# March and April 2019

# THE MESSENGER



The Magazine of
St Michael And All Angels
Episcopal Church, Helensburgh
www.stmichaelhelensburgh.org.uk



#### **Service Details**

#### Sunday

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

10:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite) followed by refreshments

Crèche and Young Church

6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

#### **Tuesdays**

10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite) followed by refreshments

For dates of services please see Diary (Page 12) inside



#### ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, WILLIAM STREET, HELENSBURGH

Charity Registered in Scotland SC006468

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## From the Rector

Dear Friends,

I think it might be quite helpful to say a few words about the tradition of the Easter Triduum, as for some this may be unfamiliar. It covers the services celebrated on Maundy Thursday; Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

On the morning of Thursday in Holy Week most of the clergy in the Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway will make their way to the Cathedral for the Chrism Mass, where they will renew their commitment to Ministry and the oils will be blessed by the diocesan bishop. The Easter Triduum starts on the evening of Maundy Thursday, where at St. Michael's there will be a Sung Eucharist which has various elements to it, unique to this evening service. There is the Washing of Feet after the sermon when people, if they wish, are invited to take part. immediately after the post-communion prayer the altar will be stripped, cross, candles etc. removed (in silence). We will then move to the Trinity Chapel, for the Watch, which will last until 10pm. The congregation can remain for as long or as short a time as they wish.

On Good Friday, we will join our fellow Christians in Helensburgh for a Procession of Witness. In the afternoon, we will return to St. Michael's for the Solemn Liturgy. After the drama of the night before, this is a solemn service divided into four parts: Ministry of the Word; Proclamation of the Cross; Intercessions and Ante-communion.

In complete contrast, on Holy Saturday we move to the Easter Vigil. This is obviously the greatest observance of the Churches Year and should be a foretaste of the Everlasting Easter! We start with a

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## From the Rector (Continued)

bonfire, outside St Michael's on the south side of the building. The focus is now on the Paschal Candle which will be lit from the fire! Then we process carrying the candle into a dark church proclaiming the 'Light of Christ' at the church door; mid-church and chancel. The climax of the Service of Light, is to sing the ancient Easter Song of Praise (Exsultet). A shortened Vigil will follow, which will be an extended Liturgy of the Word. The third part of the Easter Vigil is the Liturgy of Initiation, which will be a Re-affirmation of Baptismal Vows. The Eucharist is delayed until Easter morning. The Easter Vigil is the 'Solemnity of Solemnities' and I hope will bring great joy to the people of St. Michael's.

Love Dom Ind, Rector

## News

The Cover picture this month shows the most important aspect of any church, its congregation in spiritual activity on the recent retreat day organised by Lorna, Elspeth and Monica. What a wonderful way to approach Lent. Many thanks to Chris Packard for this photograph. I have a full report on the happy occasion of the Ordination to the diaconate at York Minster of our former Lay Reader, Peter Higson. I had no space left in this edition and I will post it on the notice board for everyone to have a look at.

Easter greetings to all our readers.

Richard Smith, Editor

## **Notices**

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING The March Coffee Morning will be held at Sheila and Michael Baker's house, Westburn, 50 Campbell Street, Helensburgh at 10:30am on the 7<sup>th</sup> March tel: 674686.

The April Coffee Morning will be held at Jill Braid's house, Ortona, 41 Charlotte Street, Helensburgh at 10:30am on the 4<sup>th</sup> April tel: 674523. *Maureen Kyle* 

STAMPS Thank you to everyone who has given me stamps, for Scripture Union (through Contraflow) over the year. I am still happy to receive your contributions at any time – foreign and commemorative stamps are preferable. Thank you again.

Margaret Gilbert

<u>CHRISTIAN AID</u> Christian Aid Week this year runs from 12th - 18th May. The date for the Christian Aid Fayre is confirmed as Saturday 11th May in the Helensburgh Parish Church main hall. St Michaels are allocated the plant stall, and

## **Notices (continued)**

contributions for this, and for the usual baking stall, will be greatly welcomed nearer the time. The street collection is confirmed for Saturday 18th May.

John Hanks

# **Vestry Report January 2019**

The Vestry met on 15th January and began with an opening prayer.

The Rector then welcomed each of the new Vestry members and went on to make 3 points:

- Christmas Services. He had been concerned that, after such strong attendances during Advent, people might be away over Christmas and attendance might be disappointing. This had not been the case, we had a full church with lots of people, many of whom are on the periphery of St Michaels, attending. This begs the question – how might we better connect with those who are 'on the periphery'?
- Rector's outreach. The Rector has made positive progress in reaching out to various areas of the community. There has been a mixed response from local schools, e.g. Hermitage Primary has responded positively, reflecting their connections with MU through the Cribfest, others less interested. He has made good connections with local politicians of all parties, with forces veteran groups, and he intends to make contact with local GPs.
- St Michaels Community. The Rector had noticed more laughter around St Michaels which he suggested is a positive indicator of a healthy church community.

<u>PA SYSTEM</u>. Upgrade work is now complete with a move to an up to date UHF system. New rechargeable microphone batteries have been installed. We now have a fully 'state of the art' PA system which has performed well over the last few services. This final phase of the upgrade had cost £500 less than we had budgeted for.

The Vestry thanked Richard Smith and Richard Horrell for their hard work on this important project.

#### **DRAFT LITURGIES**

Five draft Liturgies had been distributed to the Vestry for consideration a week before the meeting. The Rector explained that we have kept to 4 Mass settings and, including Advent which was authorized last year, these are:

## **Vestry Report (continued)**

- Mass of St Thomas.
- Russian settings for the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent
- St Anne's Mass for the festive seasons of Christmastide and Eastertide.

Two Ordinary Time liturgies and the one used for Feast Days has 'A New People's Mass' and the one for Feria celebrations in Ordinary Time has the Mass of St. Thomas.

• The only new mass setting for St Michaels is the St Anne's Mass, but this may be familiar to some as it is used widely across the SEC.

Content has been partly sourced from 'Common Worship'. The new liturgy books will make services easier to follow, with no 'printed tail' inserts being necessary. Regarding printing, it was stated that 'Minuteman Printers' charge a competitive rate and printing will follow the same process as 'The Messenger'. The Rector reminded everyone that posture was for guidance only – people could stand, sit or kneel as they wished. The liturgies are:

- Lent (Lilac cover). This is to a similar setting to the Advent Liturgy we used. A duplication of '40 days' is to be corrected in the explanatory notes.
- Eastertide (Golden yellow cover). This incorporates the St Anne's mass and a Hebridean Gloria which reflects a Celtic theme.
- Sundays in Ordinary Time (Green cover). This will be used for about 6 months of the year. The theme is 'growth' and it incorporates a Gaelic blessing.
- Sundays in Ordinary Time Common of the Saints (pale yellow cover).
- Christmas-tide (Red cover).
- Advent (purple cover). This Liturgy has already been approved and was used last year. The congregation had enjoyed using it.

The new liturgies were welcomed by the Vestry, and unanimously approved. They would now be sent to the Dean for Diocesan approval.

#### **EUCHARISTIC ASSISTANTS (MINISTERS)**

Our first tranche of new Eucharistic Ministers had been approved and initiated. To make the roster easier to manage it had been proposed that 2 more Eucharistic Ministers be appointed. Nick Davies and Carol Parry had been put forward. The Vestry endorsed the candidates. Their names will now go forward to The Dean and The Primus for approval.

#### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

## **Vestry Report (continued)**

The Honorary Treasurer opened her update by stating that we are in sound financial shape. One large bill for £594 had been paid recently to the contractor for our annual fire extinguisher check.

- We have received £18,769 in Gift Aid. Following an application made by the Treasurer, we also had £2,500 from the 'Mary Bell Trust' with an encouragement to apply again next year.
- Last year's accounts have been submitted to OSCR, and our newly automated accounting systems seem to be working well. The Rector thanked the Treasurer.

#### **PROPERTY MATTERS**

The Honorary Property Manager began his update with a tribute to Derek Spall for the work he had done, for the orderly handover of information, and for his continued support.

- Rectory Car Parking. The Rector again explained the practical difficulties of extracting his car with the present unsatisfactory gate arrangement. The Vestry had already agreed in principle for the concreting the car parking area (which currently floods due to subsidence) and modifying the gate. Provision of either a car port or garage was under consideration. The need for Planning Permission is required. Costs for the project will be reported to the Vestry once known.
- <u>Church Roof</u>. LC Roofing have progressed maintenance of the church roof.
- Church Heating. 1 of the 2 boilers had been u/s, the engineer had the spare part required to fix. 1 of the 2 water pumps remains u/s and this cannot be rectified. The boilers can only be run on 60% capacity because of exhaust ducting limitations. In summary, our heating system is on 'borrowed time'. The Vestry had already agreed, in principle, that the boilers should be replaced this summer. Quotes are being obtained. The estimated cost is £20,000, but that might be pessimistic. A Diocesan grant to partly off-set the cost is under investigation. The Property Manager suggested that with new boilers in place, it might be more economical to maintain the church at around 12\*C rather than keep trying to warm the building from cold. This might have the added benefit of drying the walls better, which would save on continuously having to repaint the peeling paintwork. The Rector added that this would be in keeping with a church kept open and accessible 7 days a week. The Vestry agreed in principle.

## **Vestry Report (continued)**

- Rectory boundary wall. The wall needs repointing in places, not seen as urgent, and might be a job for the Spring.
- <u>Lower Hall access</u>. It was suggested that the access alley could benefit from lighting, and 4 LED lights, PIR activated might be investigated.

#### MISSION ACTION PLANNING (MAP)

A letter from the Diocesan Canon Missioner had been distributed, which had declared an optional moratorium on the MAP process to allow review and assessment pending the appointment of our next Bishop. The Vestry were content to apply a brake to St Michaels MAP for the time being.

- A general discussion on St Michaels MAP process took place. It was agreed that the MAP team had worked hard, and several positive outcomes had been delivered, notably better communications through the provision of both internal and external notice boards, and with our much-improved church web-site. We could build on this by considering our profile on social media.
- The Vestry did however agree that there had been a lack of connection between congregation and the MAP process.
- A MAP questionnaire was completed and was submitted to the diocese on behalf of the Vestry.

#### <u>SAFEGUARDING</u>

There were no issues to report.

#### **AOCB**

- Daffodil event. Rosemary Wilson had offered to host a 'Daffodil open house' event at High Auchensail. She would provide soup, and people would bring their own sandwiches. Garden to be open, preserves on sale, entry by donation to St Michaels Church funds. Sunday 14th April (Palm Sunday) was agreed as a suitable date.
- Garden Open. Sheila Baker offered another 'Garden Open' day in aid of Church funds. This might be in mid-May. Other gardens might also participate. It was suggested that she contact the social committee.
- Christian Aid. Ruth Hanks had volunteered to be our representative on the 'Christian Aid' Committee. The Vestry warmly welcomed her appointment.

#### Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 5th March

## Lent at St. Michael's

#### **LENT COURSE 2019**

In the Wilderness (York Course) - Thursday evenings (19.30) during Lent in the Upper Hall.

14 March	Session 1	Jesus, Satan & the Angels
21 March	Session 2	The Wilderness Today
28 March	Session 3	The Church in the Wilderness
4 April	Session 4	Prayer, Meditation & Scripture
11 April	Session 5	Solitude, Friendship & Fellowship

Do join us for some or all of these sessions.

Tea / coffee will be served from 19.15 onwards.

#### VISITING PREACHER & BOOK SIGNING

On Sun 10 March, our preacher at the Sung Eucharist will be The Rt Revd Dr Robert Gillies, a former Bp of Aberdeen & Orkney. After the service, Bp Bob will be in the hall to sell his most recent book, Approaching the Cross (£6.95) and will sign copies etc. The book has sold well & has now been reprinted!

#### LENT APPEAL

Bishop's Lent Appeal for 2019 is MACS: Malawi Association for Christian Support. Scotland has had strong links with Malawi since the time of David Livingston (1850s) & MACS has been working in Malawi since 1993. Malawi is among the poorest ten countries in the world & primarily works with local people on education; health & community projects in rural areas. We'll have a collection through Lent for this charity.

#### **HOLY WEEK**

14 April:	Palm Sunday
8.00am	Said Eucharist
10.30am	Sung Eucharist (service starts in Upper Hall with the Palms Ceremony)
6.30pm	Choral Evensong

#### 15 April: Monday in Holy Week

7.00pm 'Last Supper' @ Helensburgh Parish Church

#### Lent at St. Michael's (continued)

16 April: Tuesday in Holy Week

9.15am Prayer Group10.30am Said Eucharist

7.00pm Stations of the Cross @ St Joseph's, Helensburgh

17 April: Wednesday in Holy Week

7.00pm Service @ Helensburgh URC led by a RN Chaplain

THE EASTER TRIDUUM

18 April: Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Sung Eucharist followed by the Watch

19 April: Good Friday

11.00am Procession of Witness starting @ St Joseph's, Helensburgh

2.00pm The Solemn Liturgy

20 April: Holy Saturday

9.00am Preparing St Michael's for Easter

8.00pm The Easter Vigil (service of Light & Fire starting outside St Michael's)



In December Barbara Hoey's daughter took about 50 bags of toiletries into the RAH stroke unit made up of donations from Mothers' Union members and others.

In January we had a very interesting talk from Sheila Baker with many slides of churches that she had visited in the southern hemisphere when she accompanied Michael on his lecture tours. One or two of our members were reminded of their visits to these remote churches. Joan and Ivan Thompson gave a very interesting talk about taking school children on a tour from Northern Ireland to France by boat, train and coach. Describing how the children who had been brought up in NI and had very limited knowledge of how the rest of the UK and indeed France lived. The freedom of movement and lack of restrictions about shopping, e.g. shopkeepers did not have to search their bags on entering shops. It reminded us all about the Troubles in NI which thankfully are now over. We all had great amusement in seeing both Joan and Ivan in a film made decades ago when they were much younger.

## **Mothers' Union (continued)**

Our meetings in March are Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> both at 10.30am in the Upper Hall. In April on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am we will have a talk about 'Jeans Bothy' in East King St. There will not be another meeting in April because of Easter.

\*\*Richard Horrell, MU Branch Leader\*\*

# St. Michael's Art Group

We are a small group of enthusiastic 'artists' using different media — be it watercolour, oils or pastels. We are amateur and 'paint' for enjoyment. We do not have a tutor, but do our own thing, enjoying each other's company, doing something we would not find the time for at home. Busy lives, but in two hours on a Thursday afternoon we can lose ourselves in a hobby.

If you feel you would like to join us, you are most welcome; we have lost members due to moving and poor health.

We meet from 2:00 to 4:00pm in the Lower Hall on Thursdays except holidays.

Margaret Gilbert

# Susan Lewis' Bible Study Group

This meets fortnightly on Mondays at the home of Judy Harbour, 2c Cairndhu Avenue, Helensburgh. Coffee at 10:15am until 12:00noon. (First turning right after the empty Cairndhu Hotel on West Clyde Street; Judy's house is second on the right).

Would you like to learn more about your Christian faithand be able to talk about it in a friendly, confidential group? This has been taking place for over 12 years and we have all found it immensely valuable.

We would warmly welcome anyone interested.

Contact: Judy Harbour 01436 677450

Rosemary Wilson 01389 841297

Rosemary Wilson

## CALENDAR FOR MARCH

#### **MARCH**

#### <u>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Next Before Lent</u>

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite) 10:30-11:15am Young Church 10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite)

6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong *Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Feria* 

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)2:30pm Arrochar House Communion6:30pm Vestry meeting in Lower Hall

## Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March – Ash Wednesday

7:30pm Sung Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

Thursday 7th March

10:30am Monthly Coffee Morning

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March

9:00am Rambling Club – Cashel Forest

#### Sunday 10th March - First of Lent

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)
9:30-10:10am Young Church
10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite) Guest Preacher Rt Revd Dr
Robert Gillies (Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney 2007-2016)
6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Feria
9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group

2:30pm Bible Study Group *Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March* 

10:30am Mothers' Union
7:15pm Lent Course 1 in Upper Hall

10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite)

## Sunday 17th March – Second of Lent

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite) 10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite)

6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March – Feast-day of St.

Joseph of Nazareth

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group 10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite) 2:30pm Cardross House Communion *Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March* 

2:30pm Peninsula House Communion *Thursday 21*<sup>st</sup> *March* 

7:15pm Lent Course 2 in Upper Hall

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

Rambling Club - Carron Valley

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

St. Michael,s Stall for Helensburgh Parish Church Grand Bazaar 7:30pm Springtime Serenade with the Buchanan Ensemble at St. Michael's

## Sunday 24th March - Third of Lent

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite) 10:30-11:15am Young Church 10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite) Joint Service with URC at St. Michael's

6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong *Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March - Feast-day of The* 

Annunciation (transferred)

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group 10:30am Said Eucharist (1982 Rite) 2:30pm Bible Study Group

## **/APRIL 2019**

## Thursday 28th March

10:30am Mothers' Union
7:15pm Lent Course 3 in Upper Hall
Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March

10:30am-12:30pm Messy Church URC

#### <u>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Mothering</u> Sunday

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite) 10:30-11:15am Young Church 10:30-11:30am All Age Service 6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

#### **APRIL**

## Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Feria

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group 10:30amSaid Eucharist (1982 Rite)

#### Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April

10:30amMonthly Coffee Morning
7:15pm Lent Course 4 in Upper Hall

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

6:30pm Ecumenical Taize healing service at St. Michael's

## Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April

9:00am Rambling Club – Gleann Auchreoch

## <u>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Fifth of Lent</u> Start of Passiontide

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite) 10:30-11:15am Young Church 10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite)

6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

## Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April – Feast-day of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Theologian and Martyr, 1945

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group 10:30amSaid Eucharist (1982 Rite) 2:30pm Bible Study Group 2:30pm Cardross House Communion *Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April* 

2:30pm Peninsula House Communion *Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April* 

10:30amMothers' Union – Jeans Bothy in East King Street 7:15pm Lent Course 5 in Upper Hall

#### **HOLY WEEK**

## Sunday 14th April - PALM SUNDAY

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)
10:30-11:15am Young Church
10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite) followed by Wilson's Daffodil Walk at High Auchensail, Cardross
6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April – Monday in Holy Week

7:00pm 'Last Supper' in Helensburgh Parish Church

## Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April – Tuesday in Holy Week

7:00pm Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph's, Helensburgh 6:30pm Vestry meeting in Lower Hall

\*Change of Timing\*

# **CALENDAR** (contd)

#### **APRIL**

## Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April – Wednesday in Holy Week

7:00pm Ecumenical Service at Helensburgh URC

#### THE EASTER TRIDUUM

## Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Maundy Thursday

7:30pm Sung Eucharist followed by the Watch

#### Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Good Friday

11:00amProcession of Witness starting at St. Joseph's
2:00pm The Solemn Liturgy

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April – Holy Saturday
9:00am Preparing St. Michael's for Easter

#### Sunday 21st April -EASTER DAY

8:00pm The Easter Vigil

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite) 10:30-11:15am Young Church 10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982) 6:30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Tuesday of Easter Week

\*No Prayer Group or Eucharist\* **Saturday 27**<sup>th</sup> **April**9:00am Rambling Club Cornalees
Bridge/Greenock Cut

## <u>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Second of Easter</u> (<u>Low Sunday</u>)

8:00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite) 10:30-11:15am Young Church 10:30-11:30am Sung Eucharist (1982 Rite)

\*No Evensong\*

# Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April – Feast-day of St. Mark (transferred)

9:15-9:45am Church Prayer Group 10:30amSaid Eucharist (1982 Rite) 2:30pm Bible Study Group

\*Change of Timing\*



China and Malaysia have stopped importing our and most of the rest of the world's plastic waste much to the consternation of governments who should have been putting into place restrictions on manufacturers from producing the amount of plastic in the first place. Pretending it is not our problem, but someone else's does not cut the mustard. "We are the last generation that can stop Climate Change" is a quote from scientists at the United Nations. Most of our children know about the problem but we are not making our politicians act. If there were a green levy on the energy, materials and water used to manufacture plastics it would force companies to use more recycled plastic, glass, cardboard and far fewer materials overall. Almost everyone you see in the street is carrying a plastic water bottle, in Britain we use 13 billion plastic bottles/year many ending up in the waste bin. What can we mere people on the ground do? Christian Aid wishes us to lobby HSBC banks to stop investing and funding oil companies and ask manufacturers to stop using palm oil which is destroying rain forests. Encourage shops to give out paper bags to put our shopping in. Avoid buying goods wrapped in plastic. From January the Guardian is the first national newspaper which has adopted wrapping made from potato starch, let us hope that other newspapers follow suit.

I promised to update you all on the outcome of the Climate Change Summit which was taking place in Poland at the time of the last Messenger deadline Sad to report a great deal of hot air resulted in delay after delay of positive outcome. The participating countries settled on most of the tricky elements of the "Rulebook for enacting the Paris 2015 Agreement " Governments will measure, report on and verify their emission cutting efforts. A key element because it ensures all participating countries are held to proper standards and find it more difficult to wriggle out of commitment.

The USA, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Australia are all still celebrating the use of fossil fuels, whether oil or coal in the production of electricity. There was a row about how Carbon Credits which are rewarded to countries for their emission cutting efforts and their Carbon Sinks e.g. forests. These credits count



towards countries' emission cutting targets. Brazil hopes to benefit from its large rainforest cover and insisted on a new form of wording which critics said would allow double counting of credits undermining the integrity of the system. A decision on this is being carried forward to the next summit. Brazil's President withdrew the offer of holding the next summit in Brazil as a consequence.

The key deadline for countries to demonstrate they have reached their goals is 2020 when they must affirm new stringent targets.

\*\*Margaret Horrell\*\*

# **HOST UK Lent Appeal**



#### Our Lent Appeal

As we approach a time of joyful celebration in the Church calendar we ask if you might consider doing something for international relations...making a small but significant contribution towards greater understanding worldwide. HOST's mission is to give a welcome to international

students in British homes for friendship and cultural exchange. Our volunteer hosts can offer hospitality for one day (daytime only) or three days and two nights at the weekend.

Please consider becoming one of our volunteer hosts. We operate all year round and would very much welcome you to join us.

More information can be found on our website: www.hostuk.org

Or email us on: <a href="mailto:info@hostuk.org">info@hostuk.org</a>
Or telephone us on: 020 7739 6292





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# **Angels Without Wings**

I am extremely fortunate to be recovering from a very serious illness. I must give profound thanks to all who in some way or other have contributed to my recovery.

Special mention must be made to my neighbour who is a highly qualified nurse, who recognised my symptoms and was instrumental in triggering off the doctor and all the medical services.

Within half an hour an ambulance arrived, and I was whooshed off with blue lights flashing and siren sounding. Kilcreggan to Paisley hospital in record time. Then A&E and the whole hospital procedure; connected up to sensors, drips and oxygen. For nearly two weeks I was cared for until fit enough to return home for more special care and super meals.

All this was not done by chance but by a whole company of people, Nay, by a company of angels of all sorts including those very minor ones who cleared the way for the angels with blue lights, right through to my very special super Angel.

My thanks to all for all the prayers and good wishes.

ANGELS DON'T NEED WINGS.

Ben Bellamy

# **Burns Night**









# **Retreat Day**

#### **LIGHTING THE WAY**

The Retreat Day on Saturday the 16th of February was a great success with over twenty people attending. St Michael's provided an exceptionally beautiful space for people to explore the concepts of outer and inner light. The use of a creative art space, spiritual exercises, books, quotes and images of light helped to facilitate reflection.



If anyone has ever wondered how many people you can fit into the Trinity Chapel, the answer is just under 30! It provided a very cosy and ambient space to share a story and meditation.

A huge thank you to Marjory Barrington and Pippa Reid-Foster, for creating a settling atmosphere, with piano in the morning and harp in the afternoon, as people moved from the Trinity Chapel, into the open space area of the main church.

Lorna Douglas

"It was good to see so many people from such a wide range of backgrounds and to have the mind focused away from the rush of life."

Nigel Allan

## **House Communions**

Arrochar House Communion will be on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 2:30pm.

Peninsula House Communions will be on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at the Bellamys' house in Portkil and on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at the Lidwells' house in Kilcreggan both at 2:30pm. Everyone is welcome.

Cardross House Communions will be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 2:30pm and on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 2:30pm. Locations to be advised. *Richard Smith* 

# **Social Programme 2019**

Date	Event	Timing	Location
Sat 23 Mar	St. Michael's Stall for HPC Grand Bazaar	am–pm	Helensburgh Parish Church
Sat 23 Mar	Springtime Serenade with the Buchanan Ensemble	7:30pm	St. Michael's Church
Sun 14 Apr	Wilsons' Daffodil Walk	after church	High Auchensail, Cardross
Sat 11 May	Organ Recital	7:00pm	St. Michael's Church
Sun 26 May	Open Garden	pm	Sheila Baker, Glasgow St.
Sat 31 Aug	Church Barbecue	Lunch- time	Rector's Garden
Sat 5 Oct	St. Michael's Exhibition of Talents	am–pm	Church Hall

#### ST MYCHAEL'S RAMBLING CLUB

#### **WALKS MARCH TO MAY 2019**

Walks will start outside St Michael's Church.

The leaders will give more details following a recce nearer the time and we'll do our best to offer more than one level of walk where possible.

The date and day of the walks are given below. But please check the leader's email for the time of an individual walk as this may vary depending on the location and duration of the walk. The details will also be displayed on the notice board in the upper church hall one week before the walk is scheduled to take place.

DATE	WALK	LEADER
Sat, 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Cashel Forest	Pete 676959
Fri, 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Carron Valley	John 675010
Sat, 6 <sup>th</sup> April	Gleann Auchreoch	
Sat, 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Cornalees Bridge/Greenock Cut	Maureen 674763
Sat, 11 <sup>th</sup> May	3 Lochs Way	Tbd
14-17 <sup>th</sup> May	Grantown-on-Spey Walking Holiday	Maureen 674763
Fri, 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Craobh Haven Craignish Peninsula	Sue 675541

Please direct queries about individual walks to the Leader.

Thank you to everyone for completing the recent questionnaire. We found the results very helpful and have already started to include some of the results in our planning, with more additions to follow. One of the suggestions was starting the winter walks at a later time. The 2 February Drymen walk began at 10am and this was obviously very popular as we had 21 people join us AND we were lucky enough to have blue skies and sunshine throughout the day, so a really good day.

Committee team is John Hanks, Maureen Douglass, Sue Ashby and Pete Ashton.

#### **LECTIONARY – MARCH/APRIL 2019**

Sunday	Eucharist (NRSV)	Evensong (KJV)
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Exodus 34:29-35 - Psalm 99	Quinquagesima
Next before Lent	2 Corinthians 3:12-4.2	Psalm 31 - Genesis 15
	Luke 9:28b-36	Matthew 23:1-12
6 <sup>th</sup> March 7:30pm	Joel 2:102,12-17 - Psalm 51:1-18	
Ash Wednesday	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 - Matthe	ew 6:1-6,16-21
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Psalm 119:1-24
Lent 1	Psalm 91:1-10	Genesis 37:1-11
	Romans 10:8b-13 - Luke 4:1-13	Luke 17:20-37
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Genesis 15:1-12,17-18	Psalm 119:33-56
Lent 2	Psalm 27:9-17	Genesis 40
	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Mark 2:1-12
	Luke 13:31-35	
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Isaiah 55:1-9 - Psalm 63:1-9	Psalm 119:73-88
Lent 3	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Genesis 43
	Luke 13:1-9	Luke 16:19-31
31 <sup>st</sup> March	Exodus 2:1-10	Lent 4-Psalm 119:105-
Mothering Sunday	Luke 2:33-35	128 - Genesis 48
		2 Peter 1:1-10
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Isaiah 43:16-21	Psalm 119:145-168
Passion Sunday	Psalm 126 - Philippians 3:4b-14	Exodus 9:13-35
	John 12:1-8	John 12:1-11
14 <sup>th</sup> April	Isaiah 50:4-9a - Psalm 31:9-16	Psalm 22
Palm Sunday	Philippians 2:5-11	Zechariah 9:9-12
	Luke 22:14-23:56	Luke 20:9-20
18 <sup>th</sup> April 7:30pm	Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14 - Psalm 116:	10-17
Maundy Thursday	1 Corinthians 11:23-26 - John 13:2	L-17,31b-35
19 <sup>th</sup> April 2:00pm	in the Lord's Passion - Isaiah 52:13-53:12 - Psalm 22:1-11	
Good Friday	Hebrews 10:16-25 - John 19:1-42	
20 <sup>th</sup> April 8:00pm	Easter Vigil - Genesis 1:1-2:4a-Exodus 14:10-31,15:20-21	
Holy Saturday	Zephaniah 3:14-20 - Romans 6:3-11 - Psalm 114 (sung)	
	Luke 24:1-12	
21 <sup>st</sup> April	Acts 10:34-43-Psalm 118:15-25	
Easter Day	1 Cor 15:19-26 - John 20:1-18	21-42-John 20:11-23
28 <sup>th</sup> April	Acts 5:27-32 - Psalm 150	Low Sunday
Easter 2 Revelations 1:4-8-John 20:19-31 No Evensong		No Evensong

## READERS' LIST – MARCH/APRIL 2019

DATE	8:00am	10:30am	6:30pm	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	John McCallum	Trevor Quickfall	Margaret Gilbert	
10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Chris Sanders	Jo Frain-Bell	Maurice Steuart-Corry	
17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Liz Sanderson	John Lewis	Maureen McCormack	
24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Henry Douglass	ass Michael Blake Janet Hardy	Janet Hardy	
31 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Penny Johnston	John Hanks	Angela Russell	
7 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Nigel Allan	Alex Laing	Penny Johnston	
14 <sup>th</sup> Apr	John McCallum	Chris Packard	Jill Braid	
21 <sup>st</sup> Apr	Chris Sanders	Julie Siemens	nens John Sadden	
28 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Henry Douglass	Douglass Helen Gibson David Ro		

# **Images from St. Michael's**

Blessing Wee Horses





A Cold Day



A Well-earned Break

Church Group Leaders	Contact People/Organisers

Young Church	Samantha (Sammy) Harris	s 423254
Crèche	Pauline and Ray Williams	673944
Sidespersons	Chris Sanders	678028
Bellringers	Kitty Fleming	676963
Reading (Lessons) Rota	Nigel Allan	671875
Cleaning Co-ordinator	Barbara Hoey	671718
Visiting Co-ordinator	Sheila Baker	674686
Flowers	Sue Ashby	675541
Intercessions Rota, Laundry, Soft		
Fabrics and Chief Sacristan	Joan Sadden	672422
Sunday Coffee Rota	Margaret Horrell	676936
BRF (Bible Reading Fellowship Note	es) Marion Blake	673960
Mothers' Union Branch Leader	Richard Horrell	676936
USPG	Marion Blake	673960
Hall Convener/ Monthly Coffee		
Morning Rota	Maureen Kyle	672951
Eco Congregation	Margaret Horrell	676936
Hill walking and Rambling Club	John Hanks	675010
Traidcraft	Jo Scott 013	89 849145
Social Committee	John Hanks	675010
Vale of Leven Hospital Tea Bar		
St Michael's Art Group	Margaret Gilbert	675136
Magazine Editor	Richard Smith	831644
Website	Henry Douglass	674763
	Jo Scott 013	89 849145

Ask how to join or help. Perhaps bring new ideas for new activities You will be welcome. Please let the editor know if any changes are needed.