

ST MICHAEL'S PARISH CHURCH, LINLITHGOW

Sunday, 20 January 2019

Today's Services



- 9.30am First Service
Souper Sunday in support of the
HIV/Aids Programme of the Church
of Scotland
Led by YF and Elders
- 9.45am All age Service – Souper Sunday
at Springfield School
- 11.00am First Service
Souper Sunday in support of the
HIV/Aids Programme of the Church
of Scotland
Led by YF and Elders
- 6.30pm Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Service in St Michael's RC Church
Speaker: Rev Colin Johnston

Welcome to St Michael's Parish Church, Linlithgow

Thank you for joining us today. We hope that you feel at home here with us. **We would love to meet you so please join us for soup after the service.** A crèche is available in St Katherine's aisle for younger children. Please ask one of our team at the door for help if needed. If we can assist you in any other way, please complete one of our pew cards. Thank you.

Knowing Christ better – Serving Him together – Making Him known to others

Prayer Focus

"Why the clock? To remind us all to join in prayer regularly either at 10am or 10pm"



Today we pray for all who are suffering the effects of HIV/Aids and all who care for them, for our Church as we start the process of finding a new Minister, and for our country, its Parliament, Government and people, that a spirit of compromise and listening to each other may prevail.

You are welcome to join us for Weekly Prayers in the Queen's Aisle on **Wednesdays at 12.30**. There is a box in the Queen's Aisle in which to put requests for prayer. Alternatively please call 822603 or 670980.

<p>Ministry Team: Rev John Povey, Interim Moderator Rev Thom Riddell Rev Colin Johnston, Locum Minister Trish Archibald, Youth & Family Outreach Worker</p> <p>Organist & Music Co-ordinator: Matt Edwards</p>	<p>Address: Church Office, Cross House, Linlithgow EH49 7AL Telephone: 01506 842188 E-mail: info@stmichaels-parish.org.uk Web: www.stmichaelsparish.org.uk</p> <p>Open: Mon, Wed, Thu, 9am–1pm. Fri 11am–1pm Tuesday by appointment</p> <p>Vestry hour: Thursday evening by appointment</p>
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This week in Cross House

Mon 21 Jan	9.00am	Elders	7.30pm	Guild
Tues 22 Jan	9.45am 10.30am	Parent & Toddler Group WL Foodbank		
Wed 23 Jan			6.30pm	Girls' Brigade
Thu 24 Jan	10.00am 10.00am	Seedlings Thursday for Coffee	6.30pm 7.00pm	Boys' Brigade Minister's Vestry
Fri 25 Jan	9.45am 10.00am 10.30am	Parent & Toddler Group Housegroup WL Foodbank		
Sat 26 Jan				
Sun 27 Jan	9.15am	Sunday Club & Bible Class	12 noon	Youth Fellowship Brunch

Forthcoming Events

2 Feb	10.00am	Chogoria Coffee Morning (Kirk Hall)
2 Feb	4.30pm	Messy Church (Cross House)
16 Feb	10.00am	Linlithgow Grange Rotary Coffee morning (Kirk Hall)
24 Feb	3.00pm	Girl Guiding Thinking Day Service (Kirk)

Intimations All notices need to be in the church office by Thursday morning.

2019 Stewardship of Treasure

Prayer for January 2019

Lord God, at the beginning of this New Year when what lies ahead is unknown to us, help us to focus on what we do know. We thank you for the many gifts that we have received over the years and pray that we may focus on these as signs of your goodness, kindness and faithfulness. Amen

This Week

Today, Sunday 20 January: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2019, St Michael's RC Church at 6.30pm – all Linlithgow churches taking part. Refreshments after service in St Margaret's Hall. **Speaker Rev Colin Johnston.** All welcome.

Monday, 21 January: Guild meeting in the Kirk Hall at 7.30pm when our Locum Minister Rev Colin Johnston will talk of his "Sojourn in Egypt". Everyone welcome to join us. For further information, contact Margaret Henderson Tel no 01506 847487.

Thursday 24 January: Time of Stillness 2pm in St Katherine's Aisle (entrance via south door during winter opening hours). Discover what 15 minutes of stillness can do for you. Tea and cake afterwards. All welcome.

Choir Practice at 7.30pm in the Kirk, all adults welcome. Further info: matt@stmichaels-parish.org.uk

Friday 25 January: Housegroup: 10.00am in Room 5, Cross House. The study is: Tom Wright's 'The letters of John'. 1 John 2:15–29 – You have the Anointing. All welcome to join this informal group. Please call Barbara Thomson 845705 for more details.

Coming up

Saturday 2 February: Chogoria Coffee Morning. With the New Year comes our first fundraiser coffee morning in aid of Chogoria Hospital, Kenya from 10am to 12:30pm. Donations of home-baking, tablet, jam and marmalade welcomed. Please contact Margaret Henderson (Tel. 844787) or Sue Ratcliffe (Tel. 844922).

Saturday 2 February: Messy Church at 4.30pm, Kirk Hall

Monday 4 February: Kirk Knitting Club at 10.30am, Cross House

Thursday 7 February: Chapters Book Club at 3.15pm, Cross House – January book of choice is "Extraordinary People (Enzo MacLeod Series)" by Peter May

Thursday 14 February: Sunshine Sing-along for Memory at 12 noon, Kirk Hall

Sunday 24 February: Girl Guiding Thinking Day Service, 3pm in the Kirk

Coffee Mornings – 10am

2 February – Chogoria Coffee Morning (Kirk Hall)

16 February – Linlithgow Grange Rotary (Kirk Hall)

Other Notices

During the service, photographs might be taken and used for Church purposes e.g. in Crosswind, on our website, notice boards, Facebook etc. If you and/or your family would prefer not to be included, please speak to one of the Welcome Team at the door, who will be happy to help.

Adult singers wanted to be a part of EXILES, St. Michael's production in aid of Refugees. Come and swell the ranks of the church choir on 8 and 9 March. Rehearsals: 24 January in the kirk, 8pm, ready to sing at 8.15pm. The top car park will be open. Further info: exiles2019@gmail.com

Sunshine Singers: Next sing-song at 2.30pm on **Friday 25 January** at St Michael's Hospital.

Bethany Pennies: The latest donation sent to Bethany Christian Trust was for £162.62 bringing the total for 2018 to £403.80. Thank you to all who contributed.

CDs-Church Service: If you would like to borrow a recording of the service, you will find two CDs at the Church shop. A recording of the sermon is available weekly on podcast on the Church website.

Stamp Appeal: Please bring in all your stamps for the World Mission Council appeal to help young people with learning difficulties in the Ukraine. Boxes in the Church and Kirk Hall.

Christian Aid: In tune with the upcoming presentation of "Exiles" by St Michael's Drama group, Christian Aid delivers assistance to refugees around the world. Please help in this year's door-to-door collection 12-18 May. For further information, please telephone 842646. Thank you every offer of help.

Re-Act (Action for Refugees) would like to thank all those who donated warm clothes/sturdy footwear/blankets/ camping equipment etc during 2018. Similar items will be welcomed through 2019. The Re-Act collection point in Linlithgow is at 26 Friars Brae.

Global Strategy: Anyone interested in learning about the progress being made by 194 Countries of the World as they endeavour to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 should email wandeross@hotmail.com.

Support Teams

House Groups: For information about fellowship groups meeting within St Michael's, please call Alison Miller 844992, Margaret Henderson 844787 or Barbara Thomson 845705.

The Help Centre offers information covering many concerns. Wondering where to access support for yourself or another? Tel 842646, or look at www.helpcentre.org.uk

Bereavement Support: The Team offers confidential one to one support to help you adapt to your loss. In addition, Positive Pathways support group meets fortnightly in the informal setting of the Canal Tearoom. Contact Sheila Rae 07719966273 or sheila.ruth.rae@gmail.com.

Sunday 20 January 2019: 9.30am, Souper Sunday

We gather as the people of God...

Call to Worship

Hymn: 448, Lord, the light of your love is shining

Prayer of Approach and Confession with Lord's Prayer

Talk with Rev Colin Johnston

Hymn: 516, We are marching in the light of God

We listen to stories of faith and hope...

Scripture Readings: Mark 4:21–25 (p.36)

(Today's Reader is Martin Johnstone)

John 8:12 (p.97)

Hymn: 748, Through saints we glimpse the light of Christ

Talk with Luke Davidson

We respond to God's word...

Hymn: 694, Brother, Sister let me serve you

Offering and Time for Reflection

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

We leave with God's blessing...

Hymn: 710, I have a dream, a man once said

Benediction

Choral Amen: 820, Dresden

Join us for soup in the Kirk following this service.

9.30am

Music for Today

We will have a much quieter approach to the organ music this morning as January inspires us to reflect on what has gone before, what is now and what is yet to come – just as our service last weekend asked us to do. For music that makes use of an organ's ability to not just sound, but sing; we can turn to the French romantic organist Guilmant. Spotted for his talent at the organ by revolutionary organ builder Cavaille-Coll, he was sent on a scholarship for lessons at the Brussels Conservatoire with Belgian virtuoso N. Lemmens. His compositions, whilst remaining traditional in many ways, made use of the new warmth found in the organs being built at the time. The prelude is a piece written in his "Pieces in Different Styles" books, titled Communion No. 1. The postlude is a wonderful conversation between the Swell Oboe and the Great Flute, with something with more motion in the middle.

Next Week's Services: Sunday 27 January, Holy Communion

**Rev Colin Johnston (9.30am), Rev Thom Riddell (11am) and
Rev Ian Walker (3pm – Kirk Hall)**

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What's Happening at Kirk Session? January 2019

Vacancy: representatives of West Lothian Presbytery attended our meeting on 15th January and discussed various issues with Kirk Session. The significance of this is that it allows us to proceed with all the things we have to do before the church appoints a nominating committee to take forward the search for a new minister. These things are:

- We have to prepare an 'electoral register' – a list of everyone who is entitled to vote (or be nominated) for the nominating committee. Formal announcements will be made on Sunday 20th and 27th. Essentially, if you receive Crosswind at your current address, you're definitely on one or other list and you will have a vote! If you are not on either list and think you should be, please fill in a form at the visitors' stall after the service or at the church office. Session will consider a draft register at an extra meeting on 29th January, after which there will be a further chance to make corrections before the register is finalised on 12th February.
- We have to consider if we are willing to receive an application from any minister who is in a gay marriage or civil partnership. There will also be formal announcements about this on 20th and 27th January and Kirk Session will discuss and vote on this, also on Tuesday 29th January. If the vote is positive, there will be further formal announcements and a further meeting and vote on 12th February.
- We are working on a draft 'Parish Profile', which sets out who we are, what we do and what we are looking for in a new minister. Session had a full discussion on a first draft. A revised draft will appear on the church website before Sunday 27th. Please have a look and let me have your comments.

Cross House: Jim Rae (Property Team leader) made a presentation to supplement the report that was published in December. The presentation included pictures of some of the damage that has been discovered in the Cross House roof timbers. We agreed to hold over the full discussion on the way forward to our next regular meeting (19th February) to allow sufficient time for consideration of all the options. So please speak with your elder if you have any further thoughts about the way forward with Cross House.

Budget for 2019: Session approved a proposed budget for 2019. This estimates that our income for the year will be around £340,000 but our outgoings will be roughly £355,000. The potential outgoings include some works on the manse that are required before a new minister can be called. During 2019, our stewardship focus will be on stewardship of 'treasure', i.e. money. It would be good for all of us to consider again how we respond to the reckless generosity that God has shown us through the gift of Jesus.