



Newsletter of St John's Johnstone & St Margaret's Renfrew January & February 2022



www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

Dear friends of St John's & St Margaret's,

Welcome to 2022 as we pray for a better year of church together than in 2021. It has been a remarkably quiet Christmas, and many of us are feeling tired and wearied. The last minute restrictions which forced us to reorganize our church life for Christmas will in due time be reviewed – please keep an eye out in the pewsheets and emails which will inform you of any more changes – for better or for worse!



In with this newsletter you will find the 2022 Epiphany Blessing leaflet for you to use in marking your door lintel/frame with the blessing of the Magi as we get to Epiphany. This is a great activity to do with other friends or family members. Neighbours often like to join in too when they are invited.

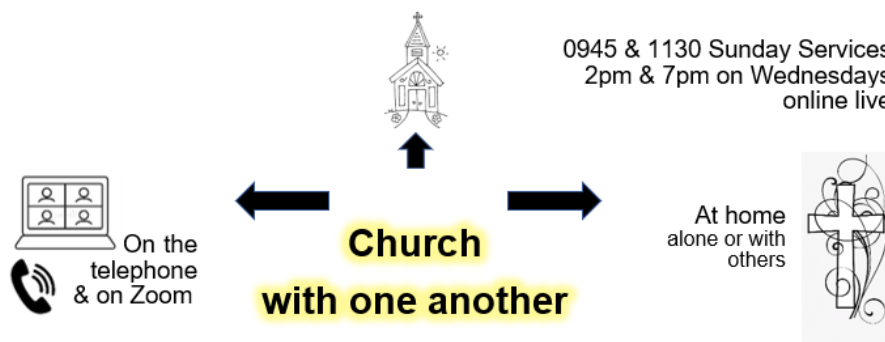
As we look to the year ahead you will see the new camera and laptops which are in the churches. These were awarded to us by the Mission Support Grant from the diocese we received for both Charges. At St Johns we shall continue to use the Vodaphone MiFi boxes to connect to the internet and at St Margarets WiFi is being installed.

Churches are spiritual families and you will find enclosed with this Newsletter "Treasures of Your Grace" prayer booklet for you to use in your daily prayers. Do feel free to pass it on to someone who would appreciate it for themselves. Such spiritual gifts to others help show the grace we experience in our lives from God who is beside us in all the challenges of the pandemic.



With all good wishes for 2022 as you continue to celebrate with unremitting joy the 40 days of Christmastide and Epiphanytide.

Very Rev Reuben Preston – Rector



Our 2022 Zoom & Telephone access remains
Tel: 0131 460 1196 Meeting ID: 832 4184 0407 Passcode: 076546
or use this link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83241840407?pwd=YnBqWkxEeW5NMIBuTDRmbDc0cFZhUT09>

This January & February.....

St Johns Connecting Scotland iPad Users Group



On **Wednesday 19 January 3pm & Wednesday 16 February** we continue the **iPad users Group** in church. Bring along your iPad and MiFi box. At each gathering we shall explore one new skill, to use our iPads better. Plenty of plug sockets will be available for you to plug your iPads in to keep powered up. Other tablet users may attend as well and we shall explore the monthly skill for you too.

During this time of the omicron variant being at large in society you are able to participate in the worship we offer on our YouTube Chanel, the link to all the services is on our website, and a full back catalogue of services is maintained there.

www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

The downloads are proving popular and people have sent in notes of thanks for the weekly reflections and Intercessions. Do send in items to add to the weekly Intercessions

The weekly **Pewsheets**, The Weekly **Intercessions sheet**
The weekly **Gospel Reflection**
all from

a complete back-catalogue is on the website at
www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

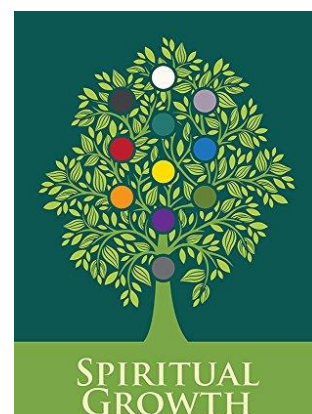


SPIRITUAL GROWTH GROUP INTO 2022.....

Dates:- Saturday 15 January 10am to 1130am finish
& Saturday 19 February 10am to 1130am finish

Who is it for?

The Spiritual Growth Group is for anyone who wants to explore their spiritual life and in 2022 we shall begin by focussing on some of the environmental concerns which affect our lives as Christians and the role that strangers play in helping us to keep ourselves looking and searching for God in our contexts.



The Service rotas for January & February 2021

you are invited to the physical, online & telephone Services

St Johns details in RED St Margarets in BLUE



Date	Celebration	Readings
Sunday 2 January 2022 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>both services streamed</i>	Naming of Jesus (trans) (white) Reader: David F , Sue - Prayers: John M , usual	Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 8 Philippians 2:5-11 Luke 2:15-21
Wednes 5 January 2pm St Johns 7pm St Margarets <i>both on zoom</i>	Epiphany (trans) (gold/white)	1 Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12
745pm at St Margarets and on zoom – Christmas session of the ADVENT Study group last Chapter		
Sunday 9 January 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>both services streamed</i>	Baptism of the Lord (white) Reader: Ann , Gordon - Prayers: Jane T , usual	Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Wednes 12 January 2pm St Johns 7pm St Margarets <i>both on zoom</i>	feria (green)	1 Samuel 3:1-20 Psalm 40:1-10 Mark 1:29-39
Sunday 16 January 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>both services streamed</i>	2nd Sunday after Epiphany (green) Reader: Dave , Dorren - Prayers: Vanessa , usual	Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 John 2:1-11
Wednes 19 January 2pm St Johns 7pm St Margarets <i>both on zoom</i>	feria (green)	1 Samuel 17:32-51 Psalm 144:1-10 Mark 3:1-6
Sunday 23 January 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>both services NOT streamed</i>	3rd Sunday after Epiphany (green) Reader: Agnes , Tosh - Prayers: john M , usual	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21
Wednes 26 January 2pm St Johns 7pm St Margarets <i>both NOT on zoom</i>	Timothy and Titus, Bishops (white)	2 Samuel 7:4-17 Psalm 89:1-4 Mark 4:1-20
Sunday 30 January 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>both services streamed</i>	4th Sunday after Epiphany (green) Reader: David F , Jane T - Prayers: DavidP , usual	Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30
Wednes 2 February 2pm St Johns 7pm St Margarets <i>both on zoom</i>	Presentation of the Lord (white)	Malachi 3:1-4 Psalm 84 or Psalm 24:7-10 Hebrews 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-40

Sunday 6 February 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>both services streamed</i>	5th Sunday after Epiphany (green) Reader: Dave, Gordon - Prayers: Vanessa, usual	Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13) Psalm 138 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11
Wednes 9 February 2pm St Johns 7pm St Margarets <i>both on zoom</i>	<i>feria</i> (green)	1 Kings 10:1-10 Psalm 37:1-7, 32-33, 41-42 Mark 7:14-23
Sunday 13 Feb 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>both services streamed</i>	6th Sunday after Epiphany (green) Reader: Ann, Sue - Prayers: Jane T, usual	Jeremiah 17:5-10 Psalm 1 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 Luke 6:17-26
Wednes 16 Feb 2pm St Johns 7pm St Margarets <i>both on zoom</i>	<i>feria</i> (green)	James 1:19-27 Psalm 15 Mark 8:22-26
Sunday 20 Feb 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>both services streamed</i>	7th Sunday after Epiphany (green) Reader: Agnes, Pat - Prayers: john M, usual	Genesis 45:3-11, 15 Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Luke 6:27-38
Wednes 23 Feb 2pm St Johns 7pm St Margarets <i>both on zoom</i>	<i>Polycarp of Smyrna, Bishop and Martyr, c.156</i> (red)	James 4:13-17 Psalm 49:1-9, 16-20 Mark 9:38-41
Sunday 27 Feb 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>both services streamed</i>	Sunday before Lent (Transfiguration) (green) Reader: David F, Jane T - Prayers: DavidP, usual	Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 99 2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2 Luke 9:28-36, (37-43)
Wednes 2 March 2pm St Johns 7pm St Margarets <i>both on zoom</i>	Ash Wednesday Principal Holy Day (Violet or Lenten Array)	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:1-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b - 6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21



Daily Prayer restarts 10 January

-9am to 920am Monday to Friday on zoom.

The words are shared on the screen and we go to our day at the end of the service.



You can join in the National Scottish Episcopal Church Services at <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship/>

Epiphany Home Blessing

Please collect your chalk from church on Sunday 2 January or Wednesday 5 January Or call if you are not able to get out and we shall bring you some.



Christ, bless this home



We say a big thank you to everyone who has enabled the services to happen over the festive period – to flower arrangers, cleaners, Welcomers, music makers and button clickers and those who have managed the latest pandemic constraints.

We also say thank you to John and Olive for organizing the Christmas Meals with the ever-changing numbers and the growing anxieties and the need to make cancellations It was challenging but well worth the effort...it was lovely to be out and see each other in a mildly less constrained way than in our church buildings.

We also say thank you to Gordon for his stall of new gifts in the hall at Renfrew – just in time as well before the latest constraints hit us – thank you Gordon for the support you gave St Margarets by providing and selling the gifts.

Thank you for the kind words offered in Christmas cards received by Reuben, and the spiritual offerings given to sustain me into 2022, they are very much appreciated.

Looking ahead – Spiritual sustenance

LENT 2022 – we shall be having two Lent groups, one at St Johns on Wednesday afternoons and one at St Margarets on Wednesday evenings. If we are able to meet by then we shall be using the Church Army Faith Pictures resource. To find out more see <https://churcharmy.org/resources/faith-pictures/>

Some good Spiritual Reading

Here are some good books to get your teeth into as we look after our spiritual health in 2022. Take a look at these and follow the links to order your copy.



Deep Calls to Deep

Spiritual formation
in the hard places of life

Tony Horsfall

Deep Calls to Deep: Spiritual formation in the hard places of life

Author : [Tony Horsfall](#)

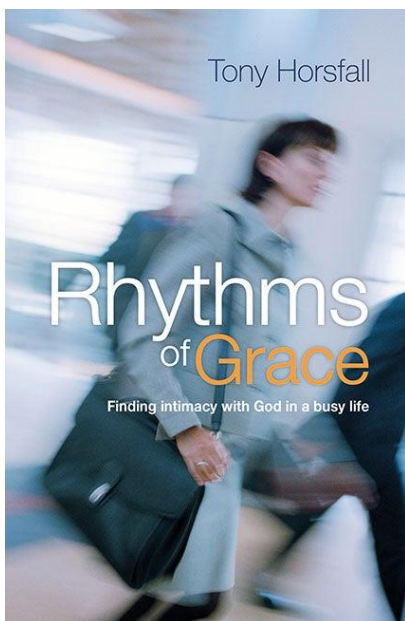
£8.99

Using the dark psalms to inform our dark times

The Psalms offer honest insights into the reality of life with God, reflecting every human emotion and situation. Through looking at some of the Psalms written 'from the depths' we can understand more fully the way God works to shape our characters and form the life of Christ within us during difficult times in life. This will enable us not only to make sense of our own history with God,

but also help us to get to know God here and now, and prepare us for what may lie ahead.

at https://www.brfoonline.org.uk/collections/devotional/products/deep-calls-to-deep-spiritual-formation-in-the-hard-places-of-life?utm_source=Updates+from+BRF+and+our+ministries&utm_campaign=dd1d295c4a-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2021_09_08_04_06_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0309f54a6d-dd1d295c4a-315045898&mc_cid=dd1d295c4a&mc_eid=15fc3e4895



'Tony Horsfall would be satisfied if we could all say, 'I've got rhythm,' because he believes that rhythm is the secret to Christian happiness and fruitfulness. It is a rhythm of advance and retreat, going out and going in, activity and time with God. Tony gives down-to-earth guidance on how we build that rhythm into our lives. Seldom do writers make these great lessons so easily available to the average reader, but Tony does it. This is a wonderful book.'

Major Peter Farthing, Salvation Army, Sydney

at https://www.brfoonline.org.uk/products/rhythms-of-grace-finding-intimacy-with-god-in-a-busy-life?_pos=6&_sid=8b11ea6ab&_ss=r

Friday Prayers online at 2pm UK time

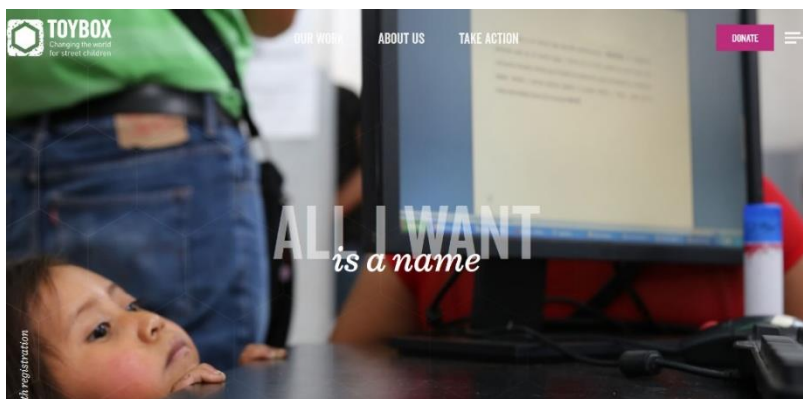
Spend an hour with our online prayer community each Friday.

Each prayer session will include:

- A Welcome to all participants
- Input from ISC Team and Associates.
- Personal time for Individual Prayer
- Sharing in Groups
- Feedback and Final Prayer

Full details are here <https://www.iscglasgow.co.uk/fridayprayer.html>

St Johns GOOD CAUSE for Advent and Christmas is buying Birth Certificates for street children in Latin America through Toy Box we are collecting until Candlemas on 2 February.



<https://toybox.org.uk/support/campaigns/birthcertificate> only £32 each - give what you can in church or online
Take the Birth Certificate Quiz to find out why this is so important...
<https://toybox.org.uk/support/campaigns/birthcertificate/quiz>

Scottish Episcopal Church at Prayer and in Action

Faith In Action Network

<https://www.scotland.anglican.org/spirituality/prayer/faith-in-action/>

In January we pray on the theme of **Homelessness**

“ A dilemma we all face every day when we pass a homeless person asking for our money, is whether to give money when we know that it might be used to fund drug or alcohol addictions. Whatever you decide one thing is vital: not to let this dilemma stop you helping and prevent you from seeing Christ in your homeless neighbour.”

The Prayer leaflet is here

<https://www.scotland.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/01-january.pdf>

In January we pray on the theme of **Well-Being**

“ Are your church and church premises accessible for all?

The Prayer leaflet is here

<https://www.scotland.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/02-february.pdf>

Praying together in 2022

See the weekly intercessions sheet, on the website, for more prayer resources for use at home and with family members and friends as we pray alongside those people in Johnstone, Elderslie, Kilbarchan, Lochwinnoch, Inchinnan, Bishopton, Erskine and Renfrew.

The current Prayer Sheet is always at

<http://www.rjpmedia.co.uk/SEC/files/pewsheets/thisweekintercessions.pdf>

As we plan for entering the Church Triumphant in heaven spare a thought for the church on earth.



What can I do for the Kingdom of God?

St Margarets & St Johns for the Future

– if you have left a bequest in your Will to St Johns or St Margarets, *Thank you very much*. If you are thinking about doing so, please do, as we plan for the next chapters of St John's and St Margaret's ministry in and around Renfrew and Johnstone. If you would like to have a private conversation

about it with the Rector please just call him on 07971 895897. Also a very helpful page on the Province's website is at <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/vestry-resources/stewardship-gift-aid-and-legacies/leaving-a-legacy-in-your-will-to-the-church/>

Thank you for your continued giving to our Churches

For Online & Telephone banking use these details for your giving:-

to St Johns the Evangelist Episcopal Church:

Bank of Scotland Sort Code: 80-16-53 Acct No. 00356544

to St Margarets Episcopal Church:

Royal Bank of Scotland Sort Code: 83-26-22 Acct No. 00196266

Or send your giving for St John's or St Margaret's to the Rector at his home 29 Gleniffer Road, Renfrew PA4 ORD and Reuben will ensure your cheques/cash are banked. If you would like to give directly please use these details above or you can give via PayPal at www.paypal.me/reubenjamespreston and put *St John's/Margaret's* in the message box.

Contacts:

Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

Tel: 07971 895897

The Rector – the Very Rev Reuben James Preston, 29 Gleniffer Road, Renfrew PA4 ORD

renfrewshirecurate@glasgow.anglican.org

Tel: 07802 888 423

The Renfrewshire Regional Curate – the Rev Dr Lisa Curtice, 2/2 40 Queensborough Gardens, Glasgow G12 9QS

Lisa is on placement at Greenock until Candlemas and then at Heartlands until Easter Day. She will then be at Paisley until Corpus Christi. She is always at Morning Prayer on zoom.

This Newsletter is available on our website to follow the live links throughout – please pass it on, or send it to friends for them to read and pray for us as well!

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