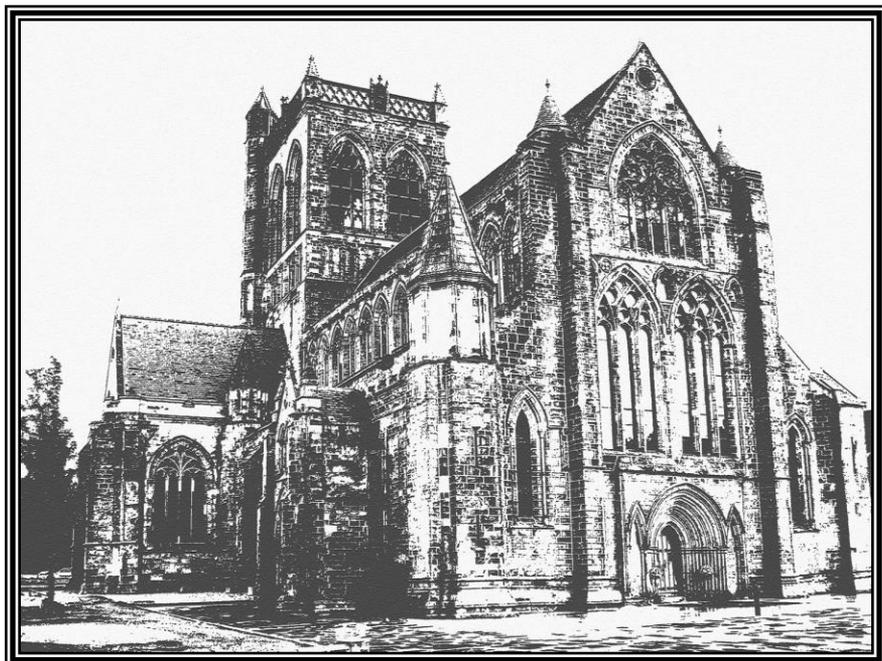


Paisley Abbey



Abbey Herald

March 2020

March 2020

Dear Friends,

In a poem on Pentecost, the poet William Blake wrote these lines:

Unless the eye catch fire, the God will not be seen.
Unless the ear catch fire, the God will not be heard.
Unless the tongue catch fire, the God will not be named.
Unless the heart catch fire, the God will not be loved.
Unless the mind catch fire, the God will not be known.

The theme of our Lent Study this year is ‘Opening the Scripture, setting our hearts on fire’. It is a course compiled by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and ties in with the designation of 2020 as ‘the Year of the Word’ by a number of churches and church related organisations in Britain and Ireland. The course revolves around the question asked by the disciples on the road to Emmaus after they recognised who the apparent stranger was who had joined them as they travelled from Jerusalem to Emmaus when he ‘took bread, blessed and broke it’ - ‘were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us.’ They see Jesus as both an interpreter of Scripture and as its interpretation. He is the Word (of God) made flesh, as St. John proclaims in his Gospel. A focus on reading the bible is one of the traditional disciplines of Lent. Our Lent course affords us all an opportunity to fulfil that Lenten discipline in company with others and will enable us to explore the great biblical themes, to celebrate Easter when it comes with even greater joy and to journey on our post-Easter pilgrimage as changed and transfigured people.

The Lent study begins on Sunday March 1 at 5pm

Alan D. Birss
Minister at Paisley Abbey

ELDERS ON DUTY

MARCH

Michael McGill's Team

APRIL

Marion Sommerville's Team

Articles for the April edition of the Abbey Herald should be emailed to Cathy Craig at cathycraig73@aol.com or Robin Craig at robincraig73@aol.com by Sunday 22 March

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 15 March Thomas Coats Choral Society at 7.30pm

Saturday 21 March Abbey Stickers Coffee Morning followed at 12.30pm by a recital with Russkaya Capella

Entry to recital is £5 payable at the door

Sunday 22 March Choir Concert: Bach's Mass in B minor

Sunday 29 March PAMS AGM at 12.45pm

Advance Notice

Saturday 2 May Abbey Strings

Saturday 23 May Peter Seivewright

Saturday 21 June Andrew Laird (Clarinet) with Ronald McIntosh

ADVANCE NOTICE




paisleyabbey

Organ Recitals

May 2020

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Admission £10 Payable at the door

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Wednesday 6th May • 7.30pm
George McPhee (*Paisley Abbey*)

Wednesday 13th May • 7.30pm
James Lancelot (*Organist Emeritus Durham Cathedral*)

Wednesday 20th May • 7.30pm
Phillip Rushforth (*Chester Cathedral*)

Wednesday 27th May • 7.30pm
David Gerrard (*Edinburgh*)

For more information contact Director of Music:
profmcphee@aol.com or **0141 889 7654**
Paisley Abbey (Church of Scotland) Registered Charity no. SC007633

PARISH REGISTER – FEBRUARY 2020

Funeral

25 February	Irene Dickie
25 February	Margaret Lymer
27 February	Dorothy Halliday
28 February	Margaret Pringle

Baptism

2 February	Cora Kathleen Pattison
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New Members

Charles Hughes
Muriel Ann MacLeod
Charles Okafor

CHURCH AND SHOP VOLUNTEERS

The hard work done by all our Church and Shop Volunteers is **very much appreciated.**

It is quite a task to organise people for shifts in the church and shop as our pool of volunteers is diminishing. Robin and Margaret work hard to organise rotas but sometimes due to circumstances beyond their control it can breakdown and they have to scramble around at the last minute to find replacements. This has happened on a number of occasions recently with the result that they often had to cover the shift themselves, at great inconvenience. Even they are not always available to do it as they too have other commitments.

We know that emergencies can occur and people can easily forget so it would be very much appreciated if volunteers could note when they are on duty and if an emergency occurs they can give as much notice as possible to Robin and Margaret so that replacements can be found.

Thank you to all our volunteers for cooperating with our request

SCOUT NOTES

All sections have been busy during February with the usual mixture of badge work and games. The Beavers designed some space on the upper hall wall to advertise who they are and what they do, the cubs focussed on their international badge learning about the lives of other members of the world wide family of scouts and the scouts put their hands to DIY, went geocaching and came up with ideas for fundraising.

Two of our former leaders, Kenny McLauchlan and Emma Dowson were married on the 8th of February - we wish them much happiness in the years ahead.

FLOWERS IN THE ABBEY

My sincere thanks to all our benefactors who donated to the Abbey Flower Fund over the past year, it is much appreciated. I have updated the list of names and posted it on the cafe notice board. If I have missed a name or a date please change it on the list and let me know.

We try to arrange the St Mirin Chapel flowers and the Silver Vases flowers in the church fortnightly, unless there is a specific requested date or for a special service.

I would be pleased to hear from any member of the congregation who likes working with flowers and who could give some time to help the guild with this most enjoyable of duties. Instruction/tutorial can be arranged!

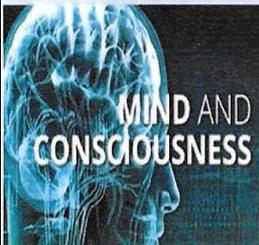
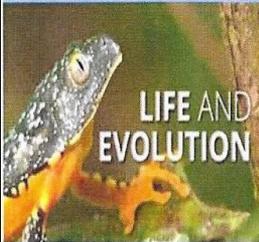
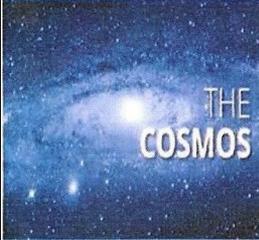
With Easter approaching all hands will be required.

Margaret Neil

EXPLORING

The God Question

Science, God and the Search for Truth



**"Taster" Session to the
DVD-led discussion series
on God and science.**

**in Oakshaw Trinity
Church Hall, Paisley
Sunday 8 March 2020
3pm, refreshments included**

All welcome

**enquiries to Rev. George Lind
01560 428732, gklind@talktalk.net**

FOODBANK

The next collection date - Sunday 29th March. Tinned puddings, jam and juice are always welcome

CHRISTIAN AID

Renfrew Christian Aid will hold a Songs of Praise to be held in Renfrew North Parish Church on Sunday 29th March at 7.30pm.

A suggested donation of £5 would be appreciated with all proceeds going to the work of Christian Aid.

PRESBYTERY NEWS

Regrettably St. Ninian's Church in Ferguslie is going to close. 22 of the 30 members are resident out with the parish area. The Kirk Session find it difficult to find people willing to act as office bearers e.g. Session Clerk, Treasurer. It is hoped that the Pioneer Minister working in the area will have his contract made permanent

Margaret Sharp

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational meeting to receive a report on the Abbey's 2019 Accounts will be held immediately after the Morning Service on Sunday 5 April. All are invited to attend.

MS

PILGRIMAGE WALK TO IONA

On our pilgrimage to Iona we have got as far as Portavadie. The tale I'm about to tell is not the one I had expected to tell. Unfortunately the walk scheduled for Saturday 15th February had to be abandoned in view of the seriously stormy conditions we have encountered from two named serious storms.

Why does the Met Office give the storms names, I wondered? Only one way to find out, I thought. I therefore enlisted the help of my favourite computer companion Mr Google. He's not always accurate, I've noticed, but there is little chance of him making a mistake with the answer to my question.

It is six years since the system of naming began, but why name the events? Well, the powers that be decided that the idea was to humanise the storms. That has actually worked well as now everyone seems to call the storms by the advertised name. We now have the knowhow to isolate a specific event and how refer to it. Quite a cool idea I think especially as we Brits are renowned worldwide for our constant conversations about the weather!

Apparently when the pilot scheme was first launched in 2015 after a call to the public through social media the organisation staff sorted 10,000 potential names.

In 2019 another social media call went out resulting in thousands more names. The names alternate male and female in using letters A-Z but because of the scarcity of names starting with letters Q,U,X,Y,Z and in line with the US National Hurricane Centre our storms are not given names with these letters. Only storms considered being "large-scale, cyclonic windstorms" which will have significant impact will be named. The naming of the storms, now include hail, rain and other than just wind. The Storm season begins in September.

The list for September 2019 to September 2020 is:

Atiyah, Brendan, Ciara, Dennis, Ellen, Francis, Gerda, Hugh, Iris,

Jan, Kitty, Liam, Maura, Noah, Olivia, Piet, Roisin, Samir, Tara, Vince, Willow

The Met Office documents say" Other names were discounted because they were not proper names"

These include :- Apocalypse, Baldrick, Big Boss, Gnasher, Hot Brew, root ripper, Stormageddon, etc. also Hammer, Hades, Freebooter, Forkbeard, Megatron, Bluetooth, In A Teacup, Noddy and Poacher

Our walk, hopefully, with a less vicious forecast, than of late will take place on Saturday 7th March when we walk shall from Ardrishaig to Kilmartin. Cars will leave Paisley Abbey at 8:00a.m.



FRIENDLY HOUR

12th March: Janette Lynch will give a talk entitled 'Me, Mrs Fox and Faith'. I hope many of you will come along to hear about her experience of having a liver transplant.

26th March we will have an informal meeting when we can all enjoy 'a cuppa and a chat'

CLIMB A MOUNTAIN

If the mountain seems too big today
Then climb a hill instead
If the morning brings you sadness
It's ok to stay in bed
If the day ahead weighs heavy
And your plans seem like a curse
There's no shame in rearranging
Don't make yourself feel worse
If a shower stings like needles
And a bath feels like you'll drown
If you haven't washed your hair today
Don't throw away your crown
A day is not a lifetime
A rest is not defeat
Don't think of it as failure
Just a quiet, kind retreat
It's ok to take a moment
From an anxious fractured mind
The world will not stop turning
While you get realigned
The mountain will still be there
When you want to try again
You can climb it in your own time
Just love yourself 'til then

Laura Ding Edwards

LENT 2020 at PAISLEY ABBEY



Our 2020 Lent course, compiled by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, revolves around the question asked by the disciples on the road to Emmaus, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us?’ The focus will be on a number of ‘heart-burning’ passages of Scripture complemented by music, art and poetry as we journey through Lent into the heart of God’s love.

Begins Sunday 1 March at 5pm

SERVICES: 8 MARCH TO 5 APRIL 2020

Sunday 8 March – Lent 2

11am Morning Service

Readings: Genesis 12. 1-4
Romans 4. 1-5, 13-17
St. John 3. 1-17

Music: Psalm 33 *Responsorial*
Venite *Weelkes (Short Service)*
Insanae et vanae curae *Haydn*

12.15pm Holy Communion

4pm Choral Evensong

Readings: Numbers 21. 4-9
St. Luke 14. 27-33

Music: Psalm 135
Canticles *Noble in B minor*
Like as the hart *Howells*

Sunday 15 March – Lent 3

11 am Holy Communion

Readings: Exodus 17. 3-7
St. John 4. 5-42

Music: Communion setting – *St. Anne's Mass*
MacMillan
Lord, let me know mine end *Greene*

Sunday 22 March – Lent 4 – Mothering Sunday

11am Morning Service

Readings: 1 Samuel 1. 20-28
Colossians 3. 12-17
St. John 19. 25-27

Music Jubilate Deo *Weelkes (Short Service)*
Ave Maria *Parsons*

12.15pm Holy Communion

Sunday 29 March – Lent 5

11am Morning Service

Readings: Ezekiel 37. 12-14
Romans 8. 6-11
St. John 11. 1-45

Music Benedictus *Byrd (Short Service)*
Christus factus est *Bruckner*

12.15pm Holy Communion

Sunday 5 April – Palm / Passion Sunday

**11 am Morning Service with distribution of palm crosses
and reading of the Passion narrative according to Matthew**

Music: Open thy gates *Harrison*
Pueri Habraeorum *Vittoria*
Ave verum corpus *Byrd*

7.30 pm Compline

Reading: St. Matthew 21. 33-46

Music: Lamentations of Jeremiah *Tallis*

Holy Week Services

**Sunday 5 April – Wednesday 8 April
Service at 7.30pm**

**Maundy Thursday 9 April
Holy Communion at 7.30pm**

**Good Friday 10 April
Three Hour Vigil 12 noon – 3pm**

EASTER DAY Sunday 12 April

**11am Holy Communion
with sermon, choir and orchestra**

**Mozart Coronation Mass K317
Vaughan Williams Let all the world
Dutch Carol arr. McPhee This joyful
Eastertide**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!