

The Beacon

St. John's-Renfield Church

Magazine No 383

www.sjrchurch.com

2024

Feb

Mar

April

May

June

Sept

Oct

Nov

Dec

Easter Egg Appeal

St. John's-Renfield Church is collecting
Easter eggs for:

The Lodging House Mission,
a homeless charity in Glasgow

St Gregory's Foodbank which provides
food to over 300 people each week.

**500 Chocolate Easter Eggs are
needed!**



Drop your donations to us any Sunday up until Palm Sunday, 24th March. Collection boxes are at the back door and vestibule. Your support in giving chocolate to those who can't afford such a luxury is greatly appreciated.



For more info contact us: office@sjrchurch.com or www.sjrchurch.com



Minister's Letter

Oh, where are you going,
And can I come with you,
And what is your method
For keeping alive:
No pack or possessions,
No clothing or shelter,
No food to sustain you –
How can you survive?*



The Season of Lent remembers Jesus' forty days in the Wilderness, but it also reminds us of his last journey, to Jerusalem to be betrayed, arrested, put on show trial and executed. He probably made the journey with a heavy heart, fearing what lay ahead, while his friends were in the usual holiday mood of pilgrims going up to the Holy City to celebrate Passover.

We probably all have stories of our worst journeys – the train that broke down for hours and hours, the night stranded in an airport, the interminable queue on the motorway, that person sitting next to us on the train/bus/plane who... Or it might be that trip to the hospital, or the care home, or the prison, or..

Jesus didn't have to go to Jerusalem, he could have stayed in Galilee, but he chose to go. Many people around the world today had little choice in making dangerous and difficult journeys – because of war, famine, natural disaster, or whatever. Some have been misled into thinking that at the end

of their hard journey is a Promised Land, only to discover instead a living nightmare.

Jesus calls us to go on a journey with him through life. He does not promise that it will be easy, but he will always be there for us. And he calls us to support and be there for those making difficult journeys, to hospital, to a care home, a refugee camp, a prison or wherever.

I'm going on a journey
And welcome companions,
But don't ask me
How we'll survive, where we'll go,
Or who will come with us,
Or what we'll be doing.
Just join me in travelling
And learn all I know.*

*Song from *Heaven shall not wait*, John L Bell and Graham Maule, tune *Laredo* (CH4 522 *The Bard of Armagh*)

Rev. Ian Johnson



Pulpit Suply – March

3rd – Rev. Ian Johnson
10th – Rev. Gordon MacRae
17th - Rev. Gordon MacRae
24th – Rev. Ian Johnson
31st – Rev. Ian Johnson

PARISH RECORDS

Funeral and Memorial Services

“Nothing can separate us from the love of God”

Memorial Service held for Norman Fyfe on the
22nd of February at 12.30 p.m.

March Communion

The arrangements for Sunday the 3rd of March will be as follows:

Hand sanitizer is available in the vestibule.

Please pick up your little wine glass holder from the welcome team as you enter and place in the holder in front of your seat.



Communion elements will be served by passing of trays person to person along the rows. Bread first followed by wine.

Wine trays will have a dot to indicate the non-alcoholic option.

Please feel free to consume your elements as you personally receive them. ***There will be no direction from the minister when to consume.***

Refreshments and fellowship will be, as always, available in the large hall after the service.

The Leadership Team

HAVE YOU HEARD THAT...



...our Annual General Meeting will be held after service on Sunday the 21st of April. All of the congregation are welcome to attend.

...our Christian Aid Lentern study programme continues until the end of March. Meetings are held in the church on Wednesday evenings from 7.30 p.m. No need to book – just drop in.



... we had a fantastic turn out to our first Pop-in Café of 2024 with more than forty people coming along to enjoy the baking and chat. Our little friends from Kelvinside Academy Nursery popped-in too.



SJR Welcome Team Door Duties

March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

Lead Elder: Shirley Tassell with Andy McCrindle, Robin Hutchison (3rd, 10th, 17th), Anne Bryden (24th & 31st)

Reserve: Jim Tassell



You Write to the Beacon

Just to say a big thank you to the staff of the 5th Glasgow BB for the fantastic quiz and chippy night held on 20th January. It was great to see the large hall packed with members, family and friends, old and new. The quiz kept us all on our toes, with a varied range of rounds, and everyone always enjoys their chippy! A lot of work must go in to the planning and preparation of the night, but it's very much appreciated.

Sarah Hamilton

Lovely lunch out at Killearn with Roddy and Marjory thanks to Time, Treats and Talent at BONANZA.

Linda and Graham Moore

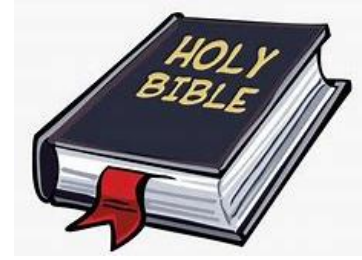


Fundraising Concert at SJR

On Sunday 18th of February, we were treated to a wonderful piano recital by a very talented young musician from Norwich called Stanley Butcher. We heard music from Bach, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Debussy and Chopin. £580 including Gift Aid was raised for The Lodging House Mission and the tea, coffee, and home baking were an added bonus for all those who attended.

March Reader Rota

3rd – Laura Calder
10th – Jim MacDonald
17th – Sarah Hamilton
24th – Maureen Christie
31st – Jim Tassell



John's 90th Birthday Concert

Having survived major surgery in 2016, having reached 90 years of age in December and in memory of those less fortunate, I have decided to raise funds for The Beatson Cancer Charity, in aid of research, treatment and care.

The concert is in St. John's-Renfield Church on Friday 17th May 2024 at 7 p.m.

The artistes are: Cameron Murdoch, (piano/organ), Moira Docherty (soprano), Ryan Corbett (piano accordion) and Graham Mackenzie (Scots fiddle).

Ticket are £15; purchase arrangements have still to be finalised but anyone requesting a ticket can contact me at - jdrmacmillan@icloud.com

John MacMillan

(A similar concert organised by John in 2017 raised just over £3000, shared between four charities. Ed)



Holy Week Services

Thursday 28th March

Maundy Thursday communion 7 p.m. - Kelvinbridge

Good Friday – 29th March

Good Friday Vigil 12 noon to 3 p.m. - Kelvinside
Hillhead Church

Evening Service - St. John's Renfield at 7pm

Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service – Botanic Gardens at 9 a.m.



Easter morning - breakfast and
egg rolling at 10 a.m. then
worship at
11 a.m. at St. John's-Renfield.

Heartfelt Thanks from the Lodging House Mission



I am writing to acknowledge and thank the congregation at St. John's Renfield Church for the generous Winter donations of £1245 (£605 from MacIntosh Choir and £640 from the congregation) to assist us in our work with people who have lived experience of homelessness, vulnerability and social exclusion and are guests of our centre at the Lodging House Mission here in Glasgow.

In the current housing crisis, it is even more important to recognise the difference that individual contributions can make – helping to combat the sense of isolation that accompanies the experience of being without a forever home. This was overwhelmingly demonstrated in our 'Knit Together' Exhibition where individual contributions led to a display of over 140 colourful hand knitted blankets.

We are very aware that we can only carry out the work we do at LHM thanks to the generosity of supporters such as yourselves. On behalf of everyone at LHM, please pass on our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed and continues to support our work through prayer and awareness raising.

Happy New Year from all the team at LHM360.

Deacon Claire Herbert
Chaplain.

Pop-in Café

Join the Easter fun at our community café!

Wednesday 6th March

From 2- 3.30 pm

**At the Large Hall,
St John's-Renfield
Church, Beaconsfield
Road, Kelvindale**



**Free Tea, Coffee, Cake
(served until 3pm)**

No booking required

Bring the kids - everyone is
welcome to join the fun and chat

Contact us: office@sjrchurch.com or call
(0141) 334 0782 - www.sjrchurch.com



Safeguarding in the Church of Scotland

Protecting children and adults at risk

Who are the Safeguarding Coordinators in St John's-Renfield Church?

Moira Eaglesham, Marion Dowling (Assistant)



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Safeguarding is about preventing harm and abuse and making a timely and appropriate response if it occurs.

We have a duty to Ensure a Safe Church for All. This means protecting children and adults at risk.

Volunteering is such an important part of Church life and often goes on quietly and, sometimes unseen in the background, so thank you to all those Volunteers and Elders/Trustees who have given up their time to attend or have booked places on courses to update their Safeguarding training. This is greatly appreciated.

A list of current Safeguarding training courses has been sent to those who have not yet found a time or venue convenient to them. Please feel free to contact either of us to book a place on any of these courses.

If you are a volunteer and you no longer wish to do regulated work, or you're moving away, we would ask that you let us know as the Safeguarding Service require you to complete a Leavers Form. (GDPR)

Remember, if you are worried or have concerns about any Safeguarding matter, or suspect that harm or abuse is taking place, you should contact Moira Eaglesham or Marion Dowling as soon as possible. (Our contact numbers can be found on posters at various points throughout the Church buildings.) If the issue is urgent or immediate, contact Police Scotland or Social Work.

Thank you.

Moira

And Marion



Can you spare 1 hour any morning at 9am to collect surplus food from M&S at Anniesland for St Gregory's Foodbank? Please get in touch if you can at stgregorysfoodbank@gmail.com

Arranging your Flowers in March

**Susan Finnigan
Eleanor Murphy**





**ST. JOHN'S-RENFIELD CHURCH,
BEACONSFIELD ROAD, KELVINDALE**



**SATURDAY 16th MARCH 2024
FROM 4-6 pm**

**ENJOY SPRINGTIME AND EASTER CRAFTS, MUSIC,
FUN, GAMES, STORY TIME AND A SHARED MEAL FOR
ALL**

**Children of all ages welcome but must be accompanied by a
responsible adult who remains for the event.**

Free but small donations welcome if you
can afford it.



FURTHER DETAILS AT www.sjrchurch.com
or email: office@sjrchurch.com





The Boys' Brigade
5th Glasgow Company
<http://5glasgow.boys-brigade.org.uk>
5thglasgow@boys-brigade.org.uk

follow us on social media



Boys' Brigade News Company Section

The BB session seems to be flying by, and the Company Section continues apace with a busy schedule. Our February highlights included a tranche of First Aid classes, trying our hand at making chocolate pancakes, and learning more about American Football and the amazing Eric Liddell.

We have three Senior boys all set to attend their Queen's Badge Completion Course at Auchengillan Outdoor Centre in late March - Cpl Alexander Bell, Cpl Cameron Gregor, and Cpl Thrinei Davabalan. A weekend full of outdoor activities and team working awaits.....probably with a little mud and muck thrown in for good measure! We wish the boys well.

Congratulations to Pte Vincent Russell who claimed third place in the Glasgow Battalion NCO's Drill competition, in which the boys were tasked with commanding a squad through a set drill routine. It was no easy feat but Vincent, and L/Cpl Hamish Matheson who also participated, did a great job.

As we go to press, we are looking forward to the Partick District Badminton and Senior 5-a-side football competitions, along with the Masterteam general knowledge quiz. Results to follow next month.

Please continue to keep up to date with our weekly activities on our social media feeds and please don't forget to 'like', 'share', and 'retweet' our posts if possible!

Finally - Saturday 2nd March sees the return of the BB Coffee Morning, taking place in the Large Hall from 10am - 12 noon. We are grateful for all the support people have given to this event in the past, and we hope to see as many folk as possible on the 2nd for the usual stalls - hot rolls, tea/coffee, car wash, bottle stall, raffles, and more!



5TH GLASGOW BOYS' BRIGADE

Coffee Morning

Saturday 2nd March 2024

10am - 12pm

St John's' Renfield Church

ADULTS £2 / CHILDREN £1

COME ALONG AND SUPPORT THE 5TH GLASGOW!



<http://5glasgow.boys-brigade.org.uk>
Scottish Charity No. SC034527

A Host of Golden Daffodils

I love daffodils, partly because I share a birthday with William Wordsworth who composed a poem about them. While in the Lake District in 2002, we made a special outing to Ullswater to see Wordsworth's daffodils. However, I was disappointed because there were not as many daffodils as I expected. Perhaps there are more now. However, during the Covid restrictions, we visited Ruchill Park and were amazed by the number and variety of species of daffodils. **Truly a host!** There had been a big bulb planting enterprise a few years previously. The daffodils don't flower all at the same time, but there are plenty to see between mid-March and mid-April. You are best to enter at the gate on Bilsland Drive. Usually there is plenty of street parking. It is also a gentle hill walk up Bilsland Drive from Maryhill Road.



Guaranteed to lift the spirits.

Marjory Watt

LIFE AND WORK

MARCH 2024

‘Our Ultimate Freedom’

Easter reflection from the Moderator

Being Mum

The gifts – and challenges – of motherhood

Lifesavers at Sea

The 200th anniversary of the RNLI

Cathedral Celebrations

Milestone anniversaries for two of Scotland’s historic cathedrals

Presbytery Focus

The Presbytery of Glasgow

View from the Pulpit

The Very Rev Dr Russell Barr describes the shoots of hope found at parish churches in Fife.

‘My Life Has Been Changed’

An overseas student describes how he embraced faith while studying in Glasgow.

Regulars

The Very Rev Dr Martin Fair on ministry recruitment

The Rev Roddy Hamilton on worship

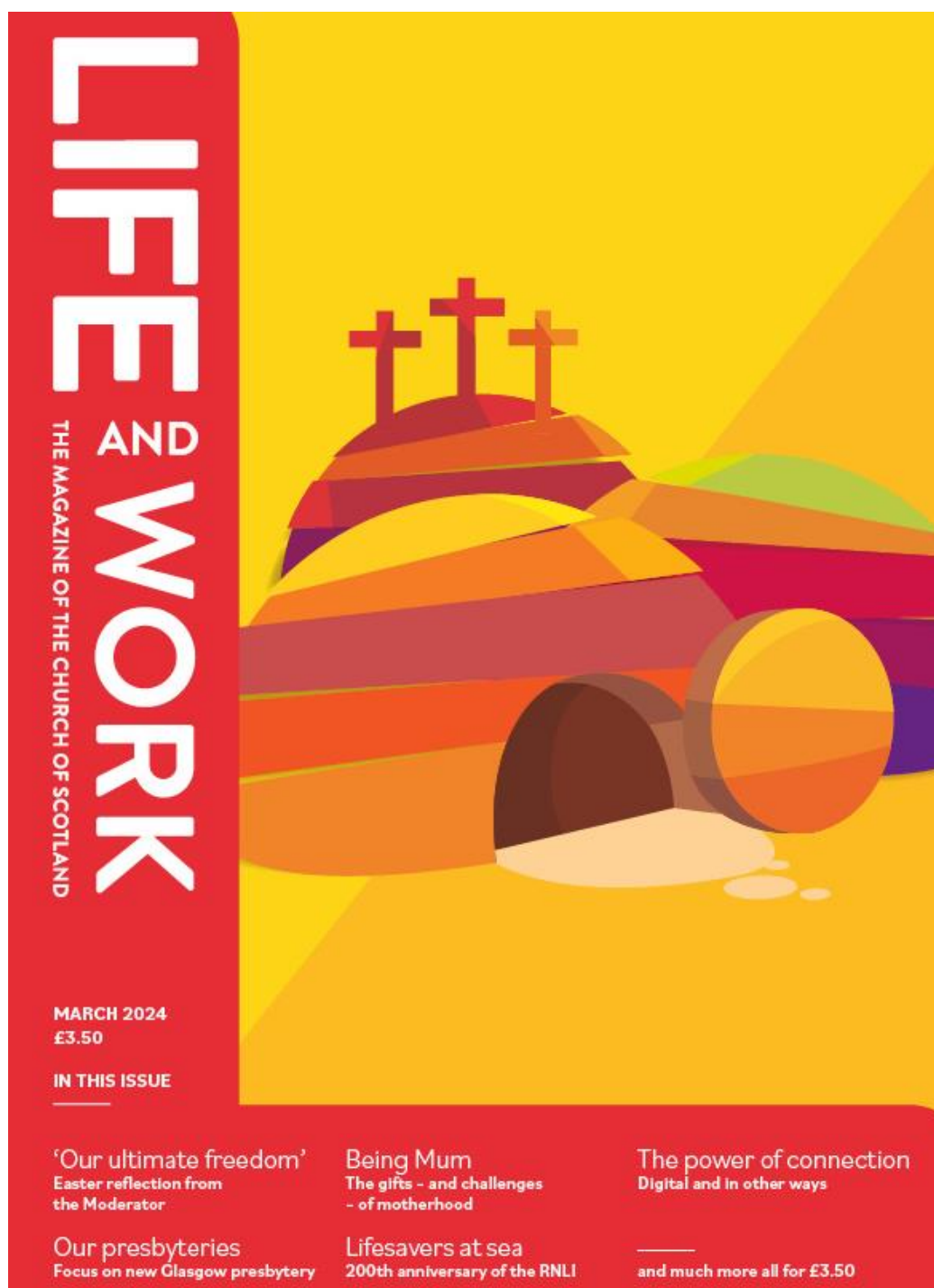
Reflection by the Rev Dr Richard Frazer

The Rev Ruth Kennedy on digital church

Bible Study by the Very Rev Dr Colin Sinclair

My Church: Kirsty Thomson of Edinburgh: Holy Trinity Church.

Plus: official updates from the Assembly Trustees and Faith Action Programme, readers' pictures, news, letters, reviews and puzzles – all for £3.50. Visit www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe or speak to your church's Life and Work co-ordinator.



WHAT'S ON MARCH 2024

Saturday 2 nd	Boy's Brigade Coffee Morning – 10 a.m. to 12 noon
Sunday 3 rd	Morning Worship – 11 a.m.
Wednesday 6 th	Pop-In Café SJR Large Hall from 2.00 to 3.30 p.m.
Sunday 10 th	Morning Worship – 11 a.m.
Sunday 17 th	Morning Worship – 11 a.m.
Tuesday 19 th	Kirk Session – 7.15 p.m. Small Hall
Sunday 24 th	Palm Sunday Morning Worship – 11 a.m. Mini Kirk Session (After service)
Friday 29 th	Good Friday Service at SJR – 7 p.m.
Sunday 31 st	Easter Sunday Breakfast & Egg Rolling at 10 a.m. followed by Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

Please note: Events are subject to change

OFFICE BEARERS

Minister – Position Vacant

Interim Moderator – Rev. Audrey Jamieson

Leadership Team

Susan Finnigan, Fiona Robinson, Graham
Moore, Roderick Watt

Editor of Beacon

Alan Christie

Material for the April 2024 Beacon is required by

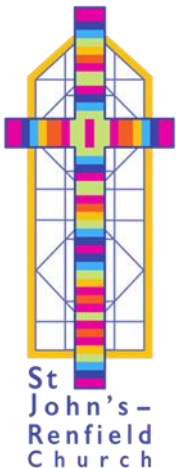
Friday 22nd March 2024 midnight

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Tel: (0141) 334 0782

Email: office@sjrchurch.com

www.sjrchurch.com



Follow us on social media



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