



**ST.
MICHAEL'S**
Parish Church

AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER

August greetings from your St Michael's Parish Church newsletter team! Maybe your summer holiday already seems like a distant dream as you organise school uniforms in ever-bigger sizes, or perhaps you're still waiting to head off somewhere. Either way, here's a round-up of what we have to look forward to at St Michael's. Our God never takes a break from nurturing us: may you find his love anew as you dive into what's coming up around here.



A message from your minister, Rev Dr Liam Fraser

Hello everyone

Sadly, our Pioneer and Outreach Worker Lorraine Orr will be leaving us next week. Lorraine has been an industrious and creative addition to the Ministry Team over the last couple of years and has blessed us with her humour and outgoing nature. She is leaving her current role to take up a new job in the Presbytery of Fife, but we are delighted that she and Katie will remain members of the congregation, and that she will continue to worship in our Springfield congregation. From everyone at St Michael's – thank you!



Barbecue Sunday



The family that eats together has the most fun together – and the Inter-Church Barbecue on **Sunday 20th August** is a great chance for the wider family of church folk in Linlithgow, plus our friends from Torphichen and Avonbridge, to share a burger and a natter.

Head to Eventbrite [here](#) for more information and to make an advance reservation (needed for numbers).



BB's are Back!

The boys in blue (uniforms) are back – our very own 2nd Linlithgow Boys' Brigade Company are gearing up for a new session. If there's a school-age boy in your family who could benefit from a mix of fun and faith in a safe and supportive environment, why not encourage them to try it out?

You can register for the new session at Cross House on **Thursday 24th August from 6:30-7:30pm**, or email the company [here](#) for more info

Toddling Back

Our even younger people also can't wait to be back. It's really not that many sleeps until Toddlers resume on **Tuesday 22nd August**. We look forward to seeing you and your wee one from 9.30-11.30 on Tuesday and Friday mornings. No need to book; a small donation is welcome on entry.

Jolly Babies re-start on **Wednesday 23rd August**: drop in between 11am and 1pm on a Wednesday for a chat, and a cuppa, with other new parents. A warm welcome awaits.

Would you like to join our friendly team? We need volunteers to: set out and clear away the toys; welcome families; make tea and coffee; and play with the children. You can help every week or just when it suits - we are flexible and happy to take any time you can give. Training available. Please contact Fiona on 07549014575 or by email [here](#).





Positive Pathways Bereavement Support

Positive Pathways have a new group beginning on **14th September 2023**, each Thursday evening from 6.30-8pm in Cross House. No church connection is needed.

This free and confidential service is facilitated by trained bereavement listeners. There's no magic formula to take away the pain, but by sharing and listening to others it can lessen the sense of isolation often felt after the death of a loved one and may help towards a new normality. You will be warmly welcomed. Contact Sheila Rae [here](#), or on 07719 966273, for further information.

Still Aspiring

While you can't help noticing the scaffolding that's increasingly wrapping the church tower and spire, the excitement will really start once the old cladding comes off. That will let the contractors repair the wooden frame where it has been weather-damaged, before applying the new bronze-alloy cladding for a permanent, dusky-gold finish.

With funding nearly at the target for the spire works, the fundraising team are turning their thoughts to bigger projects ahead – transforming Cross House into 'A House for the Town' and securing the fabric of the church sanctuary. Keep praying for guidance and wisdom in all our plans for how we use our buildings to serve God's purposes.



Pray Every Day

Sunday

Pray for our incredibly busy ministry team as they lead worship and undertake many other activities – and for their families who support them.

Monday

Pray for all in the congregation living with cancer and other serious illnesses, or supporting those who are ill, to know God's presence and comfort at this time and to receive timely and helpful treatment.

Tuesday

Give thanks for the well-supported Bridgend drop-in café, and pray for both those who provide it and those who attend.

Wednesday

Pray also for the Tuesday night tutoring at Bridgend, that children will return and find their confidence boosted.

Thursday

Pray for the tutors at Bridgend: may they remain enthusiastic and pass on their knowledge and skills to the children in a safe and pleasant environment.

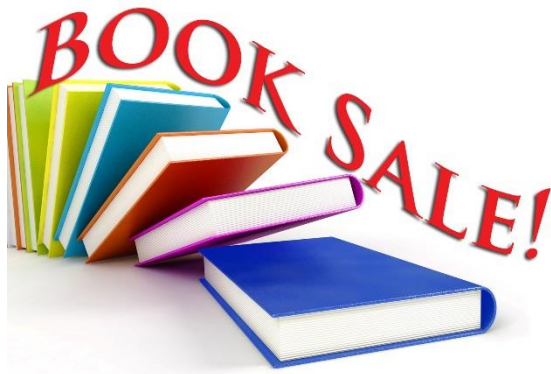
Friday

Give thanks that people have been coming for prayer after Sunday morning services. Pray they will find this helpful, and that prayer team members will find the words to support those who attend.

Saturday

Pray for our team of Pastoral Visitors, and for those they support who are often amongst the most needy and isolated of our members.





Books and More Beside

Looking for some new reading material? Pop into the Kirk Hall on **Saturday 26 August** to catch our latest fundraising book sale for Aspire Linlithgow, running from 10am-1pm. Alongside the books, you may also be tempted by the wide range of CDs, DVDs, jigsaws and games. Make a donation and take what you want!

Ensemble Anniversary

On **Sunday 3rd September, 7.30pm** the Antonine Ensemble return to St Michael's, for a typically delightful performance. Their programme of baroque and baroque-influenced music ranges from playful, to sonorous, with a closing blast from Respighi that may test just how well the spire scaffolding is secured... Entry by donation in support of Aspire Linlithgow.

Ensemble conductor Alison Hastie adds "This will be our 10th concert, since our debut here in Sept 2016, and continues our deep love for this very special venue". Come and share the love!

in **St. Michael's Parish Church**, The Cross, Linlithgow

Sunday 3rd September 7.30pm

ANTONINE ENSEMBLE

Shades of Baroque

Purcell
Chaconne from Fairy Queen

Corrette
Organ Concerto No.1 in Bb

Britten
Simple Symphony

Chossudovsky
Phases de Douce

Respighi
Suite for Strings and Organ

Admission free
All donations to
Aspire Linlithgow



Solo Organ: **Robin Bell**
Conducted by **Alison Hastie**

Our Times of Worship



Holy Communion, Sunday 27 August at 10am

Our next quarterly Communion service takes place in the church on Sunday 27 August at 10am.

For reasons of health and safety, there will be no common cup. Participants will be served portions of bread and wine in individual glasses.

We also have Holy Communion in the Kirk Hall at 3pm with Rev Dr Liam Fraser. Again, participants will be served portions of bread and wine in individual glasses



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The Evening Service

Sunday 27th August 6.30pm
Kirk Hall, Cross House Linlithgow

SUNDAY SERVICES



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Our worship services are every Sunday at 10am. As Covid-19 remains highly transmissible if you feel unwell please consider taking a lateral flow test before attending for worship. We look forward to worshipping with you, safely and joyfully, Sunday by Sunday.

Services at Springfield resume on Sunday 3 September

If you are not able to attend in person, our main church services are live-streamed:

Website: <https://www.stmichaelsparish.org.uk>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsparishlinlithgow/>

They are available shortly after the end of the service for 1 week on the Kirk website under 'Faith'/'Worship Replay' or <http://www.stmichaelsparish.org.uk/replay>

and later on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/c/StMichaelsLinlithgow>

NB: Please note that services that are uploaded to YouTube and elsewhere on the web also remain available for 1 week after each service

CDs of the Sunday service are also available to those without internet. Please check in with neighbours and friends to see if they would like a copy and contact the office:

info@stmichaels-parish.org.uk

We take our members' privacy seriously, and the information provided will be retained by us for as long as it is required for the purpose for which it was collected or unless you tell us otherwise. A copy of our full Privacy Notice can be found on our website <http://www.stmichaelsparish.org.uk>

This information is for church use only and is not shared with any third parties.



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**St Michael's Parish Church of Scotland, Linlithgow is a
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