

# *St Columba's*

*Scottish Episcopal Church*

*Largs*



*October 2019*



*St. Francis, pray for us*

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**

*Check noticeboard for further 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.

**We welcome all regardless of age, gender, race, ability, social class, sexuality or any other defining characteristic that may otherwise be used as the basis for discrimination.**

Like us on Facebook and Visit our website:

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

Dear Friends,

The ancient pre-Christian Celts were pantheist (God is everything), and so they believed in many gods. These divinities were to be found everywhere in nature and in the home. Later, after their conversion to Christianity, I guess they would be better described as panentheists (God is *in* everything). We see this in the prayers they have left us and others, still in use, that have been passed down to us: a spirituality that strongly asserts the Christian doctrine of the Incarnation - that God has become one of us in his Son Jesus Christ. An assertion that God is not distant, but rather interested in and involved with all that he has made. This approach seemed to come naturally to Celts but this month we celebrate this revolutionary approach to the nearness of God in creation when celebrate St Francis of Assisi.

The once wealthy Francis embraced poverty and sought to serve the poor and all in need. In this he was similar to many other saints, but he was different in his gift of reimagining our relationship with the created order around us; preaching to the birds and seeing our encounter with creation as being the very place where might, in fact, encounter God.

Our blessing of the animals service acknowledges the truth that, for many, the love and companionship they receive from, and give to, their pets can be the most profound relationship they enjoy; a relationship that speaks of love and joy, of faith and trust. This, I believe, also speaks of the nearness of God in his created order and so we are blessed by him through it.

Greta Thunberg, the 16 year old climate change activist, recently challenged world leaders to appreciate the vital relationship we have with our planet. Creation demands our respect and everyone must take responsibility for its protection if the escalation of climate change and our ultimate extinction is to be avoided.

Creation, it seems, brings blessing but it also demands our deepest respect. As stewards of the created order, may we rejoice in the great gifts we enjoy but heed the call to care for all that God, in his grace, has given us.

Yours in the faith,

*Gordon*

## Years Mind

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

1st Marjorie Smith

2nd Billy Kay, Ann Hay

9th Keith Malcolm Reader

11th Angus Shaw

14th Elsie Cook, John Ferguson

20th Bob Lees, Frank Chappell, Betty McNae

21st Jack Sergeant

23rd Brenda Watt

24th Frederick Goldie (*Bishop*)

26th Marion Davis, Elizabeth Griffiths

29th Geoffery McQueen-Farlane

30th Maurice Logue (*Priest*), Thomas Battle

31st Maggie Veriod, Agnes (Nan) Archibald Reader



On Tuesday, 24 September, a requiem was offered for Mrs Shirley Angell before her body was taken to be buried with her husband, Ian, at Brisbane Glen Cemetery.

At the service Hilary Moran spoke of Shirley's influence on her and on the wider community. Shirley was committed to the work of the Mothers' Union and the way in which this organisation furthered the life opportunities of amen throughout the world.

Though small in stature, Shirley, together with her husband, was well known as an avid mountaineer. A story that has now entered into the folklore of our own congregation was mentioned to Hilary by Bishop Gregor. When he served here as Rector, during one of the services, his cat Simon had climbed up into the organ and got stuck at the top of the pipes. Without a second thought, Shirley slipped off her shoes and scaled the organ; nimbly, quickly and successfully retrieving the cat and returning him to the rector!

A few years after Ian's death, Shirley moved to be near one of her sons in Norfolk in 2008. Shirley continued to keep an interest in our congregation and kept up to date by receiving the magazine each month. Following a long, eventful and fruitful life, Shirley died aged 89.

## From the Registers

### Funerals

*Shirley Angell - 24th September 2019*

## VESTRY NOTES

The Vestry at their meeting on 10 September 2019 took the following decisions/actions:

**Scottish Guild of Servers:** Janine Millward was congratulated on being admitted to the Scottish Guild of Servers.

**Photocopier:** NCS Service and Supplies will be maintaining the Ricoh photocopier in the Office. Billing would change to 1.00p a copy, billed in arrears, with all consumables and maintenance included.

**Property Matters:** Stuart Robertson reported as follows:

1. He was pursuing the undertaking of the heating survey for which the sum of £1,200 had been set aside and would look at the availability of grants once the survey was to hand.

2. Scott Crawford has undertaken to cut the hedging at the end of September and will start work on the area around the Rectory in October.

3. Neil McRaid has been asked to look at problems with the fire-door, leak in a skylight in the hall and the sticking door in the gents' toilet.

4. He and Chris will continue to chip away at jobs identified in the Quinquennial Report, so these are resolved prior to the reinspection in 2021.

5. All gutters around the Church, Hall and Rectory will be cleaned later this month.

6. Decoration of the Rectory was still outstanding due to no response to date from Peter McMurray on costings. Stuart asked members to suggest painters and decorators he might approach in that regard.

7. He will pursue with John McManus repairs to the ceiling light in the Rectory's utility room and over the font in the Church.

8. He will treat the slippery steps to the Vestry with Jeyes fluid.

The Vestry recorded their appreciation for the work Stuart does to maintain the Church, Hall and Rectory in good order.

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer, Chris Evans, had previously circulated a report on Receipts and Payments for the year to 31 August 2019 and suggested Budget for 2019/20. He advised that the surplus for charitable activities of £22,623 was due to three legacies totalling £27,000 and if they were stripped out, we would be overspent due to

unforeseen property works, which he detailed for the information of members. It was accepted that the increase in property spending was for good reasons. He advised that our Independent Examiner, Neil Robertson, had now checked and signed off the Accounts. After circulating the Statement of Balances and responding to questions thereon, Chris signed them off subject to a further £5,000 being invested on the advice of our Stockbroker. The Vestry thereafter approved the Budget for 2019/2010.

In the light of the foregoing decisions, it was **noted** that there would be no requirement for the Vestry Finance Meeting on 22 September.

The Vestry thanked Chris for the tremendous amount of work he has done on the accounts to keep the Church finances on a sound footing.

Chris advised that he had made a start on the Risk Register and proposed to take it to the Vestry Awayday in November for discussion and input from all Vestry members. The Risk Register be a standing item on future Vestry agendas.

**Social/Fundraising:** The Car Boot sales are now finished and raised some £5,500. Chris advised that The Macular Society and SAMH had each been sent cheques in the sum of £570 and he would produce a poster for the Noticeboard advising of this.

The Rector advised that the Living Room had now been dedicated. This will be considered at the Vestry Awayday for support as the local charity.

**Protection of Vulnerable Groups:** Linda reported that (i) Melissa Reid had received her PVG and (ii) all files and Certificates were up to date and ready for passing to her successor as PVG Co-ordinator.

**Congregational Matters:** Ray advised he had updated the Congregational Roll and would forward it to the Rector for future updating.

**Mission Action Plan:** The Rector reported that the MAP process continued to be in abeyance and that the MAP Action Group had not met, but we continue to build on the achievements of the past eight years.

**Rector's Workload:** The Rector was concerned that his increased workload, in the absence of the appointment of a Dean, was now impacting on the running of St Columba's. As the Dean had to be

appointed by the new Bishop, whose own appointment was unlikely to happen until the New Year, discussions were being held with the Primus on options to free up more of Gordon's time, including the possibility of someone else contributing to the ministry at St Columba's until the situation regarding the appointment of the Bishop and Dean is resolved.

**Eco Congregations:** The Vestry considered a suggestion by Hilary Moran that the Church look to being certified as an Eco Congregation and **agreed** to invite the organisation to send someone to speak to the congregation on the subject and the steps to certification.

**Congregational Awayday:** It had been hoped to participate as a congregation in The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Whithorn on 14 September, but, due to a clash of dates with Diocesan Ordinations, the event did not take place. The Vestry Awayday will consider the possibility of holding a Congregational Awayday in 2020 around the period of Lent.

**Arrangements for Congregational AGM:** The Vestry discussed the arrangements for 27 October in detail. It was noted that William would stand down as the longest serving Vestry member and that, in the knowledge that Ray and Linda Young were moving away on 27 September, the posts of Vestry Secretary, PVG Co-Ordinator and Rector's Warden would become vacant. As no one present expressed an interest in the Vestry Secretary's post it was **agreed** that all members of the Vestry should consider who in the congregation has the attributes for the role and advise the Rector accordingly. Dr Tim Johnston expressed an interest in the PVG Co-ordinator's post, and the Rector will give thought to who he might invite to become the Rector's Warden.

Ray undertook to invite submissions for the Activities Report by end September and Alice undertook to arrange soup and rolls for sixty persons. The Rector will put the usual AGM article in the magazine.

**Valedictory:** The Rector referred to the many roles undertaken by Ray and Linda Young at St Columba's and thanked them for their long service and dedication to the work of the Church. He wished them well and asked for God's blessing on them and their new home in Inverurie.

**Parish Room:** The Rector advised on works undertaken to provide office space in the Parish Room which would free up the study in the Rectory. He requested that two windows be replaced by double glazed units and this was agreed, Stuart to obtain costings from Williams

Double Glazing of Greenock who had provided the replacement windows in the Rectory.

**Vestry Awayday:** The Vestry Awayday on Saturday 16 November 2019 will be held in the College at the Cathedral of the Isles in Millport with lunch provided.

**Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be the Congregational AGM on 27 October 2019 at 12.30 p.m. in the Hall. Thereafter there will be a Vestry meeting on Tuesday 5 November 2019 at 7.00 p.m. in the Rectory.

**Ray Young, Vestry Secretary**

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**‘So long, farewell’**

On Sunday, 22 September members of the congregation bade farewell to Ray and Linda Young before they set off to their new life in Aberdeenshire. We are thankful for the many roles they filled during their active membership of St Columba’s and we pray God’s blessing on them.

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Dear Rector and Members

We would thank you all for the love and care shown to us during the past ten years of our membership, for the friendships made and so many happy times shared.

We are moving to Inverurie following Linda’s retirement and look forward to trips to the many castles and country parks in close proximity and generally relaxing in the lovely countryside of Aberdeenshire. If you are in the area, please let us know and we would be only too glad to offer you hospitality. Our new address is 20 Birch Drive, Inverurie AB51 6AN Tel. 01467 620279

While we rejoice in anticipation of this new phase in our lives, we know we will miss your love and support, but we will not be strangers. We have so many family members in North Ayrshire that there will be many occasions when we are in the area and will pop in to say hello, joining the choir when we can.

Please pray for us in our new venture; we will certainly be remembering you all in our prayers.

May God bless you all and take care of you. *Ray and Linda Young*

# October Prayer Calendar

- 1: Mark, our Primus and interim Bishop
- 2: The calling of a new Bishop to serve in Glasgow and Galloway
- 3: Members of the contemplative meditation group
- 4: (*Francis of Assisi*) Protection of God's creation
- 5: Our animal companions
- 7: All Pilgrims
- 8: Vacant Charges within the Diocese
- 9: Our Pastoral Team
- 10: All Farmers
- 11: All who suffer from climate change
- 12: Those effected by natural disaster
- 14: World Leaders
- 15: Justice and Peace
- 16: All Carers
- 17: Those living with longterm illness
- 18: (*Luke, Evangelist*) Thanksgiving for the gospels
- 19: Teachers
- 21: Health Professionals
- 22: Organisations that use our hall
- 23: (*James of Jerusalem, Martyr, c62*) The peace of Jerusalem
- 24: All who live in poverty
- 25: Those that know hunger today
- 26: Refugees and displaced peoples
- 28: (*Simon and Jude, Apostles*) The College of Bishops
- 29: H.M. The Queen
- 30: Our politicians
- 31: (All Hallows Eve) All who live in fear



# St Columba's Scottish Episcopal Church

Aubery Crescent, Largs, KA30 8PR

Charity No: SC004796

## Blessing of the Animals



12.00noon, Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019

EVERYONE IS WELCOME !



### Church Flowers

Many thanks to Hilary Moran and Joan Hutton for offering the flower arranging training on Saturday, 21 September. The half dozen participants who attended made their preparation well worthwhile and the church benefitted by being decked in the fruits of their labours.

### Mindfulness for Life

A new 6 week 'Mindfulness for Life' course will run each Monday evening from 21 October until 25 November. Spaces are limited - Please see the poster in the porch and speak to Lorna Reid for further information.

## **Congregational AGM**

Our Congregational Annual General Meeting will take place in the hall after the 11.00am service on Sunday, 27th October. Soup and a filled roll will be provided prior to commencement of the AGM at 12.15 p.m.

**Please inform me of any amendments/updates to your name, address or contact details for the Congregational Roll prior to the AGM.**

If you have a specific item you would like raised please pass your request in writing to me no later than 2 weeks before the meeting i.e. on or by 13th October.

Copies of the activity and financial reports will be made available in advance and I trust you will read these and come to the AGM prepared.

One Vestry member is due to stand down this year and there will also be a vacancy for a MAP Group member. Please speak to me in advance of the AGM if you are interested in any of these positions. None of them are particularly onerous, the Vestry for example normally meets four times a year and has an Awayday in November.

**Rector**

## **Blythswood Care Shoe Box Appeal**

As in previous years, you are invited to be part of the Blythswood Shoebox appeal. Boxes wrapped in Christmas paper are available from the back of church. Simply follow the instructions on the leaflet you'll find in the box, buy some gifts for the age group and gender you have chosen and return the gift to church no later than the last Sunday of the month (**27 October**).





## Charities for the Year

As some of you may know, we have supported 2 charities for our fund raising efforts in the past year – ‘The Macular Society’ and ‘SAMH’ have each been sent cheques in the sum of £570.

Many thanks for your assistance in raising this for both charities.



## Dates for your diary

3 October - 2.00pm Contemplative Meditation Group

5 October - 12.00noon, Pet Blessing Service

6 October - 12.15pm Food and Friendship Planning Meeting

20 October - 12.30pm Food and Friendship Lunch

*26 October - 10.30am, AGM of the Friends of the Cathedral of the Isles*

27 October - 12.15pm, Congregational AGM

5 November - 7.00pm, Vestry Meeting

6 November - 7.30pm Regional Council meeting at Largs

7 November - 2.00pm Contemplative Meditation Group

23 November - 2.00pm, Yuletide Afternoon

24 November - 12.30pm Food and Friendship Lunch

## Food and Friendship

Over the winter months last year we launched our 'Food and Friendship' initiative. This allowed us to offer a hot meal after church one Sunday each month.

We hope to continue this service to both the congregation and the local community again this winter but it cannot happen without the assistance of some willing volunteers.

Some of our congregation have already been trained in food hygiene and it is hoped they will continue to be involved. Please let me know if you would be happy to assist in some way with this exciting initiative.

There will be a brief planning meeting over tea immediately following the 11.00am service on Sunday, 6 October.

It is hoped that we may offer our community meals at 12.30pm on the following Sundays: **20th October, 24th November and 15th December.**

*The Rector*

## Smalls for All

I have a large collection of knickers and bras, still to be counted which have been donated this last few months. I'm amazed they are still arriving at back of the church. They now have got new premises they need to pay rent and electricity on, so monetary donations are always welcome.

*Hilary*



Remember to put your clocks forward an hour on Sunday, 27 October or you'll be late for church!

Please check the following rota and note if you are included.  
 Feel free to swap to ensure duties are covered.

## October 2019

Day	Services and Sunday readings	Duty at Sunday 11.00am
Saturday, 5	12.00noon Pet Blessing Service	
<b>Sunday, 6</b> <i>Pentecost 17</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist <i>Hab 1:1-4, 2:1-4; 2 Tim 1:1-14; Lk 17:5-10</i>	Server: Vicky Johnston Reader: Tim Johnston Intercessor: Jennifer Fitzgibbon
Wednesday, 9	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
<b>Sunday, 13</b> <i>Pentecost 18</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Choral Matins <i>2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15b; 2 Tim 2:8-15; Lk 17:11-19</i>	Crucifer: Hilary Moran Reader: Elspeth Robertson Intercessor: Alice MacDonald
Wednesday, 16	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
<b>Sunday, 20</b> <i>Pentecost 19</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist <i>Gen 32:22-31; 2 Tim 3:14-4:5; Lk 18:1-8</i>	Server: Janine Millward Reader: Gib Fitzgibbon Intercessor: William Ferguson
Wednesday, 23	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	
<b>Sunday, 27</b> <i>Pentecost 20</i> <i>(Clocks go back!)</i>	8.00am Said Eucharist 11.00am Sung Eucharist <i>Sir 35:12-17; Jer 14:7-10, 19-22; 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18</i>	Server: Chris Evans Reader: Jennifer Fitzgibbon Intercessor: Rector
Wednesday, 30	10.00am Said Eucharist (1970)	

## Readers for November 2019

3rd: Lorna Reid 10th: Stuart Robertson

17th: Jean Hutton 24th: Alice MacDonald



Diocesan website: <http://glasgow.anglican.org>

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

Rector                      The Revd Canon Gordon B. Fyfe,  
St Columba's Rectory,  
Aubery Crescent, Largs, KA30 8PR.  
Tel: 01475 673143 email: [gordon.fyfe@icloud.com](mailto:gordon.fyfe@icloud.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	<i>Vacant</i>	
Treasurer and Lay Representative	Chris Evans	673757
Rector's Warden	<i>Vacant</i>	
People's Warden	Alice MacDonald	673370
<b>Members</b>	Stuart Robertson	675681
	William Clark-Ferguson	07835454534
	Tim Johnston	329722
	Annemaurade Hamilton	01294 287515
	Janine Millward	07508 451192
	Andrew Reid	07818 837068

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

Scottish Charity Number SC004796

**The deadline for the November magazine is Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October.**

magazine articles should be sent to [gordon.fyfe@icloud.com](mailto:gordon.fyfe@icloud.com)

Life at St Columba's

<b>Director of Music</b>	Euan Fulton	07814 268 205
<b>Property Convenor</b>	Stuart Robertson	01475 675681
<b>Fundraising Committee</b>	William Clark-Ferguson	07835 454534
<b>Protection of Vulnerable Groups</b>	<i>Vacant</i>	

*Appointed by the Vestry and approved by the Bishop*

<b>Mothers' Union</b>	Hilary Moran	686213
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<b>Church Hall Diary</b>	Chris Evans	673757
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*Deals with hall bookings*

<b>Flowers</b>	Joan Hutton	672927
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<b>Sidesmen</b>	Alice MacDonald	673370
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<b>Christian Aid</b>	Jane Evans	673757
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*Representative on inter-church Christian Aid Committee*

<b>Regional Council</b>	William Clark-Ferguson	07835 454534
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<b>Intercessions Rota</b>	Frances Robertson	686947
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<b>Altar Servers</b>	Alice MacDonald	673370
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<b>Readers Rota</b>	Rector	673143
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*If you would like to join any of the above, please see Frances, Alice or the Rector*

<b>Largs Churches Together</b>	Alice MacDonald	673370
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<b>Press Officer</b>	Hilary Moran	686213
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<b>Columba's Creatives</b>	Rector	673143
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<b>Health &amp; Safety Officer</b>	William Clark-Ferguson	07835 454534
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Pastoral Visitors in the congregation  
*Eileen Binns (Coordinator, tel: 673580)*  
*Joan Hutton and May Kidd*