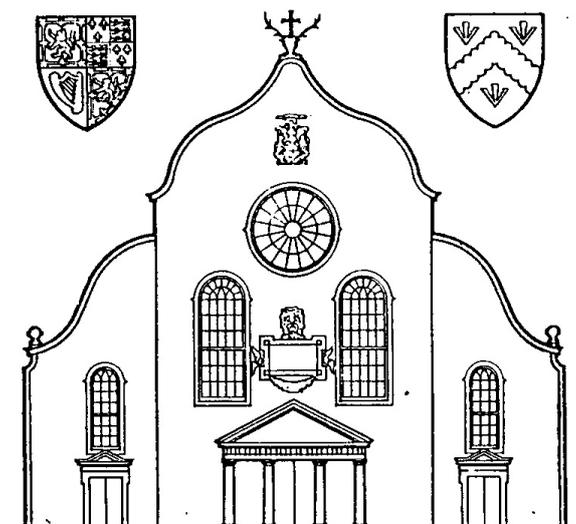


# CANONGATE KIRK THE KIRK OF HOLYROODHOUSE & EDINBURGH CASTLE

Newsletter  
February 2020



## FORTHCOMING SERVICES

2 <sup>nd</sup> February*	10:	Family Service
<i>Candlemas</i>	11.15:	Parish Worship
9 <sup>th</sup>	10:	Family Service
<i>3 before Lent</i>	11.15:	Parish Worship, with Baptism
16 <sup>th</sup>	10:	Family Service
<i>2 before Lent</i>	11.15:	Parish Worship
23 <sup>rd</sup>	10:	Family Service
<i>Sunday before Lent</i>	11.15:	Parish Worship, with Holy Communion
1 <sup>st</sup> March*	10:	Family Service
<i>Lent 1</i>	11.15:	Parish Worship

\*Open Streets (Royal Mile closed to traffic)

## PARISH REGISTER

### Baptism

26<sup>th</sup> January Callum Harris McIntosh

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

### Weddings

14<sup>th</sup> December Emily Dudgeon & Fergus Todd

21<sup>st</sup> December Katherine Lorrimer & Michael Eldridge

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

### Funeral

20<sup>th</sup> December James C Sherriff TD Druimantavore Lodge, Crieff

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

## ASSISTANT MINISTER’S LETTER

The book on my bookshelves back in South Africa that I have reread more than any other, apart from the Bible, is Annie Dillard’s Pulitzer Prize winning *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*. In the book she explores the depths of human existence through the metaphor of the seasons. The church year provides us with something similar. It takes us through the story of Jesus against the backdrop of the seasons. Jesus’s birth is celebrated on what was earlier thought to be the winter solstice. When darkness seems to overwhelm light, Jesus is born into our world. “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it” (John 1:5). From that day on darkness ceases to increase and then during the time of epiphany, initially almost unnoticed, it starts to retreat. Yes, we have the worst of our winter storms ahead, as if the powers of darkness refuse to admit defeat. Yet we know: the die is cast. We are heading towards summer. Darkness will not have the last word. Now comes Lent, when we focus on the suffering and death of Jesus. On a superficial level Lent could easily be viewed as a counter movement, back into darkness. Yet, the seasons save us from this misconception. We celebrate Lent when the transition from darkness to light is at its most visible. The seasons remind us that His death is a fruitful death. It leads into life, resurrection. Fasting during Lent is an old tradition, but the fast is broken on Sundays. Sundays are days of celebration, when we are reminded that all forms of darkness in our lives are temporary. On 26<sup>th</sup> February we start this year’s Lenten season. May Lent be a time in which the light of the gospel becomes more and more visible to each of us. *Rev Breda Ludik*

*Breda Ludik joined the Ministry team at Canongate Kirk in December 2019. He is an experienced minister in the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa, who is here on a familiarisation programme with a view to ministry in the Church of Scotland. We have been delighted to welcome Breda and his wife Francé to our church family.*

## **LENT STUDY GROUP**

Following on from last year's trial of a morning and evening Bible Study group, the Lent Study Group will meet every Wednesday morning at 11am beginning on Ash Wednesday, 26th February, and continuing until Wednesday 1st April, and every other Wednesday evening at 7pm, on 26th February, 11th and 25th March. We will follow the study book *The Radical Reconciler (Lent in all the Scriptures)* by Chris Wright and John Stott, copies of which will be available for purchase shortly. 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.

## **SOUP LUNCH**

The first soup lunch of 2020 will be held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 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!

## **CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our annual Christmas appeal – a grand total of over £3,200 was raised and shared between two charities: Doctors Without Borders/ Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and Barnabas Fund. Thanks too to everyone who brought washbags for the Crisis appeal - over sixty filled washbags were delivered to the local office for distribution on Christmas Day.

## **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.

## **HERIOT WATT CHAPLAINCY ANNUAL LECTURE**

This year's HWU Chaplaincy Lecture will take place on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February from 7pm – 8.30pm at Heriot-Watt University, James Watt Centre I (beside Main Reception), Edinburgh EH14 4AS. The speaker is Dr Richard Higginson, Chair of the Cambridge-based organisation 'Faith in Business' who will be discussing 'Making Money for Doing Good: How faith-based entrepreneurs are helping to

combat global poverty.’ Admission is free but places need to be booked via Eventbrite at <https://bit.ly/37A3np6>

## **LEONARDO 500 - QUEEN’S GALLERY EXHIBITION**

Marking the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci, the exhibition brings together 80 of the Renaissance master's greatest drawings in the Royal Collection, forming the largest group of Leonardo's works ever shown in Scotland. Drawing served as Leonardo's laboratory, allowing him to work out his ideas on paper and search for the universal laws that he believed underpinned all of creation. The drawings by Leonardo in the Royal Collection have been together as a group since the artist's death in 1519. Acquired during the reign of Charles II, they provide an unparalleled insight into the workings of Leonardo's mind and reflect the full range of his interests, including painting, sculpture, architecture, anatomy, engineering, cartography, geology and botany.

## **KIRK SESSION**

The next meeting of the Kirk Session will take place in the Harry Younger Hall at 6pm on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

## **DUTY ELDERS FOR FEBRUARY**

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

## **DUTY ELDERS FOR MARCH**

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

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		

Email: [canongatekirk@btinternet.com](mailto:canongatekirk@btinternet.com) Website: [www.canongatekirk.org.uk](http://www.canongatekirk.org.uk)

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