



CHRIST CHURCH LANARK
CLYDESDALE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MAY - JUNE '23

Schedule of Services

May

Sunday 7 May

Easter 5

8.30 am – Said Eucharist

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 14 May

Easter 6

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 21 May

Easter 7

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 28 May

Day of Pentecost

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

June

Sunday 4

Trinity Sunday

08.30 am – No Service

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 11

Trinity 1

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 18

Trinity 2

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 25

Trinity 3

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

July

Sunday 2

Trinity 4

08.30 am – Said Eucharist

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist

Sunday 9

Trinity 5

10.30 am – Sung Eucharist



News in the Pews

- Our student on placement – Jackie Fenton – spent her last Sunday with us on Palm Sunday. She returns to her home parish of St Cyprian's, Lenzie and to the completion of her studies through the Scottish Episcopal Institute. All being well she will pass all of her assignments and exams and have a successful final Appraisal Conference. Thereafter she will return to Christ Church to be our next Assistant Curate as a Vocational Deacon. Please hold Jackie (and her husband Mark) firmly in your prayers at this time.

- Coronation Weekend promises to be a very busy one in Christ Church. We will be staging a flower festival in church. The Autumn Ladies will host a lunch in our church hall on the Saturday (Coronation Day itself) for anyone wishing to watch the ceremony in the company of others. The following day we, as a church community, will hold a bring and share lunch in the hall after the Sung Eucharist. Full details of timings etc still to come. Keep an eye on the church Facebook page and also on your emails.

- A huge thank you to everyone who supported all of the Holy Week services from Palm Sunday through Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Day. Your presence was very much appreciated. It enabled these important services (each one very different and distinct) in the holiest week of the liturgical year to be celebrated.

- Congratulations go to two members of our congregation who reached "great" ages in recent times. Doreen Dixon – 90 years young – and Jeannie Westgarth, who became a septuagenarian! And you'd never know to look at the pair of them. Wonder what their secret is... Oil of Ulay, Nivea, Elizabeth Arden Invisible Difference?

Away Giving

First quarter Away Giving has raised £500 for the Bishop's Lent Appeal for the Mother's Union project.

The three other quarters giving will be to The Maggie Centre, The Brain Tumour Charity and Stanmore House and School.

Irene Bryce has written:

"I would like to thank members of the Vestry for choosing the Brain Tumour Trust for one of the charities this year.

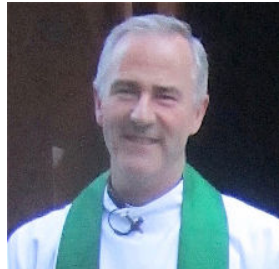
As some of you may know, I lost my son two and a half years ago and I feel it is a charity that is often overlooked.

Thanks again and I hope that the congregation will give whatever they can."

Clergy Cogitations

Dear Friends

Seeds and their potential to become plants have always fascinated me. Take the sweet pea. It climbs exuberantly four or five feet above ground level, producing copious amounts of sweetly scented flowers, and the miracle is that the more you pluck, the more they grow. Finally, after giving us pleasure through the summer months, they die back leaving a few stray pods of seeds, and the miracle is ready to start again.



Out of a dried up, unlovely pod, filled with small, dark, spherical objects, will come the next abundant growth, and yet again I will be amazed that such a small insignificant sphere can be so mightily transformed.

At the very start, though, the seed needs help if it is to achieve its full potential of transformation. Some gardeners will tell you to soften the seed-case by soaking the seeds, or even pouring boiling water over them. I prefer the gentler method of sowing them into a small tray filled with compost, covering the tray and keeping it in a warm place. It can take a week or two before the first eagerly awaited shoots start to break through that extraordinary hard exterior. At first, it seems as if the seed is rotting away, but then, the tiny shoots and roots are noticed. Who, on seeing this the first time, could imagine that from such a puny start a glorious extravaganza of flowers would finally come? But this, of course, is how transformation often starts in the dark and hidden places of our personality, at first not always recognised in the first showings.

The Day of Resurrection, the first Easter, coincided with the Barley Harvest celebrated by the Jewish Community. The seeds would be taken to the Temple and blessed. St Paul, in his first letter to the Corinthians, speaks eloquently of the promise of first fruits of resurrection seen through the death and resurrection of Christ. Jesus himself had spoken about the necessity of a seed falling into the ground, for unless it dies it cannot realise its full potential.

The heart and hope of the gospel is the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the example, the vision and the means. But faith on its own, no matter how much the effort, cannot make the transformation from seed to blossoming plant.

Fifty days later, with music and shouting and great rejoicing, another festival would be celebrated. The first fruits had yielded their harvest: wheat and corn, bread and ripe, luscious fruits would be taken in abundance to the Temple as a thanksgiving. They would be taken in a great, noisy, jubilant procession as evidence of God's transforming power and abundant generosity.

It was at this time that the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples. They had coped with bereavement and the mind-boggling fact of the resurrection. They had witnessed the inexorable walk to the Cross, and had seen, heard and touched the risen Christ for themselves. Now, Jesus had left them once again. This time they didn't hide away in fear, but withdrew to pray and wait, a sense of anticipation in their hearts.

We need to believe in Jesus, the first fruit. The disciples had learned to do so. Once the seeds of faith were sown and received by them, then no matter how dark the soil, how impervious the seed case may have seemed, the Holy Spirit set to work, softening the seed case, protecting the tender shoots, encouraging growth and rejoicing in the abundance harvest which lay within.

Who would have thought Peter, an illiterate fisherman, could have stood and spoken with such compelling eloquence or have the endurance to suffer for his faith in Christ?

Who could have imagined that Paul, the arch persecutor of Christians, would have repented so completely that he flung his enormous intellect into promoting the very thing he had hated with an equal passion?

Centuries later, who could have possibly believed that the young Francis, dissolute and uncaring, could have been the founder of the Franciscans, or a small Albanian girl receive the Nobel peace prize for her work with the dying in India and her example of selflessness to a godless society?

It could only be the transformer at work, the Holy Spirit, working within them to bring about such change, helping them to achieve potential beyond their dreams.

What could the future hold for you and me if we allowed the Holy Spirit full rein?

There is a curious paradox in Christianity, voiced by John the Baptist: "He must increase, but I must decrease." Once the Holy Spirit is at work in us and is allowed by us to go on working, then the more his power within us increases and influences, the more likely we are to reach our full potential – we will grow up in him.

The seed is planted and dies. The tender shoot grows into a healthy young plant and produces flowers and fruit. In turn, the fruit is harvested and fresh seeds are sown in hearts longing to find their rest in God.

At Pentecost we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit. We rejoice in the abundance of God's grace and mercy to each one of us, not only through the sacrifice of his Son, but in the promises of new life through the Holy Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit, the Transformer, we have the chance to grow to full maturity, to enjoy and benefit from the fruits of his love. Thanks be to God.

Drew



Christ Church Celebrates the Coronation

Christ Church is joining other churches and organisations in the town to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III.

Christ Church Flower Festival

Jane Milliken and her 'Flower Team' will be decorating the church for the coronation weekend. The church will be open on Friday 5 May from 1pm to 4pm, Sunday 7th May from 10.30 to 3.30pm and Monday 8th May from 10am to 2pm.

Coronation Day Community Luncheon

Isobel Malcolm and the Autumn Ladies are organising a buffet lunch in the Church Hall on Saturday 6th May from 10am to 4pm. This is open to anyone who wishes to view the Coronation on two screens in the hall and enjoy lunch with others. There is a charge of £5 to cover cost of the food. Contact Isobel and the working group for tickets.

Pot-Luck Coronation Lunch

On Sunday 7th May, following morning service, there will be a put-luck lunch in the church hall. Please look out for information sheets at the back of the church and put your name down if you wish to attend and/or bring along something savoury or sweet to share. **Remember to bring a plate, bowl and cutlery.**



LANARK CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

Coronation Concert ~ Friday 28 April

2pm – 4pm, St Mary's Clubrooms

Tickets £7 from Cargill Club / Organised by Cargill House Club

Crowning Glory Afternoon Tea ~ Saturday 29 April

2pm – 4pm, St Nicholas Church Hall

Free with donations welcome / Organised by St Nicholas Church

Celebrations Exhibition ~ Monday 1 May to Saturday 20 May

10am – 4pm (closed Sunday), Tolbooth Lanark

Free / Organised by Tolbooth Lanark

Signposts for the Coronation ~ Wednesday 3 May to Friday 5 May

9am - 5pm, Lanark Memorial Hall

Free / Organised by Molly Cumming & Lanark Lanimer Committee

St Nicholas Coronation Flower Festival ~ Friday 5 May to Monday 8 May

Fri, Sat & Mon 10am - 4pm, Sun 12pm – 4pm, St Nicholas Church

Free / Organised by St Nicholas Church

Christ Church Coronation Flower Festival ~ Friday 5, Sunday 7 & Monday 8 May

Fri 1pm – 4pm, Sun 10.30am – 3.30pm, Mon 10am – 2pm, Christ Church

Free / Organised by Christ Church

Sparkling Afternoon Tea ~ Friday 5 May

2pm – 4pm, Greyfriars Parish Church

Free with donations welcome / Organised by Greyfriars Parish Church

Coronation Celebration Concert ~ Friday 5 May

7pm, Lanark Memorial Hall

Tickets £5 from Memorial Hall Box Office / Organised by Lanark Community Development Trust

Coronation Day Community Luncheon ~ Saturday 6 May

10am – 4pm, Christ Church Hall

Tickets £5 from Tolbooth Lanark / Organised by Christ Church & Autumn Ladies

Coronation Gathering ~ Saturday 6 May

From 9am, Greyfriars Parish Church

Free / Organised by Greyfriars Parish Church

Community BBQ ~ Sunday 7 May

2.30pm, St Nicholas Church Hall

Free with donations welcome / Organised by St Nicholas Church

Look out for entries from local businesses and organisations to the **Lanark Best Dressed Coronation Window Competition** organised by the Royal Burgh of Lanark Community Council and Discover Lanark

Look out also for **Miniature Coronation Gardens** supplied by GP Plantscape and planted by schools and nurseries on display in High Street outside the Tolbooth



Monastic Musings



Every year, in the 8 days after Easter Day, we monks had the discipline of “being thankful” in an especially focussed way. In my little article to you I would like to reflect on the significance of gratitude in the Christian faith. The Bible contains over 150 verses about it, and countless more reflecting a general attitude of praise to the Lord. Why do we give thanks to God and why is it important?

Well, first and foremost, we are “commanded” in the Bible to give thanks to God. Most verses go on to list reasons why we should thank God, such as “His love endures forever” (Psalm 136:3), “He is good” (Psalm 118:29), and “His mercy is everlasting” (Psalm 100:5). Thanksgiving and praise always go hand in hand. We can’t adequately praise and worship God without also being thankful.

Feeling and expressing appreciation is good for us. Like any wise father God wants us to learn to be thankful for all the gifts God has given us (James 1:17). It is in our best interests to be reminded that everything we have is a gift from God. Without gratitude, we can become arrogant and self-centered. We start to believe we have achieved everything on our own. Thankfulness keeps our hearts in right relationship to the giver of all good gifts – almighty God himself.

Giving thanks also reminds us of how much we actually do have. We human beings can be prone to covetousness. We can tend to focus on what we don’t have. By giving constant thanks we continually remind ourselves of how much we already do have. When we focus on blessings rather than wants, we are happier. When we start thanking God for the things we usually take for granted, our perspective changes. We realize that we couldn’t even exist without the merciful blessings of God.

First Thessalonians 5:18 says, “In everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” This verse tells us we are to be thankful, not only for the things we like, but for the circumstances we don’t like. When we determine to thank God for everything that God allows to come into our lives, we keep bitterness at bay. We can’t be both thankful and bitter at the same time. That doesn’t mean we thank God for sending evil our way; it means we thank God for sustaining us through it. We don’t thank God for harm God didn’t cause, but we thank God when God gives us the strength to endure it (Corinthians 12:9).

We thank God for promising to us that “all things will work together for the good, to those who love God and are called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28).

We can have thankful hearts toward God even when we don’t feel thankful for the circumstance. We can grieve and still be thankful. We can hurt and still be thankful. We can be angry at sin and still be thankful toward God. That is what the Bible calls a “sacrifice of praise” (Hebrews 13:15). Giving thanks to God keeps our hearts in right relationship with God and saves us from a whole host of harmful emotions and attitudes that will rob us of the peace God wants us to experience (Philippians 4:6–7).

Gerry Creaney

Autumn Ladies

Coronation Luncheon on 6th May, 2023

Arrangements are progressing well. Tickets are on sale for £5. Children 10 years and under free. So long as the ticket is produced at the door individuals can come any time, leave and return at their leisure. No one will be expected to remain in the hall all day. Payment will be taken at the door if there are spaces available. Tea and coffee will be available throughout the day. A raffle is being organised in aid of the Autumn Ladies.

Autumn Ladies

We had a very enjoyable afternoon with Rev. Tim Tunley and his friend Tim on Wednesday 12th April. He took away a donation and about 50 Beanie hats for his mission for the Seafarers. A big thank you to all who collected, knitted and gave up their own beanie hats.

On Wednesday 26th April a 'Bunting party' was held to organise Bunting for the King's Coronation.

Rev Canon Andrew Sheridan of Christ Church has agreed to give us a history lesson on Clydesdale's Episcopal Church. This is a must for many of us whose knowledge of history in this area is poor. Date to be confirmed.

Dates for future speakers will be announced from the pulpit with other intimations.

We meet in Christ Church hall on alternating Wednesday's with Memory Lane. 2 - 4 pm.

Isobel Malcolm

Episcopal Epistle for Easter

Dear Friends

Fear is the tomb we hew for ourselves out of the rocks of our own personalities.



Jesus' words to the women in the garden of the resurrection, "Do not be afraid" are Jesus' words to each one of us that we need have no fear, because love is stronger, conquers every human emotion, physical limitation, even death itself. There is meaning and purpose even in the pain and suffering, the frustrations and the disappointment that laid Jesus in the tomb. These negative experiences and emotions laid Jesus in the tomb but they did not hold him there; Jesus gave meaning and purpose to those experiences and

emotions so the tomb of fear could not hold him. The women in the garden were astonished to see Jesus, to hear his words "Do not be afraid", but Hope is like that: astonishing.

Hope in ourselves, Hope in our church, Hope in our world are astonishing facets of love which make God real in our lives, allow us to recognise the power of love in the Hope which is the gift of God's Holy Spirit to us when we leave the tomb of fear behind, as Jesus did. That is the great lesson of the story of the resurrection, the dark damp tomb of disappointment and failure, the greatest fears of human life we can leave behind through Jesus' words "Do not be afraid," because Jesus showed in this passion and death, Jesus showed the truth of the words we hear at every Eucharist: "There is no room for fear in love."

The greatest human fear is the fear of being found out, found to be not strong, not able, not able to cope, physically and mentally. When Jesus carried his cross, he showed all of these facets of being human. A cross in our language is synonymous with a burden; Jesus fell under the weight of the cross after he had fallen mentally and spiritually in the garden under the weight of mental anguish and doubt, resulting in the one question: Father, is there no other way?

It is in our questions and our doubts that God speaks to us, that the Holy Spirit brings hope when we face up to our real fears: the fear of being found out, the fear of what other people think of me, the fear of loneliness, the fear of failure. These are our very real fears which so often appear to hold us in the damp dark tomb of disappointment, cynicism. The cynic is the person who is determined never to be disappointed again, the tomb indeed, but the tomb cannot hold us. God is with us there in the damp dark tomb of disappointment and failure: that is what Jesus is all about. He has been there, done that, and there is our Hope.

Hope made real to us through the love of those who have warmth and affection, and the simple wish to be with us. There we hear Jesus' real words, 'Do not be afraid', there we can leave the tomb of the what-might-have-been-if-only, leave it behind. There is Hope made real, there in the leaving we are confident God is with us because there in the warmth and understanding of Love we can trust as God's people learned to trust in their journey through the Red Sea.

That is the Hope we celebrate at every Eucharist emphasised at Easter in the great words of the prayer of consecration: "You are unceasingly at work, from chaos springing order and filling emptiness with life.) That is the message of faith to the world, where all nations live in fear that they are not as wealthy, strong, independent of all others, as they think they ought to be. Peace comes when we break out of the tomb of that fear and recognise that we need, depend on, others; there is the peace that passes understanding. The peace through which we hear Jesus' words – "Do not be afraid."

+ Kevin

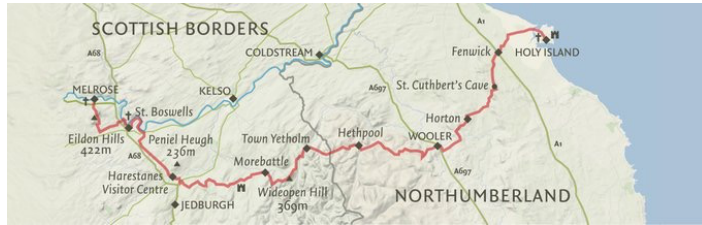
Glasgow and Galloway



Adventurous Nonagenarian

On Palm Sunday, Doreen Dixon returned to church after her touring holiday in the USA and was presented with a belated bouquet of flowers for her 90th birthday.

Our Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne



Rev Liz Clelland and Irene Houston walked the St Cuthbert's Way from Melrose to Lindisfarne during Holy Week 2023. This is their diary ...

1 Apr: We travelled from Lanark via Biggar and Penicuik to Galashiels, before walking 5 miles along the River Tweed to Melrose. Tomorrow, we start our pilgrimage along the St Cuthberts Way. 62 miles! Are we fools today, we wonder?



St Cuthbert was Prior first at Melrose and later at Lindisfarne. He spent much time ministering among the people and travelling, spreading the Gospel to remote villages. We are following in his footsteps.



Palm Sunday: Keeping our eyes open for a donkey(!), we walked from Melrose over the Eildons to St Boswells with glimpses of Dryburgh Abbey and a visit to the Crystal Fountain (whence the healing streams doth flow) at Benrig House. Then along Dere Street to Jedburgh, a total of 16 miles.



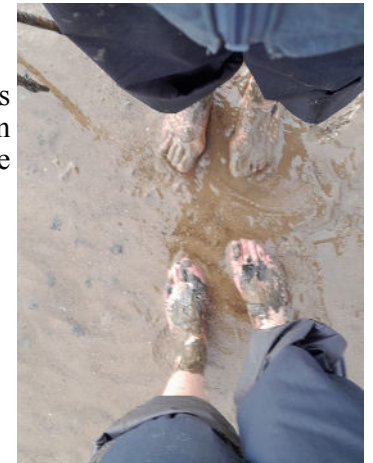
April 3: "The purpose of a pilgrimage is about setting aside a long period of time in which the only focus is to be the matters of the soul " Today our route was 16.5 miles from Harestanes to Morebattle and then over Wideopen Hill (the highest point) to Kirk Yetholm. We are now over half-way!



April 5: Another day dawned. We walked from Wooler to Fenwick - 12 miles, so an easier walk today. The highlight was seeing St Cuthbert's Cave and spending quiet moments there. "Seek out the sacred, explore the space and spend some time being still there". The saint's body is said to have

been taken there by monks in 875AD fleeing Lindisfarne following repeated Viking raids. Tomorrow we leave at 6.30am to catch the tide to Holy Island.

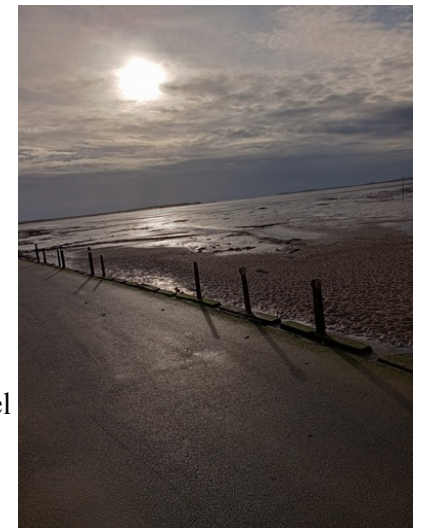
Maundy Thursday: The final steps - 6 miles from Fenwick to Holy Island with an invigorating walk across the sands by the pilgrims' path. Let the feet washing begin!.



Not a fancy communion table, just a wee table in our room where later we shared the Lords supper together. Blessed be the name of the Lord.



Good Friday: We left Holy Island to travel home. " We have an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast" Oh what a morning!



Margaret Main - an Obituary

Our Mum - Margaret Main

It is with so much sadness but with great pride that we write this tribute to our lovely mum, who passed away on the 8th of April. We are heartbroken and will miss her so much.

Christ Church has always been so close to Mum's heart. She and Dad were greatly involved in church life. Many long-standing friendships were forged through Christ Church and many still remain today. Mum was so much a people person, with her interest in others and their well-being a much-loved trait of her personality. Her warmth and kindness to everyone, as well as her sense of humour, shone through and no-one could have asked for a more loyal friend.



As well as her involvement in church life she was also involved in "Lanark life" including, 55 years ago helping to found St. Nicholas' Playgroup which is still going strong today, working at Stanmore house which she loved, working in Oxfam, and being very involved in fundraising events for British Heart Foundation. Above all family life was most important to her and she was so proud of all her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was a great support to us all, especially Dad in his many ventures! Mum's patience served her well and they were a great team!

Though recently she was unable to come to church, she kept up-to-date with things and was so pleased when Drew recently visited her for communion. She so enjoyed her chat with him. She was also delighted to get to the Christingle service in December with the family and to introduce her newest great-granddaughter Alaia to the church.

We are truly blessed to have had her in our lives and will miss her more than words can say. But she is now at peace and with our dad Jimmy, her soulmate.

Alison and Barbara

Laughter is the Best Medicine

When Children and RE mix...

When children meet the Bible, the result can be unpredictable. As in these answers to a school chaplain's efforts to teach RE....

- ~ The main purpose of the prophets was to set up the lights for when Jesus came on the stage.
- ~ The Kingdom of God is no ordinary place like the bathroom at home.
- ~ Jesus said: If you want to divorce your wife leave a note for her on the table.
- ~ Jesus healed a man with a weathered hand.
- ~ Some of the seed from the sower was curried off by Satan.
- ~ The last verses of Mark's gospel were written later by a unanimous person.
- ~ Jesus first proclaimed the gospel to the Jews: He told them to make love to each other.
- ~ An altar is a stall for candles.
- ~ An example of Holy Orders are the Ten Commandments.
- ~ An epistle is the wife of an apostle.

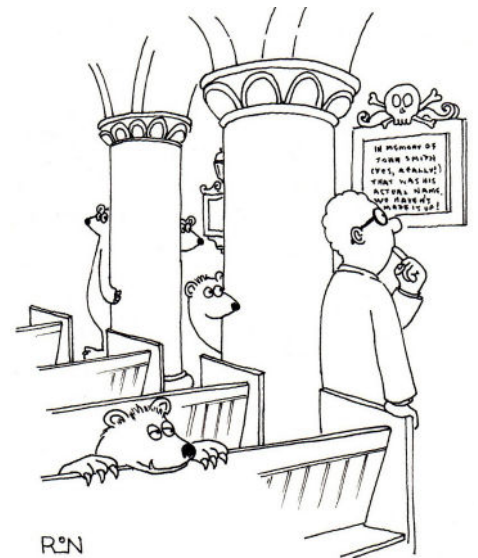
Mark

When the late Dean of York was asked why he called his stumpy-tailed fox terrier 'Mark', he explained: "The New Testament contains the life-stories of our Lord by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Mark's is the shortest tale!"

Proof-reading needed!

The following true-life headlines found in local newspapers make you wonder: is proofreading a dying art?

- Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter
- Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says
- Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over
- Miners Refuse to Work after Death
- Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant
- War Dims Hope for Peace
- If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile
- Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures



Dennis spent a long time in church looking for his forbears

CHRIST CHURCH LANARK

Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway

Bishop: Rt Revd Kevin Pearson, 25 Quadrant Rd., Newlands, Glasgow, G43 2QP, email: bishop@glasgow.anglican.org

Tel: 0141 221 5720/2694

Rector: Rev Canon Andrew Sheridan, The Rectory, 1 Cleghorn Road, Lanark, ML11 7QT. Email: thecanteringcanon@outlook.com

Tel: 01555 663065

Church Office: 01555 663065

Lay Readers: Robert (Bobby) Burgon, Richard Evans, Rob Thain

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Sheila Cardwell 01555 728802

Adult & Child Protection Officer, Susan Tian: susan.tian02@icloud.com

Vestry:

Sheila Cardwell - Rector's Warden	01555 728802
-----------------------------------	--------------

Jane Milliken - People's Warden	01555 751514
---------------------------------	--------------

Gerry Creaney	07871 250323
---------------	--------------

Margaret Hannah	01555 662100
-----------------	--------------

Paula Moody	01555 660233
-------------	--------------

Glenys Wilcox	01555 773301
---------------	--------------

Rob Thain, Lay Representative	07966 595156
-------------------------------	--------------

Secretary - Joyce Moody

Ashburn, East Teaths, Kirkfieldbank, ML11 9UH	01555 660233
---	--------------

Treasurer - Robert Burgon

141 Hyndford Road, Lanark, ML11 8BG	01555 662986
-------------------------------------	--------------

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

Church Flowers: Jane Milliken, 01555 751514

Church Hall Bookings: Peter Glancy, 01555 661859

Web site: **www.christchurchlanark.com**

Magazine Editor: Sylvia Russell: 01555 662676

E-Mail: sylviarussell555@gmail.com

Registered Scottish Charity: No SCO 14937