



news & views

St Peter's, Lutton Place
November 2024



p. 5



p. 17



p. 16



p. 8



p. 11



p. 14



p. 12

For what Christmas game? I love to think out
 Polly's favourite
 Accessory for a party?
 The only one you can get better than
 Skins dresser?
 Brings music to the ears.
 How about a sing-a-long?
 Are you stumped yet?
 An...ion?
 Where w...
 You might like to use this?
 Roly Poly!
 Santa guide his reindeer?

From our Associate Clergy

Bishop Donald Allister

November is not most people's favourite month, but I love it. Its fixed points, its movement and flow, as well as its new-every-year surprises, remind me of the joy, the seriousness, and the sheer significance of being alive.

We begin with All Saints' Day, and move quickly to Remembrance. The lights, candles, and good memories of those who have gone before us, the assurance that we are part of a community much bigger than we can see or touch; suddenly replaced by a proliferation of blood-red poppies, the reminder of sacrifice and of the horrors of war, the almost-eternal question of whether it was a beautiful thing to die for one's country, or whether that is a near-blasphemy (see the article about Wilfred Owen on page 13): big and painful but real-world realities. Moving on, the Church takes us to Christ the King, originally a Roman Catholic festival but rightly adopted in recent years by liturgically-minded protestants. On this last Sunday before Advent we summarise all that Jesus has taught us from the gospels since Pentecost: that he is King of kings, Lord of all, our Saviour and our God. November finishes with St Andrew's Day, with its reminder of our missionary calling to lead others to Christ. (See Richard's article about St Andrew on page 14.)

This theological framework for the month serves as a backdrop to what we see in nature: the reality of a world where things aren't meant to stay still. Autumn is with us in earnest, and the glories of summer are well and truly gone. Winds come from the cold north and east. We are reminded of God's plan for the cycle of nature, for us as well as for the world. Radiant summer colours replaced by the glorious golds of harvest and then mature greys, we begin to taste the cold and dark of winter, all in the knowledge of resurrection and new life to come.

News & Views
November 2024

**St Peter's
Lutton Place**
Edinburgh
SC017358

The Scottish Episcopal Church
The Rt Revd John Armes
Bishop, Diocese of Edinburgh

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office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Tel No: 0131 563 8198

Sheila and Laura work flexibly part-time. Messages may be left on the office answer machine, but please note it may be a few days before it is heard or dealt with. Webpage;

<https://stpetersedinburgh.org/>

This November we pray for Nick as he begins his sabbatical, laying aside leadership, teaching and pastoral responsibilities for a while to return to the study and reflection on God's word from which all ministry flows. This month, too, we welcome Rev Ruth Green back to St Peter's: a former curate here, just retired from church leadership in Aberdeen, joining Nick's team alongside Sue and myself. She will give her first sermon on Christ the King, Sunday, 24th November.

God bless us all this November.

On behalf of the ministry team,

Donald

A message from our Rector, Rev Nick Wills

I will be heading off on Sabbatical from November through to the end of February. Having recently reached the milestone of 25 years since my Ordination, I am very grateful for this opportunity to reflect on my ministry so far, and think creatively about the future.

I will initially head to Spain, where I hope the sunshine and slightly longer days will help me to renew energy, and where I have hopes to wander old towns, to read and reflect, and also to complete an historic pilgrimage. Becky will be able to join me for some of this time, too.

I am hugely grateful to Sue, Donald, and Ruth for their willingness to cover services and to provide pastoral care during my time away. I couldn't leave St Peter's in better hands!

With my prayers for you all,

Nick

Editor's Note

We wish Nick a very interesting, fun and refreshing sabbatical!

While he is off, we thank our Associate Clergy, Rev Sue Whitehouse, Bishop Donald Allister and Rev Ruth Green, who between them will be looking after St Peter's. For any pastoral issues, please do not contact Nick but contact any of the Associate Clergy, and direct any questions to Sheila in the office.

Rev Dr Ruth Green

We are delighted that Ruth is joining the Clergy Team at St Peter's at the beginning of November. Many will remember her from when she was Curate here from 2011–2014. She has since been Rector at St David of Scotland, Pilton, Edinburgh, and the Priest in Charge at St James the Less in Aberdeen.



When Ruth moved to Aberdeen in January 2019, her husband, Michael, continued living in Edinburgh and became a member of St Peter's. Now retired, she has returned to live in Edinburgh.

As one of our Clergy Team, alongside preaching and presiding, amongst other things Ruth will regularly help with the Toddler Group while Nick is away, and whenever possible, she will sing in the choir. To Ruth, helping those in need is very important, and her hobbies include reading, baking, walking and the outdoors.

Children's Church

We always welcome children to our services.

At all services, children are very welcome to use and enjoy the activity and colouring-in station set up at the back of church, in the Children's Corner.

During the 10.45am Sunday service, for children who would like to join in, there are fun activities based on the day's Bible theme in the church hall. Organised by Becky, our Children and Young People's Worker, a group of volunteers help her to run the activities. Children and their leaders usually leave during the Kyrie and return to the service in time for Communion.

If you have any questions, please speak to a Welcomer or to Becky before the service. Or you can email becky@stpetersedinburgh.org any time.

Young Adults & Students

We warmly welcome new students and young adults, and there is a varied programme of special events throughout the year for them to get to know each other better.



Any students or young adults who want further details are invited to join our student and young adult email lists. For more details speak to either Becky or Sheila, or email becky@stpetersedinburgh.org

Toddler Group

By Becky, Children's and Young People's Worker

Our Toddler Group runs from 9.30am – 11.30am on Mondays and Thursdays during school term time, and is for those aged 0-3.

Donation £1 per family per session and tea/coffee and snacks are provided. Our international groups are very welcoming and friendly, with families from all over the world!



If you know a family with young children who would like to join us, email: becky@stpetersedinburgh.org

Process

Our next Process service at 6.30pm on 10th November will focus on the theme of Remembrance.

Creative, interactive and hopefully spiritually uplifting, this monthly evening worship experience is open to all. We usually meet in the hall, but may move around the building, into the church, Millar Chapel, or sometimes outside if the weather is nice.



The service is from 6.30pm – 7.30pm, usually on the 2nd Sunday of the month, lasts about an hour, and refreshments are available afterwards. Process will not be held in December.



Remembrance Sunday

On Sunday 10th November, we will hold an Act of Remembrance at both the 9am and 10.45am services, as we remember the Fallen together.

This year, of course, the gratitude that we have for those who sacrificed themselves for our freedom is given added resonance by the horrific spectre of war that has returned to Europe and the Middle East.



Can you help?

Erecting Christmas Trees on Saturday 30th November

The two Christmas trees will be erected on the morning of Sat 30th Nov, in time for our Tree Lighting Ceremony on 1st December. John S and Chris H. would appreciate any help with this, even if you cannot manage the whole time.

9am-c. 12 noon: Leaving the church for the plantation to pick and cut down the two trees.

c. 11.30am-c. 2pm: Erect one tree in the garden, and the other in the church.

It is helpful if you please contact John Smith to let them know if you can help, but you can also just turn up on the day.

Garden Benches

Our garden is very popular with locals and visitors. However, the church garden benches require painting. Are you able to please sand and paint a bench or three in the garden? Liz M. will provide the sandpaper, paint and brushes.

If you are willing and able to help, please speak to Liz after a morning service, or email her via the office: office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Youth in Edinburgh Diocese

For information about Diocesan youth events, please contact Rev Fiona Reynolds, The Diocesan Advisor for Christian Life.

Email: freynolds@dioceseofedinburgh.org or phone 0131 346 9089.



To register for their 6-monthly newsletter, see:

[Youth and Children Newsletter | Diocese of Edinburgh \(anglican.org\)](http://www.anglican.org)

Walking Group

A report of the walk from Oxgangs Avenue to Morningside via the Cockmylane Path and Braidburn Valley Park.



by Janet H, walk coordinator

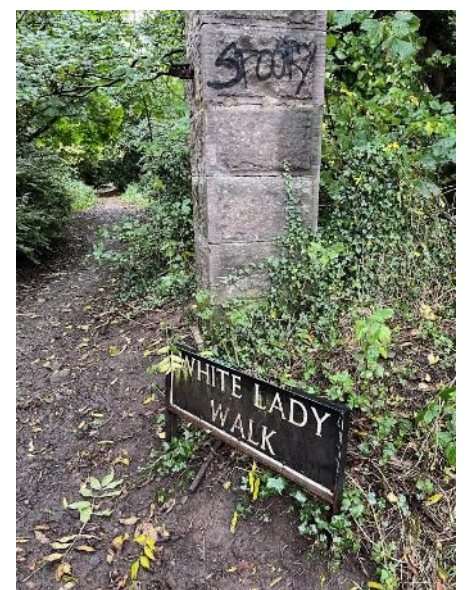
On the 26th September, four of us set forth on a wet, windy day to walk from Oxgangs area to Morningside.

We started from the south end of Oxgangs near Swanston Avenue. The term 'oxgangs' refers to the amount of land tillable by one ox in a ploughing season and would vary from place to place but it was roughly 15 acres. Until the 1950s Oxgangs was farmland.

We started on the Cockmylane Path (from the Gaelic cuach na leanaidh, meaning 'hollow on the sloping meadow containing springs'). This path was favoured by Robert Louis Stevenson, in the 1860s, to reach Swanston Cottage from Edinburgh every summer. There were many springs in the area which were used to provide the citizens of Edinburgh with clean drinking water. The water supply was first installed in 1675 using wooden pipes. Each spring fed water to a collecting cistern called Comiston Spring House which we passed on our route. This cistern collected water from all the springs and filtered it. The water was then able to flow under gravity to the collecting tank on Castlehill.



When we reached the Braid Burn, we followed this through the Braidburn Valley Park, this steep-sided valley was created as a result of glacial activity. It was once part of Greenbank Farm and was made a public park in 1933. There's an open-air theatre area as well as a more recently planted small orchard.



We finished our walk by continuing to Morningside for a welcome cuppa although, in fact, the weather

had not been as bad as it had seemed at the beginning. The walking surface was good so it is a fine walk in all seasons.

If you have any other questions about the group, or would like to receive Walking Group emails, please speak to or email Sheila via the office.

October 2024 Vestry Update

By Janice, Vestry Secretary

Vestry members met on the 9th October.

We looked at our accounts from July 2023 to June 2024 and approved them after points of amendment and discussion.

Major work for next year involves the treatment of dry rot in a small area of the church roof near the vestibule. We are waiting for permissions, but are conscious that at some time early next year we may have to close one of the entrances temporarily.

Nick's Sabbatical is from November this year to February 2025, and at our September meeting Vestry approved Donald's and Sue's plans for our Advent and Christmas services. Three members volunteered each to chair the Vestry once while he is away.

We thanked Lenore for her service before she left for her ordination training. We wished Fee Reynolds well in her new ministry.

Please continue to pray for your Vestry.

Editor's Note

As was announced on page 10 of the October magazine, the AGM is being held on Sunday 27th October.

A report of this will be included in the December / January issue of News & Views.

We give our most grateful thanks to Chris H for all his work as Gift Aid Secretary, counting team leader, and charitable collections secretary over the past 6 years. Chris is standing down at the AGM, and his replacement will be named in due course.

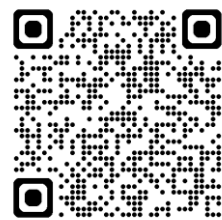
St Peter's Book Club

The Book Club welcomes new members to discuss a wide range of titles. It meets in the Choir Vestry and one can just turn up to discuss the chosen book.

The following books are being discussed:

28th Oct 'Infidel' by Ayaan Hirsi Ali

25th Nov 'War Doctor' by David Nott



For more information about the Book Club, please contact the office.

Stewardship and Gift Aid

We thank the many members who regularly give and contribute financially to aid the continuation of the work of God in St Peter's.

Donations can be made directly into 'St Peters Church' bank account.

The account details are:

- Bank of Scotland, 51 South Clerk Street, EH8 9PP
- Account number 00439927
- Sort code 80-02-83

For further information on how you can help to support God's mission and ministry in St Peter's through giving, or to update your tax status, please contact:

Treasurer Laura development@stpetersedinburgh.org

Magazine Articles

The December / January magazine is due to be issued on 24th November.

Please email or submit your articles and photographs to Sheila,

office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Thank you!

*The DEADLINE for the
November issue is
Thursday 14th November*

Music Notes

By Rupert Forbes, Director of Music



Our New Head Chorister

During our Harvest Festival on Sunday 29th September, Emma was instituted as our new Head Chorister. Emma joined the junior choir in February 2018, and we wish her well in her new post!



Choral Evensong

Choral Evensong is usually held on the last Sunday of the month. It will be held at 6.30pm on Sundays 27th October and 24th November, but not in December. Our Carol Service will however be held at 6.30pm on Sunday 22nd December.

Do you enjoy singing?

Choral music lies at the heart of the worshipping life of our church, and we'd love you to join our four-part choir!

We sing a wide variety of Anglican repertoire.

Choir rehearsals are held on a Thursday night, and new members are always welcome!

Voice for Life (Optional for Junior Choristers) 6.15pm-7pm.

Junior Choir (aged 8-18): 7pm-8pm.

Adults (aged 17+) join at 7.45pm until about 9.30pm.

Contact Director of Music Rupert and
Organist Sheila via office@stpetersedinburgh.org

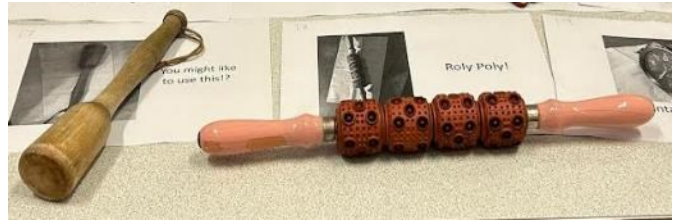
What is a QR Code? On a Smartphone, open the camera and point it at the square. Click on the link that appears and you are taken directly to the given webpage, which will have more information!



Monday Group

By Liz P.

Our regular monthly meetings with speakers on Monday afternoons recommenced on 14th October. The title of Lesley Main's talk was "My Granny's Drawers", but it was not, of course, about underwear but the contents of a chest of drawers which had travelled about Scotland, including to Shetland and back, with both Lesley's grandmother and mother and is now in her home in Edinburgh. We were all issued with a pencil and paper and were shown some intriguing items and had to write down what we thought they were. I thought I was doing well getting 8 out of 20, but the winner was Margaret Garden who got 14! Amongst other things I successfully identified an eye bath, clips for holding hair curling papers, a gramophone needle and a piece of parachute silk but was stumped by a gadget for attaching to a hen's beak to stop it pecking other fowl, a pencil extender, a roller for toning up one's muscles (I thought it was for putting patterns on pastry) and a belt with a pad attached for Shetland knitters' needles.



On Monday 11th November at 2.30pm Rev Sue Whitehouse will be taking a service of Holy Communion, after which Janet Young will be giving a talk about St Ignatius of Loyola and the work of the Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow. PLEASE NOTE that this meeting will be held in the MILLAR CHAPEL. Our Christmas Party will be in the Hall on Monday 9th December. All welcome.

The cost of annual membership of the Monday Group is £10. We would like to encourage all those who come and enjoy our meetings to become members. We ask £1 per meeting for members, but £2 from non-members. All are most welcome to our meetings, men and women of any age. Bring your friends; attendees don't have to be members of St Peter's. Our secretary, Pam Dugan, has put together an interesting schedule for the rest of the year.

For further information about the Monday Group you can contact our president Jane S. or secretary Pam D via the office email.

A Reflection for Remembrance Day

By Donald Allister

Wilfred Owen

As a schoolboy I found that Wilfred Owen was a First World War poet to whom I could relate: Rupert Brooke, Robert Graves, Siegfried Sassoon might have been more highly regarded as masters of their art, but Owen's unflinching immediacy spoke to me.

In the early 1980s I became vicar of Christ Church Birkenhead and discovered to my delight that Owen had been in the choir there as a boy and a young man. Over the next six years I preached weekly from a wonderful war memorial pulpit made and installed in his honour. I researched him, and found a man of great integrity and courage. He volunteered to fight, and after training was commissioned as an officer: from a poor background he had worked his way to the necessary educational standard. Appalled by what he found in the war, he determined to tell the truth to the public back home who had been fed a romantic tale of almost chivalrous fighting, and started writing vivid, angry, and thoughtful poetry.

Severely injured, he was sent to the Craiglockhart War Hospital (now part of Napier University – an Edinburgh connection to Owen) where he met Siegfried Sassoon, already known as a writer. In Craiglockhart he wrote some of his greatest poems. Eventually the doctors returned him to the army, but only for light duties. Against Sassoon's urging, he chose to go back to fight, partly so he could continue to see and recount the horrors of war. He was awarded the military cross in the next campaign, but was killed just a week before the armistice. He was brave as a soldier, but just as brave in choosing to tell the public what they did not want to hear. His poetry was widely disliked by those who disliked his message, until well after the war when his greatness, and the power of his words, were recognised.

Here's the final part of "Dulce et decorum est". The Latin poet Horace had written *Dulce et decorum est, pro patria mori* (Sweet and proper it is, to die for one's country) which over the centuries became a motto for fighting men and a consolation for their relatives. Himself prepared to die in battle, Owen wanted the realities of war to be understood. His poem begins with the description of a gas attack, and of one of his men who couldn't get his gas mask on quickly enough.

It continues:

In all my dreams before my helpless sight,
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

If in some smothering dreams, you too could pace
Behind the wagon that we flung him in,
And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,
His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;
If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood
Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,
Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud
Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues,—
My friend, you would not tell with such high zest
To children ardent for some desperate glory,
The old Lie: *Dulce et decorum est*
Pro patria mori.

St Andrew, Patron of Scotland

Saturday 30th November

By Richard B.

‘As of old St Andrew heard it, by the Galilean Lake...’ I have long had an affection for the Apostle Andrew.

The New Testament mentions Andrew a dozen times. Most are when Jesus calls the 4 fishermen (Peter, Andrew, James and John) to become his first disciples, or in lists of the 12 Apostles. Only John's Gospel gives details about Andrew. Already a follower of John the Baptist, he recognises Jesus as the Messiah and brings his brother Peter to him. At the Feeding of the 5000, Andrew spots the boy with the 5 loaves & 2 fishes, but “what is that among so many?” Later, Andrew & Philip take some Greeks with questions to see Jesus.

So I like Andrew as a bit of a religious geek, a realist not afraid of questions and bringing people to Jesus.

After Pentecost Andrew is not mentioned in the Bible, but Church history tells us that he preached across Asia Minor as far as the Black Sea. Eventually he became Bishop of Patras in Greece, at the western end of the Gulf of Corinth. His ministry there saw many converted to the Way of Jesus, including the wife of the local Roman governor, which led to Andrew being crucified in AD 60, tied, tradition says, to a diagonal Saltire cross.

Around AD 350 the Church in Constantinople transferred the tomb of St Andrew to their new Church of the Holy Apostles. Regulus, who looked after the tomb at Patras, was not happy. Legend says he kept some of the saint's bones and sailed to the 'ends of the earth'. He landed in Fife and the town of St Andrews was born! These relics of St Andrew were a knee-cap, an arm bone and a finger, perfect for a 3-point sermon about prayer, perseverance and pointing to Jesus. In reality, the Picts were more likely to have been evangelised by monks from Iona, with the relics coming via Hexham Abbey in the 700s.

Saint Margaret of Scotland (f.d. 16th November), an Anglo-Saxon princess who escaped the Norman Conquest of England and married King Malcolm III in 1070, set up the Queen's Ferry across the Forth to help pilgrims to St Andrews. Built over 150 years to re-house the relics, St Andrew's Cathedral, the largest in Scotland, was consecrated in 1318 in the presence of Robert the Bruce, and Andrew was officially adopted as Scotland's Patron Saint in 1320.

In 1559 during the turbulent Reformation, John Knox so roused the townsfolk that a mob descended on the Cathedral and trashed it, scattering the relics, which remain lost. Today it is a romantic ruin. Meanwhile, taken from Constantinople around 1200 by returning Crusaders, the tomb of St Andrew now rests in the crypt of the Romanesque Duomo of the beautiful Italian coastal town of Amalfi. In 1974 I went 400 miles to St Andrews to study the Universe, and in 1980 I made a little pilgrimage to Amalfi.

The window to the right of our War Memorial shows St Andrew fishing. (See *the back front cover.*)

Back to Maredsous

By Rev Chris Martin

Maredsous is a Benedictine Abbey in Wallonia, in southern Belgium. It was founded as a priory in 1872 on the initiative of Beuron Abbey, a major Benedictine house in Germany, and was raised to the status of an abbey by Pope Leo XIII in 1878. Since 1926 the abbey has been awarded the title of a minor basilica. The abbey occupies a spectacular position on land donated by the Desclée family, wealthy Belgian printers and publishers. It is built on an enormous scale in a neo-Gothic style, designed by the architect Jean-Baptiste de Bethune.

Like many Belgian abbeys, the number of resident monks has diminished in recent years. The abbey provides teachers for an adjacent school, it functions as a conference centre and retreat centre; and it sells Maredsous cheese and Maredsous beer. The cheese is made in their own dairies, but the beer is now brewed under licence by a brewery in Flanders.

For a decade or more there has been an autumn Men's Retreat for men from Holy Trinity, Brussels, and from the Brussels German-speaking Protestant church. Numbers have varied from about a dozen to thirty. I have been involved with this retreat since 2014, when it was held at St Andrew's, Zevenkirken, a Benedictine abbey near Bruges in Flanders, and when the theme was ***Journeying with God***. Subsequent themes have included ***Rock and Roles: Men's Spirituality***; ***Sanctuary***; and ***Living with the Psalmist***. There are workshops, spaces for reflection, meals with the monks, a long Saturday afternoon walk in the countryside, a film, and Communion on Sunday morning. The Saturday night films have included ***Grand Torino***, ***On a clear day***, ***Pride***, and ***Brassed Off***.

This year we were back at Maredsous. A little earlier than usual, the second weekend in October. There were sixteen of us, predominantly from Holy Trinity. The theme was once again ***Unlocking the Psalms***. We looked at



*Chris (in the middle)
with two friends.*

groups of psalms in terms of cries for help; at psalms seeking guidance and of reorientation; and at songs of praise. The participants then wrote their own psalms, some of which were used in our Saturday evening service of Compline, and some in our Sunday morning Communion service. The film this year was *Marvellous*. I have been leading this retreat, or co-leading it with my German friend Armin Kummer, for a decade now. I think this will have been my last year. (Though I recall saying that last year!) If it is, then I will miss being back at Maredsous in a year's time. But there is talk of bringing the retreat to Scotland.

Eco-Matters

Fabulous Fungi *by Christine B.*

Seeing the exhibition *Fungi Forms* at the Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh (RBGE) this week (free entry, on until 8th December in Inverleith House) brought home to me how completely the natural world - humans included - is interconnected by and dependent on largely unperceived and often unrecognised fungal networks. Without them over 90% of plant life wouldn't survive. They create symbiotic relationships with trees and plants. Many of our everyday foods - not just the fruiting bodies we call mushrooms - are derived via fungi: cheese, beer and wine, bread, Marmite... Penicillin revolutionised healthcare. Psilocybin has produced startling reductions of symptoms in the treatment of psychiatric problems. Enzymes can be extracted from fungi to decompose plastics and create sustainable packaging. The Ice Man from 5000 years ago was carrying tinder fungus.



Fungi can of course harm as well as heal. Potato blight brought mid-19th century Ireland to starvation, because all the crop came from one variety; always a danger when there is no genetic diversity.

No-one has written more memorably about fungi than Merlin Sheldrake in *Entangled Life: how fungi make our worlds, change our minds and shape our futures* (Bodley Head, 2020). Here he recounts the designer Stella McCartney's experiments in creating a faux leather from mycelium (fungi's rootlike structures). Sure enough, in the RBGE exhibition there is a

crossbody bag (only £1,195), bustier and trousers in this fabric: Mylo™. It's vegan, cruelty-free, and feels just like leather!

Industrial agriculture and sheer mistreatment of land worldwide is unconcerned with these crucial structures. The growing popularity of no-dig gardening, on the other hand, allows them to flourish.

Fungi Forms contains strange and beautiful as well as grotesque and extraordinary fungi, videos, stories, sculpture and music. Also, apparently, smells, although sadly my sense of smell isn't good enough to detect them. I encourage you to visit, and also to read *Entangled Life*!

<https://www.rbge.org.uk/whats-on/fungi-forms/57484>

Paper Poppies

- They are made from 100% responsibly sourced paper and can be recycled in ordinary recycling bins.
- The new poppy design has a 40% lower carbon footprint (Prof Lettieri UCL).



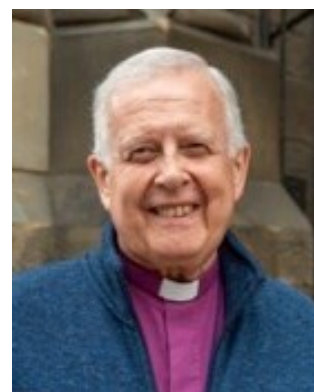
Bishop Donald Allister's Bible Teaching Videos

Donald uploads a new Bible teaching video every Monday to his YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@feedmysheep2023>

These are free to view, and it is fine to pass the link on to anyone who might be interested.

During November and December he is offering a nine-week series on "Jesus in the Old Testament".



If you find accessing and navigating YouTube difficult, Donald would be very happy to send you MP4 files of his talks, which should work on any modern computer or mobile phone. Please email him or ask him in Church.

Helping Those in Need

Newington FoodBank⁺

The collection at our Harvest Festival was for our local Foodbank and we thank all who so generously gave Harvest gifts.



The donations that keep appearing in the box at the back of church each week are all greatly appreciated! Very helpful items include coffee, sugar, biscuits, breakfast cereal, cooking oil, shampoo/shower gel, washing-up liquid and soap powder.

Fresh Start

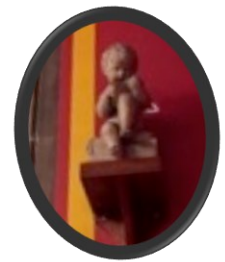
Fresh Start is always in need of various household donations. If you would like to help, please pick up a leaflet at the back of the church, or see their webpage:

<https://www.freshstartweb.org.uk/>



Books for Bairns

A project to gift the joy of books to children
'One Child and One Book At A Time'.



Please put any picture books (that are in good condition) into the box at the back of church, or hand them into the office.

Thank you to Liz Mackay who regularly delivers our books to the South East Foodbank+ in Burdiehouse, South Edinburgh!

For more information about *Books for Bairns*, see:

<https://stpetersedinburgh.org/books-for-bairns>

Ukraine and Middle East Crisis Appeals

Christian Aid offers assistance to Ukraine refugees

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/ukraine-crisis-appeal>

Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)

<https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>

Christian Aid Middle East Crisis Appeal

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/middle-east-crisis-appeal>

Sunday Readings

**The passages being read*

November 2024

3rd November & Thursday 7th November The Feast of All Saints

(transferred from 1st November)

Isaiah 25: 6-9 ♦ Psalm 24: 1-6 ♦ *Revelation 21: 1-6a ♦ *John 11: 32-44

10th November Remembrance Sunday

Job 19: 21-27 ♦ *Psalm 90 ♦ 1 Corinthians 15: 51-57 ♦ *John 6: 37-40

17th November Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Daniel 12: 1-3 ♦ Psalm 16 ♦ *Hebrews 10: 11-25 ♦ *Mark 13: 1-8

24th November Christ the King

Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14 ♦ Psalm 93 ♦ *Revelation 1: 4b-8 ♦ *John 18: 33-37

24th November Evensong Christ the King

*Isaiah 4: 2 - 5: 7 ♦ Psalm 110 ♦ *John 6: 1-15

1st December & Thursday 5th December Advent Sunday

Jeremiah 33: 14-16 ♦ Psalm 25: 1-9 ♦ *1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13 ♦

*Luke 21: 25-36

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Sunday 1st December, 5pm

At 5pm on 1st December, which is Advent Sunday, we will be holding our annual Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Beginning in the church garden will be the switching on of the lights on the tree. We will then move into the hall to sing carols and enjoy refreshments. It is very child-friendly with lots of community carol singing, and all are very welcome!



Clergy

Contact our Clergy via the office.

Our Rector Rev Nick Wills is on sabbatical.

Associate Clergy Rev Sue Whitehouse
Bishop Donald Allister
Rev Ruth Green



All the Associate Clergy Team are very happy to spend time with members of St Peter's who have concerns or are facing difficult situations.

Please feel able to speak to any of them to arrange a time to talk. We are grateful for their willingness to minister in this way, especially while Nick is on sabbatical.

If you, or someone you know, have not received Communion because you/they have been unable to come to Church, then members of our Clergy and Lay Pastoral Team would be happy to bring you Communion at home. Please let Sue, Donald or Ruth know if you hear of a member of St Peter's who is ill.

The Office

There are currently no set office hours with Laura and Sheila working flexibly part-time, sometimes from home.

Laura Amongst several jobs, Laura covers finances, building maintenance and hall bookings. If you would like to book the hall please contact or email Laura: development@stpetersedinburgh.org

Sheila is the Church Administrator. She deals with anything concerning church matters and supporting the Clergy Team. She works 20 hours a week, usually working on Monday and Tuesday, and Thursday and Sunday mornings. Church emails are usually attended to on Mondays and Tuesdays: 10am-4pm, and Thursdays 10am-1pm. The rest of her hours are taken up with other tasks. Sheila's email: office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Keeping in Touch

Each Saturday evening the service information and notices are emailed out to congregational members. If you do not already receive these emails and wish to keep in touch, please email Sheila via the church office.

Dates for the Diary

Services

Sundays ♦ 9am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Traditional language, usually with no music or sermon.

Sundays ♦ 10.45am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Modern language, with choir & congregational singing.

Second Sunday of the month (usually) ♦ 6.30pm ♦ Process

Last Sunday of the Month (usually) ♦ 6.30pm ♦ Choral Evensong

1st Thursday of the month ♦ 11am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Traditional language, usually with no music or sermon.

Regular Activities

Mondays & Thursdays ♦ 9.30am-11.30am ♦ Toddler Group (*term-time*)

Thursdays (in Church.):

6.15pm, Voice for Life ♦ 7pm-8pm, Junior Choir ♦ 7.45pm, Adult Choir

Last Monday of the month (Usually) ♦ 7pm ♦ St Peter's Book Club

Events in October and November

Sun 27th Oct AGM ♦ after 10.45am service

Sun 27th Oct Choral Evensong ♦ 6.30pm

Mon 28th Oct St Peter's Book Club ♦ 7pm

Thur 7th Nov Monthly Communion ♦ 11am

Sun 10th Nov Remembrance Sunday, with an Act of Remembrance ♦
9am & 10.45am

Sun 10th Nov Process ♦ 6.30pm.

Mon 11th Nov Monday Group ♦ 2.30pm-4pm (*in the Millar Chapel*)

Thur 14th Nov December / January Magazine Deadline

Sun 24th Nov Choral Evensong ♦ 6.30pm

Mon 25th Nov St Peter's Book Club ♦ 7pm

Sat 30th Nov Collecting and erecting Christmas Trees ♦ 9am-c. 2pm

Sun 1st Dec Advent Sunday ♦ 9am & 10.45am

Sun 1st Dec Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony ♦ 5pm

Contacts

Clergy and Staff

Rector Rev Nick Wills

Nick is on sabbatical. For any pastoral issues please contact one of our Associate Clergy and direct any questions to Sheila via the office.

Associate Clergy Rev Sue Whitehouse
Bishop Donald Allister
Rev Ruth Green

Children's & Young People's Worker Becky

becky@stpetersedinburgh.org

Hall Bookings / Development Laura

development@stpetersedinburgh.org

Administrator/Magazine Sheila

office@stpetersedinburgh.org

Church Office

Sheila or Laura

0131 563 8198

(Please note, messages left on the office answer machine may take a few days before they are heard and dealt with.)

Director of Music Rupert

Organist & Voice for Life Sheila

Church Officers

Vestry Secretary Janice

Treasurer Laura

development@stpetersedinburgh.org

Lay Representative Roddy

Alternate Lay Representative Jan

Finance Convenor Ralph

Works Convenor Liz M

Sacristan Liz M

Fire Warden Pam

Church Organisations and Groups

Servers' Guild Bill

Monday Group Jane

Thursday Lunch Club (1st Thursday) Delia



The window in St Peter's showing St Andrew fishing. It is to the right of our War Memorial. (See article on p. 14.)

Picture taken by Richard Barnes.



Tantallon Castle from Auldhame, East Lothian. Taken between sunshine and showers.

Picture taken by John Raymond.