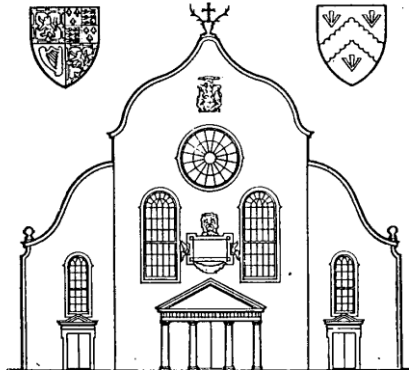


CANONGATE KIRK THE KIRK OF HOLYROODHOUSE & EDINBURGH CASTLE

Newsletter April 2019



FORTHCOMING SERVICES

7th <i>Lent 5</i>	10: 11.15	Family Service, with Baptism Parish Worship
14th <i>Palm Sunday</i>	10: 11.15 2pm 4pm	Family Service, all age worship Parish Worship Royal Mile Processional event Croft an Rìgh monthly service
<i>Holy Week</i>		
Monday 15th	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross (St Patrick's, Cowgate)
Wednesday 17th	7.30pm	Tenebrae (Old St Paul's, Jeffrey Street)
Thursday 18th	7.30pm	<i>Maundy Thursday</i> Holy Communion (Canongate Kirk)
Friday 19th	7.30pm	<i>Good Friday</i> Evening Service (Canongate Kirk)
21st <i>Easter Sunday</i>	10: 11.15	Family Service Parish Worship, with Holy Communion
28th <i>Easter 1</i>	10: 11.15	Family Service Parish Worship, with Holy Communion
5th May <i>Easter 2</i>	10: 11.15	Family Service Parish Worship

PARISH REGISTER

Baptism

3rd March Alexander Henryk Ford
“Then he took them in his arms and blessed them.”

Wedding

30th March Ruth Hunter & Shane Tyrell at Kinkell, by St Andrews
“Those whom God has joined together, let not man divide.”

Funeral

26th March Alan Stuart Milngavie
“Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid”

MINISTER’S LETTER

You may have heard in the press or online media of the City of Edinburgh Council’s latest plan to close the Old Town to traffic on the first Sunday of every month starting in May 2019. They’re calling it “Open Streets”, though it rather depends on your perspective and from the perspective of local churches it sounds more like “Closed Streets”! Having established that there had been absolutely no communication or consultation whatsoever with any of the churches likely to be affected by this proposal, I managed to arrange a meeting between members of the Council’s Transport & Planning team, and the clergy of St Giles’, St Patrick’s and Old St Paul’s. We took the opportunity to raise our concerns and share some of the difficulties we anticipated, particularly for those members of our gathered congregations who rely on transport – public or private – to get to church. We can only hope they didn’t fall on entirely stony ground! For the moment it seems the intention is to close just the Royal Mile to traffic between 12noon and 5pm on Sunday 5th May, though parking restrictions will probably be in place earlier in the day. But it should still be possible to drive to (and park in) surrounding streets like Calton Road, Old Tolbooth Wynd and St John Street. And drive away again! It is expected that bus routes over the Bridges will not be affected. This will all be reviewed after the first three months (5th May, 2nd June and 7th July) and if and when we are notified of any changes to the plan, which is by no means set in stone, we will let you know!

Somehow it was easier for Jesus to enter Jerusalem in his day. Happily, this year Palm Sunday is on the second Sunday of April and unaffected by any Council proposals so our usual ecumenical pilgrimage service can take place as before, starting at the Mercat Cross by the Cathedral at 2pm and finishing within the Abbey ruins at Holyroodhouse around 3pm. Other ecumenical services are listed on the front page of this newsletter, and in the new edition of our Annual Review, which will begin to be distributed soon. Holy Week services in Canongate Kirk will be held on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday evenings, and there will be the usual two morning services at 10am and 11-15am on Easter Sunday, 21st April. However

you travel to church, I hope you will make every effort to get there, and share once again in the trauma and the triumph of this holy season. Happy Easter!

PALM SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE

At 10am on Sunday 14th April our family service will take the form of all-age worship in church, finishing as usual around 10.30am. Everybody welcome, especially families!

SOUP LUNCH

The next soup lunch will be held on Tuesday, 2nd April, in the Harry Younger Hall at 12 noon. There is always a choice of two home-made soups, crusty bread and butter, tea, coffee and biscuits. Also included in the small charge of £2 is a game of bingo and a quiz. It is appreciated that not everyone wants to play bingo and if that is the case there will be no problem if you decide to leave after tea/coffee. Come along and bring a friend!

GIFFORD LUNCH

Rita and Sandy Buchan have kindly offered to provide lunch at their home in Gifford on Sunday 14th April for up to 30 members of the congregation. Tickets priced £10 each are available from Rita now on a “first come first served basis” with all proceeds going to Kirk funds. It is hoped that a bus to Gifford can be provided to convey those without transport, leaving from the Kirk after the 11.15 service.

FELLOWSHIP GATHERING

The next Fellowship Gathering will take place on Thursday 25th April at 7pm in the Harry Younger Hall and takes the form of a concert from the Gilbert and Sullivan Society. Share a delightful evening of music and wit as we continue with our theme taken from Ecclesiastes 3, ‘a time to laugh...and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labour.’ All welcome.

LENT

Once again this year members of our congregation (and of St Patrick’s, Cowgate) are invited to join friends from and in Old St Paul’s, Jeffrey Street, at a weekly short service of Morning Prayer at 8am every Wednesday during Lent. Our own Lent Study Group meets at 11am every Wednesday until 17th April in the meeting room of the Manse at 95 Canongate, following Bishop John Pritchard’s book “*The Journey – with Jesus to Jerusalem and the Cross*”. All welcome.

CONCERT AT CANONGATE KIRK

The Lowland Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland will be playing an evening concert on Wednesday 3rd April at 7.30pm. Free entry. All welcome.

CONCERT AT OLD ST PAUL'S

The choir at Old St Paul's directed by John Kitchen will be performing *Miserere - Music for Lent* on Friday 5th April at 7.30pm. The evening will include music by James Macmillan, William Byrd and James Whitbourn for chorus, speaker, violin, cello and organ as well as motets, anthems and organ music. Tickets £10/£8 available on the door.

CHRISTIAN AID SALE

Items for the annual event in St Andrew's and St George's West Church may be brought to the church on George Street from Monday 29th April to Wednesday 8th May 9am to 9pm (excluding Sunday 5th May). The sale will run from Saturday 11th and Monday 13th to Friday 17th May 2019. Further details on leaflets at the back of Canongate Kirk.

NEW BOOK BY KATIE MUNNIK

Many of you will remember Katie Munnik and her family during Katie's role here as Children and Families worker. Katie recently won first prize in a competition run by Borough Press who have selected her book for publication. *The Heart Beats in Secret*, it is a story of motherhood and belonging, told by three generations of women from the 1930s to 2006 set between Canada and Scotland. The book will be published in hardback on 4th April by Borough Press.

DUTY ELDERS FOR APRIL

Donald Davidson	Rosemary Bowe	Stuart Ramsay
Christina Coltart	Alastair Bowe	Lesley Wallace
Mary Craig	Helen Aitken	Roddy Gow
Rita Buchan		

DUTY ELDERS FOR MAY

Stuart McFarlane	Fiona Grant	Polly Burns
Robert Watson	Colin Stewart	Jacky McFarlane
Rachel Wright	Jane Stewart	Daniel McKinney

Minister	The Revd Neil Gardner nng22@btinternet.com	0131 556 3515
Assistant Minister	Katherine Taylor KTaylor@churchofscotland.org.uk	07748445998
Kirk Secretary	Imogen Gibson (office)	0131 556 3515
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 9am – 1pm, Friday 8am – 12 noon		

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