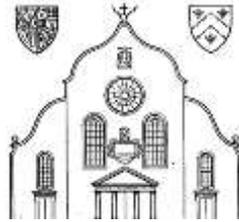


CANONGATE KIRK
THE KIRK OF HOLYROODHOUSE
& EDINBURGH CASTLE
www.canongatekirk.org.uk

Newsletter April 2022



MINISTER'S LETTER

The world continues to open up, and we get closer to the pre-pandemic normality. What was normal now seems a little bit strange and distant – although I still turn around most mornings and go back into the house to get my facemask, something that I will still need to do for a little longer! It was just before Easter two years ago that all our worlds pivoted, and we found ourselves locked down, and so it seems fitting that the last restrictions are ebbing away as we approach Easter 2022.

There's quite a lot of things happening in the Easter story, probably more than you think. It's an important story. Without Easter we would not have a church. For most people today Easter is more about rabbits and chocolate than it is about love and Christ's salvation. However, we can use chocolates and sweets, particularly coloured ones, to remind us of key parts of the Easter story. Green wrappers or chocolates remind us of God's creation, of the palm branches of celebration on Psalm Sunday and God's love for all. Orange ones might remind us of flames and quick changes of temper and how the celebration quickly turned as the crowds were whipped up and called for Jesus' execution. Red sweets can remind us of the cross, Christ's sacrifice for all, and perhaps purple ones of Easter Day itself and all that it represents. Purple is the colour of royalty. Jesus is our King. That's what we celebrate in church each Sunday, but particularly at this time of year. We celebrate at Easter the coming of God's rule both now and in the future. Finally, pink and yellow sweets to me suggest joy and that is what the disciples had on that first Easter morning, a joy that they rushed to share with each other and then the wider world, the joy of Christ's victory.

I wonder how enthusiastic we are to share the good news of the Easter story. Perhaps using and thinking about these different colours and the different parts of the Easter story is a way we can share Christ's gift to the world, this Easter. God bless.

Douglas Reid

PARISH REGISTER

Baptism

27th March

Chloe Isabella Burt

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them...”

Wedding

26th March

Natasha Morris & William Tullett

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

Funerals

14th March

John Fanning

Croft an Righ

23rd March

Kit Craik

Eskbank

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

BEN SMITH

Members of the congregation have been saddened to learn of the death of Ben Smith, our former Beadle, on 14th March. Ben had been diagnosed with cancer in June 2019 and fought a good fight until it finally got the better of him in the Western General Hospital. His funeral will take place at 1pm on Thursday 7th April in Canongate Kirk, and all are welcome. Ben was not only a loyal Beadle for over twenty years, but a faithful district elder and Treasurer too at one point. He was very much part of our Canongate family, and will be greatly missed – we assure Anne, Fiona and Lorna not just of our sympathy and support at this time, but of our thankfulness for Ben’s faith and commitment over so many years.

HOLY WEEK and EASTER

As part of our strengthening ties with St Giles’ Cathedral, the Minister has been invited to preach there on the Wednesday evening of Holy Week, 13th April, at 7pm. Back in Canongate Kirk the following evening, 14th April, there shall be a service of Holy Communion (bread only) for Maundy Thursday at 7pm, and on 15th April an evening service for Good Friday, also starting at 7pm. Our main service on Easter Day will be at 10-30am on Sunday 17th April. All welcome.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY, BBC RADIO 4

The Minister has once again been asked to supply the early morning Prayer for the Day on BBC Radio 4, starting on Saturday 9th April and then continuing from Monday 11th to (Good) Friday, 15th April, all broadcast at 5-43am and available on iPlayer for a month afterwards.

ANNUAL REVIEW

The Annual Review 2021/2022 has now been printed and will be available for collection in church on Sunday 3rd April and thereafter posted out to members and friends for whom we have postal addresses. If for some reason you don’t receive one in due course, and would like to, please get in touch with the office.

OPEN KIRK

With restrictions easing and visitors on the Royal Mile increasing, we would like tentatively to restart Open Kirk on Sunday 1st May. To begin with we shall focus on Sunday afternoons only and volunteers are encouraged to sign up for slots from 12-2pm or from 2- 4pm on the board in the Kirk foyer. If you have not helped to welcome visitors and tourists before, and would like to find out more, please have a word with Lesley Wallace, our Open Kirk Co-ordinator.

ROOTS FOR PEACE

To mark International Mine Awareness Day, a presentation on the work of Roots for Peace and the current situation in Afghanistan under Taliban rule will be given by Heidi Kuhn on Monday 4th April at 6pm in Canongate Kirk. Based in California, Heidi is the founder of Roots for Peace, a charity that lifts thousands of landmines to clear land that can be used for planting vines and growing other food. This significant event is organised in conjunction with Roddy Gow's Asia Scotland Institute. To attend the event, places can be booked and tickets bought via <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/297394804867> To watch the event remotely on-line places can be booked via <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/297283451807> Tickets will also be available at £10 on the door.

THE EDINBURGH EASTER PLAY 2022 – HOPE RISES

Live in Princes Street Gardens for the first time since 2018, *Hope Rises* will take place on Saturday 16th April at 2pm in West Princes Street Gardens. Admission free. The performance will also be livestreamed – visit www.easterplay.org for details.

GUNTRIP TRUST LECTURE

This year's lecture will be given by Prof Mona Siddiqui at Augustine United Church, George IV Bridge on Friday 22nd April 2022 at 5.30pm. Tickets £12/£8/£10 Professor Siddiqui is well known internationally as a public intellectual and a speaker on issues around religion, ethics and public life and is a regular commentator in the media, known especially for her appearances on BBC Radio 4 and BBC Radio Scotland's Thought for the Day. To book visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-guntrip-trust-annual-lecture-tickets-300090808687>

HERALDRY LECTURE

To mark the 350th Anniversary of the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland the Court of the Lord Lyon will be holding events throughout Scotland this year. The Edinburgh lecture will be held on Thursday 28th April at City Chambers, High Street, EH1 1YJ with speaker Linlithgow Pursuivant Extraordinary, Professor Gillian Black. Registration starts at 6:30 pm and the lecture starts at 7 pm. Tickets are free but places need to be booked via <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/scottish-heraldry-an-egalitarian-tradition-tickets-254479092817>

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.



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.

CONCERTS

Saturday 2 nd April	7.30pm	Calton Consort <i>Greater Love</i>	£12/£10
Wednesday 6 th April	7.30pm	Edinburgh College Spring Concert	£8/£4
Thursday 7 th April	7.30pm	Edinburgh University Capella Assoc	£10/£6
Saturday 9 th April	7.30pm	Song and Dance Through the Ages	Free
Tuesday 26 th April	7.30pm	Voices of Naples Choir from Florida	Free

Tickets are available on the door and for links to more information visit www.canongatekirk.org.uk

QUEEN'S GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

Seven Portraits – Surviving the Holocaust This special display has been commissioned by HRH The Prince of Wales to pay tribute to the stories of seven remarkable Holocaust survivors, each of whom has in recent years been honoured for services to Holocaust awareness and education. Painted by leading artists, the portraits will become part of the Royal Collection. For tickets and information visit <https://bit.ly/3KdIpiC> Until June 6th 2022.

Masterpieces of Buckingham Palace is a chance to view some of the greatest works from the Royal Collection, with works by Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Rubens and Artemisia Gentileschi removed from the Picture Gallery at Buckingham Palace in this wonderful show. For tickets and information visit <https://bit.ly/3sHW0Ji> Until 25th September.

EXPLORING EDINBURGH

Last year, Luath Press published a book about the architecture of Edinburgh, *Exploring Edinburgh* by Robin Ward, which features Canongate Kirk among other Edinburgh landmarks. Each building in the book is photographed and its architecture and history explored in a fascinating and compelling way. Copies can be ordered at £10.99 direct from the publisher at <https://www.luath.co.uk/> with 20% off orders over £20 using the code LUATH2020 and 30% off over £50 with LUATH3050.

LIFE AND WORK EASTER OFFER

Print: 12 issues for the price of 10 offer price £30 - enter promotion code EAST22 to receive £6 discount. (UK delivery address and new subscribers only.)

Digital: 12 issues for £14.99 (normally £20.99) no code required – simply select the introductory offer option. Anyone wishing to take advantage of the offer should visit www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe Valid until 30th April 2022.

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Assistant Minister	Douglas Reid	Douglas.Reid@churchofscotland.org.uk	07960251971
Kirk Secretary	Imogen Gibson (office)	canongatekirk@btinternet.com	0131 556 3515

Usual Office Opening Hours: Mon, Wed 9am – 2pm, Fri 8am – 1pm.

Website: www.canongatekirk.org.uk  @CanongateKirk  @canongate.kirk

Scottish Charity SC 015251