

January and February 2020

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 United Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway

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Bishop of Moray, Ross and Caithness, Primus**

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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.

From the Rector

Dear Friends,

As we leave the teens behind and move into 2020 with a couple of decades of the 21st Century under our belt, we move speedily on. I remember, as if it was yesterday, Hogmanay at the end of 1999 as we embarked on a new millennium. It was a Hogmanay which stood out among the rest, entering a new era, as we welcomed in 1st January 2000 with bated breath. Our computers continued to work (!) and we got on with life ...

In the last Messenger I wrote about us living in a post truth age and a society, at least in the West, when we have done quite a good job of demolishing what used to be considered the pillars that helped support our communal life together as a nation. In recent years Netflix have produced three excellent series called 'The Crown' – lavish productions with top quality thespians. Superb viewing but I suspect it has done little to promote the monarchy; another pillar that's looking decidedly vulnerable.

We may be required to dig deep inside ourselves to find a solid base; well-developed roots to hold us firm as we engage with such turbulence. Our faith, if allowed to, becomes a key instrument to support us and as St. Paul communicated in his Epistles, we find our security in Christ. I believe this to be true and a wonderful way of putting our life in context and indeed planet earth. When the current Archbishop of Canterbury was asked who his father actually was, it was quite a revelation that it wasn't Gavin Welby, a whisky salesman. His biological father was Sir Winston Churchill's private secretary, Sir Anthony Montague Browne.

MESSENGER

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For an email copy please
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From the Rector (Continued)

A revelation that would have rocked many; Justin simply said that his Christian faith was the most important part of his life and that God is his father (paraphrasing).

If we place our trust in Christ first and foremost; then we're in a stronger position to weather the storms of life.

Love

Dom Ind, Rector

News

As you may notice, the personal email addresses have been replaced with email addresses in the format ...@stmichaelhelensburgh.org.uk. So, the new email addresses are rector@stm... for Dom; reader@stm... for Kevin; vsec@stm... for Nick Davies; treasurer@stm... for Janina; property@stm... for Reay; protection@stm... for Joan Thompson; and messenger@stm... for Richard Smith. Since these addresses will follow the post, when there is a change of office holder there will be no need for you to all change the email address you use as it will be done by the website manager, Henry just now, info@stmichaelhelensburgh.org.uk

A Happy and prosperous New Year to all our Readers. *Richard Smith, Editor*

Notices

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING There will be no January Coffee Morning.

The February Coffee Morning will be held at Maureen and Brian Kyle's house, 2a East Montrose Street, Helensburgh G84 7EP at 10:30am on Thursday 6th February. Tel: 672951. *Maureen Kyle*

Vestry Report

The Vestry met on 19th November and began with opening prayers.

RECTOR'S REMARKS: Episcopal Election. No news to report. We should remember the Primus in our prayers as he manages a heavy load of commitments.

Dumbarton/Alexandria. The Rector continues to act as Interim Priest. Dumbarton is now in a position to advertise for a new Rector. Alexandria continues as a small community with Revd Pat Smith helping out on Sundays.

Vestry Report (continued)

Website. Our new website is up and running. It is an important means of communication and often the first point of contact for potential newcomers to our Church.

Drumfork Centre. The newly refurbished facility is a potential catalyst for the integration of naval base personnel with the community. The future use of St Margaret's Church in Churchill Square remains unknown.

Mission. The Rector continues to spread the influence of St Michael's through his engagement with various groups and activities within the community.

MALAWI LINK: Our link with Malawi is now established. Malawi is one of the poorest nations in the world. The aim of our fundraising evolutions is to raise £5,500 by next April. If this were matched by the local Rotary Club, Rotary International will 'match fund' the total raised which would be enough to pay for a classroom in the Lingadzi Academy.

Concurrently we have established our link with Revd. Francis Matumba, priest at St Peters Anglican Church in Lilongwe. The plan is to include a bit of information about the parish in a future copy of 'The Messenger'.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Recent transactions. We have £24,130 in our Premium Account and £19,713 in the Current Account. The St Michael's Talent event raised £2,500. The only significant recent expense was the £1,086 bill for roof and guttering repairs. We received a £2,000 grant from the 'Miss Bell Trust'. We received around £17,000 from Gift Aid.

Accounts FY 8/2018-8/2019. The draft Trustees Annual Report (TAR) and accounts, which had been approved by the Auditor's independent check, were presented for Vestry consideration. The Hon Treasurer stated that we had made a loss of £10,808 over the year, compared with the previous 2 years when we managed to break even. This was because we had to pay for the replacement boilers and the rectory garage, as well as fund the rector's stipend and associated expenses. Our income generated did however cover our everyday running costs. The Hon Treasurer suggested that, provided we avoid major expenses, we could expect to break even again this year. A discussion took place regarding a potential stewardship campaign. This was last done in 2017, and it was agreed that 2020 was too early. Spring 2021 was tentatively agreed, to coincide with Lent. The Vestry agreed to adopt the accounts for FY 8/2018 – 8/2019.

Vestry Report (continued)

Accountants. Clements had been disappointingly slow in considering our accounts. Our main Clements POC now works in Glasgow, which has made communication difficult. It was agreed that alternative accountants be investigated.

PROPERTY MATTERS:

The Property Manager updated the Vestry on the following projects:

Curtains. The curtains between the Trinity Chapel and the main Church have been cleaned and re-hung. Hall heaters. Hall heaters are now repaired.

Church Boilers. The boilers are being run pm Thursday – pm Sunday, and the Church is reasonably warm. Costs are being compared to previous years, eg Sep-Nov 2018 (with old boilers) cost £745 whereas the same period this year (with new boilers) cost £450.

Alms Box. Our new Alms box is installed securely within the porch.

Rectory windows. The Rectory windows need repainting. Quotes from contractors are still awaited.

Trinity Chapel carpet. The carpet needs replacing. Rowatts have been approached.

Working Parties. Working parties will be assembled for a number of tasks, including: Power wash side passage; redecorate the Lower Hall; clean/redecorate Upper Hall porch.

FOOD SAFETY:

Following a directive from the Diocese that Churches should ensure their Food Safety Policy is up to date, VSec has revised the St Michael's Food Safety policy which is now based on an excellent guidance document from 'Food Standards Scotland' (copies available in the lower hall bookcase). The Vestry unanimously endorsed the St Michael's Food Safety Policy document.

SCOTLAND'S CHURCHES TRUST:

St Michael's has been invited to rejoin the Scotland's Churches Trust. The annual cost is £50, and membership will bring a number of benefits, including profile on their website and access to grants. The Vestry agreed that St Michael's should rejoin.

Vestry Report (continued)

SAFEGUARDING:

There were no incidents to report. A safeguarding report has been included in the TAR, and an annual report has been sent to the Diocese.

VESTRY MEMBERSHIP:

The Constitution requires 3 vacancies to be advertised at the AGM. 3 Vestry members (Ann Andrew, Geoff Mason, Helen Gibson) declared their intention to stand down. The Rector thanked them for their service.

The meeting closed with the Grace.

AGM Report

72 members of the congregation attended (Quorum is 25). A number of apologies had been received. The AGM began with a prayer. The minutes of the 2018 AGM were accepted as an accurate record. There were no matters arising.

ELECTION OF VESTRY MEMBERS.

The capacity of the Vestry is 6 – 9 elected members. 3 were standing down (Ann Andrew, Helen Gibson, Geoff Mason). The Rector paid tribute to each and thanked them for their service. Gerry Quickfall, Roddy Mackenzie, Trevor Quickfall volunteered to join the Vestry and were duly elected:

ELECTION OF LAY REPRESENTATIVES.

Richard Horrell was re-elected as Lay Rep with Richard Smith as Alternate Lay Rep. Margaret Wardil was re-elected 2nd Alternate Lay Rep.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (TAR) & ACCOUNTS.

The TAR and accounts had been made available prior to the AGM and are available on the St Michaels' website. The Hon. Treasurer delivered a verbal brief on the salient points: Income had been reduced from last year. This was because last year we had received a large Provincial grant plus a number of large donations from the congregation. Our share portfolio held in the SEC Unit Trust Pool gained £5,979 and our bank balances cash in hand on 31st August totalled £38,631, a slight increase on last year. We received a Gift Aid payment from HMRC of £17,012, a grant of £2,000 from the Miss Bell Trust, a cheque for £1,000 in

AGM Report (continued)

memory of Maggie Sheen and £5,000 legacy from Irene Hunter's estate. Total expenditure was up by £11,136 because of the bills for boiler replacement and the rectory garage. No large expenditures are expected in the coming year, however. The Vestry has resolved to continue with our charitable giving from church funds, supporting local charities to an affordable level (Contraflow, The Beacon Trust, Helensburgh Food Bank). In spite of the £10,808 decrease in our financial position, our finances are in good order, and our income is sufficient to cover our daily running costs. Income does not however cover large projects, for which fundraising is therefore required. The Honorary Treasurer acknowledged the contribution of all those who work to support church financial activity.

A NUMBER OF ISSUES WERE DISCUSSED: The omission from the accounts of funds set aside to support other charities. This information had been deleted by the accountants, but it was confirmed that the Vestry had agreed to continue to support other charities from church funds. The accounts did not mention what had happened to the remnant of the Conservation Fund. This had been spent on various upkeep projects such as roof and guttering maintenance. It was noted that the accounts did not compare easily with previous years because this year's accounts were not accrued.

The Rector summed up the discussion on financial matters by thanking the social committee and then highlighting the importance of Gift Aid. He also noted that the congregation at St Michael's is generous and that it is important to avoid too frequent financial demands on people. However, a Stewardship Campaign is likely during Lent 2021.

APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER. It had become clear that our accountants 'Clemons' did not regard St Michael's accounts as a high priority and there had been delays and significant frustration. It was agreed that alternative accountants would be appointed.

RECTOR'S REPORT. The Rector's report was delivered during the 10:30am service. A copy is available on the St Michael's website.

The AGM concluded with the Grace.

Nick Davies, Hon. Secretary



As a grassroots charity with over 4 million members in 83 countries, Mothers' Union works alongside local communities through its worldwide membership, projects and programmes. By understanding the needs of individuals and communities at a grassroots level, we are able to build effective policies which can have a real and lasting positive impact according to the specific needs of different communities across the world. We then advocate and campaign to see these changes become reality. With a powerful voice to call for change, Mothers' Union advocates and campaigns at a local, national and international level. We do this by :-

- Engaging, informing, and communicating with governments and decision makers, members, supporters, and the public on issues that matter to communities across the world.
- Collaborating with other key charities and organisations to help bring a united voice for change.
- Supporting women, men, children and young people, and families in all their forms to eliminate gender-based violence and abuse, to promote equality, to help build healthy relationships, and to support women in the key role they have in building communities and bringing peace and reconciliation in cooperation with the United Nations.

As a member-led global organisation we are actively listening to the voices of our members to create a vision for the future that is grounded in their views and their experiences within their communities. This will help us create our strategy beyond 2020.

Through a series of regional meetings we hope to address some of the questions that have been raised :-

- Who are we as Mothers' Union?
- Whose lives are and could/should we be touching?
- What difference are and could/should we be making in people's lives?
- How do we most effectively make that difference?

In Helensburgh our branch attempts to involve ourselves in local and international issues through our meetings with speakers and our provision of toiletry packs for hospitals, providing knitted bonding squares for maternity units and supplying underwear for girls and baby vests for shipment to Malawi. This year MU Glasgow

and Galloway provided a holiday on Cumbrae for eight mothers and their children in conjunction with North Ayrshire Women's Aid as well as financial support for the Glasgow Children's Holiday Scheme.

Our meetings in January will be on Thursday 9th and Thursday 23rd. In February our meetings will be Thursday 13th and Thursday 27th. ALL meetings start at 10.30am in the Upper Hall.

Richard Horrell, Branch Leader



Dear Friends,

we are all very aware of the three Rs which have become a mantra but try thinking again and increase to eight Rs. Record, reduce, replace, refuse, refill and rethink. It may take a bit longer when shopping to get things under your control. One recent shocking fact is that supermarkets are giving out more plastic bags than ever before.

So before you leave the house, make sure you have the necessary containers for your purchases, reusable boxes for dry goods, durable plastic boxes for wet goods meat, fish etc., Record what plastic you have and whether it is single use or has a long term value. Next reduce, begin with the obvious, you do not need single use cups, plates, or cutlery. It may make life easier for children's parties but simple washing up is readily available everywhere. Buy fruit and veg minus the excessive packaging, buy glass jars and tins. Many of us are of an age when we can remember life without overwhelming plastic packaging and recycling bottles and jars was commonplace. It is sensible to rethink and learn where hidden plastics are in general use e.g. teabags, facewipes and many items appear to be recyclable but are not.

We have just had Christmas and think of all that packaging, which was thrown out, at least cardboard can be recycled but a lot of glitter paper and plasticised paper cannot be. I, for one, am very happy that our Christmas giving this year was for the Magic Breakfast appeal which was to provide breakfasts in school instead of us buying even more toys in plastic packaging.

Margaret Horrell

Online Lent Retreat

The Ignatian Spirituality Centre and Jesuits in Britain are holding an online Lent retreat in 2020 called 'Perfect Love Casts Out Fear,' which is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola. Each day, there is a 'thought for the day', a meditative picture and either a Scripture passage or meditation from the Spiritual Exercises. A group will meet locally every week to discuss the experience of the past week's material. A book is available for those who do not have internet access. Further information and a sign-up sheet are available at the back of St Michael's church.

Helen Gibson

St. Michael and All Angels Retreat 2020

Dom is leading a 4-day retreat in September 2020 at the Bield at Blackruthven, just outside of Perth. He is leading the retreat using the book 'Seeking God (The Way of St Benedict)' by Esther de Waal. Esther is a Benedictine and Celtic scholar, wife of a former Rector of Canterbury and mother of four sons. She is known for her way of incorporating monastic wisdom into everyday life.

The Bield is a lovely retreat centre with excellent facilities that we are welcome to use. It has a beautiful chapel, a conference room for our use, a lounge with a wood burner, a library, prayer rooms, an art room, a heated indoor swimming pool and extensive grounds, which include a labyrinth. We have booked for 12 places, which ensures a single room for those who want one, but rooms are mainly double or twin should people wish to share. One en-suite twin room on the ground floor has wheelchair access. The evening meal is set but with advance notice, the kitchen can cater for vegetarian, dairy-free and gluten free diets.

The website for more information is <https://www.bieldatblackruthven.org.uk/>

The date of the retreat is Tuesday 22nd September to Friday 25th September 2020. There is a £30 non-refundable deposit to book a space and the cost of the retreat is approximately £250. Places are limited and so please contact Helen Gibson if you wish to book.

Helen Gibson

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

JANUARY

Sunday 5th January - The Epiphany

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 7th January – Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)
6:30pm Vestry Meeting Lower Hall

Thursday 9th January

10:30am Mothers' Union

Saturday 11th January

9:00am Rambling Club Balloch Park

Sunday 12th January – The Baptism of Christ

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)
10:30-11:15am Young Church
10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite) with Renewal of Baptismal Vows and Commissioning of new Vestry
6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

Tuesday 14th January - Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)
2:30pm Bible Study Group

Wednesday 15th January

2:30pm Kilcreggan House Communion

Sunday 19th January – Christian Unity Sunday

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 21st January – Feast-day of St. Agnes, Martyr, 304

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)
2:30pm Cardross House Communion

Thursday 23rd January

10:30am Mothers' Union

Saturday 25th January

9:00am Rambling Club Rest and be Thankful

Sunday 26th January – Conversion of St. Paul

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 28th January – Feast-day of St. Thomas Aquinas

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)
2:30pm Bible Study Group

/FEBRUARY 2020

FEBRUARY

Sunday 2nd February – Candlemas (The Presentation of Christ)

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 4th February – Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)

Thursday 6th February

10:30am Monthly Coffee Morning

Saturday 8th February

9:00am Rambling Club Auchineden Circular Walk

Sunday 9th February – Third before Lent

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 February – Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)
2:30pm Bible Study Group

Thursday 13th February

10:30am Mothers' Union

Sunday 16th February - Second before Lent

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 18th February – Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)
2:30pm Cardross House Communion

Wednesday 19th February

2:30pm Kilcreggan House Communion

Saturday 22nd February

9:00am Rambling Club Braeval

Sunday 23rd February - Next before Lent

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 25th February – Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group
10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)
2:30pm Bible Study Group

Wednesday 26th February – Ash Wednesday

7:30pm Sung Eucharist

Thursday 27th February

10:30am Mothers' Union

Change of Timing

St. Peter's, Lilongwe, Malawi

Dear Dom

Greetings, I write to present a short information on St Peter's which is located in area 3 Lilongwe, Malawi.

St Peter's Anglican Church's first prayer house building was completed on 3rd June, 1951. The service was celebrated by Rt. Rev. Frank Oswald Thorne, then the Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Nyasaland.

The Church first became a Parish in 1962 with Rev. Fr. Leonard Constantine as the first Resident Priest. He was inducted Rector of the Church on 20th October, 1962. Since then other parishes have been birthed from St Peter's Parish e.g; Dedza, Chinsapo, Biwi St Thomas parishes just to name a few.

The Parish as of now has grown to 300 congregants who make up 5 home cell groups.

Two services are conducted on each Sunday English and Chichewa service. The Parish also has 11 out stations which are mainly in the rural areas.

Namely:

1. Msundwe
2. Namitete
3. Mkonkha
4. Chitedze
5. Kasiya
6. Holy Trinity
7. St Mary's
8. St Theresa
9. Majiga
10. St Boniface
11. And St Paul's.



We have the following guilds and church groups: Mothers' Union, Fathers' Union, St Agnes, Daughters of the King, Youth group, Sunday school, Evangelism, Young Couples and Young Professionals.

I have attached the picture of St Peter's Church.

I will send some more information as a supplementary and comprehensive.

Rev. Fr. Francis Matumba

Social Programme 2019

The social committee are hoping to publish dates for a 2020 social programme early in the New Year. The first event will be a wine tasting, with cheese, at the end of January, followed by another visit from the City of Glasgow Choir, very likely to be on Saturday 7th March. As ever, we'd be interested to hear comments and proposals for future events from members of the congregation. *John Hanks*

ST MICHAEL'S RAMBLING CLUB

WALKS JANUARY TO MAY 2020

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, **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. The details will also be displayed on the notice board in the church one week before the walk is scheduled to take place.

As the committee is a little depleted it is hoped that we have volunteers from the group to lead some of the walks on the dates marked 'tbd'. We hope to complete the programme at the Annual Dinner on 10 January 2020 so please look at the dates and help if you can. We can then recirculate the completed programme.

DATE	WALK	LEADER
Sat, 11 Jan	Balloch Park	Pete 676959
Sat, 25 Jan	Rest and be Thankful	Pete 676959
Sat, 8 Feb	Auchineden Circular Walk	Maureen 674763
Sat, 22 Feb	Braeval	Sue & James 675541
Sat, 7 Mar	tbd	tbd
Sat, 21 Mar	tbd	tbd
Sat, 4 Apr	tbd	tbd
Sat, 18 Apr	tbd	tbd
Sat, 2 May	tbd	tbd
12-15 May	Berwick on Tweed	Sophie & Angus Hamilton

Please direct queries about individual walks to the Leader.

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

Report on VoL Tea Bar Conveners' Meeting

This meeting was held in the Vale of Leven Hospital at 1 pm on Friday 22 November 2019. As I was on duty in the tea bar that morning, I was asked by the Rector if I would attend on behalf of St Michaels as there is no convener in our church at the moment.

One of the nurses from the VOL hospital presented this year's requests from the hospital to purchase items with the money raised in the tea bar. These proposals were mostly for equipment for the children's services which included small games for all ages used in speech and language therapy. All items are cleaned and stored on site. The weighted blankets requested would also be washed and dried in the hospital. The total amount came to £9272.47 and this spending was unanimously agreed. The profits from the tea bar came to about £11000 this year.

The money put in the donations box this year has enabled almost £100 to be given to each of the six hospital wards for use at Christmas. This money is kept separate from the 'red box' where the normal takings are stored.

The ladies in charge pointed out that the tea bar was not intended as a fund raising activity but only as a service to the public and the hospital. However, it had raised over £250000 over the last 24 years as it was run totally by volunteers who did not charge for their time or expenses.

It is hard to find volunteers all the time and there have been occasions recently when the tea bar could not open as no-one was available. While 13 organisations and churches used to take part now there are 11 which includes Helensburgh Parish Church's two week stint. It has been suggested that churches might band together to support one week if volunteers cannot be found from just one church. The work of all volunteers is greatly appreciated. The alternative is for the WRVS to take over but then the money raised would not go directly to the VOL.

The rota for the Christmas period was arranged and the rota for the first three months of 2020. St Michael's is on duty the week beginning 17 February.

I have a copy of the Requests for Funding and a full rota will be put on the noticeboard.

Joan Thompson

The Beacon Trust

This year the Beacon Trust celebrates 25 years of serving the people of Helensburgh and its surrounding area. The Trustees still believe that there is a need for a charity that is able to recycle unwanted household goods and supply them as cheaply as possible to those who find it difficult to make ends meet.

We believe that Trevor McGrath our former Chairman and Founder, would have wanted us to continue in this venture and we have resolved to carry on in the way that we always have. We are still motivated by Trevor's strong Christian faith combined with a great sense of fun.

The activities of the Trust make a significant contribution to the environment by recycling tons of unwanted goods every year that otherwise might find their way to landfill. It is amazing how much value can be released from the items that are donated to us.

Our van is still making deliveries and pick-ups around the town and it has again passed its MOT and is fully taxed and "street legal".

Jean, Andrea, Ian, Clive, Paul and Ronald are still maintaining our primary objective to help those in need by following the motto that Trevor adopted: "we don't work miracles but, we work for someone who does!"

This is a very small team that manages to achieve loads of work. The mainstays are Jean and Andrea, they deal with the public, the Social Work Departments and various welfare organisations. They arrange the deliveries, collections and run the shop. Jean will retire this Christmas after many years of faithful service and we wish her a very happy retirement.

Of course, we could not exist without the support of the many benefactors who make donations and send us household items. We are also very grateful to St. Michael's and All Angels as well as the Parish Church who support us generously.

Paul Allen, The Beacon Trust



Images of St. Michael's

Images of St. Michael's (continued)



Scottish Episcopal Church Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 2021

In April 2021 the Most Rev Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church will lead a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

The pilgrimage, organised by the Rev Canon Cedric Blakey as part of the 2021 Provincial Year of Pilgrimage, will take place from 10-21 April 2021 and is now accepting reservations.

Bishop Mark said: "Having visited Jerusalem and Bethlehem with my wife in 2019

and still being enriched by the experience, I am delighted to commend this programme as part of our Year of Pilgrimage 2021. You will get a taste of the Negev Desert, enjoy the beautiful Sea of Galilee and then explore the wonder of Jerusalem. There will be visits to the Dead Sea, Jericho, Nazareth, the River Jordan, Capernaum, and Bethlehem.

For more information, see the brochure [at our website](#).

McCabe
PILGRIMAGES

The Scottish Episcopal Church
Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
10-21 April 2021
with the Rev Cedric Blakey
and the Most Rev Mark Strange

Please contact Cedric for full details
01896 870225 / 07817 419897
revcanclb@gmail.com

2021
YEAR OF PILGRIMAGE

Helensburgh's Christian Heritage

In the western world our heritage and society are based on Judaeo-Christian traditions and values. The current exhibition of the Helensburgh Heritage Trust in the Civic Centre traces the journey of Christianity in the Helensburgh area from Celtic times as evidenced by St. Mahew's Chapel in Cardross and the remains of St. Michael's Chapel in Faslane. The journey continues through the mediaeval period to the Reformation with artefacts displayed from the parishes of Cardross and Rhu and the later development into what is now the parish church of Helensburgh with its pedigree shown on a displayed roll. The historical background to other denominations in the town, Episcopalian, Roman Catholic, United Reformed and Baptist are also shown as well as the current witness of all traditions to the Christian message in their different activities and outreach. St Michael's is well represented with some of our splendid vestments on display.

The exhibition will remain until early next spring and can be seen during the Civic Centre's opening hours 9 am to 4 pm from Monday to Friday. Coffee and light lunches are available in the Centre's cafeteria until 2 pm.

Nigel Allan

SIDESPERSONS' ROTA – JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020

DATE	10:30am		
12 January	Trevor Quickfall	Gerry Quickfall	David Sheen
19 January	Chris Sanders	Linda Sanders	
26 January	Chris Packard	Ann Packard	Margaret Wardill
2 February	James Ashby	Sue Ashby	
9 February	Nick Parry	Carol Parry	John Busby
16 February	Brian Kyle	Maureen Kyle	Barbara Hoey
23 February	John Hanks	Alex Laing	

LECTIONARY – JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Eucharist (NRSV)	Evensong (KJV)
5 th January The Epiphany	Isaiah 60.1-6 Psalm 72:10-15 Ephesians 3.1-12 Matthew 2.1-12	<i>Epiphany</i> Psalm 96 Isaiah 49.13-23 John 2.1-11
12 th January The Baptism of Christ	Isaiah 42.1-9 Psalm 29:1-8 Acts 10.34-43 Matthew 3.13-17	<i>Epiphany 1</i> Psalm 45 Isaiah 49.1-13 John 1.19-34
19 th January Christian Unity	Jeremiah 33.6-9a Psalm 100 Ephesians 4.1-6 Matthew 18.19-22	<i>Epiphany 2</i> Psalm 33 Isaiah 51.9-23 1 Thessalonians 1
26 th January Conversion of St. Paul	Jeremiah 1.4-10 Psalm 67 Acts 9.1-22 Matthew 19.27-30	<i>Epiphany 3</i> Psalm 144 Isaiah 60 1 Thessalonians 2.1-16
2 nd February Candlemas	Malachi 3.1-5 Psalm 24:7-10 Hebrews 2.14-18 Luke 2.22-40	<i>Presentation of the Lord</i> Psalm 132 Haggai 2.1-9 Hebrews 10.1-10
9 th February 3 rd before Lent	Isaiah 58.1-9a Psalm 112:1-9 1 Corinthians 2.1-12 Matthew 5.13-20	<i>Septuagesima</i> Psalm 104.1-13 Genesis 2.4-25 Revelation 21.9-27
16 th February 2 nd before Lent	Genesis 1.1-2.3 Psalm 136:1-9 Romans 8.18-25 Matthew 6.25-34	<i>Sexagesima</i> Psalm 139.1-18 Genesis 6.5-22 2 Thessalonians 3
23 rd February Next before Lent	Exodus 24.12-18 Psalm 2 2 Peter 1.16-21 Matthew 17.1-9	<i>Quinquagesima</i> Psalm 30 Genesis 12.1-9 Jude
26 th February Ash Wednesday 7:30pm	Joel 2.1-2,12-17 Psalm 51.1-18 2 Corinthians 5.20b-6.10 Matthew 6.1-6,16-21	

READERS' LIST – JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020

DATE	8:00am	10:30am	6:30pm
5 Jan	Sam Harris	Julie Siemens	Jill Braid
12 Jan	Penny Johnston	Helen Gibson	John Sadden
19 Jan	Nigel Allan	Henry Douglass	David Ronald
26 Jan	Chris Sanders	Jeannette Scobie	Csaba Barthos
2 Feb	Moira Miller	Jane Taylor	Aileen Cameron
9 Feb	Selina McGeoch	Richard Smith	Maurice Steuart-Corry
16 Feb	Liz Sanderson	James Ashby	Angela Russell
23 Feb	Hilary Menzies	Jill Braid	Penny Johnston

House Communions

Peninsula House Communions will be on Wednesday 15th January and on Wednesday 19th February at 2:30pm. Location to be advised. Everyone is welcome.

Cardross House Communions will be on Tuesday 21st January and on Tuesday 18th February at 2:30pm. Locations to be advised. Everyone is welcome.

Epiphany

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
Matthew 2:9-11



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 10) inside

