

St Columba's

Scottish Episcopal Church

Largo



May 2017



'I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Matthew 28:20b

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

Dear Friends,

It is not often that the church makes many headlines in the national newspapers or television bulletins, but it did so recently. The cause was not, as you might expect, some scandal - nor was it about potential splits threatened over controversial issues. No. The headlines were about something else entirely - something that is, in a sense, a gradual and imperceptible trend; it was the results offered by the Scottish Church Census.

There's nothing better for news agencies than a nice bit of bad news - and here it was: Church attendance down again over the past few years across the board; predictions of the end of the Church in Scotland if this trend continues.

What are we to make of it all? Those who put the census together did so in the hope that we might act on its findings and use the information to our own good. Still this can leave us as individuals, and as congregations, feeling demoralised and negative for we seem to be up against social forces beyond any power we might have to overcome them. In the face of all this, some might be tempted to take cold comfort in the fact that it might at least 'see them out'!

It is, of course, important to be aware of what is going on and not simply stick our head in the sand and deny it; but it is also important not to be completely defined by it. The truth is, no one knows what the future holds but we do have a faith that proclaims whose future it is.

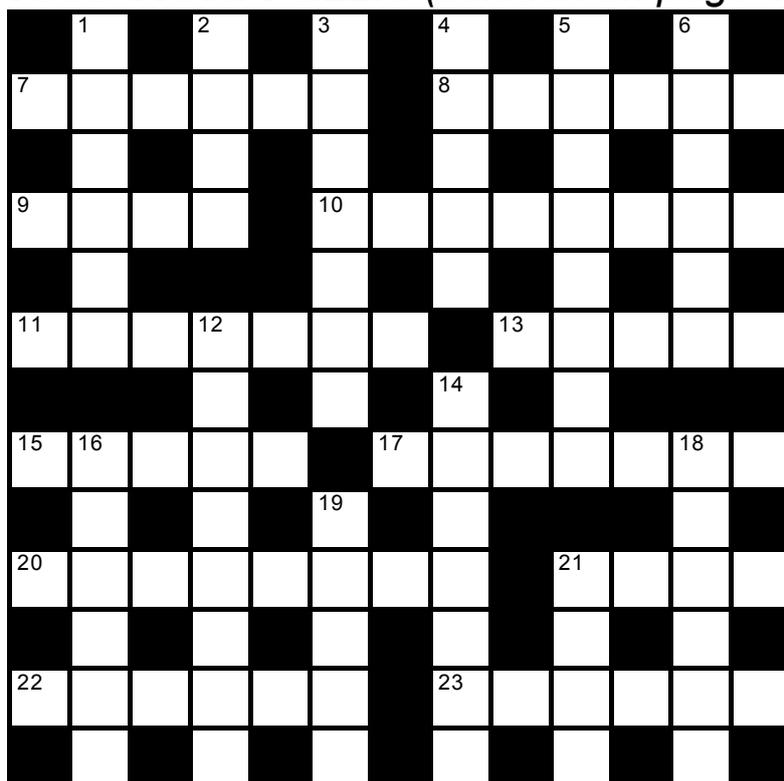
This month we celebrate with joy the 40th day of Easter with the feast of the Ascension. It could be taken as a day when the focus is on loss - the end of how it used to be when Jesus walked and talked to his disciples each day; but of course, the focus is meant to be something else entirely - the glorious truth that our human nature has gone up into the very heart of God himself.

We are called, not to worry, but to be faithful to the one who, even as he ascended proclaimed '*I am with you always, to the end of the age.*'

yours in the faith,

Gordon

Cross Word Puzzle *(solution on page 16)*



Across

- 7 & 8 Day on which the resurrection is celebrated (6)
- 8 (see 7ac) (6)
- 9 Move slightly (4)
- 10 A close shave (4,4)
- 11 South African who helped to abolish apartheid (7)
- 13 Hide things away (5)
- 15 Endow person or thing with god-like qualities (5)
- 17 Remaining always (7)
- 20 Living forever (8)
- 21 Precious metal (4)
- 22 Old Testament prophet (6)
- 23 Things forbidden (6)

Down

- 1 Practical sister of Mary in the NT (6)
- 2 Heavenly body (4)
- 3 Honestly (7)
- 4 Muslim faith (5)
- 5 Lively (8)
- 6 Eucharists (mainly in RC Churches) (6)
- 12 Spring flower (8)
- 14 Faculty or talent (7)
- 16 Entangle in a net (6)
- 18 First name of 11 ac (6)
- 19 Having an irritating desire to scratch (5)
- 21 Desert in China and Mongolia (4)

Vestry Notes

The Vestry met on 25 April and took the following decisions/actions:

Increased Giving Campaign: The Vestry noted that all the documents and envelopes were ready for the Campaign which will run from 7 to 28 May this year. It was agreed that the pear tree logo designed by Jane McCance be framed and used to promote the Campaign.

Director of Music: It was reported that a candidate had withdrawn his interest in the post of Director of Music. It was **agreed** that the Rector should contact the parties now interested in the position and make them aware that we operate on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding and pay the appropriate RCM rates and, if they were still interested on that basis, to invite them to an informal meeting with himself and the choir to progress matters.

Scottish Church Census- A report on the outcome of the Census had now been received. It was **agreed** that the Rector include an article in the magazine on the outcomes and make the report available on the Church noticeboard.

Property- Stuart Robertson undertook to arrange for the Rectory boiler to be serviced and for a lighting unit on the south side facing the altar to be repaired or replaced. It was noted that Stuart and Chris Evans will be meeting with a neighbour on 4 May regarding a request to cut back tree branches.

Treasurer- Chris Evans had previously circulated reports on Receipts and Payments against the Budget for the year to 18 April 2017 and reported that the deficit on Charitable Activities of - £7,326.64 was primarily due to unbudgeted expenditure on the Vestry/Organ loft and associated works, Church booklet, works on the Rectory and the flagpole.

Social/Fundraising- It was reported that 23 cars have booked to date for the Car Boot Sale on 29 April. The Vestry welcomed a donation of lentil soup and rolls from the Lent Lunches. A Coffee

Morning will be held in the Hall on Saturday 24 June for registration and fund raising for the Summer Holiday Club.

Protection of Vulnerable Groups- Linda Young advised that two members were going through their PVG to enable them to assist at the Summer Holiday Club.

Congregational Matters- Ray Young reported that there were 101 Communicants and 37 Adherents currently on the Congregational Roll. The rector reported that attendances at the Holy Week Services were much improved over last year which was welcomed.

Mission Action Plan- The Rector reported that the flagpole had now been erected and was flying the Resurrection flag. There was general discussion on the appropriateness of certain flags. It was noted that the proposal was to have a stock of flags for all occasions. The Rector undertook to contact the Bishop regarding the MAP5 Review due to be held on 9 June.

Ascension Day- It was agreed to invite Regional representation at the Ascension Day Eucharist to be held on 25 May at 7.30 p.m.

Sea Sunday- This Service will be held on 21 May with an offering going to the Mission to Seafarers.

Patronal Festival- A Planning Group comprising the Rector, Jane Evans, William Ferguson and Linda Young was established to plan for the Patronal Festival/140th Anniversary celebration and Gift Day on 11 June. Vicky kindly offered to make a cake to celebrate the occasion.

The Vestry will next meet on Tuesday 4 July at 7.00 p.m. in the Rectory followed by a social.

Ray Young, Vestry Secretary

Years Mind

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

1st Jean Trott

2nd Sheila Burnside, Jim Cheeseman, Margaret Patricia Fox

5th James Heap, Norman Donaldson

7th Isabella Young

8th Arthur Fletcher (*Priest*)

9th Katherine Pell, Sandra Mathieson

12th Brenda Moon

14th Ellen McDougall

15th May Marshall

16th Addie Davie, Edna Ramsden, Vera MacFarlane, Dorothea Campbell,
Kenneth Keay

18th Helen Rankin

19th Margaret McIntosh

23rd Ian Ritchie

27th Douglas Noble (*Priest*)

28th Brian Warren

30th Rae Stewart McFarlane, Jean Forbes

31st Edna Gillies

From the Registers

Funerals

Mrs Dolly McLellan - 4 April 2017

Mrs Dorothy Bailey - 21 April 2017

Miss Mary Johnston - 2 May 2017



DIARY DATES

Wed, 3 May - 2.00pm CA Committee Meeting
Thurs, 4 May - 2.00pm Meditation Group
Sun, 7 May - 11.00am Launch of Increased Giving Campaign
Tues, 9 May - 7.30pm Regional Council in St Andrew's, Irvine
Sun, 14 May - 6.30pm CA Week LCT service at St John's Parish Church
Thurs, 18 May - 7.30pm Summer Mission Planning
Sat, 20 May - 10.00am CA Coffee Morning in Dunn Memorial Hall
Sun, 21 May - 11.00am Sea Sunday
Sun, 21 May - 3.00pm Service at Auchinlea Nursing Home
Wed, 24 May - 11.00am Book Group
Thurs, 25 May - 7.30pm Ascension Day Eucharist
Sat, 27 May - 9.00am - 1.00pm Car Boot Sale
Sun, 28 May - Completion of Increased Giving Campaign
Sun, 4 June - 6.30pm Installation of the Rector as Canon at St Mary's Cathedral
Sun, 11 June - 11.00am 140 Anniversary Patronal and Gift Day
Sat, 24 June - 10am-12noon Summer Mission Coffee Morning



Sea Sunday - 21 May

Summer Mission Planning

B.C./A.D. T.V., this year's children's Summer Mission, will be set in a Television Studio and will take place from 3-7 July.

There will be a planning meeting for those interested in being involved in this exciting venture.

We will meet to plan at the Rectory at 7.30pm on Thursday, 18 May.



Furniture for a donation!



Excess stackable tables and chairs are still on offer to a good home for a donation. You can find these against the wall of the church hall opposite the storage garage.

Shirley Angel in Norfolk

For those church members who remember Shirley, the latest news from her son is that she had a fall and became critically ill following it and spent several weeks in hospital. She is now recovering in Eckling Grange and looking forward to her granddaughters wedding in May.

Holiday Club coffee morning ‘Accessories’ stall.

We will be holding a coffee morning for our holiday club in June, but I would like to start collecting for a new ‘Accessories’ sales table. Accessories could mean ladies things like scarves, handbags shawls, socks, gloves, hats but the men might also think of desk accessories like notebooks, iPad covers, overnight bags, wrapping paper, wallets etc. They need to be in good condition. I will leave a donation bag at the back of the church. Many thanks.

Hilary

Largs Monday Toddlers Update

We are happy to say our numbers are keeping up and we are getting to know new friends. As a few of us will be away at the end of term we are holding our Teddy Bears picnic on 15th May to which all our volunteers help out. Rugs and flasks of lemonade at the ready, musicians organised all we need is a dry morning and maybe some puppet entertainment?

Smalls for All

Many thanks again, to all who are filling up the bags. We now have one in the hall for hall users, which is filling up. 55 bras and 5 pairs of new pants this month, so this means we will be affecting 60 women in a positive way this month.. We are a bit short on new pants for children and women. Details are on the bag. Please donate to this worthy cause. This is the latest news from this charity

April

*50,000 pants and bras on their way to Uganda, Malawi and Zambia!
Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to get the order ready, and to those who helped load the van today. Special thanks to David from NPAC for making a detour whilst visiting Scotland to collect from us.
Maria*

Awareness Raising of domestic abuse in HMP Greenock

As part of the Interfaith group on domestic abuse, I recently approached Greenock prison to see if they would like to host our exhibition of shoes. We were made very welcome and encouraged to not only have the exhibition, but also speak to about 40 officers prior to it and also hold a workshop for prisoners on this subject!

It took a while to organise, the logistics of going into a prison to start with, no handbags, no mobile phones, no memory sticks, no lap tops, no Internet available is a learning curve when giving a presentation. For the awareness raising sessions I was joined by the chair of our committee along with the Sharon from Inverclyde council who was the violence against women coordinator. We gave three one hour sessions (everything operates within one hour sessions in prison) to officers one morning, so they would know what the exhibition is about and if there were any repercussions or questions from prisoners, they would know where to go for help.

This was followed three weeks later by the setting up of the exhibition of 50 pairs of shoes (all had to go through the scanner), then in the afternoon we had a selection of women who had said they were interested in attending a workshop. Greenock prison is unusual in that they have about 50 women and 200 men approximately. We were joined in the workshop by the Governor who was very complimentary. All of the male prisoners who attended the education unit that afternoon, where we held it, visited the exhibition. We had good discussions with all the prisoners (they are called students in the educational unit) of both sexes. All saying that we need to talk about it more and so aid those in abusive situations. All of the literature for

perpetrators I left were taken, so I hope that we have given some people something to reflect upon. There remains a small wall exhibition for the next couple of weeks. Here are some of the comments;

Comments from HMP Greenock

*Seems strange that shoes are used to symbolise domestic abuse - is this due to the idea that they are "walking away" and starting afresh.
John HMP staff*

A thought provoking exhibition bringing a subject to the fore that is often ignored and left behind closed doors. The 104 pairs of shoes give an excellent insight to the scale of the problem. The Governor It's true, all shapes and sizes. Carol.

Domestic abuse happens in ways you wouldn't expect. Louise.

*Sometimes smiles are not always happy. just a mask to hide the hurt.
Kelly*

It was good to highlight domestic abuse as before it was a subject that was swept under the carpet . Danielle

There is definitely no excuse for domestic abuse. Carrie Ann

I think domestic violence is sick, no excuse, physically and psychologically and a guy that does this is a wimp and does this to make them a victim of them. OUT OF ORDER. Olly David

Today it was thought provoking. Made me think about what's going on in the world and how sick people is. It's crazy to think how people hurt people like this. Joel J.

Didn't really understand it.

Felt it was quite touching to see people's shoes who have been abused, but had the strength to leave.

Very heartfelt messages, now they have a voice let's hear it shout.

Thought it was sad also it highlights how much it happens to all ages.

To walk along these shoes and to realise the abuse that each pair of shoes suffered brings a tear to a glass eye. Maybe one day we will stop killing each other. Duncan

A good understanding about how this happens. Although it happens both ways. P

Some situations can provoke bad feelings. I know how this feels. Ed.

HMP headquarters is interested in our pilot, so we hope to take the exhibition to Edinburgh next. I would like to have an awareness raising session with church members, if any one was interested? Please let me know if you would be. It's good to talk about it and difficult too for some. I have a couple of thought provoking videos

Hilary



Ascension Day

A sung Eucharist will be celebrated
on Ascension Day, Thursday
25 May at 7.30pm.

The congregations of the Ayrshire
Region have been invited to join us
for this service and refreshments
will follow the celebration.

Please do come along and join in
the joy of this important festival.

The Rector

Update on Bishop Gregor

On the advice of his GP, Bishop Gregor will make a phased return to work. This will involve initially two afternoon sessions of two hours each, beginning on Tuesday 18th April. At this stage he will not be travelling around the diocese, chairing meetings or available for interviews, but there may be opportunity for personal appointments. Please contact Bishop's Personal Assistant, Christine Hughes, at the Diocesan Office regarding Bishop Gregor's working diary. The Dean will continue to assist, as available, helping Bishop Gregor's return to work. Bishop Gregor's progress will be reviewed and assessed by his GP.

Bishop Gregor is very grateful to Bishop John Armes for completing the term as his Commissary.

Please continue to pray for our Bishop and the unity of our Diocese,

Ian

Dean

United Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway

Bishop Gregor hopes to be with us to celebrate our 140 anniversary Patronal Festival on Sunday, 11 June. He will not be with us for our MAP review on 9 July. Instead we will offer an illustrated report on our progress to keep the congregation up to date and provide opportunity for questions and comments.

The Rector



CAR BOOT SALE
9.00am - 1.00pm

Saturday,
27 May

Prayer Calendar for May 2017

- 1: *(St Philip & St James, Apostles)* The College of Bishops
- 2: Gregor our Bishop
- 3: Those anxious for themselves or a loved one
- 4: Members of the Meditation Group
- 5: The depressed
- 6: Members of Diocesan Council
- 8: All Carers
- 9: The recently bereaved
- 10: Organisations that use our hall
- 11: Justice and Peace
- 12: Retreat Houses
- 13: Emergency Services
- 15: *(Matthias, Apostle)* Largs Churches
- 16: R.N.L.I.
- 17: The Anglican Communion
- 18: Vacant Charges in the Diocese
- 19: Those living with long-term illness
- 20: H.M. Forces
- 22: Our Family
- 23: Those we find it difficult to love
- 24: Those sitting exams
- 25: *(Ascension Day)* Congregations of the Ayrshire Region
- 26: Those who make use of the Largs Labyrinth
- 27: Wilhelmina Nesbitt: new Rector of St John's, Greenock
- 29: Visitors to our church
- 30: Our Friends
- 31: *(The Visitation)* Our Pastoral Team





Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid Week begins on Sunday, 14 May.

Envelopes:

You will find a Christian Aid donations envelope enclosed in this issue of the magazine. Please place your offering in it, complete the Gift Aid declaration as appropriate, and return it via the offering plate during the Sunday service - preferably no later than 21 May.

Service:

Do come along to the Largs Churches Together service to mark this special week. The service takes place in St John's Church at 6.30pm on Sunday, 14 May.

Coffee Morning:

The Christian Aid Coffee Morning will take place from 10.00am in the Dunn Memorial Hall on Saturday 20 May. Donations of plants and home baking would be most welcome. Please also support this venture by coming along to show your support for Christian Aid.

Scottish Church Census

You may recall that everyone who came to church on Sunday 8 May last year was invited to participate in the Scottish Church Census. Most branches of the Christian Church were involved in this initiative.

You may have seen in the press that the results of the census have now been released. Our congregation were sent a brief breakdown of the findings and you can take a look at these where they are displayed in the church porch.

For more details on the results of the Scottish Church Census, please see the following: www.scottishchurchcensus.com

St Columba's Increased Giving Campaign

It is good practise for all Christians to regularly review their giving to the work of the life and mission of the Church. As there has not been an increased giving campaign at St Columba's for some years, the Vestry now commend the one to be launched on 7 May.

The Campaign will run for three weeks, ending on 28 May.

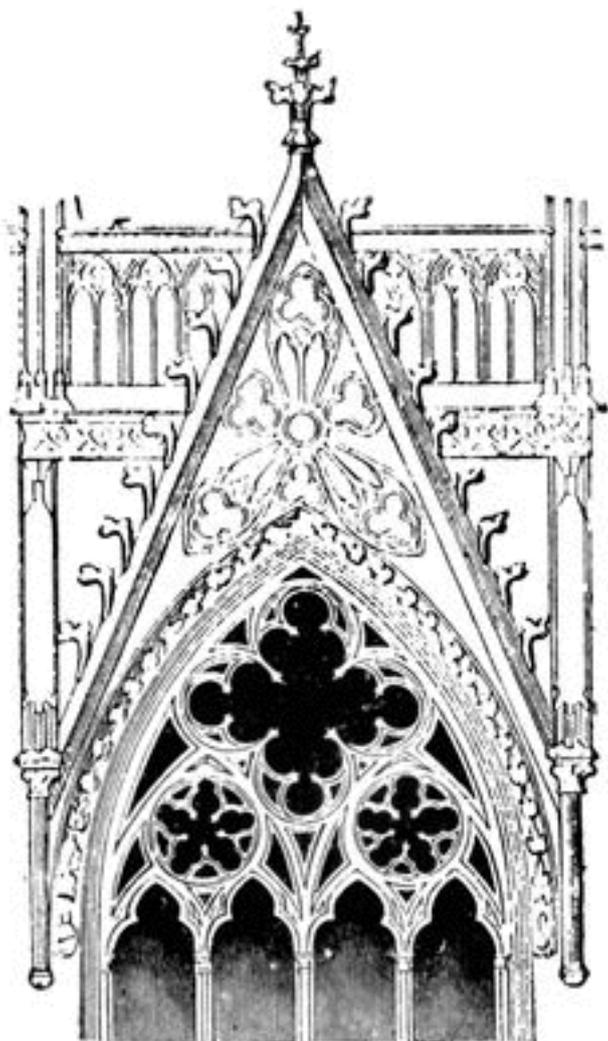
Each member and adherent can expect to receive a letter and accompanying paperwork relating to the Campaign. Please take yours away from the services on 7 May. Remaining sets of paperwork will be posted out to allow responses to come by the close of the Increased Giving Campaign.

Do please keep the success of this process in your prayers.

The Rector



Installation at the Cathedral



The Rector, who was made Synod Clerk at the last Diocesan Synod, will be installed as a Canon of St Mary's Cathedral at Evensong on the Feast of Pentecost; 6.30pm, Sunday 4 June.

Everyone is very welcome to come to the Cathedral that evening to support all those being installed as Canons.

Cross word Puzzle Solution *(from page 4)*



Across: 7 Easter, 8 Sunday, 9 Stir, 10 Near miss, 11 Mandela, 13 Stash, 15 Deify, 17 Abiding, 20 Immortal, 21 Gold, 22 Isaiah, 23 Taboos.

Down: 1 Martha, 2 Star, 3 Frankly, 4 Islam, 5 Animated, 6 Masses, 12 Daffodil, 14 Ability, 16 Enmesh, 18 Nelson, 19 Itchy, 21 Gobi.

Services and Rotas for May 2017

Day	Services and Sunday readings	Duty at Sunday 11.00am
Wednesday, 3	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
Sunday, 7 <i>Easter 4</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Evening Prayer <i>Acts 2:42-47; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10</i>	Server: Vicky Johnston Reader: May Kidd Intercessor: The Rector
Wednesday, 10	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
Sunday, 14 <i>Easter 5</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Choral Matins <i>6.30pm Christian Aid Service at St John's</i> <i>Acts 7:55-60; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14</i>	Reader: Gib Fitzgibbon Intercessor: Jennifer Fitzgibbon
Wednesday, 17	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
Sunday, 21 <i>Easter 6</i> <i>'Sea Sunday'</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Eucharist Together 6.30pm Evening Prayer <i>Acts 17:22-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21</i>	Server: William Clark-Ferguson Reader: Aubery McCance Intercessor: Ray Young
Wednesday, 24	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
Thursday, 25 Ascension Day	7.30pm Sung Eucharist	Server: Chris Evans
Sunday, 28 <i>Easter 7</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Evening Prayer <i>Acts 1:6-14; 1Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11</i>	Servers: Chris Evans Reader: Stuart Robertson Intercessor: Ken Hinshalwood
Wednesday, 31 <i>The Visitation</i>	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	

Readers for June 2017

4th: Janine Millward

11th: Joan Hutton

18th: Melissa Reid

25th: Lorna Reid

Diocesan website: www.episcopalglasgow.org.uk

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

The Clergy

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

Associates The Rt Revd Dr Idris Jones,
27 Donald Wynd, Largs, KA30 8TH.
Tel: 01475 674919 email: idrisjones43@hotmail.co.uk

The Revd David Stoter,
Flat 1, No.4 Rockland Park, Largs, KA30 8HB.
Tel: 01475 329438 email: david.stoter@yahoo.co.uk

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

Members	Gordon Hodgson	674008
	Jane Evans	673757
	Elsie Hinshalwood	686984
	William Clark-Ferguson	07835454534
	Jane McCance	329392
	Susan Birch	686098
	Imogen Harvey	329722

(Alt Lay Representative - Hilary Moran Tel: 686213)

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

Scottish Charity Number SC004796

The deadline for the June magazine is Sunday 21st May.
magazine articles should be sent to gordon.fyfe@icloud.com

Life at St Columba's

Director of Music	<i>Vacant</i>	
Property Convenor	Stuart Robertson	01475 675681
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	Chris Evans (<i>temp</i>)	673757
	<i>Deals with hall bookings</i>	
Flowers	Audrey Hodgson	674008
Sidesmen	Vicky Johnston	329722
Christian Aid	Nessie Rankin	672357
	Jane Evans	673757
	<i>Representatives on inter-church Christian Aid Committee</i>	
Regional Council	William Clark-Ferguson	07835 454534
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
Columba's Creatives	Ray & 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