

**St. Mary's Scottish Episcopal Church, Gatehouse of Fleet**  
**Sunday, 18th January 2026**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**  
**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, please do join us when you can as we pray for our church, community and the wider world.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** On Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 12.30pm Gatehouse Churches Together is having a soup and sweet lunch in the Parish Church Hall. Entry is by donation and proceeds are towards Bethany Trust. Please do come along, and if you are able to contribute any eats, there is a sign up form in the porch. Many thanks.

**Lent Course** At our Festival Planning meeting this week we started to think about the shape of our Lent devotions. We considered linking some more work on the front garden with 'Tending the Garden' devotions, but it was felt that it would be too cold at that time of year. Churches Together as ever, will offer a Lent lunch preceded by a reflection each Wednesday. There will also be Churches Together Lent study groups and last year we held our own study group. What would you like to see on offer from St Mary's this year? A study group, weekly devotions, something different, or even nothing extra at all. All thoughts welcomed and valued. Revd Alison.

**A retreat to Iona** Revd Dr Elizabeth Breakey is organising a retreat to Iona for people within the Galloway Region. Staying in Bishop's House, this will be a relaxed retreat with a rhythm of prayer, then space to do your own thing through the day, including joining with services in the Iona Abbey. It is on 3-10 October 2026, and will cost £700 for a twin room, £1,050 for a single, full board. If you're interested, see the poster on the noticeboard for more details, or speak to Revd Alison.

**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 also treasurer for Greyfriars. Cash bills may still be given to David Hart Tel: 01557 814294 email [david21gatehouse@icloud.com](mailto:david21gatehouse@icloud.com) and invoices to Linda Tel: 07353 283870 email: [lgaston57@icloud.com](mailto:lgaston57@icloud.com)

**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:

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Facebook: St Mary's Church

### COLLECT

Almighty God,  
in Christ you make all things new:  
transform the poverty of our nature by the  
riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives  
make known your heavenly glory;  
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 49:1-7

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention,  
you peoples from far away! The LORD  
called me before I was born, while I was  
in my mother's womb he named me. He  
made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the  
shadow of his hand he hid me; he made  
me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid  
me away. And he said to me, "You are my  
servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."  
But I said, "I have laboured in vain, I have  
spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and  
my reward with my God." And now the  
LORD says, who formed me in the womb  
to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to  
him, and that Israel might be gathered  
to him, for I am honoured in the sight of  
the LORD, and my God has become my  
strength. The LORD says, "It is too light  
a thing that you should be my servant to  
raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore  
the survivors of Israel; I will give you as  
a light to the nations, that my salvation  
may reach to the end of the earth."  
Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of  
Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply  
despised, abhorred by the nations, the  
slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand  
up, princes, and they shall prostrate  
themselves, because of the LORD, who is  
faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has  
chosen you."

### PSALM Psalm 40:1-2

**R** *I love to do your will, O God,  
[your law is in my heart].*

I waited patiently upon the Lord;  
he stooped to me and heard my cry.  
He lifted me out of the desolate pit,  
out of the mire and clay;  
he set my feet upon a high cliff and made  
my footing sure. **R**

He put a new song in my mouth,  
a song of praise to our God;

many shall see and stand in awe  
and put their trust in the Lord.  
Happy are they who trust in the Lord!  
they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to  
false gods. **R**

Great things are they that you have done,  
O Lord my God!  
how great your wonders and your  
plans for us!  
there is none who can be compared  
with you.  
O that I could make them known and  
tell them!  
but they are more than I can count. **R**

In sacrifice and offering you take no  
pleasure  
you have given me ears to hear you;  
burnt-offering and sin-offering you have  
not required,  
and so I said, "Behold, I come.  
In the roll of the book it is written  
concerning me:  
'I love to do your will, O my God;  
your law is deep in my heart.'" **R**

I proclaimed righteousness in the great  
congregation;  
behold, I did not restrain my lips;  
and that, O Lord, you know.  
Your righteousness have I not hidden in  
my heart;  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your  
deliverance;  
I have not concealed your love and  
faithfulness  
from the great congregation. **R**

### SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

*A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.*

From Paul, called to be an apostle of  
Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our  
brother Sosthenes, To the church of  
God that is in Corinth, to those who are  
sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be  
saints, together with all those who in every  
place call on the name of our Lord Jesus  
Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to  
you and peace from God our Father and  
the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my  
God always for you because of the grace  
of God that has been given you in Christ  
Jesus, for in every way you have been  
enriched in him, in speech and knowledge  
of every kind – just as the testimony of  
Christ has been strengthened among  
you – so that you are not lacking in any  
spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing  
of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also  
strengthen you to the end, so that you

may be blameless on the day of our Lord  
Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you  
were called into the fellowship of his Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

### GOSPEL John 1:29-42

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming  
towards him and declared, "Here is the  
Lamb of God who takes away the sin of  
the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After  
me comes a man who ranks ahead of me  
because he was before me.' I myself did  
not know him; but I came baptising with  
water for this reason, that he might be  
revealed to Israel." And John testified,  
"I saw the Spirit descending from heaven  
like a dove, and it remained on him. I  
myself did not know him, but the one who  
sent me to baptise with water said to me,  
'He on whom you see the Spirit descend  
and remain is the one who baptises with  
the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen  
and have testified that this is the Son  
of God." The next day John again was  
standing with two of his disciples, and as  
he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed,  
"Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The  
two disciples heard him say this, and they  
followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and  
saw them following, he said to them,  
"What are you looking for?" They said  
to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means  
Teacher), "where are you staying?" He  
said to them, "Come and see." They came  
and saw where he was staying, and they  
remained with him that day. It was about  
four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the  
two who heard John speak and followed  
him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.  
He first found his brother Simon and said  
to him, "We have found the Messiah"  
(which is translated Anointed). He brought  
Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and  
said, "You are Simon son of John. You are  
to be called Cephas" (which is translated  
Peter).

### POST COMMUNION

God of glory,  
you nourish us with your Word  
who is the bread of life:  
fill us with your Holy Spirit  
that through us the light of your glory  
may shine in all the world.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ  
our Lord.