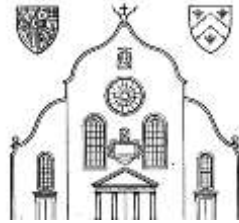


**CANONGATE KIRK  
THE KIRK OF HOLYROODHOUSE  
& EDINBURGH CASTLE**  
[www.canongatekirk.org.uk](http://www.canongatekirk.org.uk)

**Newsletter October 2022**



**MINISTER'S LETTER**

In common with a number of congregations across the United Kingdom we sang the following hymn on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September, the day before the State Funeral of our late Queen in Westminster Abbey. Set to the same tune as *I vow to thee, my country*, it was specially written by a minister of the United Reformed Church but serves today as an eloquent and poetic tribute, and sums up how many of us feel.

We stand to mourn a sovereign,  
a nation's guide and friend,  
who through long years of tumult  
was faithful to the end.

We offer our thanksgiving  
for all that she instilled:  
her constancy of service,  
her lifetime's vow fulfilled.  
Now from our world departed –  
though never from our hearts –  
receive her in the peace, Lord,  
your love alone imparts.

And as we mark a passing  
of sceptre, orb, and throne,  
we'll find in her compassion  
a pattern for our own:  
that all who stand in mourning,  
or languish now in fear,  
may know again your promise  
to wipe away each tear.

With her we'll join in witness,  
Christ's mercies our refrain:  
great Sovereign of the nations,  
eternal is your reign!

## PARISH REGISTER

### Baptisms

2<sup>nd</sup> September Harris Campbell Field

24<sup>th</sup> September Finn Martin Bruce Moran *at St Margaret's Chapel*

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them..."*

### Weddings

2<sup>nd</sup> September Lorna Campbell & Lance Field

3<sup>rd</sup> September Tess Miles & Geordie Erskine *at St Columba's Pont Street, London*

9<sup>th</sup> September Eleanor Costello & Ian Foote

16<sup>th</sup> September Tara Campbell & Stuart Williams

17<sup>th</sup> September Anushi Desai & Benjamin Moore

24<sup>th</sup> September Victoria Singh & Chinthaka Ratnayake

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

### Funeral

26<sup>th</sup> September Margaret Murdoch North Berwick

*"Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."*

### Recent Media items with a Canongate Connection

*New Every Sunday* BBC Radio Scotland 11<sup>th</sup> September 7.30am

*Sunday Worship* BBC Radio 4 18<sup>th</sup> September 8.10am

*Songs of Praise* BBC 1 18<sup>th</sup> September 1.45pm

These will remain available on the BBC Sounds website for around a month. Specific links to each programme can also be found on our own website, as can a link to the *Time for Reflection* which the Minister delivered in the Scottish Parliament on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

### ORDINATION OF DOUGLAS REID

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August Douglas was presented with a voucher (and a Canongate tie!) to mark the end of his fifteen months as our Assistant Minister, and we bade him a fond farewell. He has already begun his new appointment at Palmerston Place Church and will be ordained to the ministry of word and sacrament there on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm. Douglas would be delighted to be joined on this very special occasion by as many members of our congregation as are able to attend. All welcome.

### OPEN KIRK

The season has now come to an end and thanks are due to our willing volunteers who have been ready to welcome tourists and visitors to Canongate Kirk, not least on Sunday afternoons over the last few months. It was especially good to be able to open our doors over the weekend following The Queen's death, when some 3500 visitors called in, some to sit quietly in a pew or to stand before Her late Majesty's photograph at the chancel step.

### SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

To facilitate the opportunity for fellowship after each Sunday Service, we intend to provide refreshments once again from Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October onwards. Provisions will be modest, comprising tea or coffee and wrapped biscuits which will be provided from Kirk funds. To maintain this service weekly, we require volunteers on a rota basis. The task, delivered in teams of two, should take up no more than 30 minutes of anyone's time and would hopefully be required no more than once every six weeks. Anyone wishing to volunteer should give their name to David Croft who will coordinate the rota.

## **HARVEST THANKSGIVING**

Our traditional service of Harvest Thanksgiving will take place on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 10.30am. The congregation is invited to bring along donations of **non-perishable** foodstuffs and toiletries, which will be transferred afterwards to the Trussell Trust Edinburgh Foodbank network. Cash donations may also be given for our own Homeless Fund.

## **CHRISTIAN AID SALE**

There will be a sale of pictures and Scottish books from 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> October at St Andrew's and St George's West Church, 13 George Street. On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> the sale will have late opening until 7pm and on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> there will also be a coffee morning with jewellery and gifts from 10am – 12 noon. All welcome.

## **QUEEN'S GALLERY EXHIBITION – EXTENDED OPENING**

*Masterpieces of Buckingham Palace* has now been extended until end October. If you haven't already seen it, don't miss this last chance to enjoy some of the greatest paintings from the Royal Collection, with works by Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Rubens and Artemisia removed from the Picture Gallery at Buckingham Palace and temporarily displayed at The Queen's Gallery, Edinburgh. This wonderful show gives visitors a rare opportunity to get close to these masterpieces and find out why the newspapers are calling it: *Pure magic* ★★★★★ (The Scotsman); *An unmissable event* (The Guardian); *one of the world's most spectacular collections* (The Times). Tickets and information: <https://bit.ly/3sHW0Ji> Until 31<sup>st</sup> October.

## **NEW PICTURE OF CANONGATE KIRK**

We have recently discovered a new print showing the façade of our kirk, painted by local artist Jennifer Court. See her website at

<https://www.jennifercourt.co.uk/product-page/canongate-church-edinburgh-print-with-gold-gouache-highlight>

## **OCTOBER CONCERT**

On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm pupils from St Mary's Music School will perform the premiere of Scottish composer Ailie Robertson's new work inspired by the Craiglockhart Hill. Together with GAIA Duo musicians Katrina Lee (violin) and Alice Allen (cello) the event will also feature the work of historical Scottish Female Composers from the nineteenth century. This is the fifth of seven new music commissions by St Mary's Music School's Seven Hills Project: seven composers connected to Scotland have each been commissioned to write a work inspired by the topography of one of the seven Edinburgh hills and the corresponding 'hill' poem by Alexander McCall Smith. Tickets £10/£8 (under 18s free). For more information visit <https://stmaryscommunity.ptly.uk/ocd.aspx?action=showReunion&reunionName=E73>

## **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

Advance notice that this year Remembrance Sunday falls on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November, when our service, as before, will begin at 10.45am and include the traditional Act of Remembrance at 11am.

## **BOOKS FOR BORROWING**

Did you know that in the foyer cupboard at the Kirk there is a shelf of books with particular relevance to Canongate that can be borrowed by anyone, not least newcomers to the church or parish? Some of them specifically tell the history of our church and parish, others focus on military connections or other associations – the latest additions include a book by Heidi Kuhn, who recently gave a talk on her charity work turning minefields into vineyards in Afghanistan, and *Celebrating Seventy-Five Years 1947 – 2022*, an oral history of St John Scotland, its work and its volunteers.

## KIRKYARD UPDATE

As part of the Council's ongoing programme of improvements to the Kirkyard all paths have recently been re-laid with fresh gravel, both alongside the Kirk building and further afield. It's all looking much tidier these days and well worth a look.



## TELEPHONE SERVICE

The weekly service continues to be livestreamed to our website at 10.30am every Sunday and then available online at any time, and may also be heard on a landline telephone – simply dial 0131 546 4001 and press 1 when prompted. Calls are charged at your phone provider's usual local rate – please let anyone know who is unable to access the internet but might appreciate this kind of connection.

## QR CODE

We remain hugely grateful to everyone who has supported Canongate Kirk financially by various methods over the last two challenging years. The contactless machine in the foyer has come in very handy, but it's worth noting that we are unable to claim Gift Aid on donations that come in via this means. If you regularly donate via the contactless machine and would like the congregation to claim Gift Aid on your donation, at no further cost to yourself, please have a word with Jenifer Davidson, our Treasurer. Meanwhile we have a new means of facilitating donations to Canongate Kirk, using this QR code. When scanned with your smart phone it will take you straight to our digital donations page.



Minister	The Revd Neil Gardner	<a href="mailto:nng22@btinternet.com">nng22@btinternet.com</a>	0131 556 3515
Kirk Secretary	Imogen Gibson (office)	<a href="mailto:canongatekirk@btinternet.com">canongatekirk@btinternet.com</a>	0131 556 3515
<i>Usual Office Hours: Mon 9am – 1pm, Wed 9am – 1pm, Thurs 9am- 12, Fri 8am - 12</i>			
Website: <a href="http://www.canongatekirk.org.uk">www.canongatekirk.org.uk</a>		 @CanongateKirk	 @canongate.kirk
Scottish Charity SC 015251			