

Advent 4

Sunday 21 December 2025

when you have finished with this sheet pass it on to someone unable to get to church today

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 Isaiah 7.10–16

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

10 The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, 11 'Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.' 12 But Ahaz said, 'I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.' 13 Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. 15 He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 16 For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.'

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

Responsorial PSALM Psalm 80.1–7, 16–18

Response: Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim. 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us. **R** 4 O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people? 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink. 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn. **R** 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself. 17 And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 1.1–7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, 3 the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4 and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. 5 Through Christ we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, 6 including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, 7 To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

GOSPEL Matthew 1.18–25

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to Christ our Saviour

The birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. 20 But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' 22 All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 23 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,' which means, 'God is with us.' 24 When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, 25 but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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 pewsheet 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.

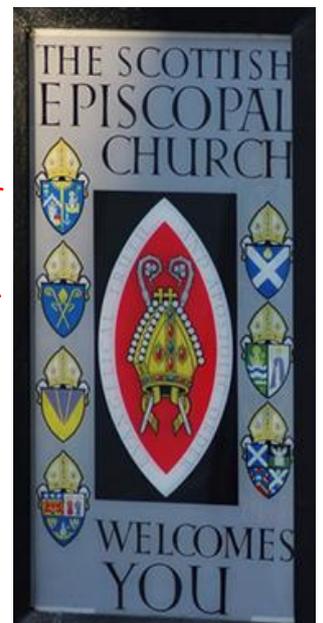
Christmas Eve

3pm Crib Service

8pm Midnight Eucharist

Christmas Day

10am Christmas Eucharist





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—21 December ADVENT 4

0945 St Johns Sung Eucharist—Rector

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

1130am St Margarets Sung Eucharist—Rector

Music at St Margarets: Litany—634—(LP 546)—442-631

4pm Carols by Candlelight at St James RC Church

Monday 22 December—festival—Thomas,

Apostle (transferred from 21 December)

Tuesday 23 December—feria

11am-2pm Christmas Tree Festival

& Tea and Toast at St Johns

Wednesday 24 Dec—Christmas Eve

11am-2pm Christmas Tree Festival

3pm St Johns CRIB SERVICE

8pm St Margarets 'Midnight Eucharist'

Thursday 25 December—Christmas Day

9am-11am Christmas Tree Festival at St Johns

10am St Johns Christmas Day Eucharist

Friday 26 December—festival—Stephen, Deacon and Martyr

Saturday 27 December—festival—John, Apostle & Evangelist

Next Sunday 28 December Christmas 1

0945 St Johns Sung Eucharist—Rector

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

1130am St Margarets Sung Eucharist—Rector

Music at St Margarets: 54—221—(LP 546)—419-716

4pm Prize-Giving for the Christmas Tree Festival giving out the prizes for the Trees voted best for 2025



Intercessions The sick and in need we have promised to pray for: David Fowles, Liz Fairns, Audrey Callaghan, Adrian Bull, Moira Bruce, Neil Barclay, Veronica Whitelock, Emily Parker, Sam Aaron, Raymond Bruce, Olly Mitchell, Joe Smith, Eric Parker, Geraldine Revie, Ruby Robertson, Craig Cameron, Gloria & Chris Nelson, Scott Taylor, George Wilmshurst, Judith Thorley, Josephine Lynch, Fred Thorley, Ellen Reilly, Sarah Anne and Robert Alcorn, Tosh Lynch, Anna Gatherer

The Departed: none

The Elderly and Infirm unable to get to church: Isabel Reed, Kay & Martin Cherry, May Burton, Pauline Campbell, Nan Grimstead



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

www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

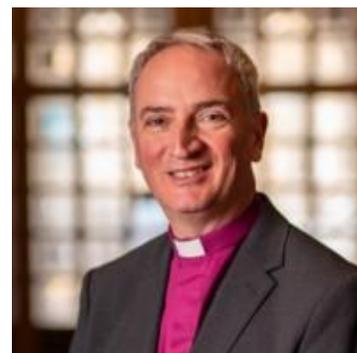
Pastoral Assistants Support every week:

please call Wilma 07714 525726 or Rev Robert Chambers 07968 279351

Holy Communion at home or in hospital—please contact the Rector if you are unable to get to church and would like to receive Holy Communion where you are.

During Advent St Margarets will be raising money for **The Renfrewshire Womens Refuge** and at St Johns we shall be raising money for **St Vincent's Hospice**.

Bishop Nick will be visiting St Johns on Sunday 11 January & St Margarets on Sunday 18 January - each service will be followed by food and refreshments so that he can meet as many people as possible.



Sponsor St Margarets Xmas lights at £5 a day give your details to the Rector. All money going to the Renfrewshire Womens Refuge Aid



Christmas Services

Christmas Eve

3pm St Johns Crib Service

& 8pm 'Midnight Eucharist' St Margarets

Christmas Day

10am St Johns Christmas Day Eucharist

Church Contacts

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

Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

Hon Assistant Priest: Robert Chambers 07968 279351

Items for inclusion on this sheet should be sent to Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk by 0900 on Wednesdays.

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

Sponsorship: we pray for the gift of peace and joy in all the world

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)