

St. Mary's Scottish Episcopal Church, Gatehouse of Fleet
Sunday, 11th January 2026
Baptism of Christ
Celebrant and Preacher: Rev'd Alison Hudson

Please pray for Joyce and Rob Thacker, Laura Durling, Sally-Anne and Peter Madeley, Carol Ducker, Rowan Huggitt, Barbara Graham, Sonia Perry and Dee DuRose

Pause for Prayer will now be held at Denis and Judy's house at 10am each Wednesday morning. This Wednesday we will follow our time of prayer with a brief Festival Planning Meeting, so that we can start to think about our interaction with the local community through our Lent and Easter services. Just as we did for our Christmas events, please do come and share ideas and creativity so that we can increase our presence in ways that are unique to St Mary's.

Stewartry Food Bank The next collection will be 13th January. Any contributions can be left at Gatehouse Post Office.

Soul Collage Chris Moody from Greyfriars congregation is a SoulCollage(R) facilitator and is starting a new group on 17th January. If you would be interested in this gentle and creative method of self-discovery and growth, there will be quarterly workshops at 95 St Mary's Street, focusing on who we are as disciples of Jesus. Each day runs from 10am to around 3.30pm and costs £35. Bring your own lunch but refreshments will be available. This is a confidential and safe space. Please see Chris for more details or email her at ikonofthesoul@gmail.com
More information on SoulCollage(R) can be found at <https://soulcollage.com/get-started/>

Gift Aid and Giving If you are a visitor or come occasionally to St. Mary's, and you are a tax payer, you may want to complete one of the green envelopes in the pew (not forgetting to include your name and address) in order that we can reclaim the tax. If you would rather give a regular amount, either by standing order or by weekly envelope, please contact the treasurer Linda Gaston, who is our new treasurer and also treasurer for Greyfriars. Cash bills may still be given to David Hart Tel: 01557 814294 email david21gatehouse@icloud.com and invoices to Linda Tel: 07353 283870 email: lgaston57@icloud.com

Christmas Stamps There is a jar in the porch for used stamps which will be sent to RNIB.

Website our regularly updated website has the weekly pew sheets, news articles and lots of other current information, please do look through it, and let Revd Alison have any good quality photographs you are willing to share.
We also have a Facebook page – St Mary's Church, Gatehouse of Fleet. If you use Facebook, please do follow and share any posts from this page.

Rev'd Alison's contact details:
18, Castledykes Road, Kirkcudbright, DG6 4AN Tel: 07725 467246
email: kirkgatepriest@gmail.com Rest days: Monday and Saturday
Website: www.greyfriarsstmarys.org.uk
Facebook: St Mary's Church

COLLECT

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by
water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling
as your adopted children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Isaiah 42:1-9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD: Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

PSALM Psalm 29

R *The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.*

or

R *The voice of the Lord is upon the mighty waters.*

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to
his name;

worship the Lord in the beauty of
holiness. **R**

The voice of the Lord is upon
the waters;
the God of glory thunders;
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
The voice of the Lord is a powerful
voice;
the voice of the Lord is a voice
of splendour. **R**

The voice of the Lord breaks the
cedar trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of
Lebanon;
he makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young
wild ox. **R**

The voice of the Lord splits the flames
of fire;
the voice of the Lord shakes the
wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness
of Kadesh.
The voice of the Lord makes the oak
trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the Lord
all are crying, "Glory!" **R**

The Lord sits enthroned above the
flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king for
evermore.
The Lord shall give strength to
his people;
the Lord shall give his people the
blessing of peace. **R**

SECOND READING Acts 10:34-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius.
"I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both

in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

GOSPEL Matthew 3:13-end

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptised, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

POST COMMUNION

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens and revealed
yourself as Father
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved
Son:
by the power of your Spirit
complete the heavenly work of our
rebirth
through the waters of the new
creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.