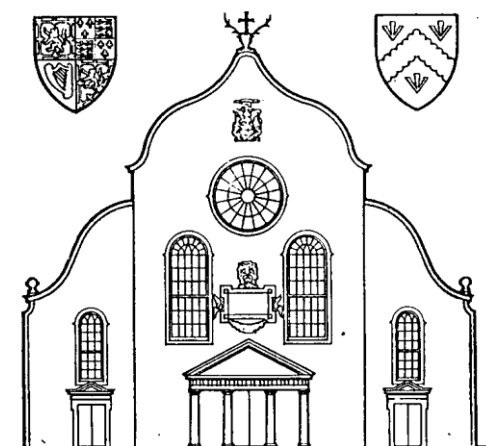


# CANONGATE KIRK THE KIRK OF HOLYROODHOUSE & EDINBURGH CASTLE

Newsletter  
March 2020



## FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March *	10:	Family Service
<i>Lent 1</i>	11.15:	Parish Worship
8 <sup>th</sup> March	10:	Family Service
<i>Lent 2</i>	11.15:	Parish Worship > Annual Stated Meeting
	4:	Croft an Righ
15 <sup>th</sup>	10:	Family Service
<i>Lent 3</i>	11.15:	Parish Worship, with Royal Naval Assoc.
22 <sup>nd</sup>	10:	Family Service
<i>Mothering Sunday</i>	11.15:	Parish Worship, with Baptism
29 <sup>th</sup>	10:	Family Service
<i>Lent 5</i>	11.15:	Parish Worship, with Holy Communion
5 <sup>th</sup> April *	10:	Family Service
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	11.15:	Parish Worship
	2:	Royal Mile Processional Service

\*Open Streets (Royal Mile closed to traffic)

## PARISH REGISTER

### **Baptism**

9<sup>th</sup> February Daniel Derek McDonald

*“Then he took them in his arms and blessed them.”*

### **Funeral**

14<sup>th</sup> February Dr Susan Carpenter

*“Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid”*

## MINISTER’S LETTER

At its recent meeting the Kirk Session considered a couple of concerns that had recently been raised about our practice of using the common cup at Holy Communion in the light of the alarming spread of the coronavirus. As with our Baptismal silver, our precious Communion chalices lie at the heart of our unique sense of history and heritage, several of them having been presented for use by the congregation in the early seventeenth century when it still worshipped within the now ruined walls of the old Abbey at Holyroodhouse. We have been advised that there is no particular risk from their continued use, but as a matter of good practice elders have been reminded of the need thoroughly to wipe the rim of the chalice with a napkin when it reaches the end of every pew. Bread will no longer be passed from hand to hand, but on a plate in ready cut cubes. If members of the congregation have any cause for concern they should simply pass the plate or cup on. And raise any further concerns or comments with the Minister or Session Clerk.

With Lent now underway we have begun once again the journey that comes close to its conclusion in that Upper Room where Jesus broke bread and shared wine with his disciples. As our monthly Communion liturgy puts it so much more eloquently than I can: According to the holy institution, example and command of our Lord Jesus Christ, and as a memorial of him, we do this...

## LENT STUDY GROUP

Following on from last year’s trial of a morning and evening Bible Study group, the Lent Study Group is now meeting every Wednesday morning at 11am, and continuing until Wednesday 1st April, and every other Wednesday evening at 7pm, with 11th and 25th March still remaining. As a study book, we are using *The Radical Reconciler, Lent in all the Scriptures*, by Chris Wright and John Stott, copies of which are available for purchase. As previously, these are not intended to be academic sessions and won’t last longer than an hour. Instead of giving something up for Lent, why not take this up? All welcome at any time.

## ECUMENICAL MORNING PRAYER

Once again this year members of our congregation are invited to Old St Paul’s, Jeffrey Street, for a weekly short service of Morning Prayer at 8am every Wednesday during Lent. All welcome.

## **CHANGE OF ORGANIST**

We will reluctantly be saying farewell to David Goodenough our organist, on 22nd March. David has understandably found the pressure of his hugely busy day job at Fettes means he has to reduce some of his other commitments, but he leaves with our real gratitude for the fantastic contribution he has made to the musical life of Canongate Kirk over the last three years. Whether musical or not, we have all appreciated his skill at the console, in the sensitive accompaniment of hymns, the spectacular closing voluntaries and the occasional cheeky improvisation during the offering! We have been fortunate to have him, and fortunate too to have secured Simon Leach as his successor. Another highly distinguished organist, currently at St Mary's Catholic Cathedral, Simon will transfer to Canongate soon after Easter and we look forward to welcoming him among us. It is a relief to know that our cherished Frobenius organ will still be in the best of hands, and feet....!

## **SOUP LUNCH**

The next soup lunch will be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 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. Looking forward to seeing a few new faces!

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

Written by Christian women of Zimbabwe with the theme '*Rise, take your mat and walk*', this year's annual service takes place at 2.30pm on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March in Craigmillar Park Church, Edinburgh EH16 5LZ. All welcome.

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March, the congregation's annual meeting to note the accounts will take place after a shortened 11.15 service. Copies of the accounts are available in church. Please make every effort to attend if possible.

## **FELLOWSHIP GATHERING**

Plans are underway for the next series of gatherings but there's still time for suggestions of speakers and subjects to be passed on to Julie Burns or the Minister.

## **ONGOING APPEALS**

We continue to collect non-perishable foodstuffs and toiletries in the basket in the foyer – these are regularly delivered to Streetwork, the local resource centre for the homeless. In addition, you will be aware that we have had an ongoing collection for used stamps for many years. According to the Church of Scotland's World Mission Council, all stamps collected are first sorted into their respective denominations and then sold on to collectors and dealers from all over the world.

The money raised is then used to support charities in developing countries. The current beneficiary is the Chigodi Women Centre which helps to deliver a broad range of skills training to address the challenges faced by women in Malawi.

### CONCERTS IN MARCH

**Calton Consort:** Spring Concert *Miserere* on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm. Tickets £12/£10

**Open Orchestra:** Music by Cunningham, Saint-Saëns and Dvořák on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm. Free entry (retiring collection.)

**Edinburgh University Chamber Choir:** *Bach and Beyond* on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm. Tickets £10/£5

**City of Cardiff Concert Band:** Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm. Free entry.

### LEONARDO 500 - QUEEN'S GALLERY EXHIBITION

Marking the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci, this exhibition brings together 80 of the Renaissance master's greatest drawings in the Royal Collection. Open daily until Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

### DUTY ELDERS FOR MARCH

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

### DUTY ELDERS FOR APRIL

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

Minister	The Revd Neil Gardner <a href="mailto:nng22@btinternet.com">nng22@btinternet.com</a>	0131 556 3515
Assistant Minister	The Revd Breda Ludik <a href="mailto:ludik.breda@gmail.com">ludik.breda@gmail.com</a>	07469677580
Kirk Secretary	Imogen Gibson (office)	0131 556 3515
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 9am – 1pm, Friday 8am – 12 noon		

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