

Plant Sale As last year orders can be collected or delivered if necessary.

Plants available: PACK SIZE IN BRACKETS

Blue Ageratum (6) White Alyssum **SOLD OUT**
Antirrhinum - dwarf (6)
Bacopa pink (limited) and white (single) limited
Brachycome (Swan River Daisy) (6) Bedding Begonia (6)
Semperflorens Begonia (single) Busy Lizzie (6)
Dwarf Dahlia (6) Dianthus dwarf (4)
Trailing Begonia single mainly apricot Godetia (6)
Geranium (mixed) (single) Geranium (red) (Single)
Geranium (pink)(single) Geranium (Ivy Leaf) (single) **SOLD OUT** only
Trailing Lobelia (mixed, dark blue) (10)
Ordinary Lobelia (dark blue, white)(10)
Climbing petunia (single) French Marigold (8)
Tagetes (6) Livingstone Daisy (1) **SOLD OUT**
Mimulus (4) Nemesia (6)
Nicotiana **SOLD OUT** Pansy (12) probably limited
Petunia (all mixed colours) (12)
Trailing Petunia (various colours) (single pots)
Salvia (red) (6) Stock (6)
Sweet Pea (tall (single) Sweet pea – trailing (3)
Bedding Verbena **SOLD OUT** Viola (6)
Tomato (tall) Osteospermum Purple (single)
Cosmos (single pot of 10+ plants) tall 4ft and medium 2ft heights
Nasturtium, Sunflowers, lupins,
Rosemary, parsley, coriander, lovage, oregano, fennell

PRICES Geranium, Trailing Petunia, Tomatoes, Bacopa, Osteospermum

Semperflorens Begonia £1.50

Sweet peas 60p each tube (mainly 2 plants) £6 per dozen

Large trailing petunia, large fuchsia etc, £3 or £4 depending on size

Petunia, Livingstone daisy, pansy, £3.50 per pack Cosmos £4

3,4,6, 8 and 10 packs - all £1.75

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St. Cuthbert's Church Magazine



Egg rolling on Easter Sunday Morning

May 2022

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From our Minister

Dear friends,

As May begins, our minds turn towards summer, and within the Church we plan for particular events and activities which fall in this month every year. Christian Aid Week reminds us of Christ's call to care for the poor and disadvantaged, and to work for greater justice and peace in the world. Christian Aid was 'born' out of the refugee crisis affecting Europe after the Second World War, with many people displaced as their homes and towns had been destroyed by the fighting. Tragically, we are witnessing yet another refugee crisis in Europe, resulting from the war in Ukraine. At the same time, let us not forget the many refugees in official and makeshift camps in and around Syria, Yemen, Afghanistan, Sudan and Ethiopia, to name but a few countries affected by division and strife. Let us also remember those who are so desperate to leave their plight in their homelands that they will risk the abusive power of criminal people-traffickers.

As governments struggle with the number and diversity of refugees, let us not only be thankful that we are blessed not to be refugees ourselves, but also find compassionate ways to care for these men, women and children, and turn our desire for justice onto catching the criminals who are exploiting the suffering and desperation of our fellow human beings. Although Christian Aid Week door-to-door collections have been declining in recent years, we continue to have an opportunity to donate via envelopes placed in the pews on the Sundays around Christian Aid week. Many will already have given generously to special appeals in recent months for those affected by violence in their homelands, but let's dig deep to find something more to offer for those whose plight may not be hitting the headlines at present.

May is also the month in which the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland meets. For the past two years of the pandemic we have met 'virtually' with only a few officials present in the famous Assembly Hall on the Mound in Edinburgh.

This year, plans are underway for a 'hybrid' form of General Assembly, with some elders and ministers present in the Hall and others joining online. This will enable some social distancing to be in place to minimise the risk of transmission of the virus. Those who have attended in the past will know that the Hall is usually filled to capacity – great when we are singing hymns with nearly a thousand tongues praising God! As the week progresses, the Hall gets hotter and stuffier – even with the doors open to allow some through draught. I am glad to be one of the 'online' commissioners. Obviously, we will miss something of the fellowship and atmosphere of being in the Hall with people from all across Scotland and beyond, but we won't need to miss the reports, debates, questions and votes!

In next month's magazine as well as in "Life and Work" there will be a summary of important decisions and commitments made by the Church of Scotland. It is important that we look beyond our congregational and personal challenges, to see the wider picture of all that is happening around Scotland and our world, in order to play our part in making our Church, our country and our world a more compassionate and peaceful place for everyone.

With every blessing,

Sarah Nicol.

Church Register

Deaths *"In My Father's house are many mansions..."*

March Mr. G. Flinn, Seamill

April Mrs. M. McNicol, Saltcoats

 Mrs. J. Aitken, Saltcoats

 Mrs. J. Macintyre, Irvine.

We remember their families in our prayers.

Sunday Readers

May	1	Bea Nicholson
	8	Tom Sommerville
	15	William Parker
	22	Graeme Sutherland
	29	Annita Gillespie
June	5	Maureen Crilley
	12	Simon Hales
	19	Ann Turner
	26	Lesley Boyle

With many thanks to all who volunteer. If unsuitable, please arrange a swap from this list and let me know.

Sarah Nicol

Sunday School

After following the journey of Jesus up to Palm Sunday, over the next few weeks we will be talking about the resurrection and the days leading up to ascension. The children very quickly picked up how to make the palm crosses and carried them as they joined the procession into church on Palm Sunday. On Easter Sunday eggs were rolled (some airborne!) and chocolate covered faces appreciated the books that they were given to celebrate Easter.

Sunday school team

Afternoon Club

The Afternoon Club will stop for the summer after we meet on 16th May. We will resume again, (all being well !!) on Monday 5th of September. We wish you all a glorious summer.

Nan Smith

Evening Outing

Achoired Taste, a Kilmarnock based Community choir who raise money for local charities will perform their first concert in Grand Hall, Kilmarnock since December 2019 on Sunday 29th May at 7.30pm. Tickets are free to anyone who can commit to attend. On occasion in the past when there were sufficient numbers a bus was arranged.

Anyone interested should speak to choir members -William, Ena or Marian.

Communion

Communion will be celebrated on Sunday 5th June. The disruption caused by the arrival of Covid has prevented the elements being served by the elders on Communion Sunday.

The Kirk Session plan to meet in mid May. If a decision is taken to return to normal elders will deliver Communion invitations as in the past. In the absence of a card invitation our "bring your own" system will be repeated.

The Choir

The choir members are enjoying being able to fully participate in the Sunday services and maskless too! Without exception we are particularly fortunate to be supported at the organ and keyboard by various enthusiastic and talented musicians who are also able to suggest anthems or introits appropriate for the church seasons. There is space for a few more if anyone feels inclined to join us for rehearsal at 10am on Sundays! Good to be back!

Flowers

Many thanks to all who have donated to the flower fund enabling me to resume putting flowers into the church .

It is good to see the church brightened by the vases being filled again . Anyone wishing to make a small donation to the flower fund can give it either to myself or Ann Turner.

Annita Gillespie (flower convenor)

Rev. Tom Macintyre, Sunday School and congregation members singing and following the palm branch before processing into church on Palm Sunday



The birds arrive to tidy up the scraps after some of the eggs pictured on the front cover, thrown instead of rolled, broke into many pieces providing an unexpected Easter Sunday lunch for the seaside avian population.

PRAYER is powerful! Most people pray at some point or another whether they have a faith or not, sometimes as a last ditch thought when a situation becomes untenable. Some may have a special time that they set aside, perhaps at the end of the day to thank God for something that happened or maybe early in the morning when the day is still new and full of promise. For many, finding a focus for the words can be hard; one look at the daily news and there seems to be so much to pray for, it is tricky to cover it all so sometimes it is easier just to close off. This is why Christ taught a simple prayer (Matthew 5: 9-14 or Luke 11: 2-4) to start us off, and sometimes it is all we need.

Maybe you used to pray, got out of the habit and need encouragement to start again. The 'Try Praying' initiative was conceived in Scotland in about 2010, intended for people who don't go to church. The idea is to try praying for seven days and be prepared for it to work. There is no structure to the prayers, just simple guidelines. It is an invitation to start a conversation with God. If you have a digital device and would like to try, there is an App or if you would like a wee booklet you can slip into your pocket, let Bea know and we can order one for you. There is no reason why church folk can't use it too!

Ardrossan Presbytery produced a prayer cycle covering each week in the period April to December 2022, which can be downloaded from our website. It provides some brief topic suggestions linked to short Bible readings. It encourages congregations to pray for other churches in the Presbytery (the focal point on us is week ending 3 July). If you don't have internet access and would like a copy, please let William know and he will arrange one for you.

Imagine what would happen if thousands of people were praying every day and hundreds of churches united in asking God for his will to be done.

Imagine whole communities becoming saturated with the presence of God and people forsaking what is wrong, experiencing his love and finding Christ every day.

Imagine people becoming interested in the message of Christ and widespread social change as people live in hope instead of despair. Imagine discovering God to be near; answers to prayer becoming common place and church becoming truly glorious.

The Guild

As you will have read in April's magazine, The Guild restarted in March after a long hiatus. The organisation invites and encourages both women and men to commit their lives to Jesus Christ and enables them to express their faith in worship, prayer, fellowship, and action. We haven't had speakers but by bringing in items of personal significance and telling their stories, we have learnt more about each other. We would normally stop meeting after the local Guilds Together Annual Meeting (this year in Stevenston) and restart in September/October but are considering continuing this year so that we can further strengthen this fellowship. We will meet on 4th May at 2pm and take things from there. On May 11th, all the Guilds in Ayrshire will gather in Kilmarnock at the Howard Halls for lunch, hear a speaker from the Vine Trust, one of the new Guild projects, sing songs and generally celebrate our continuing existence. Everyone is welcome to come along to any Guild event.

A Date for your diary Sunday 2nd October

As part of our efforts to recommence our church social activities the Fundraising Team have arranged for [The Arkleston Singers](#) to perform a concert in St. Cuthbert's Church on 2nd October. Often on the Sundays when Peter Livingstone leads the congregation at the organ his partner Alister Ewing joins the choir. Alister is a member of The Arkleston Singers who first came together in 1979 as a fundraising group for a trip to the USA by the then Scottish National Orchestra Chorus. When the fundraising was over, the singers decided to stay together and continue to perform for their own enjoyment and the pleasure of others. Details will be available in the August magazine.

Congratulations

The joy and excitement for the manse family recently as Deborah attended her graduation ceremony at Aberdeen continued with the announcement that Deborah and Fraser Borland have become engaged. We extend our very best wishes to Deborah and Fraser for a long and happy life together.