

May and June 2018

THE MESSENGER



150TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

**The Magazine of
St Michael And All Angels
Episcopal Church, Helensburgh
www.stmichaelhelensburgh.org.uk**



Service Details

Sunday

8:00am Communion from the Reserved Sacrament (1970 Rite)

10:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite)
Crèche and Sunday Clubs

6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

Tuesdays

10:30am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite) followed by refreshments

For dates of services please see Diary (Page 10) inside



ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, WILLIAM STREET, HELENSBURGH

Charity Registered in Scotland SC006468

The Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway

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From Revd. Pat Smith

This month starts with a bang with our celebrations for the 150th Anniversary of the dedication of St Michael's, details of which are elsewhere in the magazine. It's a wonderful achievement to have been a Christian presence in our community for over 150 years, and as a congregation we have much to be thankful for, particularly the strong fellowship that we share. However, while it is good to look back and celebrate, it is even more important to look forward and plan, even if that can involve us in tackling some hard questions.

I regularly read in the *Church Times* of concerns about shrinking and ageing congregations and the actions being taken to tackle these problems. It is certainly a fact that, like many churches, St Michael's age profile is far higher than that of the general population, although this can be a blessing as well as a problem. Older people bring years of spiritual experience and wisdom to our congregation. Free from the pressures of work and raising a family we may have more time to contribute to church activities. We may also have more money available to support the work of the church. Those are the plus points.

However, on the downside there is the inescapable fact that as we get older we may have less energy to do things, and we may become set in our ways. Inevitably my generation will die off; who will then be here to fill the pews in our church which has been so lovingly restored? Our faith is something precious to be shared, not to be buried with us; that's where the painful questions have to be faced. Without unnecessary change, what do we need to do to ensure that St Michael's is accessible to young adults and families - so that future

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July/August Edition

Handing in Sunday 10th Jun
Publication Sunday 24th Jun

September/October Edition

Handing in Sunday 12th Aug
Publication Sunday 26th Aug

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From Revd. Pat Smith (continued)

generations come to learn about Christ with us, sharing in the Good News of the resurrection which we so recently celebrated in our Easter services?

Hopefully we will soon be welcoming a new Rector who will help us to tackle these questions and lead us into growth, but the job will not be for him alone. It is for each one of us to play our part – with open minds and open hearts as we welcome people into this part of Christ's family, and work to take the love that we experience out into the community. Then we will be able to look forward with confidence to the next 150 years.

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Ascension Day is on Thursday May 10th, and in the absence of any planned regional service we are holding our sung Eucharist at St Michael's at 10.30am. I am delighted to say that clergy from the URC, Parish and Baptist churches have accepted invitations to join us and will participate in the readings and Intercessions. There will be refreshments in the hall after the service. I hope that we will have a good attendance to welcome our friends from other churches as we mark Jesus' final appearance to his disciples in this often neglected but very important festival. The day is about much more than the renaissance image of the Ascension, where the disciples look upwards at a pair of feet sticking out from the underside of a cloud: we come together to remember Jesus' "great commission" to his followers to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. That really is something for the church to mark and celebrate.

Revd. Pat Smith

News

Congratulations to Chris Packard on his winning entry to the photographic competition, used on our front cover this edition. Other entries will be used on future editions of the **MESSENGER**.

Great news that the Vestry has chosen a new Rector and we all await the announcement expectantly. Apologies if everybody already knows when they read this. We all owe a great debt of gratitude to the Bishop for his personal advice and oversight of this difficult time and to the leadership of Nick Davies for organising everything.

We also owe thanks to Marc and Derek for their tireless work in transforming the Rectory into a modern home to be proud of.

Richard Smith, Editor

Notices

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING. The May Coffee Morning will be held at Maureen Kyle's home, at 10:30am on the 3rd May tel: 672951

The June Coffee Morning will be held at Maureen Douglass's home, at 10:30am on the 7th June tel: 674763

Maureen Kyle

DAFFODIL SOUP. Michael and Rosemary Wilson would like to thank, most sincerely, all those who came to the Daffodil Soup. Thanks to their generosity and the help of Gift Aid, £400 was raised for the New servery.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION. On Saturday 12th May, starting with coffee at 10:30am, there's a day of two talks and meditation under the direction of Alex Holmes, the Leader in Scotland, at the home of Michael and Rosemary Wilson, High Auchensail, Cardross G82 5HN Tel 01389 841297.

Bring your own picnic lunch (homemade soup is provided) £15 or £10 for young and oap's towards Alex's expenses. This is an annual event for anyone in Scotland. It is a day of interest and refreshment. Please advise if you intend coming.

Michael and Rosemary Wilson

OPEN GARDENS. Sheila and Michael Baker's garden at Westburn, 50 Campbell Street, Helensburgh will be open in aid of St Michael's Church funds on Sunday 13 May from 2pm.

Also open on the same day will be the garden of Tricia and Tom Stewart, High Glenan, Queen Street in aid of Prostate Cancer, UK

Sheila Baker

INTERCESSOR TRAINING. On 2nd June the Diocese are to send someone to lead a course for intercessors in Church. If you think you might be interested in conducting the prayers of intercession in Church and would like to attend this training course, please let Joan Sadden (Tel: 01436 672422) know for more details.

Joan Sadden

URC SERVICE. Bungie has invited St. Michael's congregation to join URC in worship and communion at 11:00am on Sunday 3rd June.

SUMMER SERVICES – ADVANCE NOTICE. Please note that the final Evensong for this session will be on Sunday 24th June, resuming on Sunday 2nd September. There will be no 8.00am Communion from the Reserved Sacrament on Sundays 1st or 8th July; the weekly pattern will resume on Sunday 15th July.

Kevin Boak

Vestry Report March 2018

This has been a busy time for the vestry. A routine Vestry meeting took place on 5th March, and on 19th March the Vestry met with the Bishop specifically to assess the candidates who had applied to be our next incumbent. Key points from those meetings plus subsequent developments are as follows:

MISSIONAL LEADERSHIP. A presentation was given on 5th March at the start of the vestry meeting on 'Missional Leadership' by Revd Jane Ross and Gill Reynolds. The MAP team were also in attendance and a useful discussion took place, after which those of the MAP team who are not Vestry members departed.

FINANCIAL MATTERS. The Treasurer delivered a report for the period September 2017 – January 2018. Income was £39,573 (£2,799 less than last year, due to a reduction in giving). We made a net saving on stipend of £12,982. Expenditure was £21,575 (£32,515 last year) Also we received a bank refund of £1,620 from RBS to correct an error dating back to 2016.

The notable items of expenditure were: £1,320 for roofing & gutter repairs. £752 for boiler repairs. £462 to our firefighting contractor. £432 to service the rectory fire alarm. £424 to tune the organ. The Treasurer advised caution with regard to expenditure on rectory refurbishment otherwise we will inevitably have to draw down on our already limited reserves.

RE-PURPOSING THE DEAN BEARD MEMORIAL FUND. The Vestry considered a proposal that we should change the purpose of the Dean Beard Memorial Fund. The fund dates back to 1943 and was given by the congregation to provide a memorial plaque and an income which would help former choirboys when they came to start their careers. The initial investment was £306, supplemented in 1954 by a further £60. It has been impossible for at least the last 40 years to spend the income from the fund in the way originally envisaged because of a shortage of ex-choirboys.

By the end of the last financial year we had £3,666 of unspent income from the fund. The law regarding the release of charities from restrictions imposed by donors changed in 2012, and we are now able to apply to OSCR for permission to reorganize restricted funds such as the Dean Beard Memorial Fund. We must satisfy OSCR that we cannot now ascertain the wishes of the original subscribers to the fund, that we can use the money to better effect for charitable purposes, and that the purpose of the Dean Beard Fund can no

Vestry Report (continued)

longer be given effect to.

The Vestry agreed in principle to seek OSCR's agreement to change the purpose of the Dean Beard Memorial Fund to allow its income to be used for the maintenance and advancement of church music. This will be a small but significant improvement to our financial situation.

RECTORY UPGRADE. The Property Manager had written a very detailed specification on the upgrade required, accompanied by drawings and based on the scope of work agreed at the January Vestry meeting. He had approached a number of contractors and had received 3 estimates.

The cheapest estimate came to an overall price, including VAT, of £75,010, with the contractor also expressing interest in getting the project completed in a timescale that would suit us very neatly. The Vestry agreed that although this contractor would be the preferred option, the price presented a significant problem.

The budget had been around £40,000, and a discussion took place during the 5th March Vestry meeting on how we might bring the price down, acknowledging that the work does need to be done. It was agreed that the scope of the project be reviewed to identify where savings might be made.

Subsequently, Marc Duncan, who has considerable expertise in the refurbishment of old properties, offered to manage the project for us. This very generous offer was accepted by the Vestry, and work is now well underway. The aim is to complete the project by the end of July, and to a price that is within £50,000.

We are applying via the Diocese for a Provincial Grant of £20,000 towards the project. We won't know whether we are successful until late summer, and it is unlikely we'll get the full amount asked for, but any financial support from the Diocese will be most welcome.

UPPER HALL SERVERY. The Property Manager presented an imaginative design for the Upper Hall servery. The cost is estimated to be just under £9,000. The plans are displayed at the back of the church.

The Vestry acknowledged the importance of this project, but a funding solution needs to be found. After discussion at the 5th March meeting, it was agreed that we should do some specific fundraising to support the servery project.

Vestry Report (continued)

Funds raised from the 150th Anniversary events will go towards the servery, as will the 'Daffodil event' at High Auchensail Farm on 8th April.

Subsequently we have received 2 very generous anonymous donations. We are well on the way to affording the Upper Hall Servery, so hopefully work can start soon.

AUDIO SYSTEM. Various enhancements to our audio system have been put in place, and the system now appears to be working reliably. The purchase of a face microphone costing £123 was considered, but as neither the Associate Priest nor the Lay Reader felt they needed a face microphone, it was agreed that acquisition be deferred.

IT STATISTICS. Our webmaster presented a report on the usage of our IT. There has been a healthy interest in our website and Facebook pages. It is important that we keep our website up to date – we can all help with this, which is very much the public face of St Michael's church.

150TH ANNIVERSARY MUGS. To mark our 150th Anniversary, the Vestry approved the purchase of 192 commemorative mugs. Half will be retained for use in the church, the other half sold for £8 each. Delivery 4th May and supplier is happy to defer payment for 2 – 3 months after delivery. We might invite a donation to church funds to offset the cost of the new servery with each sale.

Nick Davies, Secretary

The Vacancy

Advertising for our new incumbent started on 16th February. We had numerous expressions of interest and 6 applications, 4 of which were from non-UK citizens. Employment law requires that suitably qualified applicants from within the EEA must be considered first.

We had 2 UK applicants by the closing date. We met with the Bishop and agreed that these 2 very promising applicants would be interviewed on 9th and 10th April. The vestry also agreed interview protocols and a set of interview questions was devised, taking into account suggested questions from the congregation.

Following the interviews, a final selection meeting took place with the Bishop on 15th April. The 2 candidates considered were both very well qualified, and it

The Vacancy (continued)

was hard to make a choice. After careful deliberation a selection was made. The identity of our next rector will remain confidential to the vestry while necessary procedures are followed, and a 3 month notice period is required before the individual concerned can move to Helensburgh. An announcement will be made once the Bishop has issued a 'Letter of Appointment'. Please be patient!

The Bishop will then decide a suitable date for the 'Service of Institution' which will probably be late July/early August (by which time the rectory refurbishment should be complete). **We should have a new Rector by late Summer.** *Nick Davies*

Mothers' Union

Although the new Mothers' Union committee met for the first time after the publishing deadline, I am very grateful for Margaret Wardil's contribution below and the advice that Richard Horrell will be the person to contact about MU matters, see the back inside cover. *Richard Smith*

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 1st May at 2:00pm, the speaker is from Deaf Awareness. All Welcome.

As part of the 150th Anniversary Celebrations, there will be an Auction held on Friday 4th May in the evening, after the meal and the talk by Alex Laing.

Mothers' Union meets again on the 24th May, for afternoon tea at Ardarden; arrangements for time and lifts will be made nearer the time.

There will be no Mothers' Union meetings in June. *Margaret Wardil*

Good Morning. This is God.

Today I will be handling all your problems. Please remember that I do not need your help. If the devil happens to deliver a situation you cannot handle, DO NOT attempt to resolve it. Kindly put it in the 'SFJTD' (Something For Jesus To Do) box. It will be addressed in MY time, not YOURS. Once the matter is placed in the box, do not hold onto it or attempt to remove it. Holding on or removal will delay the resolution of your problem. If it is a situation that you think you are capable of handling, please consult me in prayer to be sure that it is the proper resolution. "Because I do not sleep, nor do I slumber, there is no need for you to lose sleep. Rest my child. If you need to contact me I am only a prayer away."

Michael Wilson

CALENDAR FOR MAY

MAY

Tuesday 1st May

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1982 Rite)
*2:00pm Mothers' Union – Speaker from
Deaf Awareness*

Thursday 3rd May

10:30am Monthly Coffee Morning

Friday 4th May

6:30pm Bring-and-Share Meal with after
dinner reminiscences by Rev, Canon Alex
Laing and Auction

Saturday 5th May

7:30pm 150th St. Michael's Church
Anniversary concert of popular classical
music by Buchanan Ensemble

Sunday 6th May – Sixth of Easter – 150th Anniversary of St. Michael and All Angels' Church

8:00am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1970 Rite)
10:30-11:15am Sunday clubs for children
10:30-11:30am 150th Anniversary
Eucharist (1982 Rite) Rt. Rev. Dr. Gregor
Duncan preaching and presiding
*6:00pm 150th Anniversary Ecumenical
Songs of Praise*

Tuesday 8th May

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1970 Rite)
2:30pm Bible Study at West Duhill
Drive

Thursday 10th May – Ascension Day

10:30am Eucharist with Hymns and
Sermon (1982 Rite)

Saturday 12th May

Rambling Club – Ben More Gardens

Sunday 13th May – Seventh of Easter –

Sunday after Ascension Day

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK STARTS (See
Addendum for Programme)
8:00am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1970 Rite)
10:30-11:15am Sunday clubs for children
10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite)
2:00pm Sheila & Michael Baker's Garden
6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

Tuesday 15th May

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1970 Rite)
2:30pm Bible Study at West Duhill
Drive

Tuesday 15th to 18th May

Rambling Club May break to Pitlochry

Wednesday 16th May

May Day of Prayer for Mission Action
Planning, Trinity Chapel All Day

19th May CHRISTIAN AID WEEK ENDS

Sunday 20th May – Pentecost

8:00am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1970 Rite)
10:30-11:15am Sunday clubs for children
10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite)
7:00pm Christian Aid Service at URC

Tuesday 22nd May

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1970 Rite)
2:30pm Bible Study at West Duhill
Drive

Thursday 24th May

Mothers' Union outing to Ardarden

Saturday 26th May

Rambling Club – Otter Ferry

Change of Timing

/JUNE 2018

Sunday 27th May – Trinity Sunday

8:00am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1970 Rite)
10:30-11:15am Sunday clubs for children
10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite)
6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong
Tuesday 29th May – Corpus Christi
9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1970 Rite)
2:30pm Bible Study at West Duhill
Drive

JUNE

Sunday 3rd June – First after Trinity

8:00am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1970 Rite)
*11:00am Joint Ecumenical Communion at
United Reformed Church*

6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

Tuesday 5th June – Feast-day of St Boniface

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Eucharist (1970 Rite)

Thursday 7th June

10:30am Monthly Coffee Morning

Saturday 9th June

Rambling Club – Victoria Bridge

Sunday 10th June – Second after Trinity

8:00am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1970 Rite)
10:30-11:15am Sunday clubs for children
10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite)
6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

Tuesday 12th June

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Eucharist (1970 Rite)
2:30pm Bible Study at West Duhill
Drive

Wednesday 18th June

June Day of Prayer for Mission Action
Planning, Trinity Chapel All Day

Sunday 17th June – Third after Trinity

8:00am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1970 Rite)
10:30-11:15am Sunday clubs for children
10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite)
6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

Tuesday 19th June

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Eucharist (1970 Rite)

Saturday 23rd June

Rambling Club – Island of Kerrera

Sunday 24th June – Fourth after Trinity – Birth of John the Baptist

8:00am Communion from Reserved
Sacrament (1970 Rite)
10:30-11:15am Sunday clubs for children
10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite)
6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong
NOTE: Final Evensong until 2 September

Tuesday 26th June

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Eucharist (1970 Rite)

Change of Timing

St Michael and All Angels' Church

Helensburgh

150th ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND EVENTS

Friday 4th May at 6:30pm

Bring-and-Share Meal

With After-Dinner Reminiscences

by Rev. Canon Alex Laing

Saturday 5th May at 7:30pm

A Concert of Popular Classical Music

With the Buchanan Ensemble

Wine and Refreshments during the Interval

Donations welcome towards the ministry of the Church

Sunday 6th May at 10:30am

Sung Eucharist

Bishop Gregor presiding

At 6:00pm

Songs of Praise

Enhanced Choir

Organists – Martyn Marshall

Andrew Lockhart

News from the Past – May 1868

What was in the news when St Michael's was founded?

St Michael and All Angels Church was inaugurated (consecrated?) on the 7th of May 1868. It is interesting to see what was happening in Helensburgh and the wider world on that day. The main sources of information are the Glasgow Herald which is available on difficult to read microfilm in the Mitchel Library and The Times of London, which can be searched on line.

According to a weather report in the Times, the 7th of May in central Scotland was cool (50°F) and misty with some light rain.

The one article concerning Helensburgh in the Glasgow Herald on that day was:

We notice, in this fashionable and rising watering place, there is being erected in connection with the Established Church of Scotland, a new and substantial church of wood and galvanised iron, stained and varnished inside. It will afford accommodation for about 400 sitters, thereby supplying a felt want for the increasing population and summer visitors. It is expected to be opened on the 24th inst. These churches are found to be very comfortable. The builders are Messrs Francis Murton & Co. of Liverpool who have erected a number of similar churches in England.

This refers to the temporary church that was built somewhere in William Street and known as the West Parish Church; when the congregation had raised sufficient money, it was replaced in 1878 with the church on the corner of John Street and West King Street, where the library now stands.

The Scottish news in the Herald largely concerned meeting of various church presbyteries around the country. Reports from London covered the trial of Michael Barrett, who had set off an explosion in Clerkenwell, that killed 12 people, in an unsuccessful attempt to rescue 'Fenian' prisoners. This act was said to have turned public opinion in Britain, strongly against the cause of Irish independence. Barrett was subsequently found guilty and was the last person to be publicly hanged in the UK on the 26th May.

From wider afield The Times reported:

The most significant matter at present transpiring in America is the extraordinary pressure which is being brought to bear on the doubtful Republican Senators in Washington to compel them to vote on the final decision of the Impeachment question for the President's conviction. The

News from the Past – May 1868 (continued)

Republican press throughout the country cry out in general chorus that Mr Johnson's removal from office is a political necessity, that it must be secured at any and every cost and that no disgrace is too great for the Republican Senator who fails them at this trying hour.

There are many pages of small ads for everything from 'The 18s 6d Trouser Scheme' to 'The Self-Fitting Air-Cushioned hat, which obtained the Highest Class Prime Medal at the Paris Exhibition 1867'. The most interesting one is reproduced here:

The Cramb brothers owned Hermitage House in Helensburgh; when their sister, Susannah, was the last member of the family to die in 1911, the house and gardens were bought by Helensburgh Council to form the basis of Hermitage Park.

Fine Arts, Photography, &c.

SPECIALTE GROUPS AND PORTRAITS OF CHILDREN.

C R A M B B R O T H E R S
PHOTOGRAPHERS TO THE QUEEN
17 WEST NILE STREET GLASGOW.
The weather is now all right for the most difficult Photographic operations such as Children's Portraits, Family and other Large Groups. Rain and storm of themselves do no harm - sunlight not sunshine is required.
- ARTISTIC CARTES (Permanent Pure Photographs), 1/4 per Dozen.

From later in the year The Times on July the 6th records what must have been one of the first weddings in St Michael's:

On the 2nd July, at the Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Helensburgh, by the Rev. J.W. Reid of Christ Church, Glasgow, assisted by the Rev. J. Stewart Syme, the incumbent, JAMES WALLIS DENNISTOUN, Esq., of Dennistoun, to CAROLINE JOANNA, second daughter of HENRY GORE BOOTH, Esq., and granddaughter of the late James Smith Esq., of Jordanhill.

The couple had two children, Isabella Caroline and James George, both of whom apparently died without having any children.

Helensburgh was again in the news in October: From The Times October 31st 1868 - *EXTRAORDINARY CATCHES OF HERRING: - During the past week or two great excitement has existed at Greenock, Helensburgh and other places on the Clyde owing to the presence of enormous quantities of herring at the tail of the Bank and between that and Dumbarton Castle, and the great hauls made by the fishing-boats. At Helensburgh no fewer than 80 tons were landed in a single day and at Greenock on Wednesday last there were no fewer than 50 boats discharging their cargoes at one time.*

Chris Sanders

A Footballing Legend



The Variety Club is well known for doing so much for disadvantaged children and I was privileged to be their guest for the day. Almost 180 people attended the lunch at Hampden, a venue well known to me having played there many times for both club and country. Amongst my

I would like to thank all those from St. Michael's who attended the Variety Club lunch at Hampden Park on Friday March 16th to support me, where I was the Guest of Honour for the occasion. I had no knowledge of their coming and I was quite overwhelmed when I saw them.



favourite memories must be the International against England at the end of the War, when, in front of 139,570 spectators, Scotland won in the last minute to huge acclaim with celebrations going on for weeks.

And so, after a splendid lunch, speeches



and entertainment a most enjoyable afternoon came to a close. On a personal note, my family were all there and present when in a private room I received a presentation from the Scottish Football Association for outstanding services to Scottish Football and also a large birthday cake for my impending birthday. Truly a memorable day and thank you again St. Michael's.

Bobby Brown

ST MICHAEL'S RAMBLING CLUB

WALKS MAY TO SEPTEMBER 2018

Walks are on Saturdays and start outside St Michael's Church at 9 am unless otherwise indicated by the leaders of the individual walks.

DATE	WALK	LEADER
28 th April	Houston Gryfe and Bridge of Weir	Maureen 674763
12 th May	Ben More Gardens and A'Cruach	James 675541
15-18 th May	May Break to Pitlochry	Separate Programme
26 th May	Otter Ferry	Frankie 678490
9 th June	Victoria Bridge	James 675541
23 rd June	Island of Kerrera	Maureen 674763
7 th July	St. Fillans	Frankie 678490
21 st July	Lochgoilhead	James 675541
4 th August	Island of Lismore	John 675010
18 th August	Loch Lomond and West Highland Way	John 675010
1 st September	Lendrick Hill, Brig O'Turk	Maureen 674763
15 th September	White Corries, Glencoe	James 675541

Note that the grades have been omitted, as these can be so subjective. The leaders will give more details following a recce and we do try to cater for all tastes.

Queries about individual walks to the Leader.

LECTIONARY – MAY/JUNE 2018

Sunday	Eucharist	Evensong
6 th May - Easter 6 Church 150 th Anniversary	Genesis 28:11-18 1 Peter 2:1-10 John 10:22-29	Song of Solomon 4:16- 5:2,8:6-7 Revelation 3:14-22 Psalm 45
13 th May- Easter 7 Sunday after Ascension	Acts 1:15-17,21-26 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19	Isaiah 61:1-11 Ephesians 4:7-16 Psalm 147:1-12
20 th May Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21 Romans 8:22-27 John 15:26-27,16:4b-15	Ezekiel 36:22-28 Acts 2:22-38 Psalm 139:1-11
27 th May Trinity	Isaiah 6:1-8 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17	Ezekiel 1:4-10,22-28b Revelation 4:1-11 Psalm 104:1-9
3 rd June Trinity 1	URC Joint Communion 11:00am	1 Kings 19:1-16 1 John 3:1-3 Psalm 99
10 th June Trinity 2	Genesis 3:8-15 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:20-35	Jeremiah 6:16-21 Acts 22:22-23:11 Psalm 37:1-12
17 th June Trinity 3	Ezekiel 17:22-24 2 Corinthians 5:6-17 Mark 4:26-34	Jeremiah 7:1-16 Acts 23:12-35 Psalm 39
24 th June - Trinity 4 Birth of John the Baptist	Isaiah 40:1-11 Acts 13:14b-26 Luke 1:57-80	Jeremiah 10:1-16 Acts 27:1-12 Psalm 49

READERS' LIST – MAY/JUNE 2018

DATE	8:00am	10:30am	6:30pm
6 th May	Nigel Allan	John Lewis	Penny Johnston
13 th May	John MacCallum	Michael Blake	Maurice Steuart-Corry
20 th May	Chris Sanders	John Hanks	Maureen McCormack
27 th May	Selina McGeoch	Chris Packard	Jill Braid
3 rd June	Henry Douglas	Julie Siemens	John Sadden
10 th June	Penny Johnston	Helen Gibson	Joan Sadden
17 th June	Nigel Allan	Richard Smith	Margaret Gilbert
24 th June	John MacCallum	James Ashby	Maurice Steuart-Corry

Personal Data

The UK Government will implement the latest EU rules (The General Data Protection Regulations) for protecting personal data in May 2018. This means that all organisations; including churches, must manage and protect the personal data of anyone who provides it.

Personal data consists of your name, telephone numbers, address and email address - the things that make it possible for people to identify or contact you. We have lists of members of the congregation for many reasons; the electoral roll, church helpers (such as sidespersons and readers rotas) and members of clubs and groups.

Previously the need to protect personal data was limited to those whose details were published on the web site. Under the new rules the protection applies to both paper lists and those held on computers. As the person responsible for the Web Site and Social Media for St Michaels I already have some responsibilities and VSec has asked me to follow up on some things. Over the next few weeks we will check who holds the various distribution lists, then decide if your explicit permission is needed to use your personal information. Quite a lot of our lists relate to the running of St Michaels and these may well not need your consent, but for many purposes we rely on email contact and in these cases, it will be prudent to confirm with you that we can continue to use your information for specific purposes.

We now have some guidance from the Diocese and will take this into account. A couple of final points; we will not put any details which can identify an individual on Social Media, and we will not allow any personal data to be used by third parties without consent. If you have any questions or wish to discuss anything related to these new rules, please get in touch with me.

Henry Douglass

01436 674 763, 07508 122 866, henry.douglass@hotmail.co.uk (This data provided with my express permission for use in connection with GDPR compliance)

Church Group Leaders

Contact People/Organisers

Sunday Club		
Crèche	Pauline and Ray Williams	673944
Infants, Juniors Plus	Joy Boak	676852
Sidespersons	Vacant	
Bellringers	Kitty Fleming	676963
Reading (Lessons) Rota	Nigel Allan	671875
Cleaning Co-ordinator	Barbara Hoey	671718
Visiting Co-ordinator	Vacant	
Flowers	Sue Ashby	675541
Intercessions Rota, Laundry, Soft		
Fabrics and Chief Sacristan	Joan Sadden	672422
Sunday Coffee Rota	Margaret Horrell	676936
BRF (Bible Reading Fellowship Notes)	Marion Blake	673960
Mothers' Union Branch Leader	Richard Horrell	676936
USPG	Marion Blake	673960
Keep Fit/ Hall Convener/		
Monthly Coffee Morning Rota	Maureen Kyle	672951
Eco Congregation	Selina McGeoch	676074
Hill walking and Rambling Club	James Ashby	675541
Traidcraft	Jo Scott	01389 849145
Vale of Leven Hospital Tea Bar	Judith Adams	672477
St Michael's Art Group	John MacCallum	673521
Magazine Editor	Richard Smith	831644
Website	Henry Douglass	674763
	Jo Scott	01389 849145

Ask how to join or help. Perhaps bring new ideas for new activities
You will be welcome. Please let the editor know if any changes are needed.

May and June 2018

THE MESSENGER

Addendum

Christian Aid Week 13th – 19th May

Main Events

Concert

*Helensburgh Chamber Orchestra Concert,
Conductor David Bruce.*

*Sunday 6th May 7pm,
At Helensburgh Parish Church*

Fayre

*Fayre, Helensburgh Parish Church
Saturday, 12th May 10am – 12 noon*

Donations of toys, books and baking
for St Michael's stall would be most welcome

House to House Collection

*House to house collection takes place during Christian Aid
Week.*

More volunteers from the congregation to supplement our existing excellent
team would be very welcome.

Sponsored Swim

Christian Aid sponsored swim on Thursday 17th May.

We would love to have at least one sponsored Adult to swim this year, either on
the swim evening, or at another time of his or her choosing.

Street Collection

Street collection on Saturday 19th May.

Can you volunteer for one hour that day?

Christian Aid Service

on Sunday 20th May at 7pm in the United Reformed Church.

History of St. Michael's Church

DELVING INTO THE HISTORY BOOKS FOR OUR CHURCH 150TH ANNIVERSARY

It is interesting to reflect that a number of our congregation were members in 1968 when the centenary of St. Michael and All Angels was celebrated. The Rev. Noble, writing his preface to a commemorative booklet outlining the history of the church, noted the dramatic changes that had taken place, describing the 'terrible factories of destruction' and the 'ogre of modern civilisation which has nestled in its brash way in our midst'. Whatever views people may have on the continuing presence of the nuclear deterrent, the arrival of our naval base brought a substantial influx of new people to the town. Rev. Noble observed that Helensburgh had changed from a genteel, if declining watering place, into a dormitory town with the 'creeping scar of housing estates on the once-forested hillside'. He noted that in the previous ten years the numbers attached to the congregation had trebled, communicants doubled, mission stations had been established at Garelochhead and Coulport, and the Sunday School was outgrowing its accommodation.



Going back one hundred and fifty years from 1968, the earliest records of an Episcopal community appear in 1814, as Helensburgh began to grow as a planned town, popularised by Henry Bell and the Baths Hotel opened in 1808. Episcopalians met where they could, sometimes outdoors, but by the 1840s the need for a permanent place of worship in the town was pressing. The first incumbent in Helensburgh, the Rev. James Robertson Mackenzie, was inducted to the charge of Holy Trinity, the first church on the present site, on 6th April 1843. This church had seating for 220. In 1851 a day school was added to the chapel by the Rev. John Bell, who had been

incumbent since 1845. In 1857 the present rectory was built, coinciding with the arrival of the North British Railway in Helensburgh. By 1866 the growth in population led to the decision to demolish Holy Trinity and erect a new church.

The architect appointed was Mr. (later Sir) Rowand Anderson, who chose the French Gothic style. Red Corncockle sandstone from Dumfriesshire was used for the exterior stonework, while the famous Caen limestone from Normandy was used for the interior.

Building was completed early in 1868 and the Consecration fixed for 7th May. The new church was dedicated to St. Michael, named after the ancient pre-Reformation chapel at Faslane. Ceremonies took place over four days, with the main



dedication service attended by the Bishop, the Rt. Rev. William Scott, the Dean, chaplain, seventeen other clergy and the rector. Six hundred people crammed into the new church for a three-hour service! The church cost just over £2,500, and amongst the subscribers was the Rt. Hon. W.E. Gladstone MP. The commemorative booklet produced in 1968 notes that it cost a similar amount in 1958 to create the Holy Trinity Chapel in the south-east corner of the church.

The mosaic reredos behind the high altar dates from 1872, while most of the stained glass is late 19th century (see Lindsay Watkins descriptive booklet). Sir Rowand Anderson, much later in his career in 1905, was consulted about the organ, which was substantially rebuilt by Ingram & Co of Edinburgh at a cost of £438. There were one and a half miles of pipes weighing more than a ton. The church hall was built in 1912 at a cost of £700. In 1930 the bell tower was finally added to complete the original 1866 plan, housing a peal of eight bells

Admiring the photographs in the sacristy of the venerable figures who have served as rector, it is astonishing there have been only eleven rectors since 1845. Eighty years can be accounted for by just two rectors – Rev. J.S. Syme (1862 – 1905) and Dean C. B. Beard (1905 – 1943).



Poised as we are to move forward into the next phase of our church history, which we hope to mark with the creation of the servery in the upper hall, we also look ahead with anticipation to the arrival of a new rector. We face the challenges of a beautiful building

to maintain, the trend in declining church attendance and an ageing congregation. Finance is always an issue, and we are grateful to God for prompting people to give generously towards the servery and the rectory refurbishment. These gifts, along with proceeds from the collections at the anniversary concert and the Songs of Praise, will contribute to our continuing Christian witness as the face of the Scottish Episcopal Church in Helensburgh.

As we look ahead in faith, thanking God for his generosity of love to us over the past 150 years, we pray for a spiritual awakening in Helensburgh, growth in church membership and a deepening of commitment in our discipleship. This we do in the expectation of the arrival of our new incumbent, and a new chapter in the history of St. Michael and All Angels.

'But this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus'. Philippians 3: 13b – 14

Kevin Boak, Lay Reader