



# Newsletter of St John's Johnstone & St Margaret's Renfrew June 2021



[www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](http://www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk)

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

When you receive this newsletter in the post we are heading to 'Ordinary Time' and nothing more could be far from the truth. This year we leave Trinity Sunday in to extra-ordinary Time, as we say goodbye to Lisa as our Ordinand since last August and she has a few weeks to get in touch with her life and family again before returning to the Renfrewshire Region as the Curate for Renfrewshire.

These Newsletters are going to return to a monthly pattern with so much change happening and being discussed about how services may change and church seating capacities change – I for one am looking forward to seeing our buildings filled with people singing once more.

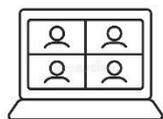
As the Trinity Season reminds us of God the divine community in the Godhead of Father – Son – Holy Spirit we are reminded of our call to be people of community, in community, building community. Emerging from the restrictions and lockdowns building community again will be a solid focus for all the churches as we start to share in the dimensions of life that make us human and spiritual creatures. Jesus walked around Galilee and brought people together when he walked the earth, and the early apostles walked around and drew people into community in their homes and public places. Our vision for the emerging months will very much be one of re-envisioning community at our church buildings and in our church lives – physically & virtually.

God our Creator – Redemer – Sanctifier help us build up your people on earth here in Renfrew and Johns areas in the coming months. Amen.

*Very Rev Reuben Preston – Rector*



0945 & 1130 Sunday Services  
recorded in our buildings  
then put online



On the  
telephone  
& on Zoom



**with one another**

At home  
alone or with  
others



**For June our 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 Newsletter

it is also available on our website to share with friends and also all of the web-links are live in the online version so you can explore more of the content which is recommended.



First of all a big **Thank you** for your donations towards the extra costs of keeping connected, it has been really good to hear how people have valued the mailings, used the resources and shared them with neighbours and friends and family members....

If you would like to make a donation towards the printing, postage and preparation costs of our Newsletters please send your donation to the Rector at 29 Gleniffer Road, Renfrew PA4 0RD or send it electronically to [www.paypal.me/reubenjamespreston](http://www.paypal.me/reubenjamespreston)



## Connecting Scotland delivers to St Johns Johnstone

As the iPads and MiFi units were delivered Lisa & Reuben have been setting them up ready for folk to have a go at in St Johns. These iPads have been very much valued as a means of 'having a go at the internet' and exploring the services we have put on line. Some folk have felt frightened by the idea of technology and others just want to learn nice and slowly and gently without the worry of getting it wrong. Like all 'new' technology it take a wee while to get to grips with what it is doing and this is where our Digital Champions – David and Kay - come in, being a person to ask when it just doesn't make sense. Meeting with people from across Scotland David, Kay, Lisa and Reuben shared in the National Digital Champion training and it was good to meet and speak with others across our Nation who are helping so many different groups try and turn on their iPads! The support that Connecting Scotland gives us is good and we take it step by step slowly. If you are reading this newsletter on your iPad or computer you can explore some of the links in this issue.

AND Coming soon as we are allowed to gather we will have the iPad church group on a Wednesday afternoon for an hour to learn how to do one or two things a month together. People have said..."wow it was lovely seeing the Sunday Service, and being able to show it to my friends" ...."I really didn't





A message from Doreen at St Margarets about collecting stamps for Bone Cancer research. Below I include their letter of thanks for all who have helped in this work.....

20 Bowers Road  
BENFLEET  
Essex  
England  
SS7 5PZ  
01268 565646

[terri.volunteer@bcrt.org.uk](mailto:terri.volunteer@bcrt.org.uk) [www.bcrt.org.uk](http://www.bcrt.org.uk)

Dear Doreen and Friends,

Thank you so much for supporting our Stamp Appeal to raise vital funds for the Bone Cancer Research Trust. We are so thankful for your support at this time of uncertainty. We raised an amazing £10,076.12 in 2020, much better than expected at this time. This is an incredible amount, but we still think we can do more in 2021.

That's why we're asking for you to spread the word and speak to everyone you know about supporting our appeal so we can raise even more funds in 2021! Please ask your friends and family to share our appeal details and posters via social media, email and word of mouth. Why not join our new Facebook group for the stamp appeal "[Bone Cancer Research Trust Stamp Appeal](#)", please invite your friends as well!

Every stamp, horizon labels (the square white or gold labels that the post office stick on everything instead of stamps), collections and first day covers sent to us will help raise vital funds for the Bone Cancer Research Trust.

Stamps can be sent directly to me at the address above or they can be sent directly to our buyer at BCRT Stamp Recycling, PO Box 6198, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 9XT, where we raise 25% more! If sending direct please ensure they are trimmed up to 1cm of paper around the stamp to prevent damage and sorted into UK, Pre-decimal or overseas and do not enclose any correspondence, thank you! Please send horizon labels to me. Any stamps that have been defaced, damaged or had any part of the stamp cut off must be discarded.

To order your stamp fundraising pack please visit: [bit.ly/BCRTStampAppeal](http://bit.ly/BCRTStampAppeal)

Thank you for your time and support in these difficult times....until there's a cure.

Kind Regards,

**Terri**

Volunteer Stamp Appeal Coordinator  
Bone Cancer Research Trust

t. 0113 258 5934 e. [terri.volunteer@bcrt.org.uk](mailto:terri.volunteer@bcrt.org.uk) w. [bcrt.org.uk](http://bcrt.org.uk) a. 10 Feast Field, Horsforth, Leeds, LS18 4TJ



RESEARCH | INFORMATION | AWARENESS | SUPPORT  
Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Number - 1159590

# Connected Christians!

What keeps you well and in touch with the things that give you life?

I thought it might be nice to share some of the places I go to find things I enjoy and help me feel I'm sharing the experience with others.



First of all, prayer. When I'm not joining in with our own Morning and Evening prayer (!), I like a quick prompt for something I can pray about that day. My favourite places for this are *Sacred Space* <https://www.sacredspace.ie/> and *Pray as you go* <https://pray-as-you-go.org/>

I find that looking at pictures and art help me to reflect. Bishop Anne (Aberdeen and Orkney) has a weekly blogpost, *Picturing Prayer*, where she talks about a picture and reflects on it from a Christian perspective <https://aoepiscopal.scot/picturing-prayers/> and Debbie Lewer of Glasgow University, who worships at St Mary's Cathedral in Glasgow, does lovely reflections. Her one for the Ascension is here: <https://thecathedral.org.uk/2021/05/15/podcast-for-the-ascension/>

And of course, music. I know that some of you, like me, love Choral Evensong. It is easy to find out where to find a livestream or broadcast of choral evensong on any given day <https://www.choralevensong.org/uk/virtual-evensongs-around-britain-and-ireland.php> But if you prefer something more modern, tap along to Matt Redman's 10,000 reasons (Bless my Soul) on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XtwIT8JiddM>

And there are some brilliant things online for children. The *Thy Kingdom Come* prayer movement has the Cheeky Pandas series to get children excited about Jesus, the bible and prayer. <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/cheekypandas> And the SEC's own Children's Chapel provides a short Sunday morning service which is available from 8am on a Sunday on Facebook and Youtube. The links are here:

<https://www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship/>



I like to nosy around other churches so I sometimes go on some virtual tours <https://www.explorechurches.org/virtual-visits> But I also care about what's happening in the world, so I like to check in with Christian Aid climate justice campaign <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/campaigns/climate-change-campaign>

Finally, I'm never against getting some support when I need it and there's lots of good stuff if you're feeling down at Breathing Space <https://breathingspace.scot/news/2021/its-mental-health-awareness-week/>

I hope you enjoy looking at one or two of these and do share your own!

Lisa, Ordinand.

PS by reading this Newsletter online all the links above you can click to find out more

## Worship Services continue as we emerge from the lockdowns

2pm Telephone Church is 20mins on a Wednesday afternoon for a short service hearing the bible readings for the day and using our Intercessions leaflet to help us in our prayer for the world and our churches. The service starts at 2pm so dial in around 155pm or so to get connected.



7pm Zoom Communion is each Wednesday and we hear the readings for the day and pray with each other for all that is happening in our lives. There is an opportunity to chat afterwards if you want to join in.

**On Sundays** – We have services in church at 0945am at St Johns and 1130am in St Margarets which will all be recorded and then placed on our YouTube Channel for people to engage in who cannot come to the buildings. As the restrictions on numbers change the website will be updated so that we all know where we are with the National Guidance. Thank you for bearing with the continuing restrictions and thank you to folk who follow the service online too. We are getting about 15 views of the St Johns Service and 13 for the St Margarets service.

As Evensong has now ended we say thank you to Lisa for managing the Powerpoint so smoothly during the past weeks – it has been lovely to share great hymns and music together – do take a look at Lisa's links above for more great music.

**In our Church Buildings:** - Funerals and Weddings and Baptisms can take place in our church buildings with limited numbers – please contact the Rector as necessary. The Rector is allowed to conduct Funerals at the Crematoriums and Cemeteries.

**Telephone Church** is open from 1.45pm to give you plenty of time to connect and type in the details as the **service starts at 2pm.** The service will end by 2.20pm and there is a chance to have a chat if you would like to.. It is an excellent way for everyone to join in being church in their isolation. Just use your phone.

**Tel Number is 0131 460 1196 Meeting ID: 832 4184 0407**  
**Passcode: 076546**



# Acknowledging people thoughts, generosity and efforts

Sometimes we just don't say thank you enough. And as you read this I am sure you are thinking of times you would have liked someone to say thank you for something you had done or planned. Here are some thankyous for this month.



St Margarets have received a bequest from the estate of the late Adam Kilpatrick and we wish to acknowledge with thanks Adam's gift to the life and mission of St Margarets. He was a man for whom our church life was important and he planned for us after he knew he would be "promoted to glory". Thank

you Adam – we miss you and we thank you.



The work and efforts of Margery and Eric Parker in growing the tomato plants for sale which has raised a superb £300 for St Johns. Well done, and thank you so much for your work, generosity and care, as well as supporting the life of St Johns.

Easter Crackers – keeping connected has been hard in these last months so at St Johns we say a thank you for the thoughtful creativity of Olive in making the Easter



crackers we all received along with our Gala goodie bags. People at home have really appreciated being remembered and feeling connected to the wider church life. We miss so much at the moment, and Olive's creativity has helped so many feel connected to St Johns. Thank you, Olive.



And finally thank you to Wilma for helping to organise a 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday cake for Joan Harrison for her Birthday way back on 14 April. She really appreciated people cards, gifts and good wishes. Here she is in this photo blowing out her candles. Here's to many more birthdays.

# The Service rotas for June 2021

you are invited to the physical, online & telephone Services

St Johns details in RED St Margarets in BLUE

Date	Celebration	Readings
<b>Sunday 6 June</b> 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>Recordings put            online for 4pm</i>	<b>Pentecost 2</b> (green) Reader: <b>David R, Allan</b> - Prayers: <b>Jane T, usual</b>	1 Samuel 8:4-20; (11:14-15) Psalm 138 <b>2 Corinthians 4:13 - 5:1</b> <b>Mark 3:20-35</b>
<b>Wednes 9 June</b> 2pm Telephone Church 7pm Zoom Communion	Columba of Iona, Abbot, 597 (white)	2 Corinthians 3:4-11 Psalm 99 Matthew 5:17-19
<b>Sunday 13 June</b> 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>Recordings put            online for 4pm</i>	<b>Pentecost 3</b> (green) Reader: <b>Ann, John</b> - Prayers: <b>Vanessa, usual</b>	1 Samuel 15:34 - 16:13 Psalm 20 <b>2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17</b> <b>Mark 4:26-34</b>
<b>Wednes 16 June</b> 2pm Telephone Church 7pm Zoom Communion	feria (green)	2 Corinthians 9:6-11 Psalm 112:1-9 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
<b>Sunday 20 June</b> 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>Recordings put            online for 4pm</i>	<b>Pentecost 4</b> (green) Reader: <b>Ann, Doreen</b> - Prayers: <b>John, usual</b>	1 Samuel 17:57 - 18:5, 10-16 Psalm 133 <b>2 Corinthians 6:1-13</b> <b>Mark 4:35-41</b>
<b>Wednes 23 June</b> 2pm Telephone Church 7pm Zoom Communion	feria (green)	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 105:1-9 Matthew 7:15-20
<b>Sunday 27 June</b> 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>Recordings put            online for 4pm</i>	<b>Pentecost 5</b> (green) Reader: <b>Agnes, Jane T</b> - Prayers: <b>Pat, usual</b>	2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 Psalm 130 <b>2 Corinthians 8:7-15</b> <b>Mark 5:21-43</b>
<b>Wednes 30 June</b> 2pm Telephone Church 7pm Zoom Communion	Alexander Jolly, Bishop, 1838 [6] White (translated from 27 June) (white)	Genesis 21:5, 8-20 Psalm 34:1-8 Matthew 8:28-34

**Daily Prayer continues online** Our YouTube channel is hosting our Live Streamed Offices of the Scottish Episcopal Church <http://bit.ly/SECStJohnStMargaret>  
**9am Morning Prayer** - Monday to Friday

Also our own St Mary's Cathedral is putting services online too for us to share at <https://thecathedral.org.uk/worship/>

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

# How many builders does it take to get a job done?

Answers please to Gill or Reuben! More quotes and estimates!



## St Johns Development works news....

**LIGHTING** – did you notice the other three LED bulbs we have put up? They are ‘warm white’ and they are the ones we are going to put up in the fittings throughout the nave in the coming weeks. The flood lights to be fixed in the Chancel and north and south transepts are currently being priced up by an electrician.

**How heavy is the font?** – here is a question for a pub quiz! But the reality is that we were asked this question by a builder who is quoting for the work of moving the font to the south transept. But Gill and Reuben scratched their heads and then we spoke to the architect who told us that this was a question they have been asked before and explained the method of working out the font’s weight.

**Looking forward** – as many of you have experienced at home getting Tradesfolk to do quote and do work is incredibly difficult at this time and our endeavours to find suitable Trades has been a challenge and will continue to be a challenge. You may have had experiences of the world shortages of building materials, sadly again this makes getting this work done difficult.



**Please pray for this renewal of St Johns day by day** – it is tough, and at dis-heartening. But with hope in our hearts we pray that the work will come about.

**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](http://www.paypal.me/reubenjamespreston) and put *St John's/Margaret's* in the message box.

**Contact:** [Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](mailto:Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk)

**Tel:** 07971 895897

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

**As we have said goodbye to Lisa on Sunday 30 May as our Scottish Episcopal Institute Ordinand we wish her well in completing her last few assignments and having some holiday rest before she returns to the Renfrewshire Region as our Curate across all the Charges of Renfrewshire at the end of September.**

**It has been lovely having you with us Lisa as a companion in prayer, a leader in study and an inspiration in seeking the call of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Thank you.**



## STOP PRESS

**Renewal and Recovery** – The SEC Province Nationally has launched its Renewal and Recovery Grant scheme. £250,000 is in the pot for Charges to apply for to help in projects to re-ignite our missional lives in the coming months. The Vestries will be looking at ideas we might think of initiating in response to the COVID pandemic in the areas we serve. Project can have a social impact directly, they can be a technological response by gearing our church buildings up for proper live-streaming of services all the time.

What do you perceive as the needs that we can address through our Charges as we look to the coming months?

Applications can be made for up to £5,000 per Charge and need to be in by 19 July. So get the thinking caps on, get the praying knees on as we consider where the Holy Spirit is calling us to serve our communities in the coming months. Talk to each other, talk to the rector, talk to vestry members – get the ideas flowing!

**This Newsletter is available on the website**

**[www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](http://www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk)**

**to follow the live links throughout**