

March 2025 Magazine



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Please do not contact the Rector in connection with hall bookings – the contact details for Celia, who deals with this, are above.

The cover picture: A Lenten Rose, Helleborus Orientalis

*All Saints Scottish Episcopal
Church*

Drymen Road, Bearsden



March 2025

Dear All,

A Hallelujah Chorus for Lent, Holy Week and Easter

It is always interesting to see how different congregations celebrate Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. For some churches, Lent (and indeed Advent) is simply “not a part of our tradition” and everything seems to come in a rush from Palm Sunday onwards.

As we know, Lent is a time of preparation and reflection. In the ancient church, Lent was a time for new converts to be instructed for baptism and for believers caught in sin to focus on repentance. In time, all Christians came to see Lent as a season to be reminded of their need for penitence and to prepare spiritually for the celebration of Easter. Part of this preparation involved the Lenten “fast,” giving up something special during the six weeks of Lent.

Historically, many Protestants rejected the practice of Lent, pointing out that it was nowhere required in Scripture. Some of these Protestants were also the ones who refused to celebrate Christmas, by the way. Other parts of the Protestant church did continue to recognise a season of preparation for Easter, however. Their emphasis was not so much on penitence and fasting as on intentional devotion to God and some churches added special Lenten Bible studies or prayer meetings so that their members would be primed for a deeper experience of Good Friday and Easter. Lent was a season to do something extra for God, not to give something up.

I hope that for us at All Saints we can use Lent as a time for getting our focus on God right. It can help us to look ahead to Good Friday and Easter, thus appreciating more deeply the meaning of the cross and the victory of the resurrection. For churches that ignore or dismiss the distinctiveness of Lent, Holy Week, Good Friday and Easter can seem to rush by before they are given the attention they deserve.

With the things that we do during Lent – whether that be Compline, a guided Bible study, or special services – we can become much more ready to meditate upon the depth of Christ’s sacrifice and to celebrate his victory over sin and death on Easter Day.

If you have no idea what to do during Lent, let me suggest the following. Set aside some time of quiet to ask the Lord what he wants you to do. See if the Spirit of God guides you to something. If nothing comes to mind, I’d recommend that you read a chapter of a gospel each day. If you start with Mark, you’ll have time to

read all of Mark plus all of one other gospel (maybe Luke, which is our lectionary gospel this year) during Lent.

No matter what you do during this Lenten season, I pray that God will draw us all closer to him, and prepare us for a fresh experience of Holy Week, Good Friday and Easter. Then, when we host our morning service on Easter morning (April 20th), we can rejoice together with a loud Hallelujah, Praise the Lord!

Rev'd David

The **World Day of Prayer** will be held on **Friday March 7 at 2.00pm** at St Andrew’s RC Church, Bearsden

A LENT REMINDER

A quick reminder that Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, March 5th**, when we will hold our weekly Morning Prayer/prayer group at 10.30am followed by Said Communion at **11.00am**. Then at **7.30pm** there will be a Sung Communion. At both Communion services there will be an opportunity to receive the imposition of ashes for those who wish to – you are under no compulsion to do so, but some find it a helpful beginning to the Lenten season.

On subsequent **Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm** (March 12, 19, 26, April 2 and 9) we will be holding **Night Prayer (Compline)**. This is an easier pattern to remember (each Lent evening service is being held on a Wednesday) and takes us through to services during Holy Week.

On **Tuesday afternoons** (March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8 and 15) we will hold our **Lent study course** in the hall from **2-3.00pm**. We will be using this year’s SPCK Lent study book, *Wild Bright Hope*. The 12 chapters are intended to be read two at a time over the six weeks of Lent. For more details and to order the book visit <https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/wild-bright-hope/>. See p 15 for more details.

In **Holy Week** itself we will repeat last year’s pattern of services: usual Morning Prayer at 10.30am and Said Communion at 11.00am on **Wednesday, April 16**; Sung Communion with foot-washing and stripping of the altar on **Maundy Thursday (April 17)** at 7.30pm;

An Hour at the Cross service on **Good Friday (April 18)** at 2.00pm with the church open for resourced private prayer and reflection from noon.



THE NEW BISHOP

The consecration of our Bishop-elect, the Rev Canon Dr Nick Bundock, has been scheduled for **Saturday, 3 May 2025**. The service will take place at St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow.

Bishop-elect Nick formally accepted the election during a meeting of the College of Bishops in Edinburgh. We invite your prayers as we prepare for this significant moment in the life of our diocese and look forward to welcoming Bishop-elect Nick and his family into this new chapter of life and ministry.

Further details regarding the consecration service will be shared in due course.

ABC UNITY LUNCH SATURDAY 8TH FEBRUARY

I think everyone who attended would agree that the Unity lunch this year, held at Boclair Community Church (formerly known as Kessington Parish Church), was a great success. There were folk from most of the ABC churches and it was lovely to be able to gather together as one and learn more about Tearfund.

Just under 80 of us enjoyed soup, sandwiches, cakes and tablet provided by Café Crème. The spacious and light hall at Boclair, along with the round tables, really lends itself to large functions. It felt full, but not noisy, and the tables filled up quickly. There was a slight tendency to gravitate towards people one knew, so perhaps next time we should make a deliberate effort to sit at different tables and talking to people we haven't met before?

Robbie Morrison gave a very informative and lively talk on the work of Tearfund, with facts, figures and stories all woven together expertly. I think the thing that resonated most with me was that Tearfund's work is really underpinned by prayer. Indeed, he told us that **every Wednesday**, between 9.00-10.00am, no work meetings are scheduled and everyone in the organisation meets together on zoom to pray. So, besides perhaps giving financially, we could all pray for the valuable work Tearfund does.

The ABC committee are very keen to promote unity among the Bearsden churches, so we would be delighted if anyone fancied joining us on **March 4th** at 11.00am for our next meeting. Alternatively, if you have any ideas about what the churches can do to further our work together, please do talk to either of us.

Celia and Penny

MY FRIEND MAXIE RICHARDS

It is hard to put into words what Maxie Richards meant to me, to our church, and to the countless lives she touched. To me, she was first and foremost a dear friend. We met as young mothers in the church, sharing in the joys and challenges of raising our children in faith. From the very beginning, Maxie had a warmth about her—an openness that made everyone feel welcome.

Maxie was a loyal and dedicated member of the Mothers' Union, always ready to support and encourage others. She poured her heart into Sunday School, ensuring every child knew they were loved, not just by us, but by God. Her home was always open, especially for the young people in our Youth Fellowship. Hogmanay was never complete without her infamous Black Bun cake!

But Maxie’s kindness didn’t stop at the church doors. When she saw the growing crisis of heroin addiction in Possilpark, she couldn’t ignore it. While many looked away, Maxie stepped forward. She began with a simple drop-in centre offering food, support, and a place of safety. But she didn’t stop there. She started charity shops to raise funds, and when that wasn’t enough, she did something extraordinary—she opened her own home to those in need.

Her work was recognized when she was named Scotland’s Woman of the Year, but awards were never what drove Maxie. She did it because she believed in second chances, in redemption, and in the power of love to change lives. She saw the person beyond the addiction, the soul beyond the struggle. And because of that, so many found hope where there had once been only despair.

I take comfort in knowing that her legacy lives on at Kings Court Tighnabruaich. She showed us what it truly means to live out our faith—not just in words, but in action. She was my friend, a shining example to us all of Christ’s love in this world.

Jean Stirling

The packed church on Monday 17 February for the service of remembrance and the moving eulogies by family members and Patrick White from Kings Court Tighnabruaich were a great tribute to an amazing lady.

ALL SAINTS BURNS SUPPER

Appreciations

Burns Night happened to fall on a Saturday this year so ideal for a celebration. An evening for this was organised by a team of Louise, John, Jenny and Celia.

When I arrived and saw the hall, how it had been set with a sea of tartan I knew we were going to have a lovely time. It was so bright and welcoming.

As we arrived we were entertained by John Harrington on his almost three hundred year old violin. What a treat! The haggis was piped in electronically and addressed in fine form by Graham Caie. The traditional meal beautifully cooked, was then served by lots



of helpers and it was delicious. As was the rest of the meal. All perfect. A lot of work by the team in the kitchen.

Then Mary gave a rendition of Burn’s “To A Mouse”. Following this, Kate narrated a piece from the Herald. An extra to our programme which was fun. Then Toast to the Lassies, by husband Graham. I had not been party to much of this. Enough said! It was all a surprise to me. Jean replied with an excellent speech on behalf of the Lassies. Then more singing and finishing of course with Auld Lang Syne, with Helen playing the piano accordion along with John. What a fabulous evening. The attention to detail was second to none. Thank you to everyone for making such a happy atmosphere and pleasant evening.

Elaine Perrett

From Kate Ross

It was the first Burn's supper at All Saints for five years; it has obviously been missed as the large turnout showed with fifty plus filling the Drymen Hall on Burn's night itself, the 25th January.



We were welcomed by fiddle music played by John, and before long the Selkirk grace was given, and the haggis piped in and addressed by Graham Caie, resplendent in his kilt.

The delicious meal was followed by a recitation of ‘To a Mouse’ by Mary Stott. Graham Perret continued with the toast to the lassies. Lots of quotes from Burns poems to his own favourite lassies, and references to the importance of lots of lassies in Graham's own family. Jean had her arm twisted to give the reply which she did admirably with her usual down to earth sense of humour.

More humour in a poem I had found in letters to the Herald, an alternative address to the haggis, which suggested what Burns might think of modern day fare:

Fair fa' your honest sonsie face,
Great chieftain o' the puddin -race
A deep-fried Mars bar's ta'en your place
And noo ye are redundant!
Nae jist the haggis got the sack:
Mealie puddin tae, and the black.

For weans the day prefer tae snack
on burgers frae McDonalds.
Porridge tae has felt the blast
an' oatcakes in the bin are cast
As skirlie's condemned tae the past
As weans eat Dunkin Donuts.
Sae what o' Scotland's once proud race?
Wha's waistband grows at unco pace
Whaur obesity taks pride o' place,
Lord gie me back ma haggis!

A very successful evening, so huge thanks must go to Louise and Celia for getting it off the ground and organising all the musicians, cooks and servers, table decorators and speakers. It was great to see so many together, enjoying a social event.

LETTERS OF THANKS FROM OUR MISSION GIVING

(More in next month's magazine)



Thank you to all at All Saints Church Bearsden for your kind donation of £600.00. Your generosity will support those affected by homelessness, poverty and addiction in Glasgow this Winter.

In this year's Christmas Appeal, we told the story of Willie who came to Glasgow City Mission for the first time in 1998 and became part of the Mission family. Donations such as yours are vital as we journey with guests like Willie, they allow us to build and deepen relationships, which bring stability and peace into turbulent lives.

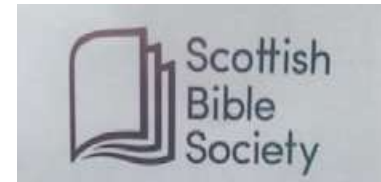
Thank you again for your donation, which will support our guests this Winter period.

If you want to hear more about the work of Glasgow City Mission, you can call us on 0141 221 2630 or visit our website at www.glasgowcitymission.com.

We wish you a blessed and happy new year.

Yours sincerely,

Jack Geddes
Marketing and Fundraising Manager
Email: jack@glasgowcitymission.com



Thank you to the Mission Support Group at All Saints Church, Bearsden for giving the gift of light with your kind donation of £100.00. Please pass on our thanks to the group members. You are sharing God's Word with people who are waiting for their very own Bible. People like Fredline.

Fredline, one of 22 siblings, grew up in a family where every cent mattered. Her parents, struggling to make ends meet, faced tough choices—there was no room in their budget for what they perceived as luxuries, like a Bible. "They preferred to send me to school," Fredline explained.

When the Haitian Bible Society gifted her a Bible, Fredline's joy was overwhelming. "I intend to tell this story to the whole family after reading it!" she declared, her face glowing with excitement. For Fredline, the Bible wasn't just a book—it was a symbol of hope, faith, and the power of sharing God's word with those she loves most.

Thanks to you, and others like you, more people like Fredline will be able to read and re-tell stories from the Bible. They can 'bring good news that will cause great joy' because you have chosen to give them the gift God's Word. Thank you for providing the life-giving Good News. We look forward to hearing from you to arrange a speaking engagement.

With warm Christian greetings,

Elaine M Duncan
Chief Executive



Supporting health and welfare of the poor and marginalised

Registered Charity No. 209168

All Saints Bearsden,

Thank you very much for your generous donation of £500 to Friends of Vellore for the Person-to-Person scheme. We and Christian Medical College Vellore are so grateful for your support of PTP which will enable patients to have the treatment that they desperately need but are unable to afford. CMC Vellore will send a report showing which patients benefitted in a few weeks' time.

I am pleased to update you on our current projects. In partnership with CMC, we continue to expand healthcare access in underserved communities. In the tribal region of the Jawadhi Hills, Friends of Vellore UK fund 11 community health workers who play a vital role in maternal care, vaccination efforts, and managing chronic diseases. We are also supporting two vision outreach workers, Arun and Manimaran, who educate and refer patients for eye care, conduct screenings in schools, and assist at the local vision centre.

Furthermore, we continue to collaborate with CMC on their palliative care programme. This programme makes a tangible difference in the lives of families facing serious illness by providing medical and social support to families in need.

Through these initiatives, we aim not only to provide immediate medical relief but also to create sustainable improvements in healthcare for marginalised communities. As I plan for another year of fundraising, I'm feeling energised with ideas, especially after my colleague Ruth's return from India. Ruth brought back inspiring stories and pictures having witnessed firsthand the dedication of the CMC staff and the profound impact of their work.

If your church would like to learn more about our work, we would be happy to arrange for a speaker from Friends of Vellore to visit and share more about our projects. It would be a wonderful opportunity to connect and discuss how we can continue to work together to support those in need.

Thank you once again for your generosity. Kind Regards

Georgina Crawford Fundraiser, Friends of Vellore UK

A Message from Ellen in Washington DC

Dear all,

It was wonderful to see you all over the Christmas period.

As I did in my previous semester, I'll give a little breakdown into my classes for Spring 2025. I have a research methods class in which I am exploring the political causes of genocide in my research project. I am doing a course called



Terrorism, Extremism and Education with Dr Cynthia Miller-Idriss, her knowledge and teachings have been so interesting. I was very lucky to attend a premiere of a documentary called 'Against all Enemies' on domestic terrorism and extremism within the US, and the link of the January 6th Capitol attacks. My professor was on a panel with the director and former Congressman Denver Riggleman.

I have a class called American Culture in the Nuclear Age. My professor, Peter Kuznick has provided me with such insight into nuclear weapons history. He is often on the news and media outlets across the world, giving his advice and opinions as a well-established academic. My fourth and final course is Nazi Germany. I have found learning about the factors that allowed the Nazi Party to gain power in Germany. I am hoping to write and investigate about the medical testing's that took place within the Concentration Camps.

I am so happy to be back in DC again, my Mum is flying out in a week's time (this being written on 10th February). It will be lovely to see her and show her all my favourite spots. In the April magazine, I will send some photographs of our travels.

I have been enjoying the American University basketball games. We have at least one home game a week. We are currently at the top of the league and I hope for us to win.

I look forward to writing again soon.

Ellen :)

FOLLOWING WLG ON 12 FEBRUARY

I thoroughly enjoyed the Wednesday Lunch Group's meeting on 12 February and the excellent questions I was asked after my talk on the way the shift in a word's meaning through the ages often reflects societal or cultural changes.

We are great at procrastinating and so it's not surprising that the word "soon" originally meant "immediately" in Anglo-Saxon. We can all experience terrible journeys, so when next stuck in an airport you might want to learn that "travel" comes from the Latin *tripalium* meaning a torture device! By the 14th century "travelen" meant to torment, strive, or journey.

Did you know that "gossip" comes from 'a good relation' (good + sib[ling])? What does that tell us about our relatives? And "silly" comes from Anglo-Saxon "sælig", 'blessed', so we find in Middle English references to 'the silly baby Jesus'.

As the clergy had monopoly of the written word, non-clerics (or over 90% of the population) came in for a hard linguistic time: "lewd" originally meant 'unlearned', 'non-clerical' as in the phrase "the leamed and the lewd", but, being looked down on by the clergy, they were considered 'crude'. Similarly, honest labourers, were called "churls" in early English, but, considered inferior by city dwellers they were later deemed 'rude', 'dishonest'; interestingly the word is the origin of "Charles". In the same way "villain" started life as a country farmer, from Latin *villanus* "farmhand," (cf. Latin *villa* "country house") and suffered the same fate as 'churl'. We don't like smart Alocs, or successful folk, so men good at their craft became "crafty" and knowledgeable men were considered "cunning", as the word comes from Old English *cunnan* 'to know'.

I mentioned in my talk that 'lust' originally meant 'innocent pleasure' and a 'lust house' referred to a garden gazebo or summer house – but no more! Just as 'lust' came to take on a pejorative meaning, the opposite happened to "luxury"; it comes from Latin *luxuria*, the deadly sin of lechery, and through French it came to mean 'lasciviousness' or 'lust'! Those of you going on a luxury cruise beware! As you see, I'm fond of changes in meaning! Oops, 'fond' originally meant 'foolish' or 'weak-minded'; well I might well be that too!

Graham Caie

A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR LAY REPRESENTATIVE

My main duty this month is attending, on your behalf, the annual Diocesan Synod on **Saturday, 22nd February**, at the Howard Centre in Kilmarnock. A reminder that this is basically the Diocese's AGM. As Bishop Nick is yet to be

consecrated the Synod will be chaired by our interim Bishop, The Rt. Rev Andrew Swift, Bishop of Brechin. Having just received the papers for this Synod, most of the business looks to be procedural other than two items. First, this year's Bishop's Lent Appeal will be for charity Refuweegee (<https://www.refuweegee.co.uk>) and, second, there will be a 40-minute presentation by the Diocesan Environmental Group, presumably updating us on progress towards the Scottish Episcopal Church's Net Zero by 2030 target. I shall give a report on the Synod next month.

At the AGM of North-West Regional Council, held at St. Augustine's, Dumbarton on 22nd January, we enjoyed a beautiful intimate communion service led by their Rector, Rev. Heller Gonzalez, as well as the customary generous hospitality. Rev. Dom Ind, Rector of St. Michael's, Helensburgh, was appointed as Chair. I remain as vice-chair and Tim Rhead, lay rep of St. Andrew's, Milngavie, remains as secretary. There was a hearty vote of thanks at the meeting for our outgoing Chair, Rev. Andrea Hagenbuch, who has been in post for quite a long time! There was some discussion at the meeting about the surprise resignation of our Diocesan Missioner, and shared reports about all the good news happening around the region. I was particularly impressed by the work that St. Augustine's, Dumbarton are doing in their community, including that they provided Dinner for 70 people on Christmas Day!

Finally, just one personal update: A reminder that on the evening of **Saturday, 29th March** at **St. Bride's Hyndland 7.30pm**, I shall be part of another concert given by the chamber choir **Cathures**. Music will include Fauré's *Requiem* and *Missa Deus Nobiscum* by Philip Stopford, both with organ accompaniment. Entrance is by donation at the door. The concert will last about an hour, with refreshments afterwards.

David Simmons

Refuweegee

(ref-u-wee-gee)

noun - A person who upon arrival in Glasgow is embraced by the people of the city, a person considered to be local.

see also Glaswegian -

We're all fae somewhere

Refugee was set up in 2015 to provide a warm welcome to forcibly displaced people arriving in Glasgow. As a result of the amazing response from people in Glasgow and beyond, we have provided over 10,000 community-built personal welcome packs and emergency support packs to people all over Glasgow and beyond.

Our aim is to enable the existing community to extend the friendly welcome that Glasgow is renowned for. We work with multiple organisations around Scotland and we love collaborating with other individuals and groups wherever we can on the very simple objective of making the world a nicer place to live.

More details from their website: <https://www.refugee.co.uk>

WILD BRIGHT HOPE

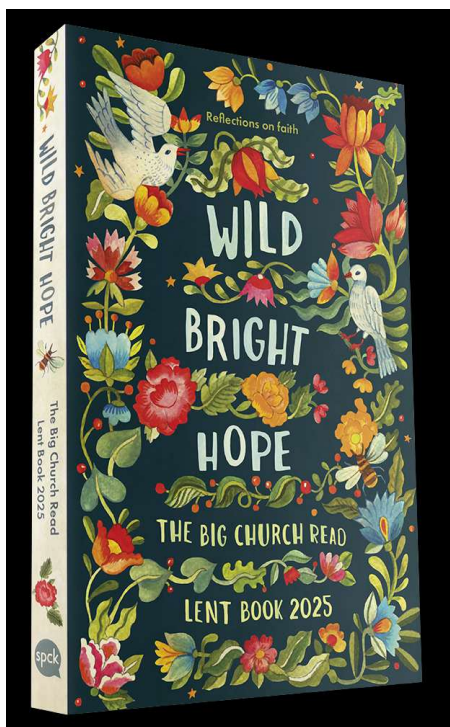
A Lent Journey with the Big Church Read Wild Bright Hope is a transformative Lent book, bringing together 12 dynamic voices, each contributing a unique chapter on the power of hope.

Each chapter is paired with a video from its author, offering deeper insight and creating an engaging, interactive experience. All **Big Church Read** videos and resources are completely free to access, making it easy for individuals and groups to journey through the book together.

Themes include Seeds of Unity, Wild Paths of Peace, A Vision for Hope in Politics, and Hope in Suffering. These chapters inspire readers to face challenges with fresh perspective and active faith.

Through stories, reflections, and bold ideas, *Wild Bright Hope* not only encourages a hopeful outlook but also invites readers to play their part in bringing God's kingdom to life.

Tuesdays 2-3pm in the Church Hall during Lent . See p 2 of this magazine.



SERVICES IN MARCH

Our 10.30am services will be held both in Church and on Facebook
It is also possible to watch services on our Facebook page afterwards

Date	2 March Sunday before Lent (Green)	5 March Ash Wednesday (Purple)	9 March Lent 1 (Purple)	16 March Lent 2 (Purple)	23 March Lent 3 (Purple)	30 March Mothering Sunday Lent 4 (Purple)
Celebrant	Rev David Guest	Rev David Guest	Rev David Guest	Rev David Guest	Rev David Guest	Rev David Guest
9am Service	Said Eucharist (1970 Liturgy)	<i>For Ash Wednesday services, see pp 2&3 in this magazine</i>		Said Eucharist (1970 Liturgy)		
10.30 Service	Sung Eucharist		Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist
Stewards	Janet		Joyce	David	Tracey	Celia
Eucharistic Assistants	Hanan		Louise	Celia	Graham	Graham
Readings	Exodus 34:29-35; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36	Isaiah 58:1-12; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; John 8:1-11	Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13	Genesis 15:1-12,17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35	Isaiah 55:1-9; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9	Exodus 2:1-10; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:33-35
Reader	Graham Caie		Gill Hamblen	David Hamblen	Bryan Stack	Sheena MacDonald
Intercessor	Sheena MacDonald		David Simmons	Louise Benson	Mary Stott	Andrew Long
After-service Coffee	John Joyce		Gioia Pauline	Anne Janet	Fiona Gillian	Susan Sheena
Other events	A 9.00am Said Eucharist is held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, using the 1970 liturgy. There is a 11.00am Said Eucharist on Wednesday mornings, preceded by a prayer group/Morning Prayer at 10.30am, including Ash Wednesday. Night Prayer (Compline) will be held on Wednesday evenings March 12, 19, 26, April 2 and 9th at 7.00pm					

The Editor for the April edition will be Janet Stack. Please send articles to janet.stack@btinternet.com by **Sunday, 23 March 2025**.

The Rector's usual days off each week are Thursdays and Fridays. One of these may occasionally change depending on other work demands