



# 375 ANNIVERSARY



**Worship**  
**Community**  
**Storytelling**  
**Drama**  
**Music**  
**Hospitality**  
**Conversation**



# Anniversary

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**Still learning and evolving  
as a parish church**

This 375th anniversary of being a parish speaks into who we are called to be: a church for a people, a congregation for a community. This anniversary is not about ourselves, but the love of a parish of diverse needs, attitudes, lifestyles, longings, worldviews. Our call is to serve these people, in love and generosity and grace.

Anniversaries celebrate memories, but they also serve as correctives; to refocus, and remind us what it is to be a congregation and a church. We're forever learning and relearning, imagining and reimagining, developing and redeveloping. 'Always reforming' as our motto says.

This anniversary year asks us to do that more, to constantly shift the focus from us to each other: neighbours, community and parish. We trust that the events we have planned enable us to do that; each one is designed easily to invite others to enjoy and recognise the truth that we all belong to one community. It is a celebration, as much as a reminder, of who that community includes, who we live to serve and love, and to whom we all belong.

In God's Name, let us enjoy this year and reaffirm our calling as a parish church.



JANUARY

## Photo Me

Sunday 21st & 28th

Who we are: all of us. A photo project to capture us all in a moment in time and create a great montage of faces. Each one tells a story and has one thing in common: this place of faith. All our paths lead here.

## Long, long ago...

A Timeline that begins before time began. From prehistoric eras right up to this anniversary year, we are creating a timeline that will grow throughout the year. You can watch it stretch across the downstairs hall windows and be in awe of where we have come from.

FEBRUARY

# Anniversary Service Sunday 18th

9am

We begin with breakfast from 9am. Come and join the Moderator of the Church of Scotland. Maybe have a bacon roll, or sausage and potato scone, along with pastries and croissants, tea and coffee. Fit for every generation

The Anniversary Service is at 10.30. A service with a community, a moderator, and a congregation, sharing common ground in celebrating 375 years of being a parish. The service will include long service certificates, music, stories, a new hymn and great singing.

10.30am

**MARCH**

# Heritage Weekend

Sat 9th & Sun 10th

The big story of a faith that has shaped and shifted through many generations. Come and see artefacts, fabrics, images, books, photos, and some real people who hold this story for us and share it with us. The Heritage Forum has organised the weekend to engage us and help us reimagine who we are.

# Guild Anniversary

Sunday 10th

10.30am

An anniversary within an anniversary. It is 120 years since the founding of The Guild in New Kilpatrick and so we give thanks and recognise the work past and work still to happen through the members of the Guild. A rededication and thanksgiving service.

# NHS Choir Concert

Saturday 16th



7pm

A Parish Church is about everyone beyond the walls and so we support and encourage the NHS staff by hosting a concert led by the Glasgow NHS choir. They know how to enjoy themselves and so do we, so come along and enjoy an evening of entertainment.

# Passion Play

Tuesday 26th

1pm & 7.30pm

LAMPS Collective, a group from Oxford, offer their passion play in Holy Week. They are on a tour of Scotland and we have been able to host them for two shows, an afternoon and an evening one. This is a deeply moving play with music and words on the passion. It is open to everyone in our community and beyond. Please do invite others and bring yourself.

We have talent everywhere and so we bring it all together in a great concert of words and music and everything in between. Our ain folk from across the generations and community.

APRIL

# Anniversary Concert

Friday 19th

7.30pm

When John Knox taught the first of the reformed how to share communion, he did so in Finlaystone Estate on the banks of the Clyde. In memory they planted a Yew tree on the very spot the first communion service was shared in Scotland. We still share that same basic liturgy in our communion. In commemoration we will plant our own Yew tree and share communion, looking towards the next 375 years.

# Yew Tree Communion Sunday 28th

10.30am

MAY

# 1000 Voices Sunday 19th

Imagine the sound of a congregation that fills every seat in the church building. That is what we are going for today, when all our 'daughter' congregations will be there with hymns from across the centuries and those yet to come.

We are creating a scratch rehearsal in the afternoon, where we'll invite residential homes, and a big evening edition for a massively big sing that will raise the roof.

Afternoon &  
Evening

**JUNE**

A big picnic in the Manse garden for everyone. Garden games, art competition, storytelling, treasure hunt. Bring your own sandwiches and garden seat and we'll provide the sunshine. A giant relaxing time for everyone.

## **Sunday Lunch**

**In the garden  
Sunday 2nd**

**After Church**

A uniquely commissioned retelling of the story of the parish; from millions of years ago when Bearsden basked in the tropics up to the present moment. From the folk of Bearsden Festival who brought us the "Bearsden Shark", another massively entertaining event dramatising the parish tale and how we grew to be Bearsden. Touring local primary schools and the congregation.

## **The Parish Story**

**Mid June**



# SEPTEMBER

## Dedication Service

Sunday 1st

10.30am

Beginning a new season with a belonging service that includes and dedicates us all. There is a space for everyone. Come and remind ourselves whose we are and the parish we serve.

## Schools Stained Glass

Mid September

Having told the story of the parish to all our primary schools, our windows tell it back to us in stained glass. We're creating an exhibition that will cover all the windows in the hall, imagined by the young folk in our community.

## Open Doors

Mid September

The church is open to explore and retell the parish story in glass, image, and conversation. Organised by the Heritage Forum.

**OCTOBER**

# Harvest

6th October

**10.30am**

The big finale where we stretch right up to the top of our parish and include the farmland and agricultural heritage. A unique harvest service to celebrate the bounty of the parish and give thanks for 375 years of a parish whose land has given of itself. A time to rededicate ourselves to caring for it in a time of climate change.

## AND BEYOND...

# Pilgrims' Way

Over the next few years we seek to work with others to explore and reestablish the pathways of faith that brought the monks from Paisley Abbey to the northside of the river and laid the foundations of Kilpatrick with a church on this site in the 13C. The idea is to recreate a pilgrims' way, a path that leads from Paisley to New Kilpatrick and over to Old Kilpatrick and, in due course, walk it together, meeting folk along the way from all walks of life: a faith route into the future.

<b>Quick Look</b>			
January	<b>Photo Me!</b>	Sundays 21st & 28th	
February	<b>Anniversary Service</b>	Sunday 18th	9am Breakfast 10.30 Service
March	<b>Heritage Weekend</b>	Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th	10am-2pm
	<b>Guild 120th Anniversary</b>	Sunday 10th	10.30
	<b>NHS Choir Concert</b>	Saturday 16th	7pm
	<b>The Passion</b>	Tuesday 26th	1pm & 7.30
April	<b>Anniversary Concert</b>	Friday 17th	7.30
	<b>Yew Tree Communion</b>	Sunday 28th	10.30
May	<b>1000 Voices</b>	Sunday 19th	Afternoon and evening
June	<b>Sunday Lunch in the garden</b>	Sunday 2nd	After church
	<b>The Parish Story</b>	Mid June	
September	<b>Dedication Service</b>	Sunday 1st	10.30
	<b>Schools Stained Glass</b>	Mid September	
	<b>Open Doors</b>	Mid September	10am-2pm
October	<b>Harvest</b>	Sunday 6th	10.30
Throughout	<b>Timeline</b>		Hall Windows
And at the end, just the beginning...	<b>Pilgrim Way</b>		
			Times may be subject to change



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