



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



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

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

If you are fortunate enough to have a garden you will be lamenting the end of the flowering season of many of your pots and border plants. In our church life in September we enter the *Season of Creation*. Most of us think of Harvest Festivals: marrows, tinned beans and hymns with far too many verses about a way of life none of us have known in centuries – and yet we recall momentarily that milk doesn't come from Tesco's but from cows, carrots in our tins once grew in fields and were picked by machines and tired labourers, that people go to sea for long cold wet hours throughout the night so that we might enjoy a fish supper, and even the vegans give thanks for the factory workers, who must have stinky jobs, working to produce tubs of nutritional yeast!

The *Season of Creation* reminds each one of us we are organic creatures – dependant upon the fragile eco-system that is currently reacting to the centuries of our carbon production since the industrial revolution began.

The spiritual lesson of this season is we are dependant on the world we mostly ignore. In this season, smell a flower, touch a tree in the park, open your tin of tuna and think of the mystery of the ocean depths and even at McDonalds while you are driving through think and give thanks for the work of the thousands of people who have been involved in making your *Quarter Pounder with cheese*.

After the normal routine of the summer months the *Season of Creation* reconnects our minds and spirits to each other - nearby and around the world - as we try to say **thank you Lord** for the utter miracle of the variety of food we have the untold priviledge of being able to enjoy here in Scotland. What do you give thanks for this Season of Creation?

Very Rev Reuben Preston – Rector



0945 & 1130 Sunday Services  
2pm & 7pm on Wednesdays  
online live



On the  
telephone  
& on Zoom

↑  
← **Church** →  
with one another

At home  
alone or with  
others



**For September 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=YnBqWkxEeW5NMlBuTDRmbDc0cFZhUT09>

This Month

## Harvest Celebrations

on Sunday 5 September

at our Sunday Services 0945 & 1130



### HARVEST CHARITY fund raiser at St John's

**OLIVE's Bottle Raffle**—the bottles come from Olive's collection for the Galas that haven't happened in 2020 or 2021. We are selling tickets at £2 each with 43 prizes. All the money raised will go to Charities you nominate. **Put your**

**nominated Charities' names in the bucket in St Johns and the first 3 we draw after the raffle will have the money raised shared between them.**

At St Margarets

### Frugal Harvest Lunch

after the

Harvest Celebration Service

Please let Sue or Pat know if you will be attending



## St Johns Connecting Scotland iPad Users Group



On **Wednesday 8 September 3pm** we start the monthly **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.

**Coming soon in October** – **COMPLINE on the telephone**. At the end of a stressful week just dial into our new COMPLINE on the telephone for a 15min pray to start your weekend. No chit chat just an opportunity to lay your week before the Lord and relax into the weekend refreshed and liberated. *"The Lord Almighty grant us a quite night and a perfect end."*



## St John's Gardening efforts

Firstly, "thank you" to Alan, Stephen and Reuben for their work in cutting the front hedge which was overhanging the public footpath by 3 feet, and also for chopping the branches which were dangling down – at least we won't be sued now! Thank you – *Stephen you earned your breakfast bribe at McDonalds!*

## Saturday 4 September – St Johns Gardening Hour

The Vestry is mindful that many of us cannot cope with lots of gardening work – so we had the idea of a Gardening Hour – ONLY 1 hr. You can sit on a chair and work with a trowel or clippers or you can stand with your walking stick and hoe one handed, or if you are more able then you can cut and clip as we tidy up the border and shrubs after this restrictive year for us and free for reign for our plants.



Tea and Coffee in church from 10am then the bell rings and we do our

hour together, to trim and cut and gather up – What might we achieve with lots of hands joining in?

Please bring anything you need to help you: cutters, trowels 'n forks, bags for waste, stools to sit on or a frame to lean on.

Let's see what we can do to tidy our border together. After an hour the bell will ring and we stop and go home.



# DOORS OPEN DAYS 2021

Saturday 4 September **Doors Open Day** at St Margarets 10am to 4pm

St Margarets is joining in the annual **Doors Open Day** and this year we are back to physical opening (after last years virtual offering). The Church site will be open from 10am until 4pm

for people to visit and engage with St Margarets as an Episcopal Church of prayer and renewal. Refreshments will be available in the hall too.





## Connected Christians!

As this series continues.... here are September's top 10 suggestions, some to help you pray, some to relax to and one to have a laugh with....

1. **An English man makes Scotch Pies!!!** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= R-v8iKb22Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-v8iKb22Y)
2. **2hrs of well known hymns played on the organ**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U8O5x2u-8og&t=37s>
3. **40 mins of kids music and videos!** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9-LOL8FvQSA>
4. **How to Play Tambourine – Tutorial** – getting ready for the return of the instruments at St Margarets <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KAYibD5FE6U>
5. **Justin Bieber talks about his faith in Jesus**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6zEve0VdUTc>
6. **Healing Prayer with Healing Verses from the Bible (1 hour)**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DOIVJwycFpk>
7. **Exploring the Bible in videos** <https://bibleproject.com/explore/> Yes the entire Bible in little videos for you to explore you bible with
8. **What is consolation in the spiritual life?** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nbtqw3Xy1H8>
9. **What is desolation in the spiritual life?** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aOWKkXsgPTU>
10. **Christian Comedy | Thou Shalt Laugh 1** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNT\\_Xct5yHc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNT_Xct5yHc)

**Send in your suggestions to share with everyone else ready for the next edition of the Newsletter**



You will have noticed that our Sunday services are now streamed live from St Johns and St Margarets. Currently we are using the St Johns MiFi units from the *Connecting Scotland* award until Renfrew gets its internet connection set up. Thank you to Johnstone for making this happen. The Wednesday Services are also available on Zoom to join in with using our usual zoom link.

**Dates to note** – Lisa's Ordination as a Deacon is

**5pm Sunday 26 September** at St Mary's Cathedral

at the same service Reuben

will be Installed as Dean of the Diocese.

Please keep this evening free and come and join in the celebrations for our Region and Charges.

# Worship Services updates and changes

## All our services are streamed online live



**Wednesday 2pm Holy Communion at St Johns** and on the telephone/zoom 1982 SEC Eucharist service with Taize music to set the ambience and help us to pray - followed by refreshments and a chance to have a chat. **Tel 0131 460 1196 Meeting ID: 832 4184 0407 Passcode: 076546**

**7pm Holy Communion at St Margarets** 1982 SEC Eucharist service with recorded music. You can join in this service on the telephone or on zoom using the details on page 1.

**On Sundays both services streamed live to our YouTube Channel**

<http://tinyurl.com/SECStJohnStMargaret> & no restrictions on numbers in church anymore.

**0945 am Sung Eucharist St Johns** with hymns & followed by refreshments served at the tables in Martha's café

**1130am Sung Eucharist St Margarets** with hymn & followed by refreshments

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

## Music Ministry

As we enjoy singing again – albeit behind a mask - we welcome back choir members at St John's to lead our worship again. Now that we are singing our mass settings again we are learning to remember *The Salisbury Setting* at Johnstone and the David Haas *Mass of Christ Light of the Nations* at Renfrew.

If you want to have a practise in the privacy of your home watch some of the services from the first lockdown on the website archive of online services and get the vocal chords going again ready to let rip in church!



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**

A complete back-catalogue is on the website at [www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](http://www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk)



## Being Church is something you can never do by yourself

You cannot be a Christian without belonging to a church

The church is a spiritual society centered on the life and words of Jesus Christ, inspired and sustained by the Holy Spirit at work in the community now through the sacramental presence of Jesus. Through our long history we have found language to help us engage with the different challenges that human life and experience has given to us. As St John Henry Newman wrote in his prayer diary in 1836 *“to live is to change, and to become perfect is to change a lot”*.

During this time of pandemic, we are hopefully emerging from, we have found ways of nurturing our spiritual life in times of acute personal tragedy and trauma. Sometimes we have all questioned everything we had taken for granted. Our spiritual tradition has a language for helping us begin to handle some of these bewildering and confusing thoughts and feelings.

This month I shall consider two words used to help us on our spiritual path: CONSOLATION & DESOLATION. Knowing when we are experiencing these spiritual states can be an immense help to us in looking after our well-being. The videos that I have included in the Top10 this month address these issues so do go and take a look. You will immediately notice that this language comes from **before the Reformations in Europe**, when the Church was only split between the East (Orthodox) and the West (Catholic). This catholic language is part of our Episcopal vocabulary in helping each other on our spiritual path with Jesus Christ today.

As part of a ‘tool kit’ to help us engage with these spiritual traits in all of our lives please take a look at the **Spiritual Growth Group** I am starting once a month on a Saturday morning 10am to 1130am hosted in St Margaret’s Church building. We shall be exploring these spiritual themes in our lives as well as exploring the ways of handling and coping with Consolation & Desolation in our spiritual life.

I have put this together as a direct result of peoples’ questions and comments to me about their lives of prayer, and experience due to the pandemic situation. We need to help each other as we share these spiritual stages on our individual and corporate journey of faith with Jesus Christ in the company of all the Saints. Do come along and help yourself and others on the spiritual path of our inner life as we journey purposefully into the future.

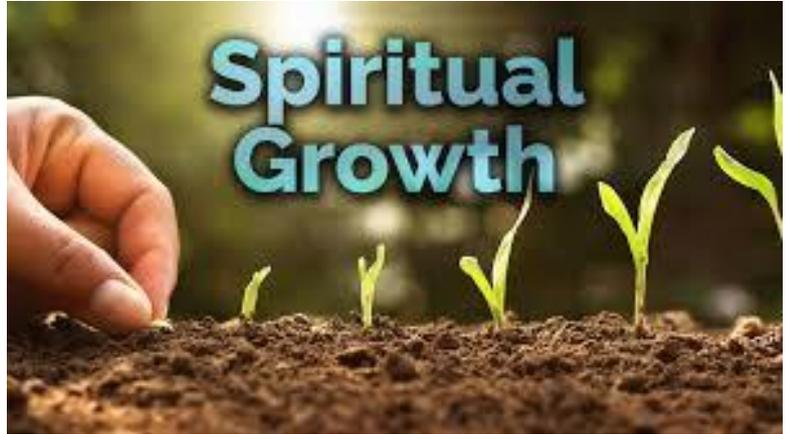
Rector – Rev’d Reuben James Preston

# SPIRITUAL GROWTH GROUP

Dates:- Saturday 11 September 10am start 1130am finish  
Saturday 9 October 10am start 1130am finish  
Saturday 13 November 10am start 1130am finish

## Who is it for?

The Spiritual Growth Group is for anyone who wants to explore their spiritual life after the experience of the pandemic. What we have endured and enjoyed, what we have questioned and hope for. The group is about helping you as a member of the Church community find new focus in your spiritual life as we learn from the past and look forward together.



## What do I need to know already?

Nothing really, the work of the group is the work of your life – it is about you, God and church now.

## What will we do?

There will be pieces of input and some spiritual exercises to share in, sometimes imagining, sometimes singing, sometimes writing or drawing, sometimes talking and sometimes listening to others, and often listening to the voice of God within us.

## What if I don't want to talk?

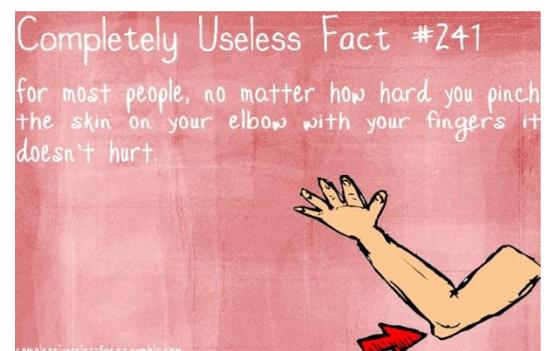
We'll don't! You only ever share or talk about anything you want to. We often find that hearing ourselves speak helps us to think and process what is going on for us.

## Can I bring my friend?

If you want to bring a friend make sure that they want to join in too. It is not a spectators activity, it is a joining in one.

## Can I talk to someone about it first?

Yes just call Reuben on 07971 895897 and ask all the questions you like.



# UPDATE on Grants:-

**Mission Support Grant** – successful! I am pleased to inform you that our diocese has signed off our Mission Support Grant to buy a laptop, camera, tripod and microphone for each of the two charges. This will mean that we can leave the gear permanently set up in church for people to visit the church online on our YouTube channel. More news as we get the tech and get it set up and ready for you to visit St Johns or St Margarets from home.



**Recovery and Renewal Grant** – passed the clearing stage from our Diocese and submitted to the Province. Please pray for a fruitful outcome as this grant would provide us funds for reaching out to the communities we serve in new ways.

From **COMPASSION** this month sent to Jane T - St Margaret's COMPASSION link

We'd love to share with you this personal update from Compassion's Edouard Lassegue, Vice President of Latin America and the Caribbean. He was in his home country of Haiti when disaster struck on Saturday, 14 August.

Dear Jane,

I was here when the earthquake hit unexpectedly on that Saturday morning. Watch this video to get a first look at what we are experiencing in my home country of Haiti.

Video link

<https://my.compassionuk.org/rd?1=AvMs~wriDv8S~xb~Gv8u~yIy0e8rSy77Mv87~z7~Pv~y&2=7642>

Schools, churches and homes were among the buildings destroyed. More than 2,200 people have died in the earthquake. Nearly 10,000 people have been injured, and an unknown number are still missing. We will continue to update our website with all the latest information as it comes in.

There is still much work to be done. But I know that we can make a difference together. We've been through this before in Haiti, and we overcame it because people like you donated to disaster relief. As we were assessing damages from last week's earthquake, we noticed something remarkable. Allow me to explain.



In 2016, we rebuilt 30 Compassion projects that were in ruins from Hurricane Matthew. We brought in highly trained professionals to work alongside local builders and teach them how to build according to para seismic standards. As we walked through the rubble the other day, we came upon one of those schools — standing unharmed, yet buildings all around it disappeared because of the earthquake! Your generosity to disaster appeals enables long-term and transformational impact to take place after a disaster. This is the progress we can give Haiti again. Together we can make a lasting difference. That, for me, is extremely encouraging and inspiring in the midst of tragedy.

Will you give today? Please join me in this vital work by giving to Compassion's Haiti Disaster Appeal. You'll be making a strategic and tangible difference. And then pray also that the need would touch the hearts of God's people around the world so that the funds and resources can be raised in response to this tragedy.

Donate today

donation link

<https://my.compassionuk.org/rd?1=AvMs~wriDv8S~xb~Gv8u~yIy0e8rSy77Mv87~z7~Pv~y&2=7634>

Together we can continue this work as we seek to care for vulnerable children and their families living in extreme poverty, releasing them from poverty in Jesus' name.

Bondye beni w [God bless you],

Edouard

Edouard Lassegue

**Vice President of Latin America and the Caribbean**

Thank you to JaneT for sending this in for inclusion in the Newsletter as a cause supported by St Margarets Church.

**ECUMENICAL MATTERS** - the first meeting of *the Renfrew Ecumenical Ministers* since 2020 took place on Thursday 26 August at The Manse of the North Church Parish. Fr John, Dean Reuben and Rev Philip discussed the approaching **COP26 Conference** in Glasgow, and the work being done to highlight Climate Change and the Climate Crisis Action Plan of the Scottish Episcopal Church. Pope Francis will be coming to address the Conference and Archbishop Welby will attend from the Church of England. St Mary's Cathedral will host the Anglican Presence here in Scotland. **Locally, we may have a COP26 prayer walk between the church buildings of Renfrew during the COP26 Conference period.** The Ministers went away to work on a plan to be confirmed at their September meeting.



# The Service rotas for September 2021

you are invited to the physical, online & telephone Services

St Johns details in RED St Margarets in BLUE

Date	Celebration	Readings
<b>Wednes 1 Sept</b> 2pm St Johns & Telephone 7pm St Margarets & Zoom	feria (green)	Colossians 1:1-8 Psalm 34:9-22 Luke 4:38-44
<b>Sunday 5 Sept</b> 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>both services streamed</i>	<b>Pentecost 15</b> <b>Harvest Celebrations</b> (green) Reader: Ann, David P - Prayers: Pat W, usual	Isaiah 35:4-7a Psalm 146 <b>James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17</b> <b>Mark 7:24-37</b>
<b>Wednes 8 Sept</b> 2pm St Johns & Telephone 7pm St Margarets & Zoom	<b>The Birth of Mary, Mother of the Lord</b> festival (white)	Micah 5:1-4 Psalm 131 Galatians 4:4-7 John 19:25-27
<b>Sunday 12 Sept</b> 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>both services streamed</i>	<b>Pentecost 16</b> (green) Reader: David F, Sue - Prayers: John, usual	Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 116:1-9 <b>James 3:1-12</b> <b>Mark 8:27-38</b>
<b>Wednes 15 Sept</b> 2pm St Johns <i>no Telephone today</i> 7pm St Margarets <i>no Zoom today</i>	feria (green) 2pm Rev Robert Chambers 7pm John Mitchell LWL	1 Timothy 3:14-16 Psalm 111:1-6 Luke 7:31-35
<b>Sunday 19 Sept</b> 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>No streaming today</i>	<b>Pentecost 17</b> (green) 0945 RS Holy Communion Gill LWL 1130 RS Holy Communion Pat LWL Reader: Dave, Dorren - Prayers: Vanessa, usual	Wisdom of Sol 1:16 - 2:1, 12-22 Psalm 54 <b>James 3:13 - 4:3, 7-8a</b> <b>Mark 9:30-37</b>
<b>Wednes 22 Sept</b> 2pm St Johns <i>no Telephone today</i> 7pm St Margarets <i>no Zoom today</i>	feria (green) 2pm Rev Robert Chambers 7pm Pat LWL	Ezra 9:5-9 Psalm 48 Luke 9:1-6
<b>Sunday 26 Sept</b> 0945am St Johns & 1130am St Margarets <i>both services streamed</i> <b>5pm at the Cathedral</b>	<b>Pentecost 18</b> (green) Reader: Agnes, John M - Prayers: Tosh, usual Lisa's Ordination & Reuben Installed as Dean	Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 Psalm 19:7-14 <b>James 5:13-20</b> <b>Mark 9:38-50</b>
<b>Wednes 29 Sept</b> 2pm St Johns & on the Telephone 7pm St Margarets and on zoom	<b>Michael and All Angels</b> festival (white)	Nehemiah 2:1-8 Psalm 137:1-6 Luke 9:57-62

**Daily Prayer** – use the weekly intercession sheet to help focus your prayers at home.

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



# OUR Local Responses to the Climate Crisis Action Plan

Faith that matters now and tomorrow.....

## Scottish Episcopal Church Provincial Call to engage with the Climate Crisis

In our Church buildings and on the website are copies of the *Response form* that encourages individuals, households, families and groups, to offer their initial responses to the questions of the **10 Points of Guidance** offered to us by the General Synod in June.

When you have thought about and completed your form send it (email preferred [Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](mailto:Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk)) to the Rector and your entry will be included on our Charge website pages for Climate Crisis action. [www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk/CCC](http://www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk/CCC)

So far Stephen and George have joined in and there will soon be a response from Lisa and John. Remember that this is a work in progress, and you can update your entry as time goes by and as you have more discussions and make plans in your household. It might be a great way to connect with other members of your family by setting up a **Family Climate Crisis Zoom call** to talk about the points together!

Feel free to send your responses and reactions into the [Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](mailto:Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk) to be added to the website page

### 10 Points of Guidance

1. Seeking to reduce energy use in all our buildings and moving from oil/gas to electricity where possible
2. Implementing renewable energy solutions such as heat pumps and solar power on our property
3. Using lesspolluting forms of transport, moving to electric or hybrid cars, car sharing, wherever possible walking or cycling
4. Developing wildlife conservation schemes in our land
5. Using Fair Trade, environment-and animal-friendly products wherever possible
6. Reducing waste by composting and recycling as much of it as possible
7. Reducing paper usage (and then only using recycled paper)
8. Using online meetings often, but balanced with our need for human contact and Christian fellowship
9. Disseminating information on good practice, and seeking expert advice, practical help, and funding possibilities
10. Promoting sustainability through our preaching, liturgy and teaching, and setting a good example

*We recognise that not all of these apply to every congregation and that some will depend on the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, but we can begin to plan now.” .....*

“Secular environmentalists can get very gloomy. But we have a Saviour. We are people of the resurrection who have begun to know the redeeming power of Jesus Christ. We urge you to join in this task of caring for Christ’s creation, as people who share Paul’s ‘hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God’. Brothers and sisters in that redeemed family will you join in and play your part in that liberation today and in the coming months?”

## St Johns Development works news....

**Building Warrant, visiting Contractors and endless waiting and frustrations** – the period of seeking Tenders from potential Contractors has had to be extended due to some pulling out and saying “we are not looking for new work at the moment”. This has been a frustrating time and our architect has been looking for other Contractors who would be able to quote for the work at St Johns. Gill has spent the month too-ing and fro-ing showing contractors around the site and answering their questions. We await the arrival of Tender Packages and prices before we can decide a way ahead.

**Please pray for this renewal of St Johns day by day** – as so much work is being done behind the scenes we pray for guidance and clarity of vision as we await the results of the call for Tenders.

**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

**Tel:** 07971 895897

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

Scottish Episcopal Church  
at Prayer and in Action

September

## Faith In Action Network



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

In September we pray on the theme of ***Racial Justice***

“The celebration of the diversity of humanity lies at the heart of the Christian response to other cultures and races across the world. We are fortunate to have people from a diversity of backgrounds and ethnic groups who all contribute to the richness and texture of life in One Scotland. We have a duty to ensure that the dignity of all is respected at all times. We must not stand quietly aside and allow prejudice of any sort to diminish a person's full humanity. We must affirm our faith in God as our creator whose work reflects the diversity that we celebrate.”

You may wish to try the following:

- pray for those involved in racial justice promote observance of Racial Justice Sunday every
- September in your church pray for victims of racist attacks and those who work
- with them help promote Racial Justice issues in your local
- church network discourage racist comments even in casual
- comments promote diversity as a fundamental divine principle organise ethnic food
- festivals encourage use of music and liturgy which expresses
- diversity in the Anglican Communion Volunteer to work in one of the many charity shops
- Age Scotland has which always need new staff and goods, as well as a post called Church
- Friends who liaise between the charity and the elderly people in Church congregations.
- Volunteer with Contact the Elderly which is a national organisation which seeks to combat
- isolation amongst the elderly by organising weekly tea-parties for small groups of elderly
- people.
- Volunteer with Alzheimer Scotland which is the leading, national organisation to help both
- those who care for and those who suffer from dementia by helping out in their local drop in
- centres or being a telephone operator on their 24 hour Dementia hotline.

Our heavenly Father,

You made us in your own image and likeness.

Help us to treat everyone with dignity and respect.

You sent your only Son to show us how to live.

Teach us to live like him, loving and caring for everyone.

Help us to remember that we are all members of  
the same human family, your family.

Help us to remember that we all experience grief,  
hunger, pain, joy and happiness in the same

way whatever our creed, the colour of our skins or our status in life.

Help us not to judge and be prejudiced but to be compassionate and kind.

Loving Father, in your mercy, hear our prayer. AMEN

## A Child's Prayer

Dear God,

Everyone wants to belong, whether it's to a group, family or community. Sometimes we exclude people from the groups we belong to, just because we don't see people for who they really are, just what's on the outside.

Please help us to be more welcoming to others, making them feel they belong. AMEN



**Your Prayers are asked** for those who have asked us to pray for them for healing of body, mind or spirit:

Liz Fairns, Elsbeth Carberry, Pauline Campbell, Alasdair Woods, Jenna McKernan, Audrey Callaghan, Adam Semple, Margaret Kerrigan, May Burton, Joan Harrison, Isobel Reid, Adrian Bull, Isobel Trail, Ellen Jones, Isabel Cummings, Lisa in Oxford, Carol, Joanna, Barbara Clark, Moira Bruce, Jean Souter, Neil Barclay, Paul Bothwell, Veronica Whitelock, Daniel Preston, David Preston, Martin Santon, Laurence Mechen

May healing and wholeness come to their lives we pray.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

## In the life of our Church we pray:-

For the people of St Mungo's Church Alexandria as it closed on Sunday 29 August – may the members find a new spiritual home in neighbouring Charges.

For Bishop Kevin in his work across the diocese helping Charges with vacancies. May he be granted wisdom and guidance from the Holy Spirit.

For our diocese that good priests may apply for the vacancies we have.

For St Johns that we may have perseverance in coping with the delays to the renovation programme, and that we may cherish the opportunities to reach out into the virtual world that our Mission Support Grant has offered us.

For St Margarets, that we may welcome all our hall users back and that we may engage with looking out and welcoming new people into the life of the Church.

For Reuben, that he may be have wisdom and insight in helping us discern the way forward as we emerge from the pandemic and may know the presence of Jesus with him in all his work.

Lord hear us. **Lord graciously Hear us.**

**Our Father.....**



**This Newsletter is available on our website**

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

**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!**