

St Columba's

Scottish Episcopal Church

Largo



February 2018



*“Jesus us able to sympathise with our weaknesses,
for he was in every respect tempted as we are, yet without sinning.”*

Hebrews 4:15-16

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

(6.00pm Stations of the Cross and 6.30pm Sung Compline most Sundays in Lent)

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,

I wonder if, as part of your preparation for Confirmation, you were encouraged to set out your own personal '*Rule of Life*'. Perhaps you haven't really thought of it since or, perhaps, have never even heard of such a thing.

A 'rule of life' can be a set of goals one may set oneself in order that, by keeping them, one's spiritual life might both grow and be deepened. It may include the rule that one will always attend public worship each Sunday and participate in the Eucharist regularly, including at all major festivals of the Church; pray each morning and evening; attend meetings and groups that help one reflect on the Christian life; seek out a spiritual director; and go on either a pilgrimage or retreat each year...etc, etc.

The setting out of rules like these can prove to be a great help in allowing us to flourish in our faith and to assess just how we are doing in our spiritual life.

This month, once again, we enter into the period of preparation for the celebration of Easter - Lent. Lent is a season that provides us with opportunities to reflect and to grow. Together and as an individual, we can, in a sense, enter the wilderness as our Lord did. We can cut down on the things and situations that get in the way and, instead, embrace the silence and seek God's presence.

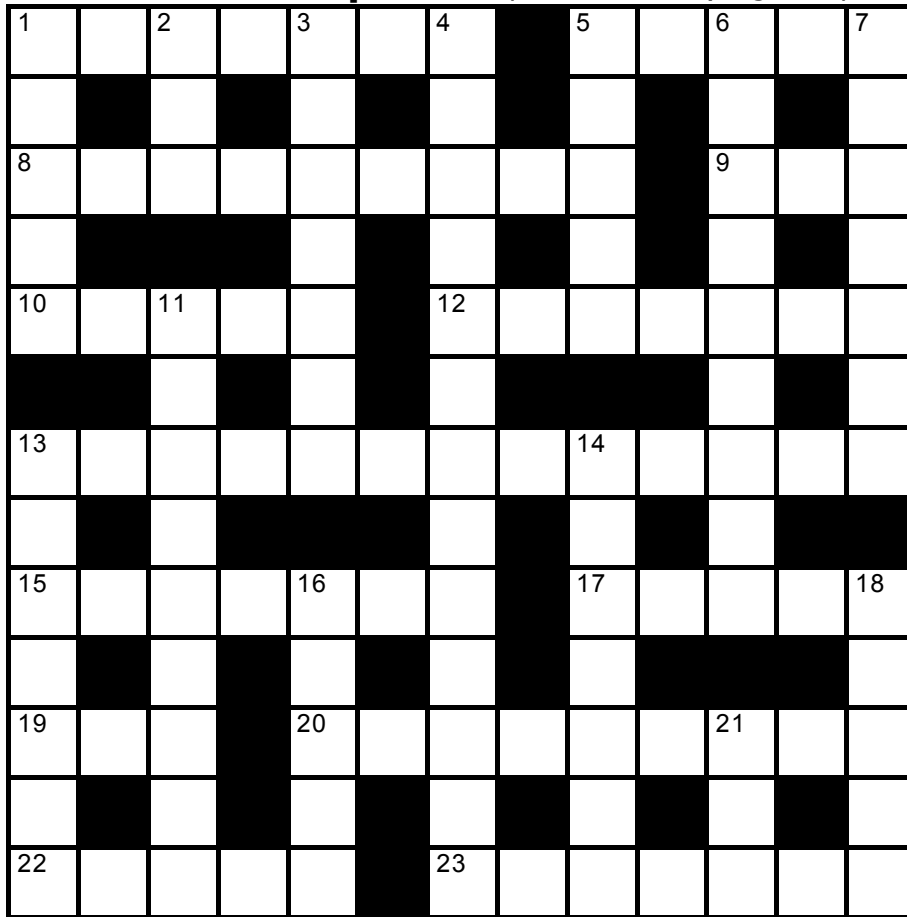
Going on retreat may not be something you have ever contemplated, but Lent offers us the space to go on our own retreat - to retreat from the world that little bit and face the challenges this experience and time of reflection may bring us.

I hope you make the most of this Lenten season and enter into the space it offers for your own spiritual renewal, development and growth.

yours in the faith,

Gordon

Cross word puzzle *(solution on page 13)*



Across

- 1 Glowing (7)
- 5 Piousness (5)
- 8 Holy Communion (9)
- 9 Universal Resource Locator (3)
- 10 Said to be the peak on which Moses
 received the 10 commandments (5)
- 12 Lands surrounded by waters (7)
- 13 Suffering from 'word blindness' (5,8)
- 15 A particular boyfriend (3,4)
- 17 Plant fibre that is made into rope (5)
- 19 The day before (3)
- 20 Fell asleep (6,3)
- 22 Japanese dish: fish served uncooked (5)
- 23 One who longs for something (7)

Down

- 1 Plants found near ponds, etc. (5)
- 2 Abbreviation for 'doctor' (3)
- 3 Astonishing (7)
- 4 The first Sabbath after Pentecost (7,6)
- 5 Part of a flower (5)
- 6 The shortest and longest days of each year (9)
- 7 Membrane in the centre of an egg
 holding the yellow part (4,3)
- 11 Innocence (9)
- 13 Makes more efficient or superior (7)
- 14 Latest period of time (7)
- 16 Boredom (5)
- 18 Prisoner who is held for the duration (5)
- 21 Possess (3)

Years Mind

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

1st Ann Estill, Florence Powell, Bill Chalmers

2nd Di Sugden, Richard Yeomans

6th Catherine Rodger, Peter Driver

9th Joan Jolley

10th Bill Russell, Avril Watson-Stewart

11th Marjorie MacDonald

14th Ed Duncan, Olive Robinson, Catherine Foster

15th David Johnston, Elizabeth Doull

17th Billy Rodger

18th Elisabeth Willetts

19th Mary Williams

20th Liam Chalmers

22nd Jennie Stewart, Tom Gillies

27th Jean Mensing, Norman Spragg

28th Ken Bills

May they rest in peace and rise in glory



From the Registers

Funerals

Nessie Rankin - 9 January 2018

John Pickering and Pat Pickering - 12 January 2018

Ron Branford

Some members of the congregation may remember Ron Branford. Ron and his wife Jill died at the close of 2017 and it was thought some of you might want to read a bit about Ron's life among us. I am grateful to John Lamb for offering the following:

Ron was a native of Stoke-on-Trent and spent his entire working life in the electricity generating industry.

An appointment to a position at the new power station at Inverkip resulted in him moving his home to Largs with his wife Rita and son Paul.

He was later to be appointed to a senior position at Hunterston Power Station which he held until his retirement.

Ron's contribution to life at St Columba's was significant. He was variously Sidesman, Server, and with his ability to do or fix anything, was frequently to be found in the church, hall or grounds doing just that. Rita also was much involved as a Sidesman and as President of the Ladies Fellowship. Sadly, Rita was to die in tragic circumstances.

Ron was a keen golfer; being a member of Largs Golf Club for many years.

He met his second wife, Jill, on holiday and later they were married in St Columba's by the then Rector, Revd Peter Potter.

Ron and Jill subsequently moved to the Isle of Man where they both had family.

An Invitation from Clark Memorial Guild

Members of Clark Memorial Church Guild extend an invitation to members of St Columba's to join them for a meeting to be held in their main hall at 2.30pm on Tuesday, 6 February. The speaker will be Dr Nigel Lawrie O.B.E. whose talk is entitled: '*Five places, Five stories*'.

Please let the Rector know if you intend to attend this meeting and he will pass numbers to be expected to those involved.

World Day of Prayer Preparations

This year's World Day of Prayer will take place in St John's Parish Church on Friday, 2 March. The theme is *'All God's creation is very good'* and has been prepared by the women of Suriname. A planning meeting will take place at 10.30am on Wednesday, 31 January. Please let the Rector know if you would like to represent our congregation at this planning meeting.



Thursday, 1 February - 2.00pm Contemplative Meditation Group

Saturday, 3 February - 10.00am Africa Committee Coffee Morning at St John's

Sunday, 4 February - 6.30pm LCT Candlemas Service and Committee Meeting

Tuesday, 6 February - 2.30pm Invitation to Clark Memorial Guild Meeting

Wednesday, 7 February - 11.00am Church Book Group

Friday, 9 February - 7.00pm Burns 'Lite' Night

Monday, 12 February - 2.00pm Pastoral Team Meeting in the Rectory

Wednesday, 14 February - Ash Wednesday 10.00am and 7.00pm Said Eucharists
with imposition of ashes

Monday, 19 February - 7.30pm Lent Study 1

Monday, 26 February - 7.30pm Lent Study 2

Thursday, 1 March - 2.00pm Contemplative Meditation Group

Friday, 2 March - World Day of Prayer Service at St John's

Sunday, 4 March - 4.00pm Taizé Service for Lent

Monday, 5 March - 7.30pm Lent Study 3

Tuesday, 6 March - 7.00pm Vestry Meeting

Monday, 12 March - 7.30pm Lent Study 4

Sunday, 18 March - 3.00pm Service at Hutton Park Nursing Home

Monday, 19 March - 7.30pm Lent Study 5

Tuesday, 20 March - 7.30pm Ayrshire Regional Council meeting at St Peter's, Dalry

Prayer Calendar for February 2018

- 1: (*St Bride, Abbess, c.525*) St Bride's Church, Hyndland
- 2: (*Presentation of Christ in the Temple*) Thanksgiving for Jesus
- 3: Bishop Gregor
- 5: Vacant Charges in the Diocese
- 6: Vacant Scottish Sees
- 7: The College of Bishops
- 8: Local schools and colleges
- 9: All Carers
- 10: The frail elderly
- 12: The recently bereaved
- 13: Those living with long-term illness
- 14: (*Ash Wednesday*) A spirit of repentance
- 15: Those we find it difficult to love
- 16: Our neighbours
- 17: Those with whom we worship week by week
- 19: Those living with problems of addiction
- 20: Local charities
- 21: Religious Communities
- 22: Places of pilgrimage and all pilgrims
- 23: People of other faiths
- 24: All refugees and displaced peoples
- 26: Aid Agencies
- 27: All who search for truth and for meaning
- 28: The Cathedral Chapter



With God
All things are Possible

Vestry Notes

The Vestry at their meeting on 16 January took the following decisions/ actions:

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR): The Vestry received a presentation from Claire Johnson on GDPR which will come into effect on 25 May. Please see separate article.

Eucharistic Assistant: The Bishop has appointed Janine Millward as a Eucharistic Assistant.

Property: Stuart Robertson reported that since the last meeting (i) the fire equipment has been serviced with a CO₂ extinguisher and fire blanket provided in the Rectory and the CO₂ extinguisher replaced in the Church Office; (ii) the gas boiler in the Church Hall was serviced; (iii) PAT testing was completed with a report awaited; (iv) repairs done to the Church roof (Breen Roofing) and the gutters cleared and the downpipes checked and (v) works have just begun on the driveway outside the Rectory by John Walker (Mow Town Garden Maintenance) as agreed by the Vestry. Other minor jobs and repairs were also carried out.

Jobs still to be done include cleaning the block paving to the hall and Vestry steps; cementing coping stones along the boundary to the Old Rectory; rasping the main door to Church to stop it sticking; hiring a skip to clear any unwanted material from the garage, hall, Church basement, Parish Room and grounds and filling in potholes in the driveway. These jobs were allocated to Vestry members to pursue.

John McManus (Electrician) to advise with costings on replacing the six roof spotlights with LED.

Stuart will be contacting the Diocesan Architect for advice in the first instance as regards engaging a heating engineer to recommend a way forward to improve heating in the Church.

Treasurer: Chris submitted a report on the Budget to date showing a surplus of £8,455.33 with the Rectory driveway works of £1,350 still to be paid. He also circulated a note of a meeting of the Investment Sub-Committee recommending no changes to the current portfolio.

It was **agreed** to accept the offer from Rainbow Glass for repairs to a stained glass window and to authorise the Treasurer to agree the allocation of costs between us and the Insurers.

Social/Fundraising: William Ferguson is hoping to arrange a social event for Friday 9 February (see separate article in this magazine).

MAP: The Rector reported that a Canon 35 pre-application had been approved for works to the Church porch including the replacement of the cork noticeboards by white magnetic noticeboards and central suspended lights, together with four seasonal, pull-up, welcome banners for the font area inside the Church. The Vestry **agreed** to seek Canon 35 consent for the works.

Ten members have successfully completed Health and Hygiene training for the Food and Friendship project and a grant of £1,000 has been made from the Council to purchase a new multi fuel cooker at a cost of £549, lockable Chest Freezer at a cost of £200 and other items.

Neil Robertson has checked the microphones and sound system in the Church and a hand held radio mic with stand and attachments has been ordered.

The Vestry will next meet on Tuesday 6 March at 7.00 p.m. in the Rectory.

Ray Young, Vestry Secretary

Come along to The Lent Study Group

Our 2018 Lent Study will follow the Lent course '**Finding a Voice**' based on the film 'The King's Speech'. The study guide is written by Hilary Brand. It is not necessary to purchase the book but if you do its ISBN is 975-0-232-52893-0.

There is no need to have seen the film in advance though, if you have, you know how it ends!



'Finding a Voice' explores the ways in which, like Colin Firth's Bertie, we too can face and overcome our terrors to find our true and authentic voice.

The course will run over five sessions in the Rectory on Monday evenings in Lent from 7.30pm - 9.00pm preceded by tea and coffee. The sessions will incorporate excerpts from the film, Bible study and discussion questions:

Monday 19 February - *The stuff of nightmares and the power of friendship*

Monday 26 February - *Chasing the dream or fulfilling the calling*

Monday 5 March - *Pressing forward and breaking through*

Monday 12 March - *Poisonous words and profane responses*

Monday 19 March - *Eloquence for evil and stammering for good*

In Flora's Garden - Midwinter Spring

February starts with Candlemas, traditionally on 2nd February. This splendid Festival of Light marks the end of the 40 day cycle of Christmas and Epiphany, before the penitential period of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday (on 14th February this year). It celebrates the Presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple, the Purification of St Mary, the revelation of St Simeon, and the wisdom of Anna; all beautifully narrated in the second chapter of St Luke's Gospel.

Candlemas is also closely associated with St Bridget of Kildare (generally known as St Bride in Scotland), whose Feast Day is 1st February, her flower the snowdrop. In the multitude of myths surrounding her, she is said to have escorted the Holy Family to the Temple at Candlemas, wearing a crown of candles. In Hebridean mythology, St Bride is imprisoned in Ben Nevis by the Cailleach (Old Storm Woman) on 1st November. The land dies and winter rules. After three months, she is rescued by Aongas of the White Steed, who rides across the sea to save her at Candlemas, thus restoring new life to the land.

In folk traditions, Candlemas is also known as Midwinter Spring. That time of mystery between two seasons, when the weather is still sharp and wintry, but the days are beginning to stretch. T S Eliot captures the mood perfectly, in his powerful and deeply religious poem *Little Gidding*, which I read again before starting this. It is my favourite of all his poems, and suffice it to say, it is worthy of being read at any time of the year. I would dearly love to quote from it here, but his poetry is tied-up very tightly in Copyright Law, which I dare not infringe!

So, what of the garden in this mysterious time? The sun's reach has now begun to pour-in light and warmth and there is a tangible feeling of *Things about to Happen!* Over the months, I have been watching bulbs emerging through the cold ground (which often completely froze during December and January) and was heartened when all the bulbs planted last year, showed signs of life. There should be plenty of colour as Spring develops and I was delighted that snowdrops came into flower in time for St Bride's Day. Pulmonaria (Lungwort) is in bud (usually the first flower of February in the herbaceous border), with its multicoloured pink, blue and purple flowers. It's rich in nectar and perfect for early bumblebees coming out of hibernation.

I shut the garden down on 31st October to let it rest over the winter and 1st February is my earliest date for getting back outside. From then on, during any available fine day, I will be out there, well wrapped up. It's a wonderful time for reconnecting with the earth; taking stock; tidying up; starting weeding! and seeing what has survived. Although this is a time of great energy, growth and movement, there is no need to be hurried, or rush in with gusto. I like this to be a gentle, careful and meditative occupation, as I get to know the garden once again. But a note of caution. The sun might be shining and the days stretching, but we're not done yet! There will still be cold, storms, rain and maybe snow. For we are between the seasons, and this is still Midwinter Spring.

Flora

This year, St Columba's is celebrating Candlemas on 4 February with Largs Churches Together.

General Data Protection Regulations

Claire Johnston recently gave a detailed presentation to the Vestry on the General Data Protection Regulations which come into effect on 25 May. She highlighted the need for us to explain clearly to members of the congregation why we collect personal data, how we intend to use it and how long we will retain it, taking all steps necessary to ensure the accuracy of the information and that what we collect is adequate, relevant and not excessive.

The areas involved are principally the Congregational Roll kept by the Vestry Secretary and the Gift Aid/FWO information kept by the Treasurer which should be password protected or encrypted as appropriate.

Claire also provided a link to a Church of England website which provides templates to enable us to review forms and systems used to collect personal data either directly or indirectly. This includes registration forms for use of our Hall, Monday Toddlers Group, Columba's Creatives, Holiday Club, etc.

In the light of the above and in order solely to administer Church related activities to members of the congregation, the Vestry Secretary and the Treasurer will limit the personal data they keep to name, address and contact details, with the Treasurer also keeping information on Standing Orders, FWO envelopes and Gift Aid. Such information will be password protected or encrypted as appropriate.

The Vestry Secretary and Treasurer will not under any circumstances disclose such information to any third party unless they have the individual's consent.

The personal data will only be kept while the individual has a current relationship with the Church.

Any member can at any time request the Vestry Secretary to arrange for the removal of all their personal data from records held across Church activities.

To ensure the accuracy of information held, members are requested to inform the Vestry Secretary of changes of name, address or contact details.

If you have any questions or want to learn more about GDPR, please feel free to contact me in the first instance (rhhyoung1948@gmail.com).

Ray Young, Vestry Secretary

Bishop's Lent Appeal 2018

Funds raised by this year's Bishop's Lent Appeal will go to M.N.D. Scotland in their work of supporting people affected by Motor Neurone Disease.

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION *(from page 4)*

1	R	A	2	D	I	3	A	N	4	T	5	P	I	6	E	T	7	Y
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	D				Z		N		A		I		K					
10	S	I	11	N	A	I		12	I	S	L	A	N	D	S			
			A		N		T					O		A				
13	B	E	I	N	G	D	Y	S	14	L	E	X	I	C				
	E		V					S		A		E						
15	T	H	E	B	16	E	A	U		17	S	I	S	A	18	L		
	T		N		N		N		T								I	
19	E	V	E		20	N	O	D	D	E	D	21	O	F	F			
	R		S		U		A		R		W		E					
22	S	U	S	H	I		23	Y	E	A	R	N	E	R				

Across: 1 Radiant, 5 Piety, 8 Eucharist, 9 URL, 10 Sinai, 12 Islands, 13 Being dyslexic, 15 The beau, 17 Sisal, 19 Eve, 20 Nodded off, 22 Sushi, 23 Yearner.

Down: 1 Reeds, 2 Doc, 3 Amazing, 4 Trinity Sunday, 5 Petal, 6 Equinoxes, 7 Yolk sac, 11 Naiveness, 13 Betters, 14 Last era, 16 Ennui, 18 Lifer, 21 Own.

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Burns 'Lite' Night

Social Evening - 7.00pm Friday, 9 February

Scottish-themed Music,

Song and a wee bit Supper

Tickets available £10

(£5 for all students and children under 16)



Services and Rotas for February 2018

Please check the rota and note if you are included.

Feel free to swap to ensure duties are covered.

Day	Services and Sunday readings	Duty at Sunday 11.00am
Sunday, 4 <i>Epiphany 5</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm LCT Candlemas Service <i>Isa 40:21-31; 1 Cor 9:16-23; Mk 1:29-39</i>	Server: Alice MacDonald & Janine Millward Reader: Stuart Robertson Intercessor: Rector
Wednesday, 7	10.00am Said Eucharist	
Sunday, 11 <i>Sunday before Lent</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Choral Matins 6.30pm Evening Prayer <i>Deut 5:12-15; Mk 2:23 - 3:6</i>	Crucifer: Chris Evans Reader: Ray Young Intercessor: Alice MacDonald
Wednesday, 14 Ash Wednesday	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970) 7.00pm Said Eucharist (1982)	
Sunday, 18 <i>Lent 1</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Eucharist Together 6.00pm Stations of the Cross 6.30pm Sung Compline <i>Gen 9:8-17; Mk 1:9-15</i>	Server: Hilary Moran Reader: Tim Johnston Intercessor: Fiona Reader
Wednesday, 21	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
Sunday, 25 <i>Lent 2</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist 6.00pm Stations of the Cross 6.30pm Sung Compline <i>Gen 17:1-7, 15-16; Rom 4:13-25; Mk 9:2-9</i>	Server: William Clark-Ferguson Reader: Joan Hutton Intercessor: Ray Young
Wednesday, 28	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	

Readers for March 2018

4th: Lorna Reid

11th: Jennifer Fitzgibbon

18th: Janine Millward

25th: Elspeth Robertson

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 and Alt Lay Rep	Linda Young	672410
People's Warden	Vicky Johnston	329722

Members	Stuart Robertson	675681
	William Clark-Ferguson	07835454534
	Susan Birch	686098
	Imogen Harvey	329722
	Janine Millward	07508 451192
	Andrew Reid	—
	Jean Smith	330620

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

Scottish Charity Number SC004796

The deadline for the March magazine is Sunday 18 February.
magazine articles should be sent to gordon.fyfe@icloud.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	Euan Fulton	Mob: 07814 268 205
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	673757
<i>Deals with hall bookings</i>		
Flowers	Joan Hutton	672927
Sidesmen	Vicky Johnston	329722
Christian Aid	Jane Evans	673757
<i>Representatives on inter-church Christian Aid Committee</i>		
Regional Council	William Clark-Ferguson	Mob: 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	Linda Young	672410
	Alice MacDonald	673370
Press Officer	Hilary Moran	686213
Columba's Creatives	Rector	673143
Health & Safety Officer	William Clark-Ferguson	Mob: 07835 454534

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