

AUTUMN 2020

The Grapevine



*The Newsletter of St Magnus Cathedral Congregation
Scottish Charity SC005322*

Contacts

Minister: Rev Fraser Macnaughton, Tel: 873312 FMacnaughton@churchofscotland.org.uk

Pastoral Minister: Rev June Freeth, Tel: 721449 JFreeth@churchofscotland.org.uk

Website www.stmagnus.org

Scottish Charity SC005322/CCL No 119086

www.facebook.com/StMagnusCathedralCongregation

IF YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY,
PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH SOMEONE YOU KNOW WHO MAY NOT
HAVE ACCESS TO EMAIL.

From the Manse

Autumn is a time for joy and celebration. The bountiful goodness of creation and the fruits of another year calls us to all our senses. Autumn and its harvest often bring a reward for our labours. As the earth bears fruit we also grow and mature, we develop and realise new talents. Autumn is not so much a time to quantify and measure but to rejoice in who we are and what is around us.

Julian of Norwich, one of the first British female writers who lived at the same time as Chaucer, describes one of the most meaningful of autumn moments.

Standing with a small nut in her hand, Julian says,

“He showed me in my palm a little thing as round as a ball about the size of a hazelnut . I looked at it with the eye of understanding and asked myself ‘what is this thing?’ And I was answered ‘it is everything that is created.’ I marvelled that it could last for I thought it might have crumbled to nothing because it was so small. And the answer came into my mind ‘it lasts and ever shall because God loves it. And all things have their being through the love of God.’

In this little thing I saw three truths. The first is that God made it. The second is that God loves it. The third is that God looks after it. What is God indeed that is maker and lover and keeper ? I cannot find words to tell . For until I am one with God I can never have true rest nor peace.”

Yours

Fraser



Just to remind us!!!!

A Phone Ministry

During the past months I have been unable to visit folk due to Covid restrictions and have resorted to keeping in touch by phone. We like to think we are all different from each other but the reality is that broadly speaking we fell into two groups. Initially most of us were shocked and bewildered when faced with lockdown and our lives were turned upside down. But attitudes rapidly changed. Over the weeks again and again I heard the same thing, people were happy to be able to have a break from “life.” New hobbies were found or old ones resurrected, we had time to think and many people went on an almost spiritual journey.

However some people found lockdown very difficult and just couldn’t accept the restrictions. They developed “cabin fever” and felt very down. I had many phone conversations where people shared their secrets about what they had done and where they had been and the rule breaking “steak dinner party” they had shared with friends!

Then a few weeks ago attitudes suddenly seem to change again. We had all “had enough.” A long difficult winter was predicted and a sense of dread kicked in. Many conversations turned to postponed NHS operations and particularly the lack of dental and podiatry appointments. Others wanted to share their worries about families. Would loved ones lose their jobs, would they catch the virus?

So are my phone calls deeply spiritual and faith filled? Well probably not! But hopefully they provide a listening ear and give folk an opportunity to share their feelings and worries. Perhaps this is a time for us all to pick up the phone and call someone that lives alone, to try and ease some of the loneliness that is so prevalent at the moment.

My phone number is 721449 and I am always happy to chat!

God bless,

June

BEATITUDES

FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO STAY INDOORS



FOR THEY HAVE PROTECTED OTHERS

BLESSED ARE THE UNEMPLOYED AND THE SELF-EMPLOYED



FOR THEIR NEED OF GOD IS GREAT

BLESSED ARE THE CORNER SHOPKEEPERS



FOR THEY ARE THE PURVEYORS OF SCARCE THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE DELIVERY DRIVERS AND THE POSTAL WORKERS



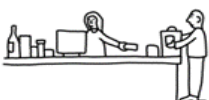
FOR THEY ARE THE BRINGERS OF ESSENTIAL THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE HOSPITAL WORKERS, THE AMBULANCE CREWS, THE DOCTORS, THE NURSES, THE CARE ASSISTANTS, AND THE CLEANERS



FOR THEY STAND BETWEEN US AND THE GRAVE, AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS SURELY THEIRS

BLESSED ARE THE CHECKOUT WORKERS



FOR THEY HAVE PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF OVERWORK AND FRUSTRATION

BLESSED ARE THE REFUSE COLLECTORS



FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD DESPITE THE MOUNTAINS OF WASTE

BLESSED ARE THE TEACHERS



FOR THEY REMAIN STEADFAST AND CONSTANT IN DISTURBING TIMES

BLESSED ARE THE CHURCH WORKERS; THE DEACONS, PRIESTS AND BISHOPS



FOR THEY ARE A COMFORTING PRESENCE IN A HURTING WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO SIGNPOST TOWARDS GOD

BLESSED ARE THE SINGLE PARENTS,



FOR THEY ARE COPING ALONE WITH THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THERE IS NO RESPITE

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ALONE.



FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF GOD AND WITH HIM THEY WILL NEVER BE LONELY

BLESSED ARE THE BEREAVED.



FOR WHOM THE WORST HAS ALREADY HAPPENED, THEY SHALL BE COMFORTED

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ISOLATED WITH THEIR ABUSERS



FOR ONE DAY - WE PRAY - THEY WILL KNOW SAFETY

BLESSED ARE ALL DURING THIS TIME WHO HAVE PURE HEARTS; ALL WHO STILL HUNGER AND THIRST FOR JUSTICE; ALL WHO WORK FOR PEACE AND WHO MODEL MERCY



MAY YOU KNOW COMFORT. MAY YOU KNOW CALM. AND MAY THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE WITH US ALL. AMEN

St Magnus Centre

Thanks to St Magnus Centre Management Committee for all their diligence in the many tasks asked of them, from dealing with the furlough scheme, to organising booking cancellations and refunds, ensuring the accounts are in order and investigating and applying for support schemes, preparation and risk assessments prior to potentially opening. It continues to be a long road but the Committee have been unstinting in their efforts.

This is the happy occasion of the wedding of Zoe Garrioch and Lyle Swanson on 22nd September. The first service in the Cathedral since March. Many thanks to the custodians for facilitating this and to the couple and their family who were all 'on message' to enable the wedding to happen.



The Cathedral, through the good offices of Helen Killeen, one of our Elders, tries to send cards of sympathy to Cathedral folk who have been bereaved. If you have any information about people who have been bereaved please let Helen know so she can arrange a card.

Helen's contact details are email. hmkilleen@talk21.com or phone 878 262.

Helen would prefer to hear several times rather than not at all, so please don't leave such information for others to pass on!

Those we remember

We have sadly lost some prominent members of our congregation in recent times. Obviously we have not been able to say goodbye as we would have liked but here is a short extract from their funeral services.

Milly Shearer

It would be fair to say that they broke the mould when Millie was created. Such a unique person who brought light life and laughter to all whom she encountered. Who, in many ways saw the world differently from most of us but always in a life-enhancing fashion, for the benefit of others. The mischievous glint in the eye, the whispered aside, the insistence of a kiss from the minister dressed in full regalia [much to the horror of some of our stricter Presbyterians] her observations of all the varieties of humanity captured in her cartoons. It would be not idle speculation to think that were she born a generation or two later she would have made a career in comedy, she had such a range of talents which brightened all our lives in so many different ways.

Dennis Eunson

Dennis was someone who always took a great interest in people and what they were up to next. Someone who loved a yarn. Dennis lived a good and full life and was someone who got a lot out of life because he put a lot into life.

That interest in other people was anchored with his strong faith and honest values which he carried throughout his life, and exercised through his role as a Cathedral elder and as a member of the Cathedral choir for many years.

Edmond Reid

For many years he served as an Elder in the Cathedral a role, which he really enjoyed, involving himself in all the different tasks. Never a man to waste words, he nevertheless, with his cheery demeanour would quietly and disarmingly put his point forward. Essentially a quiet and private person who enjoyed his own company, Edmond's sunny disposition would brighten anyone's day.

Jenny King [guild member Gladys Leslie writes]

Jenny King was a woman who never sought the limelight but in her own quiet way made a valuable contribution to the cathedral. As a member of the guild she gave her time and talents - rising very early on Coffee Morning days, providing delicious home baking for the sales table. With no transport, members of the committee would collect her donations and on entering Mounthoolie Place it was akin to stepping into the local bakery.

Bill Wright

If one were to single out a quality that most perfectly imaged Bill Wright's character, one would say that he was a gentleman, in the classic sense of the word. He was a long standing Elder of the St Magnus Cathedral and a bell ringer. He was a man of huge intellect and great wisdom and everyone who had the privilege to know him is the better for having had the chance to spend some time with a true gentleman.

Parish Register

Wedding

22 Sept Zoe Garrioch and Lyle Swanson

Funerals

Below is a list of Cathedral funerals which in normal circumstances may or may not have taken place in the Cathedral but which were conducted by the Cathedral clergy.

7 April	Margaret Skea	Sunfield Holm Rd
10 April	Sheila Coghill,	6 Buttquoy House
10 April	Christine Fraser	6 Bridge St Wynd
17 April	Margaret Budge	16 Craigie Cres
28 April	Christine Wylie	4 Broadsands Rd
1 June	Kelda Dearness	78 Cannock Rd, Cannock
9 June	John Firth	9 Olaf Place
12 June	Norrie Firth	25 Reid Crescent
22 June	Cyril Allan	34 Laverock Rd
22 July	Lily Sinclair 1	9 Victoria St
23 July	Edmond Reid	10 White St
21 Aug	Dennis Eunson	Dunedin Springfield Dr
12 Sept	Jackie Scott	Caldale Farm St Ola
14 Sept	Maureen Sutherland	32 Warrenfield Cresc
2 Oct	Milly Shearer	Edgecot Old Scapa Rd
8 Oct	Jenny King	7 Mounthoolie Lane
14 Oct	Bill Wright	Crosslea Berstane Road.

**Go gently, my friends;
feel the good earth
beneath your feet,
celebrate the rising of the sun,
listen to the birds at dawn,
walk gently under the silent stars,
knowing that you are on holy ground,
held in love –
in the wonder of God's creation**