



15 December

Dear Friends -

A very happy and peaceful Christmas wherever you find yourself and whatever you do to quietly celebrate. Hopefully you will discover in our worship a quiet space, a contemplative space, a welcome space, in the variety of services in the sanctuary as well as online. We continue with YouTube and podcasts and phone line services throughout, so you are able to join us even if you are unable to be here physically.

To update you on the Presbytery Plan (which immediately ruins your Christmas!), the plan was withdrawn the day before it was presented at Presbytery last month as there were so many responses to it. We were able to make statements about it, but no debate followed. The next deadline is to be 4th February for an all-day Presbytery meeting where an updated plan will be discussed after more consultations in January.

Come the new year we look forward to a re-start, a new invitation to create community both in the flesh and online. We have decided as a Session to recognise the Presbytery Plan is going to evolve over time, but we are not going to wait for it before we engage further with our parish and our future. From January we will be able to offer a few new ideas, offering new cross-community debates, taking big themes that shape us as a community and nation, which will be open to everyone, we'll continue to work in partnership with St Gregory's food bank but also find ways to support other local charities that don't have much support. The profits from every cup of coffee we service (after church, midweek service, coffee pot etc) will be distributed to a variety of local charities so that we broaden our support and widen our care, working together in creating a richer community.

But that is all in the future. For the now, thank you for your love and loyalty towards the church this past year where everyone has worked so hard to keep the life going and the hope alive. In that hope, I trust you have a fabulous Christmas and a peaceful new year. You deserve it.

Roddy

Christmas Services

The Sunday School lead us this Sunday, 18th December at 10.30 in the church, at our Nativity Service and you really need to be there.

The **carol service** led by the choir will be at 4.30 this Sunday in the church: an atmospheric gathering of songs and stories as we slide towards the manger.

The **Light Festival** on Christmas Eve is all about stars. We have a workshop at 6.30 (for adults and children!) where we will be making stars and then the service at 7pm. Great storytelling in this interactive intergenerational service. Come gather as a whole community on the cusp of Christmas.

The **Christmas Eve Watchnight service** is at 11.30pm with the choir leading some carols beforehand as we gather. A service that finds a waiting space full of intrigue and possibility. This is the Christmas moment.

Christmas Day service is at 10.30 in the Cross Church as we share this service in a relaxed, informal pre-turkey version of Christmas Day. Short and fun.

Ne'er Day service is again shared with the Cross church but here in New Kilpatrick at 10.30, and specially led by a number of elders who invite us to look into the year and wonder what might lie there...

Christmas Offerings

This year, the retiring offerings from the Carol Service this Sunday, and The Light Festival and Watchnight Services on Christmas Eve, will be donated to the following four charities:

**CHAS (for Robin House Balloch)
Church House Bridgeton
Glasgow Women's Aid
St Margaret of Scotland**

If you wish to donate by bank transfer via the church bank account, the details are:
Account Name: New Kilpatrick Parish Church
Sort code: 80-05-57 Account number:
00701598 Ref: Xmas offerings

Coffee Pot

Tomorrow, Friday 16th December 10am-1pm (last Coffee Pot of the year), scones and mince pies will be served at a Christmassy celebration - look forward to seeing you there. All welcome!

Coffee Pot will be back in the new year, on Friday 6th January.

Westerton Male Voice Choir

Westerton Male Voice Choir are delighted to be returning to New Kilpatrick for their first Christmas Concerts for 3 years.

There will be performances tomorrow evening, Fri 16th (7.30pm), and this Saturday, 17th December, with a matinee (2pm) and evening performance (7.30pm) on Saturday.

There will be a lively mixture of familiar tunes and some new songs to enjoy led by Musical Director, Bryan Marshall, who re-joined the choir this year after a two-year break.

Tickets are available from choir members, Massimo's or online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/westerton-male-voice-choir

Carols at ASDA

Desperately seeking singers from New Kilpatrick to join Castlehill Baptist Church, Killermont Parish Church and St Andrews RC Church, carol-singing at ASDA on Saturday 17 December 2022 - 12.00noon to 1pm. Donations will be divided equally between Drumchapel Foodbank and St Margaret's Hospice. Collection buckets and carol sheets will be provided. Let Iain Stuart (0141 942 2056, iainstuart78@gmail.com) know that you will be there.

Organ Recitals

Tomorrow, Cesar Franck Bicentennial Celebration Concert: Friday December 16th 18.30 to 21.45 in University of Glasgow Memorial Chapel:

As well as the ever popular 'Panis Angelicus', Franck composed 13 major organ works, which Franz Liszt said were worthy to stand alongside Bach's masterpieces. This concert will feature all 13 pieces, played by 13 organists, including Kevin Bowyer, Andrew Forbes, David Hamilton, John Kitchen & Christopher Nickol. Admission is free! and for those unable to be in the chapel, the concert will be livestreamed.

Chris Nickol is also playing the organ recital at Kelvingrove Art Gallery on Wednesday December 28th, at 1pm.

Christmas Cards and Greetings

There is a table in the Walkround of the church hall, where Christmas cards are being exchanged in alphabetical boxes.

It's already filling up with Christmas cards for New Kilpatrick friends and neighbours, so don't forget to check if there are some for you in the boxes.

Warm Spaces

The weather is now really cold and our warm spaces are open, filled with activities to keep us connected.

We offer knitting circles, singing, crafts, and a book club. We're exploring art and keeping fit too, all of which will be advertised here.

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

Unity Lunch

The Association of Bearsden Churches Unity Lunch is at Baljaffray Parish Church on Saturday, 21 January 2023, at 12noon.

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

The theme will be about the environment and the speaker is **Laura Young**, award winning climate activist, environmental scientist, and ethical influencer.

Foodbank Donations

A huge thank you for all your generosity with food donations for St Gregory's and for all the marvellous donations at the Gift Service.

St Gregory's have been overwhelmed by your thoughtfulness and generosity which will help so many at this time.

Remember, people don't stop eating and the need is ongoing. The halls are open Mon-Fri 9am - 2.30pm for donations. Thank you so much.

Freewill Offering Envelopes

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

Those we have lost

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

Margaret Macdonald,
Buchanan House Care Home (24.06.22)

Diary

Thursday 15 December: Daybreak 1.30pm

Friday 16 December

Coffee Pot (last of the year)
10.30am in the hall.

Westerton Male Voice Concert

7.30pm in the church.

Saturday 17 December

Westerton Male Voice Choir Concert

2pm and 7.30pm in the church

Sunday 18 December

Nativity Service: 10.30am in the church

Short Communion Service 11.30am.

Carols with the Choir, 4.30pm in the church.
Hospitality beforehand.

Tuesday 20 December

Christmas SingSong! 1.30pm in the hall

Wednesday 21 December

Midweek Service 11am in the hall

Thursday 22 December

Daybreak Christmas Party

1.30pm in the hall

Christmas Eve

Light Festival

Workshop to make stars to take into the church 6.30pm in the hall

Light Festival 7pm in the church

Watchnight from 11.30pm in the church
with carols from the choir from 11pm

Christmas Day

Christmas Morning Worship

10.30am shared with the Bearsden Cross congregation at The Cross Church.

Ne'er Day

New Year's Morning Worship

10.30am shared with the Bearsden Cross congregation at New Kilpatrick.

The Gift Service

Many thanks for all the kind donations for St Gregory's Food Bank at last Sunday's Gift Service.

