



CHRIST CHURCH LANARK
CLYDESDALE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
JULY - AUGUST '26

Schedule of Services

July

Sunday 5
Trinity 5

08.30 – Said Eucharist
10.30 – Sung Eucharist with
confirmation & reception

Sunday 12
Trinity 6

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 19
Trinity 7

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 26
Trinity 8

10.30 – Sung Eucharist
(Lamington)
10.30 – Sung Eucharist
(Lanark)

August

Sunday 2
Trinity 9

08.30 – Said Eucharist
10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 9
Trinity 10

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 16
Trinity 11

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 23
Trinity 12

10.30 – Sung Eucharist
(Lamington)
10.30 – Sung Eucharist
(Lanark)

Sunday 30
Trinity 13

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

September

Sunday 6
Trinity 14

08.30 – Said Eucharist
10.30 – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 13
Trinity 15

10.30 – Sung Eucharist

News in the Pews

- The Rector became a grandpa for the first time on June 26. Baby Emily was born on the same day as his late father, 90 years apart, and on the same street in Glasgow's East End as the Rector himself. She is a little bundle of joy. Mother and Father, apart from being slightly shellshocked, are doing very well.
- Christine Robbins, once a very faithful member of Christ Church and now living down in Devon, came back to Lanark in May for a ceremony conducted by the Rector to dedicate a bench at the first tee of Lanark Golf Course in memory of her late partner Ian Macrae.
- The Rector of St Mary's in Hamilton, Matthew Little, has been chosen as the new Dean of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway. We wish Matthew (now to be styled The Very Revd Matthew Little) every success in his new position.
- Our monthly Taize services on the first Wednesday of the month are temporarily suspended for the summer period. These services are most effective and atmospheric in the semi darkness. We look forward their resumption when the nights draw in.
- Jackie, our Curate, is beginning to recover from her recent accident. It has been good to see her back in her proper place up in the sanctuary. We hope she is restored to full strength and mobility before too long. A huge thank you to the team who help her with Broth and Blether and services in Beechgrove and Crosslaw Nursing Homes for keeping the show on the road while she has been indisposed.
- On the Net Zero front, the property team (consisting of Danny Craig and Ed Trevillion) has made excellent progress towards making our buildings fit and affordable for future purpose. They are awaiting news from five grant awarding bodies to see if they have sufficient funds to begin major works to the Rectory and Hall roofs and to the interior of the church hall. Fingers crossed that they are successful.

Second Quarter Away Giving

The second quarter away giving collections are in aid of Social Bite. There is more information on this worthwhile charity on page 12.

Clergy Cogitations



Finding Peace in a Troubled World

Summer is often associated with rest, sunshine, holidays, and time spent with family and friends. Yet for many people this year, it feels difficult to relax. News reports bring stories of war, violence, political division, humanitarian crises and uncertainty from around the world. Even from a distance

these events can weigh heavily on our hearts.

As Christians, we are not called to ignore suffering or turn away from the needs of others. Jesus consistently showed compassion for those who were hurting and encouraged his followers to do the same. At the same time, God does not ask us to carry the weight of the entire world on our own shoulders.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you". This peace is not dependent on world events being calm or predictable. It is rooted in God's presence and faithfulness, even when circumstances around us seem chaotic.

One way to navigate a difficult summer is to be intentional about where we place our attention. Staying informed is important, but constant exposure to distressing news can leave us feeling overwhelmed and powerless. It is healthy to take breaks, spend time outdoors, enjoy creation, and focus on the people God has placed in our lives. Rest is not selfish; it is part of God's design for human flourishing.

Prayer also remains one of the most powerful responses available to us. When we pray for peace, for leaders, for those affected by conflict, and for humanitarian workers, we join our concerns with God's greater purposes. Prayer may not instantly change the headlines, but it changes us, reminding us that God remains sovereign and active in the world.

Acts of kindness close to home can also help counter feelings of helplessness. Supporting a local food bank, checking in on a neighbour, volunteering, or simply offering encouragement to someone who is struggling are practical ways of bringing Christ's light into everyday situations. While we cannot solve every global problem, we can make a difference where we are.

In his letter to the Philippians the Apostle Paul encourages believers to focus on "whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable". This does not mean ignoring reality; rather, it means refusing to let darkness have the final word. We can acknowledge suffering while also noticing signs of hope, generosity, courage, and faith.

As we move through the summer months, may we remember that our ultimate hope is not found in governments, economies, or world events, but in Christ. The challenges facing our world are real, but so is God's promise to be with us. In seasons of uncertainty, we can trust that the One who calmed the storm still speaks peace to troubled hearts today.

Drew



Congratulations

Congratulations to Drew who has become a grandfather.

Baby Emily was born on 26th May to his daughter Catherine and her husband, Mark.

We wish them all well.

Minister's Meditations

The other day I was sorting through some books and came across a book of verse which I bought years ago in a second-hand shop. One of the poems struck a cord with me.

ONLY TWO!

Only two at the prayer meeting! How could such a thing be?
Old Mrs Dunn with her stiff knees was one, and the other one was me.
We gave each other a nod, and then, the clock ticked on,
And we sat and waited for half an hour, Old Mrs Dunn and me.
Far apart, and silent as though we were both of us stricken dumb.
I looked at my watch and began to wish that neither of us had come.
Here sat I with a yawn and a sigh, and old Mrs Dunn sat there,
Till she said: "Do you think that we ought to go, without a word of prayer?"
"Then will you kindly begin, if you please Mrs Dunn" I said.
Her stiff old knees would not let her kneel so she held up her hands instead.
I thought no more of the empty chairs, no dim bare room did I see;
For surely a cloud of witnesses compassed her and me.
We were only two but I'm telling you true, as we sought the Lord in prayer,
It seemed to her and it seemed to me that somebody else was there!
Only two at the prayer meeting, thank God it happened to be,
Thank God, that one was old Mrs Dunn, and the other one was me.

This poem struck a chord as I remembered a recent visit to a care home. Most of the residents were sleeping, and those who were awake were not really engaging with me, and I wondered if I should come away and reschedule for another day.

Then two visitors arrived and urged me to continue with the service I had prepared. I did, as we came before the Lord, He made His presence felt and just as in the poem, it seemed that we were joined by that great cloud of witnesses.

I was so glad I had stayed; if I had left then we would all have missed a blessing.

Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

"I am with you always, even to the end"

I have known this to be true on so many different occasions over the years; Visiting someone who is sick, sharing in home communion, keeping vigil at a hospice bedside with someone nearing the end of their earthly life, praying and sensing His presence in the midst.

With every blessing,

Liz



Autumn Ladies

We met for the last time before the summer holidays at the Lanark Loch restaurant where we enjoyed a good meal and excellent company.

We are now on holiday and looking forward to enjoying our various summer pursuits. To return in September with much news and tales of travel.

Our syllabus for the Autumn weeks is as follows:

23rd September - Blue Triangle, 7th October - Salvation Army, 21st October - Healthy Valleys, 4th November - Street Level, 18th November - Lanark Museum. We will meet, with music, to have our Christmas Buffet on the 2nd December.

Please drop in or come along and join us on a regular basis for a hot drink and homemade cake on cold Wednesday afternoons during the Autumn days.

Isobel

Seven Churches of Revelation



with The Rt Rev'd Nick Bundock
Rev'd John L. Bell

Monday 3 - Monday 10 May 2027



TURKEY

Bishop Pilgrimage

Bishop Nick will lead this pilgrimage in May next year.

For more details or to make a reservation, scan the QR code or contact McCabe Pilgrimages:

01252 226133
info@mccabe-travel.co.uk



TOUR INFORMATION

The cost is £2,640 per person sharing a double or twin room.

Two nights in Izmir at the Park Inn Hotel, are followed by two nights at the Adempira Hotel in Pamukkale. The final three nights are at the Eliteworld Kusadasi Hotel.

The tour also includes:

- Daily breakfast and dinner
- Touring is by air-conditioned coach
- Local English-speaking guide throughout
- All entrance fees for sites as listed in the programme
- Gratuities - these will be disbursed locally
- Portage at hotels
- 0.5 liter bottled water per day per person
- Individual headsets
- Outbound flight to Izmir from Glasgow
- Inbound flight from Izmir to Glasgow

All flights, airport and security taxes are included.

Not included

Travel insurance: this is essential. We require all travellers to have adequate cancellation and medical coverage for their journey. We recommend the policy with Holiday Extras who offer a comprehensive policy as well as yearly policies that also cover short UK overnight stays. See the back cover for details.

Single rooms: a limited number of single rooms are available at a supplementary cost of £580. For single travellers who do require single accommodation this should be requested when making a booking and, if a single room is available, the supplement will be payable.

Special Requests: should be noted at the time of booking.

Payments: a non refundable deposit of £500 per person.

50% of the booking is due 6 months prior to departure.

The final balance is due 12 weeks before departure.

Final Travel Documents: will be sent to you two weeks before departure.

Late Bookings: please note that for bookings made within 12 weeks of departure, the price may increase due to the fluctuating cost of flights. If this arises, we will always discuss this with you before processing your booking.

Mobility: many of our tours and excursions are designed for those who are able to travel independently, or with the support of a companion who can assist during the trip. We recommend that participants feel comfortable with physical activity and are able to manage longer travel days, which may include early starts and extended periods on foot. We encourage you to consider your personal health and comfort when planning your adventure, and we're happy to help if you have any specific concerns or questions about the suitability of a tour for your needs.

Seven Churches of Revelation with The Rt Rev'd Nick Bundock and Rev'd John L. Bell

3 - 10 May 2027

The Rt Rev'd Nick Bundock, Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway, and Rev'd John L. Bell of the Iona Community invite you to join them next May on a pilgrimage journey in South West Turkey. We will visit the sites of the Seven Churches of Revelation - Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea - discovering the faith of those churches and asking what we can learn from their lives and the challenges they faced from the culture, religion and politics of their day. We will also visit other important classical and Christian sites, including the thermal springs and travertine terraces of Pamukkale with its ancient spa city of Hierapolis, and the former port of Miletus where St Paul said farewell to the elders of Ephesus. John Bell of the Iona Community - musician, theologian and activist - will lead our reflections as we travel. There will be opportunities to worship and celebrate the Eucharist together and to continue the thinking, begun throughout the diocese during Lent 2026, on what makes healthy churches and what can threaten our shared life. Above all, our pilgrimage will be a shared journey, an opportunity to build community, making new friends as we enjoy the sights and sounds of modern and ancient Turkey.

Monday 3 May | TO TURKEY

Gather at Glasgow Airport for our direct flight to Izmir, where we will meet the local guide who will be with us throughout the tour. Drive to the hotel for a two-night stay - Park Inn by Radisson.

Tuesday | PERGAMON, THYATIRA AND SMYRNA

An early start to drive to Pergamon, the modern city of Bergama, set dramatically on a mountain above the Aegean Sea. Today, Pergamon is a UNESCO World Heritage Site with the steepest sloped theatre of the ancient world, the temple of Athena and Altar of Zeus which St. John denounced as a 'Throne of Satan'. We continue to Thyatira the fourth of the seven churches, and then return to Smyrna to visit the agora once the centre of the ancient Greek city. We will celebrate the Eucharist at the Anglican church of St John.

Wednesday | SARDIS, PHILADELPHIA AND PAMUKKALE

Leaving Smyrna, we drive to Sardis which was one of the wealthiest Roman cities in the area. Sardis today features the remains of the Temple of Artemis, a Jewish synagogue, a Byzantine church and evidence of daily Roman life. We then drive on to Philadelphia and Pamukkale with its unique white terraces and warm calcium pools. Two nights at Adem Pira Hotel.

Thursday | LAODICEA AND HIERAPOLIS

Less travelling today with a short drive to Laodicea, situated between the hot springs and the snowcapped mountains, which was an important city in ancient times. We return to visit Hierapolis, founded during the Hellenistic period as a control point of trading routes connecting East and West. Visit the necropolis, baths, theatre and the site of the Martyrdom of St. Philip.

Friday | APHRODISIAS

We leave Pamukkale to drive to Kusadasi, on the way visiting the beautiful Roman city of Aphrodisias, dedicated to Aphrodite. The largely intact remains of its stadium is one of the finest still standing. Three night stay at the Eliteworld Kusadasi Hotel.

Saturday | PRIENE, DIDYMA AND MILETUS

We continue with a circular tour of three important religious sites, beginning at Priene, which overlooks the rich farmland of the Meander Valley. We visit the ancient oracle in the Temple of Apollo at Didyma and finally the port of Miletus where much remains intact, including the Lion Harbour and theatre. This is where Paul said farewell to the elders of Ephesus.

Sunday | EPHEBUS

Today, we complete our tour of the Seven Churches with a visit to Ephesus. St Paul lived here for some years and it is one of the most impressive archaeological sites in the world. Much has been reconstructed and it is easy to visualise the riot of the silversmiths in the vast theatre. In the afternoon, we drive up into the wooded hills behind Ephesus to visit the traditional house where the Virgin Mary is believed to have spent the final years of her life. We will share in the Eucharist there.

Monday 10 May | HOME

We drive to Izmir Airport for our return flight to Glasgow.

Whilst it is very unusual, please note that the itinerary may be subject to change if local conditions determine this.

Flight times can also change however they are correct at the time of printing. There will be quite a bit of walking on this pilgrimage. Please call the McCabe office for advice if you are at all concerned.

The Torch – The people who inspired

Something Jesus Never Said



Sitting in the Church Hall after the Service, I was chatting to some friends

including Ken. We got onto the subject of the Parish Magazine and his piece in the last one. He said that he needed to find someone who would do the next one and suggested I should do it! Not sure this was a good idea, however, here I am doing my best. Ken and Ruth talked about an individual who was particularly important in their faith journeys but I am going to talk about a book, and a particular chapter in that book, for mine.

The book I want to introduce you to is called “10 Things Jesus Never Said” by Will Davis Jr. I chose to get it on Kindle as an ebook and it has 11 chapters. The first is titled “The Most Important Thing Jesus Ever Said”, then it goes on to the things we may find ourselves thinking but Jesus never said them, including: “This wouldn’t be happening if you were a better Christian”, “It’s okay not to love certain people”, “You don’t have to forgive someone who really hurts you” and “You missed my will for your life”.

However, the one that really impacted me was the 3rd chapter, “I’m so disappointed in you”. I hadn’t realised how much I thought that God must be disappointed in me, I had just got used to living with the thought that, no matter what I did or how hard I tried, I was always a disappointment to God. I don’t know many people that haven’t been let down or hurt by someone. Can you remember how it feels? You asked your partner to be there for a particular event, you told him the date and put it in his diary, and then he comes to you and tells you about the business trip he has arranged that means he cannot come to your special event. I’m sure you can think of occasions in your own lives.

Well, I had always felt that was how God was towards me. After all I knew the unkind thoughts I had every day, the judgements I constantly passed on people, the times I did things I knew were wrong, or didn’t do something I knew I should, and so on. I almost felt that I should just give up because I couldn’t live up to His expectations. Then I read this chapter. Will Davis says this is so far from the truth and is actually a lie being peddled by the devil to discourage us. He says the obvious – God knows everything. If God knows everything, he knows what you will do, say, think, etc before you have done it. He doesn’t live

in Time like we do. Not only that but He knows everything there is to know about you as an individual – EVERYTHING! AND HE STILL LOVES YOU AS HIS PRECIOUS CHILD.

This had a profound impact on me. Suddenly I realised that God really does love me – more than I love my own children – so much that Jesus came to Earth and died for my sins long before I was born, long before I had committed them. I realised that He couldn’t be disappointed because He already knew and still loved me so much. Now I know that life is worth living to the full – enjoy it, do the little (and big) things you can. Talk and listen to God all the time (“pray constantly”) because He is always listening and wanting to guide you. You will make mistakes, fail in your tasks, but that’s okay – pick yourself up and try again. He is always pleased with you for trying!

Ruth Webb

Editor’s Note

This is the last of the inspirational submissions that I have been given for the Torch. I am sure there are many more stories to be told of people who have inspired you and shaped your life.

You are invited to share your Torch story as a source of inspiration, motivation, and strength to our whole church community. Articles should be maximum 400 words, less if a photograph is to be included. If you would like help in writing your story, please contact Ruth Coates. Otherwise your articles should be submitted to Sylvia before each magazine deadline.

Someone has left God’s fingerprint in your life. Who was he? Who was she?



Quotes for the month

Prayer is the rope up in the belfry; we pull it, and it rings the bell up in heaven.
- C Evans

I can take my telescope and look millions of miles into space; but I can go away to my room and in prayer get nearer to God and heaven than I can when assisted by all the telescopes of earth. - Isaac Newton

Social Bite

Social Bite will be the recipient of our charitable giving during the months of July, August and September. The charity began life in 2012 as a small coffee shop in Edinburgh with the goal of donating its profits to various charities. Shortly after the shop opened, a young man called Peter, who had been selling *The Big Issue* outside the shop, plucked up the courage to go in and ask for a job. Recognising his initiative, founders Josh and Alice brought him into the team.

Seeing the impact stable employment had on Peter's life convinced them to embed supported employment for people with experience of homelessness into the heart of the business. And they set a long-term aim to continue hiring people from a background of homelessness.

In 2018, Social Bite established its first village in Granton, Edinburgh, designed as a temporary, highly supported community to help break the cycle of homelessness. The village consists of a cluster of Nest Houses—highly insulated, sustainable, two-bedroom prefabricated homes. Each resident has their own private bedroom but shares a kitchen and living space with one flatmate, helping to foster social skills and prevent the intense isolation that often causes tenancies to fail. At the center of the village is a Community Hub, which serves as a communal space for cooking, eating together, socializing, and meeting with support staff. Day-to-day support at the Edinburgh village is delivered by Cyrenians.



In April this year, Social Bite opened a second village in Rutherglen, South Lanarkshire in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council. Here, the Salvation Army provides 24/7 on-site wraparound support for village residents.

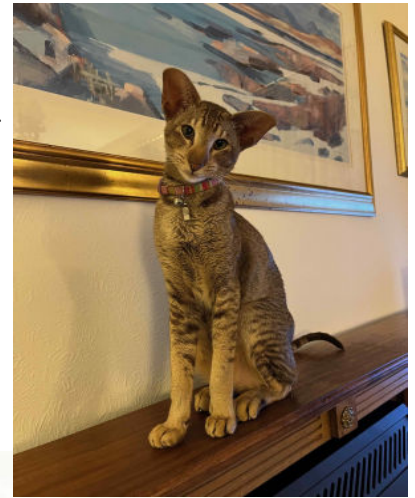
Living in the village is not meant to be permanent. The ultimate goal is for

residents to build the stability, confidence, and skills needed to move into their own permanent, independent tenancies thereby breaking the cycle of homelessness.

If you are in Glasgow, why not drop into the Social Bite cafe at 10 Sauchiehall Street for a hot drink and a bite to eat?

My Companion

Living alone as I do now as my husband is in a care home, I really value the companionship of my furry friend, Pixie Cat. Pixie is an oriental cat and very different from a normal moggy. She covers a large territory and visits lots of my neighbours on a regular basis. She is very vocal and lets me know in no uncertain terms when she is unhappy or wants something. She is very loving towards me but not so much to other people, as my sister Anne can testify!



Recently she went missing for five days and I really thought she must have been run over or taken by a fox and I despaired of ever seeing her again. I missed her dreadfully and felt quite bereft in the evenings without her curled up on my lap. However, after posting her picture all over Facebook we were notified that she was trapped on a roof in Silverdale Crescent, not far away as the crow flies from Friarsdene. I was so relieved that my prayers had been answered as this little member of God's creatures is so much loved by me.

I came across this poem which made me smile and is so true to life. I hope the cat lovers in the congregation will enjoy it too.

Sylvia

A Poem from the Cat



I thank you for the food
you bring,
and for my little squeaky thing.

I thank you for your friendly talks,
and when you change my litter box.

I thank you for the naps we share,
and putting up with tufts of hair.

I thank you for these things you do...

enjoy this mouse I caught for you

Summer Quiz by Bob Rabagliati

Christchurch Magazine Quiz – The World

1. Which area of Europe gets its name from the Latin for 'On the other side of the Woods'?
2. The Amish Christian fellowships originated in which country?
3. Odessa is a large city in which country?
4. From 1971 to 1997 what was the name given to The Democratic Republic of the Congo?
5. Torshavn is the largest city in which group of islands?
6. Name the scientific research station at the geographic South Pole?
7. Which country is known as 'The Switzerland of the Middle East'?
8. In which country was Che Guevara born?
9. Saint Anton is a famous ski resort in which European country?
10. Which Country has been coined 'The sunny side of the Alps'?

ANSWERS

1. Transylvania
2. Switzerland
3. Ukraine
4. Zaire
5. The Faroe Islands
6. The Amundson-Scott South Pole Station
7. Lebanon
8. Argentina
9. Austria
10. Slovenia

Laughter is the Best Medicine

Appropriate baby names

Lawyer's daughter: Sue
Thief's son: Rob
Lawyer's son: Will
Fisherman's daughter: Annette
Meteorologist's daughter: Haley
Steam shovel operator's son: Doug
Hairdresser's son: Bob
Gourmet chef's son: Herb
Justice of the Peace's daughter: Mary
Sound stage technician's son: Mike
Hot dog vendor's son: Frank
Gambler's daughter: Bette
Gambler's son: Chip
Exercise guru's son: Jim
Astronomer's daughter: Skye
Cattle thief's son: Russell
Painter's son: Art
Iron worker's son: Rusty
TV star's daughter: Emmy
Movie star's son: Oscar
Barber's son: Harry

A lesson in lies

A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only 16 chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."

Hymns for professionals

Dentist:	Crown Him with many crowns.
Contractor:	The church's one foundation
Obstetrician:	Come, labour on.
Golfer:	There is a green hill far away.
Politician:	Standing on the promises.
Librarian:	Let all mortal flesh keep silence.
Barrister:	In the hour of trial.
Dry Cleaner:	O for a faith that will not shrink.
Census taker:	All people that on earth do dwell.
Tax officer:	We give thee but thine own.
Traffic patrol:	Where cross the crowded ways of life.
Credit card user:	A charge to keep have I.



"Well, no, I'm not dressing like this to create common ground with today's youth culture – I've always worn a hoody."

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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