

St. Mary's Scottish Episcopal Church, Gatehouse of Fleet

Sunday, 25th January 2026

The Conversion of Paul

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

In memoriam Rae Osborne. We give thanks for Rae's life and hold her family in our prayers at this sad time.

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.

Vestry our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th February at 2pm at Fleet Farmhouse. Please do pray for the work of the Vestry.

Craft Café takes place once a month in Greyfriars House. The next one will be on **Thurs 29th January from 2-4pm** and we will be exploring needle felting. All are welcome, no previous experience 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.

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 and invoices to Linda Tel: 07353 283870 email: lgaston57@icloud.com

Cheques The bank has informed us that we can no longer pay in cheques in Gatehouse, which makes it much more difficult and expensive to process any cheques received. If you can avoid making donations by cheque it would be much appreciated please. Bank details for online payments are available from David Hart. Many thanks.

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

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.