

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH GREYFRIARS, KIRKCUDBRIGHT

Sunday 25th January 2026 – Conversion of Paul

Please remember in your prayers: Hazel Dempster, Elizabeth Campbell, Molly Wishart, Allen Stanton, Anne Redon, Dr Mike Moore, Andy Courtnadge, John Curtis, Laura Durling, Elizabeth Hazlett, Deirdre McGill, Judy Parker, Richard Cliff, Dee DuRose and Jackie Scott.

**Sung Eucharist at 11am with
The Revd Alison Hudson**
refreshments afterwards in Greyfriars House
All are very welcome

Thursday 29th January, 10am
Holy Communion, Greyfriars
The Revd Alison Hudson
Followed at 11am – 11.15am by
Churches Together in Prayer

Notices and dates for diaries

Vestry Meeting Following a discussion about fundraising this week, the Vestry are planning to put on Winter Wonderland on 28th and 29th November, on a slightly smaller scale than last year, specific details will be worked on nearer the time. We are also planning a Mother's Day Afternoon Tea in Greyfriars House, a sponsored cycle ride and a summer garden party. With repairs needed to the roof of both buildings, fundraising continues to be important, but also provides us with great opportunities to showcase who we are and welcome people into our church. Please do let a member of the Vestry know if you are willing to help with any particular event so that we share the load together.

Craft Café this year will move to Thursday afternoons in Greyfriars House. The next one will be on **Thurs 29th January from 2-4pm** and we will be exploring needle felting. No previous experience is necessary. This is a relaxed social time, with a reflection and prayer, followed by a craft activity. There is a suggested donation of £5. All are welcome to attend, but for catering purposes, please let Revd Alison know if you are planning to join us.

Christian Aid Week 10th-16th May 2026

In 1945 the churches of Britain and Ireland united to support Second World War refugees. Congregations raised funds to support their neighbours in Europe in

the belief that peace required all nations and all people to hunger for justice and be guided by love. The money raised by Christian Aid throughout the year brings change to the benefit of many people across the world. May is your opportunity to play your part locally. Please take a look at the Christian Aid Magazine now online at www.christianaid.org.uk. Once again Greyfriars will assist the organizer; if you want to help by distributing envelopes please let Gwen know and your details will be forwarded to Julia Archibald.

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.

Churches Together in Prayer We gather at 11am each Thursday and, for 15 minutes pray together for the peace of the world. Do join us when you can.

Greyfriars House Chris Moody has kindly agreed to take over the bookings for Greyfriars House. The email address for booking enquiries is greyfriarshousebookings@gmail.com

Neurodivergent and Disability Friendly Church

This is something that we seek to be and to do better. There is a quiet area in the north transept for those who would value a quiet space during worship. If there are other ways, we can help you worship, please speak to Revd Alison or one of the stewards.

Coffee Rota volunteers are needed to prepare and serve refreshments after church on a Sunday. This is an enjoyable and important part of our church life. Please put your name down on the sheet in the porch if you are able to help out occasionally.

Contact details for Revd Alison, if you have an item for the notices, would like a visit, or for any other reason:
The Rectory, 18 Castledykes Road, Kirkcudbright, DG6 4AN
Mobile: 07725 467246 email: kirkgatepriest@gmail.com
Revd Alison's rest days are Monday and Saturday
Do visit the Church Website for the latest news, photographs, or information - www.greyfriarsstmarys.org.uk
or Facebook - **Greyfriars Church Kirkcudbright**

COLLECT

Almighty God,
who caused the light of the gospel
to shine throughout the world
through the preaching of your servant
Saint Paul:
grant that we who celebrate his wonderful
conversion
may follow him in bearing witness to your
truth;
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

Either **Jeremiah 1:4-10**

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The word of the LORD came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you, Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD." Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

Or **Acts 9:1-22**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three

days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptised, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." All who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?" Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

PSALM Psalm 67

R *Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.*

May God be merciful to us and bless us,
show us the light of his countenance and
come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations. **R**

[Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.]
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth. **R**

[Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.]

The earth has brought forth her increase;
may God, our own God, give us his
blessing.

May God give us his blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in
awe of him. **R**

SECOND READING Either **Acts 9:1-22**

Or **Galatians 1:11-16a**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

I want you to know, brothers and sisters,
that the gospel that was proclaimed by
me is not of human origin; for I did not
receive it from a human source, nor was
I taught it, but I received it through a
revelation of Jesus Christ. You have heard,
no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism.
I was violently persecuting the church
of God and was trying to destroy it.
I advanced in Judaism beyond many
among my people of the same age, for I
was far more zealous for the traditions of
my ancestors. But when God, who had set
me apart before I was born and called me
through his grace, was pleased to reveal
his Son to me, so that I might proclaim
him among the Gentiles, I did not confer
with any human being.

GOSPEL **Matthew 19:27-end**

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

Peter said to Jesus: "Look, we have left
everything and followed you. What then
will we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly
I tell you, at the renewal of all things,
when the Son of Man is seated on the
throne of his glory, you who have followed
me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging
the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone
who has left houses or brothers or
sisters or father or mother or children or
fields, for my name's sake, will receive a
hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life.
But many who are first will be last, and the
last will be first."

POST COMMUNION

Almighty God,
who on the day of Pentecost
sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles
with the wind from heaven and in tongues
of flame,
filling them with joy and boldness to
preach the gospel:
by the power of the same Spirit
strengthen us to witness to your truth
and to draw everyone to the fire of your
love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.