



CHRIST CHURCH LANARK
CLYDESDALE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MAY - JUNE '25

Schedule of Services

May 2025

Sunday 4

Easter 3

08.30 – Said Eucharist

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 11

Easter 4

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 18

Easter 5

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 25

Easter 6

10.30 – Eucharist (Lamington)

10.30 – Sung Eucharist (Lanark)

June

Sunday 1

Easter 7

08.30 – Said Eucharist

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 8

Day of Pentecost

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 15

Trinity Sunday

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 22

Trinity 1

10.30 – Eucharist (Lamington)

10.30 – Sung Eucharist (Lanark)

Sunday 29

Trinity 2

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

July

Sunday 6

Trinity 3

08.30 – Said Eucharist

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 13

Trinity 4

10.30 – Sung Eucharist



News in the Pews

- On Friday 4 April we said farewell to Hilary Rankin at her funeral in Christ Church. Hilary was a faithful attender and a tireless servant of the church. She will be sorely missed by us all. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.
- Congratulations, Best Wishes and Every Blessing to Gemma and James on the occasion of their wedding at the end of April.
- The Christian Aid Lenten Lunches, shared between ourselves at Christ Church and St Nicholas Church, were a great success. While the exact figure raised by our efforts is not known we can “guestimate” that it amounted to approximately £1000. (The three lunches in our hall raised £431.50.
- The consecration of our new bishop – The Revd Canon Dr Nicholas Bundock – will take place on Saturday 3 May. We wish him and his family well as they begin their new life and ministry in the Diocese.
- Through their involvement in the community, The Revds Liz and Jackie, with the collaboration of vestry member Ed Trevillion, will be starting a weekly soup kitchen at The Blue Triangle in The Wide Close. Ed hopes to find a way of providing “Starter Packs” for those moving from temporary accommodation into a dwelling of their own. This is an exciting new development. Please hold it and “our intrepid three” as they get it up and running. And watch out for the appearance of a sheet at the back of the church asking for donations of soup.



Clergy Cogitations



We are born into a world that long preceded us and will continue to exist when we are no longer here. A writer comments that this imposes obligations on us towards the past and the future. An old Jewish story puts it rather nicely. A certain rabbi passed a man planting a carob tree. 'How long', he asked, 'will it take the tree to bear fruit?' The man answered, 'Around seventy years'. The rabbi asked, 'Are you

sure you'll be here in seventy years time?' The man thought for a moment and replied, 'No, but just as I found carob trees in the world, planted by my grandparents, so I am planting this for my grandchildren.'

The same writer goes on to say that we are guardians of the past for the sake of the future. The 18th century political theorist Edmund Burke called society a contract between the living, the dead, and those not yet born.

8th June is the Day of Pentecost, the feast of the Holy Spirit, on which we remember the day when the Christian Church was 'born.' It is symbolised by the brightness and warmth of fire, the cleansing of water, and the unsettling and mysterious force of winds blowing across the world. The clergy wear red robes and the church is bedecked with red hanging on the day. It is a time when we remember two millennia of Christianity and wonder about the courage, faithfulness and commitment of our forebears in the faith. It also gives Christians today the opportunity to look at what the Church is doing now, and what it is planning to do in the future.

That is what we are always doing in the church. Acknowledging the past, looking at the present and planning and planting for the future: it's a risk – what adventure is not? But it is also an act of faith. And it's a statement of our belief, not only in the God of today and yesterday, but also the God of tomorrow. God already holds our future in His hands, and is continuously guiding us towards it: as individuals and as a Church community. Everything we do in the church is not simply to preserve the past or enhance the present. We plan and take risks to enable the future, so that the Holy Spirit may come and work with us and through us and around us and within us. We pass on more than a church building; we pass on a philosophy of living, which is based on tolerance, civility and respect for difference. Inside the stone and glass and bricks and mortar there is a faith that has at its heart love of God and love of neighbour. That's what we offer to the community today. That's what we offer to the community of tomorrow.

Drew

Remembering VE Day – 80 years on

80 years ago, on 8th May 1945, VE Day took place – marking Victory in Europe at the end of World War 2. It was celebrated as a public holiday, and came exactly a week after German radio announced the death in action of Adolf Hitler.



In reality, Hitler had committed suicide on 30th April. His successor, Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz, quickly negotiated an end to the war with the Allies – at the same time trying with some success to prevent as many Germans as possible from falling into Soviet hands.

Field Marshal Montgomery accepted the unconditional surrender of German forces in the Netherlands, north-west Germany and Denmark at a ceremony near Hamburg on 4th May. All German forces then surrendered to Supreme Allied Commander General Eisenhower on 7th May at Reims, France. Soviet leader Josef Stalin had his own ceremony, in Berlin.

The announcement that the war had ended in Europe was broadcast to the British people by the BBC late on 7th May. It was decreed that there would be a national holiday the next day, and the stage was set for huge celebrations. Prime Minister Churchill had been assured that there was enough beer in the capital, and commemorative items, including VE Day mugs, were quickly produced.

St Paul's Cathedral held ten consecutive services giving thanks for peace, each one attended by thousands of people, and churches throughout the country rang their bells. The Royal Family played a central role, appearing eight times on the balcony of Buckingham Palace while huge numbers of people flocked down The Mall.

In the United States, VE Day coincided with President Harry S Truman's 61st birthday: he dedicated the victory to the memory of his predecessor, Franklin D Roosevelt, who had died of a stroke less than a month earlier. But both Truman and Churchill pointed out that the war against Japan had not yet been won. That final victory was still more than three months away.

Deacon's Deliberations



The summer officially starts on the 21st of June but in the beginning of April we enjoyed some unseasonal warm weather. I enjoyed sitting in our garden listening to the birds singing, the bees buzzing and the trees gently swaying in the light breeze. God's creation is so wonderful, God knows what our earth needs, the four seasons of spring, summer, autumn and winter, sun, rain, wind and snow, birds, bees and trees.

I love feeding the birds; birds of all different varieties play a vital role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem, including seed disposal, pest control and nutrient cycling, all of which are essential for the survival of various plants and animal species including us humans.

I love the plants that we have planted in our lovely little garden, plants that attract bees. Bees are vital to the earth's ecosystems and also to our food supply because they are pollinators and help plants reproduce by transferring pollen. Of course we are all aware of the honey, beeswax, and royal Jelly we get from bees. They are also of great economic importance. It is estimated that they save farmers and the global economy billions of pounds annually, playing a vital role in maintaining healthy ecosystems by supporting the planet's growth, which in turn provides food and habitats for a variety of other species. Bees pollinate wild trees and flowers which then support insects which then support birds, bats, mammals and everything up the food chain with food and shelter.

I love the trees in our back garden; they provide privacy when they're in full bloom. Our earth needs trees for a multitude of reasons, including the production of oxygen, absorbing carbon dioxide, stabilizing soil, supporting biodiversity and providing habitat for wildlife all of which are vital for a healthy plant and for our well-being. Spending time in nature has been shown to have numerous positive effects on mental and psychological health including reducing stress and improving mood.

Climate change has far-reaching effects and impacts both wildlife, people and the environment throughout the world with rising temperatures, extreme weather events and changes to our ecosystems, threatening our health, food and biodiversity. The poorer countries are the worst affected. It is for these reasons and so much more that we should take care of God's creation.

So, I pray this Christian Aid prayer for climate justice. I offer it to you to pray too.

Lord God, you have created us, and the world,
because you are love.

The world is hurting through climate change.

It hurts us and our global neighbours,
but it is hurting the poorest people in our world the most.
God, you changed our world, communities, and others
with your love.

We want to journey with you,
to create a better future for everyone.

God, to love you is the same as loving your world.
To love you is the same as loving our global neighbours.

Help us to love others, and all of creation
so your world can be what you want it to be. Amen.

Jackie

Planted in the love of the Father

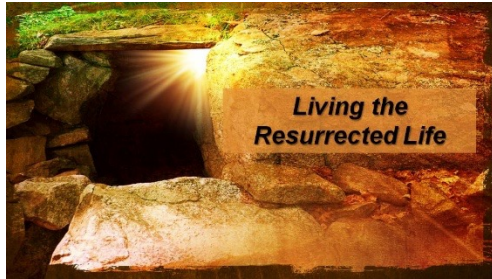
Planted in the love of the Father
You can grow, dear one,
You can grow.

Watered by the spring of the Spirit
His fruit you'll show,
His fruit you'll show.

And when the sun scorches,
And the thorns threaten,
And the storms around life's garden blow -
Your roots will hold,
And hold secure,
Because you're planted in the love of the Father,

By Daphne Kitching

Monastic Musings



The other day, when I was out at work, an envelope was posted through my letterbox from the local congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses. Inside the envelope was a letter saying how sorry they had been not to catch me at home along with an invitation to go to their new premises in Lanark High Street on Saturday 12 April to, and I quote, "remember and celebrate the death of Jesus Christ". I had to read the invitation several times to get my head round it. "Come to remember and celebrate the death of Jesus Christ." Struck by that phrase I did some research and discovered that Jehovah's Witnesses only remember and celebrate the death of Jesus and nothing more. Such a contrast to the belief and practice of us Christians, who, not only remember what happened on Good Friday but also celebrate what happened three days later with the glorious and triumphant resurrection of our Lord from the dead. Unlike the Jehovah's Witnesses ours is a resurrection faith. It's a faith that rejoices in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead; and it's a faith that sees resurrection all around us in creation and in life.

When I was a monk with the Communauté Monastique de Jerusalem I came to believe firmly in the reality of resurrection through the many experiences I had in the order. I began as a postulant in Vezelay, in north-central France. I was moved for my novitiate to Paris. I was sent from there, as a professed monk, to Montreal in Canada, where I spent most of my monastic time. Each move was a massive upheaval and readjustment. Getting to know each new community was a challenge. Without my belief in 'resurrection' I am sure I would not have coped. For me the resurrection went beyond doctrine and belief to a reality. It is still very real to me to this very day.

When I see people go from despair to hope, from darkness to light, from death to life, I see the reality of resurrection.

When I see people whose lives have been ruined by drugs and alcohol going through rehabilitation and coming out the other side stronger, healthier, freed from their addictions I see the reality of resurrection.

When I see people moving from a bigoted mindset to one that is open, tolerant and loving I see the reality of resurrection.

When I see people changing from agnosticism or atheism to believing in the God of love I see the reality the reality of resurrection

Stories from the bible come flooding into my mind. The widow of Nain's son. Jairus's daughter. Lazarus. And Jesus himself. Each recorded happening serves to underline the centrality of resurrection in our faith, not only for Jesus, but for us too. It gives us hope, it gives us strength, it gives us courage, and the conviction to know that hard as things are at any given time they will improve, they will get better, we will pull through.

May the reality of resurrection come to you in these post Easter days. And may that reality strengthen you in the faith and keep you positive, faithful and striving.

Gerry Creaney

Rectory Improvements



Some of you may have noticed the recent renovation of the rectory garden.

A tree needed to be removed and then the whole area was tidied up and landscaped with gravel and stones. We hope it will be easier for the Rector to keep tidy. Now it just needs the addition of some tubs of flowers to brighten it up.



Rectors Ramblings



When Spring arrives, all over the country, there can be seen gardeners and farmers tilling the soil in their gardens and on their farms and making drills and furrows, in which to plant the new seed that will become their bountiful crops of flowers, grains and vegetables later in the year.

It takes great patience to be a gardener or a farmer. When the seeds go into the earth they don't just shoot up straight away. It takes time, patience, great care and a certain amount of faith for a gardener or farmer to see the fruits of their labours.

It seems to me that the work of a Deacon requires the same amount of time, patience, care and faith. Since being with us our Assistant Curate and Vocational Deacon Jackie has been planting seeds and waiting patiently and faithfully for shoots to appear.

The first seed that she planted was in the congregation in the form of an encouragement to engage daily with scripture through the New Daylight Bible Reading books. I'm delighted to report that there are now 8 people regularly taking a copy and benefitting greatly from their reading. The first seed that has sprouted.

Next she put out feelers to see if there was a need and a desire to replace the old bible study, once so beautifully led by Bob Rabagliati, now, sadly, no more. She discovered that there was such a need and desire. So, with the help of The Revd Liz Clelland, she set up Brunch & Browse, our fortnightly Food, Fellowship and Formation Group, which started small and is now enjoyed by a regular 6 to 8 people. The second seed that has sprouted.

As she was spending quite a bit of time in the church hall each week, she wondered how she could emphasize the fact that ours was a "church" hall, Christ Church's hall. So, she came up with the idea of placing a prayer tree on a table by one of the entrances. I'm over the moon to say that, on a weekly basis, she collects 6 – 8, sometimes more, prayer requests on the tree from people who use our hall but do not necessarily attend our or any other church. The third seed that has sprouted.

Aware as she was of the demise of ecumenical activity in Lanark and of the once popular Lenten Lunches in support of Christian Aid, she invited The Revd Louise MacKay of St Nicholas Parish Church for a coffee to see if she and Louise could do something to rectify the situation together. Out of that chat and coffee there arose great enthusiasm and a joint ecumenical determination to resurrect the lunches this Lent. Thus far they have been a great success and have raised approximately £1000 (figure to be confirmed) and with a strong commitment to run them again next year. The fourth seed that has sprouted.

After each Lent Lunch Jackie has carried left over pots of soup to The Blue Triangle in The Wide Close, where the residents there have been thrilled to receive them. Out of this contact has come an invitation from the management of the centre to set up a soup kitchen there, every Monday. Aided and abetted by The Revd Liz Clelland, Jackie has agreed to launch the soup kitchen post Easter. Intrigued by this development, Vestry Member Ed Trevillion expressed a wish to join them in the venture and to become their supplier of "starter packs" for people moving out of The Blue Triangle into a first tenancy. The fifth seed that has sprouted.

Last but not least, Jackie's approach to Beechgrove Nursing Home to offer 2 services a month (she takes one, Rob Thain takes the other) has resulted in residents of Beechgrove being brought to our Dementia Support Group, Memory Lane, where they have a great time eating cakes, chatting with one another and giving their all in a sing song. The sixth seed that has sprouted.

Six seeds that have sprouted after much time, patience, care and faith on the part of Jackie, our Curate and Deacon. It won't come as any surprise to you that our green fingered Curate is also quite a good gardener too!! May she long continue to plant seeds in our midst and play her part in growing our congregation and extending the ministry and mission of the church way out into the fields and gardens, highways and byways of our town!

Drew



Obituary for Hilary Rankin

Hilary Margaret Rankin (nee Lamonby) hailed from Horsforth in Leeds. Born there in 1937, she attended school locally and was noted for being “refined in speech, always willing and helpful, conscientious and hard working with a very pleasant adult manner”, traits she never lost.

She met Guthrie at a party in the outskirts of Aylesbury at the tender age of 18. They married in 1959 in Walton Church, Aylesbury and so began their 65 year long partnership of love and togetherness.

She had four children, Susan, Fiona, Stuart and Ian. Tragically, both Stuart and Ian predeceased her.

A promotion at work for Guthrie meant a move for Hilary to Scotland. They settled in Lanark, buying their forever home in Shields Loan. Here Hilary threw herself into the things that gave her life – being a devoted mum and wife, running and managing the home, cooking, baking and gardening.

Her Christian faith meant everything to Hilary. A faithful attender at Christ Church she involved herself in the life of the congregation through her fund raising efforts and her support of Guthrie when he became property convener. She was firm in her conviction that “death was not the end”. Her understanding of the gospel and the faith made her an open, understanding, compassionate and loving soul, ever positive, ever resilient.

She will be sadly missed by Guthrie and the girls, but also by all of us at Christ Church, where her presence was always a joy, her gentle personality a delight, her charm and smile a tonic to all who experienced them.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Drew



Spring Cleaning?

Spring has sprung and many householders take the opportunity to have a good clean up when the stronger sunlight coming through the windows shows up the dusty corners of our homes. Others, myself included, find more interesting things to do. I enjoyed this little poem by Rose Milligan which endorses this philosophy!

Sylvia

DUST IF YOU MUST

Dust if you must, but wouldn't it be better
To paint a picture or write a letter,
Bake a cake or plant a seed,
Ponder the difference between want and need?

Dust if you must, but there's not much time,
With rivers to swim and mountains to climb,
Music to hear, and books to read,
Friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must, but the world's out there,
With the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair,
A flutter of snow, a shower of rain.
This day will not come round again.

Dust if you must, but bear in mind,
Old age will come and it's not kind.
And when you go - and go you must -
You, yourself, will make more dust.

~ Rose Milligan

Shared by Silversurfers.com

Spring Quiz by Bob Rabagliati

1. A 'Munro' is the name for a Scottish mountain above which height?
2. Roughly how many golf courses does Scotland have? 250, 350, 450 or 550?
3. St Andrew's is Scotland's oldest university. When was it founded? 1413, 1513, 1613 or 1713?
4. On which Scottish island did George Orwell write his novel '1984'? Iona, Islay, Jura or Skye?
5. The A1 from London to Edinburgh is the longest A road in Britain. How long is it officially? 395 miles, 410 miles, 425 miles or 440 miles.
6. What number is represented by the Roman numerals XC?
7. In English law what is the smallest number of people that can constitute a riot?
8. How many zeros are in One Trillion?
9. What number on the Beaufort Scale represents a Hurricane?
- 10 In the original board game 'Monopoly' how much does it cost to buy a Station?

Answers

1. 3000ft 2. 550 3. 1413 4. Jura 5. 410 miles
6. 90 7. 3 8. 12 9. 12 10. £200

Laughter is the Best Medicine

Real responses to school science exam questions:

- Genetics explains why you look like your father, and if you don't, why you should.
- The cause of perfume disappearing is evaporation. Evaporation gets blamed for a lot of the things people forget to put the top on.
- Water vapor gets together in a cloud. When it is big enough to be called a drop, it does.
- Mushrooms always grow in damp places, which is why they look like umbrellas.
- Momentum is something you give a person when they go away.
- A monsoon is a French gentleman.
- The word 'trousers' is an uncommon noun because it is singular at the top and plural at the bottom.
- To keep milk from turning sour, keep it in the cow.
- When planets run around and around in circles, we say they are orbiting. When people do it, we say they are crazy.
- For asphyxiation, apply artificial respiration until the patient is dead.
- Thunder is a rich source of loudness.

Some perks of getting old

There is nothing left to learn the hard way.

Things you buy now won't wear out.

You can eat supper at 4 pm.

You get into heated arguments about pension plans.

Your eyes won't get much worse.

Your secrets are safe with your friends - because they can't remember them either.

Garden produce

A toddler was found in the garden, chewing on a slug. After the initial surge of disgust his mother asked, "Well . . . what does it taste like?" "The worms over there," was the reply.



Changing the name from 'St Mark's Parish Church', resulted in a big increase in the number of men attending services

CHRIST CHURCH LANARK

Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway

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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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