

COLLECT

Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 61.10 – 62.3

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

11 For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. 1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. 2 The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. 3 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

Responsorial Canticle Psalm 148

Response: Praise, O praise the name of the Lord.

1 Alleluia! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights. 2 Praise him, all you angels of his; praise him, all his host. 3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars. **R**

4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens. 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord; for he commanded and they were created. 6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; he gave them a law which shall not pass away. **R**

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea-monsters and all deeps; 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing his will; 9 Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; **R**

10 Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and winged birds; 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; 12 Young men and maidens, old and young together. **R**

13 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name only is exalted, his splendour is over earth and heaven. 14 He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Alleluia! **R**

SECOND READING Galatians 4.4–7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

4 When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. 6 And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' 7 So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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

GOSPEL Luke 2.22–40

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to Christ our Saviour

22 When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), 24 and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' 25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. 26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. 27 Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, 28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 29 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; 30 for my eyes have seen your salvation, 31 which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, 32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' 33 And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed 35 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' 36 There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, 37 then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. 38 At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. 39 When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. 40 The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one all things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**





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—31 Dec 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

Monday 1 January 2024—FESTIVAL—Naming of Jesus

Tuesday 2 January—comm—Seraphim of Sarov, 1833

Wednesday 3 January—comm- John Wycliffe, Priest, 1384
(translated from 31 December)

St Johns 2pm Said Eucharist —Rev Robert Chambers

St Margarets 7pm Said Eucharist—Rev Robert Chambers

Thursday 4 January—Festival- The Holy Innocents

Friday 5 January—comm-Thomas of Canterbury, Bishop and Martyr, 1170

Saturday 6 January—Festival- The Epiphany

Next Sunday 7 January Celebrating Epiphany

0945 St Johns Sung Eucharist—Curate

Music at St Johns: 729—49—(LP 546)—74—359

1130am St Margarets Sung Eucharist— Rev Robert

Music at St Margarets: 729—49—552—359

Thank you to everyone who sponsored the Nativity lights at Renfrew—The final total raised for CRISIS is currently being worked out.



Dates for the coming months:-

Ash Wednesday 14 February 2pm Said Service at St Johns & 7pm Sung Service at St Margarets both with Ashing

Mothering Sunday 10 March

Palm Sunday 24 March

Maundy Thursday 28 March 730pm Last Supper Eucharist and feet washing and Vigil in St Margarets until 10pm

Good Friday 29 March Ecumenical walks to be announced 2pm St Johns "An hour at the Cross"

Easter Day 31 March

Lent Courses will be announced in January when the arrangements have been made.

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

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, Ruby Robertson

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

Thank you to everyone who cleaned, prepared the churches, made music, operated the PA, and made refreshments over the Christmas celebrations. Many people have commented on how much they appreciate our Church life and worship over Christmas and into the New Year.



Happy 2024 when we get there !

Church Contacts

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

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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

Sponsorship: we pray for people who have hurt us during 2023—that reconciliation may come

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)