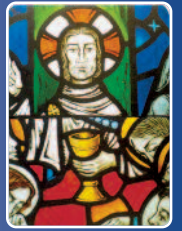




DECEMBER 2019 / JANUARY 2020
 CHURCH of SCOTLAND LOCAL PARISH NEWSLETTER
KILMORE & OBAN
Belonging, Believing, Blessing



WHAT'S ON

LATEST NEWS

SERVICE TIMES

NOLLAIG CHRIDHEIL AGUS BLIADHNA MHATH UR
FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK



Every Star Shall Sing a Carol
Every star shall sing a carol,
Every creature high or low.
Come and praise the King of Heaven
By whatever name you know.

God above man below,
Holy is the name I know.

Every star and every planet,
Every creature high and low.
Come and praise the King of Heaven,
By whatever name you know

Above are two verses and the chorus of one of the most beautiful carols. Though, when I come to think of it I haven't heard it sung for a long time. If you don't know the tune, well, it is worth searching YouTube to find it.

As well as a beautiful tune, the words are thought provoking. Each verse balances the immediacy of the incarnate Christ, born as a vulnerable infant in to human existence, with the enormity of space.

This counterbalancing of the important perspectives on the birth of Christ has real theological worth. For we are told of the nearness of Jesus, bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh. Whilst fully human, he is the Son of God. The implications of his birth are not only about how we lead our lives in the light of his being with us. His birth is of God. And in the Creator, through the Son, all of existence has come to be, and continues.

That which can seem complex theology, can also be sung. The poetry and music lift us to glimpse the Biblical testimony. And the birth of Jesus as told to us in Scripture, whilst full of important references, is told as a story. A story which captivates academics and wee infants.

All of us can enter into the story of the birth of Jesus in our imaginations. Good quality carols will inspire our imaginations so that we can think of and feel the importance of Jesus' birth, and thus build our faith.

Let us all sing our carols this Christmas, and may those who join us at this time of year be both blessed and intrigued in faith.

Rev Dugald Cameron

*Christmas Worship in
 Kilmore and Oban*

More details inside

Christingle Friday 13th 6.30pm	Nativity Sunday 15th 10.30am	Christmas Mince Pies & Shortbread Sunday 15th (after church)	Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th Family Service 7.00pm; 9.00pm Kilmore Kirk; 11.30pm	Christmas Day Wednesday 25th 10.30am (worship will last 30 minutes)
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STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

The initial indications from our autumn stewardship campaign has been very positive and encouraging. As yet, we are unable to bring forward figures, however a number of people taken up Standing Orders and Gift Aid, and others increased their offerings. As some of this takes time to work through we will be able to produce a more explanatory update of the overall picture come our next newsletter in February.

PROPERTY UPDATE

The Property Committee, and with Peter Mills as our liaison person, under the guidance of the Presbytery Property Advisor has stated the process of tendering for the work to be done to the spire to eradicate the pigeon problem. This involves renewing the louvres, improving access to the spire, removing guano, and fitting deterrence measures.

We have also met with the C of S advisory matters on aesthetics, CARTA, re renewing the protective glazing from the Parish Church, and glazing in below the balcony to create a flexible space for smaller groups worship, and meetings, coffee etc. This is an initial enquiry to assess the feasibility of a project of renewal for the church building as we celebrate 200 years on the site in 2021.

ECUMENICAL ADVANCE NOTICE

Our annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service will take place in St. John's Episcopal Cathedral on **Sunday 19th January 2020 at 10.30am**. There will, therefore, be no worship in the Parish Church that day. Please put this date and venue in your diary so that we can all join together as Christians united in Oban.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP IN KILMORE AND OBAN

Christingle: Friday 13th – 6.30pm

Over the last twelve years our Christingle Service has grown and grown. So make sure you bring along your children and grandchildren for this thirty-minute candle-lit worship.



Nativity: Sunday 15th – 10.30am

At our nativity service all children will be made especially welcome. There will be room – honest! So come and see. Afterwards is our Coffee and Cake.



Christmas Mince Pies and Shortbread: Sunday 15th (after church)

Following on from the Sunday School Nativity Service everyone is invited to the Church Centre Main Hall for mince pies, shortbread, tea and coffee, and perhaps a visit from Santa.



Christmas Eve: Tuesday 24th Family Service 7.00pm

Come to church on the most important evening of the year. Make an impression that lasts a life time.

9.00pm Kilmore Kirk

This service is always a highlight of the year. Come along to this special country kirk worship and sing praise to God. Be a part of a tradition lasting hundreds of years.

11.30pm

Find yourself in God's house as the new born Christ is worshipped in this service full of carols and words of faith.



Christmas Day: Wednesday 25th 10.30am (worship will last 30 minutes)

In the warmth of worship, we acknowledge Christ is with us.

FAMILY FAITHSHARE THEME



Over the last few months Family Faithshare folk have travelled to the moon, the sun, all through the solar system. One of our elders, Colin Crawford, recommends

an app for looking at the night sky: Star Walk 2 (And the free version does not have many adverts.) so why not give this a try?

2021

The Kirk Session has formed four groups to prepare the way for our celebration of 2021 and 200 years' worship on the site of the Parish Church. With a nod to alliteration the provisional names of these groups are: Fun, Fabric, Finance and Future Faith. We may come up with better titles though their tasks are rather self-explanatory:

Fabric: We plan to upgrade the Parish Church to be more attractive and better serve the needs of a 21st century worshipping congregation. This groups will explore the options and bring these to fruition.

Finance: To show ownership of the 2021 project we will be challenged to meet a proportion of the costs so that we do not

impinge upon the weekly and monthly normal expenses of our congregation, not dig too deep into our reserves.

Fun: We wish to enjoy this year through touching base and re-engaging with many people who have worshipped over the years in the Parish Church. Further, we want to build links with the wider Oban community of today. In arranging events and particularly worship opportunities we will mark the importance of worship and place.

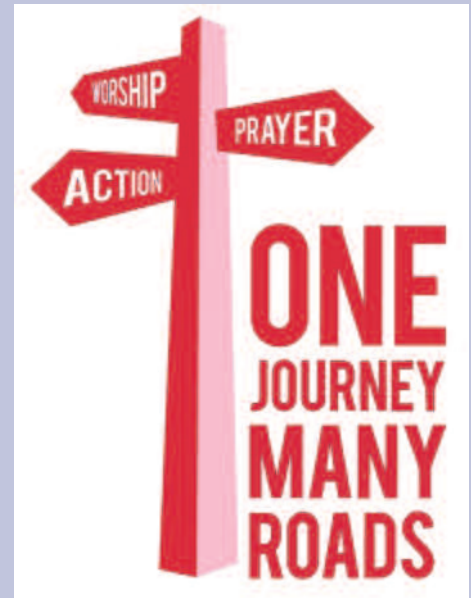
Future Faith: Our witness is ongoing, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit we will prayerfully seek ways to be the Church going on ahead from 2021. This group will explore the hope of the Gospel.

THE GUILD



Welcomes Men & Women of all ages

The annual and wonderful Guild Christmas Party is on **Wednesday 11th December, 2.00pm** in the Church Centre main hall.



REV WILLEM BEZUIDENHOUT: ARDCHATTAN LW COLL, LW CONNEL.



Rev Willem Bezuidenhout has his Induction to Ardchattan in Connel Parish Church on **Thursday 28th November at 7.00pm**. He will also have a Service of Introduction on the island of Coll on Monday 9th December at 7.00pm. Thereafter Rev Dugald will no longer be Interim Moderator for this charge. God bless the ministry of Willem in Argyll.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT KILMORE & OBAN

Sunday 1st December – Advent 1

(Hope Kitchen next week)

10.30	PC	Morning Worship
12.00	K	Morning Worship

Sunday 8th December – Advent 2

(Remember Hope Kitchen)

10.30	PC	Morning Worship
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Friday 13th December

18.30	PC	Christingle Service
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Sunday 15th December – Advent 3

10.30	PC	Nativity
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Sunday 22nd December – Advent 4

10.30	PC	Morning Worship
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Tuesday 24th December – Christmas Eve

19.00	PC	Christmas Family Service
21.00	K	Christmas Family Service
23.30	PC	Watchnight Service

Wednesday 25th December – Christmas Day

10.30	PC	Christmas Service
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Sunday 29th December

10.30	PC	Morning Worship
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NB There will be no Gaelic Service or Family Faithshare in December.

January 2020

Sunday 5th January *(Hope Kitchen next week)*

10.30	PC	Morning Worship
12.00	K	Morning Worship

Sunday 12th January *(Remember Hope Kitchen)*

10.30	PC	Morning Worship
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Sunday 19th January

10.15		St. John's Episcopal Cathedral Ecumenical Service
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Sunday 26th January

10.00	CC	Family Faithshare
10.30	PC	Morning Worship
14.00	PC	Gaelic Service

KEY: CC – Church Centre
K – Kilmore Kirk
PC – Oban Parish Church

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2020 *Unusual kindness*



Caredigrwydd anghyffredin / Cineáltas neamhghnách
18-25 January

www.ctbl.org.uk/weekofprayer



CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

Funerals ...*Nothing can separate us from the Love of God*

Mary Cameron of Benderloch
Mary MacLeod of Mull Terrace, Oban
Betty Paxton of North Argyll House, Oban
Ronald Bruce of McKelvie Road, Oban
Peter Dahl
Dorothy Womack of Lochnell
Irene Craig of Eader Glinn Care Home, Oban

EDITORIAL: Ken MacColl

*Our next edition will be available on
Sunday 26th January 2020.*

Copy and photographs should be at the Church Office or
sent direct to the editor at kenmaccoll@btinternet.com
by Monday 20th January 2020.

Photographs and short news items are always welcome.

Ken MacColl (01631) 566515 or
kenmaccoll@btinternet.com