

# OUTREACH

RENFREW NORTH PARISH CHURCH

2025 – spring edition

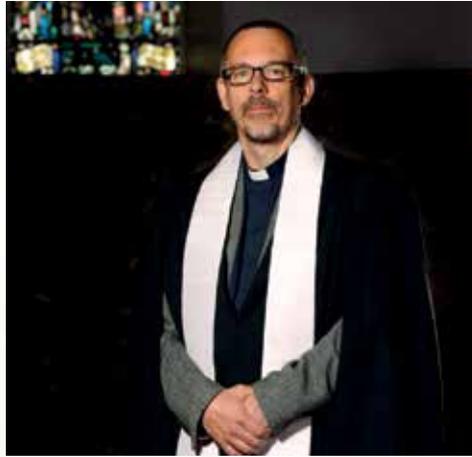
[renfrewnorth.org.uk](http://renfrewnorth.org.uk)

## Dear Friends,

At the time of writing, Storm Éowyn has been and gone but the aftermath remains. The wind may have dropped but the fallen trees, the damage to property and the aftermath of such a storm will remain with us for some time. It is at times like these that communities display their resilience and a willingness to get to grips with the clearing up and repairs.

These are attributes that resonate with the values of the Christian faith. Jesus taught us the values of loving one another, of kindness and compassion towards others, of a willingness to help others... "and in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you." (Matthew 7 v12).

There is a particular passage that I love in the New Testament which reminds us of the need to allow our lights to burn brightly: "Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house." (Matthew 5v15) Jesus exhorts us to use our talents and skills for his kingdom, and to allow ourselves and our lives to be used to give glory to God, and never



to hide this or cover this with a bowl.

Over the next few months, during morning worship, I will be sharing some of the Mission Committee's thoughts on how we acknowledge the skills we have and enable them to be used to further the work of God's kingdom.

Every blessing

*Philip*

## Diary

- 1 Mar** – BB Coffee Morning 10am
- 5 Mar** – Congregational Board 7pm
- 8 Mar** – Brownie Race Night – 7:15pm for 8pm
- 9 Mar** – Communion 10am
- 15 Mar** – Church Coffee Morning 10am
- 2 Apr** – Trustees Meeting & Kirk Session 7pm
- 12 Apr** – Messy Church 3:30pm
- 19 Apr** – Easter Breakfast 10am
- 26 Apr** – Christian Aid Sponsored Walk 9am
- 7 May** – Congregational Board 7pm
- 12 May** – Christian Aid Coffee Morning 10am
- 14 May** – Christian Aid Coffee Morning 10am
- 16 May** – Christian Aid Coffee Morning 10am
- 16 May** – BB Display 7pm
- 4 Jun** – Kirk Session 7pm
- 7 Jun** – Summer Fayre 11am
- 8 Jun** – Communion 10am



## The Guild

The Guild ended 2024 with a visit to the panto held in the church by Paisley Players and a Carols/Candles and coffee evening to celebrate the

birth of Jesus.

2025 has started with our annual lunch at Piccola Mondo and an evening at the manse to celebrate Burns night. You can see our ladies enjoying the hospitality offered by Val and Phillip.

Our AGM was held on 29th January which showed that we're a very healthy Guild both in monetary terms and members

with a steady 25 ladies coming each night of the term.

The Guild donated the funds to purchase new curtains for the manse sitting and dining rooms, you can see them at your next visit to the manse.

We're nearing the end of the 24/25 session but still have a varied programme to look forward to. Please feel free to join us any Wednesday evening throughout the session. On Monday night 10th February we'll be competing along with others at the men's club quiz. Maybe this time we'll leave with the trophy!

**Lynn Ross,**  
Secretary  
Tel: 07552 737 101

*Lynn*

## Prayer Group

The Easter Prayer Group will be held on Tuesday 15th April of Holy Week. Tea/coffee and home baking will be served at 12.00 noon. The meeting itself will start at 1.00pm and finish about 2.00pm. The theme is Easter Hope.

Some prayers are printed on handouts but there will also be a quiet time for personal prayers and quiet reflection. There is a prayer post box on the wall outside the coffee bar. Any prayer requests will be read out at the meeting.

For more information, please contact Sheila Love. A warm welcome is extended to you from all the regulars and Sheila.

Sheila

*Sheila*



**Coffee Bar**  
Open every Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
10am - 12pm  
£1.80  
Unlimited Coffee and Tea  
with a selection of cakes and bread goodies available each day  
Volunteers to help run the coffee bar will be made most welcome.

## Assistant Minister's Letter



Hello everyone!

It is a New Year, and a New Beginning!

New beginnings can be both exciting and intimidating, (oh ask me and I will tell you). They represent a chance to start fresh and make positive changes in our lives, but they also require us to let go of the familiar and step into the unknown.

As Christians, we can find hope and strength in knowing that God is with us in all we do, in all things, including the new beginnings we face. In Isaiah 43:19, the Lord says, "behold I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" God is constantly at work in our lives, creating new opportunities and possibilities for us.

As we know, Jesus in Revelation 22:13 said, "I am the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."

We must remember that regardless of what we will face in this new year, Jesus Christ will be there in the beginning and at the end. Let us therefore look forward with excitement to the new things the Lord has already started doing in our lives, community, nation and world.

Shalom

*Adaeze*

Adaeze Goziem-Ibonye

## A Trip To Campbeltown: Change, Challenge, Celebration

### CHANGE

Hastily making our way to Campbeltown  
Admiring God's creation of icicles falling down  
Numerous new songs made worship spesh  
Gathering together to refuel and refresh  
Everyone happy for the routine to diverge

### CHALLENGE

Hundreds of sweets, not to eat, but to jigsaw  
Adventuring to Davaar to a cave full of awe  
Lighthouse spinning to show the way  
Listening to Chris, challenges faced with prayer  
Embracing the time to be away from it all  
Novel downloaded to challenge the call  
Gallivanting off to places of old  
Enjoying the challenge we each took a hold

### CELEBRATION

Energy gained from good company  
Laughing and singing away  
Eating delicious food, including dessert  
Birthday Cake for Valerie was a surprise nugget  
Relaying our thanks, so much  
Attending worship at Campbeltown Church  
Talking and sharing what we did learn  
Indicating that we would return  
Oh what a trip  
Need to say thank you Philip



We have had a quiet end to the year but still managing to deliver our Christmas parcels to some elderly members of the church. However, we have a busy few months ahead with already in first three weeks given the boys of all sections homemade pizza (thanks to Gordon Ferguson), our postponed night at the Tenpin bowling and our annual Burns Night with haggis, chips & irn bru!

Our Coffee Morning is forthcoming on Saturday 1st March, a change from its' usual date and a note of our annual display on Friday 16th May.

We have a huge focus on camp this year

## Christian Aid

The work of Christian Aid continues for another year and various activities will take place over the coming months raising funds for the work of Christian Aid.

### Dates for your 2025 diary:

**Saturday 26 April** – Sponsored Walk in Robertson Park 9-12 noon.

**Sunday 11 and 18 May** – Christian Aid Week – Envelopes for donations will be available in the church.

**Monday 12 May** – Coffee Morning helped by volunteers from Renfrew North, who are also responsible for the Cake and Candy Stall.

**Wednesday 14 May** – Coffee Morning helped by volunteers from Renfrew Trinity, who are also responsible for the Cake and Candy Stall.

**Friday 16 May** – Coffee Morning helped by volunteers from Renfrew Baptist and Inchinnan Churches, who are also responsible for the Cake and Candy Stall.

All coffee mornings will be held in Renfrew North church halls 10-12 noon. The Christian Aid Coffee Lounge continues throughout the year each Sunday following the church services, which contributes greatly to our donations. If you are willing to be involved to support the group in any of these events, your assistance would be appreciated.

Thank you,

The Christian Aid Group

with us heading to North Wales for a week-long canvas camp in the summer. In order to assist raising funds to allow us to subsidise and pay for activities whilst at camp we have issued Football Cards to all the boys and staff, so please do help us by taking a shot. There will also be some other fundraising opportunities for you to be involved in, or if you know of any local businesses that would assist by giving us a donation, please get in touch.

*Andrew*

Andrew Scott,  
Captain

## Junior Church

On Sunday 22nd December, Junior Church lead the congregation of Renfrew North in their 'POP Up' Nativity. The service started with the well-known Christmas Carol, the 12 Days of Christmas but we soon realised that Partridges, Pear Trees, Calling Birds, and French Hens are not particularly appropriate to the Nativity Story! Very quickly 'On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...' became 'On the birthday of Jesus it's POP Nativity' and the congregation soon realised that they would be required to take part. Before they knew what was happening, they were playing instruments to make a POP sound, making hearts with their fingers and some were even brave enough to join the young people by becoming Soldiers, Innkeepers, Wise People, Shepherds, and Angels to make up the tableau, all kitted out by our prop master Harris. We came to realise that it wasn't a particularly Silent Night and the congregation were encouraged by our donkey and camel to create the noises to finish our story and song. The nativity service was an intergenerational service, participated in by all.

I'd like to express my sincere thanks to everyone who got involved including the choir and Lesley for their beautiful singing and to Rhona for keeping us all singing in tune!

## Property

Although it may seem our property team have been quieter over recent months, it has been anything but! We have been reviewing the Quinquennial Report which is a five yearly inspection of our building. It highlights areas of work required and gives us the opportunity to create an action plan to be able to rectify and improve our building, obviously funding permitting!

Most of the report highlights areas which we already have on our radar and are within our short – medium term plans. These include a fire alarm & emergency lighting system and an accessibility review which are in our plans for this year.

As always, we are looking for volunteers to carry out small jobs within our buildings of various skillsets, so if you think you can help with something, maybe just a bit of painting, a bit of maintenance, or even a bit of gardening please get in touch with me. We are looking for a team to assist clearing the manse garden and cutting down trees, again if you can help we ask that you get in touch.

*Andrew*

Andrew Scott



2nd Renfrew Brownies are back for the New Year after having a fantastic start to the Brownie term. We ended last term with a Christmas craft night followed by watching the Paisley Players Christmas Show. We did our "Skills for My Future" theme Award and we are moving on to our "Express Myself" theme Award this term. We have celebrated Chinese New Year and will also be making pancakes for shrove Tuesday, looking forward

to craft nights, games and badgework. We will also be preparing to go on Pack Holiday in summer term! New members are still welcome to join. Our big fundraiser for this is a Race Night at Renfrew Golf Club on Saturday 8th March 2025. Tickets with a horse are £6. Please get in contact with one of the guiders on a Tuesday night or via [2ndrenfrewbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:2ndrenfrewbrownies@gmail.com) if you are interested in buying tickets, donating raffle prizes, or further supporting this fundraiser.

Thank you,

*Valerie*

Brown Owl,  
Valerie Wallace

## Messy Church



Our second Messy Church took place on Saturday 16th November. Around 30 people attended, although not the same 30 that came along in the Summer, giving us about 50 different people who have attended in total. Looking around the room it was clear to see that everyone was enjoying themselves. The adults learnt how to make cards from Lily, while the children were engrossed in the Christingles. Other activities included Advent Calendars, Advent Countdowns, Edible Advent Candles, Advent Wreaths and much more. After the crafts and activities, we gathered together for the Celebration where the focus was on God's Eternal Light. It was then time to eat and this time we had soup, hotdogs, crumbles, and sticky toffee pudding!! Thanks, must again go to all the volunteers

who came along to help in any way they could.

Next Messy Church event will take place on Saturday 12th April from 3.30pm till 5.30pm. The theme will be around Palm Sunday and Easter with dinner taking the form of afternoon tea. If anyone is able to help with donations of cakes, scones, sausage rolls, etc. these would be gratefully received. If anyone would like any more information or is able to help with any of the activities involved in Messy Church, please can you contact Sheryll Pickering

[sheryll.pickering@renfrewnorth.org.uk](mailto:sheryll.pickering@renfrewnorth.org.uk)

*Sheryll*

Sheryll

## Deaths

Mrs Janette McNair  
Mrs Jeanette Osborne  
Mr James Kerr  
Mr Eric Smyth

## Baptism

Alexander Martin – 8 Dec 2024  
Kyle Parr – 8 December 2024

## Contacts

**Minister:** Rev Philip D Wallace, BSc(Hons), BTh, DTS.

T: 0141 570 3502 E: minister@renfrewnorth.org.uk

**Assistant Minister:** Adaeze Goziem-Ibonye

T: 0797 912 7791

E: Adaeze.Goziem-Ibonye@renfrewnorth.org.uk

**Session Clerk:** Jack Winch

T: 0141 889 0458 E: sessionclerk@renfrewnorth.org.uk

**Clerk to the Board:** Alison Gerrard

T: 0141 561 6540 E: clerktotheboard@renfrewnorth.org.uk

**Treasurer:** Scott Jeffrey

T: 07806 740 527 E: treasurer@renfrewnorth.org.uk

**Organist:** Rhona McNeil

T: 01505 323 779 E: organist@renfrewnorth.org.uk

**Property:** Andy Scott

T: 07900 583 853 E: property@renfrewnorth.org.uk

**Communications & Media:** Greig Mitchell

T: 07474 687 089 E: media@renfrewnorth.org.uk

**Church Office**

T: 0141 530 1308 (Option 1) E: office@renfrewnorth.org.uk



## Welcoming Rota

**Mar 2, Apr 13, May 25, Jul 6, Aug 17**

David Henderson, Lynn Ross,

Marion Weir

**Mar 9, Apr 20, Jun 1, Jul 13, Aug 24**

Elizabeth Bruce, Jim Bruce, Stewart Gilchrist

**Mar 16, Apr 27, Jun 8, Jul 20, Aug 31**

Gordon Ferguson, Marian Ferguson,

Sandra Kerr, Lesley McFarlane

**Mar 23, May 4, Jun 15, Jul 27, Sept 7**

Scott Mitchell, Mary Dempster,

Lesley Smith, Jack Winch

**Mar 30, May 11, Jun 22, Aug 3, Sep 14**

Rena Bradley, Alistair Corkindale,

Marion Wallace

**Apr 6, May 18, Jun 29, Aug 10, Sep 21**

Marion Henderson, Stuart Irving,

Sheila Love, Robert Parker



## Forget-Me-Not Café

The Forget-Me-Not Café is for anyone living with Dementia and their family, carer or friends. Presently, people attend from all over Renfrewshire. Alzheimer Scotland's Paisley branch supports the work of the Forget-Me-Not Café. There is no charge to attend the café and it is open all year, only closing over Christmas and New Year.

On Sunday 27th April, some of our Volunteers will be taking part in the Kilt



Walk to raise funds for the Café. If you would like to donate to this, look out for our 'Just Giving Page' on Facebook or donate personally to one of the Café volunteers.

We have a wide variety of Entertainers

who provide music, singing and dancing for those attending. (no requirement to dance, only if this is something you want to do!)

During March to May we have: Stevie B; Dougie Bruce B; Harry Stevenson; The Midgies; The Neilston Strings; Ukulele Band; Mama Fox; Garry, playing the Accordion; The Neilston strings; Mama Fox; Jimmy Blair; Christine and Alex; Mark Walton; Local Vocals; Pauline Vallance.

For more information see our Facebook Page: Forget-Me-Not Cafe@RenfrewNorth Parish Church or by email to:

[forgetmenot@renfrewnorth.org.uk](mailto:forgetmenot@renfrewnorth.org.uk)

## Renfrew North Parish Church

You are warmly invited to celebrate the

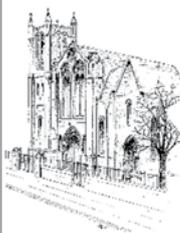
Sacrament of Holy Communion

on the

second Sunday in March

at

11.00 am



## Change of Address / Telephone No

Name: .....

New Address: .....

..... Postcode: .....

Tel No: .....

Email: .....

or speak to any office bearer

[rollkeeper@renfrewnorth.org.uk](mailto:rollkeeper@renfrewnorth.org.uk)

Articles for Summer 2025 Outreach should be sent to: [editor@renfrewnorth.org.uk](mailto:editor@renfrewnorth.org.uk) (or for those without access to a computer, please place articles in the 'Church Office post box', marked 'Outreach'), by 20 July 2025.