



# Newsletter of St John's Johnstone & St Margaret's Renfrew November 2020



*during the COVID-19 pandemic*

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

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

We are learning to be church in a new way: physically in the building, virtually online and on the telephone. This month sees the start of **Telephone Church at 2pm on Wednesdays**, 20 minutes of readings and prayers and a 10minute chat. This will enable us to connect with folk unable to come to the church building and also who are not online yet. This is for anyone in St Johns or St Margarets to come along to. See inside for more details.

This is a time for us to be utilizing our many forms of being church as a witness to friends and neighbours and inviting them along too, so that they may share in the presence of Christ with us in our Episcopal worship. May the light of Christ lead us all into renewed faith & hope.

*Rev Reuben Preston – Rector*

**We are together as we look to our needs to keep safe....**



In our buildings



On the telephone



In our homes – alone or with others

**Church  
together**

**Our single Zoom & Telephone access in November 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 is All Saints season and there are things to join in with to help us connect with each other and share the life of faith with one another.

# Observing our Faith - OoF†

The 1<sup>st</sup> OoF is sent to you with this newsletter on the theme of All Saints. Please use the OoF at home and when you have done the activity send your contribution by text, email, WhatsApp or by post to Reuben and he will add it to our OoF webpage at [www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk/oof/](http://www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk/oof/) and we will be able to share together our inspirational characters of faith.

## Lisa writes about our OoFs....

From the earliest days of the Church, Christians met and worshipped at home. In these pandemic days this tradition can be particularly helpful. Observing our feasts and our festivals at home as well as in church can bring an extra dimension to our prayer life.

Here at St John's Johnstone and St Margaret's Renfrew we are going to see how we can be faithful observers together in the circumstances in which we find ourselves.

For the big feasts between now and Candlemas everyone will receive a leaflet with simple ideas of how to remember the feast. You don't need to be a Michaelangelo or a Bach to take part! The idea is to take part in an easy activity that can connect what's important to each of us with the meaning of that festival in the wider life of faith. Each leaflet will have something to read and think about, an example, an activity to try and a suggestion for prayer. Here is your first leaflet for All Saints on 1st November.

Observing our faith at home does not mean observing it in isolation. By connecting with the festivals of the Church we are turning in to the great stream of tradition through which Christians have prayed, worshipped and brought their faith to life over the centuries. And by observing the coming festivals we will be taking part as a community in the faith journey of the church here on earth and in heaven.



The Rector has set up a webpage and we will give you examples of how to share what you have done so that we can build a display of our responses to the feasts and share together what each means to our own life of faith. Don't be shy as others will be encouraged and helped by your examples.

So let's get creative – look out for the first leaflet and don't forget to tell us what you do!

Lisa can be contacted at [SEIstudent@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](mailto:SEIstudent@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk)

### Observing our Faith - OoF†

#### All Saints Day 1 November



*Oh, when the saints go marching in  
Oh, when the saints go marching in  
Oh Lord I want to be in that number  
When the saints go marching in.*  
*Black Spiritual*

The forerunners of Christ with the saints and martyrs attributed to Fra Angelico

**About this festival**  
This is the great feast on which we celebrate the great people of our faith, young and old. It has been celebrated since the fourth century and used to be called All Hallows.

Saints are people whose lives have excited others to holiness. The saints are in communion with the Church on earth and the Church in heaven.



This leaflet is to help you celebrate the feast at home.

# Daily Prayer continues online

Our YouTube channel is hosting our Live Streamed Offices of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

**9am Morning Prayer & 5.30pm Evening Prayer**

Monday to Friday each week.

How to join in... **follow the link on**

[www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](http://www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk) You can find the words of the service at <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/spirituality/prayer/daily-offices/>

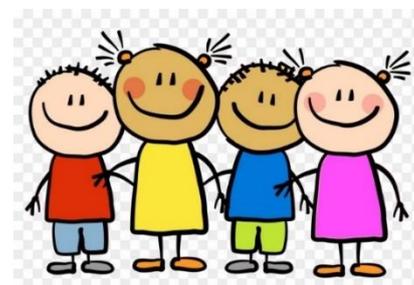


**To Join in: please say the words in BOLD and the Gloria and the Even numbered verses of the Psalms and Canticles** The service lasts about 20mins depending upon the day – we use the Weekly Intercessions leaflet and Pewsheet prayers

**Prayer Requests:-** At the Daily Offices the prayer requests sent in are held before God during the intercessions section of the Office. Please send your prayer requests by email [Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](mailto:Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk) or by text 07971 895897 or voicemail, or post them to 29 Gleniffer Road, Renfrew PA4 ORD

## Children are welcome – of course!

Children are welcome at church. If you come along please sit with an adult you live with if you want to, or sit on your own like everyone else. Children feel free to bring an adult along to church but I am sorry there is no singing, although some of the recorded music we have had at the end has been good for dancing out of church to!



**Remember the needs of the Church and the world in your Giving**

**To support the life and ministry of our churches you can send your donations using online banking or telephone banking using these details**

**For a Reference give your name**

St Johns Scottish Episcopal Church  
Bank of Scotland  
Sort code 80-16-53  
Account Number 00356544

St Margarets Episcopal Church  
Royal Bank of Scotland  
Sort Code 83-26-22  
Account Number 00196266

Please continue to send your giving to St John's or St Margaret's to the Rector Rev'd Reuben Preston, 29 Gleniffer Road, Renfrew PA4 ORD and Reuben will ensure your cheques are banked. If you would like to give directly please use these details. 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.

# November Diary

## for St Johns & St Margarets

Rota in church, online & telephone Services & events

### Sunday 1 November **ALL SAINTS DAY**

– recordings of the service are available from 5pm at <http://tinyurl.com/SECStJohnStMargaret>

Readings are: 1 John 3.1-3 Matthew 5.1-12

**0945am Eucharist at St John's** – doors open at 0930am

Reader: David F Intercessions: Gill Homily: Lisa

**1130am Eucharist at St Margaret's** – doors open at 1115am

Reader: John M Intercessions: Pat Homily: Lisa

**6pm All Saints Party** on Zoom & Telephone to celebrate 2years of Reuben being Rector – please bring along a joke, a turn, a picture or a story to share as we remember 2 years

### Monday 2 November **ALL SOULS DAY**

**7pm** Zoom & Telephone **Evening Service of readings and prayers** as we name those we remember

### Wednesday 4 November

**2pm Telephone Service** (20mins and 10mins chat)

**7pm Zoom Communion Service** (30mins and chat until 8pm)

### Sunday 8 November **Pentecost 23**

#### **Remembrance Sunday**

– recordings of the service are available from 5pm at

<http://tinyurl.com/SECStJohnStMargaret>

Readings are: 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18 Matthew 25.1-13

**0945am Eucharist at St John's** & Act of Remembrance – open at 0930am

Reader: Agnes Intercessions: Kay Homily: Reuben

**1130am Eucharist at St Margaret's** & Act of Remembrance – open at 1115am

Reader: Doreen Intercessions: Vanessa Homily: Reuben

### Wednesday 11 November

**2pm Telephone Service** (20mins and 10mins chat)

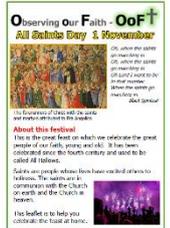
**7pm Zoom Communion Service** (30mins and chat until 8pm)



## **Thursday 12 November 7pm on Zoom & Telephone**

### ***"How did we get on with OoF1?"***

7pm-8pm an opportunity to share with Lisa how you used the OoF for All Saints at home. What did you think about, who did you remember..... what did you like and what could be added or improved?



## **Sunday 15 November St Margaret of Scotland (trans)**

– recordings of the service are available from 5pm at <http://tinyurl.com/SECStJohnStMargaret>

Readings are: 2 Timothy 1.1-7 Matthew 13.44-46

**0945am Eucharist at St John's** – doors open at 0930am

Reader: David R Intercessions: Gill Homily: Lisa

**1130am Eucharist at St Margaret's** – doors open at 1115am

Reader: Jane T Intercessions: John M Homily: Lisa

## **Wednesday 18 November**

**2pm Telephone Service** (20mins and 10mins chat)

**7pm Zoom Communion Service** (30mins and chat until 8pm)



## **Saturday 21 November**

**St Johns AGM 12noon** see details below

## **Sunday 22 November Christ the King**

– recordings of the service are available from 5pm at <http://tinyurl.com/SECStJohnStMargaret>

Readings are: Ephesians 1.15-23 Matthew 25.31-46

**0945am Eucharist at St John's** – open at 0930am

Reader: Ann Intercessions: Kay

**1130am Eucharist at St Margaret's** – open at 1115am

Reader: Alan Intercessions: Jane T



## **Wednesday 25 November**

**2pm Telephone Service** (20mins and 10mins chat)

**7pm Zoom Communion Service** (30mins and chat until 8pm)



## **Thursday 26 November**

**St Margarets AGM 7.30pm** see details below

## **Saturday 28 November**

**Advent Quiet Afternoon** 3pm-430pm with Bishop Kevin  
an opportunity to stop and pause before we launch into Advent tomorrow. With music, readings, poems, silence and conversation we share our preparations together with Bp Kevin

## **Sunday 29 November ADVENT SUNDAY**

– recordings of the service are available from 5pm at <http://tinyurl.com/SECStJohnStMargaret>

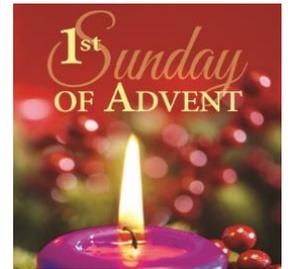
Readings are: Romans 13.11-14 Matthew 24.36-44

**0945am Eucharist at St John's** – open at 0930am

Reader: Agnes Intercessions: Reuben

**1130am Eucharist at St Margaret's** – open at 1115am

Reader: Moira (recorded) Intercessions: John M



Available online 12noon Saturday : the **Pewsheets for the week**,  
the **Intercessions Sheet for the week** &  
the **Reflection for the Sunday Gospel**

**Our recorded Sunday services** are put online after the recording so are usually available by 6pm at the latest each Sunday. Please invite others to join in our Episcopal Church worship at home – it is important we use all our avenues of worship and prayer to help others to find something of God in their lives too.

**You can join in the National SEC Services from**

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



to our **Pastoral Assistants** Wilma & John as they have kept in touch with us all by phone and also to Lisa as she is helping us keep connected through her telephone calls as well. If you have ideas for folk it would be valuable to call who are isolated please let us know.

## **Funerals and Weddings and Baptisms**

In our church buildings Weddings and Funerals can resume on Wednesdays or Thursdays with limited capacity, no singing is permitted and social distancing rules remain in place. Enquiries should be made to the Rector and will be treated on a case by case basis depending upon any local lockdown or precautions being brought into effect.

**Contact:** Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

**Mob:** 07971 895897

# *Telephone Church*



Across Scotland Telephone Church has proved a helpful way for folk to join together who do not have access to the internet.

We shall try Telephone Church on Wednesday afternoons in November and December. The Service will be Ante-Communion – that is our Sunday Service up to the Peace and then close with the Grace together. There will then be chance to have a chat and say hello.

You dial in on your phone, if you don't have zoom. You type in the Meeting ID and Pass Code when requested. Please follow the instructions that you are given.



The Telephone Church line will be open from 1.45pm to give you plenty of time to connect and type in the details. **The Service starts at 2pm.** It is a landline number so you will be charged according to your telephone contract. If you have inclusive minutes or a package for landlines it may well be free.

The service will end at 2.30pm and the call terminated for everyone.

It is an excellent way for house-bound folk to join in being church with us in their isolation if they don't have a computer to join in all our other offerings.

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



Other numbers you can use are

0203 901 7895    0131 460 1196    0203 051 2874    0203 481 5237    0203 481 5240

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



## **St Johns AGM is on Saturday 21 November at 12noon-1pm**

connect on the telephone or by zoom details on the front page  
please make sure you come along and join in as we reflect on the strange year  
gone by and say thank you to everyone who has helped make our church life  
possible.

### Agenda

1. **Opening Prayer**
2. **Apologies**
3. **Minutes of previous AGM meeting in 2019**
4. **essential Matters arising** not being dealt with elsewhere on the agenda

### Reflecting on the Year Gone By

5. **Property Convenor's** report on the state of play concerning the renovations
6. **Treasurer's Report** -on the Vestry's audited accounts for August 2019-2020
7. **PVG Report**
8. **Social Committee – no report due to COVID**
9. **Women's fellowship – no report due to COVID**
10. **(Sunday School – currently in suspension until we have appropriate facilities)**  
Ecumenical working
11. **Rectors Report**

### Preparing for the Year ahead

**We hope to be able to continue with the same vestry members for the year ahead and if it is acceptable to the meeting everyone can be voted to continue for the next year.**

12. **Elections to the Vestry**
13. **Annual appointments of Lay Representative and Alternate**
14. **Appointment of Rector's Warden**
15. **Appointment of the Property Convener**
16. **Appointment of the Auditor**
17. **AOB – please give items to the secretary before the meeting commences**
18. **Date of Vestry meetings for 2021** are published as needed during the pandemic
19. **Closing Prayer – The Grace prayed together together**



## **St Margarets AGM is on Thursday 26 November at 7.30pm-8.30pm**

connect on the telephone or by zoom details on the front page please make sure you come along and join in as we reflect on the strange year gone by and say thank you to everyone who has helped make our church life possible.

### **A G E N D A**

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Remember the Departed.
3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2019 AGM
4. Presentation of the audited Vestry Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2020 - Treasurer
5. Election of LAY REPRESENTATIVE and ALTERNATIVE
6. Election of Vestry members
7. Election of PVG Co-ordinator.
8. Appointment of an Auditor.
9. Statistics for the year will be assembled following the Christ the King Sunday 2020 and displayed in church once submitted to the diocese
10. Report from PVG Co-ordinator.
11. Report from Social Committee Convener.
12. Report from Sunday School.
13. Report from Property Convener.
14. Rector's Report
15. Any Other Business items to be given to the secretary before the meeting commences.
16. Next Vestry Meeting – dates for Advent 2020 to Advent 2021 will be announced as necessary during the pandemic
17. Closing prayer

AGM documents for both churches will be put on the website at the following address

**[www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk/agm2020/](http://www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk/agm2020/)**

# ADVENT

## Advent Quiet afternoon

**Saturday 28 November 3pm-4.30pm**

This event is for members of both charges. It is an opportunity to pause and reflect upon the coming season of Advent. Bishop Kevin will address us and we shall enjoy Advent music, readings and an opportunity to discuss some of the questions which the season raises for us.

This event is for young and older alike and is on zoom & on the telephone to allow as many folk as possible to join in.

The programme will be very structured to help keep us together as we spend a bit of time allowing ourselves to get ready at share in Advent this year at home, at church and online & telephone.

*Connection details are on the front page.*



### ***Donations towards the extra costs in keeping connected during the Advent and Christmastide Seasons***

*If you would like to make a donation towards the printing, postage and preparation costs of our OoFs and Newletters please send you 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) and put OoF in the comments box*

**Contact:** Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

**Mob:** 07971 895897

# Looking Ahead into Advent and Christmastide....



2 Dec Wednesday	<b>2pm telephone church &amp; 7pm Zoom Communion Service</b>	
3 Dec Thursday	<b>7pm Zoom Advent reflection hour</b>	
6 December <b>ADVENT 2</b>	<b>0945 St Johns Eucharist</b> <b>1130 St Margarets Eucharist</b> <i>6pm recorded services available</i>	
9 Wednesday	<b>2pm telephone church &amp; 7pm Zoom Communion Service</b>	
10 Thursday	<b>7pm Zoom &amp; Telephone Advent reflection hour</b>	
13 December <b>ADVENT 3</b>	<b>0945 St Johns Eucharist</b> <b>1130 St Margarets Eucharist</b> <i>6pm recorded services available</i>	
16 Wednesday	<b>2pm telephone church &amp; 7pm Zoom Communion Service</b>	
17 Thursday	<b>7pm Zoom &amp; Telephone Advent reflection hour</b>	
18 Friday	<b>7pm Zoom &amp; Telephone Carol Celebration</b>	
20 December ADVENT 4 <b>CHRISTINGLES for all</b>	<b>0945 St Johns Eucharist with Christingles for all</b> <b>1130 St Margarets Eucharist with Christingles for all</b> <i>6pm recorded services available</i> <b>6pm Zoom and telephone Christingles Service</b> (30mins)	
23 Wednesday	<b>2pm telephone church &amp; 7pm Zoom Communion Service</b>	
24 Thursday <b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>OoF 3 – Christmas Eve</b> <b>3pm Crib Service at St Johns (35mins)</b> <b>1130pm Zoom &amp; Telephone Midnight Mass</b>	
25 Friday <b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>OoF 4 – Christmas</b> <b>1030am Christmas Day Eucharist</b> <b>at St Margarets</b>	

26 Saturday St Stephens Day	<b>4pm Zoom &amp; Telephone St Stephens Day blether –“ what was Christmas Day like?”</b>	
27 December <b>St Johns the Evangelist</b>	<b>0945 St Johns – Patronal Festival Eucharist 1130 St Margarets Eucharist</b> <i>6pm recorded services available</i>	
30 Wednesday	<b>2pm telephone church &amp; 7pm Zoom Communion Service</b>	
31 Thursday	<b>7pm Talking about OoF so far</b>	
2021 Friday 1 January	<b>OoF 5 – New Year 2021</b>	
3 January <b>2<sup>nd</sup> of Christmas</b>	<b>0945 St Johns Eucharist 1130 St Margarets Eucharist</b> <i>6pm recorded services available</i>	
6 Wednesday <b>Epiphany</b>	<b>OoF 6 – Epiphany 2pm telephone church &amp; 7pm Zoom Communion Service</b>	
10 January <b>Baptism of the Lord</b>	<b>0945 St Johns Eucharist 1130 St Margarets Eucharist</b> <i>6pm recorded services available</i>	
13 Wednesday	<b>2pm telephone church &amp; 7pm Zoom Communion Service</b>	
14 Thursday	<b>7pm Zoom the Epiphany message</b>	
17 January <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b>	<b>OoF 7 – Keeping the Feast 0945 St Johns Eucharist 1130 St Margarets Eucharist</b> <i>6pm recorded services available</i>	
20 Wednesday	<b>2pm telephone church &amp; 7pm Zoom Communion Service</b>	
24 January <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b>	<b>0945 St Johns Eucharist 1130 St Margarets Eucharist</b> <i>6pm recorded services available</i>	
27 Wednesday	<b>2pm telephone church &amp; 7pm Zoom Communion Service</b>	
31 January <b>Candlemas</b>	<b>OoF 8 – End of Christmastide &amp; Epiphanytide 0945 St Johns Eucharist 1130 St Margarets Eucharist</b> <i>6pm recorded services available</i>	

**Come and celebrate the seasons at St Johns & St Margarets: at home, online & telephone and in our buildings during the pandemic period of 2020 & 2021**  
**Contact:** Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk **Mob:** 07971 895897

