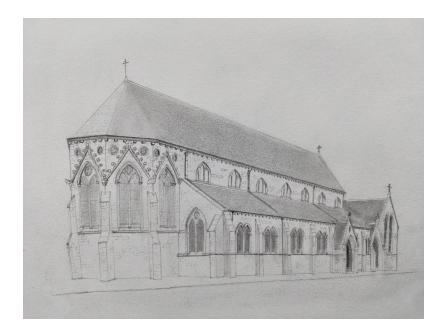
THE MAGAZINE OF SAINT NINIAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Corner of Albert Drive and Pollokshaws Road Glasgow)

www.stniniansglasgow.org.uk www.facebook.com/StNiniansPollokshields



September 2023

Service times

Sunday services

10.15am Sung Eucharist6-7pm Open Space

Weekday services

Thursday 10am Eucharist (1970)

Saints' days Eucharist as announced

Clergy and ministers

Rector: Rev. Verity Brown, 32 Glencairn Drive, Glasgow

G41 4PW, 07444 187525

E-mail: veritybrwn@gmail.com

Assistant priest: Rev Kenneth Roach,

Flat 1, 3 St John's Court, Pollokshields, Glasgow

G41 5ED 0141 4291064, 07774814052

Deacon: Mr Paul Whitton, Beinn Dorain, 25 Kirkton Road,

Fenwick KA3 6DJ 01560 601120 E-mail: pnandsmnow@gmail.com

Eucharistic Assistants:

Mrs Liz Booth 0141 639 5593 Mr Vivian Davey 0141 423 8929.

Front cover: drawing of St Ninian's by Alan Macquarrie. Sketching is a new hobby taken up during lockdown. Many thanks to Alan for allowing us to use the image!

Rector writes

One of the many activities on offer as part of the Govanhill International Festival this summer was a "Walking in Faith" guided walk. Since I am still finding my way around this part of Glasgow, I decided joining the tour would be the perfect way to explore and begin to grasp the rich religious history of the area. The tour guides were Dave Zabiega who works for the Govanhill Community Development trust and a local historian, Bruce Downie. The initial instruction for the tour was that we should aim to meet outside the building that was once the synagogue on Belleisle Street. It was only when a group of people started to gather outside the building which is now named "The Space" that I realised where I should be. It seems appropriate that the one-time synagogue is now housing a charity which helps some of the most impoverished families in Govanhill. The Space is an initiative of The Louise Project, a charity set up by the Daughters of Charity of Vincent de Paul in 2017. The main group of people supported are from the Roma migrant community, but anyone is welcome to seek support there, regardless of ethnicity or religious belief.

From "The Space", the tour took us to the church next door – Govanhill Free Church. The first service was held there on 5 June 1910 on the completion of the building which had cost £2360! For many years the congregation was mainly a mix of people from the Highlands and Lowlands of Scotland, but in the 1990s, the decision was taken to engage more with the large Asian population in the area. English classes as well as services in Urdu were offered. Then, in 2011, a drop-in was started for the Roma people. Since 2012 there has been a weekly service in the Slovak language and a part-time Slovak speaking worker employed by the church. Imagine the amazement of those who built the church if they could see who worships there now!

From the deliberately unadorned interior of the Free Church, we travelled over the road to the breath-taking splendour of Holy Cross RC Church which was opened a year later in November 1911. In order to guarantee a seat at the opening high mass, tickets were sold at 5 and 10 shillings a piece! By 1936, the congregation was around 6,000 with five Sunday masses and three through the week. If you have never visited

Holy Cross Church, I would suggest you do so – the stained glass is breathtaking. The church community there is very active, working with the local catholic primary schools, running a Youth Club as well as an Old People's Club!

Our next stop was at the other end of Dixon Avenue - the Al-Farooq Mosque, based in the building that was originally Hutchesontown Free Church. Our group was warmly greeted and given a very comprehensive tour of the building by one of the leaders. Interestingly, they have kept the original pulpit and use it during their worship. Apart from the pulpit, there is little ornamentation in the building, their reasoning being similar to that of the Free Church: any decoration distracts from prayer and worship. As well as being a place of worship, the building is also a community centre and a place of learning. They run a foodbank, a Mothers' and Toddlers' Group and produce meals for the elderly. In fact, their community work is growing so much, that they are currently renovating Govanhill Trinity Church building for extra space. Our mosque guide expressed to us how important it is to them that places of worship should be maintained as places where worship continues, albeit in a different form; they value the spiritual history of the buildings and try to preserve any significant architectural features.

At this point, I left the group, due to another appointment. They were continuing on the tour to visit the Gurdwara, which I had already had the opportunity to visit in June. On that occasion I had been made very welcome during their Sunday worship, and been treated to a feast! Before I left the group, I did happen to mention to the tour leaders, that if they wanted to extend the tour in the future, I could recommend including a visit to a stunning episcopal church that would fit into their route beautifully!

"Walking in Faith" gave me a lot of food for thought, including some questions for our own church family. The commitment of each faith community to serve the local people in a variety of ways was very impressive. Could we, at St Ninian's, find our own particular way to reach out more, in loving service? Secondly, the sincerity of the welcome the tour group received at each place was remarkable. How could we extend hospitality to people of other faiths and none as well as to those

of other Christian denominations? Could we, perhaps, create our own "open days" at various times throughout the year, extending an invitation to other faith communities to come inside, discover our treasures and join us in conversation and refreshments?

The tour left me with a feeling of hope for our corner of Glasgow. I had met so many faith-full people, their service to the community born out of their love for God. What would happen, I wondered, if we encouraged and supported each other; respecting differences and honouring each other's traditions? What a beautiful world that would be.

Verity

September mindings

1	Lilian Ramage	14	Mary Catherine Marr
2	Grant Lacerte	15	Phil King
3	Elsie Corney		Elspeth Cormie
4	James Cleland, priest	17	Violet Low
5	Francis Moncrieff, bishop		Mary Alice McMillan
6	Dorothy Wason		Ivy De Laet
8	Mary Watt	21	Chris Turner Smith
	Myra Scott	26	Margaret Gilchrist
	Phyllis Black	27	Peter Swinbank
	Ewan Latona	29	Helen Godley W
11	Edith Turner Smith		Marjory Montgomery
13	Norman Hackwood	30	Charles Moule, priest
	Elsie Hackwood		

Prayer requests

For those with cancer, some having treatment – Nancy Bain, Ada Cambridge, John Haig,



Trevor Hauxwell, Michael Kelman, Neil Lockyer, Isabel McCrorie, John Miller, Joanna Southgate, John

Walker. For those having tests and treatment – Hayley Dickson, Nicola Gordon, Norah Mall, Roger Southgate, Agneta Finlay. For others requesting prayer – Kirsten Buchanan, Carol Campbell, Dagmara and Jayson, Mary Ellis and Jacquie, Billy Leggate, Elliot and Callie Stainsby, Gladys Wren, Alice Wright, Jill Brown, Fiona Paton, Maire Rodgers, Graham and Val Vahey, Mark Valente, Pauline Ward and Sandra Whitton.

Margaret E. Anderson

R.A.T.S.

We are starting rehearsals for this year's pantomime, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, on Monday 28th. August. We would welcome new members particularly anyone interested in backstage. If you are interested in joining us please speak to me at church or phone me on 0141 616 2391.

Joyce Maxwell

Magazine donations

Thank you for your donations to the magazine: Mr & Mrs Anon, Mr G & Mrs V Vahey and Mr J McLean Much appreciated.

JS

MU Christmas catalogues

I understand this is early! However ... I have the Mothers' Union Christmas catalogues and wish to give people the opportunity to take a look so that I can order those cards that folk like before they are sold out. There is quite a good selection and the larger dioceses down south have already put in large pre orders. I do not want to order a vast number of cards and hope that I guessed correctly only to find that I got it wrong! The cards are good quality and very reasonably priced so I hope you will take a look at a catalogue and help to support vulnerable people around the world.

Lesley Lucas

World Childless Week

World Childless Week takes place 11-17 September. See worldchildlessweek.net for events and articles, or look on social media.

IS

DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

*** indicates use of incense

2 Sat 10am Service of Healing and Wholeness

3 Sun Pentecost 14

10.15am Sung Eucharist 1970 Liturgy

6-7pm Open Space

7 Thu 10am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy

9 Sat 10-12 Coffee Morning

10 Sun Pentecost 15

10.30am Joint Regional Service at **St Margaret's**, followed by lunch: **no service at St Ninian's**

6-7pm Open Space

14 Thu 10am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy

16-17 Open Door Weekend

17 Sun Patronal Festival

10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy***

3pm Teddy Bears' Picnic

6-7pm Open Space

21 Thu 10am Eucharist

24 Sun Pentecost 17

10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy

6-7pm Open Space

Evelyn McQueen (1936-2023)

Psalm 139.17-18: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them. I try to count them – they are more than the sand; I come to the end – I am still with you.

I first encountered Evelyn near the beginning of my time as Rector of this church, twenty-four years ago. Her mother had just died and soon afterwards Evelyn was diagnosed with a rare and life-threatening cancer. She immediately – this was in 2001 – set about organising her own funeral and today's service is substantially the result of her planning. That she came to terms with that serious diagnosis and was able to talk quite openly about her mortality with the clergy, and that she then lived another 20 years is perhaps a lesson for us all from her life, namely that making some sort of peace with our mortality can be liberating.



When I ceased to be the priest at this church to become Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway in 2010, I had little or no contact with Evelyn before her death last month. The present Rector who came in October 2022 ministered to her along with Mr Vivian Davey, a faithful member of this church and very good friend to Evelyn. So, I hope that those of you here who knew her far better than I ever did will bear with anything I presume to say about her and forgive anything that may not sound quite right to you.

She impressed me as a courageous and determined person with very decided views about things that mattered to her. She could therefore be challenging to be with as for example when we argued about the ordination of women to the priesthood, a development of which, unlike me, she strongly disapproved. She lived all her life in Gorbals, (not, she insisted, the Gorbals) a community of which she was hugely proud and felt was routinely misrepresented by people she thought of as left-wing intellectuals. She loved especially the music of Schubert – very generously, she gave a CD collection of his music to Paul Watson when he left St Ninian's to take up a church post in Sri Lanka, she loved wolves and she loved being methodical and highly organised. She was well-

read. In other words, she was a passionate person and I guess that her life was marked by many unfulfilled passions. She loved much; how much love she ever received, I do not know.

One thing I do know – and why I chose the scripture readings I chose – is that God knew her and loved her with an everlasting love as He loves all of us whether we know it or not. Evelyn knew it – her choice of hymns shows that, she wrote that one of her interests was contemplation and she came faithfully to Holy Communion in this church – so, I trust that, to paraphrase the psalmist somewhat freely, having come to the end of her earthly life she found God still with her and that beyond the grave and gate of death she now enjoys a wonderful fullness of life and love to suit her passionate nature.

+Gregor

Bishop Gregor adds:

Out of respect for my successor, it has always been my practice not to take funerals for members of churches where I have been Rector, but here I am doing that very thing for Evelyn McQueen. So, I think some explanation is required. First of all, it happens that in 2001 when I was Rector of this church I agreed to be Evelyn's executor – at that time she had received a terminal cancer diagnosis. I knew in 2003 that she wished only a male cleric to conduct her funeral. At that time this did not seem to me problematic.

However, in 2011, by which time I had left St Ninian's to become Bishop, she made known her wish to the then Rector that her funeral be conducted by three male clerics whom she knew – myself, Eamonn Rogers and Paul Watson, both of whom were my curates here. As Evelyn's executor I think I am obliged to respect her wishes and, with the very gracious consent of the present Rector of this church, who is *not* a male cleric, and who ministered very faithfully to Evelyn as she was dying, I am conducting this service in which she and Eamonn Rodgers will participate. Evelyn has chosen the hymns and the prayers. Paul Watson, sadly, cannot be present.

Photo: Susan Walker

Christian Solidarity Worldwide

For the week 27/8 to 2/9, we are asked to pray for the missing, especially for those suffering 'Enforced Disappearance' in China. Sometimes these are in secret jails. It is thought that between 40,000 and 50,000 have been held in such places since 2021. Three names of key figures are Gao Zhisheng, a human rights lawyer, missing for six years, also a human rights lawyer Tang Jitian, released after over a year in such a place and forbidden to speak about it, and Gulshan Abbas, a retired Uyghur doctor, who disappeared in 2018 for two years before her family were told she was serving 20 years on unfounded terrorism charges. This seems to be based on her sister's advocacy for human rights in the US.

3/9 to 9/9 prayers are asked for Afghan refugees who have lost all. Religious and ethnic minorities still in Afghanistan are in great dangers from the Taliban, girls and women are especially at risk.

10/9-16/9, please pray for Myanmar/Burma, for the Christians suffering injustice and violence, for the Rohingya having had five years of pain, trauma, grief and displacement. The military are destroying the civilian infrastructure – schools, hospitals and places of worship. Rev Dr Hkalam Samson, a prominent Christian leader and human rights activist was sentenced to 6 years in prison in April. 15th September is the International Day of Democracy. Pray for a return to democracy in Myanmar/Burma.

17/9-23/9 is a week to pray for peace – in Sudan, Manipur state in India, Nigeria, Colombia, for North Korean refugees. 21/9 is the International Day of Peace.

24/9-30/9 is the week to pray for Eritrea and the horrors facing that land since democracy died some years ago. Pastor Tesfay Seyoum served ten years in prison for his Evangelical beliefs and died of a brain tumour in April while a prisoner. The traditional burial place was denied to him and his burial was delayed and then took place elsewhere. This added to the grief for his wife and daughter.

Please look on the CSW website for further details and always be grateful for the freedom of worship we have.

Margaret E. Anderson

Orkney churches

A friend gave me a book about Orkney churches and their history from the coming of Christianity to these islands centuries ago. I have written about some Orkney churches before but I hope this is new. The nearest church building to us is on one of the oldest sites. It is St Peter's Sandwick, on the shore on the opposite side of the Bay of Skaill from Skara Brae. Skaill is the name of a Norse Viking lord's hall and there are several such sites around the islands with churches nearby. In fact, some years ago we visited a dig near St Peter's which uncovered the largest longhouse found outside Scandinavia. St Peter's now comes under the Churches' Trust looking after redundant ones. It is sometimes used still for weddings and even glampings. The graveyard is still in use. There were several churches on this site from the Middle Ages on, till the move was made inland to the hamlet of Quoyloo. When we first started coming here the parish had just been joined with Harray and Birsay but the three churches were used in rotation, St Michael's in Harray, and Twatt in Birsay being the other two. About a dozen years ago the three churches were gradually sold off and a new building was opened in Dounby village, the Milestone Community Church. We started going to the three churches when we first came here and had always to contact someone who could tell us which church was on the rotation for that week. Now it is much easier. It will not surprise you that Rory does lots of washing-up after the services there as he does in St Ninian's and we have been known to help out at baking stalls at special events here - though the cottage doesn't come equipped with baking tins! Twatt church had the distinction that the colour scheme had been designed by Stanley Cursiter, Queen's Limner for Scotland. A couple of the churches had balconies which we liked to use. As at St Ninian's we have been very lucky in the clergy who have served there in the last 23 years, and they got a new couple as joint clerics at about the time Verity came to us and they seem to be very good at throwing themselves into their new roles too.

Margaret E. Anderson

Summer holiday children's club

Over the school summer holidays, St Ninian's ran a children's club on Friday mornings for primary aged children. Each session was based on one of Jesus' parables with crafts and activities to suit each theme. I was



delighted to have so many volunteers to help out, including Cathy Wilkie-Thompson from Pollokshields Parish Church and as the weeks went by, we attracted more families and children.

We are planning to have future activity sessions for families, tying in with the church year. The next one will be a Teddy Bear's Picnic to celebrate our Patronal Festival on Sunday 17 September in the afternoon.

Verity (words and photo)

Willow and Isla

The Vestry day away

Being a member of the Vestry can involve a lot of meetings, discussion and difficult decisions, so as an antidote to all that work, I promised Vestry members that I would organise a fun day away in the summer. So it was that we gathered at St Columba's Episcopal church in Largs one Saturday morning, ready to enjoy a day out together. We began with

Morning Prayer, celebrating St Oswald's day in the beautiful setting of St Columba's church, and afterwards were treated to refreshments in the church hall. This was followed by a prayer activity using the labyrinth, set in the grounds of the church. Walking the labyrinth, following its winding paths, helped us to reflect on our own spiritual journey; as we meandered, we reflected on certain questions such as "when do you feel closest to God?" and "have you ever felt



that God is absent?" As we journeyed into the middle of the labyrinth, we each carried a candle – a reminder that God's light is always present, even in the darkest of days.

Lunch was enjoyed at Nardini's before we boarded the ferry to Great Cumbrae. Once there, a quick bus ride took us into Millport and a five-minute walk found us safely into the Cathedral of the Isles, just as the heavens opened.

During the day, we prayed using some of David Adam's prayers, and as the rain came down, the prayer we said in the cathedral seemed very apt:

Lord, let not the clouds hide your Glory. Glory at the heart of Creation, Glory at the centre of the Universe, Glory in the deepest depths of matter, Glory in each of the elements, Glory in each strand of the web of life, Glory in each connection, though it be As thin as gossamer thread, Or thick as rope of iron. Glory in the very depth of our being. Lord, let not the clouds hide your Glory. You are there waiting to be revealed. Glory in each object and creature, Glory in each life and every encounter, Glory in our past, and waiting in our future. Make us sensitive to your Presence and your call.

Lord, let not the clouds hide your Glory.

LOS BOOK

Following prayers and a time of reflection in the cathedral, we made our way to the Garrison House Café nearby, before catching the bus again, just in time to board the ferry back to Largs. Before we all set off back to Glasgow, we said Evening Prayer together in St Columba's church, thanking God for all He had blessed us with during the day.

Verity (words and photos)

Seth and Bessie Sykes

From the 1870s, a growing number of independent Christian missions were established in Glasgow. These ranged from simple and sometimes delipidated wooden halls to imposing structures such as the Tent Hall, erected in 1876 near Glasgow Green by the United Glasgow Evangelical Association. Two of the most well-known



Glasgow missionaries who filled these halls on a regular basis, were a husband -and-wife team – Seth and Bessie Sykes. The St Mungo Museum and Religious Life and Art displays two objects intimately connected with their story: a portable organ and a lantern slide box.

Seth Sykes was a Glasgow Corporation tramcar conductor, who, along with his wife Bessie, began preaching in the streets of Springburn, in the north of city during the harsh days of the 1926 General Strike. Their work, which began in the Railway Mission in Vulcan Street, was initially aimed at children. The

Syke's entertained and preached with great enthusiasm, especially at popular open-air street missions. Interactive Gospel choruses were a particularly effective part of their charism and became a missionary hallmark. Many choruses, written and composed by Bessie herself and played on this organ, are still sung and loved all over the world today, including 'Wide, Wide as the Ocean' and 'Running Over'.

Due to growing demand from all over the United Kingdom for their preaching, Seth Sykes gave up his job and they both became full-time travelling evangelists. The organ on display in the Scottish Gallery of the museum was presented by the people of Springburn to Bessie Sykes in 1927 in recognition of their work during General Strike. The painted wooden lantern slide box is decorated with a quote from Paul's Letter to the Roman Chapter 6: Verse 23: 'The wages of sin is

death. But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord'.
Lantern slides were used to illustrate bible stories and share conversion testimonies and examples of good Christian living. The Sykes also shared their own story in a lantern slide series called 'From tramcar to gospel platform'. The Sykes' missionary work was strongly influenced by the temperance movement which advocated 'a declaration and promise of Total Abstinence from all types of alcoholic liquor'.



Seth Sykes died in 1952. However, Bessie continued with her ministry well into the 1970s, singing and

playing the organ she treasured for over 50 years until her own death in 1982.

And if don't know the words of 'Running Over', here they are.

...Perhaps you remember the actions that accompany the chorus?!

Running over, running over My cup's full and running over, Since the Lord saved me I am as happy as can be, My cup's full and running over.

Harry Dunlop

Images © CSG CIC Glasgow Museums Collection and used here with permission.

DUTY ROTAS

Date	3 September Pentecost 14	10 September Pentecost 15	17 September Patronal Festival
Readers	M Anderson	Joint regional service, 10.30 am, at St Margaret's – no service at St Ninian's	R Anwar
Readings	Jeremiah 15.15-		Jeremiah 1.4-9
	21		Ps 67
	Ps 26.1-8		tbc
	Romans 12.9-21		tbc
	Mt 16.21-28		
Servers			
(r)	J Whannel		I Nairn
(1)	P Whitton		P Whitton
(th)	_ ,,,,		J Whannel
Intercessions	P Whitton		I Nairn
Coffee	A Forrest		A Marr
	T Baylis		Y Grieve

NOTES

If you cannot do a particular Sunday, please try to arrange a substitute.

Servers are responsible for setting up and clearing the Altar

DUTY ROTAS

Date	24 September Pentecost 17	1 October Michaelmas
Readers	V Davey	D Pritchard
•	Jonah 3.10-4.11 Ps 145.1-8 Phil 1.21-30 Mt 20.1-16 T Baylis	Genesis 28.10-17 Ps 103.19-22 Rev 12.7-12 John 1.47-51 T Baylis P Whitton
(th	n)	I Nairn
Intercessions Rector		J Whannel
Coffee	C Shearer J Maxwell J McLean	A Forrest T Baylis



Lay Officers

Lay Representative	Thomas Baylis	423 0824
Alternate Lay Rep	Vivian Davey	423 8929
Regional Council Rep	Joyce Maxwell	616 2391
Rector's Warden	Liz Booth	639 5593
People's Warden	Angela Forrest	639 7779
Vestry Secretary	Irene Nairn	639 2973
Vestry Treasurer	Vivian Davey	423 8929
PVG Officer	Thomas Baylis	423 0824
Property Convener	Vacant	

The Vestry

The Rector, Liz Booth, Irene Nairn, Vivian Davey, Angela Forrest, Thomas Baylis, Rosemary Anwar 637 8324, Eileen Graham 569 5090, Lesley Lucas 423 1989, Joyce Maxwell, David Pritchard 632 2425, Christine Shearer 639 6981, Yvonne Grieve 01560 600377

For your information...

If you or anyone you know is ill and unable to attend church, please let either the Rector or one of the Pastoral Assistants know. As well as praying for you, we would we more than willing to visit and offer you the option of receiving communion at home or in hospital.

If you have not been baptised or confirmed and would like to consider making this step in your Christian journey, please contact the Rector who would be delighted to talk things through with you.

If you have been coming to St Ninian's regularly for the last six months and would like to be added to the congregational roll, please see the Church Secretary, Irene Nairn. If you are able to give a regular donation towards church funds, we would be very grateful. For more information about how to donate, please see the Church Treasurer, Vivian Davey.

If you would like to write an article for the magazine, or provide photos or any other information that may be of interest to church members, please email Isabel Stainsby: isabelstainsby@googlemail.com

If you would like your copy of the magazine sent to you by email, please contact the Church Secretary Irene Nairn: irene.nairn@sky.com

Any donations towards the cost of producing and distributing the magazine are gratefully received.



Life at St Ninian's All phone numbers have the code 0141 unless otherwise indicated

Organisation	Contact	Phone
Bible Reading Fellowship	Rosemary Anwar	637 8324
Choir	David Spottiswoode	01560 600867
Christian Aid	Rosemary Anwar	637 8324
Coffee Convenor	Yvonne Grieve	01560 600377
Flower Guild	Sandra Whitton	01560 601120
Hall Convenor	Irene Nairn	639 2973
Library	David Pritchard, Isabel Stainsby	632 2425
Magazine	The Rector (Editor)	07444 187525
	Joyce Sinclair (Sec & Treasurer)	637 3870
	Isabel Stainsby (Copy Editor)	632 2425
Mothers' Union	Lesley Lucas (Branch Leader)	423 1989
Paperback Book	Rosemary Anwar	637 8324
Club		
Pew Sheet	Valerie Rodgers	583 6949
Pollokshields	Lesley Lucas	423 1989
Churches Together	Vivian Davey	423 8929
Prayer List	Margaret Anderson	637 2791
Recorder	Catriona Graham	07414905449
Sacristy Guild	Christine Shearer	639 6981
Sanctuary Guild	Sandra Whitton	01560 601120
Servers' Guild	Paul Whitton	01560 601120
Traidcraft	Catherine Cumming	423 8895
Web Page	Thomas Baylis	423 0824

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