

CYPRIAN *Life*



Have a Blessed Christmas



The Magazine of St Cyprian's Church, Lenzie Dec 2020 & Jan 2021

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Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway

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*The Scottish Episcopal Church is in full
communion with the Church of England and
all other churches of the Anglican
Communion throughout the world*

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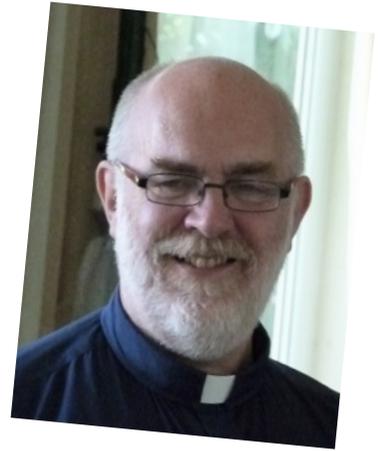
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From the Rector



Dear Friends,

Christmas will be different this year! At least a bit! In the past, we have had a regular pattern of worship for Christmas, but this time it will be different. It will PROBABLY be very different, but we haven't finalised the details of our worship for Christmas as yet because of the uncertainties and changing restrictions on our worship.

For some people, these uncertainties and inability to organise a decent length ahead is worrying as people do like to plan. However, for me I don't worry too much about this – I think the vestry when it meets shortly will have a 90% certain plan in place and it should be in this magazine – added after I have written this letter!

Of course, there is one thing to be certain. Christmas is not and will not be cancelled this year. Some celebrations, some of the things we value about Christmas will be cancelled, but no-one cancels Christmas itself! Christmas will be around to be shared, celebrated, remembered, enjoyed, and no-one will be able to stop Christmas.

One of the things we do as Christians is pray. Someone once said you have to work as if work is the only thing that makes a difference, and pray as if prayer is the only

thing that makes a difference. I want to push it even further – even if prayer is the only thing we can do, we are still doing the best thing we can do. Prayer is that important. There are times when we can feel helpless in the face of something, but as God's people we never are – prayer is there for us, and should be the first thing we grasp even if there are other options. And if there are no other options, prayer is still there for us – an amazing gift from God.

I think many of us feel helpless at the moment in the face of what is happening in our world, in the face of the Corona Virus pandemic. We don't have opportunities to help. We know people who have died as a result of the pandemic. We are cooped up in some form of Lockdown. Yet we still have that opportunity to pray. And for this Christmas, maybe we need to pray. A lot.

Prayer is one of those things, which we can be ambiguous about. On the one hand, we think prayer matters; on the other hand, we can find it difficult to knuckle down to! On the one hand, we believe it is something wonderful. On the other hand, we find doing it a duty rather than a joy, hard work rather than liberating. So perhaps we can make it work for us by combining Christmas and Prayer.

So what could we be praying for?

Continued overleaf

Magazine & DNS Deadline

The next issue of *Cyprian Life* should be available on Sunday, 31st January 2021. The deadline for material is Sunday 24th January, though it would be good to get things earlier, if possible. The magazine will be for February and March 2021.

Please email notes, articles, photographs and anything else that may be of interest to other members of the congregation to me by the deadline in order to give time for typesetting and printing. For the time being, electronic format is likely to be the only option.

Please let me know about what is important to you, especially if you have tips for coping with the Covid-19 situation.

I incorporate items into this magazine from the Glasgow & Galloway Diocesan News that I hope might interest members of the congregation. You can subscribe to receive the monthly news email from the diocese by going to glasgow.anglican.org, the diocesan home page, and entering your email address in the box at the bottom of the page. The email newsletter takes the form of brief paragraphs with links to fuller articles on the diocesan website and, where appropriate, other sites. The diocese is also on Facebook—search ‘Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway’.

We are encouraged to contribute by sending any items for the email newsletter to news@glasgow.anglican.org. There’s no stated deadline, but they need to be in a few days before the email comes out (usually on the second last Friday of the month).

The views expressed in *Cyprian Life* are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

Paul Hindle
Magazine Editor

From the Rector

Well, first, we can pray for ourselves! It is not mean, or self serving, or selfish to pray for ourselves. God wants to care for us, so we should love asking Him to care for us! I suggest praying for a new Porsche may not be a good thing, but there is nothing against praying for joy, and peace, and love. Praying that we may share in the celebrations of Christmas with those who are special to us. And praying that we may find time to sit in the stable and see Jesus anew.

We can pray for people of our country. People in care homes. Hospitals. Pray for students, and those who are isolating. Pray that, as for the world, as for history, the birth of Jesus was a new start for our world, so Christmas this year will be a new start for people who have suffered and struggled much over this past year. We can pray for the people next door, and down the street.

We can pray for our world where there is much conflict, much suffering. Pray that as the King of Peace was born at that first Christmas,

Cover Picture

One of the activities that has become a tradition over recent years is the creation of a grand and/or ‘wacky’ Christmas decoration at our Craft and Chat Group during Advent.

The main picture is a view towards the back of the church with last year’s creation hanging in the middle. The inset is looking the other way. It is a large crown decorated with scenes from the Christmas story.

Coronavirus restrictions have prevented us from collectively making something this year, but one or two individual families have offered to put up decorations, so the church will not be completely bare!

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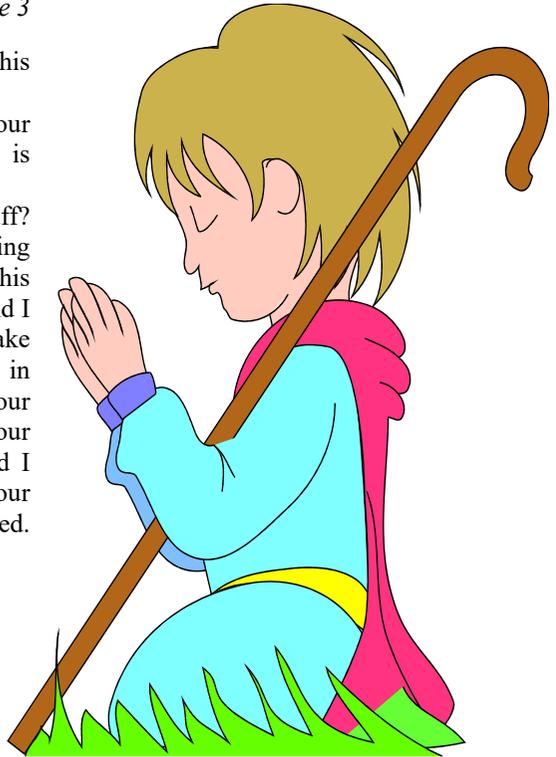
so the King of peace will bring peace this Christmas in the hearts of men of violence.

This year, we can make Christmas our focus of prayer, at a time when prayer is needed more than anything.

Is it worth doing – all this praying stuff? Talking to God is ALWAYS worth it, telling him the things on our hearts, listening to his voice in the many ways he speaks to us. And I have a feeling! A feeling that if we do make prayer and Christmas, and what we see in our lives and communities and in our world something special this advent, so our Christmas will be even more special. And I pray – and I know if we allow it – that your Christmas this year will be very special indeed.

Best wishes,

Les



The Link

For the latest information about events at St Cyprian's, please check the *Link* each week in Church or on our web site:

www.stcyprianslenzie.com

The Link and the colour version of this magazine can be downloaded in PDF format by clicking on the links on the Publications page (older copies of the Link are in Word format).

If you would like to add an event to the Link and/or the website, please email the details to link@stcyprianslenzie.com or phone the Rector on 0141-776 3866.

Pastoral Care

One of the important purposes of Christ's church is to provide the love and care we all need.

In the current circumstances, we are having to change the way we work. Nonetheless, our Rector, the Revd. Les Ireland, is still available on the phone for a confidential chat and a prayer, please contact him. He will be happy to help in any way he can.

Other members of St. Cyprian's are also available to talk to if you wish. Les can put you in touch with an appropriate person that may be best qualified to help. Please telephone Les on 0141-776 3866.



Covid Christmas Tales 1 . . .

Joseph had spent hours looking at the screen, trying to make sense of the guidelines. He wasn't a lawyer – he couldn't make sense of the regulations set out there. Most of the day, he had stared at the screen after he had received the instructions that he had to travel – with his pregnant fiancée – 70 miles to his family city. The order said he had to go. The guidelines said he shouldn't.

It had taken him a whole day to work it out – there was a loophole! The government recommends that people don't travel . . . It was the loophole he needed – recommends not to travel, but doesn't forbid travel. Maybe they should move as quick as possible – before the regulations changed. Of course, they would probably have to quarantine, somewhere, sometime – they didn't want to break the rules like that government advisor, or that MP. So packing was quick, the donkey laden and they were away, early in the morning.

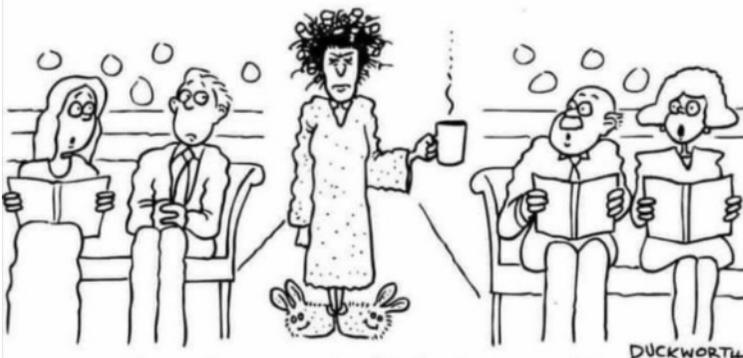
It was a tough journey. Rough roads.

Maintaining social distancing. Carrying extra gel and facemasks. It was even tougher for his fiancée, as the bumpy ride on the donkey shook her about, the walking wearied her. She knew, as they approached the home village that her time was approaching. . . . They had to find somewhere . . .

Joseph stopped in the town square and made his fiancée – Mary – she was just a young bewildered lass – he made her comfortable, and left the donkey and all their stuff with her. He just took some gel and a facemask . . .

It had been a fruitless task, trying to find somewhere where Mary could give birth. Joseph had tried the hospitals – all full, short of health staff and midwives who had caught it. He tried the doctors surgeries – but they would barely let him in, let alone have space for a woman, untested, giving birth. And no-one wanted to help . . . Hotels? Already full – lots of people had travelled, had to be housed, socially distanced. And the truth was Joseph couldn't afford any of them.

Rumours about the pregnant young girl travelled faster around the town than Joseph ►



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.

Did you hear about the woman criticised for stockpiling ice cream, tins of fruit and raspberry sauce?

Her husband reckoned she was going to isolate for a month of sundaes.

Advent Quiet Day

Saturday 12th December 2020: 10am – 12.30pm

Going out....

.....Coming Home

Reflections on the Exile of the Holy Family to Egypt, and the return to Nazareth in the context of Covid 19.

The quiet day will be held on Zoom.

Programme:

- 10am Welcome and opening worship – Bishop Kevin Pearson
- 10.20 – 11.00am Going Out – reflections on the leaving our home country, the journey to exile and the journey to safety.
- 11.00 – 11.30am Break, but including a video of reflection.
- 11.30 – 12.10pm Returning home – reflections on finding home, returning to peace, seeking safety.
- 12.10 – 12.30pm Final thoughts and worship – Bishop Kevin.

Access details to the zoom will be circulated nearer the time through the diocesan mail system. However, if you are interested, your best bet is to E.mail Les our Rector (who is part of the group organising the day) on Les949@btinternet.com and you will be sent the zoom link directly.

► could! In the end there wasn't anywhere else he could try. There was no-where else to go. He returned forlornly to the square, to Mary, completely lost.

As he returned to the square he noticed a woman talking to Mary. She was a bit stooped over, and then was helping Mary to her feet. She noticed Joseph. She pointed at the donkey, and the luggage. "Bring your stuff. We've got a place."

Mary walked with her, stopping every few moments as the contractions set in. Joseph followed, feeling helpless.

A stable? At the back of a pub? Joseph was horrified. A STABLE??? But the old woman was talking again.

"Husband runs the pub. Heard something special was happening. Felt a baby was going to be born. Like it says in that holy book. I'll be your midwife. We'll get it sorted, Hen."

Hen? Seemed like everyone got called Hen

around here.

"But aren't you worried you'll get it. Please, you mustn't . . ." Mary was always the compassionate one.

"Don't worry Hen," the old lady chuckled. "This is a bit more important than me. Anyway, I had a thought. When I saw you sitting there."

"A thought?"

"Yes, a thought, you know what a thought is?" She stared hard at Joseph, who looked a bit sheepish. "Yes, I've had a thought. I thought this. If this baby is going to be special. For us. For all of us. Then maybe he should be born not in a distant hospital, or a posh hotel. Maybe this baby has to be born in the middle of the ordinary people. Right in the middle!"

Joseph tried to make sense of it, as they entered a stable. He shrugged his shoulders. Right in the middle? Maybe this was going to be okay

Lay Reader Training

As most of you are aware, I have just completed my first year of Lay Reader Training. The journey started with a recommendation from Rev. Les Ireland and the vestry members for Lay Reader training. The discernment process consisted of twelve weekly meetings with Kevin Boak, Warden of Lay Readers, and following these meetings, Kevin submitted his report. I also submitted a report to the Primus Bishop Mark Strange. I then met with the Primus and he agreed for me to begin the Lay Reader Training.

The training started on 30th August 2019 with a week-long orientation at St Mary's Monastery at Kinnoull, Perth. This was followed by four residential weekends at St Mary's Monastery and due to Covid-19 our fifth and last residential weekend was a full day online.

Residential weekends consisted of Morning prayer before breakfast, then lectures all day with meal breaks and evening prayer until 9pm, when we met in our cell groups for compline for an hour after which we enjoyed social time together. Our Cell Groups consisted of four students per group. Each Saturday one of the cell groups would lead midday prayer. This was an alternative worship service. Our group "The Bearded Dragons" conducted "A service of reflection and storytelling", consisting of making a Christian bracelet with Bible readings, prayers, and reflections for each bead that made up the bracelet.

On Sunday, we celebrated with a Eucharist service. On three separate occasions, family members were invited to join us for the service and lunch

At every morning and evening prayer service, every student took a turn of either:

leading worship, Bible reading, leading prayers, or a short sermon (homily). Over the course of the year, I led evening worship, did Bible readings, and led prayers.

We attended Bishop Reflections once a month in Edinburgh. We started with Evensong followed by a meal and reflections with Bishop John. I also met with my Diocesan Adviser once a month to discuss my progress and my spiritual adviser once a month who I continue to meet on Zoom.

The SEI is associated with Durham University and, as well as lectures at the residential weekends, we had lectures every Wednesday evening on the internet, followed by Zoom Compline. The essays covered: Introduction to the Bible, Introduction to Preaching, Foundations for Reflective Practice, Spirituality and Discipleship, Introduction to Christian worship, Developing Ministry and Mission and Mission Entrepreneurship principles. I am pleased to say that I passed all of the essays and the credits earned can be carried forward.

My placement was with Fit for Change in Kilmarnock, working with men who have been released from prison with issues with housing, benefits and drug and alcohol dependency.

Reflecting on my experience on this course, I feel that I am not on the right pathway and I feel that God is leading me towards training for Vocational Deacon. The reason for this is that during this course I submitted an essay on developing an outreach for homeless and addicted people (Mission & Ministry). My placement with homeless people and a guest speaker Ricky McAddock, from Street Connect at one of the residential weekends, opened my eyes to what I feel God is calling me to. To work with the poor, homeless and ►





Bishop's Pastoral Letter

In this challenging situation, what do we have to offer?

We offer hope.

There is hope, even in, especially in the midst of pandemic and legal restrictions.

There is hope in our faith that love is the source of all life and energy. The truth is that the love Jesus showed on the cross, in his passion and death, that love is self-giving and endures all things.

The stories of Jesus' resurrection show that love is of God, it is the hidden force in our world and in our lives. It transforms and transfigures our entire experience. Love is stronger than hate, which killed Jesus.

There will be a vaccine because, in love, many scientists and medics are working to find the formula. Many people are prepared to test the experimental vaccine. That is the truth of love which is proof of its power. The truth that we know in faith, that love is the hidden force which transfigures and transforms our lives

and builds the Kingdom of God in the communities in which we find ourselves.

There is hope, also when some of our churches decide they must close again for a while because of the new restrictions. As I said at the beginning of the pandemic, we close our doors in love, not in fear.

Let us always remember that we live in the hope of new life. Let us share that hope, in whatever small ways we can. A phone call to someone on their own, shopping for those who are vulnerable, sharing through food banks... There is hope!

And always, we pray in the hope and the certainty that love is of God, love is stronger than hate or any natural phenomenon. That is the love that we share, and in the sharing, we make God's presence real.

In this time of crisis, please be in touch if there is anything I can help with.

In the sure and certain hope of God's love and presence,

+ Kevin

► addicted people, not just in a practical way but showing them that God loves them and that they are not alone. He is in their lives helping them each day even though life is very hard. I truly feel this is my vocation and God wants me to work with the poor and marginalised. This is where my heart and passion lie, to do God's work in the community. Jesus came to earth for the poor and needy, I am God's disciple and feel my calling is to work with the same people.

I have prayed a lot over this and given it lots of thought. I discussed my feelings with Margaret, my diocesan adviser, and Anne Tomlinson (SEI Principal) who agreed that I should change pathway. Of course, I also discussed my thoughts with Les concerning

my feelings to change my pathway from Lay Reader to Vocational Deacon.

Following Les nominating me to Revd Ian Barcroft for discernment, I am now taking one year out from training with the SEI and have started the discernment process with Rev Drew Sheridan, before going before the advisory committee who will make their recommendation to Bishop Kevin. Hopefully, I can resume training in August 2021. My prayer is that I will be allowed to follow this path and change pathway from Lay Reader to Vocational Deacon, but there is no guarantee that I will be recommended for training for Vocational Deacon and I would be grateful for your prayers as I go on this journey with God.

Jackie Fenton

Poinsettias and Christmas . . .

Many years ago, I visited Lucy's family in Zimbabwe. It was a trip full of amazing things – animals, birds, plants particularly. In the farm compound where her family lived, I particularly remember two plants. There was a bush, 6ft tall covered with white leaves. And there was a small tree covered with bright red leaves. The first, a miniature white poinsettia, the latter a normal poinsettia, rather larger and grander than the pot plants we have at Christmas! Since then – I love poinsettias. BUT but how did they get associated with Christmas?



Poinsettias are native to Central America – particularly Mexico and Guatamala. They were “discovered” by Joel Roberts Poinsett, in the mid 1820's. He was a naturalist and the First American Ambassador to Mexico. He loved the plant – a weed - and exported many to his greenhouses in South Carolina, and from there, under his name, it spread rapidly throughout the United States.

Having said that, in Mexico the plant was already called the “Christmas Eve Plant” and had already been linked to Christmas. The link to Christmas is said by legend to go back to 16th century Mexico.

The Legend talks of a young girl – called either Pepita or Maria, who was too poor to take any presents to the village Christmas celebration. However, on the way to church she was met by an angel who told her to pick some of the weeds by the road and take them with her. The weeds were pretty dire, but she

placed them in the pot at church and they suddenly leapt into life, making their glorious red colours. From there they were called “Christmas Eve Flowers” until Joel Roberts Poinsett did his stuff!

Today 50% of the world's production of poinsettias is from a family business in California call Ecke limited. They almost had a monopoly until recently, because they had a “secret” method of cultivation, grafting two cultivars together to make a plant that would flourish for a significant period of time. In the wild they droop pretty quickly, and revert to being a scruffy weed. Ecke are still the most significant producers of poinsettias in the world, although their techniques are now in the public domain following a research project by a post-graduate student in the 1980's.

And now the challenge – to keep that plant going and see if I can get it to flower next year, and the year after and

What is the Rector's favourite
football team at Christmas?
Manger-ster UNITED.



Covid Christmas Tales 2 . . .

They were in trouble! They had been down drinking in the town, partying, celebrating, the night before. Maybe they just didn't bother with rules, or guidelines, and maybe the booze made them more casual about the threats and warnings. They knew the phrase "social distancing," and knew about facemasks and being outdoors, but they were young and they weren't frightened. They forgot all that and partied all night. They were young and they were invincible . . .

It's what the young guys, the shepherds did every Saturday evening, and no pandemic was going to stop them doing what they did on a Saturday – the only bright spot of the week.

They were guys who worked tough and partied hard. They had to defend the sheep. Keep them together. Fight off bandits, ward off wild animals, hunt animals for food and get paid little – enough to party once a week. Of course – every fourth week they had to stay behind to protect the flocks, it was their turn, but this was their life. Hard, brutal, and booze.

Trouble was the last couple of Saturdays had got worse. The locals didn't want them around. They were going to catch the disease. And spread it. And while they were young and it wouldn't hurt them – probably – the people in the town were terrified – too many had died . . . They had been herded out of town, beaten when they were slow, driven back to the hills where they lived the rest of their lives. Bad enough being a shepherd, but now it was all so much worse.

That of course was Saturday night. But the surprise, once in a lifetime shock came on the Sunday evening. They knew it wasn't the booze doing it! They had got over that.

Suddenly in the darkness, only given a glimmer of light by their fires keeping them warm and the animals away . . . well there was no darkness! There was light. And figures of light. And they were sort of singing. And one of them spoke to them.

The voice was clear. "Get down to Bethlehem, because a special baby is born today. Go and see."

This was so different, so amazing, so glorious, even their hard hearts were opened, and they responded. They had to. They ran unthinkingly . . .

It was only when they got to the Inn that they remembered. They had no chance. They were hated. They had threatened the people with illness. They hadn't bothered with the rules. They didn't have gel. Or facemasks. They remembered just as they got to the door of a stable, at the back of the local Inn.

By the door was someone shining in light. Seemed to be the door keeper. They stopped in front of him. "We're not going to get in are we? We don't have the right stuff. We've done the wrong things. We've really messed this up, ran all this way for nothing, we're so stupid . . ."

There was a long pause, as they stood looking at the door-keeper, the door-keeper looking at them. The door keeper was smiling. The shepherds thought he was mocking. But then the door-keeper spoke.

"Of course you can go in. However bad – he always forgives and welcomes . . ."



I have to admit that I had never heard of Ceartas, so our meeting on the 11th November was especially interesting. Linda McGavin, who works for this charity, gave us an outline of the work done by them and her role within it.

Her message emphasised that the Advocacy Centre can help each and every one of us should we need support at any time. Ceartas is the Gaelic word for 'equality, fairness and justice' and the centre helps give people less able to speak for themselves a voice so that opinions and thoughts can be expressed. A more detailed description of their work can be found elsewhere in this magazine

We have a little homework to do for our meeting on the 9th December when we have to make sure we are familiar with the story of Dickens classic story 'A Christmas Carol'. Di Farnell will lead the discussion about the book



MOTHERS' UNION
Rebuilding livelihoods
- putting women first

Despite poverty, conflict and abuse, women in the Democratic Republic of Congo are ambitious and looking to improve their livelihoods.

We will support them through literacy and skills training to grow businesses, while building confidence to speak out and take on leadership roles in the community.

Please donate via mothersunion.org between 12noon, 1st December 2020 and 12noon, 8th December 2020. The Big Give will double our donations up to £23,000.

and then we will be making Christmas angels. The Zoom link will be sent out before the meeting, so do join us if you would like to take part.

January is our AGM once again and, after the business of the meeting, Janet Faughey will tell us a bit about her work with her music pupils and choirs.

This has been a very different year for all of us, and the work of Mothers Union has taken a similar 'hit' that we have all been a part of. However, like us, they are adapting to our new 'norm' and continue to be an organisation which has family at its centre. Hopefully, we will be able to meet family over the Christmas period with all the fun that that entails.

Merry Christmas to you all!

Maxine Gow
Branch Leader

- 9am Online Protest launches – throughout MU social channels including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
- 11.30am Online “Cup of Tea for No More 1 in 3” - Join us with a cup of tea as we take time out our day to reflect and pray for our “No More 1 in 3 campaign” followed by Midday Prayers
- 8pm No More 1 in 3 Global Day Service (download order of service below)

Please note all times are GMT

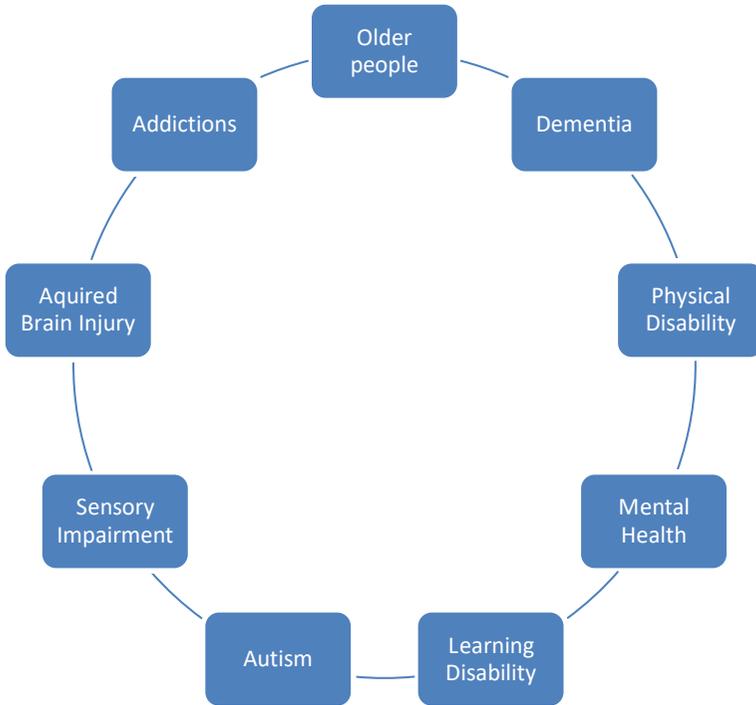
All events will be on the central Mothers' Union Facebook page and YouTube channel.

See if you can spot our Lay Rep in the promotional video!

Ceartas Advocacy

Ceartas is the Advocacy Centre for East Dunbartonshire and works from Suites 5-7, McGregor House, 10 Donaldson Cres, Kirkintilloch G66 1XF.

By law, all Local Authorities need to provide a centre that helps people who are less able to speak for themselves to be heard – this is what Ceartas does. Although their resource is open to all, they tend to work, in the main, with the following groups of people



The main themes of Advocacy are:

- Safeguarding people who are vulnerable and discriminated against or whom services find difficult to serve.
- Empowering people who need a stronger voice by enabling them to express their own needs and make their own decisions.
- Enabling people to gain access to information, explore and understand their options, and make their own views and wishes known.
- Speaking on behalf of people who are unable to do so for themselves

Ceartas run a number of groups locally although many of these are on hold at present because of the pandemic and because staff are working from home.

These include De Café, Walk 'n' Roll, Dementia Voices, Still Game and Abi Café.

They also have a number of ongoing projects which include Get Set & Go, Creative Writing and Get Onside.

If you make contact with them, they will take your details, assign you an advocacy worker and then arrange to meet with you.

Christmas at St. Cyprian's

Christmas will be a bit different this year, as everyone knows, but I'm really looking forward to our Christmas Celebrations this year, different as they are. This is what is arranged. This may change – we'll let you know if it does – but at the moment these are our arrangements:

Sunday 20th December

10.30am. **Eucharist.** At this service we will remember anyone – alive or passed on – that you may be missing, or who may be struggling, this Christmas – Please put their name on a slip available in church.

6.30pm: **“Non-singing” Carol service!** A service with readings and recorded carols, and videos.

Thursday 24th December

11.45pm. **Streamed Worship** – this will be “broadcast” from church, but everyone is welcome to join us on zoom.

Friday 25th December

10.30am; **Eucharist for Christmas.**



Our **Christingle** service will be created for YouTube, and will be available at any time over the Christmas period.



Every year – except this one – we have had a **Christmas Fair**. It has evolved over the years, but is one of the high spots of our year, and has been missed this year, yet another victim of the Covid-19 crisis.

I think our Christmas Fair is marked by four things. Firstly, by the great atmosphere. Secondly, by the hard work of members and friends of the church. Thirdly, by the money we raise. Fourthly, by the generosity of our church members, in terms of time and goods.

Thinking about this generosity, people do feel a bit lost when they can't give as they normally would. We ask that you consider whether to give in another way.

Firstly, if you want to give to our church, why not make a special donation to our church. Just a one off gift. Perhaps by cheque, or BACS transfer – whichever is easier.

Secondly, why not give something for those people who will be struggling this year. We will have a box in church for the 6th and 13th December to receive things for the Kirkintilloch Foodbank. Please – packet, tinned or boxed food. Also toiletries – toothpaste, shampoo, soap etc.

It's a shame we have not had our Christmas Fair, but at St. Cyprian's, I hope we don't lose our the spirit of the Christmas Fair.



Covid Christmas tales 3 . . .

The wise men checked their final preparations. Did they have everything they needed? Or at least what the guidelines told them they should take. Gold? Check. Frankincense? Check. Myrrh? Check. Facemasks? Check. Hand sanitizer? Check. Satnav? Check. Track and Trace app on the phone? Check. Cleansing spray – where was the cleansing spray, where had they put it, panic, gotta find it – but it was there deep in the bags on Balthazar’s camel. Check

The camels were a bit more laden than usual, but they had set out to cross the wilderness, travelling 500 miles towards the sunset. It was hot – by day. Cold by night. They made sure there was only six of them, from two households. They even thought they might be a bubble, but weren’t sure.

They travelled for the best part of the month, avoiding other travellers – shouting greetings across the road, two metres distant, to people passing by. One of the wise men asked the obvious question: “What is a metre? We’re not living in the year 2020.” The answer was clear – about five cubits! At night setting up camp five cubits from other campers, cleaning the toilets as they used them.

Of course they daren’t say what they were travelling for. If people had known they were travelling to see a baby newly born, following a star, they would have been mugged for the presents and laughed off the road! Were they breaking travel restrictions? They did have a real worry. Would they be allowed in, even with a facemask? And gel for their hands? Would there be too many in the place where he was to be born? Would the Inn have been closed down with the new regulations? How

foolish – travelling 500 miles, a month there, a month home, to find they couldn’t get in! They had to go of course – the old books told them to, the star was leading them.

The journey was tough, but at last they got to Judah, to Jerusalem. Remarkably, they were even able to meet the king. Herod. A brute of man. Of course, it was outdoors, in a cafe in a park. A frightening carry-on with the king! Would he imprison them? Banish them for breaking the regulations? In the end, they were sent to Bethlehem – some Jewish scholars thought it was the place where the babe was born.

At last – they were in the right place. The star stopped, right over an Inn. With a stable around the back.

The wise men parked their camels, tying them to a rail at the front of the Inn. Everyone seemed to be going around the back, so they followed behind, maintaining their 5 cubits. At last they got to the door, as the queue slowly snaked around the side of the Inn. And there – at the door – a person, a gatekeeper, an angel? Who knew, behind the facemask. But he was in charge of the door.

“Can we go in?” The wise men were hesitant. They weren’t local. They weren’t citizens of this country. They were dusty and dirty and smelly from travelling. They looked different. They should perhaps be in quarantine. “Can we go in?”

The angel smiled. “Of course you can. Everyone can. You don’t need a mask, or hand cleanser here. No-one is ever excluding from entering the presence of the baby, the presence of Jesus”





Gripe Sheet

After every flight, UPS pilots fill out a form, called a ‘gripe sheet’, which tells mechanics about problems with the aircraft. The mechanics correct the problems, document their repairs on the form, and then pilots review the gripe sheets before the next flight.

Never let it be said that ground crews lack a sense of humour. Here are some actual maintenance complaints submitted by UPS pilots (marked with a P) and the solutions recorded (marked with an S) by maintenance engineers.

By the way, UPS is the only major airline that has never, ever, had an accident. . .

- P: Left inside main tire almost needs replacement.
- S: Almost replaced left inside main tire.
- P: Test flight OK, except auto-land very rough.
- S: Auto-land not installed on this aircraft.

- P: Something loose in cockpit
- S: Something tightened in cockpit
- P: Dead bugs on windshield.
- S: Live bugs on back-order.
- P: Autopilot in altitude-hold mode produces a 200 feet per minute descent
- S: Cannot reproduce problem on ground.
- P: Evidence of leak on right main landing gear.
- S: Evidence removed.
- P: DME volume unbelievably loud.
- S: DME volume set to more believable level.
- P: Friction locks cause throttle levers to stick.
- S: That’s what friction locks are for.
- P: IFF inoperative in OFF mode.
- S: IFF always inoperative in OFF mode.
- P: Suspected crack in windshield.
- S: Suspect you’re right.

Good Shepherd

Good shepherd, Speak to us and for us. Speak to us in the midst of us these times And, in the words of the Psalmist, speak for us. Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Good shepherd, Speak to us at the break of day And in the evening. Speak to us the words that resonate in the depths of our hearts Even as human words fall silent. Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Good shepherd, Journey with us, Even to dark valleys. Go before us And lead us safe home. Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Good shepherd, We confess that we fear the times And that our souls are troubled. Lead us to still waters And restore our souls. Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Good shepherd, Surely you are with us And your presence there to comfort. Comfort us when we are anxious And strengthen us when we are weak. Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Good shepherd, In these present times, May your goodness and mercy be with us. In times to come, May we recall that goodness and mercy has surely followed us. Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.



- P: Number 3 engine missing.
S: Engine found on right wing after brief search
- P: Aircraft handles funny.
S: Aircraft warned to straighten up, fly right and be serious.
- P: Target radar hums.
S: Reprogrammed target radar with lyrics.
- P: Mouse in cockpit.
S: Cat installed.
- P: Noise coming from under instrument panel. Sounds like a midget pounding on something with a hammer.
S: Took hammer away from the midget

**What do you call an old snowman?
Water.**

**Why was the snowman searching through a bag of carrots?
He was picking his nose.....**



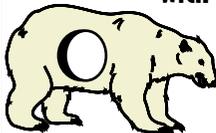
**What do you call people who are afraid of Santa?
Claustrophobic.**

Advent Calendars are not going to be available in the future.
Their days are numbered.....

**How will Christmas dinner be different after Brexit?
No Brussels!**



**How does Christmas Day end?
With the letter Y!**



**What is white, dangerous and minty?
A polo bear!**



**Why don't penguins fly?
Because they're not tall enough**



Covid Christmas Tales 4 . . .

Tommy was looking forward to Christmas. He always did. He always got really excited, looking forward to the presents, and the decorations, and the food, and the parties, and Well everything about Christmas. The days of trying to stay awake all night, or waking early had gone – he was a teenager, he was too cool for that! That was for little kids! But Christmas was always good.

But Christmas would be a painful time too. The family had fallen apart through the year, through the pressure of the pandemic. He could see it going wrong. All the arguments. Lack of money. Getting in each other's way. Tommy had done his share of shouting, and had even fought with his sister once. Most of the time, he had sat in his room chatting to friends online, or playing games, or just sitting and staring.

His mother had left, taking his sister. They had moved to a flat. Tommy still talked to them, but he hadn't been able to visit very much. Lockdown. He had seen them and gone for walks with them, but it was all wrong and all strained. He had missed them both horribly, and when he was on his own – but only on his own – he would cry – real teenagers don't cry.

There was only one glimmer of light through it all. His grandmother had moved in. She was a widow, so was free. She was there because his dad had to work. And couldn't cook. His grandmother was wonderful. She could cook. And she understood Tommy – keeping clear when he wanted his space, chatting and listening when he needed that. But it was all wrong

Grandma talked a lot about the good old days. About her joys and struggles in her own

childhood. Tommy let her – often he listened little, but she gave a warmth that otherwise had gone through this awful pandemic.

Grandma talked about Carol services. Midnight services and candles and walks. And grandma liked to “plot” with Tommy. Tommy wasn't quite sure how it had happened, but he had agreed to take Grandma to a Carol Service, and a Christingle service, and a midnight communion. Somehow it seemed natural. He was even looking forward to it.

The Carol Service. 20th December. They were getting ready for it. Tommy was even looking forward to it – getting out, going somewhere different. Seeing people. Of course he would have to wear a facemask, but what the heck – he wasn't going to sing and no-one knew him there anyway. Just time to check on the website what time it started.

“Due to government ban on singing in church, the Carol Service has been cancelled.” Tommy and Grandma were disappointed. His dad just laughed.

What about the rest?

Tommy checked out the Christingle service. “Due to government guidelines the church cannot be used for the Christingle Service because we are unable to clean it ready for the service, thus the service is cancelled.”

Midnight Communion? “Due to the ban on large numbers gathering, it has been agreed to cancel the Midnight Communion.”

This was terrible – Tommy felt even Christmas had been cancelled. Family gone. Father utterly depressed. Grandma off to visit her daughter for Christmas.

Tommy returned to the church website, hoping things would change. They didn't. Until Christmas Eve. Then there was a button. Click for the story of Christmas. What the heck. Tommy clicked on the link. Perhaps it would go to a YouTube video. Or maybe to ►

Stuffed Orange??

“So let me get this right! You take a load of oranges, put some red tape around them, stuff a candle in the top, then put four cocktail sticks in each one with currants or mini Liquorice Allsorts stuck on them, and give everybody one.”

“Well, it doesn’t have to be currants or Liquorice Allsorts, it can be any small fruit or sweets, and generally we put some foil around the end of the candle before we stick it in the orange, but that’s about it!”

“WHY????????????”

“Well, it’s called a Christingle, and it’s a sort of prop, or visual aid for a special service we have just before Christmas. They call it a Christingle service. We have one every year on Christmas Eve at St. Cyprian’s.”

“Christingle Service? That’s a surprise! So what’s it all about???”

“Well, the different bits represent different things, and generally it sort of represents Christmas”

“Okay, tell me more”

“Well, the orange is round, so it represents the world. And the fruit and sweets represent all the things grown on the earth, all the food we have. And the candle represents Jesus, the light of world, coming to the world. It’s all pretty obvious really!”

“Oh, right. But you missed a bit. Red ribbons? Red tape?”

“Well, it’s a bit sad really. Reminds us the

baby born grew into a man who was killed for us.”

“Wow, that is sad. That puts a downer on this Christmas stuff. Anyway, who thought this stuff up?”

“Well, it was sad he had to die. But I rejoice – he died because God loves me, loves me that much. Who thought it up? A guy called Johannes De Watteville. He was a Moravian Bishop. In 1747.”

“Moravian Bishop?”

“Yes – it was one of the churches that came out of the reformation. Still some around in the UK today – particularly around Manchester. Any way it was taken up by a bloke called John Pensom, who wanted to do something different for a fund-raising service for the Children’s Society. It took off after that”

“So are you having a Christingle Service this year. I might come along.”

“Well, Covid, and all that and all sorts of restrictions. We’re not going to have one in church this year. But we’re going to have one online. Create a Christingle worship video. Put it on YouTube. So everyone can see it. Maybe even more people will join in this year!!!!!!”



► some sort of livestream.

As Tommy clicked the button his room began to spin, the light seemed to disappear, as everything began to disappear. He saw stars, and the moon, and silhouettes of hills and buildings. The spinning and whirling slowed, then Tommy found himself sitting – sitting on a straw bale.

Beside Tommy sat a person. A beautiful

person. A beautiful person who spoke.

“Look Tommy. There’s a baby. And a girl a couple years older than you, and her boyfriend. Over there, look. And there.” The “person” pointed to a group of tough guys, and then some older men in fancy dress. “But look at the baby, Tommy, and welcome to Christmas”

A New Year, a New Gospel

In the Anglican church, everything changes on Advent Sunday. This year, the 29th November. It can be truly said that, in our church, the year begins on Advent Sunday. One of the things that changes is the Gospel we read in our services for most weeks of the year. This past year, we have featured Matthew’s Gospel. This coming year, we will be featuring Mark’s gospel. Some weeks we do have readings from John’s gospel, particularly at special times of the year, but most weeks – Mark’s gospel.

So what do we look for when we are reading Mark’s gospel?

Well, firstly, it is the simplest of the gospels and probably the first of the gospels to be written – Matthew’s and Luke’s gospels seem based on Mark’s gospel – with other bits included. Mark’s gospel doesn’t have any of the Christmas stories, for example. In the original version, it doesn’t have any resurrection appearances, simply ending with the empty tomb, although the ending was extended later. Often, when Mark’s gospel tells a story that is also in the other gospels, it has less detail.

In Mark’s gospel, Jesus is presented as a healer, a hero, an exorcist, a miracle worker and a man of action. There are times when his status as Messiah is seen, but throughout the gospel Jesus tells people to keep that a secret, not to share that with anyone (called the Messianic secret). You could probably say that Mark’s gospel particularly portrays the human side of Jesus, without ever denying that Jesus was also Son of God and Messiah.

Apart from emphasising the humanity of Jesus, what other things is the gospel of Mark trying to say?

Firstly, Mark wants to say that the coming of Jesus is “good news.” That is the meaning of the word gospel, which Mark uses far more than any of the other gospel writers.

Secondly, Mark presents the disciples as a bit thick! They continually fail to grasp who Jesus is. At the same time, it reflects the disciples gaining a glimpse of Christ at times, as they live and walk and talk with him.

Thirdly, in Mark’s gospel, Jesus is often seen as a Magician, performing healing by the power of spirits. The gospel attempts to portray Jesus, not as a magician, but as the one with power and authority as the Messiah, as much as the status of Messiah is not told beyond the disciples.

There is much more in the gospel! I hope it speaks to us through the coming year.

Lenzie Community Council

Certificate of Grateful Recognition
Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day
November 2020

With sincere thanks for your contribution to the
Lenzie Garden of Remembrance
and observance of Remembrance Sunday 8th November
Remembrance Day, Wednesday 11th November 2020.



Captain Callum Dewar
1st Lenzie Company, The Boys' Brigade



Aileen Mundy, Guide Leader
1st Lenzie Guides, Lenzie District



Sunday & Christmas Readings

Second Sunday of Advent

6th December 2020

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Mark 1:1-8

Third Sunday of Advent

13th December 2020

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalms 126

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Fourth Sunday of Advent

20th December 2020

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Psalms 89:1-4, 19-26

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

Christmas Day

25th December 2020

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalms 98

Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12)

John 1:1-14

First Sunday after Christmas

27th December 2020

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalms 148

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40

Second Sunday after Christmas

3rd January 2021

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalms 147:12-20

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:10-18

Baptism of the Lord

10th January 2021

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalms 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

Second Sunday after Epiphany

17th January 2021

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

Third Sunday after Epiphany

24th January 2021

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalms 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

31st January 2021

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalms 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

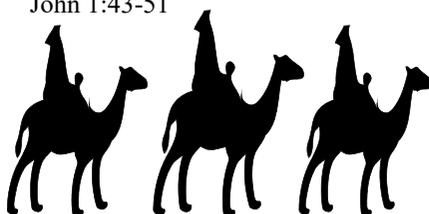
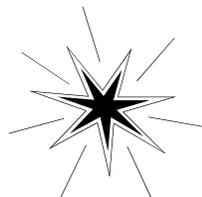
7th February 2021

Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalms 147:1-11, 20c

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Mark 1:29-39



Anglican & Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

The Cycle of Prayer now includes congregations and clergy in the Diocese of Argyll & The Isles, the former diocese of our new Bishop, while they have a vacancy. Please pray for him too.

DECEMBER 2019

- 1st Retired clergy and those in Post-Retiral Ministry
- 2nd For all those living with HIV and AIDS
- 3rd Thanksgiving for living fellowship
- 4th The rejection of discrimination and stigmatisation
- 5th The People of Finland (National Independence Day)

Sunday 6th December Second Sunday of Advent

ANGLICAN

The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury): The Rt Revd Carlos López-Lozano, Bishop of Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church

DIOCESAN

St John the Evangelist, Annan; St John the Evangelist, Eastriggs; All Saints, Gretna; (Martin Callaghan, Melvyn Redgers). All Saints, Lockerbie; St John the Evangelist, Moffat (Paul Singh, John Stevenson). Holy Trinity, Dunoon (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).

Daily Prayers

- 7th Success of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence
- 8th Porvoo Link: The Church of Sweden

- 9th St Cyprian's Mothers' Union
- 10th "Women's Aid", helping those affected by domestic abuse
- 11th The National Meningitis Trust
- 12th Those who are affected by visual and/or aural impairment

Sunday 13th December Third Sunday of Advent

ANGLICAN

the Falkland Islands (Extra-Provincial to Canterbury): The Rt Revd Timothy Thornton, Bishop to the Forces and Bishop to the Falkland Islands

DIOCESAN

All Saints, Challoch, with the Whithorn Fellowship; St Ninian's, Portpatrick; St John the Evangelist, Stranraer (Vacant). St Adamnan's, Duror (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).

Daily Prayers

- 14th Effective mission and expansion of congregations
- 15th Hope for those who are struggling with doubts
- 16th For oppressed and persecuted Christians and martyrs
- 17th Victim Support Scotland, helping those affected by crime
- 18th Bishop's Staff Group
- 19th Worship and thanksgiving for answered prayer

Sunday 20th December Fourth Sunday of Advent

ANGLICAN

Mission agencies and their ministry throughout the Anglican Communion,

& Daily Intentions

including the Mothers' Union around the world

DIOCESAN

St Mary's, Gatehouse of Fleet; St Francis of Assisi (Greyfriars), Kirkcudbright (Stephen Hazlett).

St Andrew's, Fort William (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).

Daily Prayers

- 21st Safety for those travelling over the holiday period
- 22nd Our preparations for the Christmas Festival
- 23rd Those who find Christmas a difficult time of year
- 24th Those struggling with deciding whether or not to visit friends and family this Christmas
- 25th Worship and thanksgiving for the birth of our Lord
- 26th Peace throughout the world

Sunday 27th December **First Sunday after Christmas**

ANGLICAN

Christians in other denominations and the work of the ecumenical movement

His Holiness Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome
His All Holiness Archbishop Bartholomew of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch

The General Secretary of the World Council of Churches

Bishop Ivan M Abrahams, General Secretary
World Methodist Council

The Reverend Chris Ferguson, General
Secretary of the World Communion of
Reformed Churches

DIOCESAN

St Ninian's, Castle Douglas (Christopher
Ketley, Douglas Allison, Alan Rumble).

Christ Church, Dalbeattie (Christopher
Ketley, John Simmons, Helen Evans).

St Mary's, Glencoe (Diocese of Argyll and
The Isles).

Daily Prayers

- 28th Families, especially those facing problems or divisions
- 29th The Ascension Trust – training Street Pastors
- 30th All the peoples of the world
- 31st Thanksgiving for the year at an end

JANUARY 2021

- 1st Thanksgiving for every new beginning
- 2nd Love for God and our neighbour

Sunday 3rd January **Second Sunday after Christmas**

ANGLICAN

The Episcopal / Anglican Province of
Alexandria

DIOCESAN

St John the Evangelist, Dumfries (Janice
Aiton, James Clark-Maxwell, Andrew
MacKenzie, Paul Burbridge, Ann Shukman,
Steven Ballard, Gordon Warwick, Richard
Starkey).

St Margaret of Scotland, New Galloway (Pam
Swift).

St Columba's, Gruline, Isle of Mull (Diocese
of Argyll and The Isles).

Daily Prayers

- 4th Street Pastors, keeping our young people safe
- 5th 'Big Issue' sellers and all trying to make a fresh start
- 6th For teachers and children returning to school today
- 7th The work of Deafblind Scotland

Anglican & Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

8th Children and young people in distress and despair

9th Ministers of the Sacrament and Pastoral Visitors

Sunday 10th January First Sunday after Epiphany Baptism of the Lord

ANGLICAN

The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

DIOCESAN

East End Team Ministry: St John the Evangelist, Baillieston; St Kentigern's, Dennistoun; St Serf's, Shettleton (Jim Benton-Evans, Lucy Ireland)
The Carmel Community, Gress, Isle of Lewis (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles)

Daily Prayers

11th The Diocese of Argyll and The Isles as it seeks a new bishop

12th Porvoo Link: The Church of England

13th Those who are bedridden and housebound

14th Diocesan Secretary (John Mitchell)

15th The people and the city of Glasgow

16th All Bible Study and Prayer groups

Sunday 17th January Second Sunday after Epiphany

ANGLICAN

The Anglican Church of Australia

DIOCESAN

St James-the-Less, Bishopbriggs (Paul Watson, Harriet Johnston, Kennedy Fraser)
St Cyprrian's, Lenzie (Les Ireland).
All Saints, Inveraray (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles)

Daily Prayers

18th Those exploring new aspects of Christian life

19th Porvoo Link: The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland.

20th Worldwide action for human rights

21st Diocesan Treasurer (Robert Burgon);
Diocesan Auditors (John R. Park, Jackie McCarrell, Andrew Littlejohn)

22nd All Christian charities and aid agencies

23rd The SEC General Synod Office

Sunday 24th January Third Sunday after Epiphany

ANGLICAN

The Church of Bangladesh

DIOCESAN

Holy Name, Cumbernauld (Vacant, Ray Gascoigne)
St Matthew's, Possilpark (David Wostenholm, Stewart Wood)
St Columba's, Bridgend, Isle of Islay (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles)

Daily Prayers

25th The continuing refugee crisis

26th Respect and understanding for people of different faiths

27th The National Health Service

28th Missions to Seafarers and the work of the RNLI

29th Diocesan Chancellor (Bruce Erroch);
Diocesan Registrar (Ronald Inglis).

30th Companions of Our Lady & St Mungo (Ellen Barrett, Alison Joy Whybrow)

Sunday 31st January Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

ANGLICAN

Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

& Daily Intentions

continued

DIOCESAN

St Bride's, Glasgow (Kevin Francis, Gregor Duncan)

St Andrew's, Milngavie; (Andrea Hagenbuch, Fraser Gold)

St Paul's, Kinlochleven (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles)

Daily Prayers

FEBRUARY 2021

1st For Christian Stewardship

2nd Our own St Cyprian's Vestry

3rd Porvoo Link: The Church of Ireland

4th Bishop Kevin on the ninth anniversary of his consecration

5th Thanksgiving for companions on the journey of faith

6th Our Christian neighbours

Sunday 7th February

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

ANGLICAN

The Anglican Church of Burundi:

DIOCESAN

Cathedral Church of St Mary, Glasgow (Kelvin Holdsworth, Oliver Brewer-Lennon, John Riches, Ellen Barrett).

Cathedral Church of St John the Divine, Oban. (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).

Cathedral Church and College of the Holy Spirit, Millport, Isle of Cumbrae (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).

Beyond Christmas

Bishop Kevin Pearson has been our Bishop (for the dioceses of Glasgow and Galloway of which we are part) now for 5 months, so I have invited him now to visit the most important (!?!?!?!?) church in the diocese – St Cyprian's. Bishop Kevin will be joining us at St. Cyprians (probably along with his wife, Elspeth) to lead worship on Sunday 10th January 2021.

AGM of the Congregation

The Annual General Meeting of the Congregation of St. Cyprian's Church will be held on-line after the 10.30am Eucharist

at 12.30pm on

Sunday 6th December 2020

All members of the Congregation are invited to attend

AGM Papers are available by email by application to the Secretary

The Zoom link will be emailed to everyone on the Link email or by application to the Rector - E.mail Les949@btinternet.com

Kalendar

DECEMBER 2020

Wed 2nd	7.30pm	BRF Study Group on Zoom (contact Glennis for link)
Thu 3rd	10am	Coffee Time chat and prayer via Zoom (see back page)
<hr/>		
Sun 6th	Second Sunday of Advent	
	anytime	YouTube worship compiled by Les
	10.30am	Said Eucharist in Church and via Zoom (see back page)
	from 11am	SEC Provincial Service on Facebook and YouTube
	12.30pm	Annual General Meeting of the Congregation (see page 25)
Tue 8th	The Conception of Mary, Mother of the Lord	
Wed 9th	7.30pm	Mothers' Union meeting on Zoom (see page 12)
Thu 10th	10am	Coffee Time chat and prayer via Zoom (see back page)
Sat 12th	10am	Diocesan Advent Quiet Day (see page 7)
<hr/>		
Sun 13th	Third Sunday of Advent	
	anytime	YouTube worship compiled by Les
	10.30am	Said Eucharist in Church and via Zoom (see back page)
	from 11am	SEC Provincial Service on Facebook and YouTube
Wed 16th	Ember Day	
Thu 17th	10am	Coffee Time chat and prayer via Zoom (see back page)
Fri 18th, Sat 19th	Ember Days	
<hr/>		
Sun 20th	Fourth Sunday of Advent	
	anytime	YouTube worship compiled by Les
	10.30am	Said Eucharist in Church and via Zoom (see page 14)
	from 11am	SEC Provincial Service on Facebook and YouTube
	6.30pm	"Non-singing" Carol Service!
Thu 24th	Christmas Eve	
	10am	Coffee Time chat and prayer via Zoom (see back page)
	11.45pm	Midnight Worship from Church via Zoom (see page 14)
Fri 25th	CHRISTMAS DAY	
	10.30am	Said Eucharist in Church and via Zoom (see page 14)
Sat 26th	Stephen, Deacon and Martyr	
<hr/>		
Sun 27th	First Sunday after Christmas	
	anytime	YouTube worship compiled by Les
	10.30am	Said Eucharist in Church and via Zoom (see back page)
	from 11am	SEC Provincial Service on Facebook and YouTube
Mon 28th	The Holy Innocents	
Tue 29th	John, Apostle and Evangelist	
Thu 31st	10am	Hogmany Coffee Time chat and prayer via Zoom (see back page)
<hr/>		
JANUARY 2021		
Fri 1st	The Naming of Jesus	

The Kalendar reflects the current expectations for services and events. If there are any changes during the currency of this magazine, we'll update our website and advise those who receive the Link by email of changes to the Kalendar. The Link can be downloaded from: link.stcyprianslenzie.com.

Sun 3rd	Second Sunday after Christmas	anytime 10.30am from 11am	YouTube worship compiled by Les Said Eucharist in Church and via Zoom (see back page) SEC Provincial Service on Facebook and YouTube
Wed 6th	THE EPIPHANY		
Thu 7th		10am	Coffee Time chat and prayer via Zoom (see back page)
Sun 10th	First Sunday after Epiphany: THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	anytime 10.30am from 11am	YouTube worship compiled by Les Said Eucharist in Church and via Zoom with Bishop Kevin (see back page) SEC Provincial Service on Facebook and YouTube
Wed 13th	Kentigern (or Mungo), Bishop, c 603	4pm	Mothers' Union AGM via Zoom (see page 12)
Thu 14th		10am	Coffee Time chat and prayer via Zoom (see back page)
Sun 17th	Second Sunday after Epiphany	anytime 10.30am from 11am	YouTube worship compiled by Les Said Eucharist in Church and via Zoom (see back page) SEC Provincial Service on Facebook and YouTube
Thu 21st		10am	Coffee Time chat and prayer via Zoom (see back page)
Sun 24th	Third Sunday after Epiphany	anytime 10.30am from 11am	YouTube worship compiled by Les Said Eucharist in Church and via Zoom (see back page) SEC Provincial Service on Facebook and YouTube
Mon 25th	The Conversion of Paul, Apostle		
Wed 27th		7.30pm	BRF Study Group on Zoom (contact Glennis for link)
Thu 28th		10am	Coffee Time chat and prayer via Zoom (see back page)
Sun 31st	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	anytime 10.30am from 11am	YouTube worship compiled by Les Said Eucharist in Church and via Zoom (see back page) SEC Provincial Service on Facebook and YouTube
FEBRUARY 2021			
Tue 2nd	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD		
Thu 4th	Consecration of Bishop Kevin (4 February 2011)	10am	Coffee Time chat and prayer via Zoom (see back page)
Sun 7th	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany	anytime 10.30am from 11am	YouTube worship compiled by Les Said Eucharist in Church and via Zoom (see back page) SEC Provincial Service on Facebook and YouTube

10.30 am Eucharist

As we go to press, Lenzie is in Tier 4 of the Scottish Government Coronavirus restrictions. As a result, the maximum size of congregation is 20 people. Travel restrictions mean that no one from outside East Dunbartonshire is allowed to attend.

We can still offer a service similar to what we've had over the last three months. We're planning to offer it on Christmas Day as well as all Sundays.

There is an even stronger emphasis on hygiene measures including hand washing,

wearing masks and observing strict social distancing at all times. Those who are in the more vulnerable categories are asked to consider whether it is right for them to attend in person.

To make the decision easier, we are continuing to stream the service via Zoom for those who can't come to church. It's been a learning experience, but the Zoom experience now seems to be much better than when we first started. We try to involve our Zoom participants in the service, including through readings and intercessions, which is now working well. The order of service is projected on screen and is available on the website and by email. If anyone wants a "paper" version of the order, please let Les know. If you have any comments or suggestions, please let us know.

Rotas

Date	Reader	Intercessor
6 Dec 2020	Mary Boyd	Aileen Mundy
13 Dec 2020	Anne Carswell	Jacqui Stother
20 Dec 2020	Janet Faughey	Mary Haigh
25 Dec 2020	Judith Beastall	Gavin Boyd
27 Dec 2020	Jill Taylor	Glennis Tavener
3 Jan 2021	Kevin Wilbraham	Maxine Gow
10 Jan 2021	Mary Haigh	Aileen Mundy
17 Jan 2021	Diana Farnell	Jacqui Stother
24 Jan 2021	David Taylor	Mary Haigh
31 Jan 2021	Sally Hadden	Gavin Boyd
7 Feb 2021	Maxine Gow	Glennis Tavener

Coffee Time

While we are back in church for worship, we are not able to have social gatherings in person. Coffee Time fills the gap by providing an opportunity to join in a chat and prayer time every Thursday morning from 10 via Zoom.

If you are subscribed to the Link email (sign-up at stcyprianslenzie.com), you will receive invitations to Coffee Time (as well as the Sunday Service if you are not able or comfortable with coming in person).

Usually the emails go out one or two days before. All you need to do to take part is to click on the link in the email and follow the prompts on the screen to download the Zoom App (if you haven't already got it) and then join the meeting. If you haven't got a suitable device, you can also join in sound only by phone. If you need any help, please phone the Rector or Paul Hindle.