

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

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



July-August 2026

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 image: drawing of St Ninian's by Alan MacQuarrie.

Rector writes

Over the last couple of months, I have been reminded how unpredictable life can be. Most of us appreciate a steady routine; we like to be able to plan ahead and prepare for future events. But sometimes life can suddenly throw us a googly (a cricketing term my dad used to use) and things shoot off in an unexpected direction, upsetting the status quo. We like to imagine that we are masters of our lives, but we are all susceptible to times when we feel that things have got away from us... and any sense of control vanishes. This sense of helplessness can result from illness or bereavement... it can follow a job loss or even follow the birth of a baby when parents lives are upturned!

Sometimes one thing can follow quickly on the heels of another so that it feels as if our emotions are on a rollercoaster ride. I remember one day when, in the morning I officiated at the funeral of a young fisherman who had died at sea and was then called to be a birth partner for a friend who had gone into labour in the afternoon. It can take a while to process things when we are caught up in the moment, running from one event to the next.

That is why I find it really valuable to start each day in prayer – even if it's just for 10 minutes.

In prayer I can hold the day ahead before God, asking him to equip me for anything that might happen...to give me the grace to cope with the unexpected. In those quiet times, I remember that God promises to be with me whatever the day might bring and I ask that the Holy Spirit might guide me. When I am able to place the day into God's hands, I find that my anxiety levels lower and the days flow more easily as I learn to trust in His plan for me.

I encourage you to build times of prayer and quietness with God into your daily routine.

I have found, through long experience, that the fruit of those times will be what sustains us when life turns everything upside down.

Love, Verity

DIARY FOR JULY 2026

*** indicates use of incense

- 5 Sun** *Pentecost 6*
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
12.45pm Vestry Meeting in the Rectory
- 9 Thu** 10.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
6-7pm Quiet Space
- 12 Sun** *Pentecost 7*
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy
- 16 Thu** 10.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
6-7pm Quiet Space
- 17 Fri** 11.00am Service at Oakview Manor Care Home
- 19 Sun** *Pentecost 8*
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy
- 23 Thu** 10.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
6-7pm Quiet Space
- 25 Sat** 2-4pm Summer Fayre, church hall
- 26 Sun** *Pentecost 9 ****
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy
- 30 Thu** 10.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
6-7pm Quiet Space

DIARY FOR AUGUST 2026

*** indicates use of incense

- 2 Sun** *Pentecost 10*
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
- 6 Thu** 10.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
6-7pm Quiet Space
- 8 Sat** Time TBC MU Diocesan Service in St Mary's cathedral
- 9 Sun** *Pentecost 11*
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy
- 13 Thu** 10.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
6-7pm Quiet Space
- 16 Sun** *Pentecost 12*
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy
6.30pm Common Ground (venue TBC)
- 20 Thu** 10.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
6-7pm Quiet Space
- 22 Sat** 2-4pm Rectory garden party
- 23 Sun** *Pentecost 13* ***
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy
- 27Thu** 10.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
6-7pm Quiet Space
- 30 Sun** *Pentecost 14*
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy

July mindings

2	Bill Kelly	16	Katy Wymart
4	Tim Edwards	19	Maria McQueen
7	Jim Montgomery		Kitty Falconer
8	Irene Green	21	William Fraser
	Kathleen Watson	22	Peter Falconer
9	Norah Ruxton	24	Elspeth Hunter
10	Annie Scott		Jean Hastie
	Pat Webster	27	Jack Hardy
15	Kenneth McDonald	28	Ina Fraser
	Joan Gibson	29	Eric Corney

August mindings

2	Rena Laidlaw	20	Barbara Smith
3	Stewart Reid	21	Louie Clucas
4	Peggy Marr		David Webster
6	Phyllis MacDonald	24	Sydney Harris
9	Thomas Reid	25	Ian Fowler
	Robert Richardson		Hilda Rankin
13	Edith Reidford	27	Cynthia Nairn
15	Thomas Irvine		Isabel Chalmers
	Lilias Graham		David Smith
16	James Hinds, priest		Hugh Nicol
17	Connie Foley	29	Margaret Woolcott
18	Aileen Grieve	30	James Boyd Anderson, priest



Prayer requests

For those with cancer: Kirsten Buchanan; Jim Hastie; Mike Angus-Scott; Valezy Nasikovsky; Louise McCombie; Neil Lockyer; Joanna Southgate; Shirley Whincop; Rev Kenneth Macaulay; Moira Fraser; Bill and Rosemary McNight.

For those suffering from injuries: David Webb; Billy Leggate.

For those having or recovering from tests or treatment: Catherine Clark; Christine Campbell; Rosie Hastie; Jack Laurie.

For others for whom prayer has been requested: Kirsty Richardson; David Bullock; Mike Williams; Megan Buchanan; Carol Campbell; Pat Lowe; Fiona Paton; June Roach; Maire Rodgers; Roger Southgate; Val Vahey; Lesley Lucas; Iveta, Aman, Lorna and Josh; Megan Buchanan; Lesley and Murray Barnes; the Tilley family; Martin Elbourne; Agneta Finlay; Father John Lyons; Sheila Cumming; Catherine, Hugh and Anne; Kathleen Lucas; the Toner family.

Margaret E. Anderson

Magazine changes

So it's farewell to the current format of the magazine. There have been many changes over the years in production of the magazine. My wee sister Joyce Sinclair has been involved in every one of them – 50 years – yes, 50 years, can you believe it?

Initially we used a Gestetner that Turner Smith (Christine Shearer's father) had found (I don't know where). A master skin had to be typed and then copied on quarto or foolscap paper on a Saturday morning. A few ladies helped and Joyce typed extra items that had to be added before the magazine could be printed and collated. This was all done in the old choir room upstairs. Mr. Tully the ex-choir master and organist played the piano to keep us entertained. Happy days!

Allan Marr

Synod at Stirling

Have you ever wondered what happens at the General Synod of the Scottish Episcopal Church? So did I! And that's how I found myself there as a member of the House of Clergy last month. The synod was held in a hotel in the beautiful grounds of Stirling University and the synod members were housed in the student accommodation. The schedule was packed. It began with the celebration of the Eucharist on Thursday morning and ended with an act of worship on Saturday lunch time. All seven bishops were present and took turns chairing the meeting.

Amongst the usual business concerning procedure and provincial finances were some excellent presentations. I particularly enjoyed the presentation by the Provincial Youth Committee who urged synod to include representatives of young people as members of synod. This motion was later carried and will go back to the dioceses for consultation.

I also enjoyed hearing about the work of the Scottish Episcopal Institute which offers training and a range of courses – not only to our ordinands – but to laity and members of the clergy. So, if you want to learn Greek or brush up on your Biblical Studies its worth checking out their website.

We had a sobering presentation on the legacy of the slave trade with regard to the SEC. The province has commissioned research into this era of our history and it appears that some of our churches were financed by those who benefitted from this cruel practice. Once the research is completed, synod will discuss how reparation can be made to those who are still living with the negative consequences.

It wasn't all work...on Friday evening The Primus became a quiz master as teams pitted their knowledge against one another. Amazingly, the team Rev Ali Mathew and I were on came second which made our night!

The food was good, the company entertaining and the business of synod ran smoothly. All in all, it was a very positive experience and I would recommend it to anyone who is thinking about standing for election.

Verity

Vestry Report

A vestry meeting was held on Sunday 31st May. The following points were discussed:

1. Four cupboards for the storage of toys in the church have been purchased and built.
2. Two rooms at the rectory have been fitted with secondary glazing. We have received a grant to cover half the cost.
3. The repairs to the concrete skews have been actioned and the cost of £1480 has been taken from the church fabric fund.
4. A discussion took place on the arrangements for the Murder Mystery Play.
5. The RATS play, The Grapevine raised £917 for church funds.
6. The vestry were told that Bishop Gregor had left a substantial legacy in his will to St Ninian's. St Ninian's has been left Bishop Gregor's house and investments. The vestry realise that this money will have to be spent carefully and wisely.
7. Insurance premiums have been paid for the church buildings and contents, the rectory building and energy generating equipment. The cost of the premiums is £7,567, compared with £6,747 last year.
8. The summer fayre will take place on 25th July and the summer fete at the rectory will take place on 22nd August.

Irene Nairn

My favourite place in Scotland: Hermitage Castle

The landscape is flat enough to see for miles, but filled with low, undulating hills. These lands are too wild for arable farming, and for many centuries have been pastoral lands, where sheep, and, most notoriously, cattle were farmed. This is the land of the border reivers, where for hundreds of years rivalries between families on the English and Scottish border engaged in livestock theft and skirmishes. In the heartland of this chaos is my favourite place in Scotland. Hermitage Castle sits in Liddesdale, on the northern side of the border. It's an austere, square keep, with nothing around it, looking out onto a rugged landscape and the Hermitage Water that runs by its walls.

Hermitage Castle is a partially ruined Norman square keep, estimated to have been built in 1240CE. Its history includes tales of witchcraft, high treason, gruesome deaths involving boiling lead, mummification, and insanity. Even today it boasts some ghostlore (and in fact I encountered some paranormal investigators there once, looking for 'orbs').

I used to be a big fan of the UK's bloody history, with battles' and rulers' dates and facts all memorised, but since becoming an anarchist (now eighteen years ago!), I have a lot less time for the foolish wars of noblemen. It's not the history of Hermitage Castle that commends it to me, but its presence.



I love to visit Hermitage Castle on a very overcast day, when the clouds are heavy and black, and the wind is cold. The horizon almost meets the clouds, and only a thin strip of grey light parts them. Hermitage Castle alone breaks through these strata. My parents live just seventeen miles south of Hermitage Castle, so I've been privileged to visit at my leisure for the last twenty or so years. I always choose a black day, where the grey of

the landscape writes something even more foreboding into this severe structure. I go to stand by it, and in it, and to just look at it. I like to look at its grey stones and feel its strange, dark mystery, and ominous stories. It impresses and imparts something to me, and I think of how these stones have seen some of the worst of humans, and now stand here in relative peace, finally left alone with only the earth and the sky.



I highly recommend a visit if you can, but remember, go on a miserable, overcast day!

Euan Dewhurst (words and photos)

Christian Solidarity Worldwide

At the beginning of July, we are asked to pray for the Christians in Upper Egypt suffering imprisonment, fines, violence, lack of justice in religious tensions there. The following week, Cuba and its prisons are the focus of prayer, where lack of freedom of religion is systematically imposed, religious material – including Bibles – is denied them and they may not meet with others to practise their faith. Many are in prison unjustly and their families suffer outside. The prayer diary for more of July and August has not yet been published, but CSW news has noted that Leah Sharibu's parents have led appeals for Leah and other girls like her in Nigeria to be released from their captivity, which was due to their refusal to renounce their faith. A bishop in Venezuela who has been imprisoned unjustly for 5 years is not getting the medical help he needs for a complex condition. Religious leaders have been reporting intimidation and coercion ahead of an election in Columbia. In Chhattisgarh, India, a Christian group of about 50 were attacked by over 100 other villagers who demanded they renounce their faith and, when they refused violence, was inflicted against all, including children and a pregnant woman. Over 30 were wounded, 5 critically. Even they were not given help promptly at the hospital until

bureaucratic demands were met. When there was an attempt to report the matter to the police, they ignored it. Please remember those suffering for their faith. For more details, look up CSW online.

Margaret E. Anderson.

Olaf - another saint of Orkney

Olaf Haraldsson has been credited with bringing Christianity to Norway and then to Orkney. He was king of Norway for 13 years from 1015, and responsible partly for the unification of the individual lordships of



Norway into one kingdom. Shortly after Olaf's death in 1028 a church was founded dedicated to him in Kirkwall. An archway from that church in Romanesque style is in a side street in Kirkwall, and an aumbry from the church is now in St Olaf's Episcopal Church also in Kirkwall. Dedications to Olaf are to be found in many parts of Europe and indeed in the Americas.

Margaret E. Anderson

Statue of St Olaf in St Magnus Cathedral.

Photo: Melissa Highton, used here under a Creative Commons licence.

Who Killed the Headmaster? Murder mystery night at St Ninian's



Everyone likes the Headmaster of Berrigan Tuft School for Young Gentlemen, Montgomery Rex... or do they?



Mr Harry Smith – or should that be Schmidt? – the science teacher is clearly hiding something...

Mr Brute Savage, games teacher and deputy head, certainly doesn't trust him... but he's also been seen spending entirely too much time with the Headmaster's wife Ophelia...



Fortunately, sharp-witted Detective Inspector November quickly solved the case – and so did some of the audience!

£514 was raised for church funds.

Photos: David Pritchard

DUTY ROTAS

Date	5 July Pentecost 6	12 July Pentecost 7	19 July Pentecost 8
Readers	I Stainsby	J Whannel	M Anderson
Readings	Zechariah 9.9-12 Ps 145.8-15 Romans 7.15-25 Mt 11.16-19,25-30	Isaiah 55.10-13 Ps 65.9-14 Romans 8.1-11 Mt 13.1-9,18-23	Wisdom 12.13,16-19 Ps 86.11-17 Romans 8.12-25 Mt 13.24-30,36-43
Servers	(r) E Smith (l) S Fucito (th)	J Whannel E Smith	S Fucito J Whannel
Intercessions	T Baylis	J Whannel	S Martin
Elements	S Martin J Mendoza	E Dewhurst S Fucito	E Graham W Graham
Coffee	A Forrest G Hunge	L Lucas C Richardson	D Sinclair J Sinclair

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	26 July Pentecost 9	2 August Pentecost 10
Readers	E Smith	E Dewhurst
Readings	1 Kings 3.5-12 Ps 119.129-136 Romans 8.26-39 Mt 13.31-33,44-52	Isaiah 55.1-5 Ps 145.8-9,15-22 Romans 9.1-5 Mt 14.13-21
Servers	(r) E Smith (l) S Fucito (th) T Baylis	J Whannel S Martin
Intercessions	E Smith	E Rodgers
Elements	V Davey L Lucas	L Booth A Forrest
Coffee	E Graham E Laurie	A Marr Y Grieve

DUTY ROTAS

Date	9 August Pentecost 10	16 August Pentecost 11	23 August Pentecost 12
Readers	S Martin	T Baylis	V Davey
Readings	1 Kings 19.9-18 Ps 85.8-13 Romans 10.5-15 Mt 14.22-33	Isaiah 56.1,6-8 Ps 67 Romans 11.1-2,29-32 Mt 15.21-28	Isaiah 51.1-6 Ps 138 Romans 12.1-8 Mt 16.13-20
Servers	(r) T Baylis (l) E Smith (th)	S Fucito J Whannel	S Martin T Baylis E Smith
Intercessions	M Anderson	T Baylis	J Whannel
Elements	E Dewhurst S Fucito	E Graham W Graham	L Lucas V Davey
Coffee	C Shearer J Maxwell	A Forrest G Hunge	L Lucas C Richardson

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DUTY ROTAS

Date	30 August Pentecost 13	6 September Pentecost 14
Readers	C Shearer	J Maxwell
Readings	Jer 15.15-21 Ps 26.1-8 Romans 12.9-21 Mt 16.21-28	Ezek 33.7-11 Ps 119.33-40 Romans 13.8-14 Mt 18.15-20
Servers	(r) J Whannel (l) S Fucito (th)	E Smith S Martin
Intercessions	S Martin	E Smith
Elements	L Booth A Forrest	E Dewhurst S Fucito
Coffee	D Sinclair J Sinclair	E Graham E Laurie



Lay Officers

Lay Representative	Stefan Martin	07572 775493
Alternate Lay Rep	Vivian Davey	423 8929
Regional Council Rep	David Pritchard	632 2425
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 423 0824, Euan Dewhurst 07745 652002, Sal Fucito 07783168902, John Heron 07961 062670 , Gladys Hunge 07440091520, Lesley Lucas 423 1989, Jillian Mendoza 07880 356732, David Pritchard.

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 Choir	Vivian Davey	423 8929
	David Spottiswoode	dontdoublethethird@gmail.com
Christian Aid	Sal Fucito	07783168902
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	Lesley Lucas	423 1989
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
Servers' Guild	Verity Brown	
Traidcraft	Catherine Cumming	423 8895
Web Page	Thomas Baylis	423 0824

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