

St Columba's

Scottish Episcopal Church

Largs

March 2015



LENT

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 (*or Stations of the Cross & Sung Compline in Lent*)

Refreshments are served in the hall following the 11.00am service

Wednesday: 10.00am Said Eucharist

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

Dear Friends,

A while ago there was a fashion among young people for wearing colourful rubber bracelets with letters of significance inscribed on them. Among some Christian young people this took the form of a bracelet with the letters 'W.W.J.D.', meaning 'What would Jesus do?'

A teacher friend of mine, when berating one such pupil, noticed the bracelet and, in his fit of peak, said, "What would Jesus do? ... I think he would do his homework, that's what he'd do!"

It is a bit harsh, but the teacher's response to the pupil's piety retains an element of truth. This season of Lent we are called in every situation, to ask 'What would Jesus do?', not in order that we can become more religious, but in order that we might truly live out our life as a disciple of Christ, a blessing to others, and a means of transformation in the world.

Recently I read the following sentiment. It makes for a good Lenten meditation I think:

"What if for Lent, we gave up gossip instead of chocolate?
What if for Lent, we gave up apathy instead of television?
What if for Lent, we surrendered our needs to another?
What if for Lent, we fasted not for piety, but to end greed?
What if after Lent, we carried on?"

May you have a holy Lent.

Yours in the faith,

Gordon

Year's Mind

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

5th Evelyn Barrett
6th Malcolm Griffiths
7th Annie Wingate
11th Florence Chappell
12th Bernard Paton Jones (*Priest*)
13th Alan Binns
16th Fred Ramsden, Jane Greensmith, Flo Downes
19th James Stewart
21st Bob McNae
22nd Brenda Oke
23rd Gordon Sisson
25th William Cairnie
26th Vernon Salkeld
27th Hilda Vincent
28th Helen Salkeld



From the Registers

Funerals

Mr Peter Driver - 13 February 2015

Mr William Ingles - 21 February 2015

Mrs Marjorie MacDonald - 23 February 2015

Thank you

Many thanks to everyone who supported our 'That was the year that was' social quiz night. Those who came along had a good evening with good company, free-flowing wine and a lovely buffet supper. A special thanks to William for all his hard work and for making the evening possible. The Rector

Dates for your diary:

- 2 March 12.00noon Toddler Group staff meeting
- 6 March World Day of Prayer - at St Mary's
- 7 March Diocesan Synod at Holy Trinity & St Barnabas, Paisley
- 10 March 7.00pm Vestry Meeting
- 26 March Glasgow Trades House Visitation
- 28 March 10.30am Walsingham Pilgrimage Annunciationtide Festival,
at St Saviour's, Bridge of Allan



Car Boot Sale Dates 2015

Car boot sales will be held in our church grounds on the following Saturdays from 9.00am - 1.00pm:
18 April, 30 May, 18 July, and 29 August.

March Prayer Calendar

- 2: (*Chad, Bp and Missionary*) A willingness to share our faith
- 3: Diocesan Network Convenors
- 4: Members of Lent Study Groups
- 5: The promotion of Fair Trade
- 6: Gregor our Bishop
- 7: Members of Diocesan Synod
- 9: Local schools and colleges
- 10: Members of the Vestry
- 11: Farmers
- 12: Fishermen
- 13: Local Clergy
- 14: All mothers
- 16: RNLI
- 17: (*St Patrick, Bp, Missionary*) The people of Ireland
- 18: Amnesty International
- 19: (Joseph of Nazareth) All fathers
- 20: Those living in places of conflict
- 21: Local churches
- 23: All who face injustice
- 24: All who suffer in body, mind or spirit
- 25: (*The annunciation of our Lord to the BVM*) The Mothers' Union
- 26: The City of Glasgow
- 27: Local nursing homes
- 28: Home Communicants



Stations & Compline anyone?

Instead of saying Evening Prayer at 6.30pm each Sunday Stations of the Cross and a service of Sung Compline will be offered during the Sundays of Lent until 29 March.

Do come along and make these part of your preparation for the celebration of Easter.

Please note - the evening services on **1 and 15 March** will begin at **6.00pm** to allow for a 7.00pm 'Film Night' start.

Lent Study Groups



This year's Lent Study Groups continue to meet each Wednesday, in the Rectory at the following times:
11.30am - 12.30pm and
7.30pm - 8.30pm

Please come to whichever one meets at a time that suits you.

We are reflecting on paintings as a means of exploring our Christian faith.

Christian Aid Lent Lunches

Remember to come to the soup and sandwich Christian Aid Lent lunches each Wednesday from 12.00noon - 1.30pm in the halls of Clark Memorial Church.

Thomas Merton - Trappist monk, spiritual writer and social activist.

January 31st was the 100th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Merton. For those that have yet to come across him, Merton who died in 1968, is one of the greatest spiritual writers of the twentieth century. Thomas was the son of artists who had met in Paris, married in London, and settled in France, just before the outbreak of the First World War.

His mother died when he was only six and there followed a period of constant travelling, to the United States, Bermuda, and France as he moved from place to place, and from school to school. His father died just before his 16th birthday, and brought up by his godfather, who rejected him three years later, after a chaotic year at Cambridge University.

Further journeying followed as Merton took up studies at Columbia University in New York and began to write. He was part of a group of tutors and fellow students who became lifelong friends, and with whom he would talk about everything. It was at this point in his life, he found God; or perhaps more accurately God found him. Partly through reading, conversations with friends, and through his inner search for himself, he discovered faith and piety through the Roman Catholic Church, together with a vocation to priesthood and the religious life of a Trappist monk.

For the rest of his life, Merton lived at the Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani, near Bardstown in Kentucky. For Thomas, there were no half measures, he chose what was the most rigorous of all the possibilities open to someone wanting to enter the religious life. The Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance (O.C.S.O.) is a Roman Catholic religious order of contemplative monastics (monks and nuns) who follow strictly the Rule of St. Benedict. Benedict's insistence on lack of speech has some impact on their way of life, though (contrary to popular belief) they do not take a vow of silence. Trappist monks generally speak only when necessary; thus idle talk is strongly discouraged. Speech that leads to unkind amusement or laughter is seen as evil and is banned.

It is one of the contradictions of the man, that the gregarious, sociable Merton chose a largely solitary life with a minimum of speech. However that life did provide him with the time and space to meditate deeply on spiritual matters and also on the affairs of the world. He did not lock himself away from what was happening in the world around him, he engaged equally with the issues of the day and with matters of human existence and spiritual life through contemplation which fed his writing.

Although Merton took his monastic vow of obedience seriously, he could not be easily constrained. He was a free spirit. Despite his life of withdrawal, through his writing he became an international bestseller, acknowledged by many as one of the great spiritual writers of the 20th century. His became an outspoken voice in the 1960s, writing about civil rights, nuclear weapons, and the war in Vietnam. He was a stern critic of his Church - particularly its bureaucracy and triumphalism - and he was a pioneer of dialogue with other faiths. He had great natural ability, an independence

of mind and spirit and a refreshing, if somewhat mischievous, good humour. He did however have a restlessness and constant self-questioning side to his character, out of which much of his best work perhaps comes. In his writing Merton provides a word of hope:

“Whether you understand it or not, God loves you, is present in you, dwells in you, calls you, saves you, and offers you an understanding and light which are like nothing you ever found in books or heard in sermons.”

A rather enlightening thought for Lent. You can also perhaps get some idea of both his humour and self-questioning in a prayer that he wrote for Lent, which I used at our evening Ash Wednesday Service.

“MY LORD GOD, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone. AMEN”

Revd James Currall

Healing Ministry

As mentioned in my sermon on Sunday, 8 February and intimated and initiated on Sunday, 15 February, it is hoped that silent prayer with the laying on of hands will be offered during the main Eucharistic Sunday service whenever both James and I are present.

We hope that you will feel able to use this ministry for the benefit of yourself or a loved one.

Simply come and sit on the seat to the lectern side of the nave, on your return from receiving the Sacrament; share the name of the one to be prayed for with the priest and he will lay hands on you and pray with you in silence.

Our Lord seeks our healing and wholeness and it is very natural and fitting that this healing action should be offered in the context of his presence with us in the Eucharist.

The Rector

Make a Mother's Day

Mums all over the world need your help and support. The Mothers' Union have produced a gift catalogue, each gift will enable us to support mums and their families. By giving a Make a Mother's Day ethical gift this Mothering Sunday you will support the running of Mothers' Union projects that equip people to create better lives for themselves and their families; empowering communities to take control of their situation for themselves and ensuring our work is effective and sustainable. Mothers' Union's 4 million members around the world believe that families are central to community life and act to help them thrive.

We don't simply give out hand-outs.

We aim to inspire our beneficiaries: teaching them vital skills such as literacy or improved agricultural techniques, and encouraging them to work together as a community to identify their specific needs, support each other to overcome them and build a better life for generations to come. We do this by training nominated people in these communities as facilitators, equipping them to pass on vital skills to others in a way that ensures lasting solutions for that community.

What to do?

Get a leaflet from Hilary or go online to the Mothers' Union website. Choose a gift. In return you will receive a Mothering Sunday card for your mother or you can buy one in memory of your mother, her name will go into the remembrance book in the Mothers' Union chapel in London.

IMPORTANT Gifts need to be selected by 4th March, so there is time to send you the card in time for Mothering Sunday on the 14th March.

Posies for Mothering Sunday

It would be nice to continue the tradition of making posies for the church members on Mothering Sunday. Can those willing to help meet up with me on Friday 12th in the hall at 3pm? WE will need a lot of greenery and flowers, so if you could let me know what you can supply, it would be most helpful. I think my supply of small daffodils might be ready by then. I had a thought that if we had plenty of flowers and helpers we could take extra to a nursing home for their lunch table flowers. Let me know if you can help. Thanks.

Hilary

Bishop's Lent Appeal 2015

This year, all seven diocesan bishops have agreed that, in their Lent Appeals, they wish to support the training and formation of those entering the ordained ministry or licensed lay ministry in the Scottish Episcopal Church. In commending my 2015 Lent Appeal to you, I do so alongside each of my fellow bishops in their respective dioceses.

2014 was a year of significant change in the Scottish Episcopal Church. It saw the creation of the new Scottish Episcopal Institute (SEI), which replaces the former Theological Institute of the Scottish Episcopal Church (TISEC). The ethos of SEI has a very intentional emphasis on formation - the shaping of a person for ministerial functions and ensuring that the person has sufficient maturity in Christ to carry those functions. The Rev Canon Dr Anne Tomlinson was appointed Principal of SEI in August and Dr Mike Hull joined as Director of Studies early this year. The role of the Rev Canon Dr Alison Peden, the Provincial Director of Ordinands, has also been expanded from one day per week to a two thirds role which will enable candidates to be accompanied from the early stages of the recruitment and selection process throughout the entire period of their initial ministerial education.

*Changes in provincial structures, to create a new body called the Institute Council, to act as the governing body of SEI, received initial approval at General Synod 2014 and will come for final approval later this year. Once that process has been completed, SEI will be formally launched. **Already, we are encouraged by the numbers of potential younger candidates exploring vocation and, funds permitting, we hope to be able to offer full-time training as a possible pathway for some in the future.***

General Synod 2014 received the proposals regarding SEI with enthusiasm and the Bishops also indicated then that we would act in concert with our Lent Appeals in 2015. Members of Synod gave practical voice to their enthusiasm by offering personal financial contributions there and then. In acting together in the 2015 Lent Appeals, all the bishops hope that the Scottish Episcopal Church as a whole will similarly be willing to support this important work.

Bishop Gregor

Film Night Socials

A suggestion that came out of our Diocesan Growth strategy meetings was to see if people would be interested in spending an evening or two together, to watch a film, enjoy a glass of wine, and share some thoughts on what the film seemed to be about. The idea was to look at films that presented a moral dilemma, and discuss the options and the implications of doing one thing or the other, especially where people will be hurt whichever option is taken.

It is not intended to be overtly “religious”, although religious beliefs might influence a decision. Eg should we support the bombing of ISIS or Syria? Should other countries intervene in Crimea? Should we lock up people “for their own safety”. Should we remove children from their natural parents? Should we try to stop our own children from making their own mistakes? How should we deal with a loved one who has become mentally impaired? We may be lucky enough not to have to face these dilemmas ourselves, but nobody is immune from them, and we all know people who are in such a position. How would we cope ?

The first film we have chosen for these socials is “Hotel Rwanda”. The African manager of an international hotel is faced with the choice of offering refuge to people trying to escape from a civil war. Should he use the assets and resources of his employer (based in Europe) in this way? Should he put his own wife and children at risk by acting against the state? Should he give up a few people of the “wrong tribe” to keep others alive? How far should he go in bribing senior officers and officials to enable him to continue? This Diocese has been twinned with a Diocese in Rwanda, and several of our people have visited survivors, and seen for themselves the effects of the civil war, and we would hope to get a perspective from that aspect.

We are proposing to hold the first two sessions on Sundays 1st and 15th March, in the Church Hall starting at 7pm. Although it is in Lent, you will not be breaking your fast if you have a glass of wine on a Sunday!

Later this year, we hope to be able to use the film about Ann Guthrie, made by her daughter, showing the effect of her illness on her family, on a future occasion, after it has been released.

It would be most helpful if you could indicate your interest by completing the response slip enclosed in this magazine, and giving it to the Rector or to me before the end of February.

Thank you, ***Gib FitzGibbon***

CHURCH LIBRARY

Latest additions, Spring 2015.

Of the three books added over the winter two are in the form of collections; the other is more of a study aid, rather than a narrative text. Perhaps, therefore, they can best be recommended for "busy" readers, as they can be read simply as time permits!

Inspirational Writings.

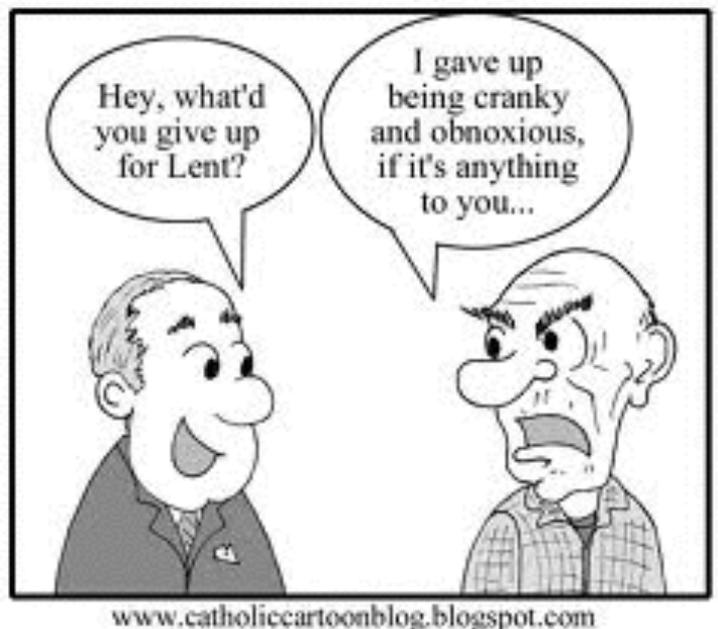
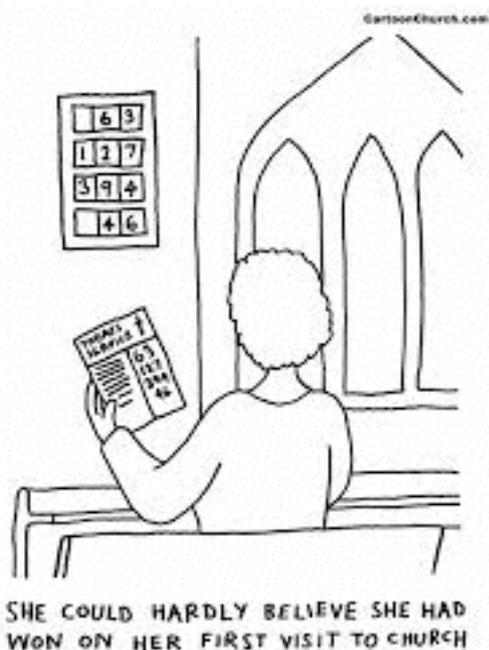
HUME, Basil. *To be a Pilgrim: a spiritual notebook*. Though "incomplete and not too systematic" this book is "just the thoughts of one pilgrim [in life's journey] to help some of the others". Topics include "Groping for the Light", "Effects of Prayer", "Dreams and Visions". (F481).

WIGGLESWORTH, Smith. *Ever Increasing Faith; a legacy of love and faith...* This is a revised edition of a text originally issued in 1924. Of humble background, and a plumber by trade, the author helped the work of the Salvation Army. From being a part-time preacher, at the age of 48 he felt called to become an evangelist and preached worldwide in the early 20th century. (F482).

Daily Meditations and Prayers.

ARTHUR, Kay. *Lord, teach me to study the Bible in 28 days*. Presented more as a study aid, this book also includes as an appendix "Inductive Bible Study Adventure Questions". The daily topics include "The Word of God is lost in the House of God", "When do you go outside the Bible?", "The Value of asking Questions". (G483).

Ken Hinshalwood, Librarian.



Invitation to visit Glasgow's Trades Hall

In my capacity as Deacon Convenor of the Incorporated Trades I would like to invite members of the congregation and friends to a conducted tour of Trades Hall on March 26th this year .

The invitation includes afternoon tea in the next-door Glasgow Tea Rooms .

Nearer the time I would need to have an idea of numbers and I hope that someone would arrange for travel somehow -alas this is a cost that I cannot offer to cover. Please make use of the sign-up sheet in the porch to intimate your interest in participating in the visit.

The Trades Hall is ten minutes walk from Central Station, a short taxi ride, or if folk wanted to come by car then Park and Ride at Shields Road arriving at Buchanan Street which is only five minutes walk away . Very near to the Hall is the Glass House car park with which we have a special arrangement of £4 for users of Trades Hall (I can explain how to obtain this on the day) .

It may be that in the end not many folk are interested in such a visit more than the two folk who have expressed a wish to visit me in my Glasgow "house" but I am very happy to welcome the few as well as the many !

If folk could arrive for around 2:15 that should mean a reasonable return later in the day. I think the tour would last no more than 45 minutes (depending on how many questions there might be) so tea at 3pm with an end at 4pm.

Bishop Idris

Columba's Creatives

Fun, Crafts, Stories and Games for school pupils
6.00pm - 7.00pm each Wednesday in term-time

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 March

Day	Services and Sunday readings	Duty at Sunday 11.00am
Sunday, 1 <i>Lent 2</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist 6.00pm Stations & Compline <i>Gen 17:1-7, 15-16; Ps 22:22-30; Rom 4:13-25; Mk 8:31-38</i>	Server: Hilary Moran Reader: Linda Young Intercessor: Ken Hinshalwood
Wednesday, 4	10.00am Said Eucharist	
Sunday, 8 <i>Lent 3</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Choral Matins 6.30pm Stations & Compline <i>Ex 20:1-17; Ps 19; Jn 2:13-22</i>	Reader: Alice MacDonald Intercessor: Revd James Currall
Wednesday, 11	10.00am Said Eucharist	
Sunday, 15 <i>Mothering Sunday</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Eucharist Together (3.00pm Service at Hutton Park) 6.00pm Stations & Compline <i>Ex 2:1-10; Jn 19:25b-27</i>	Server: Imogen Harvey Reader: Aubrey McCance Intercessor: Hilary Moran
Wednesday, 18	10.00am Said Eucharist	
Sunday, 22 <i>Passion Sunday</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Stations & Compline <i>Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:1-12; Heb 5:5-10; Jn 12:20-33</i>	Server: Chris Evans Reader: Hilary Moran Intercessor: Revd Gordon Fyfe
Wednesday, 25 <i>The Annunciation</i>	10.00am Said Eucharist	
Sunday, 29 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Liturgy of the Palms and Liturgy of the Passion 6.30pm Stations & Compline <i>Isa 50:4-9a; Ps 31:9-16; Phil 2:5-11; Mk 14&15</i>	Server: William Clark-Ferguson Reader: Jennifer Fitzgibbon Intercessions: Frances Robertson

Readers for April:

*5th (Easter): May Kidd,
19th: Hannah Harvey,*

*12th: Elspeth Robertson,
26th: Joan Hutton*

Diocesan website: www.episcopalglasgow.org.uk

The Clergy

Bishop: The Rt Revd Dr Gregor D. Duncan,
Bishop's Office, Diocesan Centre,
5 St Vincent Place, Glasgow, G1 2DH.
Tel: 0141 221 6911 email: bishop@glasgow.anglican.org

Rector The Revd Gordon B. Fyfe,
St Columba's Rectory,
Aubery Crescent, Largs, KA30 8PR.
Tel: 01475 673143 email: gordon.fyfe@virginmedia.com

Curate The Revd Dr James E.P. Currall,
9 Aitken Street,
Dalry, KA24 4BX.
Tel: 01294 833294 email: jcurrall@talktalk.net

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
Lay Representative	Rose Allan	673185
<i>(Alt Lay Representative)</i>	<i>Hilary Moran</i>	<i>686213</i>
Rector's Warden	Linda Young	672410
People's Warden	Alice MacDonald	673370
Members	Gordon Hodgson	674008
	Eleanor Witt	676322
	Vicky Johnston	329722
	Jane Evans	673757
Treasurer	Elsie Hinshalwood	686984
	Chris Evans	673757

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Confessions by arrangement with the Rector

Scottish Charity Number SC004796

The deadline for the April magazine is Sunday 22 March.
magazine articles should be sent to 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

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

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