

Newsletter

Crown Church, Inverness

MARCH 2023: No. 788

Parish Minister: Rev Douglas Robertson



SUNDAY SERVICES

We are now back meeting regularly for our two Sunday Morning Services. Douglas is continuing to broadcast on Sunday mornings at 11.00 am. To watch these and previous recordings please go to the Crown Church Facebook page (a Facebook account is not required to see the service).

Sunday 5th March

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 9.30am and 11.00am followed by special prayers

Sunday 12th March

Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am

Sunday 19th March

Morning Worship at 9.30am and 11.00am

Sunday 26th March

Morning Worship at 9.30am and 11.00am

Sunday 2nd April

Morning Worship at 9.30am and 11.00am followed by special prayers



'Now set your heart and your soul to seek the Lord your God'

1Chronicles 22:19



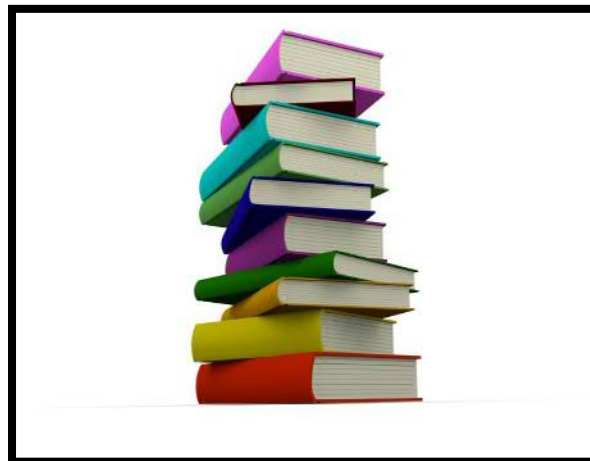
We believe in life before death

Christian Aid Turkey/Syria earthquake appeal: Thank you to all who supported this appeal so generously to try to do what we can to help all those fellow human beings who are suffering so badly in the aftermath of the earthquake. We raised a total of £1125 (£1381.25 with Gift Aid).

David Crippin

Christian Aid Representative

Launchpad—The Big Book Sale - THANK YOU!



A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of our Big Book Sale on Saturday 25th February: to those who contributed an enormous variety of books for all ages and stages, and for those who came and purchased. As of Sunday evening, we had raised £905.11 which has certainly surpassed our expectations.

A big thank you to our friends from Old High St Stephens who joined in, and to some of those attending the Gaelic Mod soup and sandwich lunch in the Upper Hall who also came along.

Launchpad is a charity affiliated with Crown Church which provides small grants for unemployed people to either help in their search for work or to improve their quality of life.

Mairi Main



Old High St Stephen's
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Suitable for the
whole family
all ages & physical
abilities

SWEATY CHURCH

*St Stephen's Church Hall
Southside Road*

**SATURDAY,
25 MARCH
4PM-6PM**

COME ALONG FOR
FREE FUN,
PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES
& GAMES



pizza & Juice

Scottish Charity No. SC035073



FLOWERS IN CHURCH ON SUNDAY

Thank you to those detailed below for kindly donating the flowers for March.

5th March Chrisanne Robertson

12th March Morag Russell

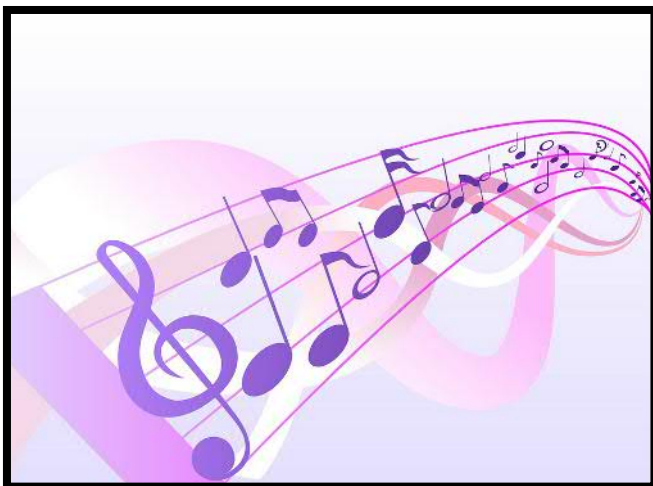
19th March Lily and Colin Baillie

26th March Heather and Alex Grant

There are still some spaces left on the Flower List if anyone would like to add their name.

Any queries please ring Ruby on 01463 225467.

Crown Church Band



Crown Church Band is a wind band. The Band plays religious, classical and folk music as well as marches, jazz, mild rock and music from the shows.

Practice is held on Monday night from 7 pm until 9 pm in the Crown Church Sanctuary.

New members, experienced and learners, are always welcome including a drummer and guitarist.

For more information please contact the Church Secretary at office@crown-church.co.uk or the Band Secretary Tel. 01463 236738.

Prayer Diary

March 2023

This prayer diary has been prepared by the Discipleship Team. We hope that you will find it useful. You may like to detach it from the newsletter and use it to pray for our church and community

March 5 - 11

Pray for the people affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. Lord, bring them comfort, strength and renewed hope. We hold in our hearts those who are injured, and those who have lost loved ones, livelihoods, and homes. We pray for first-responders, and all those working tirelessly to rescue survivors and support the injured. May God's peace sustain their efforts.

Lord, help us not to lean on our own understanding but in everything acknowledge You so that You can direct our words, thoughts and actions, In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Pray Philippians 4:6-7: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

On the 8th of March, International Women's Day, Lord, Bless all women who daily strive to bring love, joy and peace to their communities, their homes and their hearts. Give them strength to continue to turn swords into ploughshares. We pray for all women who face prejudice, inequality and gender disparities.

March 12 - 18

Give thanks for the period of Lent; Pray for the groups doing the Lent Bible study and other bible study groups, for prayer and thanksgiving, for the time and attention paid to personal examination and reflection on our relationship with God.

Dear God, we open our hearts to You this Lent. Help us to see ourselves and others as You see us: worthy, wonderful and full of potential. Lord, we open the door to let You in. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ask God to open our eyes today to the beauty of His world and to prompt us to care for and protect what has been gifted to us. Pray for the advancement of conservation and renewable energy and that our governments will prioritise looking after our earth.

Pray for our neighbours, for people who live alone, for those who are struggling with illness and for God's peace to fall on them. Pray for protection and safety over our neighbours' homes and families, and ask God to give us opportunities and courage to share His love with those around us.

March 19 - 25

A prayer for Mothering Sunday, 19th March; Loving God, Thank you for mums and children and for all the joy of family life. Be with those who are grieving because they have no mother; Be close to those who are struggling because they have no children; Be near to those who are sad because they are far apart from those they love; Let your love be present in every home; And help your church to have eyes to see and ears to hear the needs of all. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Pray for those who are persecuted and imprisoned because of their faith; give them courage to face their struggles, patience to bear the lies, and hope to see beyond the bars. May we do all we can to let them know that they are not forgotten.

Thank and praise God for all the children and young people in our churches, communities, country and the world. Ask that God will walk alongside them and grant them courage, strength and wisdom as they face the challenges of life.

Pray for each and every member of our congregation and the Parish; that God's blessings and grace be upon them and sustain them in whatever circumstances they find themselves.

March 26 – April 1

Pray for those who live alone and are lonely. Pray also for people affected by mental illness, ask that God will grant them strength and hope for the future.

Pray for anyone going through hardship, bereavement or any other sadness, that God would show them that he is the light of the world and nothing can ever put His light out.

Give thanks that during difficulties and distress, others can lift us up before the throne of grace. Help us always to remember those in great need.

Pray for those who are homeless; may God help us to be thankful for our own blessings and to reach out to others.

If you have particular prayer requests for April 2023 please do send them to our *church secretary, Gloria* who will pass them on, or e-mail Jude Madeleine; judedmond@yahoo.co.uk



Daily Bible Readings for March

Sunday, March 5, 2023, Matthew 20:1-16 Labourers in the Vineyard

Monday, March 6, 2023, Psalm 16:5-8 Psalm

Tuesday, March 7, 2023, Matthew 16:1-12 Teachings of Jesus

Wednesday, March 8, 2023, Matthew 16:13-23 Jesus Foretells His Death

Thursday, March 9, 2023, Matthew 17:9-27 Teachings of Jesus

Friday, March 10, 2023, Matthew 18:10-14 Parables of Jesus

Saturday, March 11, 2023, Matthew 19:1-30 Teachings of Jesus

Sunday, March 12, 2023, Matthew 22:1-14 Wedding Banquet

Monday, March 13, 2023, Psalm 45:6-7 Psalm

Tuesday, March 14, 2023, Matthew 20:17-34 Works of Jesus

Wednesday, March 15, 2023, Matthew 21:18-22 The Fig Tree

Thursday, March 16, 2023, Matthew 21:23-27 The Authority of Jesus Questioned

Friday, March 17, 2023, Matthew 21:28-32 Parables of Jesus

Saturday, March 18, 2023, Matthew 21:33-46 Parables of Jesus

Sunday, March 19, 2023, Matthew 25:1-13 Bridesmaids (or Talents)

Monday, March 20, 2023, Psalm 43:3-4 Psalm

Tuesday, March 21, 2023, Matthew 22:15-33 Questions for Jesus

Wednesday, March 22, 2023, Matthew 22:34-46 The Greatest Commandment

Thursday, March 23, 2023, Matthew 23:1-36 Woes

Friday, March 24, 2023, Matthew 23:37-39 Lament over Jerusalem

Saturday, March 25, 2023, Matthew 24:1-28 Teachings of Jesus

Sunday, March 26, 2023, Matthew 25:31-46 Last Judgment

Monday, March 27, 2023, Psalm 98:7-9 Psalm

Tuesday, March 28, 2023, Matthew 24:29-51 Teachings of Jesus

Wednesday, March 29, 2023, Matthew 25:14-30 Parables of Jesus

Thursday, March 30, 2023, Matthew 26:1-5 The Plot to Kill Jesus

Friday, March 31, 2023, Matthew 26:6-13 The Anointing at Bethany

Saturday, April 1, 2023, Matthew 26:14-16 Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

Sunday, April 2, 2023, Matthew 21:1-17 Triumphal Entry

Monday, April 3, 2023, Psalm 118:26-29 Psalm

Tuesday, April 4, 2023, Matthew 26:31-75 Betrayal of Jesus

Wednesday, April 5, 2023, Matthew 27:1-26 Passion

Thursday, April 6, 2023, Matthew 26:17-30 Words of Institution

Friday, April 7, 2023, Matthew 27:27-61 Crucifixion

Saturday, April 8, 2023, Matthew 27:62-66 The Guard at the Tomb





The Guild

February began with a very successful coffee morning in the upper hall on Saturday 4th. As well as coffee and home baking there was a baking stall and a bric-a-brac stall. Entertainment was supplied by the local Ukelele Band, Strumness. We were delighted to welcome so many to this event and delighted with the money we raised, which will go towards our projects.

On the 7th we had a member of the fundraising team from the Highland Hospice as speaker. She filled us in on the history of the Hospice and the ways in which it helps and supports patients and families from all over the Highlands. The work they do is truly amazing and deserves all the support we can give them.

Our minister, Douglas Robertson , led us in a Bible Study on the 21st. He chose to speak on our theme "wee seeds, big trees" . He took us on a trip to South Korea where he and Alison had been invited to celebrate a hundred years since the first missionary from Australia had died, aged just 32. He had actually been a member of the church in Australia where Douglas had his ministry. Since then over a hundred missionaries have been to South Korea from Australia.

Our final meeting of this year is on the 14th March when we hold our AGM. After the business is concluded Mrs Liz Gray will tell us about life as the Provost's wife.

As well as the usual summer coffee mornings, the dates of which will be announced later, there will be another occasion for us to meet . This will be in Nairn St Ninians for a Spring Rally of all the guilds in Moray Firth Presbytery beginning at 2:30 pm on Wednesday , 26th April.

Dorothy Mein

Guild Correspondent

LIFE AND WORK

MARCH



Connecting to God in Nature

Thomas Baldwin learns about the growth of groups taking church outdoors.

Intergenerational Church

In the third of the series, Suzi Farrant and Darren Philip consider mutual relationships and learning

Joyful Generosity Amid Uncertainty

The National Stewardship Team reflects on exercising Christian stewardship in times of economic challenge

Being Open to Change

The Moderator explains why the Church has to be prepared to change

'Let Justice Roll'

Ruth Harvey considers the call of the prophet Amos that justice is a matter of extreme urgency

Plants of the Bible

Jackie Macadam looks at the plants, food and scents of the Bible

View from the Pulpit

The Rev Shuna Dicks offers an 'encouragement for creative thinking'

Youth Column

Rebekah Lennon explains why she made a Profession of Faith on her 16th birthday

Regulars

The Rev Dr Martin Johnston on leadership
The Very Rev Albert Bogle on digital church
John L Bell on worship
Reflection by the Rev Dr Richard Frazer

Plus: youth column, My Church, View from the Pulpit, official updates from the Faith Action Programme and Assembly Trustees, readers' pictures, news, letters and reviews – all for £3.50.

Buy or subscribe, in print or digital, at www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe, or speak to your church's Life and Work promoter.

Online

Visit www.lifeandwork.org for more news, and exclusive features.

You can also find us at facebook.com/leadwork or on Twitter @cofslifeandwork and now on Instagram.

Welcome Team

March 5th Boy's Brigade, Alex and Heather Grant
March 12th Boy's Brigade, Alex and Heather Grant
March 19th Boy's Brigade, Alex and Heather Grant
March 26th Boy's Brigade, Alex and Heather Grant

As we look forward to enjoying our newly refurbished premises, perhaps now more so than ever it is important that we can offer a friendly presence at our doorways.

If you feel you could help, even if it is just one Sunday, please do contact Gloria at the Church Office.

Readers

March 5th Irene Whyte
March 12th Lena Clark
March 19th Helen Boynton
March 26th Jane Smith
April 2nd Bob Shanks

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

Deaths

Mrs Maureen Tulloch, Highview Nursing Home, formerly Oldtown Road, 16th January 2023

Mr John Gordon, Leys Park, 28 January 2023

Mrs Connie Dawson, Lochardil, 13th February 2023

Items for the April newsletter by Sunday 26th March please!

*****Please note our new email address*****

Please send any articles, photographs or news to :

newsletter@[crowns-church.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@crowns-church.co.uk)

Minister Rev Douglas Robertson, 39 Southside Road, 07547976054
drrobertson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Crown Church Office: office@crowns-church.co.uk 01463 231140

Session Clerk Bob Forrest: sessionclerk@crowns-church.co.uk

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