

# Paisley Abbey



## Abbey Herald

February 2024

Mid-January already! The weeks that have so quickly past since Christmas remind me of how time flies. It brings back some odd memories of my Latin class at school: *'Meanwhile, time is flying, flying never to be restored.'* (Virgil). And I was beginning to think it was just my age!

### A QUICK GLANCE BACK

Christmas services went really well thanks to the preparation and input of so many. We owe an inestimable debt of gratitude to our Abbey staff for their work behind the scenes the shop and café organisers and volunteers, and the office-bearers for their welcoming and stewarding. Without the help of these loyal and devoted individuals the Abbey simply could not function.

Surprisingly for me, was the encouraging attendance at the Shoppers' Service. Held on what I wondered could have been a tricky day for people (the day before Christmas Eve), I was delighted to see so many adults and children taking time out from last minute shopping to come to the Abbey for a time of celebration and fun. By far, most of those attending have no other connection to the Abbey and, so, I wonder what does that say to us about people's willingness to still turn to the church when it has something to say that they understand and can feel part of?

The Nine Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve was a spectacular event. What a joy to witness the Abbey crammed full of worshippers. And little wonder. The choir proved themselves on absolutely top form accompanied on the organ by our assistant organist, Mark Browne and directed, as always, by George McPhee. It was a truly glorious evening giving rise to such a warm, happy and expectant atmosphere which continued over to Christmas Morning when the singing of Charpentier's *'Messe de Minuit'* during Communion gifted the large congregation such a wonderful, worshipful experience.

We are so very fortunate at the Abbey to have services Sunday by Sunday of the highest quality. It's so tempting to regard this as somehow *'the norm'*. Those who do so and, therefore, rarely support the Abbey with their attendance, do not realise what they are missing or risking. The Abbey is almost unique in being able to offer worship of such a standard that attracts visitors from all parts of the globe and national broadcasters alike. Over the past year, it has been hugely encouraging to see the weekly congregation increase in number. We must not let this slip but do all we can to even better publicise all that we do at the Abbey so that Jesus' teaching of love, forgiveness and the acceptance of all may more widely be known.

## AND PRESENTLY ....

How fortunate we are that practically a whole year stretches out before us offering massive opportunities and the promise of great satisfaction for our continued work and witness as a church. Central to all our activities is our worship. Our faith in a God of love is the motivation for all we do. Faith is given to us not so that we might be pious, but so that we might better live. It is that sense of life's potential that we offer the community we serve. So, what of the Abbey's potential ? Thanks to the dedicated work of individuals over recent times, proposals are now being formulated that could see the buildings of the Abbey being recognised as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) World Heritage Site. This is something which has the potential of not just being massively beneficial for Paisley Abbey but for Paisley as a town and, even, for Renfrewshire and beyond. For this to be successful we must first put our house in order. Over the next few months, everything from the present state of the Place of Paisley to how we market the Abbey to visitors, from our hospitality and retail outlets to our strategies of communication and publicity will be carefully and studiously considered. Our meeting with volunteers/ guides held early last December proved very successful with a number of good and thoughtful suggestions being made. Another such meeting will be held in the Spring when these matters will be further discussed. As we move forward, every effort will be made to enhance the goodwill of our volunteers, listen to advice given and keep people as fully informed as possible.

In the meantime, the ordinary, everyday work of the congregation and that of its ministry continue. The season of Lent, Holy Week and Easter will be upon us before we know it; and, then, its onwards to summer. What was that about *time flying* ?

Jim Gibson.  
*Minister at the Abbey.*

## APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTE SESSION CLERK

For some considerable time, the Kirk Session has been indebted to our Session Clerk Mrs Marion Sommerville for the almost overwhelming workload she has so willingly borne. Though in post for some ten years, since the retiral of the Revd Alan Birss, the Covid pandemic and then the brief ministry of the Revd Elspeth McKay, Marion personally carried much responsibility for the administration and organisation of the Abbey and its activities. We are all so grateful for her work and dedication. In looking forward to the Abbey's transitioning future it has been acknowledged by the Session that the increase in expected meetings and activities will require the appointment of a Depute. Such an appointment was made at the December meeting of the Kirk Session. Our new Depute Session Clerk is **Dr. David Davidson** recently retired as a GP in Paisley. Dr Davidson is a son of the manse and has a lifetime of church experience. Already a proven enthusiastic member of the congregation and Abbey historian, as a member of the Kirk Session his input, energy and willingness to support individuals in their various Abbey activities, will prove an enormous benefit.

## WEEKDAY ABBEY CAFÉ

Following discussions with those previously involved, it has been decided to re-equip, refurbish and, then, re-launch the Weekday Café held in the cloisters. Once a new coffee-making machine has been fitted, the cloister redecorated and new lighting fitted, it is hoped our visually-appealing and tastebud tempting café will be reopened for business as soon as possible after Easter. ***Please, will you help make this happen ?*** For us to succeed in this venture we need:

Volunteers willing to give a little time to staff the café .

Volunteers willing to regularly donate home-baking: scones, fruit loaf, pancakes etc.

If you would like to help, please contact the Abbey Office: **0141 889 7654** and let us know. We will be delighted to be in touch with you.

## MINUTES OF KIRK SESSION MEETINGS

Furthering our policy of transparency, Minutes of recent meetings of the Abbey Kirk Session are made available to the public as soon as possible after each meeting of the Kirk Session. They can be found attached to the noticeboard in the cloister outside the entrance to the St Mirin Chapel. We are grateful if they can be returned to the noticeboard after they have been read, so that they may be available to others who may wish to read them.

## SOME HELP WITH THE SEASON OF LENT

This year, February 18<sup>th</sup> is the first Sunday in Lent. Many people, even in church, find it a difficult time to get to grips with. So, they don't. They just ignore it. That's a pity because it can be such a great help to us understand better the events of Holy Week and Easter and, therefore, all that is core to the Church's belief.

Over the five Sundays following February 18<sup>th</sup> worship will follow themes which prepare us for Jesus' suffering and death. I hope very much that you will make a special effort to join others at worship during this period and that you may gain greatly from doing so. ***But, what else could we do to deepen our thinking and strengthen our awareness at this particular time ?*** What I suggest is that you choose one or two things from the list below – *or, adopt one or two other things you can think of yourself* - and take them on for Lent as a means of helping you get into a better, deeper, clearer understanding of what it is that the Church is remembering.

Why bother? The aim is merely to help us increase our self-knowledge and understanding as Christian people. I have always believed it is much easier to take something on than to give something up. So, why not give it a go ?

In deciding what to do, I offer three suggestions:

Your Lenten 'discipline' should be relevant to you, ie, it should 'mean' something to you.

It should be something that 'makes a difference'. It should be regarded as something 'special' because it is helping you with Lent.

It should also be 'realistic'. Otherwise you will simply become frustrated and give up too soon.

Here's my list of suggestions. Choose a couple – but, remember to do them!!

- Attend worship every Sunday, without fail.
- Attend services during Holy Week/ Good Friday.
- Attend Easter Day's celebration of Holy Communion.
- Devote a fixed period each day to think (pray) about your faith.
- Abstain (*if it will help you*) from something, ie, too much coffee/tea/ alcohol/ chocolate/cigarettes (and consider giving the equivalent amount to the Abbey).
- Visit one or two folks you know to be lonely.
- Spend some time each day in silence. Finish by saying the Lord's Prayer.
- Ask forgiveness for those whom you cannot forgive yourself.
- Contact family/friends with whom you have lost contact.
- Pray for your minister/congregation/community/neighbours/friends.
- Read St Mark's gospel at least once.

## A PRAYER FOR LENT

God,  
Grant me the serenity  
to accept the things I cannot change,  
courage to change the things I can,  
and wisdom to know the difference.  
Amen.



## SOCIETY OF FRIENDS OF PAISLEY ABBEY

Are you a member yet ?  
Why not ?  
Don't miss out.

Membership of the Society is open to anyone who shares the Society's aims and would like to support its activities. Please contact the Abbey Office and ask the Secretary for a membership form; or collect one from within the Abbey. The Society exists to enhance and safe-guard your Abbey church.

The Society exists to aid:

- The preservation of the Abbey buildings for posterity;
- The adornment and furnishing of the building;
- The safe-guarding of the amenity of the Abbey and its surroundings;
- The promotion of the Abbey as a centre of excellence for education, the arts and music as well as a place of Christian worship.

## GIVING WITH A WILL

### *(A legacy to your Church)*

Did you know that Paisley Abbey is a registered charity?  
Did you know that giving a LEGACY is one very important way by which you can continue to support the ministry and work and outreach of the Abbey after your death?

A legacy may be a specific sum of money, a property, share in a company or the residue of your estate.

Legacies are exempt from Inheritance Tax and may provide vital funds for a particular project of the Abbey; or may be invested to produce annual income for ongoing work.

All legacies are only used in accordance with the donor's wishes. So, why not speak with your solicitor and 'give with a will'? Alternatively, you might consider donating your legacy while you can still enjoy witnessing the benefits your generosity makes.

## ABBEY AID

Abbey Aid was set up a few years ago to encourage members to contribute to the Abbey's fundraising efforts by using their skills and talents, the thought being that "every little helps" and many small donations add up to a useful addition to our bank account. Currently we receive regular donations for baking, jars of loose change, knitting, also sales of plants and bric a brac, jam and chutney.

Can you think of anything you could do? Make and sell any crafts? Help someone out by doing their shopping or ironing or gardening?

Or maybe there is something you need help with, let me know and I will try and find a willing member to help you out!

Please contact Priscilla via the Abbey office on 0141 889 7654.

or by email at [info@paisleyabbey.org.uk](mailto:info@paisleyabbey.org.uk)

Priscilla Routley

## PARISH REGISTER – December 2023 & January 2024

<b>Wedding</b>	9 December	Catriona Eadie & Duncan Lloyd
<b>Baptisms</b>	10 December 10 December 10 December 14 January 14 January	Keava Ferguson Vaeda Ferguson Grace Walker Ava Martha Armstrong Georgia Eleanor Francis
<b>Funerals</b>	22 December 24 January	Harry Adams Catriona Craig
<b>Deaths</b>	Date unknown Date unknown	June Todd Margaret Marshall
<b>Transference from another Church</b>		Janet Foster Alan Gourley Christina Trimble
<b>New Member</b>		Andrew Wyllie



## EASYFUNDRAISING

### SHOP ONLINE TO RAISE MONEY FOR PAISLEY ABBEY

It's a really simple process, all you have to do is:  
Register at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

When you're asked to choose your cause, select **Paisley Abbey**.  
Get shopping - it couldn't be easier!

There are over 2,700 online retailers available, including Amazon, John Lewis, eBay and Tesco and all will give a small percentage of what's been spent back to **Paisley Abbey** to say thank you for shopping with them.

What are you waiting for? Head to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) to boost your fundraising for **Paisley Abbey** now. Already registered? Spread the word to family and friends to let them know just how easy it is!

## GIFT AID

Calling all UK Tax Payers who is donating to the Abbey today, or on a regular basis. Please consider completing a Gift Aid Yellow Envelope. This will allow the Abbey to claim an extra 25% from HMRC for the donation you are making. Collection baskets are available on entry to the service, and also at the door as you exit. If you wish further details regarding Gift Aid or the Small Donations Scheme, please speak to Jan Norris, our Gift Aid co-ordinator, or contact the Abbey Office.

*giftaid it*

## CAFÉ

The Café is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10.30 am - 3.30 pm. The café will serve tea, coffee & home baking from 10.30 am—12.30 pm on the Saturday mornings when the Lunch Hour Concerts take place. The next lunchtime concert will be on Saturday 24 February with Peter Seivewright, music by Khachaturian and Balakirev. Admission to the Concert is £5 payable at the door.



## RENFREWSHIRE FOODBANK

The congregation of Paisley Abbey generously supports the Foodbank set up to serve our local community in Paisley. By doing so we are trying to assist the most vulnerable people for whom life can prove the most difficult. The Foodbank distributes to those for whom the need is most urgent. If you would like to contribute, please bring along your donations to the Abbey on the last Sunday of the month. Anything you may be able to donate will be much appreciated.

Thank you to all who faithfully donate each month and to those who now give support. Your donations show the community that the congregation of the Abbey care for others and actively contribute to the wellbeing of all.

## LENT APPEAL 2024

Dear Abbey Members

When you see the heading 'Lent Appeal' I hope you don't say, "O, not another appeal for money from the Kirk Session." However, I would like you think the Appeal is giving you the opportunity to keep the Abbey afloat in exceedingly turbulent financial waters.

Last year (2023), considering that the 'Lock Down' was a recent memory, we had a highly successful Lent Appeal that raised nearly £9,000. With the addition of Gift Aid from HMRC, the total certainly exceeded £11,000.

*Thank you all for that outstanding effort.*

Now we are fortunate that the Covid restrictions have been removed although the amount being donated by the congregation and visitors has not reached the pre-Covid total. It might be some time before that total is reached.

However, while giving has been reduced, costs have continued to increase. For instance, the cost of electricity has increased four-fold and gas prices have had similar increases.

So, to the Lent Appeal to which I hope you will consider donating.

*This will run from 14 February to Easter Day, 31 March.*

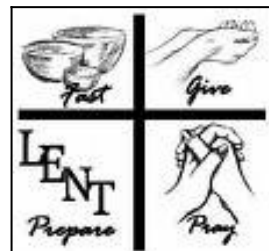
Every little bit of money, no matter how small, will be really appreciated and put to good use in supporting Paisley Abbey, a community and building that is close to all of our hearts.

Please look out for your Lent Appeal 2024 pack dropping through your letterbox.

Many Thanks

*Stewart McDougall*

Treasurer



## PAISLEY ABBEY SHOP

Cluny Bears

If you go down to the Cloisters today you'll be sure of a big surprise...?? Monks are back in the Abbey, of the furry variety, big and small you can find them in the Abbey Gift Shop. These cute plush bears in their Cluniac robes are priced at £15 for the large and £7 for the small.



Linda Barrett– Abbey Manager

## KIST O' WHISTLES OR THE KING OF INSTRUMENTS?

### THE ORGAN OF PAISLEY ABBEY 1874 - 2024

*Warranted by the last feeble tinkle of its diminutive bell we entered this noble monument of Gothic art . . . . the singing of the choir was exceedingly fine . . . the entire tone was superior to that of the litany of well organised cathedral choirs heard elsewhere . . . . the choir sang with a delicacy and expression which would be hard to surpass . . . . highly artistic, and its effect manifestly aided by the acoustic properties of the Old Abbey.*

Regular readers of the Abbey Herald will know the reputation of Paisley Abbey's bell and the reason that, although lately restored to view, it was felt to be an act of kindness that its "feeble tinkle" should never again be heard. Were it not for that reference, the above recollections of the quality of our choir might have been penned yesterday. In fact, our eulogising visitor had submitted his report to the *Paisley Herald and Renfrewshire Advertiser* in 1871.

His piece concludes: "The congregation did not sing . . . . before dismissing them, the preacher gave notice that a meeting would be held to consider the propriety of placing an Organ in the Abbey. The building is well fitted for one, and the introduction of the Organ might perhaps stimulate those who have long wished to see a similar instrument in Glasgow Cathedral."

From these last remarks, we might suppose that the author hailed from the neighbouring metropolis and that it was his long-held wish to see an Organ installed in its cathedral. If so, let us hope that he was a patient man, for it was not until 1879 that Glasgow Cathedral's Willis Organ was finally installed. Perhaps his motivation to visit Paisley was to hear its fabled choir whose reputation was founded in the first quarter of the nineteenth century when R. A. Smith was the precentor of Paisley Abbey, and whose tenure is said to have marked the beginning of a new era in the music of the Scottish Church. However, in bringing the Psalmody to "a state of perfection hitherto unknown in Scotland," the unintended effect on the congregation had been to reduce them almost to silence.

The "preacher" was James Cameron Lees, our church's great historian, who was minister at Paisley Abbey from 1859 until his translation to St Giles' in 1877. He was Moderator at the Kirk Session meeting of October 1870 when the Abbey agreed to adopt "The Scottish Hymnal," newly authorised by the General Assembly to be the Church of Scotland's first hymnbook (although it was not introduced at a service in our church until the first Sunday of 1872). He was again Moderator at the meeting one year later when he laid before the Session a "Memorial" signed by eighty-eight male communicants and others attending the Abbey Church.

It read: "We the undersigned are of opinion that the use of an Organ would greatly improve the Psalmody of the Abbey Church. We respectfully request you therefore to ascertain the sentiments of the members of the Congregation as to the introduction of such an instrument and we pledge ourselves should their decision be favourable, to use our utmost endeavours to procure an Organ suitable to the building and calculated to give satisfaction to the Worshipers. – Paisley October 1871"

The Session minute records "after such an expression of opinion on the part of so many of the Congregation, and considering that the law of the Church leaves the use of instrumental music in worship to the decision of her members, the Session request the Moderator to call a meeting of all Communicants and Seat-holders in the Abbey for Wednesday the twenty-ninth current at eight o'clock to be held in the Church, and to make intimation of this from the pulpit at the afternoon diet of worship today, that being the time when the attendance is largest, and they resolve at said meeting to take the opinion of the Congregation on the use of instrumental music in the ordinary service, and to communicate the result to the Presbytery of Paisley in accordance with the laws of the Church of Scotland."

Dr Lees made the intimation that afternoon as requested and, by coincidence, our aforementioned visitor was present to hear the announcement. The opinion of the Congregation at the subsequent meeting, though not without some dissenting voices, proved to be overwhelmingly positive and the vote was carried in favour of "obtaining the services of an organ in the worship of this church" by 123 votes in favour to only four against. The heritors of the Abbey sanctioned the procurement, and the Presbytery, who were obliged to consider the feeling of the congregation to be unanimous before it could grant its assent, duly gave its approval. A committee was set up to make the arrangements for procuring an Organ and, at its first meeting of 1872, the Kirk Session agreed to make a grant of "Fifty Pounds Sterling towards the purchase of the Organ which is being subscribed for by the Congregation."

The Organ Committee set about its business. It was agreed that the Organ would be installed at the east end of the nave, set against the gable wall that had, since the sixteenth century, separated the nave from the ruined crossing and choir of the original church beyond. Complex negotiations ensued regarding the erection of an organ gallery, and it proved necessary to raise the intended height of the memorial window that was due to be installed in that east wall. At the same time, it was agreed to move the MacDowall memorial, one of the finest monuments in the Abbey, from its original prominent position on the gable wall to its present comparatively obscure site at the west end of the south aisle.

Into 1873, public excitement began to grow in anticipation of the Organ's installation, and in August of that year, the Kirk Session "agreed to close the Church on two Sabbaths in order to enable the Organ gallery to be erected." Then, on 12<sup>th</sup> December 1873, the Session was called to a meeting "for the special purpose of considering the state of the Church which owing to the construction of the Organ in progress cannot be used for public worship at present." After deliberation, "it was agreed to close the Church on the fourteenth and twenty-first current, the Congregation to meet in the Abercorn Rooms."

Following these announcements, the suspense was reaching fever-pitch. For the celebrated Abbey Choir, however, different emotions must have been generated. On 5<sup>th</sup> January 1874, the Session met to receive a deputation from the Organ Committee "who stated that it was the opinion of the majority of the Committee that in the meantime the Choir should be discontinued and Mr Waterston's services retained as precentor." This must have come as something of a shock to the choir made suddenly redundant, and also for Mr Waterston. He was Session Clerk, which in these days was a remunerated appointment, but he was reminded that his terms of engagement from 1854 stated that he had been employed to perform the duties of precentor "as long as no paid choir is employed in connection with the Psalmody."

With the inauguration of the Organ imminent, let us pause the story while we consider what instrument the Organ Committee had chosen and procured for the Abbey Church. Known records do not reveal what inspired or persuaded the Committee to make its choice, but it does seem to have been as bold as it was an individual move. In the 1870s, after decades of bitter and stubborn resistance to the use of instrumental music in worship, the newly approved liberty to do so opened the flood gates for congregations of the Church of Scotland wishing to acquire Organs. There was a large number of British Organ builders in existence, ready and able to supply suitable instruments to churches, generally at a cost that undercut foreign firms. We know that our Committee sought quotations from at least one of these as there exists a specification, drawn up for Paisley Abbey by the firm of William Hill & Son in June 1872, for a three-manual instrument costing £1000 complete.

Knowing that, makes the circumstance more remarkable that the Committee should even have considered an approach to the Paris-based firm of Cavaillé-Coll. Though well known and respected for its quality of work throughout France, Cavaillé-Coll had made few inroads into the British market and none into Scotland. Extraordinary then that, having received the specification from Paris for a smaller two-manual Organ at a cost of £1500, they elected to accept Cavaillé-Coll's quotation.

Regular readers will be familiar with the current author's propensity to digress into a world of convoluted coincidences and chance happenings and will not be disappointed by what follows should that be their expectation.

Paisley Abbey would not be in possession of its magnificent Grand Organ, widely regarded as one of the country's finest, had it not been for Gioachino Rossini who, up to the time of his death in 1868, remained Europe's most renowned living composer. Admittedly, the age of Italian *bel canto* created by Rossini is long gone and those of the current author's generation will be forgiven if they are more familiar with "The Lone Ranger" than "Guillaume Tell."

In 1832, at the height of his fame and popularity, Rossini happened to be visiting Toulouse where he looked in on a local organ-builders' workshop. He was immediately enchanted by the tone of the family business's latest invention – an expressive reed organ, a precursor of the harmonium, known as the Poikilorgue. "What are you doing here in Toulouse?" he asked the patriarch of the father and son organ-builders. "Come to Paris, where I shall be able to be of use to you."

The man to whom Rossini spoke was Dominique Cavaillé-Coll, who had earned a good reputation in Languedoc, just as his father before him had been known in Barcelona for the large Organs he had built there. It was not Dominique, however, but his young son Aristide who was inspired by Rossini's invitation and who made the journey to Paris the following year. Almost immediately on his arrival in the capital, Aristide discovered that it had been decided to procure a new and well-equipped replacement for the Organ of the Basilica of Saint-Denis. Saint-Denis is a large former medieval abbey church of singular importance, historically and architecturally, that had been reformed by the Cluniac Order in the tenth and eleventh centuries. Perhaps precociously, certainly opportunistically, the young Aristide rapidly produced a complete scheme for the new instrument only ten days after his arrival in Paris.

The French Government had provided funds for Saint-Denis' new Organ and accepted the advice of the members of a special commission who had declared themselves unanimous in their approval of Aristide's plans. The Cavaillé-Coll workshop moved to Paris where Aristide assumed direction of the firm at the age of just twenty-two. For reasons beyond Cavaillé-Coll's control, progress with the Saint-Denis instrument was held up and eight years had passed before the great instrument was finished in 1841. In the meantime, Aristide had grown the firm's renown, making instruments for other churches as well as an Exhibition organ, and had been able to perfect several new technical innovations.

The Saint-Denis Organ was revolutionary and is said to have been "the starting point of a great school of French organ composition and playing. The symphonic style was inaugurated, and in a remarkably uniform way persisted for many decades." Soon after the instrument's successful opening, Napoleon III ordered the cathedral organs throughout France to be rebuilt and suggested that Cavaillé-Coll should be given the contracts. The firm's reputation was firmly established and the rest, not least its building of Paisley Abbey's Organ, is history.



On the 14<sup>th</sup> of February 1874, the *Paisley Herald and Renfrewshire Advertiser* published an advertisement for a “Grand Service of Sacred Music at the Inauguration of the Organ in the Abbey on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb., 1874.” Following that event it reported: “Some three months ago the organ which has been made in Paris for the Abbey Church was said to have arrived, large packing cases were seen at the church door, and for two or three days the French workmen who had come to build the organ were busy unpacking these cases. Since that time expectation has been on tiptoe, especially as it was confidently stated that, when finished, the organ would be one of the finest in Scotland” . . . . . and so it proved to be.

Paisley Abbey’s original Cavaillé-Coll Organ of two-manuals, twenty-four stops, and 1466 pipes was a “Baby Grand” compared to the instrument that now graces our church. The latter is a fully grown Grand Organ - a four-manual, sixty-six stop mature adult with more than 5,500 pipes - but, despite all its growth, development, sophistication and refinement, its pedigree is undiminished. Within still beats the golden heart of that “baby,” born on the 26<sup>th</sup> of February 1874.

Happy 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

**David C. Davidson**



## PAISLEY ABBEY ORGAN RECITALS

### In celebration of the Cavaillé Coll Organ 1874-2024

*Sundays at 3 pm*  
*Admission is £10 payable at the door*

**7 April**  
**George McPhee**  
*Director of Music at Paisley Abbey*

**21 April**  
**John Kitchen**  
*Organist to Edinburgh City, Edinburgh University  
& Old St. Paul's Church*

**28 April**  
**Tiffany Young**  
*Jordanhill Parish Church, Glasgow*

**19 May**  
**James Lancelot**  
*Durham Cathedral (Emeritus)*

**2 June**  
**Mark Browne**  
*Paisley Abbey*

**23 June**  
**Matthew Beetschen**  
*Dunfermline Abbey*

**30 June**  
**Kevin Duggan**  
*Dunblane Cathedral*

## MUSIC FOR FEBRUARY

### 4 February

11 am

Introit

Te Deum

Anthem

### Epiphany 5 / Candlemas

#### Morning Service

Holy is the true light

*Sir William Harris*

*Britten in E*

*William Byrd*

Senex puerum portabant

### 11 February

11 am

Jubilate Deo

Anthem

### Epiphany 6 - Transfiguration

#### Morning Service

O nata lux

*Heinrich Schütz*

*Thomas Tallis*

4 pm

Responses

Canticles

Anthem

#### Choral Evensong

*Rose*

*Howells (St Paul's Service)*

See, see, the Word is incarnate

*Orlando Gibbons*

### 18 February

11 am

Venite

Anthem

### Lent 1

#### Morning Service

Civitas sancti tui

*Weelkes (Short Service)*

*William Byrd*

### 25 February

11 am

Communion Setting

Anthem

### Lent 2

#### Holy Communion

O Lord, in thy wrath

*Lennox Berkeley (Missa Brevis)*

*Orlando Gibbons*

### 3 March

11 am

Benedictus

Anthem

### Lent 3

#### Morning Service

My soul, there is a country

*Tallis*

*CHH Parry*

## LUNCH HOUR CONCERTS 2024

**Saturdays at 12.30 pm**

**Admission is £5 payable at the door**

### 24 February

Peter Seivewright (Piano)

Music by Khachaturian & Balakirev

### 23 March

Scottish Clarinet Choir

### 20 April

Abbey Strings

### 1 June

Douglas Lawrence (Violin)

Maureen Rutherford (Piano)

### 15 June

Richard Craig (Flute)

Classical and contemporary chamber works for flute



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### **LUNCH HOUR CONCERT - Peter Seivewright (Piano)**

Saturday 24 February at 12.30 pm  
Admission is £5 payable at the door.

### **THOMAS COATS CHORAL SOCIETY - Balshazzar by Handel**

Sunday 17 March at 7.15 pm  
Tickets available from Coats Choral Society

### **LONDON CONCERTANTE – The Four Seasons & The Lark Ascending by Candlelight**

Friday 12 April at 7.30 pm  
Tickets £21-£46 available from [ticketsource.co.uk/classical](http://ticketsource.co.uk/classical)

### **LONDON FILM MUSIC ORCHESTRA - The Best of Hans Zimmer & Film Favourites Illuminated**

Thursday 6 & Saturday 8 June - performances at 6.30 pm & 9 pm  
Tickets from £38.22 available from Eventbrite



## LENT, HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

### **18 February - First Sunday in Lent**

11 am Morning Service

### **10 March—Mothering Sunday**

11 am Morning Service

### **24 March - Palm Sunday**

11 am Morning Service

### **Monday 25 March**

7.30 pm Service with Sermon, Choir & Organ

### **Tuesday 26 March**

7.30 pm Service with Sermon, Choir & Organ

### **Wednesday 27 March**

7.30 pm Service concluding with Compline

### **Thursday 28 March—Maundy Thursday**

7.30 pm Service with Choral Communion and anthem sung by the Abbey choir.

### **Friday 29 March— Good Friday**

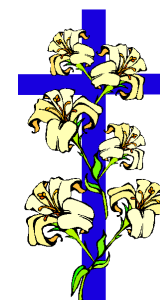
Three Hour Vigil

12 noon - 1 pm - 'Crucifixion' by John Stainer (sung by the Abbey Choir)

1 pm - 3 pm - Music, Meditations & Prayers

### **Sunday 31 March - Easter Day**

11 am Easter Celebration with Choral Communion  
The Abbey Choir sing Mozart's 'Coronation Mass'  
accompanied by a small orchestra.



## **ABBEY CONTACTS**

<b>Minister:</b>	<b>Rev Jim Gibson</b>
<b>Director of Music:</b>	<b>Dr. George McPhee</b>
<b>Church Manager:</b>	<b>Linda Barrett</b>
<b>Church Secretary:</b>	<b>Karen Kerr</b>
<b>Session Clerk:</b>	<b>Marion Sommerville</b>
<b>Depute Session Clerk:</b>	<b>Dr David Davidson</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Stewart McDougall</b>
<b>Abbey Herald:</b>	<b>Karen Kerr</b>

The Abbey office can be contacted on 0141 889 7654 or by email at -  
[info@paisleyabbey.org.uk](mailto:info@paisleyabbey.org.uk)

*The Abbey, shop & café are normally open  
Tuesday to Saturday from 10.30 am - 3.30 pm  
Tuesday & Thursday tours are at 2 pm.*