

**THE MAGAZINE OF
SAINT NINIAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
(Corner of Albert Drive and Pollokshaws Road Glasgow)

<https://pollokshields.church.scot/>
www.facebook.com/StNiniansPollokshields



September 2025

Service times

Sunday services

10.15am Sung Eucharist

Weekday services

Thursday **10.30am** Eucharist (1970)
 6-7pm Quiet Space

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: p.n.whitton25@gmail.com

Eucharistic Assistants:

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

Cover photo: Bishop Nick's pectoral cross, an exact replica of the cross found in the Galloway Hoard. Photo: David Pritchard.

Rector writes

This month we celebrate our Patronal Festival on Sunday 14 September when we will welcome the Rev'd Canon Bob King as our guest preacher along with his wife Pat. Some of you will remember Bob from years gone by when he attended St Ninian's church as a youngster and served at the altar. He will be retiring as Rector of St Andrew's church Kelso in April next year.

Ever since I arrived at St Ninian's, I have struggled to hold a mental image of our patron saint – history does not offer us much in the way of facts and solid dates. However, over the summer, I was determined to

see if I could find my way closer to St Ninian by following in his footsteps. Andrew and I drove our camper van down to the Whithorn Peninsular where we set up camp in Garlieston. From there we visited the Isle of Whithorn, which is a beautiful spot, a "thin" place, where heaven seems to touch earth. I found it easy to imagine Ninian there – praying and preaching to the locals, attempting to make himself heard over the sound of the gulls. The next day we visited Whithorn itself, where historians believe Ninian built his church – the first church north of Hadrian's wall – the Candida Casa, around 397AD.



This was the centre of the Christian community that Ninian established on his return from Rome, where he had been consecrated as a bishop. It was from Whithorn that Ninian and his companions set out on their missions.

There is nothing to see of the Candida Casa now. A Priory was built in

the locality around 1100AD and, during the Middle Ages, pilgrims flocked to visit St Ninian's shrine, situated in the Priory's crypt. When I asked the guide what had happened to St Ninian's body, she replied that nobody knows. Her own thoughts were that his body might have been taken and buried at Kirkmadrine, where another monastery had been established. This was thought to be a place where St Ninian might have visited on retreat.

While we were in the vicinity, we decided to visit St Ninian's cave, a couple of miles from Whithorn. Another place where, legend has it, Ninian sought solitude and time to pray. Unfortunately, part of the entrance to the cave has collapsed recently and there are danger signs warning people to keep clear. But standing on the pebbly shore, looking out to sea, I could get a sense of the trials St Ninian might have faced and the necessity for somewhere he could reconnect with God, away from the demands of community life, sustained by the naked beauty of creation.

The following day we made the trip to Kirkmadrine, 17 miles south of Stranraer. The present chapel was built at the end of the 19th century and is set in a hollow surrounded by gentle hills. The church was locked, but eight ancient stones – including three of the oldest Christian memorials in Scotland dating from the 500s AD – are displayed in a glass fronted porch. It was a wonderfully secluded spot. But the question remains – is St Ninian buried there? No one knows.

Even though much mystery surrounds St Ninian's life and death, his legacy lives on in the number of churches dedicated to him and in their ongoing mission and ministry. My trip south produced the required result – I came home feeling that I had a better sense of who St Ninian was and the enormity of the challenges he faced and overcame to spread the Gospel. If you would like to read a fictional account of the traditional story of the life of St Ninian, I can recommend Donna Brewster's "My Ninian", published in 2006 by GC Books Ltd. Although it is fictional, it is based on all that was written about Ninian both in the 8th and 12th centuries, as well as on the oral traditions that persist in the many places that commemorate him.

Verity
Kirkmadrine Chapel, photo: Verity

DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

*** indicates use of incense

- 3 Wed 7pm Regional Council meeting, St Oswald's
- 4 Thu 10.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
6-7pm Quiet Space
- 6 Sat 1pm Scottish Guild of Servers Festival Eucharist at Holy Trinity Paisley
- 7 Sun *Creation 1*
10.30am Joint Regional Service at St Margaret's Newlands, with Bishop Nick preaching and presiding, followed by shared lunch
- 11 Thu 10.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
6-7pm Quiet Space
- 13 Sat 10am Service of Healing and Wholeness
12.00 noon Diamond Jubilee Mass at St Albert's RC
- 14 Sun *Patronal Festival****
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy, with guest preacher Canon Bob King
- 18 Thu 10.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
6-7pm Quiet Space
- 19 Fri 11am Service at Oakview Manor Care Home
2pm Mothers' Union at the Rectory
- 20 Sat –
21 Sun Doors Open weekend
- 21 Sun *Creation 3*
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy
- 25 Thu 10.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
6-7pm Quiet Space
- 28 Sun *Creation 4*
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy

September mindings

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



Remembering the departed

A couple of months ago I asked for your comments on the inclusion of the names of the departed in the magazine. As time has gone by, the list of names has grown longer and longer. It therefore seems sensible to remove names that have been on the list for over 20 years. This does not mean that they are forgotten – far from it! Those faithful who have gone before us are part of the Church Triumphant and they continue to support us with their prayers from the heavenly realms.

Verity

Prayer requests

For those, with cancer: Rosemary Anwar; Kirsten Buchanan; Jim Hastie; Trevor Hauxwell; Louise McCombie; Neil Lockyer; Joanna Southgate; Shirley Whincop;



Bishop Gregor; Rev Kenneth Macaulay. For those, suffering from injuries: David Webb; Billy Leggate; Javid

Nouri. For those, having or recovering from tests or treatment: Catherine Clark; Christine Campbell; Rosie Hastie; Robin Morris; Jack Laurie. For others for whom prayer has been requested: Leo Buchanan; Carol Campbell; Pat Lowe; Fiona Paton; June Roach; Maire Rodgers; Roger Southgate; Val Vahey; Lesley Lucas; Birgitta and Krister Lundin; Norah Mall; Iveta, Aman and family; Megan Buchanan. For the bereaved: the Baylis family; the Anderson family and the Reichel family.

Margaret E. Anderson

St Ninian's website

St Ninian's website has a new look! Please check it out and let me know what you think. The new web address is <https://pollokshields.church.scot>

Verity

Volunteers required

At the last vestry meeting it was

decided to draw up a list of people who can be called upon to help set up and clear up for various events – for example, our afternoon fayres, ceilidh and other fundraising events. If you would like to be on the list, then let me know with your email address/ telephone number.

Irene Nairn

Wedding

Congratulations to Harry and Lauren who were married in St Ninian's on 12 July 2025. We wish Mr and Mrs Morgan every happiness for the future.

Christine Shearer



World Childless Week

World Childless Week takes place 15-21 September. Check out www.worldchildlessweek.net or social media for more information.

IS

Nancy Bain
22 November 1944—16 July 2025

It's only over the last couple of years or so that I have got to know Nancy and I realise now that I never actually visited her in her own home, because since I've known Nancy, she has always been on the move, in and



out of hospital and in and out of care homes. Her final years were difficult and unsettling for her, and yet whenever I visited, Nancy never complained about her physical ailments and was generally very grateful for the care she received. Visits to Nancy were always very entertaining and she would tell me all sorts of things – from these conversations I gleaned quite a lot.

She would often talk about her life growing up in Glasgow with her sister Barbara and her parents. Her father was

an engineer who also at one point worked in the planning department and her mother supplemented the family income by working as a tailor. Both Nancy and Barbara benefited from well-made home-made clothes and when Nancy was teaching, it was her mother who rustled up the costumes for the school productions. Their mother was also gifted at embroidery and Barbara tells me her designs were often picked up by top fashion houses in London.

Family life for Nancy started off in Megan Street in Bridgeton Cross before they moved to Herriet Street in Pollokshields. As Barbara married Jim and began her own family with the arrival of Stephen and Brian, Nancy focussed on her teaching career and was content to live with her mother right up until her mother's death. They were very close and shared many of the same hobbies and interests.

Nancy did confide in me that the closest she came to marriage was when the Rev'd David Hunter, the priest at Dennistoun, proposed to her, but in the same breath she added that she would have made a terrible rector's

wife as she was much too irreverent and anyway there was no way she would have willingly given up her teaching career.

Nancy was a born teacher. Barbara tells me that on Nancy's first day at school as a small child, she was so taken with it that, when she came home, she declared that she was never going to leave school! Nancy taught in Bridgeton and in Gorbals – she loved the challenge of teaching in those areas and had a real affection for the families who were connected with those schools – the theory that she adhered to was that every child and adult has the ability to learn – the challenge is fitting the teaching style to the individual's needs.

Nancy would often take the time to do extra classes for pupils who were struggling, and even offered classes to parents who were keen to better their skills. Nancy immersed herself in school life and had a natural authority which meant she rarely had to enforce discipline through corporal punishment. Her 40 years of teaching meant that, in her later years, she would often be accosted in the street by past pupils who would recognise her and say, "didn't you used to be Mrs Bain?" Once a teacher, always a teacher; Nancy would reply, "I still am and it's *Miss* Bain".

Church was a constant factor in Nancy's life – when she wasn't busy with school, she was kept busy at church, running the Sunday School, assisting her mother with the flower arranging and helping out with Mothers' Union events. She also got involved in running holiday camps for children during the summer.

Church on Sunday mornings was generally followed by the arrival of Barbara, Jim and boys for Sunday lunch which was served on their prized Beau dinner service and always included a special pudding. Brian remembers regularly staying with Nancy and her mother in Herriet Street for a week at a time during the summer holidays and getting roped into church life and running endless errands. Life was always busy there with something on the go.



Nancy loved being out and about – trips to the cinema and theatre were a regular feature of her life, mystery trips with friends to far-flung places were popular, drives with Marilyn, bingo at the Quay and even the odd flutter at the casino kept her entertained.

She loved going on holiday and for years headed off with her good friend Margaret Gallagher to explore life abroad. One particularly memorable holiday was when she joined Barbara and Jim on a cruise to the Caribbean. The only continent she didn't manage to visit was South America. She had a particular interest in Egypt, which she did visit, and she went on to study Egyptology and hieroglyphics as a mature student.

Nancy was a life-long learner – always ready to pick up new knowledge and skills. She was a member of the Shakespeare Society and a writing group for many years. She was an avid reader, knitted countless woolly hats for premature babies, and loved growing flowers for her veranda, as she insisted on calling their balcony.

On top of all that she took over volunteering at a charity shop on Albert Road when it became too much for her mother – the shop was owned by the charity Enable Scotland, which is still going and supports people with learning disabilities. Nancy volunteered to sort out the finances as well as helping out more generally.

As her health failed, Nancy's excursions were more limited, but never one to sit about, she bought a car and persuaded her friend Tommy to chauffeur her around. This meant that for a long time she was able to meet up with friends and socialise at coffee mornings and other events. We were able to celebrate Nancy's 80th birthday last year in the church hall with a cake, when she attended a ceilidh with her good friend Iain; and it was wonderful to see Nancy at the Summer Fayre a couple of months



ago when she got the opportunity to catch up with church friends and spend a quiet time in church.

I was able to give Nancy communion during her last weeks in Oakview Care Home and anoint her before she died. Nancy didn't talk much about her faith, but it was implicit in everything she did and showed itself in numerous practical ways.

She approached people and life in general with a down-to-earth, no-nonsense attitude along with a dry wit which often made me laugh. She told me numerous times that she had had a good life and to be honest, there can't be many people who made more of their time here on earth than Nancy.

Verity

Photos of Nancy: 1 Nancy's family; 2: Susan Walker; funeral flowers: Verity

A thank you from Margaret and Rory

By the time this is published Rory's memorial service will have taken place, where I hope to pay tribute to the many people who have supported us over the past months. The medical teams have been wonderful, but so also has the spiritual support we have had. So many of you have prayed for us, asked after him, given me hugs to take to him and for me, given me copies of intercessions and sermons to take to him, to such an extent that I told him latterly that to list those who had not given me hugs or sent best wishes would take less time than those who had. Verity, sometimes with Liz, has brought communion, and nearly every Sunday I was given a consecrated wafer to take back to him so that he could do all the linked readings and service for himself. It brought him great comfort, as did the wooden cross she gave him, carved to fit the hand easily. Verity, on her day off, came to be with him at the end and that helped us all. We have much to be thankful for even at this sad time.

Margaret E. Anderson

Auction of talents

You may have heard that some churches auction off the produce that has been brought into church for harvest festivals to raise money, but have you ever heard of an auction of talents? This is when people are invited to offer up a talent which is then auctioned off to the highest bidder. So, for example, you might be fantastic at baking cakes. You offer to bake a cake and people bid for your offer. The person with the highest bid wins and you bake them a cake. The money is donated to church funds.

We will be holding an auction of talents following the service on 12 October in the hall to raise funds for church. Please think about what you could offer. I know that we have a church full of very talented and gifted people! Perhaps you are a talented knitter? Perhaps you could offer to do some gardening or take someone out for a trip in your car? Perhaps you could write them a poem or paint them a picture? If you can't come up with anything... you could play your part by bidding for someone else's talent. If you *are* willing to take part by offering a talent for auction, please let me know!

Verity

Christian Solidarity Worldwide

All through his illness Rory would say how lucky he was compared to world problems and those suffering in Gaza or for their faith.

Here is the list we are asked to pray for in September. Kenya has not been noted in CSW diaries before but they are suffering from a Somali terrorist group called Al Shabaab, with much violence, including against churches. In north Kenya churches are being discriminated against by Muslim groups, with attacks also against the police, but in other areas too, police pursued protesters who sought refuge in the Anglican cathedral and shots were fired. Many people have been 'disappeared', often by the security forces. In India Christians and Muslims are being persecuted by the nationalists. Several states in India have passed anti-conversion laws targeting any who seem to be trying to convert others.

Youth movements are being radicalised against non-Hindus, and press censorship hides the many incidents of violence. In Iran last year, 139 Christians were arrested and 96 given jail sentences totalling 263 years, which is twice that of the previous year. These are the official figures but many more are known to be suffering persecution. Many in North Korea are suffering. Two South Korean missionaries were accused of spying, sentenced to life imprisonment and have been incommunicado for over a decade. Two teenage boys were sentenced to 16 years hard labour for watching TV dramas made in South Korea. China continues illegally to return refugees from North Korea to that land. Many organisations working to help in such situations have had their grants from the US stopped. Our prayers as always are much needed. More details can be found on the CSW website.

Margaret E. Anderson

The Mothers' Union

Lesley Lucas has been keeping the MU flag flying for St Ninian's for a long time, as you will know, but we now have a small group who are keen to meet together on a monthly basis to pray and support MU initiatives. At the moment we are meeting at 2pm on Fridays. Despite its name, the Mothers' Union is an inclusive organisation and welcomes those who are neither mothers nor female. The MU is an international charity with over 4 million members, working in 83 countries. Its aim is to work to end poverty, inequality and injustice. Its members work at grassroots level around the world. They bring hope and support to millions of people every year through providing parenting, literacy and community development programmes.

In this diocese the MU has provided and supported the "Away From It All" project which offers free holidays to families who are going through hard times. This July, Rev'd Alison Mathew, Jillian Mendoza and myself



volunteered to help with the holiday held in Cumbrae. It was organised in partnership with the Daisy Project, based in Castlemilk, who work with families who have suffered domestic abuse. We welcomed ten families, which included sixteen children between the ages of 8 months and 13 years. The activities were mostly run by the Field Studies Centre on the outskirts of Millport and included rock pooling, pond dipping, shelter building, fire lighting, the building of bird boxes and other craft activities. It was wonderful to see the families enjoy time together, away from the stresses of everyday life. For one family it was the first holiday they had been able to have in fifteen years.



If you would like to join our MU group and support this and other projects, please see either Lesley Lucas or me.

Verity

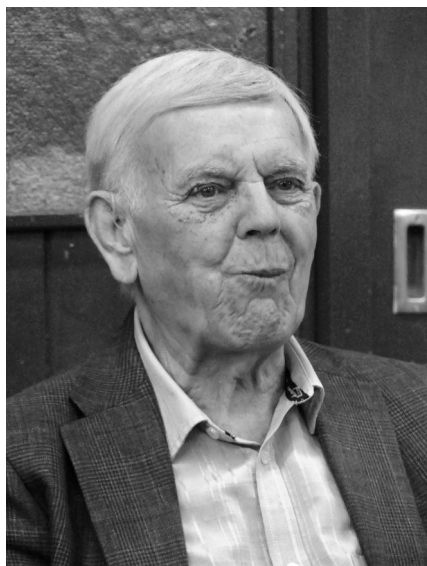
Away From It All project photos supplied by Verity



The garden party in July raised £352 for church funds.

Photo: Verity

Bishop Nick's visit, 17 August 2025



Photos: David Pritchard



DUTY ROTAS

Date	7 September Creation 1 Joint Service at St Margaret's	14 September Patronal	21 September Creation 3
Readers		D Pritchard	I Stainsby
Readings		Jeremiah 1.4-9 Ps 67 1 Thess 2.2-12 Matt 28.16-20	Amos 8.4-7 Ps 113 1 Tim 2.1-7 Luke 16.1-13
Servers	(r) (l) (th)	M Martin J Mendoza J Whannel	T Baylis E Smith
Intercessions		J Whannel	Y Grieve
Elements		E Graham W Graham	L Lucas M Martin
Coffee		A Forrest G Hunge	L Lucas J Mendoza

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	28 September Creation 4	5 October Harvest
Readers	L Lucas	C Shearer
Readings	Amos 5.1,4-7 Ps 146 1 Tim 6.6-19 Luke 16.19-31	Deut 8.7-18 Ps 126 1 Tim 2.1-7 Matt 6.25-33
Servers	(r) M Martin (l) S Fucito (th)	J Mendoza J Whannel
Intercessions	E Smith	E Rodgers
Elements	L Booth A Forrest	E Dewhurst S Fucito
Coffee	D Sinclair J Sinclair	E Graham E Laurie



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, Euan Dewhurst 07745 652002, Yvonne Grieve 01560 600377, John Heron 07961 062670 , Lesley Lucas 423 1989, Mel Martin 07398 232 864, Joyce Maxwell, Christine Shearer 639 6981, Paul Whittton 07572 775493

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 be 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

We strive to be an inclusive, welcoming congregation, which enables everyone to grow spiritually and find ways to share our faith with the wider community

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 Convenor	Eileen Graham	569 5090
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 Club	Rosemary Anwar	637 8324
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		
Servers' Guild	Paul Whitton	01560 601120
Traidcraft	Catherine Cumming	423 8895
Web Page	Thomas Baylis	423 0824

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