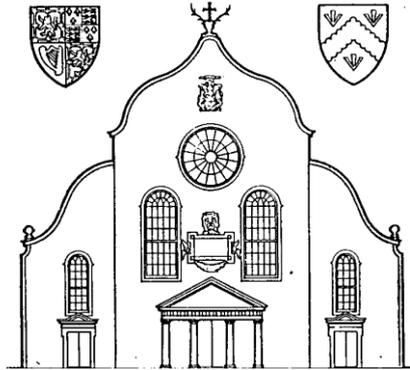


# CANONGATE KIRK THE KIRK OF HOLYROODHOUSE & EDINBURGH CASTLE

Newsletter  
May 2019



## FORTHCOMING SERVICES

5 <sup>th</sup> May	10:	Family Service
Easter 3	11.15	Parish Worship
12 <sup>th</sup>	10:	Family Service
Easter 4	11.15	Parish Worship
	4pm	Croft an Righ monthly service
19 <sup>th</sup>	10:	Family Service
General Assembly	11.15	Parish Worship
26 <sup>th</sup>	10:	Family Service, with Baptism
Easter 6	11.15	Parish Worship & Holy Communion
	6pm	Evening Service
2 <sup>nd</sup> June	10:	Family Service
Ascension	11.15	Parish Worship, with Baptism

Email: [canongatekirk@btinternet.com](mailto:canongatekirk@btinternet.com)

Website: [www.canongatekirk.org.uk](http://www.canongatekirk.org.uk)

 @CanongateKirk  @canongate.kirk

Scottish Charity SC 015251

## PARISH REGISTER

### Infant Baptism

7<sup>th</sup> April

James Marmaduke Haswell Alder

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

### Adult Baptism

21<sup>st</sup> April

Plaxedes Tinago

*“...so also we might set out on a new life.”*

### Wedding

6<sup>th</sup> April

Heather Elkins & Craig Birss

*“Those whom God has joined together, let not man divide.”*

### Funerals and Memorial Services

12<sup>th</sup> April

Sir Iain Fraser

Comely Bank

27<sup>th</sup> April

Major General Sir John Swinton Kimmerghame

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

## MINISTER’S LETTER

I’m literally just back from my annual retreat to Dunkeld. As a member of the Fellowship of Dunkeld, an organisation first set up for Church of Scotland ministers in 1927, I join a number of fellow members most years for 48 hours or so a week or two after Easter. The retreat revolves around the Cathedral, where we hold a series of services, short talks and periods of silence from early morning until late evening. The Cathedral sits in a spectacular setting by the banks of the River Tay and I always take the chance to go for long walks along the riverside paths lined with greening trees and ancient rhododendron bushes just coming into bud. Some of the trees are pretty ancient too, one of the oldest the so-called Birnam Oak, hundreds of years old and a living relic of Birnam Wood, the medieval forest that once flourished along the banks of the Tay and was immortalised by Shakespeare in his famous play about a Scottish King. *“Macbeth shall never vanquished be until Great Birnam Wood to high Dunsinane Hill shall come against him.”* (Act 4, Scene 1)

You probably don’t need me to remind you how things turned out for Macbeth, but in these weeks after Easter I can’t help thinking how against all the odds God in Christ came not against us, but for us, a King who would never be vanquished by plotting and scheming, nor even by sin and death, and who now lives and reigns for ever, for us. From rural river-bank to urban road-side,

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.*

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## **‘OPEN STREETS’**

Following the City Council’s latest initiative affecting the Royal Mile on the first Sunday of the month, a meeting will be held between council representatives and local churches to discuss any negative impact. Please let our office know of any problems encountered while trying to get to church on the first Sunday of the month.

## **EDINBURGH MARATHON**

In a further inconvenience to life on the Canongate the Marathon has been re-routed this year and the Canongate will be closed to traffic for much of the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> May. As a result, the Kirk Session recently agreed that we should hold an evening service at 6pm on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May, particularly to cater for members of the congregation who are unable to get to church in the morning. But whether you do manage in the morning or not you are more than welcome in the evening.

## **SOUP LUNCH**

The next soup lunch will be held on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May, 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!

## **CONCERT**

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 3pm in Canongate Kirk, students from the Yehudi Menuhin School in Surrey will give a concert in aid of our appeal. The programme will include works by J.S. Bach, Boccherini, Schumann, Mendelssohn and Liszt. Come and support these talented youngsters and our church appeal too! Tickets £10 available on the door, free entry for children.

## **FELLOWSHIP GATHERING**

The next Fellowship Gathering will be on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May and comprises a tour of Panmure House followed by a pot luck supper in the Harry Younger Hall. We will meet before 7pm outside Panmure House. Donations of food or drink will be welcomed and can be dropped off at the Hall from 6pm. It would be helpful if we knew numbers for the tour and catering so if you are interested in coming please give your name to Jacky Macfarlane along with details of any food or drink you are donating. There is no obligation to bring anything – everyone is most welcome.

## **CHRISTIAN AID SALE**

Items for the annual event in St Andrew’s and St George’s West Church can be brought to the church on George Street until Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May from 9am to 9pm (excluding Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>.) The sale will run from Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> and Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Since it started in 1974 the Sale at St Andrew's and St George's West has raised over £2m for Christian Aid's work to end poverty. Over 100,000 books of every kind fill the sanctuary and both courtyards. But there's much more than books. Upstairs in the gallery you'll find sheet music (and more books!). Downstairs in the Undercroft Café you'll find a gallery of pictures and delicious home baking. In the Davidson Room, hidden at the back of the church, you'll find a treasure trove of antiques and collectables as well as toys, records, stamps and postcards. The patron for this year's sale is Kirsty Wark, renowned BBC presenter and author.

### **HEART AND SOUL 2019**

The Church of Scotland's annual Heart and Soul event returns to Princes Street Gardens this year on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May from 1pm – 6pm. The festival celebrates the life and work of the Church of Scotland with those who keep it strong and vibrant in communities everywhere – members, volunteers, ministers, and congregations alike! This great event in Princes Street Gardens is open for all to join in the joyous atmosphere. There will be up to 60 exhibitors, arts and events so you are sure to find lots to interest you.

### **QUEEN'S GALLERY EXHIBITION**

The exhibition Charles II: Art & Power closes on 2nd June 2019. It's well worth paying a visit before it ends. Old master paintings and spectacular silver-gilt furniture show the rich material world of Charles II's court and the role of the arts in the re-establishment of the Stuart monarchy.

### **DUTY ELDERS FOR MAY**

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

### **DUTY ELDERS FOR JUNE**

|              |               |               |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Anne Baker   | Rie Stevenson | Mark Peel     |
| Anne Croft   | Martin Baker  | Gavin Brydone |
| Kate Church  | Etta Geekie   | Dinah Croy    |
| Alexis Moyer |               |               |

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