

COLLECT

Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour: now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING 2 Samuel 7.1–11, 16

A reading from the second book of Samuel.

1 Now when David, the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, 2 the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' 3 Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.' 4 But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: 5 Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? 6 I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. 7 Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' 8 Now therefore you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; 9 and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. 10 And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, 11 from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you, David, that the Lord will make you a house. 16 Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

For the word of the Lord **THANKS BE TO GOD**

Responsorial Canticle Luke 1.46b–55

Response: My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

46 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; 47 My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour. 48 For he has looked with favour on his lowly servant, from this day all generations will call me blessed. 49 The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. **R** 50 He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. 51 He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit. **R** 52 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has lifted up the lowly. 53 He has filled the hungry with good things and the rich he has sent away empty. **R** 54 He has come to the help of his servant, Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy. 55 The promise he made to our forebears: to Abraham and his children for ever. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 16.25–27

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

25 To God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages 26 but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring

about the obedience of faith 27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

For the word of the Lord **THANKS BE TO GOD**

GOSPEL Luke 1.26–38

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to Christ our Saviour

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27 to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' 29 But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. 30 The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. 31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. 33 He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' 34 Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' 35 The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. 36 And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God.' 38 Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation. May we, like the Virgin Mary, be obedient to your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

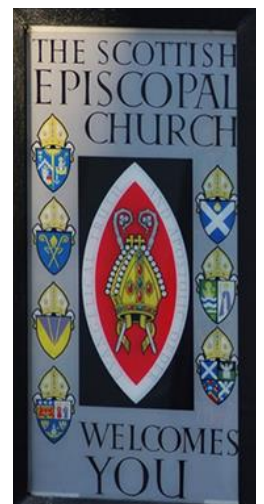
Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

The notices for the week are on the reverse of this sheet

—please take this pewsheets home & pass it onto a friend or neighbour

This sheet is also on our website—let others know how to find it and to follow week by week.





The Joint Charges of St Johns Johnstone & St Margarets Renfrew

The Scottish Episcopal Church United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway
St John's Church, Floors Street, Johnstone PA5 8QS St Margaret's Church, Oxford Road, Renfrew PA4 0SJ

All Sunday services are being streamed live this week

we are online at www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

Facebook: [@stmargaretsrenfrew.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/stmargaretsrenfrew.org.uk) [@StJohnsJohnstone2023](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsJohnstone2023)

Zoom/Telephone is Tel:01314601196 Meeting ID: 832 4184 0407

Passcode: 076546 or use the link on the newsletter or website



Worship today—24 December

Sunday AM—Advent 4

0945 St Johns Sung Eucharist—Curate

Music at St Johns: LITANY—634—(LP 546)—631—759

1130am St Margarets Sung Eucharist—Rev Godfred & Rector

Music at St Margarets: LITANY—343—(LP 546)—442—631

Sunday PM—Christmas Eve

1500hrs St Johns Crib Service with Christingles—Curate

2000hrs St Margarets Christmas Eve Eucharist—Rector

& Rev Godfred

Monday 25 December—Christmas Day

1030 St Johns Sung Eucharist—Curate & Rector

Tuesday 26 December—FESTIVAL—St Stephen

Wednesday 27 December—FESTIVAL—St John the

Evangelist

St Johns 2pm Said Eucharist for our Patronal Festival—Curate

St Margarets no service

Thursday 28 December—Festival- The Holy Innocents

Friday 29 December—comm-Thomas of Canterbury, Bishop

and Martyr, 1170

Saturday 30 December—comm- Josephine Butler, 1906

Next Sunday 31 December 1st after Christmas

0945 St Johns Sung Eucharist—Curate

Music at St Johns: 54—221—(LP 546)—729—716

1130am St Margarets Sung Eucharist— Rev Godfred

Music at St Margarets: 54—221—419—716

Followed by refreshments and a chance to say Goodbye to Godfred who finishes at St Margarets today

Sponsor the Christmas Lights—£5 a day—give/

send your money and message to the Rector.

The lights remain until Epiphany.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Tree Festival at St Johns.



Intercessions

The sick and in need we have promised to pray for: Eleanor Hart, David Fowles, Liz Fairns, Pauline Campbell, Audrey Callaghan, Adam Semple, May Burton, Adrian Bull, Isobel Trail, Isabel Cummings, Moira Bruce, Neil Barclay, Veronica Whitelock, Jeanette Farquhar, Margaret Keys, Emily Parker, Sam Aaron, Andrew Mitchell, Raymond Bruce, Olly Mitchell, Joe Smith, Nan Grimstead, Eric Parker, Brian Angus, Geraldine Revie, Brenda Sproule, Hugh Smith, Donna Skalley, Kay Cherie

The Departed: none

Cycle of Prayers in the Weekly Intercession leaflet

Weekly downloads the PEWSHEET, the INTERCESSION SHEET, the GOSPEL REFLECTION from

www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

The Daily Offices can be followed on the provincial website at <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/spirituality/prayer/daily-offices/>



There is no Zoom Morning Prayer until Monday 8 January 2024 for the Christmas break

Pastoral Assistants Support every week: please call Wilma 07714 525726, Rev Lisa Curtice 07802 888423 or Rev Robert Chambers 07968 279351 Rev Godfred 07466 608715



St Margarets is collecting for CRISIS during Advent and Christmas. The Christmas nativity scene lights will go up for Advent Sunday. Sponsorship forms will be in church and on the website next week. See www.crisis.org.uk to learn about their work and the way they help people.

Church Contacts

The Rector: Reuben Preston, 29 Gleniffer Road, Renfrew PA4 ORD 07971 895897

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Regional Curate: Lisa Curtice 07802 888423

renfrewshirecurate@glasgow.anglican.org

Hon Assistant Priest: Robert Chambers 07968 279351

NSM Assistant Priest: Godfred Nyarko 07466 608715

Items for inclusion should be sent to

Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

To ask about arrangements for Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms/Christenings, Confessions, House Blessings etc. please contact the Rector

Sponsorship: we pray for Peace in the Holy Land and for resolution to the strikes in the NHS

If you would like to sponsor this sheet please send you £5 donation to the Rector along with details of the sponsorship (even if anonymous)