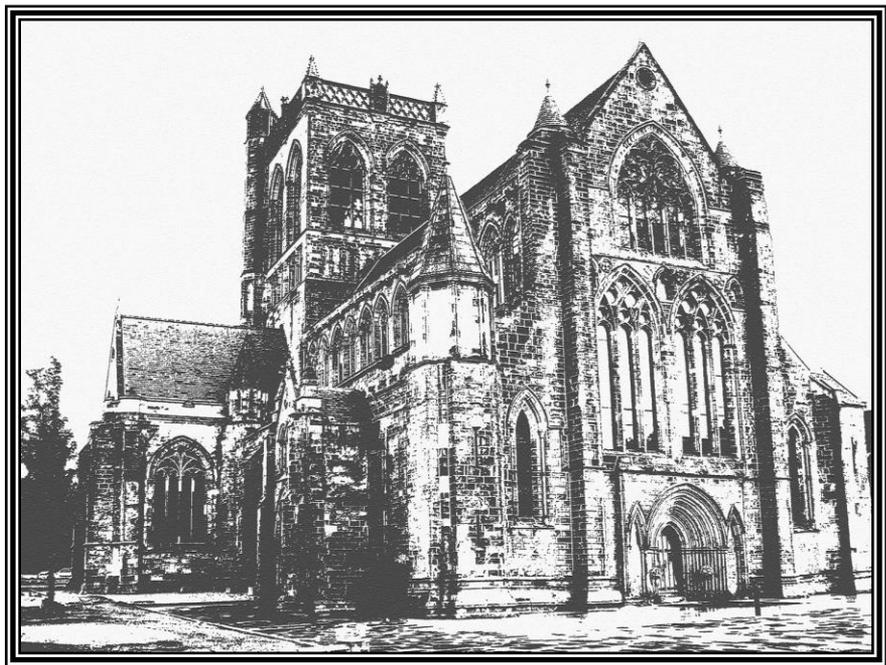


Paisley Abbey



Abbey Herald

March 2019

March 2019

Dear Friends,

Lent is quite late in starting this year due to a relatively late Easter. It starts on Ash Wednesday, 6 March, when there will be a service of Holy Communion in the Abbey at 7.30pm. Do make an effort to come to this service which will feature that wonderful setting of the 51st psalm composed by Allegri, the *Miserere*. 'Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me,' the Psalmist writes. Lent is a time to refocus our lives, to allow God's spirit to transform us and make us more 'Christ-like' that we might become more and more the women, men and children God would have us be. As well as our Ash Wednesday service, I commend to you also two aspects of our Lenten observance as a Church. The first is the cycle of prayer covering each day in Lent, included with the *Herald*. Let our whole life as the Abbey Church be grounded in the prayers of each one of us. The second is our Lent Appeal which once again this year is earmarked to take forward some of the plans we have to make the Abbey fit for purpose in the 21st century. Already we have been able to improve the cloister entrance and redecorate the St. Mirin Chapel. Ongoing plans include replacing the antiquated sound system, creating a more flexible space in the nave, installing a fire alarm system in the Place of Paisley and progressing our long-standing ambition to create a new 'space' on the fourth side of the cloister. All of these will require external funding, but crucial to getting that funding will be our ability to show that we are committed to the projects through our financial support of them - which is why the Lent Appeal is so important for our future development. Of course, as last year, you can ask that your Lent Appeal donation goes to another aspect of the Abbey's life and work. What is important is that we all get behind the 2019 Lent Appeal giving what we can to enable the Abbey to move forward and continue to be the Church, the body of Christ, at the heart of the community of Paisley.

Alan D. Birss
Minister at Paisley Abbey

PARISH REGISTER –JANUARY 2019

Funeral

15 February Catherine Nelson McEwan

22 February Anne Rachel Marshall

Baptism

24 February Macie Jane Stewart

MATT’S FAREWELL

As many will know, our Church Officer Matt McIntosh retires at the end of April after 19 years of dedicated service to the Abbey. We plan to mark his immense contribution to the life of the Abbey with a presentation to be made after the Morning Service on Sunday 5 May. If you would like to contribute towards the presentation, please put your donation in an envelope clearly marked “Matt’s retiral presentation” and either place it in the offering plate on a Sunday or hand/post in to the Abbey office. Following the presentation which will take place in the Church, there will be a buffet lunch in the Place of Paisley, tickets for which will be on sale in April.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY 7 APRIL AT 12.15 PM

All members of the congregation are invited to attend the Annual Congregational Meeting when the Abbey’s Accounts for 2018 will be presented by Mr Sandy Mowat CA.

I WAS GLAD

PAISLEY ABBEY CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

BARITONE - COLIN MURRAY
CONDUCTOR - GEORGE McPHEE

PARRY
I WAS GLAD
SONGS OF FAREWELL
BLEST PAIR OF SIRENS

STANFORD
SONGS OF THE FLEET

SUNDAY 24TH MARCH 2019 AT 7.30^{PM}

TICKETS £18

AVAILABLE FROM ABBEY SHOP OR BY PHONE 0141 889 7654

www.paisleyabbey.org.uk

Paisley Abbey (Church of Scotland) Registered Charity No. SC007633

info@paisleyabbey.org.uk

SHOP NEWS

New stock is now arriving in the shop!

There has been a delivery of new colours in our popular range of Paisley silk scarves and we now have an offer on them!

One for £32 or 2 for £55!

We hope to start selling Paisley handmade luxury chocolates from Buuddabings this month. To begin with there will be 5 flavours to choose from but this will increase over the months. Do please come and try them! Apart from being delicious they make wonderful small gifts.

Easter books, cards and decorations are now appearing in the shop.

2 new post cards have joined our selection- one of our famous Alien Gargoyle and one of the wonderful East Window.

There have been a few new pocket money toys added recently to our toy corner and hope these will prove popular.

Our new guide book has been selling very well and I hope that if you do not yet have a copy that you will come and view it at the shop. It makes an interesting read and a great present!

There is still more new stock to arrive soon, so please visit the shop regularly to see what is new!

Carol Birss

QUIZ NIGHT

Our next fundraising event will be a Quiz Night on Tuesday 2 April 2019. Why not get a team together and come along and join us while helping raise Abbey Funds?

Tickets will be on sale in the Cloisters on a Sunday during March and in the Abbey shop

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Saturday 9 March Coffee Morning at 10.00am followed by a Recital at 12.30pm with Cheryl and Gordon Cree (Voice and Piano)
- Sunday 17 March Thomas Coats Choral Concert 7.30pm
- Sunday 24 March “I Was Glad” - Paisley Abbey Choir & Orchestra Concert 7.30pm
- Tuesday 2 April Quiz Night 7.00pm
- Saturday 13 April Guitar Recital by Samrat Majunder and Jacoro Lazzaretti at 12.30pm
- Sunday 28 April St James’s Orchestra Concert at 7.30pm
- Saturday 4 May Coffee Morning at 10.00am followed by a recital by the Abbey Strings at 12.30pm
- Saturday 18 May Coffee Morning at 10.00am followed by a recital at 12.30pm by Eleanor Kemp

Pray through Lent

Let us lift up to God the life of
the Abbey each day during Lent

General Collect for Lent

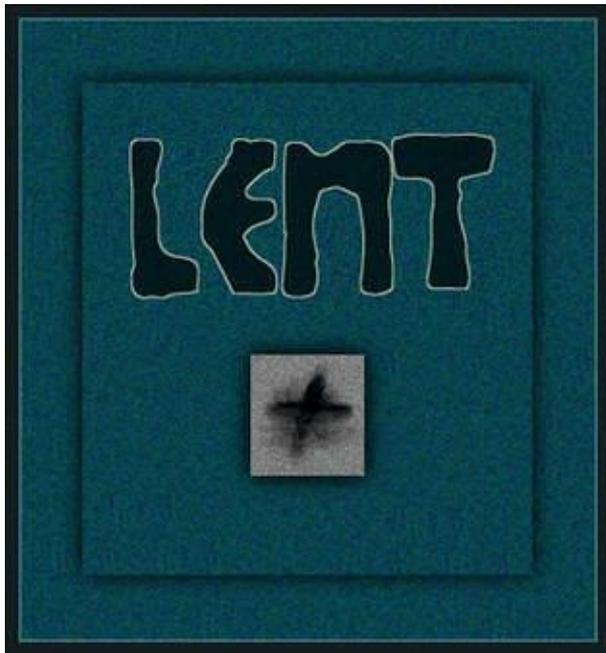
Almighty and everlasting God, you despise nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts. Give us grace worthily to lament our sins and acknowledge our brokenness, that we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

- 6 March The Worship of the Abbey on Sundays and special days such as today, Ash Wednesday
- 7 March The Friendly Hour meeting fortnightly providing fellowship to members of the congregation and friends
- 8 March The Flower Guild providing fitting floral arrangements in the Abbey throughout the year
- 9 March The members of the congregation who read from the bible at our Sunday services
- 11 March The Sunday School and crèche, their leaders and the children who attend
- 12 March The Talk-it-over group and mothers suffering from post-natal depression
- 13 March The Alcoholics Anonymous and Alanon Groups who meet in the Place of Paisley and in the Lawn Street halls
- 14 March The Choristers and their musical training enriching the Abbey's worship and life
- 15 March The Property Committee and the fabric of our historic and nationally important buildings
- 16 March The stewards and 'welcomers' in the Abbey who greet all our visitors and offer them a warm welcome in Christ's name to the Abbey
- 18 March The Finance Committee with its task of ensuring that there is sufficient income to meet our expenditure
- 19 March The Abbey's guided tours
- 20 March The Scout Group, young people and adults
- 21 March The gift shop and coffee shop volunteers and those who draw up the rotas of helpers
- 22 March The Senior Choir, the Director of Music and the Assistant Organist
- 23 March The Parish and Community Committee and the community projects it supports such as the Renfrewshire Food Bank
- 25 March Our church officer and assistant church officers

- 26 March The duty teams of elders who welcome people to services
- 27 March The Kirk Session.
- 28 March Civic events that take place in and around the Abbey, e.g. Armed Forces Day, Hallowe'en Festival, the switch-on of the Christmas lights.
- 29 March The pilgrimage walking group that as they walk the may be drawn closer to God
- 30 March Our visitors from overseas and other parts of the UK
- 1 April The Pastoral Committee organising visitors and events for senior members no longer able to attend services in the Abbey
- 2 April The Abbey stitchers
- 3 April Coffee mornings and the opportunity to welcome people to the Abbey with home-baking
- 4 April The Psalmody Committee and its work relating to the choir and music of the Abbey
- 5 April Our Safeguarding co-ordinator and the work that is done to protect children and vulnerable adults
- 6 April Paisley Abbey Music Society and its work supporting the music of the Abbey
- 8 April The editors and distributors of the *Abbey Herald*.
- 9 April The Society of Friends of Paisley Abbey.
- 10 April The Visitors' Committee looking at ways to welcome people into the Abbey
- 11 April The Abbey office, the secretary and volunteers who help there
- 12 April Abbey Aid projects raising much needed funds through yoga, singing lessons, jam making and much else.
- 13 April The University and West College Scotland who hold graduation and award ceremonies, dinners and other events in the Abbey

- 15 April Paisley Grammar School attending services in the Abbey and other schools who visit to learn about their town and Paisley's mother church
- 16 April The Abbey Strings, the Abbey brass, the Christmas and Easter orchestras who provide music for special services and occasions
- 17 April Those who visit the Abbey in times of need to pray and seek peace.
- 18 April Maundy Thursday - The Holy Week worship of the Abbey
- 19 April Good Friday - kneel at the foot of the cross and pray for all in the Abbey family, known and unknown, who are in need of our prayers.
- 20 April Holy Saturday - pray for those preparing the church for Easter.

May we all have a prayerful and spiritually enriching Lent



ELDERS ON DUTY

MARCH 2019

Robin Craig's Team

APRIL 2019

Michael McGill's Team

Articles for the April 2019 issue of the Abbey Herald could be emailed to cathycraig73@aol.com or robincraig73@aol.com or handed into the office as soon as possible but no later than Sunday 17 March

FRIENDLY HOUR

31st January: This was our first meeting of 2019. Rachel and her friend Bridget entertained the group with a well-chosen selection of songs.

14th February: Jim who comes along to help at meetings had prepared a presentation about a holiday in Pittenweem. Members viewed this while enjoying their tea and biscuits.

Our next meetings will be held on 28th February and 14th March. Please come along and join us for a 'cuppa' and chat. We meet on alternate Thursdays in the White Room at 2pm.

Cath McCord

RESTORATION OF PAISLEY ABBEY CHOIR

Ninety years ago in November 1928, thanks to the generosity of the Clark Family, the restored Abbey Choir area was rededicated. Restoration work had started before the outbreak of World War 1 under the direction of the architect Peter McGregor Chalmers. The war intervened and work ceased. It recommenced after the war but unfortunately McGregor Chalmers died before it was completed. The well-known Scottish architect Sir Robert Lorimer was given the task of completing the restoration work.

One of the artists/sculptors commissioned by Lorimer to do some work in the Choir was a lady called Alice Meredith Williams. Alice's work includes the designing of wooden angel frieze at the top of the Reredos, the two angel "candle holders" left and right in front of the Communion Table and the angel with the trumpet above the organ. They were carved by William and Alexander Clow.

Morris Meredith Williams, her husband, designed the entrance door to the St. Mirin Chapel. It was carved by Scott Morton

I had never heard of Alice or Morris until I attended a talk given by author Phyllida Shaw. Phyllida is the great niece of Morris William's second wife and she fell heir to the couple's sketch books and paperwork which she has written about in two books "An Artist's War" and "Undaunted Spirit" both of which are available in the Abbey shop.

I became interested in their work and decided to make a display about them in particular their work in Paisley Abbey, the local area and the National War Memorial in Edinburgh. The display is now in the North Transept. Do take some time to look at it and then look at the actual works of this very talented couple. More of their work is included in Phyllida's books. There is a copy of each to look at on request. This very talented lady and her husband deserve more recognition in the Abbey.

Cathy Craig

SCOUT NOTES

The end of January provides a good excuse for food at section meetings with the celebration of Burns Night and for the Beavers this was followed by another evening with food as they explored the Chinese New Year. With all that eating, perhaps next month we will need to introduce a diet and keep-fit session!

The Beavers have also been continuing work on their space badge learning about the planets and their position in the solar system while the Cubs have been getting to grips with compasses and maps. Meanwhile the Scouts have been out and about first with a Geocaching evening, a kind of outdoor treasure hunt, and an overnight expedition which saw them take the train to Milngavie, walk the first part of the West Highland Way to Mugdock Country Park in the dark developing their night navigation skills, camping in the park overnight and then returning to Paisley on foot and by train.

We still have vacancies for girls and boys especially in the Beaver and Cub sections. Beavers cater for 6 to 8 year olds and Cubs for 8 to 10.5 year olds. All sections offer children and young people a great experience learning new skills, working with others and having a huge amount of fun.

For further information email scouts@paisleyabbey.org.uk

FOODBANK

Shortages this month are: Custard and Pudding Rice, 1 Litre cartons of Juice, Jam, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Potatoes, Tinned Tomatoes, Soap, Toilet Paper, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Shaving Gel, Razors and strong bags.

Next collection date will be Sunday 31 March.

Many thanks to our regular donors

Margaret Sharp

SERVICES: 6 MARCH TO 7 APRIL 2019

Ash Wednesday 2019

Wednesday 6 March

**Holy Communion at 7.30pm
including Allegri's Miserere**

Sunday 10 March – Lent 1

11am Morning Service

Readings: Deuteronomy 26. 4-10
Romans 10. 8-13
St. Luke 4. 1-13

Music: Psalm 91 *Responsorial*
Venite *Weelkes (Short Service)*
In exitu Israel *Wesley*

12.15pm Holy Communion

4pm Choral Evensong

Readings: Jonah 3
St. Luke 18. 9-14

Music: Psalm 119 vv 73-88
Canticles *Purcell in G minor*
Hear my prayer *Purcell*

Sunday 17 March – Lent 2

11 am Holy Communion

Readings: Genesis 15. 1-12
St. Luke 13. 31-35

Music: Communion setting – Mass for four voices
Byrd
Civitas sancti tui *Byrd*

Sunday 24 March – Lent 3

11am Morning Service

Readings: Isaiah 55. 1-9
1 Corinthians 10. 1-12
St. Luke 13. 1-9

Music: Psalm 63 vv 1-8
Te Deum *Boyce in C*
Like as the hart *Howells*

12.15pm Holy Communion

Sunday 31 March – Lent 4 – Mothering Sunday

11am Morning Service

Readings 1 Samuel 1. 20-28
St. John 19. 25-27

Music: Benedictus *Byrd (Short Service)*
Ave Maria *Parsons*

12.15pm Holy Communion

4pm Evening Service

Readings: Joshua 5. 9-12
St. Luke 15. 1-3, 11-32

Sunday 7 April – Lent 5

11am Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 43. 16-21
St. John 12.1-8

Music: St. Anne Mass *MacMillan*
Communion Setting for congregational
singing
When the Lord turned again *Batten*