

May and June 2019

THE MESSENGER



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

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, WILLIAM STREET, HELENSBURGH

Charity Registered in Scotland SC006468

The Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway

**Interim Bishop: The Most Revd Mark Strange,
Bishop of Moray, Ross and Caithness, Primus**

Diocesan Website: www.scotland.anglican.org/diocese/glasgow

Clergy and Staff

Rector:	The Revd Dominic Ind The Rectory, 16 William Street, Helensburgh G84 8BD ind.dominic@gmail.com	01436 670297
Lay Reader:	Kevin Boak, 38 West Duhill Drive, Helensburgh G84 9AW	676852
Secretary to the Vestry.....	Nick Davies The Copse, Donaldson's Brae, Kilcraggan G84 0JB nickandjaned@btinternet.com	842060
Treasurer.....	Janina Duncan Deepdene, 119 West Clyde St. Helensburgh G84 8ET janinaduncan@drymen.com	0741 256 7154
Property Convener.....	Reay MacKay 21 Campbell Street Helensburgh G84 8BQ reay@chsltd.plus.com	675499
Stewardship Convener.....	Jane Davies	842060
Lay Representative.....	Richard Horrell	676936
Children & Vulnerable Persons Protection Coordinator	John Busby Innerhaven, Garelochhead G84 0EL	811385

Website: www.stmichaelhelensburgh.org.uk/

Email: info@stmichaelhelensburgh.org.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelshelensburgh/>

READERS' LIST – MAY/JUNE 2019

DATE	8:00am	10:30am	6:30pm
5 th May	Penny Johnston	Richard Smith	No Evensong
12 th May	Nigel Allan	James Ashby	No Evensong
19 th May	Chris Sanders	Jill Braid	No Evensong
26 th May	Moira Miller	Trevor Quickfall	Margaret Gilbert
2 nd June	Hillary Menzies	Jo Frain-Bell	No Evensong
9 th June	Sam Harris	Michael Blake	Maurice Steuart-Corry
16 th June	Penny Johnston	John Hanks	Maureen McCormack
23 rd June	Nigel Allan	Alex Laing	Janet Hardy
30 th June	Chris Sanders	Chris Packard	Penny Johnston

Social Programme 2019

Date	Event	Timing	Location
Sat 11 May	Organ Recital	7:00pm	St. Michael's Church
Sun 26 May	Open Garden	pm	Sheila Baker, 50 Campbell St.
Sat 31 Aug	Church Barbecue	Lunch-time	Rector's Garden
Sat 5 Oct	St. Michael's Exhibition of Talents	am–pm	Church Hall

House Communion

Peninsula House Communion will be on Wednesday 22nd May and on Wednesday 26th June at 2:30pm. Locations to be advised. Everyone is welcome.

Cardross House Communion will be on Tuesday 21st May at 2:30pm and on Tuesday 2nd July at 2:30pm. Locations to be advised. *Richard Smith*

From the Rector

Dear Friends,

The late Geoff Hamilton (1936-1996), was very popular with gardeners in the 1980's & 1990's, when Geoff was presenter of the BBC's Gardeners World. He had a down to earth approach, as well as an infectious enthusiasm which was such an attractive part of his presenting style.

Geoff argued that a large teapot was a more vital tool than secateurs – Geoff drank tea every hour, on the hour.

He said this: "You should take off a branch, then step back with a cup of tea and weigh up the consequences before you take off another."

Something I find such an attractive aspect of gardening, is that it's so counter-cultural, certainly when it comes to timing. The McDonald's culture (i.e. instant) doesn't apply in the garden. We talk about seasons; years and sometimes decades.

I love that and such a challenge to our compulsion with immediacy. As a general rule, the important stuff takes time. Growing a garden takes years and that's the timescale we are on for developing the rectory garden. It's the same with relationships – the ones that matter, also take years. We may apply this same rule to developing our spirituality – this certainly does take years!

As we celebrate Eastertide, we are encouraged to go that wee bit deeper as each year we proclaim:

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed, Alleluia.

It's a slow maturing as we prune away what is less important and focus with greater clarity on what the message of a resurrected Christ is about.

MESSENGER

May/June 2019

Contents

From the Rector	1
News.....	2
Notices.....	2
Vestry Report.....	3
Christian Aid Week.....	7
Calendar.....	8
Eco-Congregation.....	11
Diocesan Growth Strategy	12
Mothers' Union.....	13
Rambling Club.....	14
Lectionary.....	15
Readers List.....	16
Social Programme.....	16
House Communion.....	16

July/Aug 2019 Edition

Handing in Sunday 16th Jun

Publication Sunday 30th Jun

Sep/Oct 2019 Edition

Handing in Sunday 11th Aug

Publication Sunday 25th Aug

For an email copy please contact the Editor.

Please send your contributions to: -

Richard Smith
21 The Soundings,
Clynder,
Helensburgh G84 0QL
Tel: 01436 831 644

richard.jianping@hotmail.com

From the Rector (Continued)

I hope this Eastertide is a great blessing to you and that years of nurturing may lead you to blossom.

Love

Dom Ind, Rector

News

After a brilliant series of services for Lent and Eastertide, we move forward through Eastertide to the special Sundays of Pentecost and Trinity Sunday and then start the Ordinary Sundays of the Year in late June. Christian Aid Week is coming up in May. Contributions continue to come in making editing this magazine such a pleasure. In this edition we have an article from Kevin summarizing the work of the MAPping Team for the Diocesan Growth Strategy, which is now suspended due to the ongoing episcopal elections. We all pray that Richard Horrell and Dom will have something positive to report in the coming months.

Richard Smith, Editor

Notices

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING The May coffee morning will be held at Ann and Chris Packard's house Kiloran, 14 Glasgow Street, Helensburgh at 10.30 am on the 2nd May tel: 672722.

The June Coffee Morning will be held at Maureen and Brian Kyle's house, 2a East Montrose Street, Helensburgh at 10:30am on the 6th June tel: 672951.

Maureen Kyle

WOODLAND TEA. Michael and Rosemary Wilson will host a Woodland Tea at High Auchensail Farm, Cardross on the afternoon of Sunday 16th June. Details to be posted on the notice board.

Rosemary Wilson

VALE OF LEVEN TEA BAR St Michaels is next responsible for the tea bar 3rd - 7th June. Rota is up in the Upper Hall, please volunteer if you can.

Nick Davies

ROBIN BARR CONCERT. Friday 7th June at 7:00pm. Concert in Church by Robin Barr; 'Fit as a Fiddle'; Round Orkney with a Tune in your step. Please keep an eye on the notice board for details.

Richard Horrell

Vestry Report March 2019

The Vestry met on 5th March and began with opening prayers. The Rector started proceedings, covering the following issues:

LITURGIES. Our new Liturgies have been approved, and that the diocese had been pleased to see a congregation making imaginative use of SEC liturgical material. He thanked Richard Smith for his hard work in putting our Liturgies together.

EUCCHARISTIC ASSISTANTS. The last 2 on our list have been approved so that we now have a full rota.

WORSHIP. The Rector considered that worship at St Michaels is 'well sorted'. There is plenty of enthusiasm in the congregation.

PRAYER TREE. The Prayer Tree situated adjacent to the font has been popular and well used. Although aimed at 'Young Church' it is available to all. We need a system to supervise it, specifically fixing new leaves and perhaps placing the out of date prayers of thanks in a 'gratitude box'.

MISSION ACTION PLANNING (MAP). There is a MAP moratorium in the diocese, at least until we have a new bishop in place. St Michaels had completed a diocesan MAP questionnaire. The Rector expressed the view that MAP never stops in that mission and evangelism is a task for all of us. There is no need for lots of paperwork, it is all about marketing the product of St Michaels by each of us extending our influence in the community by word and deed. In this way we will bring others to the church.

VISION. We are a Eucharistic Community, the most sacramental branch of the Reformed Church. We must strive to increase our own spirituality and our vision must be to keep drawing people into our church community.

The planned expansion of HM Naval Base Clyde will bring additional RN personnel into the area, and we must consider how best to connect with these people.

The Rector acknowledged that we don't have many children involved in worship at St Michaels. This is common to almost every church except those with an Evangelical tradition. It is not worth trying to change that; instead we should celebrate our strengths, and that we have much to offer. We will retain 'Young Church' and ensure we are 'child friendly'.

People tend to come back to religion later in life, often after retirement. Young families live busy lives these days and fail to find room for formal worship.

Vestry Report (continued)

Our numbers are healthy, recent attendances were approximately: 0800 Said Eucharist 12, 1030 Eucharist 95, Choral Evensong 30. These figures are as good as the best in the diocese and our success will certainly attract more.

A general discussion took place.

Regarding RN church-goers, it was suggested that a selling point was that we are the only Anglican option in town but as many RN church-goers don't understand this, any advertising needs to make this clear. It will take time before naval families settle locally in significant numbers.

The importance of our website and facebook pages was acknowledged as a key advertising medium.

The possibility of advertising St Michaels services in the Helensburgh & Community Advertisers was again discussed. Other local churches do this, but it is expensive and local papers are not well read. It was generally agreed that a general advertisement might go in the newspaper for key events like Holy Week, drawing attention to our website for details. It would be good to have someone in charge of PR to do this.

FINANCIAL MATTERS. The Honorary Treasurer reported that we are in sound financial shape with no concerns, but there are no grounds for complacency. We must continue to be careful about our spending, and we need to increase our income. The Rector congratulated the Treasurer for her efficient administration of our financial affairs.

PROPERTY MATTERS. The following property matters were discussed:

Dishwasher. The dishwasher had been reported as u/s, water not heating properly. Engineers had been called out (at some expense) and reported that there was not a problem, the issue being a failure to give the machine sufficient time to heat the water. The Property Manager will amend the instructions to recommend the dishwasher be switched to 'heat' before the 1030 service starts.

RECTORY GARAGE. The planning application process is underway. Cost will be in the region of £10,000 (half groundworks including gate and access, half building itself).

RECTORY WALL. A tidy up and redress of the wall where stones have fallen out will be carried out in due course.

BOILERS. We have had one quote for £27,000. Further contractors have visited and it seems likely that cheaper quotes will be forthcoming. Additional contractors were proposed. Once we have decided on our preferred quote, we will go ahead with boiler

Vestry Report (continued)

replacement, and concurrently apply for a provincial grant which, if successful, will go some way to offset the cost.

PAINTING. The importance of maintaining a rolling repainting programme was agreed. The Rector pointed out that external rectory painting was a priority; some rectory window frames have no paint left at all.

EAST SIDE ACCESS ALLEYWAY. The use of the alley for access to the Lower Hall when the Upper Hall is in use was discussed. The alleyway, which is an emergency escape route, is unlit and it was agreed that external lighting be installed (post meeting note: Fusebox have been contracted to install 2 PIR lights in the alley. The key padlock for the gate will be replaced with a combination padlock.)

ORGANISTS. Our advertisements for a Director of Music have proved fruitless. It is known that suitable candidates are very scarce. The organist roster is however working very well, with another recruit just joined. With 6 organists to draw on, the system is therefore sustainable for the present, on the understanding that occasionally we will have to accept a service being non-choral. The vestry recorded their thanks to David Menzies for his work to maintain the organist roster.

ST MICHAEL'S ORGAN: The organ was built in 1887, has had numerous upgrades and is of historic interest. We have a servicing contract with 'Harrison & Harrison' of Durham who surveyed the organ in February and reported as follows:

- For the most part organ is serviceable & reliable.
- Some areas of mechanism are of concern.
- A full day of minor maintenance recommended @£75.50 an hour + VAT
- One pipe requires workshop repair @£75 + VAT.

The Vestry approved the above to be carried out at the next 'extended tuning visit'. The probable bill will be c.£1,000.

There is a series of further non-urgent recommended jobs in the report which could be carried out at a 'full organ restoration'. There is no estimate of cost, but full dismantling of the organ is inferred. This will be very expensive. There will therefore be decisions to take regarding the organ in the next few years and we need to start thinking about this.

During discussions, it was suggested that this could be a staged restoration, thus spreading the cost. The possibility of scrapping the organ when it becomes prohibitively expensive to fix was discussed. It could be replaced with something more

Vestry Report (continued)

modern. Others thought the organ was important to St Michaels and should be preserved. We could investigate grants. VSec stressed that this is an issue to think about for the future. The organ is fine for now and will be better with the minor improvements already agreed.

VOTIVE TREE. The Rector commented on the favourable response to the candles used on All Souls Day, and again on the Quiet Day when candles had been used round the font. There is an aspiration to do this on a weekly basis, using a tree shaped metal votive stand and tea lights (which would be safer than candles). This would be situated near the font and there had been an offer of it being gifted. A picture and a diagram were passed round and met with general approval. The project was unanimously approved.

HALL CLEANER. Our hall cleaner (Jessie) had retired at short notice. This was entirely due to family reasons, not caused by anything we have done. A replacement hall cleaner was being recruited. It was agreed that VSec would arrange a card and flowers thanking Jessie for her years of service to St Michaels.

SAFEGUARDING. There were no safeguarding issues to report. Our PVG Co-ordinator John Busby is planning a move away from the area and therefore wishes to stand down as PVG Co-ordinator. The Vestry recorded their thanks to John for his years of service in this important role. In response to a call for a volunteer to replace John, preferably from the vestry (because safeguarding is a vestry responsibility), Joan Thompson kindly expressed an interest in taking over as our PVG Co-ordinator.

LAY REPRESENTATIVE REPORT. The Lay Rep circulated his report which is available on church noticeboards and on the website.

MU SPONSORED VIOLIN RECITAL & PRESENTATION. Robin Barr has been contracted to play his violin and deliver a presentation on his walks in Orkney. Date in June tbc. Retiring collection in aid of MU and selected charity.

MAP. The reported lack of connection between MAP and congregation was raised. It was agreed that a short report on what MAP had achieved will go in the Messenger.

MISSION. A question about where we are going took place, there being a lack of children in St Michaels leading to the danger that we will simply die out. The Rector again stressed the need for personal contact in the community and drew the subject to a close by re-affirming his view that it is not healthy to become preoccupied with this and that we should instead celebrate what we do well.

Vestry Report (continued)

ALTARS. The use of the nave altar at the 1030 Eucharist was again raised. It was reported that this was unpopular with some. The Rector pointed out that there was always the option of the Trinity Chapel. It was also suggested that use of the nave altar might be more attractive to visitors unfamiliar with the Eucharist because they could see what was going on.

BISHOPS LENT APPEAL. The Vestry agreed to support the Bishop's Lent Appeal for Malawi, a selection made by Bishop Gregor before he retired.

The meeting closed with the Grace.

NEXT VESTRY MEETINGS: Tuesday 21st May, Tuesday 2nd July

Nick Davies, Hon. Secretary



Christian Aid Week 2019

This year Christian Aid are focusing on childbirth in Sierra Leone as an example of what donations raised through Christian Aid Week could help fund through our partners' work worldwide. Sierra Leone is a country where healthcare provision is neither universal nor adequate. Despite programmes such as those funded by Christian Aid through the Rehabilitation and Development Agency, every day 10 women die from giving birth in Sierra Leone. Christian Aid believe that every life is worth fighting for.

The main events are,

Sunday 5th May Christian Aid Concert - Helensburgh Chamber Orchestra. Helensburgh Parish Church 7-00 p.m. Featuring Piano Concerto in A minor by Schumann, soloist, Derek Clark, conductor, David Bruce. Entry by donation Suggested £8 (£5 concession)

Saturday 11th May 10am - 12 noon Christian Aid Grand Fayre. Helensburgh Parish Church, Colquhoun Square. Entry adults £2 children 50p. Contributions very welcome for St M's plant stall. Other stalls include /Contd. On P. 10

CALENDAR FOR MAY

MAY

Thursday 2nd May

10:30am Monthly Coffee Morning

Sunday 5th May Third of Easter

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

10:30-11:15am Young Church

10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982

Rite) – Baptism of Riley Graham

No Evensong

Concert for Christian Aid at Helensburgh Parish Church

Tuesday 7th May – Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group

10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)

Thursday 9th May

10:30am Mothers' Union

Friday 10th May

9:00am Rambling Club - 3 Lochs Way

Saturday 11th May

Christian Aid Fayre and Plant Festival

7:00pm Organ Recital Dr. Robert Fowler

at St. Michael's

Sunday 12th May Fourth of Easter –

Vocations Sunday

START OF CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

9:30-10:10am Young Church

10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982

Rite) Guest Preacher Mike Blake (3rd Year

Ordinand from SEI)

No Evensong

7:00pm Christian Aid Ecumenical

Service at Helensburgh URC

Tuesday 14th May – Feast-day of St.

Matthias, Apostle

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group

10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)

2:30pm Bible Study Group

14th to 17th May

Rambling Club walking holiday to

Grantown-on-Spey

Wednesday 15th May

7:30pm North-West Regional Council at

St. Michael's

Saturday 18th May

END OF CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Sunday 19th May Fifth of Easter

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982

Rite)

No Evensong

Oratorio Choir performance

Tuesday 21st May - Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group

10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)

2:30pm Cardross House Communion

6:30pm Vestry meeting in Lower Hall

Wednesday 22nd May - Feria

2:30pm Peninsula House Communion

Thursday 23rd May

St. Michael's outing to Linlithgow Palace

Sunday 26th May Sixth of Easter

(Rogation Sunday)

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

10:30-11:15am Young Church

10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982

Rite) Guest Preacher Paul Jupp (retired

URC Minister)

Open Garden at the Bakers' House

6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

Tuesday 28th May - Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group

10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)

/JUNE 2019

Thursday 30th May-Ascension Day

10:30am Mothers' Union

7:30pm Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite)

Friday 31st May

9:00am Rambling Club - Craignish

JUNE

Sunday 2nd June Seventh of Easter

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

10:30-11:15am Young Church

10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982

Rite)

5:00pm Evening Prayer at Townhead

Farm

No Evensong

Tuesday 4th June – Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group

10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)

2:30pm Bible Study Group

Thursday 6th June

10:30am Monthly Coffee Morning

Friday 7th June

Concert in Church by Robin Barr; 'Fit as a

Fiddle'; Round Orkney with a Tune in

your step

Sunday 9th June, Pentecost

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

10:30-11:15am Young Church

10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982

Rite)

6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

Tuesday 11th June – Feast of St.

Barnabas, Apostle

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group

10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)

Thursday 13th June

10:30am Mothers' Union

Friday 14th June

9:00am Rambling Club – St. Fillan's

Sunday 16th June, Trinity Sunday

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

10:30-11:15am Young Church

10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982

pm Woodland Tea at High Auchensail

6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

Tuesday 18th June – Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group

10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)

2:30pm Bible Study Group

Sunday 23rd June, Second after Pentecost

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

10:30-11:15am Young Church

10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982

Rite)

6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

LAST EVENSONG UNTIL SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 25th June - Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group

10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)

Friday 28th June

9:00am Rambling Club

Sunday 30th June – Third after Pentecost

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

10:30-11:15am Young Church

10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982

Rite)

No Evensong

7:00pm Christian Aid Hymnfest at

Helensburgh Parish Church

JULY

Tuesday 2nd July – Feast-day of St.

Thomas, Apostle

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group

10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)

2:30pm Cardross House Communion

Change of Timing



Christian Aid Week 2019

(continued from P.7)

Home baking, Jewelry, Books, Plants, Toys, and Gifts.

Sunday 12th to Saturday 18th May House to House Collection. Collectors needed.

Sunday 12th May 7pm United Christian Aid Service URC. All are invited for an evening of praise, prayer and reflection focusing on the work of Christian Aid.

Monday 13th May Christian Aid Football. Hermitage Academy 6pm- 8:30pm. Inter Primary School P7 Football Tournament Organized by Ardencaple Football Club. All family, friends and the public are invited to support this event. There will be a tuck shop and a raffle.

Thursday 16th May Sponsored Swim. Helensburgh Swimming Pool 6.30- 8.30pm Raising Money for Christian Aid, swimmers need to be able to swim lengths confidently. The event is fully supervised; lengths will be counted by lane counters. Swimming in a gala atmosphere the children are able to achieve their personal best for number of lengths swum. Sponsor forms available from local schools.

Saturday 18th May Street Collection. Collectors needed

Sunday 30th June Annual Helensburgh Hymnfest. Helensburgh Parish Church 7pm. The now traditional season finisher, a fine selection of hymns and worship songs led by the augmented choir and praise band with Walter Blair on the organ and Derek Clark directing proceedings. Summer punch served in the Hall afterwards and a retiring collection for Christian Aid.

John Hanks



Dear Friends, recently someone asked me what has the Church got to do with Climate Change? My response was "Surely you believe that God created the Earth and it is our responsibly to protect its wellbeing?" The Church of England is to step up its efforts to combat Climate Change and has recognised the escalating threat to God's Creation from global warming. The Church can be a very effective ambassador for fighting climate change. We are swiftly heading towards 1.5 degrees of warming with the danger of going up to 2 degrees this will spell extreme dangers to coastal regions and the increase of desertification in other areas. An interesting watch is Sir David Attenborough's programme transmitted on 18th of April on BBC one. If you didn't watch it perhaps you can find it on the iPlayer.

Lately news has come of an enterprising way to use a lot of discarded domestic plastic, nappies and plastic bags- turning it into a pothole filler. A Lockerbie company has pioneered the mix of plastic and tarmac to resurface roads and deal with potholes. Cumbria has been trialling the new compound for two years on short stretches of roads, junctions and roundabouts. The Highways and Transport director of the Cumbria County Council is very sure that the method can be used around Britain and even worldwide. Government funding has been granted and the Universities of Lancashire, California and Sunshine Coast Australia will work with the company Rebur to test the material in all sort of extreme conditions to ensure that it is stable in use.

I used to think that eating rice was a good way of helping the economies of poor countries. However, on holiday we discovered that it takes more than 5,000 litres of water to produce 1kg of rice and intensive labour whereas 1kg of wheat only takes under 4,000 litres of water and much simpler to produce. One lives and learns. On a positive note, the UK's energy use has declined by 10% in the last decade. Since 2010 alone, the UK's drop in electricity use has been the equivalent to two and a half times the output of the Hinkley Point nuclear plant in Somerset.

Margaret Horrell



Growing with God's Grace in Glasgow and Galloway

Way back in 2010 at the time of Bishop Gregor Duncan's election, a project was begun to assess where we were as a Church and where we should be directing our vision and energy for the future. The Diocesan Growth Strategy (using the strapline above) was subsequently launched, based around six themes:

- prayer and spirituality
- learning and discipleship
- missional leadership
- numerical growth, welcome and integration
- imaginative outreach into local communities
- children and young people

Every church was encouraged to develop a Mission Action Plan that would focus on one or two of these strands each year. After a couple of false starts a team was drawn together at St. Michael's, guided by Gill Reynolds as facilitator. The idea was to take small, manageable steps that would build incrementally over the years. From 2014 the composition of the MAP team evolved and we tackled a number of projects.

In seeking to improve links with the community, and specifically our hall users, we commissioned the triptych notice board and library at the back of church, with a panel for Mission, Community and Church. To make the church more visible to passing pedestrians, the double notice case by the church tower on West Princes Street was installed. We were grateful for generous donors who enabled this work to take place. To raise our profile on social media the church website was overhauled (and has since been further improved). Other projects included a retreat day run by the Ignatians and a training day for intercessors. A very successful Eco-congregation Creation Time exhibition, involving local schools was held in September 2017. We are still waiting for a finger-post directing visitors to the church to be erected in the town centre. This was promised several years ago under the CHORD project but has yet to materialise.

Every grand project eventually runs its course, and with +Gregor's retirement it has been decided to pause the Diocesan Growth Strategy, allowing the diocese to

Growing with God's Grace in Glasgow and Galloway (Continued)

take stock of progress and to wait prayerfully for the election of a new bishop. Whoever that may be will doubtless wish to make his or her own appraisal of the strengths and weaknesses of our diocese, not to be constrained by the methodology of the old Diocesan Growth Strategy and challenge us all to build on what has already been achieved.

I am sure you will agree that in the past few months there has been a positive air of optimism, as Dom has introduced new forms of liturgy, as we have seen an increase in attendance, and as we have seen innovations like the pet service and the start of ecumenical healing services. Under the guidance of Dom and the Vestry we continue to look to ways in which we deepen our spirituality, increase the church's profile in the community and seek to share our faith. In a sense we have built up our own momentum that mission action plans were intended to engender, and we look forward in faith to where God will lead us in the future.

I would like to thank those who contributed to the MAP team over the past five years. It was something Maggie Sheen was passionate about and, as a diocesan facilitator, she assisted All Saints, Jordanhill, with their MAP. Latterly, she joined the St. Michael's team and contributed from her experience. We await developments and to whatever challenges a new Bishop sets us. Who knows, some sort of development team may be reconstituted to work with the vestry in shaping our future and using the talents of the church congregation in a creative way?

Kevin Boak, Lay Reader



Our Mothers' Union branch has just sent off a cheque for £700 to the Diocese to be spent on Overseas projects which bring education to women and Home projects whereby Scottish children can get a family holiday. We raised this money from Desert Island Discs, Songs of Praise, The Crib Fest, the Grand Bazaar and the monthly Coffee Mornings to name but a few. Since we are a non-profitmaking charity, we only retain what is needed for expenses and MU fees.

Joan Thompson

ST MICHAEL'S RAMBLING CLUB

WALKS MAY TO SEPTEMBER 2019

Walks will start outside St Michael's Church.

The leaders will give more details following a recce nearer the time and we'll do our best to offer more than one level of walk wherever possible.

The date and day of the walks are given below, although you will find that most of the summer walks will be held on Fridays to try and avoid Saturday traffic.

But please check the leader's email for the time of an individual walk as this may vary depending on the location and duration of the walk. Some of these walks start as early as 8am. The details will also be displayed on the notice board in the church one week before the walk is scheduled to take place.

DATE	WALK	LEADER
Friday 11 th May 9:00am	3 Lochs Way	Pete 676959
14-17 th May	<i>Grantown on Spey Walking Holiday</i>	Maureen 674763
Friday 31 st May 8:00am	Craobh Haven Craignish Peninsula	Sue 675541
Friday 14 th June 8.30am	Goats' Path and Glentarken Wood, St Fillan's	John 675010
Friday 28 th June	TBD	TBD
Friday 12 th July 8:00am	St Columba's Cave and Chapel	Sue 675541
Friday 26 th July 9:00am	Ben Gullipen, Callander	Maureen 674763
Friday 9 th August 8:00am	Glen Creran, Appin	John 675010
Friday 23 rd August 8.30am	Ross Circle, Comrie	Maureen 674763
Friday 6 th September 8.30am	Calder Glen	Pete 676959

Please direct queries about individual walks to the Leader.

Committee team is John Hanks, Maureen Douglass, Sue Ashby and Pete Ashton.

LECTIONARY – MAY/JUNE 2019

Sunday	Eucharist (NRSV)	Evensong (KJV)
5 th May Easter 3	Acts 9.1-16 Revelation 5.11-14 John 21.1-19	Psalm 30.1-5 No Evensong
12 th May Easter 4	Acts 9.36-43 Revelation 7.9-17 John 10.22-30	Psalm 23 No Evensong
19 th May Easter 5	Acts 11.1-18 Revelation 21.1-6	Psalm 148.1-6 John 13.31-35 No Evensong
26 th May Easter 6	Acts 16.9-15 Revelation 21.10,22-22.5 John 14.23-29	Psalm 67 <i>Fifth after Easter</i> Psalm 135 Deuteronomy 6 James 5.7
Thu 30 th May Ascension Day 7:30pm	Acts 1.1-11 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53	Psalm 47
2 nd June Easter 7	Acts 16.16-34 Revelation 22.12-14,16-17,20-21 John 17.20-26	Psalm 97.1-9 <i>5pm Townhead Farm</i> Psalm 47 1 Chronicles 17.1-15 Acts 1.1-14
9 th June Pentecost	Acts 2.1-21 Romans 8.14-17 John 14.8-17	Psalm 104:26-37 <i>Whitsunday</i> Psalm 104.1-23 Habakkuk 3.3 Acts 2.1-21
16 th June Trinity Sunday	Proverbs 8.1-4,22-31 Romans 5.1-5 John 16.12-15	Psalm 8 Psalm 148 Jeremiah 10.1-16 Matthew 28.16
23 rd June Pentecost 2	Isaiah 65.1-9 Galatians 3.23-29 Luke 8.26-39	Psalm 22.19-28 <i>First after Trinity</i> Psalms 1, 4 Joshua 6:1-20 John 1.19
30 th June Pentecost 3	1 Kings 19.15-16,19-21 Galatians 5.1,13-25 Luke 9.51-62	Psalm 16 No Evensong

Church Group Leaders**Contact People/Organisers**

Young Church	Samantha (Sammy) Harris	423254
Crèche	Pauline and Ray Williams	673944
Sidespersons	Chris Sanders	678028
Bellringers	Kitty Fleming	676963
Reading (Lessons) Rota	Nigel Allan	671875
Cleaning Co-ordinator	Barbara Hoey	671718
Visiting Co-ordinator	Sheila Baker	674686
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
Hall Convener/ Monthly Coffee		
Morning Rota	Maureen Kyle	672951
Eco Congregation	Margaret Horrell	676936
Hill walking and Rambling Club	John Hanks	675010
Traidcraft	Jo Scott	01389 849145
Social Committee	John Hanks	675010
St Michael's Art Group	Margaret Gilbert	675136
Magazine Editor	Richard Smith	831644
Website	Henry Douglass	674763
	Jo Scott	01389 849145

**Service Details****Sunday**

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

10:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite) followed by refreshments
Crèche and Young Church

6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

Tuesdays

10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite) followed by refreshments

For dates of services please see Diary (Page 8) inside



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.