



12 January

Dear Friends

I hope you have had a good new year and peace was found in Christmas and thank you for all your cards and good wishes.

It was quite busy this year as we returned to our 'normal' routine after three years of a pandemic and it was fabulous to see such a busy light festival. The church looked great on the evening, and we sang into Christmas Day at the watchnight with the great star hung there, leading us to the manger.

That has set us up for what this year might bring. The big discussion remains the Presbytery plan and to update you there: the plan was withdrawn from the last Presbytery meeting and, instead, we were invited to make comment which has been taken on board to reshape it, and an updated plan, apparently, is to be presented on March 11th at an all-day Presbytery meeting. I don't know what that will be as we have a consultation meeting with Presbytery next week but will keep you informed. There is still some work to do, but whatever the direction of travel will be, it will involve some change for everyone, and working closer together sharing resources, all of which we ought to be encouraging anyway as indeed we do through the sharing of worship over Christmas and New Year with the Cross church, and umpteen other things.

It is perhaps a time to think about how we have grown over the last year through our activities and outreach. We've connected with the broader community with our wellbeing group that meets in Massimo's every month - a huge thanks to Alex for organising and planning that. It has been a huge success.

We have had the return of Bearsden Festival, sharing the story of the Bearsden Shark, taking that into 9 different primary schools, along with a film festival of homemade films where families and individuals were taught how to make films and we had an Oscar night to view them all.

We have a much deeper connection with St Gregory's Food Bank and thank you for the hugely generous support everyone gives that weekly and especially during focused collections at Christmas and Harvest.

Our new youth group, 'Something Different' is off the ground. Lots to do to help that find new life but we have taken the first steps in keeping our young teens with us.

The community outreach through gifts at all the festivals and the summer has been greatly appreciated. We've connected with those in our congregation as well as those further afield in our community, especially residential homes and sheltered housing. Thank you again for the teams that created, organised, and delivered.

Warm spaces continue to be available. They haven't been particularly busy, but we offer that space for all, and will continue to do so.

And coming up we are going to organise a series of community discussions around big themes that shape our society. We are going to organise these debates as a sign that the church is involved and engaged with the issues that affect us all, and has something to say, but not exclusively, and to offer a platform for all the voices of our community to engage with each other. Watch this space.

In these ways, as well as a hundred others, we are the church in this parish and continue to be so. Thank you.

Roddy

Coffee Pot

The Coffee Pot is open tomorrow from 10.30am in the hall.

Home baking. A lovely place to meet. See you there!

Warm Spaces

Our warm spaces are open, filled with activities to keep us connected.

We offer art workshops, knitting circles, singing, and crafts. We're exploring keeping fit.

All will be advertised here. Check the diary.

We are open on Monday mornings, Tuesday afternoons, Wednesday mornings through to early afternoon and Friday mornings through into the afternoon.

Unity Lunch

The venue has changed for the Association of Bearsden Churches Unity Lunch on Saturday, 21 January 2023, at 12noon.

The new venue is Killermont Parish Church Hall. The theme will be about the environment and the speaker is **Laura Young**, award winning climate activist, environmental scientist, and ethical influencer.

Tickets (£10) may still be available from Iain Stuart (0141 942 2056, iainstuart78@gmail.com).

Letter from St Gregory's

Father Allan P Cameron, Parish Priest of St Gregory's, has written to New Kilpatrick.

Once again, I am writing to you to let you know how grateful we are at St Gregory's Food Bank for the generous support and assistance we have received from the congregation at New Kilpatrick Parish Church. We were overwhelmed with the donations of money and Christmas gifts that will go a long way to providing extra support to the individuals and families we serve in the Wyndford community.

It's just such a bonus for us to have the help of all of your parishioners which reflect a truly Christian response to the needs of our community in these dark and difficult days.

Many thanks for your help and support and do pass on our grateful thanks to your congregation.

Yours sincerely,
Allan P Cameron
Parish Priest

Foodbank Donations

The N.K. Foodbank Team would like to add their warmest thanks to the congregation for their generous support and kindness.

The contributions to St. Gregory's Foodbank in the weeks leading up to Christmas were truly remarkable, and heartfelt thanks are due to our many anonymous cash donors - you know who you are!

The cost of living and energy crises are hitting the Wyndford community particularly hard just now and demands on the Foodbank have surged - indeed 215 bags (each containing at least £9 value of food) were distributed in the days before

Christmas. St. Gregory's Foodbank urgently need monetary donations as well to allow them to buy in food as required to supplement and balance their stocks, and your continuing support in this way will be hugely appreciated.

The usual food donations will be very gratefully received, of course, but the following items are especially needed just now: UHT milk (long life), tinned tuna/meat, baby wipes, washing-up liquid and washing powder for clothes.

The Halls are open to receive donations Mon - Fri (9 a.m. - 2.30 p.m.) and Sunday mornings.

Thank you

THANK YOU so much for your kind words, generous gift & beautiful flowers to commemorate my 30 years as NK's Director of Music.

I'm truly blessed to be able to make music & to worship at a church with such an appreciative congregation; a skilled & consistently excellent choir; a supportive Kirk Session & ministers who provide constant encouragement & creative spaces for music to make its contribution to the glory of God.

Thank you all again!
Chris Nickol

Freewill Offering Envelopes

Freewill offering envelopes for 2023 are available for collection in the church hall walkround.

Kelvingrove Recitals

Chris Nickol is giving Sunday 3pm recitals on the following 3 dates:

January 15th, 22nd, February 5th.

Those we have lost

We record their names here and celebrate what they have been to us.

Elizabeth (Betty) Brewer	
Westerton Care Home	(23.12.22)
Iain Middleton , Glasgow	(29.12.22)
David Sloan Norwood Park	(23.12.22)
Sheila Campbell	
Antonine House Care Home	(30.12.22)
Robert (Robin) Paterson	
Kelvin Court, Glasgow	(31.12.22)
Isabel Harvey	
Nithsdale Crescent	(03.01.23)

Diary

Thursday 12 January: Daybreak 1.30pm

Friday 13 January

Coffee Pot (Warm space) 10.30am in the hall

Sunday 15 January

Morning Worship: 10.30am in the church

A Healing Service, 6.30pm in the hall

Monday 16 January

Art Workshop (Warm space) 1.30-3.30pm
in the hall

Tuesday 17 January

SingSong! (Warm space) 1.30pm in the hall

Wednesday 18 January

Midweek Service (warm space)
11am in the hall followed by coffee and cake.

NK Campus Group 7.30pm in the hall

Thursday 19 January

Daybreak 1.30pm in the hall

Friday 20 January

Coffee Pot (Warm space) 10.30am in the hall

Sunday 22 January

Morning Worship, led by Carole Hough

Desert Island Hymns 6.30pm in the hall

Tuesday 24 January

The Guild 1.30pm in the hall

Blether with beat (Eating Disorders)

Guild Project

Bible for Duffers 7.30pm in the hall

Wednesday 25 January

Midweek Service (warm space) 11am, hall

Thursday 26 January

Daybreak 1.30pm in the hall

NK Heritage Forum 7.30pm in the hall