

The Beacon

St. John's-Renfield Church

Magazine No 379

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2023

Feb

Mar

April

May

June

Sept

Oct

Nov





Minister's Letter

Like many churches, in St John's-Renfield we will be marking Harvest during the month of October. It is an opportunity to give thanks to God for the food we have and the people involved in the process of bringing it to our table. It is also a time to think about issues relating to food: hunger and its causes, both on our doorstep and around the world; the sustainability of food production, and the carbon footprint of some of our food; the impact of the climate emergency on food production, and what that means for food producers; what producers are paid, and the conditions in which they work.

I haven't yet come across anyone in St John's Renfield who is directly involved in the production, distribution or processing of food, but I have found many who have skills and experience in a wide variety of areas of life. It is a long time since Scotland/Britain had an entirely subsistence economy, so for a very long time people have been dependent on others for providing goods and services that are essential, or important for life.

In a climate like ours we need clothes, and somewhere warm and dry to live. We believe everyone should have access to clean water, safe sanitation, education, medical and social care. We need people like the police and armed forces to ensure we can go about our lives safely; fire and rescue staff to be there for emergencies; professional people like lawyers, bankers and accountants to give advice and ensure that our non-subsistence economy operates effectively; government and local

government staff etc etc (If your particular career or job isn't mentioned, don't worry, you are still important!).

Though we may focus on fruit and vegetables, Harvest can also be a time to remember how much our lives depend upon other people, their skills and specialisms – even before we start thinking of things that provide leisure and pleasure. We can give thanks to God for the work of so many people, and the helpful way they do it (OK, there is always someone who is awkward!) But there can be all sorts of issues to think about relating to these jobs too: some relating to sustainability and impact on the environment, some to the conditions in which they work (e.g. in garment production overseas), or the remuneration they receive. On our own we may not have answers, or be able to do much, but working with others, perhaps supporting campaigns led by the likes of Christian Aid, we can make a difference, and work towards the kind of world God would like to see.

Rev. Ian Johnson

Pulpit Supply



1st October – Rev. Ian Johnson

8th October – Rev. Ian Johnson

15th October – Rev. Ruth Halley

22nd October – Rev. Audrey Jamieson

29th October – Rev. Ian Johnson

PARISH RECORDS

Weddings

“To those whom God has joined, let no-one separate”

Zoe Robinson and Fraser Thomson on Friday 15th September

Funeral and Memorial Service

“Nothing can separate us from the love of God”

Irene Thompson age 99 years, formerly of Manchester Drive.
Irene’s funeral was held in Harrogate.

Neil Murray, of St Germain, Bearsden who passed away
on Friday evening, 22nd September.

October Communion

The arrangements for Sunday, June 4th 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 as we did in pre-pandemic times, 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

Communion Set-up Rota

1st October – Statutory Communion

Anne Bryden (Coordinator)

Carol Riddell, Eleanor Murphy, Linda Moore

HAVE YOU HEARD THAT...

... our Craft Group has returned! Everyone is welcome to join them on Tuesdays, during term time in the small hall from 7 - 8.30 p.m. See the fantastic knitting project they are working on for the Lodging House Mission on page 10.



...activity packs are now available near the front door of the church for our youngest visitors. They have lots of colouring in, pens and activities to keep children happy during service.

.. SJR will have ribbons attached to our railings in support of Baby Loss Awareness Week from the 9th to the 15th October. This is an annual event for the charity SANDS where communities display their support by turning things pink and blue.

Reader Rota October

1st – Alison Craig
8th – Aileen Morison
15th – Sarah Hamilton
22nd – Jim McDonald
29th – Pat McGill



SJR Welcome Team Door Duties

October 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th

Lead Elder: Moira Eaglesham with Christine McCann and Vivienne Limond.

Reserve: Jim MacDonald

LOST PROPERTY PROJECT!

You may remember that I collected items of Lost Property that had been left around the Church premises and had them on display for two Sundays in May. Although there was a fair amount of interest in what was on the tables I don't think that anyone was reunited with something they had lost! Never mind – Barnardo's Charity shop at Anniesland were very pleased to take various items of clothing, especially children's jackets, to sell. They also took umbrellas that had been left and forgotten.

We were able to return to the Phoenix Choir three of their stoles. Liz McDonald took school uniform pieces to be handed in to Kelvindale Primary School. Many of the items were not suitable for sale and were disposed of.

There is now a small box on the table outside the Small Hall where items can be left – or recovered. Thanks to everyone for their encouragement with the Lost Property project and as well as my 'Clearing Up Other Bits and Pieces That Were Lying About Project'. I confess to enjoying the whole thing!

Eleanor Murphy


Arranging your Flowers in October

Eleanor Murphy
Maureen McWilliam
Grace MacKay



SJR Walking Group

The September outing of the walking group was an enjoyable 'figure of eight' route in Chatelherault Country Park near Hamilton. The rain held off and the walk was book-ended by a pre-walk planning coffee and post-walk lunch in the visitor centre's lovely café. Thanks to Roddy Watt for leading.



*View across Duke's
Bridge towards Cadzow
Castle*

Our next outing will be on Saturday 7th October, with a walk to Hamiltonhill

Claypits. There are various walking options from Applecross Basin to and around the claypits, dependent on the weather and what the group wish to do on the day, but with a maximum of 3-3.5 miles. There is a cafe back at Applecross which should provide an ideal spot for a post-walk coffee or lunch. Meet outside the church at 10am. All will be made very welcome.

For further information, please speak to John McFadyen, Sarah Hamilton or contact the Church Office (office@sjrchurch.com).



*View from Duke's
Bridge over the Avon
Water*



HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

COFFEE AND BISCUITS

Sunday 8th OCTOBER

This year's Harvest Appeal from the Lodging House Mission tells us that the provision of a healthy breakfast and lunch five days a week is often the beginning of a trusted relationship, leading to intervention and support. The Day Centre offers shelter where individuals know they will not be judged and can always find companionship. The Harvest Appeal replenishes two thirds of the food required to run the café and hot food service for the year ahead.

LHM are very aware that they can only carry out their mission to those on the margins through the generosity of supporting churches and organisations. After consulting with LHM, the items we will be giving this year are COFFEE AND BISCUITS. These will be very much appreciated.



As usual, there will be boxes in the East Vestibule on Sunday 8th October. The contents will be delivered to the LHM by John Allan & Co. If you would like further information or would like donations to be collected from your home, please contact Eleanor Murphy through the Church Office or by phone or email if you already know my numbers!

Thank you as always, **Eleanor Murphy**

CRAFT GROUP

LODGING HOUSE MISSION

KNIT TOGETHER PROJECT

The Lodging House Mission has invited Churches and groups to join in a 'Knit Together Exhibition' of blankets made of knitted squares to be held at the Christmas Carol Service on 13th December to raise awareness of homelessness. They hope that the exhibition will represent ways we as individuals are 'knit together' into community. The single bed size blankets will be a powerful representation of the many individuals across the City of Glasgow who live in need of security and warmth. The blankets will be used in a number of ways.

The Craft Group will be busy making squares and would like to welcome anyone who enjoys knitting to join us. We can collect the squares or they can be handed in at Church. Date of delivery to LHM is 1st December. The squares should be 40 stitches of 70 rows (or however many rows make a square) knitted in double knitting wool with 4mm (or Number 8 in old money) needles. There is no need to match colours as a wonderful hotchpotch will look good! For any further information please contact Moira Reid or Eleanor Murphy via the Church Office (office@sjrchurch.com) or directly if you have the contact numbers.



Happy knitting!!



WINTER WEDNESDAYS

You're Invited to Celebrate with Us!

2.30pm, WEDNESDAY 22nd NOVEMBER

Annual Service of Remembering

In partnership with City Mission

1.30pm, WEDNESDAY 6th DECEMBER

Christmas Show

Capacity is limited so book through June/Angela

2.30pm, WEDNESDAY 13th DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS SERVICE of CAROLS & READINGS

With Guest speaker
& Mission Voices

Closed January 1st & 2nd

LHM, 35 East Campbell Street, Glasgow, G1 5DF



Pop-in Café

Join the autumn fun at our community
café!



Wednesday 4th October

From 2- 3.30 pm

**At the Large Hall, St. John's
Renfield Church,**

Beaconsfield Road, Kelvindale



Free Tea, Coffee, Cake

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



BONANZA

The Bonanza will take place on **Saturday 4th of November from 10am till 12.30 at St John's-Renfield Church.**

Come and join us and help us raise much needed funds for our Church. Tickets, available on a Sunday morning or at the door on the day, are £2.50, to include tea/coffee and a piece of home baking, and school aged children £1.



The following stalls will be there and donations as described will be very welcome.

Book Stall - paperback and children's books only. Please NO hardbacks or magazines.

Bottle Stall - donations of any kind of bottles

Car Wash

Discarded Treasures - small household items, ornaments, pictures, etc. No large items, please.

Jewellery

Raffle - raffle prizes welcome

Tearoom

Time, Talents and Treats - more information to follow

Toiletries - unused toiletries

Toy Stall - toys and games in good condition

Donations can be brought to the church at the following times:

Thursday 2nd November between 7 and 9pm

Friday 3rd November between 10 and 12 noon

Friday 3rd November between 7 and 9 pm

Please note that we only accept cash payments on the day.
No card facilities available.



We would be delighted if some volunteers can help with the clear up at the end of the event.

Further information or any queries to:
Isobel Digges - isobel.digges@hotmail.co.uk

Shirley Tassell - shirleytassell@aol.com

We look forward to seeing you and your donations!

BONANZA

Saturday 4th November 2023

10am to 12.30pm

St. John's-Renfield Church,
Beaconsfield Road, Kelvindale



**Books * Bottles
Car Wash * Tuck Shop
Raffle * Toy Stall**



**Discarded Treasures
Jewellery * Toiletries
Time, Talents & Treats**



Adults £2.50 * School Age Children £1.00

Includes Tea/Coffee + Piece of Homebaking

Please bring cash – we are unable to take card payments



Registered as a charity in Scotland.
Registration No. SC012920



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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

5th Glasgow Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys and Junior Section

The session has started on a high note with 20 boys attending each Tuesday evening. (12 Anchor Boys and 8 Junior Section boys)

Mr Watt and Mrs Morison are joined each Tuesday evening by three Company Section boys, Christopher Watt, Cameron McGregor and Alexander Bell who are participating in the President's Badge Scheme. These three boys are invaluable to the success of each evening and are proving to be excellent prospective leaders of the future.

Each Tuesday evening consists of the formality of inspection, marching, activities to meet the demands of the Boys' Brigade Programme and lots of fun, (often boisterous) games.

There has already been a Junior Section Partick District Football competition at Scotstoun where our team came in 3rd out of seven participating teams. A Glasgow Battalion Junior Section sleepover at the Glasgow Science Centre is planned for November!

The Boys' Brigade celebrates its 140th birthday this year on 4th October so, there will be lots of activities planned to mark this

special anniversary. Look out for further news and indications of our activities to mark this occasion around the church hall.

As always, if you know of any other boys who are currently in P1 – P6, please remind them where we are and of the kind of activities we participate in each Tuesday evening, 6.15pm – 7.30pm. They will be very welcome to enjoy and participate in all the fun.

Allan Watt and Aileen Morison (Officers-in-Charge)

Company Section

The Company Section kicked-off the new session on Friday 1st September in the Large Hall. It was fantastic to see all the boys again.

We've started the session with our usual mix of games, classwork, and activities, which we hope will keep the boys well engaged over the coming weeks. Amongst other things, we've been looking at Fairtrade, A World Without, and the recruits have been learning The Lord's Prayer and about Our Organisation. Coming up in October, we will be celebrating the 140th anniversary of the founding of the Boys' Brigade with a few special activities.

The boys enjoyed an evening of wakeboarding at Pinkston Water Park. Some of them even managed to stay upright for more than a few seconds!

Do keep watching our social media feeds to see what we get up to. Please do 'like', 'share', and 'retweet' our posts if possible!

We have four Queen's Badge candidates this session with L/Cpl Alexander Bell, L/Cpl Christopher Watt, L/Cpl Cameron Gregor, and L/Cpl Thrinei Davabalan now into their second year on their journey to gaining the highest award the Brigade has to offer in May 2024. We also have a number of boys nearing the completion of their President's Badge this session, and we'll keep you updated on their progress in due course.

Lastly, if you know of any boys from P7 upwards who would like to join us then please don't hesitate to get in touch. They will be made most welcome.

A new church at the 'heart' of the most westerly village in mainland Britain

When the Right Rev Sally Foster-Fulton recently dedicated and blessed the new Ardnamurchan Church in Kilchoan, she asked the congregation to remind themselves of who they are, every time they go in and out of the church.

“Remember what the purpose of this building is - a central point for love to breathe, for people to learn, to be safe and offer safety and welcome,” she said.

“And you will be a blessing – you will serve your God-given, love-inspired purpose.

“Blessed will be your worship and your music, blessed will be your clubs and meetings, blessed will be your outreach and service in the community you are part of, blessed will be your lives, an embodiment of Christ.

“Open wide the doors of your building and the doors of your hearts.”

Perhaps this is a message for all churches, including our own as we embark on a new church year.

Pat McGill (taken from a News item on the Church of Scotland website: churchofscotland.org.uk)



Comedy night
in aid of



The Stand Comedy Club,
333 Woodlands Rd, Glasgow

November 12th 2023
20:30 (doors open 19:30)

Ticket £12/£10

To reserve tickets go to www.thestand.co.uk
or scan the QR code.

Tickets also on door if still available

LIFE AND WORK

OCTOBER 2023

Tax and Justice

On a milestone anniversary for income tax, looking at what the Church has to say on the relationship between faith, money and justice.

A Living Language

How the Church of Scotland is keeping Gaelic alive in worship

'Words need translation, love does not'

A pioneering Scripture Union camp for Ukrainian families in Scotland

Making Ends Meet

The work of Community Pantries in local churches

'As a witness, it's traumatic'

Church volunteers working with refugees arriving in Italy

View from the Pulpit

The Rev Rosie Frew on the influence of pilgrimage and walking outdoors

Regulars

The Rev Roddy Hamilton on worship

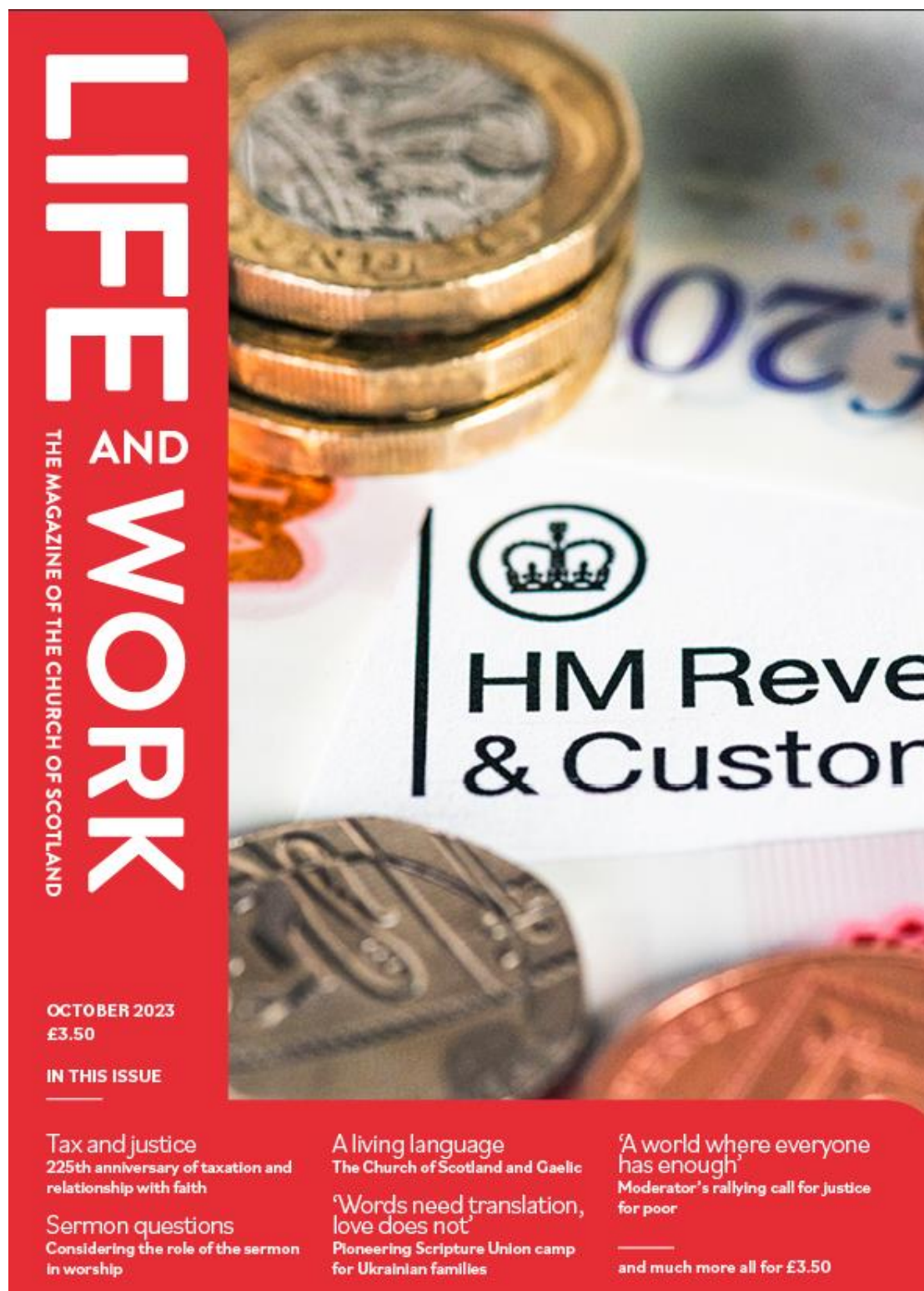
The Rev Dr Martin Johnstone on leadership

The Very Rev Albert Bogle on digital church

Reflection by the Rev Dr Richard Frazer

Bible Study by Ruth Harvey

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.



LIFE AND WORK
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OCTOBER 2023
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225th anniversary of taxation and relationship with faith

Sermon questions
Considering the role of the sermon in worship

A living language
The Church of Scotland and Gaelic

'Words need translation, love does not'
Pioneering Scripture Union camp for Ukrainian families

'A world where everyone has enough'
Moderator's rallying call for justice for poor

and much more all for £3.50

WHAT'S ON OCTOBER 2023

Sunday 1 st	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m. Communion (Livestreamed)
Wednesday 4 th	Pop-In Café SJR Large Hall from 2.00 to 3.30 p.m.
Sunday 8 th	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m. Harvest Service
Sunday 15 th	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m. (Livestreamed)
Sunday 22 nd	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m.
Tuesday 24 th	Kirk Session – 7.15 pm
Sunday 29 th	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m.

Please note: Events are subject to change

Cover Photo of SJR Church from Kate Russell
Photography

OFFICE BEARERS

Minister – Position Vacant

Interim Moderator – Rev. Audrey Jamieson

Session Clerk

Bob Bradnock

Assistant Session

Clerk

Susan Finnigan

Editor of Beacon

Alan Christie

Material for the November 2023 Beacon is required by

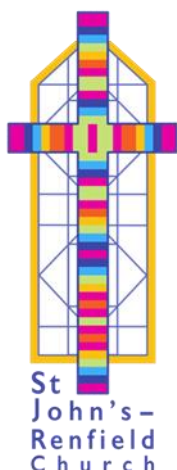
Friday 20th November 2023 midnight

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

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