



CHRIST CHURCH LANARK
CLYDESDALE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
NOVEMBER 2024

Schedule of Services

November

Sunday 3

All Saints Sunday

08.30 am – Said Eucharist

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 10

Trinity 24

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 17

Trinity 25

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 24

Christ the King

10.30 am – Said Eucharist

(Lamington)

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist (Lanark)

December

Sunday 1

Advent 1

08.30 am – Said Eucharist

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 8

Advent 2

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

Away Giving

Our 23rd quarter charity collection amounted to £325 for the Clydesdale Food Bank. Our donations of cans of food at Harvest was also donated to the Food bank.

The final quarter's giving will go to Neuroendocrine Research.

News in the Pews

- The Rector thanks everyone in the congregation who sent him cards, flowers and messages of condolence at the time of his father's death. He has been immensely comforted and touched by all of your kindness.
- We had a speaker from the Mission to Seafarers at Sung Eucharist on Sunday 15 September. We raised £310 for the mission in a retiring collection. Well done and thank you.
- Our retreat day at the beautiful Braehead House in September was a roaring success. Gorgeous and peaceful setting, interesting input, sumptuous food and good company, all expertly led by our Revs Jackie and Liz. Watch out for other opportunities to take time out, contemplate and pray.
- The process to find a new bishop got underway recently. A preparatory committee will sift applications and call another Electoral Synod in January so that clergy and laity in the Diocese can see and hear for themselves who the candidates are and what their vision for the future is. Keep your clergy and Lay Representative in your prayers as they engage in this vital discernment task.

“We will remember them”

The years of remembering go by,
Accumulating name after name
As wars and conflicts continue
In a world, deaf to the lessons of history.
But through the negativity of November
A different remembering brings hope and meaning.
Words of the world's Creator,
Words to make sense of chaos
And bring order and peace in the end.

“In this world you will have trouble,
But take heart!
I have overcome the world.”

Words of Jesus.
We will remember them.

By Daphne Kitching



Clergy Cogitations



At the 90th birthday party of a parishioner many years ago I got the chance to break through the crowds of adoring family and friends to have a wee private chat with the birthday girl herself. When I leaned forward to give her a birthday kiss she sniffed me and said: “You smell delicious. What is it?” I replied: “Just a little something by David Beckham.

What’s yours?” The 90 year old looked at me with a twinkle in her eye and said: “I’m 90. It’s formaldehyde!”

What is worth preserving in our society, and not always in formaldehyde! What are the values, principles, ideas, places and traditions that are worth holding on to or adapting for some new purpose? We may think that many things should remain the same and not be lost in a world where there is constant change, but one of the challenges we all face is having a belief in tradition that doesn’t make us hide-bound or clinging to the past that means we are unable to get a hold of the present or welcome the future.

When I was training for the ministry nearly thirty years ago, there was a concern then that when the generation who had served in World War One died out, future generations would no longer see the need to commemorate Remembrance-tide. The British Legion and others worked so hard to ensure that all conflicts, not only two World Wars, were remembered, and that Remembrance was not to be seen as a glorification of war but a more subtle call for the persistent need for peace. This was very much the focus in 2018 when the centenary of the ending of World War One was recalled. I have also seen across the country - and in our community - a determination not to ‘preserve’ the season of Remembrance, but to embrace it and adapt it so that its message of remembering past sacrifice and working for present peace is passed on to every new generation. Not only veterans from past conflicts, who served on the front line and the home front, but younger people who look at the ongoing need for peace with justice in all areas of our society. In the painful present with Ukraine, Israel-Palestine, Sudan and South Sudan, and other parts of the globe, this commitment to a wider peace remains poignantly necessary.

Eleanor Roosevelt once said, “It isn’t enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn’t enough to believe in it. One must work at it.”

Drew

The Poppies of Remembrance

In late 1914, WW1 erupted across Northern France and Flanders. Great swathes of previously green fields and forests were blasted and bombed, leaving them bleak and barren, with seemingly every living thing destroyed.

But then in the Spring of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, because their seeds grow when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to soil.

We all know that these endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such misery and destruction, were what inspired the Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

And it was McCrae’s poem which inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She got it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States, and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, and the UK.

A French woman, Anna Guérin who was in the UK in 1921, caught the same vision, and planned to sell the poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as its emblem in the UK.

The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. Ever since then, the red poppy has been a symbol of Remembrance, of support for the Armed Forces community, and also of hope for a peaceful future.



Deacon's Deliberations



We will turn our clocks back one hour on the 27th of October. This is known as “daylight saving time”. It enables us to have an earlier sunrise in the winter months. Back in the mid-19th century many towns kept their own local time using the sun as a guide. Many castles, cathedrals and churches have sundials for this purpose. The UK was one of the first countries to standardize time throughout the world; known as Greenwich Mean Time, it became Britain’s legal standardized time in 1880.

It was Benjamin Franklin in 1784 who first had the idea of saving daylight as a way of saving on candles, but it wasn't until 1907 when a British builder William Willett wrote a pamphlet titled, “The waste of daylight”, that the UK took up the idea of daylight saving. It was when William Willett was out on his horse one morning that he noticed many people still asleep long after the sun was up. This gave him the idea of putting the clocks forward in summer so that everyone could be up bright and early instead of snoozing away the daylight. Robert Pierce, a British member of parliament, introduced the bill of daylight-saving time in the House of Commons in February 1908. However, many people objected to this bill, especially farmers, and so the bill did not come into law until May 1916, one year after William Willett had died.

Having an earlier sunrise means earlier, darker evenings. The autumn and winter months can seem like bleak, dark months, with miserable cold wintry weather. For some people autumn and winter can also be a dark place in their lives. I can imagine that throughout our lives we have all experienced a dark, sad and lonely times. It's important to remember that no matter what we go through in life, whether they be happy times, sad times, or just everyday mundane times, God is always with us. God will never abandon us. In Hebrews 13: 5-6 we read, “I will never leave you or forsake you. So, you can say with confidence, the Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid, what can anyone do to me?” We also read in Matthew 28:10 “Teach them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always to the end of age”. We have the Holy Spirit to help and guide us, John 14:16-17 “and I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate, to be with you forever. This is the spirit of truth whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you”. So, you see, in faith we can say we are never alone. Whatever happens, take it to the Lord in prayer, in good times, sad times, dark times. God is always there, always listening. God will never let us down.

Jackie

Monastic Musings



Over the summer I bought a little bird bath and feeder for the communal garden to the side of my block of flats. It has been great fun watching the birds from my bedroom window as they scooshed about in the water and tucked into the nuts and pellets that I set out for them to eat. They were such voracious wee things that, some days, I had to fill the bath and the feeder twice. It cost me a small fortune!!

Now that we are into November much of that activity has died down. The water in the little bath sometimes freezes and the feeder, more often than not, remains full of food. And that's because there are only a few stray finches, sparrows and blackbirds left. The large flocks that gathered in the garden over the summer have flown farther south now. I am mesmerised by the change. I've never noticed it quite so much in all my life.

Living in a heightened awareness of the natural world here in beautiful Lanark, it's often my spirit that recognizes these transitions first. I sense them. I celebrate them. I live into them. So, this late Autumn morning, as I sit writing this, is my time to ponder, to reflect, and, once more, to be filled with wonder, to be grateful for what was, to wait patiently in anticipation of the joy that is yet to come.

But just for a moment, on this particular morning, I will also notice the loss that I feel and be very still. I will stop for a while and join my heart to other hearts who grieve this day for losses of their own; losses both great and small, seen and unseen, public or private. And in that divine joining of being, I acknowledge the single Consciousness of which you are, and I am, and all of creation is, a part. And just perhaps, in the great Mysterium Tremendum, such pure heart intention may heal each of us, all of us, even the world, a little more.

May it be so.

Gerry Creaney

A Fairtrade Awayday

This year is the 30th anniversary of the Fairtrade mark, and as part of Fairtrade Fortnight in September I attended the Scottish Fairtrade Campaigner Conference in Paisley.

We heard from rice farmer Howard Msukwa from the Kaporo Smallholder Rice Farmer Association in Malawi. Howard told us how working with the Fairtrade Foundation had helped his community mitigate the drastic effects of a changing climate by introducing measures to limit and avoid soil erosion and creating and maintaining a secure and sustainable water supply. The Foundation has also provided his co-operative with access to sustainable markets and thus to a stable income. Though his own parents had not been able to afford the costs of sending him to school, he can now access education for his own children, and his community is proud that one of its young people is now studying agro-economy at university.

But sustainability measures and fairer ways of trading are not limited to the global south, and we heard from Claire Sloan from Ardress Farm in Fife, who explained the innovative methods of land management developed there. Increased flooding of prime arable land at Ardress in recent years, the low financial returns from their previous main crop of malting barley and the discovery that their broccoli, supplied to supermarkets, could be in storage for 6-9 days before it was sold, led them to a

radical rethink of how they used their land. They have adopted a no-plough regime to limit carbon release, and by drilling seed into stubble are able to grow cover crops so that no soil is ever left bare.

Soil structure and nutritive value has improved and yields have increased drastically. They have ended their supermarket contract and opened a thriving farm shop selling 52 varieties of produce from the farm, as well as products from other suppliers, and have 27 local employees. Pivoting their business in this way has created a fair, sustainable and local solution to the issues they had been facing.

Finally, we were privileged to witness a 'lightbulb moment' as Howard realised that Claire's methods could be of value in Malawi, and he looked forward to further discussion.

The strapline for this year's Fairtrade Fortnight campaign has been taken from Mahatma Gandhi's exhortation to 'be the change we want to see in the world'. A fair and sustainable future for everyone requires us all to play our part by choosing and using fairly traded products whenever we can.

It is up to us all to BE THE CHANGE

Glenys Wilcox

Autumn Ladies

Autumn Ladies recommenced on Wednesday 11th September. Our guest speaker was Frank Roy from the Lanarkshire Cancer Care Drivers. He was presented with £410 raised from our Spring coffee morning, which would cover about a thousand miles driven by voluntary drivers. They travel all over the centre of Scotland taking people for their treatments to hospitals in Glasgow etc. The service is greatly valued by their clients as they can develop friendly relationships with them, enabling them to 'Be themselves'.

Doreen had hand stitched a lovely bed quilt and Frank was shown this as it was to be used to raise further funds for the Cancer Care Trust.

Our next speaker was John Wilcox on the 25th September. He gave us an amazing insight into gold. Many years ago there had been a gold rush in Scotland which lasted a whole season and was profitable to those involved. Leadhills has a regular competition on panning for gold, but the organisers now lace the containers with small pieces of gold for the competitors.

John's presentation was excellent with many illustrations and lots of information.

Our next guest speaker will be Morag Sebaton from the Salvation Army in Shotts. We had one of her colleagues last year who was excellent and we are looking forward to listening to Morag's tale.

We continue to meet on alternate Wednesdays with Memory Lane and love to see new faces. Meeting between 2-4 p.m. with guest speakers and afternoon tea.

Isobel Malcolm



God in Music

Editor: The Rev Michael Burgess looks at great works of music.

Surely angels play Mozart at home

The German theologian, Karl Barth, is reputed to have said, “Whether the angels play only Bach in praising God, I am not quite sure; I am sure, however, that en famille they play Mozart.” It is a lovely image of angels in the heavenly courts above, mirroring the human enjoyment of music making here on earth. And what more wonderful music than Mozart’s!



From child prodigy to fully mature composer in the space of just 35 years – encountering frustrations and disappointments, poorly paid and exploited, beset by problems of debt and ill-health – and yet rising above all that to create a wealth of music for voice and instrument that continues to lift the human heart.

Mozart was nothing if not life affirming in his music. He enjoyed life, in spite of the disasters and tragedies that occurred along the way. This from a letter he wrote to his father after the performance of one of his symphonies: “It was performed on **Corpus Christi** day with great applause. I was so happy that as soon as it was over I went off to the Palais Royal, where I had a large ice.” Enjoying this world, he had that rare ability to transcend it, and open up a greater world of beauty and harmony. That realisation caused Schubert to write in his diary in 1816, “O Mozart, immortal Mozart, how many, how infinitely many inspiring suggestions of a finer, better life have you left in our souls!”

As illustrations of that, we focus this month on two works, one early and one late in his composing life. In January 1773 Mozart wrote a motet, **Exsultate, jubilate** for a castrato who had appeared in one of his operas. It is almost a concerto in miniature for the voice. The opening Allegro calls on heaven to join in the praises of earth and leads into an Andante of great beauty, where Mary is praised as the mother who brings light to a darkened world. The work ends with a glorious Alleluia with notes cascading off the page and into the air. Perhaps Mozart had in mind a thank offering for the success of his opera *Lucio Silla*. Whatever the music’s origin, we cannot deny the inspiration and skill with which Mozart weaves together words and music to dazzle and transport the listener.

In the last year of his life in 1791, when his mortal body began to fail, his mind took on a new vitality with the composition of two operas, a clarinet concerto, a Requiem, and a wonderful, concentrated setting of **Ave verum corpus**. This motet in praise of Jesus on the cross and in the sacrament was written for the choirmaster at Baden. It is just two pages in the manuscript, written out by Mozart without any corrections. There are no flourishes and runs here as in the earlier work. The music is simple and yet sublime as Mozart conveys a sense of holiness and serenity. Michael Levey has written of this work: “Short but not slight, it seems to float like a cloud of incense on the air.” Here, as in all Mozart’s music, a creation of this world opens up for us that greater world where all is light and joy.



Apple Harvest

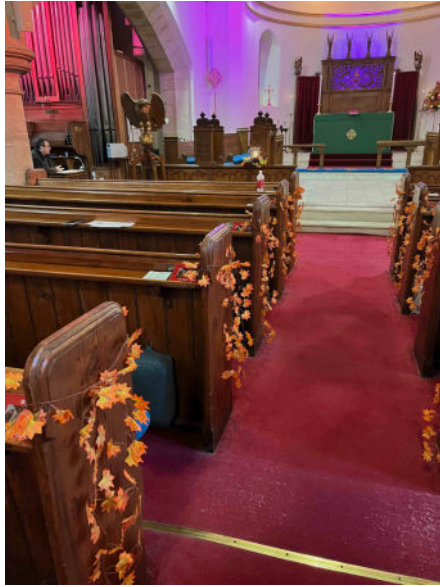
Bobby Burgon has ‘counted the pips’ from the sale of Nell and Nick Broadbridge’s apple glut and the total raised is an amazing £136.22.

Many thanks to both Nell and Nick for this and we will watch with interest to see how many people brought apple pies and crumbles to the harvest lunch.



Harvest Festival – Sunday 13th October

The church was looking beautiful thanks to the hard work and artistic talent of Jane and the flower team.



The Harvest 'Bring and Share' lunch was a wonderful feast which everyone enjoyed, including a beautiful apple pie made with Nick and Nell's apples.



Treasurer Bobby auctioned one of Nick and Nell's largest apples and the Rector won it with a bid of £20 to add to the total raised from Nick and Nell's generous sale for church funds.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed food for the Harvest lunch.

November Quiz by Bob Rabagliati

1. What was the capital of Scotland before Edinburgh?
2. How many stone arches are there on the Hyndford Bridge over the River Clyde?
3. Queen Victoria built Balmoral Castle on the banks of which river?
4. Which textile is only genuine if hand woven in the Outer Hebrides?
5. In January 1919 Tanks were deployed against the public on mainland Britain for the only time. In which Scottish city did this occur?
6. What is the longest river in Scotland?
7. On which Scottish Island did George Orwell write 1984?
8. In which decade did Christmas Day become a National Holiday in Scotland?
9. To the nearest Million what is the population of Scotland?
10. Which Scottish Premiership Football team is based in Paisley?

Answers

1. Perth
2. 5
3. Dee
4. Harris Tweed
5. Glasgow
6. Tay (119 miles)
7. Jura
8. The Fifties (1958)
9. 5 or 6 (5.5 Million)
10. St Mirren

Laughter is the Best Medicine

Died in the services

Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and seemed to fascinate the seven-year-old. "All those names," he said to the minister. "Who are they?"

"Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the minister. "This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he finally asked, "Which service, the 9 o'clock, or the 11 o'clock?"

When children tell Bible stories (real-life efforts that didn't quite make it...)

* St John, the blacksmith, dumped water on Jesus' head.

* Jesus enunciated the Golden Rule, which says to do one to others before they do one to you.

* It was a miracle when Jesus rose from the dead and managed to get the tombstone off the entrance.

* The people who followed the Lord were called the 12 decibels.

* One of the opossums was St Matthew who was also a taximan.

Halloween costumes

My six-year-old son was excited about choosing his Halloween costume. "I'm going to be the Pope," he announced proudly.

"But Ian, you can't be the Pope. You're not Catholic," I explained. "You're Church of England."

My son was silent for a few moments, while he considered his alternatives. "Well, is Dracula Church of England?"

When children meet liturgy...

"Give us this steak and daily bread, and forgive us our mattresses."

"Hail, Mary, full of grapes."

"He suffered under a bunch of violets." (Pontius Pilate)



"It's either an appeal to youth culture or we can't afford to service the boiler for the Winter season"

CHRIST CHURCH LANARK

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Please remember Christ Church in your will as an act of thanksgiving for the Church. For confidential advice please speak to the Treasurer

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