <i>Advent 2</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist 4.00pm Taize for Advent Service  <i>Mal 3:1-4; Phil 1:3-11; Lk 3:1-6</i>	Server: Alice MacDonald Reader: Joan Hutton Intercessor: Alison Jones
Wednesday, 9	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
Saturday, 12	2.00pm Service of Light & Remembrance	
<b>Sunday, 13</b> <i>Advent 3</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Choral Matins 6.30pm Evening Prayer  <i>Zep 3:14-20; Lk 3:7-18</i>	Reader: Elspeth Robertson Intercessor: Frances Robertson
Wednesday, 16	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
<b>Sunday, 20</b> <i>Advent 4</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Eucharist Together 6.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols  <i>Mic 5:2-5a; Lk 1:39-55</i>	Server: William Clark-Ferguson Reader: Ray Young Intercessor: William Clark-Ferguson
Wednesday, 23	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
Thursday, 24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	4.00pm Children's Christingle 11.00pm Christmas Midnight Mass	Server: All Servers Reader: Jennifer Fitzgibbon Intercessor: Clergy
Friday, 25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	10.00am Sung Eucharist	
<b>Sunday, 27</b> <i>Christmas 1</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist  <i>1 Sam 2:18-20, 26; Col 3:12-17; Lk 2:41-52</i>	Server: Chris Evans Reader: May Kidd Intercessor: Ray Young
Wednesday, 30	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	

## Services and Rota for January 2016

Day	Services and Sunday readings	Duty at Sunday 11.00am
<b>Sunday, 3</b> <i>Epiphany Sunday</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist  <i>Isa 60:1-6; Eph 3:1-12; Matt 2:1-12</i>	Server: Hilary Moran Reader: Gib Fitzgibbon Intercessor: Ken Hinshalwood
Wednesday, 6 <i>Epiphany</i>	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
<b>Sunday, 10</b> <i>Baptism of Christ</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Choral Matins 6.30pm Evening Prayer  <i>Isa 43:1-7; Lk 3:15-17, 21-22</i>	Reader: Rose Oliver Intercessor: Clergy
Wednesday, 13 <i>St Kentigern</i>	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
<b>Sunday, 17</b> <i>Epiphany 2</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Eucharist Together 6.30pm Evening Prayer  <i>Isa 62:1-5; Jn 2:1-11</i>	Server: Vicky Johnston Reader: Aubrey McCance Intercessor: Jennifer Fitzgibbon
Wednesday, 20	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
<b>Sunday, 24</b> <i>Epiphany 3</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Evening Prayer  <i>Neh 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Cor 12:12-31a; Lk 4:14-21</i>	Server: William Clark-Ferguson Reader: Ray Young Intercessor: Alice MacDonald
Monday, 25 <i>Conversion of St Paul</i>	7.00pm Said Eucharist	Server: William Clark-Ferguson
Wednesday, 27	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
<b>Sunday, 31</b> <i>Epiphany 4</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Evening Prayer  <i>Jer 1:4-10; 1 Cor 13:1-13; Lk 4:21-30</i>	Server: Chris Evans Reader: Dorothy Bailey Intercessor: William Clark-Ferguson

### Readers for February 2016

7th: Joan Hutton, 14th: Elspeth Robertson

21st: May Kidd, 28th: Jennifer Fitzgibbon

Diocesan website: [www.episcopalglasgow.org.uk](http://www.episcopalglasgow.org.uk)

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Bishop's Office, Diocesan Centre,  
5 St Vincent Place, Glasgow, G1 2DH.  
Tel: 0141 221 6911 email: [bishop@glasgow.anglican.org](mailto:bishop@glasgow.anglican.org)

### The Clergy

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Aubery Crescent, Largs, KA30 8PR.  
Tel: 01475 673143 email: [gordon.fyfe@virginmedia.com](mailto:gordon.fyfe@virginmedia.com)

Associate The Rt Revd Dr Idris Jones,  
27 Donald Wynd, Largs, KA30 8TH.  
Tel: 01475 674919 email: [idrisjones43@hotmail.com](mailto:idrisjones43@hotmail.com)

### The Vestry

Elected by the congregation to work with the Rector in the administration of the church. Meets in January, March, September, November and as required.

Chair	Rector	673143
Secretary	Ray Young	672410
Treasurer and Lay Representative	Chris Evans	673757
Rector's Warden	Linda Young	672410
People's Warden	Vicky Johnston	329722

<b>Members</b>	Gordon Hodgson	674008
	Eleanor Witt	676322
	Jane Evans	673757
	Elsie Hinshalwood	686984
	Rose Oliver	674951

<i>(Alt Lay Representative</i>	<i>Hilary Moran</i>	<i>686213)</i>
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### Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Confessions by arrangement with the Rector

**Scottish Charity Number SC004796**

**The deadline for the February magazine is Sunday 24 January.**  
magazine articles should be sent to [gordon.fyfe@virginmedia.com](mailto:gordon.fyfe@virginmedia.com)

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The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Rectory or the Vestry

## Life at St Columba's

<b>Director of Music</b>	Colleen Anderson	07967 114624
<b>Property Convenor</b>	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>(Contact Rector)</i>
<b>Fundraising Committee</b>	William Clark-Ferguson	07835 454534
<b>Protection of Vulnerable Groups</b>	Linda Young	672410
	<i>Appointed by the Vestry and approved by the Bishop</i>	
<b>Mothers' Union</b>	Hilary Moran	686213
<b>Church Hall Diary</b>	May Walker	673873
	<i>Deals with hall bookings</i>	
<b>Flowers</b>	Audrey Hodgson	674008
<b>Sidesmen</b>	Alice MacDonald	673370
<b>Christian Aid</b>	Nessie Rankin	672357
	Jane Evans	673757
	<i>Representatives on inter-church Christian Aid Committee</i>	
<b>Regional Council</b>	William Clark-Ferguson	07835 454534
<b>Intercessions Rota</b>	Frances Robertson	686947
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Alice MacDonald	673370
<b>Readers Rota</b>	Rector	673143
	<i>If you would like to join any of the above, please see Frances, Alice or the Rector</i>	
<b>Largs Churches Together</b>	Nessie Rankin	672357
	Eleanor Witt	676322
<b>Press Officer</b>	Hilary Moran	686213
<b>Junior Church</b>	Linda Young	672410
<b>Health &amp; Safety Officer</b>	William Clark-Ferguson	07835 454534

Pastoral Visitors in the congregation  
*Eileen Binns (Coordinator, tel: 673580)*  
*Elsie Hinshalwood, Joan Hutton and May Kidd*