

St Columba's

Scottish Episcopal Church

Largo



November 2015



*'I heard the voice of a great multitude, crying, Alleluia!
The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.
Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.'*

Revelation 19:6,9

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 new-look website:

largs-church.co.uk

Dear Friends,

Slogans come and go. I remember living in Glasgow and the slogan for the city then was *'Glasgow Smiles Better'* - an apt one in many ways. It referred to the friendly nature of Glaswegians and, I suppose, both pointed to the progress made in the city's image since as it emerged in postindustrial times and favourably compared it to its old rival to the east of the central belt.

Now the slogan for Glasgow is more direct, but continues to carry the core truth about its inhabitants *'People make Glasgow'*.

The Church, too, is not without its slogans - its punchy summaries of how it sees itself or what it aspires to. Our own diocese used to use *'Travelling together in Glasgow & Galloway'* as a title for our news publication, but also as a description of who we felt we were. This has given way to *'Growing with God's grace in Glasgow & Galloway'*. As I see it, both are true of us as God's people in this part of Scotland.

This month of remembrance, once more, reminds us that, as Christians, we are never alone in our journey of faith. On Sunday, 1 November we will celebrate this fact as we rejoice in the truth of the presence and help of all God's saints. It is a festival that naturally leads us on to reflect on God's faithfulness to each of us in the community of faith. An inclusiveness without limit; one that holds both us and our departed loved ones in the same loving embrace.

We all travel together, in one another's company, and are called to life and growth in the one who loved us and gave himself for us.

These words, inscribed on the west wall of Westminster Abbey could be our prayer too:

May God grant to the living, grace.

To the departed, rest.

To the Church and the world, peace and concord.

And to us sinners eternal life. Amen.

yours in the faith, **Gordon**

Year's Mind

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

4th Sheena Swan, Harry Hart, William Johnstone

5th John Hutton, Gareth Evans

7th Georgina McGowan

8th Tom Smith,

9th Mary Williamson

14th James Simpson

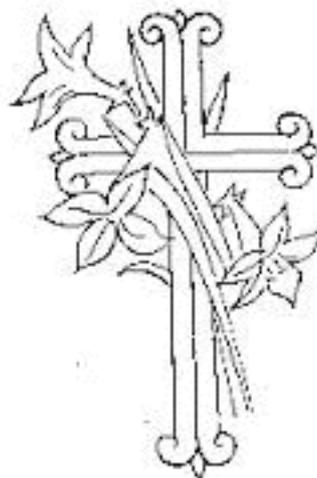
15th Joseph Griffiths

19th Mary Williamson

22nd Basil Young, June Law

28th Harry Maddox, Campbell Paterson

29th Sydney Warren



*For your
Diary*

25 October - 12.15pm Congregational AGM

27 October - 7.00pm Vestry Meeting

30 October - 7.30pm Film and Discussion of 'The closer we get'

3 November - 7.30pm Bishop's Lecture, Holy Trinity & St Barnabas, Paisley

4 November - 6.00pm PVG Training at St Margaret's, Newlands

4 November - 7.30pm Christian Aid Committee, Clark Memorial

5 November - 2.00pm Meditation Group

13 November - 7.30pm Christian Aid Concert, St Columba's Parish

15 November - 7.30pm LCT Committee Meeting in our hall

17 November - Regional Council Meeting at Prestwick

19 November - 7.15pm Server Training

23 November - 2.00pm Pastoral Team Meeting

26 November - 11.00am Service against gender violence

28 November - 9.30am Vestry Away Day, Dalry

5 December - 10.00am for 10.30am Diocesan Advent Quiet Day, Paisley

5 December - 2.00pm Yuletide Afternoon

Harvest Flowers/Baskets

Thank you to the ladies who prepared such stunning floral arrangements for our Harvest Festival and to Audrey for the fruit and flowers for the housebound.

I am sure the local FoodBank will be happy with the food supplied from the service. The funds from the Harvest Offering envelopes will go to the charity WaterAid.

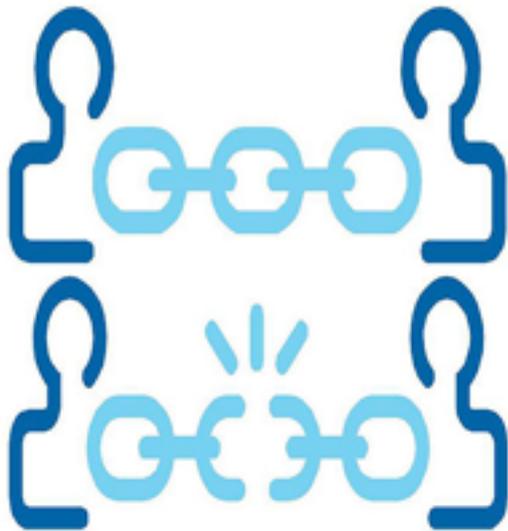
November Prayer Calendar

- 2: (*All Souls*) The faithful departed
- 3: Gregor, our Bishop
- 4: The Protection of Vulnerable Groups
- 5: Children and young people
- 6: Those living with long-term illness
- 7: Local Clergy
- 9: Those who mourn
- 10: Residents of Erskine Hospital
- 11: (*Remembrance Day*) Those who have died in warfare
- 12: HM Armed Forces
- 13: Diocesan Centre Staff
- 14: The Episcopal Church in the United States of America
- 16: (*St Margaret of Scotland*) The Royal Family
- 17: Ayrshire Regional Council of Churches
- 18: All refugees and displaced peoples
- 19: Those living with problems of addiction
- 20: Spiritual Directors
- 21: Those living with depression
- 23: Our Pastoral Team
- 24: Housebound and Home Communicants
- 25: Our friends and family
- 26: Those we find it difficult to love
- 27: The College of Bishops
- 28: Our Vestry
- 30: (*St Andrew*) The people of Scotland



November List

An 'All Souls' Requiem will be offered at 7.00pm on Monday, 2 November. If you would like a departed loved one included in the prayers, please PRINT their name on the list at the back of church.



Crossing Continents to Combat Trafficking

I was recently invited by the Scottish Churches Anti-Human Trafficking group to attend a Symposium of 20 invited guests from around the world. The following day was a conference organised by them, which was open to the public. I had the honour of representing both the Scottish Episcopal Church and the Mothers' Union at these events. We

met at the Roman Catholic churches venue of the Conforti Institute, Coatbridge for two days. We had visitors from Malawi, Nepal, Japan, Bangladesh, Czech Republic, Netherlands and Derby. But our opening address was given by Dr. Aidan McQuade, who is the director of the organisation Anti-slavery International.

Human Trafficking is modern day slavery. Modern day slavery is principally a social justice issue, which means it is caused by the distribution of wealth, opportunities, and privileges within a society. The reason for human trafficking is poverty. The reason for poverty is unjust and deliberate.

In **Malawi** children are working in rice and tobacco fields and many girls are trafficked for sexual exploitation. They have a human trafficking law in March this year but the legal system just can't cope. For 2 million people they have one judge and they have to rely on paralegals. There is corruption of the police and the border agencies. The formal court costs are expensive. One

often has to struggle to get to court 300 kms away. The church finances transport for the police to get to court. Trafficking is a new concept to people generally and they need education to grasp the concept, especially for lawyers.

We heard from Kevin, a very dramatic minister from **Jamaica and the Cayman islands** who was passionate about raising the awareness of human trafficking as in his previous life; he was an actor and director of theatre. So we heard the song he had created, the 'play' he had written which was now a theatre staged production and a video. He is hoping to create a film now. Education he feels is so important, he is passionate that we should reach the vulnerable through the media everyone listens to music, dance, visual arts, video and films. He is obviously making a difference as part of his home was burnt down by the traffickers he believes. He has been asked to speak to government ministers.

Nepal has had a Human Trafficking act as far back as 2008, but it is the enforcements of the act which is the problem. 13,000 women and children were trafficked in 2013. Between 2001 – 2014 up to 400,000 have been trafficked for sexual exploitation, an appalling number. There is trafficking within Nepal, then cross border trafficking as there is an open border to India to the south, lastly there is overseas trafficking. It is illegal to fly trafficked people out of Nepal (or they could get caught doing this) so they take them over the border to India where they are transported overland to the Middle East, Africa and Europe

There are a variety of causes one is gender discrimination, domestic abuse is a big problem. Secondly there is an open border with India, with no border control. Thirdly, there are no job opportunities and a high rate of unemployment; many migrate to India for labour. Fourthly there is a high literacy rate. After the earthquake, there was a high movement of people who are now displaced and don't want to go home whom are vulnerable to traffickers.

Bishal Shrestha was working in the United Mission to Nepal who have formed about 300 women's and girls' groups around the country. It is a Christian charity. They work in prevention and protection work, empowering women, girls and boys. We heard of a story about a group of girls, who live beside a rubbish dump and are the lowest caste, but they had learnt about human

trafficking and felt empowered when a man came and offered them money to leave with him and they said no.

Alena from the Evangelical Church of the **Czech Republic** reported nearly all the trafficking is for sexual exploitation. The victims are from Slovakia, Ukraine and Romania in the main. There are two 'safe houses', she works in one, which have eight beds where they can stay for one month, they are looking to open another house. Food is provided along with medical care and help given for them to achieve their rights. Long term assistance is given to migrants through work with volunteers. They are funded jointly by the government, and the Swiss and German churches. There is a good working relationship with the police. An awareness raising tool has been developed in the form of an e-learning module for the phone or computer, which demonstrates the signs of exploitation and trafficking.

Jeroen from the **Netherlands** is a member of the Salvation Army and interestingly worked with the Anglican Church in South Africa for a number of years prior. A Salvation Army shelter centre has been set up for sex workers who can sometimes just pop in for 10 minutes and this are a small chance for them to begin to develop friendships and gain trust. They found out one girls birthday date and sang Happy Birthday outside where she works, she was very moved by this and said no one had ever sung her this song. There is a huge lack of knowledge not only with the general public, but particularly with politicians, social worker and the justice community. We learnt that a social app to get a sex worker is called Tinder.

In **Scotland** we have had very few cases brought to trial, those that have been were in the fishing community and caught for sexual trafficking. The organisation TARA cares for victims and has a house of refuge for them to go to. If they are migrants, then they can turn to MIGRANT help for support. Some school teachers are now being made aware of the signs to look out for in exploited children, but we aren't sure if this is country wide.

One has to be confrontational to get change. Slavery is very complex but it isn't insurmountable. Education is a vital first step. We need to empower women and children in particular. They need vocational and income generating training and an understanding of their human rights.

So what can we do to make a difference?

We were asked to look at 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).

- Could I offer my support either with Tara or Migrant help?
- Could I get involved in an awareness raising project?
- Could I write to my MSP and urge them to support this?

This is just a glimpse of my experience. I have more information for anyone interested. ***Hilary Moran***

Special Service

There will be a service to mark our support of
16 days of action against gender violence.

Please come along at **11.00am on Thursday, 26 November.**

Revd Markus Thane R.I.P.

It was with shock and deep sadness that we learned recently of the sudden death of the Revd Markus Thane, Church of Scotland minister of St John's, Largs and Cumbrae Parishes.

It was a little over a year ago that I was honoured to be asked to offer a welcome to Markus, on behalf of the local clergy, at his ordination and induction. I was impressed by his warm and friendly nature and his commitment to good ecumenical relations. This past year it has been a privileged to get to know this gifted man and share in meetings, worship and meals together with him.

I ask that you continue to remember him in your prayers together with those who mourn him most; his wife Betsi and daughter Sara, and his congregations at St John's and Cumbrae.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Rector

Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal

Thank you to those who have taken a shoebox away to be filled with Christmas gifts for the Blythswood Care Appeal. Please ensure that your box is returned to church by Sunday, 1 November at the very latest.



'The closer we get' Film Night and Discussion

You are warmly invited to come to a screening of the award-winning documentary film *'The closer we get'* in the church hall at 7.30pm on Friday, 30 November. Many of you may remember Ann Guthrie whose daughter Karen made this film about the family. Entry is by donation, light refreshments will be available and there will be an opportunity for discussion following the screening.

Pastoral Team meeting

There will be a meeting of the Pastoral Team in the Rectory from 2.00pm on Monday, 23 November.

Vestry Away Day

Members of the Vestry, including any new members that may have joined at the AGM, will have an Away Day in St Peter's, Dalry from 9.30am on Saturday, 28 November.



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.

Just a reminder that I will have Autumn/Winter catalogues in the hall on Sunday 1st November. If you wish to place an order please come and see me. The catalogue is full of different ideas for Christmas gifts edible or not.



I started this venture in July and sales every month have been steady but in order to get the goods delivered free I must get orders over £40.00.

A big thank you to all who continually support Fairtrade goods either through purchases or prayer.

Linda Young
Tel: 01475 672410



Concert

You are invited to a fund-raising Concert for Christian Aid. This will take place in St Columba's Parish Church at 7.00pm for 7.30pm on Friday, 13 November.

The concert is offered by the Largs Amateur Operatic Society and the Clyde Coast Strathspey and Reel Society. Tickets are available at £8 either from Jane Evans or Nessie Rankin or at the door on the night of the concert.

Prayer Tree

*Please do make use of the Prayer Tree.
This is situated next to the plate for your votive candle offerings. Simply write your prayer request on the label, hang it on the tree and it will be included in the public prayers of intercession on the first Sunday of the month.*



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; phone 01294823992, before 21st November if possible or write to the Diocesan Centre (mark envelope 'Advent Quiet Day').

Remembrance Sunday - 8 November 2015

As usual, we will gather at 10.50am on Remembrance Sunday and share the act of remembrance with the rest of the nation at 11.00am before beginning the service of Choral Matins.



There will be a retrieval offering for Poppy Scotland.

The service at the town War Memorial will be conducted this year by the minister of Clark Memorial Church, the Revd David Watson. This will commence at 12.15pm.

Readers for December:

*6th: Joan Hutton, 13th: Elspeth Robertson,
20th: Ray Young, 27th: May Kidd*

*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 November

Day	Services and Sunday readings	Duty at Sunday 11.00am
Sunday, 1 <i>All Saints</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Evening Prayer <i>Wisdom 3:1-9; Ps 24:1-6; Rev 21:1-6a; Jn 11:32-44</i>	Server: William Reader: Rose Oliver Intercessor: Jennifer Fitzgibbon
Monday, 2 <i>All Souls</i>	7.00pm Requiem	Server: William Clark-Ferguson
Wednesday, 3	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
Sunday, 8 <i>3 before Advent</i> <i>REMEMBRANCE</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 10.50am Remembrance & Choral Matins 6.30pm Evening Prayer <i>1 Kgs 17:8-16; Ps 146; Mk 12:38-44</i>	Reader: William Clark-Ferguson Intercessor: William Clark-Ferguson
Wednesday, 11	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
Sunday, 15 <i>2 before Advent</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Eucharist Together 6.30pm Evening Prayer <i>Dan 12:1-3; Mk 13:1-8</i>	Server: Imogen Harvey Reader: Aubrey McCance Intercessor: Ray Young
Monday, 16 <i>Margaret of Scotland</i>	7.00pm Said Eucharist	Server: Hilary Moran
Wednesday, 18	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
Sunday, 22 <i>Christ the King</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Evening Prayer <i>Dan 7:9-10,13-14; Ps 93; Rev 1:4b-8; Jn 18:33b-37</i>	Server: Chris Evans Reader: Dorothy Bailey Intercessor: Ken Hinchalwood
Wednesday, 25	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
Sunday, 29 <i>Advent 1</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Evening Prayer <i>Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:1-10; Lk 21:25-36</i>	Server: Hilary Moran Reader: Jennifer Fitzgibbon Intercessor: Rector
Monday, 30 <i>St Andrew</i>	7.00pm Said Eucharist	Server: William Clark-Ferguson

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

The Rt Revd Dr Idris Jones,
27 Donald Wynd, Largs, KA30 8TH.
Tel: 01475 674919 email: 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
<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
	Elsie Hinshalwood	686984
Treasurer	Chris Evans	673757

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

Scottish Charity Number SC004796

The deadline for the December/January magazine is Sunday 22 November.
magazine articles should be sent to gordon.fyfe@virginmedia.com

Printed and published by St Columba's Episcopal Church, Aubery Crescent, Largs KA30 8PR
The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Rectory or the Vestry

Life at St Columba's

Director of Music	Colleen 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