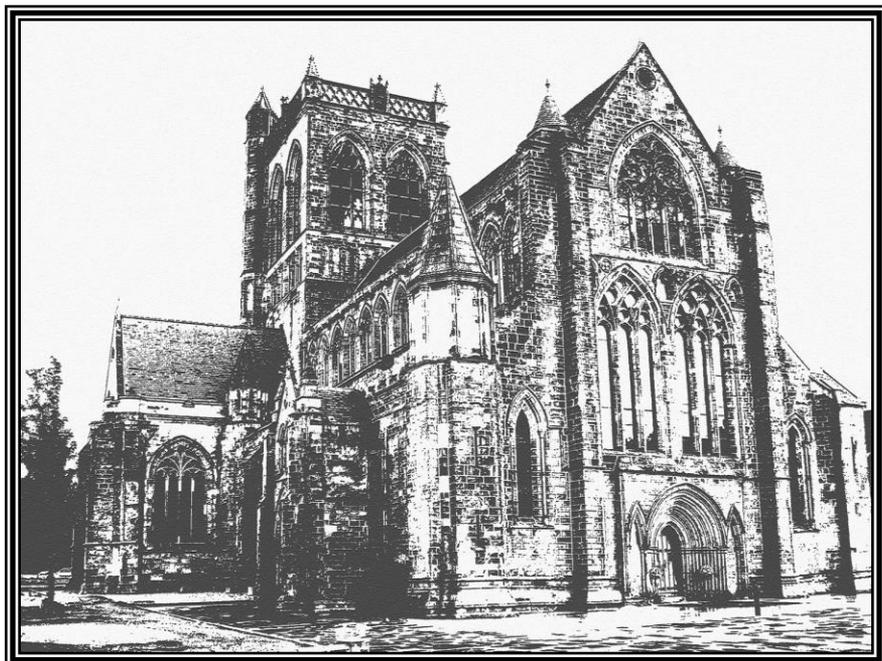


Paisley Abbey



Abbey Herald

February 2020

February 2020

Dear Friends,

At the end of February this year, on Wednesday 26 February, we shall mark the start of Lent as we always do with a service of Holy Communion at which the Choir will sing Allegri's well-known and much-loved version of Psalm 51 - 'Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.' By using this psalm at the start of Lent, we are reminded that we fall short of the people we should be as those created in God's image. However, because of God's 'steadfast love', a love supremely manifest in the incarnation of the eternal Son of God, we can be changed into the people God would have us be. That change is brought about through our union with Christ, a union never more manifest than when we share in Holy Communion. And that is why partaking of the Sacrament and taking to heart the words of the psalm provide us with such a meaningful start to the season of Lent and set us on the path towards more Christlike living, the goal of our Lenten observance. May God richly bless this season of Lent in your own spiritual journey and in our shared journey as the Abbey community.

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,

Alan D. Birss
Minister at Paisley Abbey

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 8 February	Olivia Giles "500 Miles" 12.30pm St. Mirin Chapel
Thursday 13 February	Friendly Hour resumes 2.00pm
Friday 21 February	Volunteers Coffee Morning
Saturday 22 February	Recital with Ralph McDonald (Baritone) with George McPhee (Piano)
Tuesday 25 February	Beetle Drive with a difference
Thursday 27 th February	Friendly Hour

Entry to recitals each £5 payable at the door

ADVANCE NOTICE

Sunday 15 March Thomas Coats Choral Society at 7.30pm

ABBEY HERALD DISTRIBUTION

I have noticed for the past few months some of the Abbey Heralds have not been collected. If you find it a problem distributing them please let me know and I can do something about it.

I can be contacted at:cathycraig73@aol.com or phone the Abbey office on 0141 889 7654.

Thank you

Cathy Craig

ELDERS ON DUTY

FEBRUARY 2020

Robin Craig's Team

MARCH

Michael McGill's Team

Articles for the March edition of the Abbey Herald should be emailed to Cathy Craig at cathycraig73@aol.com or Robin Craig at robincraig73@aol.com by Sunday 16 February

PARISH AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

BEFRIENDING PROJECT

Supporting the Homeless

There will be a meeting in the Abbey on Tuesday 4 February to discuss the possibility of setting up a Drop in Befriending Centre at a suitable venue in Paisley. It is hoped that all churches and existing groups working in this area will become involved and a steering Group formed to take this project forward.

The idea is to have a facility where those at risk could receive support and experience the love of Christ. Sandwiches would be provided and a hot drink, perhaps clothes, toiletries, fellowship and support and advice from appropriate agencies.

Scottish Churches Housing Action will help with the organisation.

FOODBANK

The next collection will be on Sunday 23 February

Tinned potatoes, fish, litre cartons of juice, tinned fruit, custard, rice pudding, jam, shaving gel and shampoo are needed this month

Margaret Sharp

“BEETLE WITH A DIFFERENCE”

On Tuesday 25 February we are holding a Beetle Drive with a difference.

Tickets priced £5 for Adults and £1 for children under 16 are for sale in the Shop and the Cloisters on a Sunday.

A light supper will be provided

Do come along to this fun night

FRIENDLY HOUR

The Friendly Hour meets on alternate Thursdays in the White Room at 2pm. Our senior citizens enjoy meeting and having a cup of tea and a chat.

Our first meeting this year will be held on February 13th Rachel and Bridget will entertain us.

On 27th February Cathy Craig will be the speaker. Her subject will be “Mary Campbell”

EASY FUND RAISING

Paisley Abbey has been part of this scheme for a number of years now and has benefitted to the tune of over £1000. This has come from the small number of people who have registered and shopped online.

To join is a simple process. You just log on to “www.easyfundraising.org.uk” and register then choose the charity you wish to support, in your case Paisley Abbey. When you purchase something from the online traders who are part of the scheme a small percentage of your purchasing price is then donated to Paisley Abbey.

As a user of Easyfundraising for some time now I like the convenience of ordering online and then having the goods delivered directly to my home as well as helping the Abbey.

If you are an online shopper I would encourage you to register and take part and in some way you can help Paisley Abbey.

Do give it a try”!!!



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.

- 26 February The Worship of the Abbey on Sundays and special days such as today, Ash Wednesday
- 27 February The Friendly Hour meeting fortnightly providing fellowship to members of the congregation and friends
- 28 February The Flower Guild providing fitting floral arrangements in the Abbey throughout the year
- 29 February The members of the congregation who read from the bible at our Sunday services.
- 2 March The Sunday School and crèche, their leaders and the children who attend.
- 3 March The Talk-it-over group and mothers suffering from post-natal depression.
- 4 March The Alcoholics Anonymous and Alanon Groups who meet in the Place of Paisley and in the Lawn Street halls.
- 5 March The Kirk Session.
- 6 March The Property Committee and the fabric of our historic and nationally important buildings.
- 7 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.
- 9 March The Finance Committee with its task of ensuring that there is sufficient income to meet our expenditure.
- 10 March The Abbey’s guided tours.
- 11 March The Scout Group, young people and adults.
- 12 March The gift shop and coffee shop volunteers and those who draw up the rotas of helpers.
- 13 March The Director of Music and the Senior Choir.
- 14 March The Parish and Community Committee and the community projects it supports such as the Renfrewshire Food Bank and the proposed Paisley Drop In and Befriending Centre for people who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless.
- 16 March Our Church Manager and Church Officers.

- 17 March The duty teams of elders who welcome people to services.
- 18 March Paisley Grammar School attending services in the Abbey, and other schools who visit to learn about their town and Paisley's mother church.
- 19 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.
- 20 March The pilgrimage walking group, that as they walk together, they may be drawn closer to God.
- 21 March Our visitors from overseas and other parts of the UK.
- 23 March The Pastoral Committee organising visitors and events for senior members no longer able to attend services in the Abbey.
- 24 March The Abbey stitchers.
- 25 March Coffee mornings and the opportunity to welcome people to the Abbey with home-baking.
- 26 March The Psalmody Committee and its work relating to the choir and music of the Abbey.
- 27 March Our Safeguarding co-ordinator and the work that is done to protect children and vulnerable adults.
- 28 March Paisley Abbey Music Society and its work supporting the music of the Abbey.
- 30 March The editors and distributors of the *Abbey Herald*.
- 31 March The Society of Friends of Paisley Abbey.
- 1 April The Visitors' Committee and its work to ensure that all visitors to the Abbey, for whatever reason they come, receive a warm welcome 'in Christ's name.'
- 2 April The Abbey office, the secretary and volunteers who help there
- 3 April Abbey Aid projects raising much needed funds through yoga, singing lessons, jam making and much else.

- 4 April The University and West College Scotland who hold graduation and award ceremonies, dinners and other events in the Abbey
- 6 April The Choristers and their musical training, enriching the Abbey's worship and life
- 7 April The Abbey Strings, the Abbey brass, the Christmas and Easter orchestras who provide music for special services and occasions
- 8 April Those who visit the Abbey in times of need to pray and seek peace.
- 9 April Maundy Thursday - The Holy Week worship of the Abbey
- 10 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.
- 11 April Holy Saturday - pray for those preparing the church for Easter.

May we all have a prayerful and spiritually enriching Lent

SCOUT NOTES

All three sections are back in action after the Christmas holiday with the usual combination of badge work and games on a Friday evening. Both the Cubs and Scouts have already been on the first camp of the year: for the Cubs there was the Paisley & District indoor winter weekend camp at Lapwing Lodge and for the scouts, a weekend at Hawkhirst Scout Camp in Northumberland with hundreds of scouts from across Scotland and the north of England. They did not allow some very wet weather to dampen their enthusiasm!

We have space in our Beaver and Cub sections for new recruits. Both sections are open to girls and boys, the Beavers for ages 6 to 8 and the Cubs for ages 8 to 10.5. A varied programme of activities and games is run on a Friday evening and in addition there is the opportunity to participate in whole Group events and District events. Potential new recruits can simply come along on a Friday evening with a parent (6.30pm for Beavers, 7.30pm for Cubs) to the Abbey Halls in Lawn Street, or contact scouts@paisleyabbey.org.uk for further information.

IVAD HELP DECORATE ABBEY CHRISTMAS TREE

Paisley gift shop, IVAD, made a generous donation of several dozen baubles to help with the decoration of the Abbey's Christmas tree.

The tree is an essential part of the Abbey's Christmas celebrations and this year, at over 20 feet in height, gave the 'decorating team' a problem with the number of lights and baubles that were needed to make it look appropriately festive.

Fortunately, Laura Bell, the owner of the two IVAD shops in Gauze Street and Causeyside Street stepped in and donated the gold and silver baubles ranging in size from eight to ten inches.

We are very appreciative of the IVAD gifts.

Marion McDougall

REGULAR DONATIONS

Thank you to all who responded to the article in September's Abbey Herald from Stewart McDougall, Treasurer and myself which outlined the requirement for an increase in regular giving to counteract the ever-increasing costs which Paisley Abbey has to absorb.

In preparing the Gift Aid claim for October to December 2019 it was heartening to note that the number of members who had increased their donation either by changing the amount of their Standing Order or raising the amount contained in the Gift Aid or Freewill Offering envelope

The added income from these members is greatly appreciated as it helps to counteract the effect of inflation and I encourage those who have not yet done so to increase the amount of their Weekly/monthly donation

Please contact me or Stewart McDougall if you require more information on Standing Orders or Gift Aid.

Deryk Docherty
Gift Aid Convener

CROSSREACH

Out Now: New Editions of CrossReach News and Prayer Diary
17 January 2020

CrossReach News

Our latest edition of CrossReach News provides you with updates and features from our Older People services. These include, anniversary milestones, a step back in time to the Victorian Era, activities and even visits from ponies (yes, you read that correctly!).

The magazine also features the service tour taken by Rt Rev Colin Sinclair, Moderator of the General Assembly of The Church of Scotland and his wife Ruth, in November (including a link to the videos he made about his visits).

There really is something for almost everyone! CrossReach News
Edition 1 2020

CrossReach Prayer Diary

With this edition, we are trying something new. For the first time, the Prayer Diary covers the entire year (February 2020 – January 2021). The prayer requests provided by staff and people who use our services can serve as a guide, as you support us in prayer.

Available to read online or to download: CrossReach Prayer
Diary Feb 2020 – Jan 2021
www.crossreach.org.uk

SERVICES: 9 FEBRUARY TO 1 MARCH 2020

Sunday 9 February – The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

11am Morning Service

Readings: Isaiah 58. 6-10

1 Corinthians 2. 1-5

St Matthew 5. 13-16

Music: Psalm 112 (Responsorial)

Te Deum *Howells - Collegium Regale*

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me *Elgar*

12.15 pm Holy Communion

4pm Choral Evensong

Readings: Amos 2. 4-16

Ephesians 4. 17-32

Music: Responses *Leighton*

Psalm 4

Canticles *Leighton - Second Service*

See, see the Word is incarnate *Gibbons*

Sunday 16 February – The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

11am Holy Communion

Readings: Jeremiah 17. 5-8

St. Luke 6. 17, 20-26

Music: Communion Setting:

MacMillan - St. Anne's Mass

Benedicimus Deum cali

MacMillan

Sunday 23 February – The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

11am Morning Service

Readings: Exodus 24. 12-18

2 Peter 1. 16-21

St. Matthew 17. 1-9

Music: Psalm 2
Te Deum
O nata l

*Ireland in F
Tallis*

12.15 pm Holy Communion

Ash Wednesday 2020

Wednesday 26 February

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

Sunday 1 March – The First Sunday in Lent

11am Holy Communion

Readings: Genesis 3. 1-7

St. Matthew 4. 1-11

Music: Communion Setting *Padilla-Missa Ego
flos campi*

Hear my prayer *Batten*