

News & Views

St Peter's, Luton Place

May 2026



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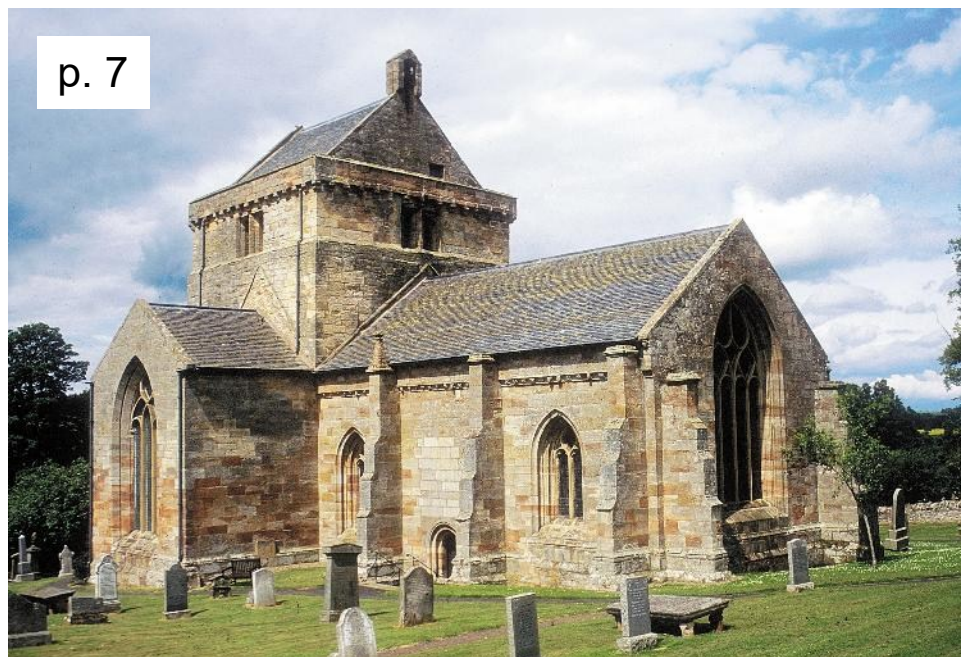


SOUNDING
the
SEASONS
Poetry for the Christian year
MALCOLM GUILTE



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From the Rector

Rev Nick Wills

Dear Friends,

A very Happy Eastertide to you all!

We had joyful celebrations on Easter Sunday, particularly at the 10.45am service when Handel's Hallelujah Chorus resounded triumphally. This contrasted with the beautiful Maundy Thursday service, featuring Tallis's *If ye love me* along with the stripping of the Altars, that struck a moving contemplative tone. A big thank you to Rupert, Sheila and the choir who worked so hard to rehearse for all the services in Holy Week. A big thank also to Liz M. and Jane S. for the beautiful floral displays in church.

I was also able to represent St Peter's at the Newington Churches Together Walk of Witness on Good Friday, and we had a good number of St Peter's folk amongst the crowd. In the evening, Becky and I led a service of reflection based on The Stations of the Cross with traditional Bible readings interspersed with sonnets by the priest and poet Malcolm Guite, with his kind permission. They can be found in his book *Sounding the Seasons; seventy Sonnets for the Christian Year*, Canterbury Press 2012, which I highly recommend to you.

Toddlers and young children from church enjoyed the Easter Special on Monday 13th April including Easter crafts, a retelling of the Easter story by Becky and an Easter egg hunt in the garden. They had a great time. (*See more on page 7.*)

On 14th May, at 8.00pm, we invite you to join us to celebrate Ascension Day at Crichton, which I will be presiding and Donald will be preaching at, and our choir will lead the sung worship.

News & Views

May 2026

**St Peter's
Lutton Place**

Edinburgh

SC017358

The Scottish Episcopal Church

*The Most Rev Mark Strange
Acting Bishop for the Diocese
of Edinburgh.*

Church Office

14 Lutton Place

Edinburgh

EH8 9PE

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/>

Our regular church walks continue. A big thank you to Janet H. for leading walks on 28th March and 25th April. (See *page 15*.) If you would like to organise and lead a walk, please speak to Janet or myself. If you haven't managed to join us on one of our walks yet, then I hope that you have been managing to enjoy the lovely Spring weather in other ways.

The Diocese will be welcoming Bishop Dagmar as she is consecrated as Bishop of Edinburgh at St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 30th May at 11.00am. It has been announced that each charge will receive an allocation of tickets, and it is requested that one does not turn up to attend the event without a ticket. Please pray for Bishop Dagmar as she prepares to take up the leadership of the Diocese.

Many of you will have heard that our Director of Music, Rupert, has announced that he will be retiring at the end of June, with his last service at St Peter's being on St Peter's Day, Sunday 28th June. If you would like to contribute to a gift for Rupert on his retirement, please see page 13.

With my prayers that you will know the Peace of the Risen Christ this Eastertide,

Your Rector,

Nick

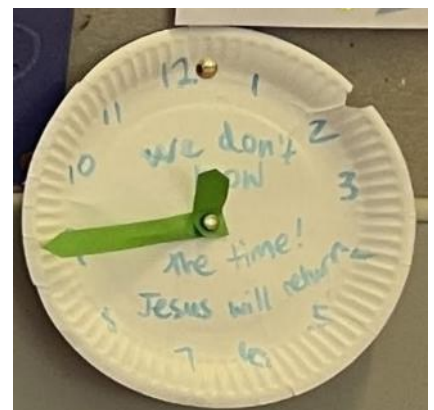
Children's Church

We always welcome children to our services.

At all services, children are very welcome to use and colouring-in station in the Children's Corner.

During the 10.45am Sunday service, children and their leaders usually leave for Children's Church in the hall during the Kyrie / Gloria and return to the service in time for Communion. Fun activities based on the day's Bible theme are organised by Becky, our Children and Young People's Worker, and a group of PVG covered volunteers help her to run the activities.

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.



Process

Our service in April focused on 'Peace with the Earth'. In the garden we acknowledged our abuse of our beautiful world and buried each of our written intentions to restore it.

Our next service is on Sunday 10th May. We gather in the hall for this contemporary evening service, which is reflective, sometimes interactive and always different. The service lasts about an hour, with refreshments afterwards.

If you would like to be part of the team who creates the services, please speak to Nick! As the services are planned each month, updated information is included in our Saturday emails and online: <https://stpetersedinburgh.org/process>



STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

We have a lovely group of students and young adults who during term-time have a regular schedule of Tuesday evening activities. These include meals, Bible studies, pub quizzes and the Open Mic music nights. It is great to meet regularly and to get to know each other well, while becoming a strong and supportive group, who also challenge each other.

We are delighted that some of our students have also joined in with wider church activities such as welcoming, serving coffee after services and joining the Process service planning team.

The group will meet on Tuesdays 28th April, and 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th May, after which the university term ends. Over the next few weeks, our students are gradually returning home for the holidays. We wish them a very happy holiday and look forward to seeing them when they return in September!

Any students or young adults who want further details are invited to join our student and young adult email and WhatsApp lists and hear about the forthcoming activities.

If you are interested in joining this group, please speak to Becky or Nick, or email becky@stpetersedinburgh.org.



LITTLE FOLK

 Traditional rhymes and folksongs

A informal, relaxed and fun introduction to music through a mixture of nursery rhymes, song, stories and movement!

- For all early years children aged 0-6.
- Meets in the hall on Sundays during term-time (*Due to the public holidays, it will not meet on Sundays 3rd or 17th May.*)
- 3.00pm-4.00pm
- Led by Sheila, Nick & Becky
- £2 per family per session
- Finishes with refreshments



All children must be accompanied by an adult who is responsible for them, and whom we also encourage to join in!

Please ask Becky, Sheila or Nick if you have you any questions.

Toddler Group

Our international group is very welcoming and friendly, and runs during term-time on Mondays and Thursdays from 9.30am–11.30am. It is for children aged 0-3.

All children must be accompanied by an adult, who is responsible for their own child/children at all times. Donation £1 per family and tea/coffee and snacks are provided.

(Due to Public Monday holidays, there is no Monday Toddler Group on 4th and 18th May.)

If you would like to attend or have any questions about any of our children's work, please email Becky via becky@stpetersedinburgh.org.



Easter Crafts and Egg Hunt

All the children in our Church family, Toddler and Little Folk Groups who attended the Easter Special on 13th April had lots of fun! The sun shone and they greatly enjoyed the egg hunt in the garden, the Easter crafts provided, and Becky's child-friendly retelling of the Easter story in the church.



Ascension Day, Thursday 14th May, 8pm

In Crichton Collegiate Church, Pathhead

On the evening of Ascension Day, we will we again join the congregation of Crichton Collegiate Church for a sung Eucharist service to celebrate Ascension Day. It will be led by Nick, with Donald preaching and our choir singing.



This is an ideal opportunity to see a beautiful ancient church that is not often open! Also, although Crichton Castle is currently closed for maintenance work, you can go earlier and walk along to the grounds to see the ruins.

We thank the Trustees for inviting us to lead this service.

St Peter's Book Club

The Book Club meets in the Choir Vestry and one can just turn up to discuss the chosen book. The group usually meets on the last Wednesday of the month from 7.00pm to 8.00pm. Even if you do not come to the group, if you have read something of interest, please do let the group know via the office email! New members are always welcome to discuss a wide range of titles. For more information, please contact the office, or see <https://stpetersedinburgh.org/book-club>



29th April *Fully alive: tending to the soul in turbulent times* by Elizabeth Oldfield. A book that makes you think about what motivates you and what is really important in life today.

The group will also meet on **27th May**.

Vestry Update, April 2026

By Roddy, Vestry Secretary

Much of Vestry was set aside to reflect on our recent “Away day”, a longer Saturday meeting at the Rectory. The group discussed who we are as a church and what our aims are, to help us make more informed decisions about day-to-day matters. Decisions which are, at times, literally nuts-and-bolts need to be seen in the light of how God is working through us as a church.



We feel we are becoming - and hope to be increasingly - an intergenerational, inclusive, welcoming, mission focused, (please see [The Five Marks of Mission - The Anglican Communion Office](#)) international Anglican presence in Newington.

We aim to grow organically and sustainably, respecting long-standing members of the church, welcoming people through a variety of styles of worship, emphasising hospitality and generosity and discovering and growing in our understanding of what it means for our church to be a Sanctuary.

In that context, we then discussed the practicalities of running our church, the opening of a new bank account with more favourable returns on our money and the timely new three-year fixed term contract with EDF, replacing the old Scottish Gas contract just before the Middle East crisis sent prices spiralling. Thanks to Laura for her work on these matters.

We have agreed a contractor, who has been working very effectively on our roof, to deal with the tree growing from the tower and discussed options for work on our flat in Hope Park Crescent. Finally, we discussed action around wear and tear on the garden benches in a session that had us looking through both telescope and microscope.

Good Friday

The very moving service on Good Friday was a selection of traditional Bible readings interspersed with, and linked to, sonnets on 12 of the 14 Stations of the Cross, written by the priest and poet, Malcolm Guite, who had kindly given his permission for them to be used in this way. They were taken from his book [Sounding the Seasons; seventy Sonnets for the Christian Year, Canterbury Press 2012](#), Guite's poems (each 14 lines long), are compassionately and thoughtfully written.

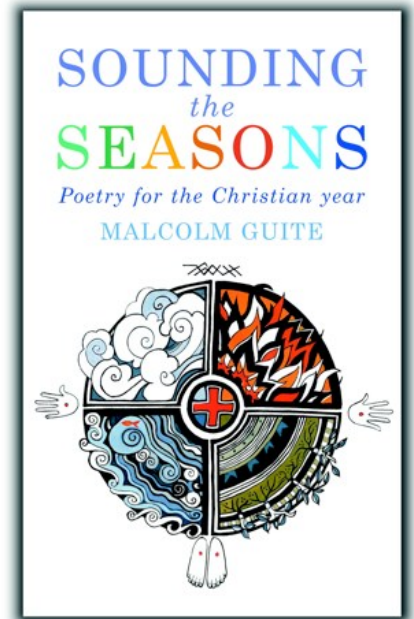
Guite describes them as
'Our journey into Christ - Christ's journey into us.'

During the service, the Bible readings and Sonnets were beautifully read by Nick and Becky. When read interspersed together in this way, it greatly enriched and deepened our understanding of the true sacrifice Jesus made for us.

Adding to the pensive and meditative atmosphere was the fading light. The sun was shining at the beginning of the service with the Bible reading and reading of the first Station, 'Jesus is condemned to death'. However, by the time the Bible reading and penultimate Station, 'Jesus is nailed to the cross' had been reached, dusk had fallen. By the twelfth and final Bible reading and Station of 'Jesus dies on the cross', it was dark...

Thank you to Nick and Becky for putting together and leading so beautifully such an expressive, meaningful and memorable service.

More information about Malcolm Guite and his poems and sonnets can be read here: <https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/category/poems/>



Magazine Articles

Please email or submit your articles and photographs to Sheila, office@stpetersedinburgh.org Thank you.

*The DEADLINE for the
June issue is
Thursday 21st May*

A Life in Music Rupert Forbes

Director of Music at St Peter's, 1995 – June 2026

Rupert reminisces;

Seventy-five years ago this summer I joined the choir of Hampstead Parish Church in north London. This was my first experience of singing choral music, and little did I know it at the time, but this was to become the key to my whole life's work. I gradually made my way up through the ranks of the choir, and when my voice started to change I took a couple of years away from the choir. However I then rejoined singing bass and on leaving school I successfully auditioned for a Choral Scholarship to St John's College, Cambridge, where we sang seven choral services a week during term time.



On graduating from the university I continued singing in several small professional choirs in London, and it was during this period that I realised that I wanted to dedicate my whole life to singing. I was fortunate to be awarded a Sir James Caird Travelling Scholarship which allowed me to study for a year and a half in Paris, a few months in Nuremberg, a year in Rome studying opera and then for a further year at the International Opera Studio in Zurich. During this time I was also able to learn the languages most frequently found in opera.

In every place where I studied I joined a choir at a church with an English-speaking congregation so as to continue singing the church music repertoire. After a couple of years singing in the choir at the International Protestant Church of Zurich, I was asked if I would consider taking over the position as Director of Music. I was delighted to accept this opportunity which gave me several years experience conducting and choir training and allowed me to maintain my contact with church music alongside singing opera.

At the end of my year at the Opera Studio, I had been offered a contract at the Zurich Opera House, where I stayed for five years, meanwhile re-training as a tenor, having previously been singing as a high baritone. I then moved to the Stadttheater in Basel, where I remained for fifteen happy years specialising in character tenor roles. My wife, Elisabeth was also singing in the theatre and by then we had two sons. We decided to move back to

Britain and settled in Edinburgh in the house where my wife had grown up. Tragically she lost her hearing at around this time and was thus no longer able to continue singing, but I carried on for some years performing with Scottish Opera and Covent Garden as well as abroad.

Since being away from home was not conducive to family life, I decided to stop performing as a singer after fifty years and started spending more time teaching singing. In 1995, one of my pupils mentioned that her local church, St Peter's, was looking for a Director of Music and so I successfully applied for the position.

For the first few months we had a series of deputy organists before appointing Michael Bonaventure as regular organist. We gradually built up the repertoire and numbers in the choir, but in 2003 Michael decided that he wanted to try living in London and so moved to a position down south. We advertised for an organist and had only one applicant – Sheila, whom we auditioned and duly appointed. Thus began a very happy and harmonious time for the choir and we were able to learn and perform a number of larger scale works, particularly at Easter time.

Thanks to the generosity of several members of the congregation, we have also been able to appoint successively three organ scholars: Tom, Ifeanyi and currently Christian who have all contributed greatly to the musical life of the church.

The style of services has changed considerably over the years, but the Junior Choir has always been an important part of our work. At one time we had thirteen junior choristers singing on a regular basis, but numbers have steadily declined due to current social circumstances, and my one regret is that, having learnt so much about music myself as a boy, I have not been able to pass on my knowledge and enthusiasm for church music to more children.

I look back on my thirty years as Director of Music with enormous pleasure, but the time has now come to pass on the baton to someone younger who is able to continue the tradition of Choral Music at St Peter's.

Psallam Spiritu Et Mente

The motto of the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) translates to "I will sing with the spirit and with the understanding also".

Rupert has most certainly closely followed this motto for the past 75 years!

Music Notes



By Rupert Forbes, Director of Music

Choir Concert Sunday 7th June, 6.30pm

Our choir will give a concert of anthems through the Church Year by British composers. It will last a little over an hour and there will be refreshments for all in the church afterwards.

Editor's Note: This is being held to mark Rupert's retirement, who for over 30 years has been our wonderful Director of Music. His final Sunday with us as Director of Music is on Sunday 28th June. If you would like to contribute to Rupert's leaving present, please see the next page. Thank you.



Choral Evensong will be held at 6.30pm on Sundays 26th April, 24th May and 21st June. There will be no Choral Evensong in July.

We hope that many will come and share this traditional choral led service.



Do you enjoy singing?

For information about joining the choir, where to meet and the commitment required, please speak to me after a morning service, contact me via the office.

Choir Rehearsals are held on:

Thursdays 7.00pm–8.00pm: Junior Choir; 7.45pm - 9.30pm for adults.
Sundays 10.00am for the 10.45am service, and 5.30pm for Evensong.

Voice for Life for St Peter's Church family children age c. 7-18.

Thursdays 6.15pm-7.00pm. *If interested in this, please speak to Sheila.*

(Due to the Ascension Day service in Crichton, there is no Voice for Life or Junior Choir on Thursday 14th May.)

Giving to Rupert's Retirement Present

If you would like to contribute towards Rupert's retirement present, please use one of the following options:

Bank Transfer

St Peters Episcopal Church *(Please name it 'Rupert Gift')*
80 02 83
00439927

By Cash or Cheque

Please put any cash or cheque (*written out to St Peter's Church and 'Rupert Gift' written on the back*) into the box at the back of the church marked 'Rupert Retirement Gift', or into an envelope with 'Rupert' written on it and put it through the Office/Lodge letter box.

If you would like to contribute to this it would be helpful if you could do so by 14th June. Thank you.

Treasurer Laura development@stpetersedinburgh.org

Monday Group

On Monday 20th April we held our AGM. Jane S. has resigned as President for health reasons. Unfortunately she was not at the meeting so was not able to hear that she was thanked for her many years of service on the committee.

We elected Margaret G. as our new President, Pam as Secretary and Liz P. as Treasurer. Ann S, Jennifer and Pauline were also elected as committee members. We agreed that we would continue with the £10 membership fee but abolish the £1 or £2 contributions at meetings.

Following the official business of the afternoon, members enjoyed convivial chat over refreshments.

Our annual lunch will be at the Elginhaugh Restaurant, Lasswade Road. Next year's season will commence on Monday 21st September at 3pm in the Choir Vestry. All are most welcome to our meetings, men and women of any age.

For further information about the Monday Group you can contact Liz P. via the office

TUESDAYS AT ST PETER'S

The morning events are all held in the hall during term-time on 28th April; 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th May; 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd June

11.00am Morning Prayer Service *Nick Wills*

An opportunity to pray together for St Peter's, and those in need in our local community, our nation and the wider world.



12 noon Daytime Bible Study Group *Sue Whitehouse*

Everyone is invited to come and join in - no prior knowledge is required. Reading scripture is one of the ways in which we can grow in our faith. We engage together, learn more about God, listen to each other's ideas and experiences, and learn to recognise what God intends for us in our lives, church community, and in the world.



1.00pm Tuesday's Chewsday!

A freshly cooked two-course lunch to eat socially together - for congregational members, and we hope it will be especially attractive to those who attend the 12 noon Bible Study Group.

It would be helpful if you could please let the office know by the Sunday before if you plan to come, especially if you have any dietary requirements. There is a suggested donation of £6, but we would not want this to be an obstacle to anyone who wants to join us.



7.00pm Evening Bible Study Group

Ruth Green & Donald Allister Year-round (Choir Vestry)

Donald and Ruth write: The evening Bible study group will be finishing our studies on John's Gospel at the end of April. In May we begin a series looking at the early chapters of the Acts of the Apostles. How does the life and growth of the Church in the days of the Apostles speak to us today? What can we learn for our own Christian lives from those first believers? All are welcome as we look at these encouraging events together. Every Tuesday at 7.00pm for an hour in the Choir Vestry.



FOLK OPEN MIC NIGHT AND SINGING CIRCLE

Tuesdays 5th May 2nd June

7.30pm - 9.30pm

Continuing to be a very friendly, encouraging and supportive environment to make music, the format of our newly named Open Mic and Singing Circle night has been tweaked with more of an emphasis on traditional folk song to which all can sing or play along. While all are still very welcome to contribute their own songs / music, there is now the opportunity for everyone to join in singing a selection of folk songs, often accompanied on the piano, but also sometimes unaccompanied or with other instruments.



- Do you want to share and listen to folk and roots standards and maybe some new and original music?
- Are you talented and creative, and looking for an outlet to share your skills and learn from others, in a supportive atmosphere?

If so, come and let's create Edinburgh's friendliest Open Mic Night together!

In the Hall

Free

Walking Group

A big thank you to Janet H. who on Saturday 25th April led a walk through the Meadows, enjoying the beautiful cherry blossoms, and ending in Holyrood Park.

If you would like to receive Walking Group emails with information about forthcoming and last-minute walks, email Sheila via the office.

Eco-Matters

A visit to Dynamic Earth *by Christine B.*

Over the Easter holidays I took my grandchildren to Dynamic Earth. Three things impressed me. The displays, many interactive, really hammered home, all over again, the lessons we all need to learn about the way disposing of plastics - and the means used to create them - have placed our planet on a trajectory to disaster: warming oceans, melting icecaps, extreme weather, plastic and fossil fuel pollution poisoning, damaged ocean beds, starving sea- and birdlife, and so on.

These crimes are avoidable but seem impossible to tackle on an individual level. Much is due to industry and big business. What can we do?

Last month I participated in the Big Plastic Count, totting up food and household packaging. It didn't change my behaviour but it did furnish data essential to putting a case to government for greater regulation about retail packaging. As I mentioned in the February article, it should not be left to the consumer to do all the work!

Meanwhile we can continue to choose, where possible, items that come with little or no packaging (and that recyclable).

Secondly, I was struck by how well informed so many of the visiting children already were (not just the ones I had with me). Schools are clearly helping future generations to learn these lessons. We saw the excellent research and work that is already being done. But we need more pressure to fill the gap where indiscriminate pollution happens, driven by greed and profit; and this change must happen at governmental level.

Thirdly: as we emerged and looked at the gift shop, I was sad to see so many tacky plastic toys, the kind of things kids lose, get bored with, break and which then end up in landfill. What a pity the gift shop doesn't stock more items to reinforce the excellent messages learned on the visit!

(And yes, I did send feedback to the shop.)

Helping Those in Need

Bethany's Showcase, 8th May from 3.00pm–7.00pm at Ps & Gs

An opportunity to discover standout fashion and accessories from across Bethany's seven shops. It will showcase a wide range of men's, women's and children's fashion, alongside a special wedding edit featuring bridalwear, suits and occasion outfits for guests. With small activities for children, it is an event the whole family can enjoy together while helping to end homelessness.



<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bethanys-showcase-tickets-1982785391481>.

Bethany Christian Trust & Edinburgh City Mission

Every night and five lunchtimes a week these charities jointly run a van distributing food, hot drinks and clothes to the homeless. Required is adult-sized clothing in a reasonable condition to distribute; shirts/tops, sweaters/fleeces/hoodies, trousers, joggers, warm waterproof jackets, socks, underwear, ideally new but clean, blankets and sleeping bags. <https://edinburghcitymission.org.uk/ministry/care-van/>



Newington FoodBank⁺

The donations of non-perishable food and basic toiletries that keep appearing in the box at the back of church each week are gratefully appreciated! Individuals can also take donations directly to the Foodbank at Community Church on Thursday mornings. Items particularly required are: tinned meat, pasta sauce, coffee, sugar, biscuits, cooking oil, shampoo, shower gel and razors.



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/>



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>

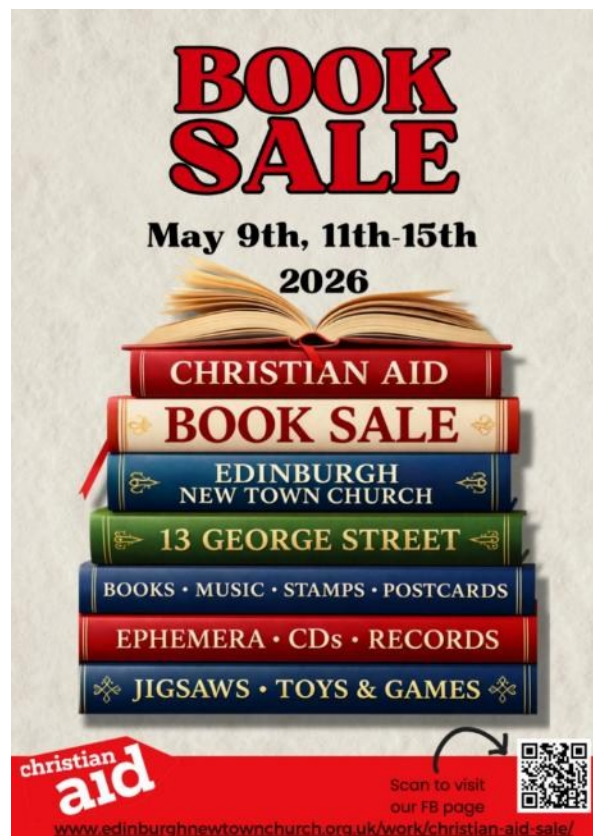
Christian Aid



Christian Aid Week is from 10th – 16th May.

Where hardship means hunger ...urban farmers can grow hope.

In the crowded and bustling settlements of Nairobi, most parents wake every single day knowing that they must go and earn money, otherwise their children won't eat that evening. It is a precarious and frightening daily struggle that no family should have to face. But with tools and training from Christian Aid's partner, Beacon of Hope, parents are farming vegetables in a small city plot to feed their families and earn an income.



Retiring Collection at St Peter's

For those who wish to give financially to Christian Aid, on Sundays 10th and 17th May we will be holding a retiring collection. Special Gift Aid envelopes will also be available in church. If using GA, please

place any donations into a Christian Aid envelope and place it into the offering basket. Thank you.

Book Sale 2026 Edinburgh New Town Church *(Formerly St Andrew's and St George's West in George Street)*

Opening times

Sat 9th May 10am - 4pm

Mon 11th to Fri 15th May 12 noon - 6pm.

Weekly email to keep in touch

Each Saturday an email with the weekly notices, together with the Sunday readings, Collect and Year's Mind is sent to our congregational members.

If you attend services but do not already receive these emails and would like to keep in touch, please fill in a GDPR form, available at the back of the church, and give it to Sheila, a Welcomer, or hand it into the office.

Regular Services in St Peter's

Sundays ♦ 9.00am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Traditional language, no music and sometimes no sermon

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

2nd Sunday of the month (*usually*) ♦ 6.30pm ♦ Process

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

Tuesdays (*term-time*) ♦ 11.00am ♦ Prayer Service ♦ no music or sermon

1st Thursday of the month ♦ 11.00am ♦ Holy Communion ♦ Traditional language, no music and usually no sermon, followed with a picnic lunch in the hall

Summary of regular activities in St Peter's

Sundays (*term-time only*)

3.00pm-4.00pm ♦ Little Folk ♦ in hall

Mondays & Thursdays (*term-time only*)

9.30am-11.30am ♦ Toddler Group ♦ in hall

Third Monday of the Month ♦ 3.00pm ♦ Monday Group ♦ in Choir Vestry

Tuesdays (*term-time only*)

11.00am ♦ Prayer Service ♦ in hall

12 noon ♦ Daytime Bible Study Group ♦ in hall

1.00pm ♦ Tuesday's Chewsday! ♦ lunch in hall

Tuesdays (*year-round*)

7.00pm ♦ Evening Bible Study Group ♦ in Choir Vestry

Last Wednesday of the month (*usually*)

7.00pm ♦ St Peter's Book Club ♦ in Choir Vestry

Thursdays

6.15pm Voice for Life ♦ 7.00-8.00pm Junior Choir ♦ 7.45-9.30pm Adult Choir

Sunday Readings

**The passages being read*

April

Sunday 26^h April **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

*Acts 2: 42-47 ♦ Psalm 23 ♦ 1 Peter: 2: 19-25 ♦ *John 10: 1-10

Sunday 26th April **Choral Evensong** **Third Sunday after Easter**

*Exodus 16: 4-15 ♦ *John 6: 30-40 ♦ Psalm 81 vv. 8-16

May

Sunday 3rd May **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 7: 55-60 ♦ Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16 ♦ *1 Peter 2: 2-10 ♦ *John 14: 1-14

Sunday 10th May **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

*Acts 17: 22-31 ♦ Psalm 66: 7-18 ♦ 1 Peter 3: 13-22 ♦ *John 14.15-21

Thursday 14th & Sunday 17th May **Ascension Day / Ascension Sunday**

*Acts 1: 1-11 ♦ Psalm 93 ♦ Ephesians 1: 15-23 ♦ *Luke 24: 44-53

Sunday 24th May **Day of Pentecost**

*Acts 2: 1-21 ♦ Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b ♦ 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13 ♦ *John 7: 37-39

Sunday 24th May **Choral Evensong** **Whitsunday**

*Ezekiel 36: 22-28 ♦ *Acts 2: 22-38 ♦ Psalm 139: 1-11

Sunday 31st May **Trinity Sunday**

Genesis 1: 1 - 2: 4a ♦ *Psalm 8 ♦ 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13 ♦ *Matthew 28: 16-20

Sunday 7th June **Second Sunday of Trinity**

Hosea 5: 15–6: 6 ♦ Psalm 50: 7-15 ♦ *Romans 4: 13-25 ♦ *Matthew 9: 9-13, 18-26

Liturgy Books for Services

Large print Liturgy Books, and for those who find it easier to read on coloured paper, copies on yellow, pink, green and blue paper are available at the back of church. If you would like it printed in another specific colour, or as a large print on coloured paper, please let a Welcomer or Sheila know.

Clergy

Nick and 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.

If you, or someone you know, have not received Communion because you/they have been unable to come to Church, please let one of the Clergy or Pastoral Team know as members of our Clergy and Lay Pastoral Team would then be happy to bring you Communion at home. Please also let Nick, Sue or Donald 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. If you want to see either of them in the office, please make an appointment.

Kelso Calling *Donald Allister writes:*

Following the Rector of Kelso's retirement in mid April, the Diocese has asked me to serve there as Interim Pastor. This means acting as the Bishop's representative, ensuring that worship and pastoral care continue during the vacancy, and advising or chairing the vestry. There is an associate priest in post, and there are a few active retired clergy in the Borders area, so I won't have to be there every Sunday. We are still working on the details, but I'm likely to be there one Sunday and one or two weekdays a month until a new rector arrives.

Nick and Sheila plan our clergy rota for Sunday ministry a few months ahead, and I will certainly honour my commitments to St Peter's, but in practice I am only going to be here on Sunday mornings over the next few months when I am presiding or preaching. Apologies in advance for my absence from the pews. Please pray for St Andrew's Kelso and for a good appointment there.

Bishop Donald Allister's Bible Teaching Videos

Each Monday, Donald uploads a new Bible teaching video to his YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@feedmysheep2023> Once published, the talks are free to access and remain indefinitely. The studies on St John's Gospel return for during May, June and July.

Dates for the Diary

April

- Sun 26th** Little Folk ♦ 3.00pm - 4.00pm
Sun 26th Choral Evensong ♦ 6.30pm
Tue 28th Usual Tuesday events ♦ 11.00am ♦ 12 noon ♦ 1.00pm ♦ 7.00pm
Tue 28th Students & young adults event
Wed 29th St Peter's Book Club ♦ 7.00pm

May

- Sun 3rd** *No Little Folk*
Mon 4th *No Toddler Group*
Tue 5th Usual Tuesday events ♦ 11.00am ♦ 12 noon ♦ 1.00pm ♦ 7.00pm
Tue 5th Folk Open Mic Night and Singing Circle ♦ 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Thur 7th Monthly Communion Service ♦ 11.00am
Sun 10th Little Folk ♦ 3.00pm - 4.00pm
Sun 10th Process ♦ 6.30pm
10th – 16th Christian Aid Week
Tue 12th Usual Tuesday events ♦ 11.00am ♦ 12 noon ♦ 1.00pm ♦ 7.00pm
Tue 12th Students & young adults event
Thur 14th *No Voice for Life or Junior Choir*
Thur 14th Ascension Day Service at Crichton Collegiate Church ♦ 8.00pm
Sun 17th *No Little Folk*
Mon 18th *No Toddler Group*
Tue 19th Usual Tuesday events ♦ 11.00am ♦ 12 noon ♦ 1.00pm ♦ 7.00pm
Tue 19th Students & young adults event
Thur 21st June Magazine deadline
Sun 24th Little Folk ♦ 3.00pm - 4.00pm
Sun 24th Choral Evensong ♦ 6.30pm
Tue 26th Usual Tuesday events ♦ 11.00am ♦ 12 noon ♦ 1.00pm ♦ 7.00pm
Tue 26th Students & young adults event
Wed 27th St Peter's Book Club ♦ 7.00pm
Sun 31st Little Folk ♦ 3.00pm - 4.00pm

June

- Tue 2nd** Usual Tuesday events ♦ 11.00am ♦ 12 noon ♦ 1.00pm ♦ 7.00pm
Tue 2nd Folk Open Mic Night and Singing Circle ♦ 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Thur 4th Monthly Communion Service ♦ 11.00am
Sun 7th *No Little Folk*
Sun 7th Choir Concert ♦ 6.30pm

Contacts

Clergy and Staff

Rector Rev Nick Wills

Associate Clergy Rev Sue Whitehouse
Bishop Donald Allister

Children's & Young People's Worker Becky
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 Roddy

Treasurer Laura development@stpetersedinburgh.org

Lay Representative Jan

Alternate Lay Representative Hilary

Finance Convenor Ralph

Works Convenor Liz M

Connect Becky becky@stpetersedinburgh.org

Sacristan Liz M

Fire Warden Pam

Church Organisations and Groups

Servers' Guild Bill

Monday Group Liz P

Thursday Lunch Club (1st Thursday) Delia

All the above can also be contacted via the office.

*Vestry members having lunch together at the Rectory on their Vision Day.
(See page 8.)*

