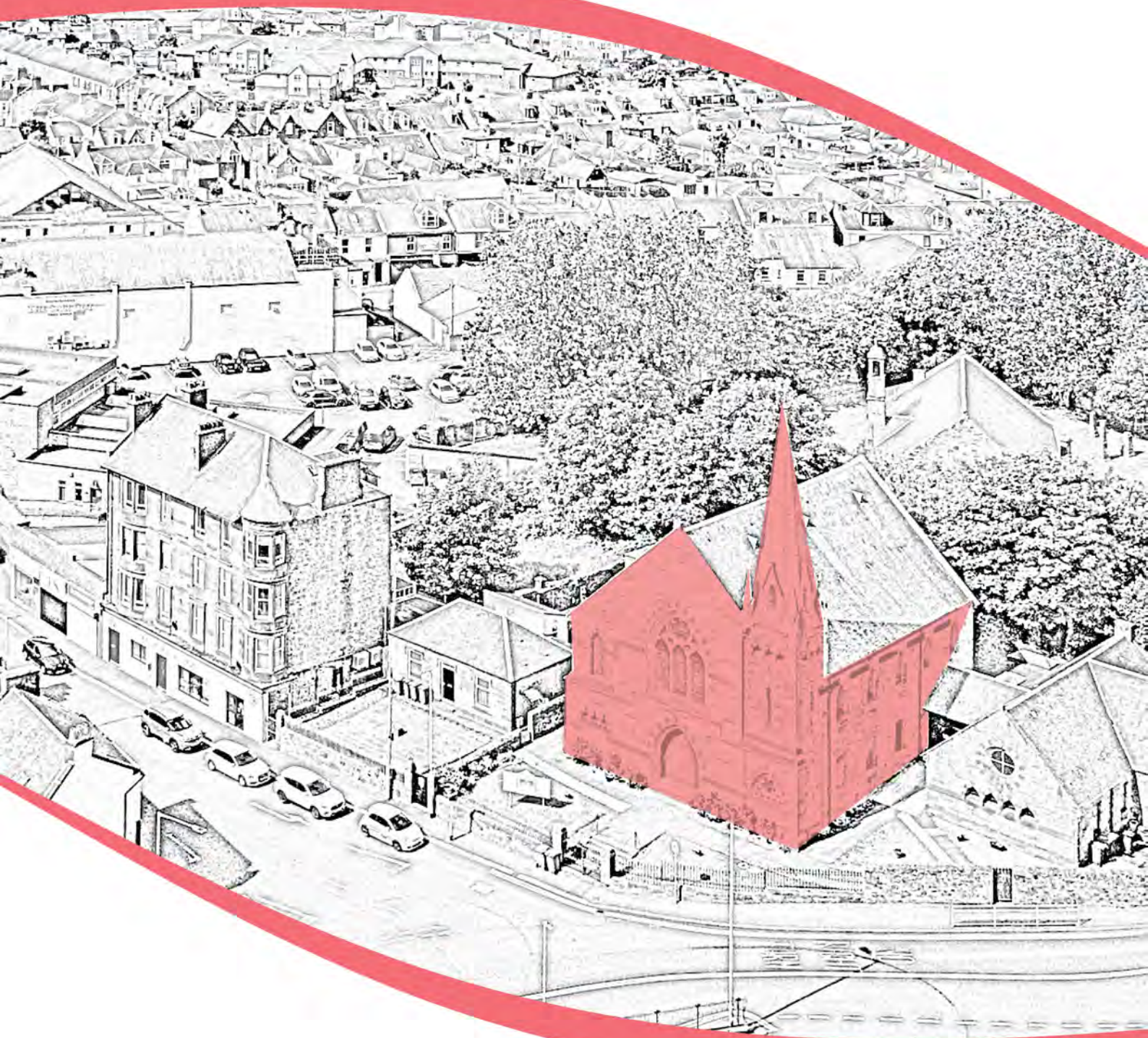


Ardrossan & Saltcoats

KirkgateMessenger

PARISH CHURCH

November 2025



Chapelwell Street,
Saltcoats KA21 5EB
Registered Scottish Charity: SC023003

www.kirkgatechurch.org.uk

Message from our Minister

Dear Kirkgate Family,

Last month, I had the great privilege of visiting Chester, a city where history, faith, and human story meet at every turn. Walking along its ancient Roman walls, I was reminded of how lives long past still speak to us, not in grand monuments alone, but in quiet traces of endurance and devotion.

One of the most memorable moments was stepping into Chester Cathedral. The sunlight filtered through the stained glass, painting colours of grace across the stone floor. As I sat in silence, I thought of the countless prayers that had been offered there across the centuries, the cries of joy, grief, repentance, and hope. The building itself seemed alive with memory, each echo carrying the faith of generations who sought God before us.

From there, my journey took me to a very different place, the Manchester United stadium. Though a world apart from the hush of the cathedral, it too spoke of passion, community, and story. The walls were filled with photographs and memories of players and fans whose love for the game transcended time. It reminded me that remembrance is not confined to sacred spaces; it lives wherever people invest their hearts and give their best.

Remembered for What Truly Matters.

As I travelled, I found myself thinking about Geoffrey Ashe, the historian who spent his life exploring the legends and memories that shape our sense of identity. In one of his reflections on Glastonbury and Arthurian legend, Ashe wrote that **"the past is not gone; it lives on in what we build upon it."**

That thought lingered with me. For Ashe, memory wasn't about nostalgia; it was about continuity, about how each generation adds its own verse to the unfolding story of faith and humanity. In that sense, remembrance is not merely about looking back; it is also about living faithfully now, so that the future may find meaning in our present.

It led me to ask myself a simple but profound question: How do I want to be remembered?

For me, I hope to be remembered for love - for being present in people's lives, for caring deeply, for walking with others through joy and sorrow alike. I want to be remembered for listening, for kindness, for believing the best in others.

And I wonder what about you? How would you like to be remembered? What stories will people tell of your faith, your friendship, your life of service?

What will remain when the busyness fades and the years move on?

These are not questions meant to trouble us but to call us to live intentionally to live in a way that leaves behind the fragrance of Christ in all we do.

The Apostle Paul writes in ***Romans 12:9-10: "Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good. Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour."***

That, I believe, is how we build a legacy that lasts not through achievement or applause, but through love that reflects God's own heart. When our love is sincere and our care authentic, remembrance becomes more than a ceremony; it becomes a living testimony to the grace of God at work among us.

As we approach the season of Remembrance, the poppies will soon appear again, and we will gather as we do each year, to honour those who gave their lives for peace. But remembrance is more than an annual act of gratitude; it is a way of life.

When we remember rightly, we connect the courage of the past with the compassion we are called to live by today. We remember those who served, but we also remember Christ, who said, **"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13)**

Let us, then, live as people who remember people who love deeply, serve faithfully, and forgive freely. For in the end, what endures is not fame or success, but love.

May our church, our community, and each of our lives be remembered as places where love dwelt richly and where the presence of Christ was known.

With love and every blessing,

Nigel

Rev Tichaona Nigel Chikanya

Tel: 01294 683379 Mobile: 07566 278132

Email: NChikanya@churchofscotland.org.uk



Photographs from Nigel



Prayer Page

Contributed by Alison Buick

BE STILL

Time for myself Why is it that I find it so hard to take time for myself? Time to be, rather than to do. Time to think, to talk to God and most of all to be silent in his presence while he talks to me.



You know how it is Lord. There is always so much to be fitted in. People to be seen.... work to be done.... obligations to fulfil. It is so difficult to distinguish between the urgent and the important. Often what is urgent elbows its way to the forefront of my day and the important matter gets trampled on in the rush.



Slow me down Lord. Teach me the art of creating islands of stillness, in which I can absorb the beauty of everyday things: clouds, trees, a snatch of music. Prompt me to lift up my heart to you in a moment of thankfulness. Impress upon my mind that there is more to life than packing every moment with activity, and help me to fence in some part of my day with quietness. Please talk to me and help me to listen, so that I take your peace rather than my confusion back with me into the hurly-burly of a hurting world.

Marion Stroud, The Gift of Friends

WHAT GOD REQUIRES

Loving God you call us to live as your people – to walk each day by your side, seeking your will, pursuing what is right, and showing your love in our attitudes to others.

Forgive us that we sometimes make your call so complicated losing sight of the things you really require.

Forgive us that we are often good at being religious, but poor at doing justice and loving kindness.

Loving God help us to offer you the sort of lives you want to see and to be the people you would have us become.

Teach us what you require, and by your grace may we live as your people, to the glory of your name.

Amen



Church Register

FUNERALS:

"In my Father's house are many mansions"

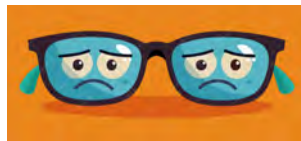
28/10/25 Mrs Ray Jackson, Arran View Care Home
formerly Kier Hardie Drive, Ardrossan

5/11/25 Mrs Lesley Boyle, High Road, Saltcoats



Discontinued Recycling Old Spectacles

We are sorry to report that this collection has now stopped.



We thank everyone who contributed their old glasses over the past year.

You may still be able to hand old glasses into some of the opticians who recycle them

Stamp Appeal

Please remember to continue to save your used stamps.



If you can leave a small border round them that would be great. You can leave them on the table in the hallway and someone will pick them up.

They are a valuable source of income at no extra cost to yourself.

From the Editor

Articles for the December issue to be in by Sunday 30th November at the latest please and since we don't print in January it should contain information and dates through to Mid-February.

This is also the time to remind you that we shall be putting Christmas Greetings in the December edition. Please read the box below for all the information.

Please feel free to email us at elizabeth.mcmahon@talktalk.net or stuart@md93.co.uk or send a written copy if you don't use a computer.



Elizabeth McMahon, Editor

Christmas Messages

As is our custom now for a few years, for a donation towards the printing costs, we are offering you the service of sending your Christmas Message to all your friends in the December edition of 'Kirkgate Messenger'!

Not only does the church gain from this but we can all gain in saved time and money.

If you would like to take up this offer please let me have your message as soon as possible as the pages take some time to design and it also helps to know how much space to allocate.

Elizabeth McMahon



Church Mice



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HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS



John Stewart, 07561 340886, is happy to collect any donations and deliver to the Foodbank HQ in Ardrossan.

If you would like to contribute some items for the foodbank at any time, there is always a collection box in the hallway at the church.

Many thanks to all who have contributed already. We would be delighted to receive any further donations especially of non-perishable food or toiletries. There is always a big demand for long-life milk. All donations welcome – even just one item from this list when you do your shopping will make a difference.

The Foodbank also request the urgent need for strong large carrier bags

Food

UHT milk

Tinned meat (Hotdogs, Meatballs etc.)

Tinned fish

Tinned fruit

Sponge/Rice puddings

Coffee (small jars)

Long-life juice

Pasta sauce

Tinned veg (potatoes, carrots, green beans, tomatoes)

Tinned meals (Spaghetti, Chilli, Chicken or Veg curries)

Tinned soup

Jam and Spreads

Non-food items

Shower gel

Shampoo/conditioner

Deodorant

Toilet rolls

Washing up liquid

Laundry detergent pods

The Craft Team

The Craft Fair was held on Saturday 25th October. Special thanks to George and Pam for cooking lots of delicious rolls and sausage!; to Jean Rainey and Eunice for helping; to Anne for sourcing 18 crafters with such a wide variety of handmade goods; and to John and Mary for moving tables and putting the chairs back in place in time for the Sunday service.

A total of £500 was raised from the table rents and tea room for Church Funds. The Craft Group made £132.35 at their stall.



Don't worry if you didn't make it to the Craft Fair, there will be Christmas cards for sale at the Christmas Fair and in the vestibule.

If you'd like to order special Christmas cards please give your order to anyone in the group or pop in on a Tuesday afternoon between 1pm and 4pm.

We're now thinking about the **Christmas Tree Festival** on 6th December. This year's theme is **Christmas Around the World** and we hope to have trees from 20 different countries. 12 countries have already been chosen and there is now a list in the vestibule for anyone interested to add your name and country of choice. The more the merrier!! See the Poster on page 9 for more information.



Treasurer's Report

Balances – as at 19 October 2025 were as follows:

General Account	-	£13,452
Fabric Account	-	£15,483

The amount collected by standing order, cheques and plate collection for the period of September was as follows:

Standing Orders – September - £3,594

Plate – September - £1,985 Average - £397

Whilst clearly our biggest source of revenue is via Standing Orders it would be remiss of me not to say that givings via the plate have been significantly down in the last few months.

The funds raised for the church at Musical Memories last month was £223 – many thanks to all who contributed.

We continue to be very well supported financially by the Craft Group and the Country Dancers – thanks again to the members of these groups for their support.

Our Harvest Collection, for the Argyle Community Shop, raised the terrific total of £300.

I will conclude with my usual appeal for those in the congregation who are not currently on the Gift Aid scheme to consider this option. The financial benefits to the congregation are very significant at no extra cost to the giver. If you would like details of giving via envelopes or Standing Order please let me know. To gain the financial benefits of Gift Aid it is necessary for givers to use envelopes or Standing Order – we have to be able to prove the giving, if required. Please see Moira Cooper for envelopes and me for Standing Order details.

Thank you - John Stewart, Treasurer

Legacy Giving - 'Lasting Generosity'

As I am sure you are aware many charities receive a large percentage of their overall funding through gifts in wills eg: two out of three Guide Dogs for the Blind are funded this way.

The Church of Scotland feels that many churches, including ours, do not sufficiently encourage this form of giving. I am fully aware that for some people this is quite a sensitive issue so I am simply bringing it to your attention. The Church of Scotland wish to encourage legacy giving either to the national Church or your own local church. Any gift in a will can be targeted at a specific area of church work eg: Fabric. The Church have produced a leaflet entitled 'Lasting Generosity' which I would be happy to obtain for you if you are interested or you could email stewardship@churchofscotland.org.uk for further details.

John Stewart, Treasurer

Saltcoats Christmas Carnival 2025



The Saltcoats Christmas Carnival will be using our premises on Sunday 23 November.

We will be providing facilities for two Santas, a children's Magic Show and a face painting studio. We will require a number of volunteers to supervise these activities so please try to keep that date free. Thanks again to all who helped last year – we look forward to seeing you again this year.

John Stewart / Margaret Cassidy



Kirkgate Diary:

REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS

Sunday, 10.45 am:	Morning Worship Sunday School/Creche
Tuesday, 1.00-4.00pm:	Craft Team
Wednesday, 11am-12 noon & 7.00-8.00pm:	Bible Study
Thursday, 10.30am:	Midweek Service
Thursday, 2.30 & 7.30pm:	Country Dance Club (alternate weeks)
Friday, 12.30-2.00pm:	Care & Share Lunch

NOVEMBER

Sunday 2nd: 10.45am

Morning Worship - Sacrament of Holy Communion

Monday 3rd: 2.00pm

The Guild - Whiteley's Retreat, Ayr

Thursday 6th: 10.30am

Midweek Service - Sacrament of Holy Communion
2.00pm

Kirk Session Meeting

7.30pm

Country Dance Club

Sunday 9th: 10.45am

Morning Worship - Service of Remembrance
Retiring Collection for Poppy Scotland

Thursday 13th: 7.30pm

Country Dance Business Committee Meeting

Monday 17th: 2.00pm

The Guild - Sunday Post - Frances Gay

Sunday 23rd: 1.30pm

Saltcoats Christmas Carnival - see page 6

Wednesday 26th: 2.00pm

Musical Memories

Saturday 29th: 11.00am

Christmas Fair - see page 9

Sunday 30th: 10.45am - 1st in Advent

Morning Worship - Sacrament of Holy Communion
Christmas Gift Service

Tea/coffee fellowship after morning service

'Messenger' Material required through to February



DECEMBER

Monday 1st: 2.00pm

The Guild - RNLI & Christmas Flowers

Thursday 4th: 10.30am

Midweek Service - Sacrament of Holy Communion
2.00pm

Kirk Session Meeting

7.30pm

Country Dance Club Party with Billy Gray

Saturday 6th: 10.00am

Christmas Tree Festival followed at
3.00pm

Shoppers Carol Service

Sunday 7th: 10.45am

Morning Worship - **2nd in Advent**

Friday 12th: 12.30pm

CHANA - Care & Share Christmas Party

Sunday 14th: 10.45am

Morning Worship - **3rd In Advent**

Monday 15th: 2.00pm

The Guild - Carols and Readings

Sunday 21st: 10.45am

Morning Worship - **4th In Advent**
Children's Nativity Play

Thursday 25th: 10.30am

Short Service for Christmas Day

Sunday 28th: 10.45am

Morning Worship

Tea/coffee fellowship after morning service

Friday 31st: 2.00pm

Hogmanay Musical Memories



Blythswood Shoebox Appeal 2025



Once again our congregation has risen to the challenge of donating goods and finance to this worthy cause.

Due to your generosity of time, talents and support we have completed 265 boxes, 4 of which came from young local scouts who filled them to earn a badge. There were also other goods, some too big to fit a shoebox which were passed on for further use.

Any money not used to buy goods will be given to assist with transport costs which the charity will be grateful for.

The shoeboxes were dedicated on Sunday 26th October ready for uplifting for their onward journey in time for Christmas.

An enormous thank you to all who made this project such a success.



Letters of Appreciation

Thank you for the cards and flowers I received after my recent accident. Thanks to Maureen for her visits and encouragement. I am very grateful to you all.

Kathleen McIlreavy

It was a lovely surprise to receive the church flowers following the celebration of my 80th Birthday in September. Thank you so much.

Liz Copland

Thanks you to all at Kirkgate for the lovely flowers I received and to Margaret who delivered them. It's lovely to be remembered.

Kathy Coulter

Musical Memories



Musical memories will be on as usual in the coming months. Please note that on **Wednesday December 31st (yes Hogmanay)** a lot of extra **Scottish music will be included in the programme.** Just hope some of our regulars can come along to sing them.

Could as many of the congregation as possible join us at Caledonia Care Home on **Saturday 13th December at 2.00pm** to spread some Christmas cheer. It would be good to know numbers for this so I would appreciate if you can put your name down in the hallway or message me.

Dates for the rest of 2025

A reminder that on **Monday 3rd November at 2.30pm at South Beach House**, there will be a celebration of Communion led by Nigel. Why not come along and support the residents - it's always good to have a few extra voices to help the singing.

South Beach House: 2.00pm

Wednesday November 5th and 19th.

Wednesday December 10th

Wednesday December 24th - still to be confirmed

Kirkgate Church Hall: 2.00pm

Wednesday November 26th

Wednesday December 31st

Caledonia Care Home: 2.00pm

Saturday December 13th - numbers required

Thank you, Mary xx

Thank you so much for the lovely flowers I received On Sunday. They lifted my spirits after the loss of my dear friend Lesley Boyle. Thanks again for your thoughtfulness.

Jeanette Mumford



South Beach House have written a letter of thanks to the congregation for the kind donation given to them from our Harvest Thanksgiving. It was very much appreciated and we are grateful to be in your thoughts.

Vanda Lewis, South Beach House

Fundraising 2025-26

We hope you managed to visit the Craft Fair on Saturday 25th October and pick up a few lovely items from the variety of stalls from the outside crafters. Teas/coffees along with rolls and sausage went down a treat and we were able to donate £500 to the church and the Craft Group stall made £132.35 for their funds.



The Christmas Fair will be upon us sooner than you think and we still required volunteers, so please try to help and give your name to one of the team as soon as possible. Tickets are on sale and posters for distribution around the town are now available. As always donations for all the stalls will be most welcome. If you require anything uplifted please contact any office bearer.

Although prices are increasing we have decided for another year to keep the tearoom tickets at £3 - still great value for all that lovely home baking, tea/coffee and if you add on George's roll/slice/onions for £2, it means you can have a very satisfying lunch for only £5. Admission to the stalls is free.

The Christmas Tree Festival, while not a fund raiser, is always a good day out, entry is free and a donation is all that is required should you wish a cup of tea/coffee. Posters for distribution around the town are available - please pick one up and ask your local stores to advertise it.

We look forward to you and your friends usual support at these events.

Phyllis Armstrong



2025

Saturday November 29th: Christmas Fair

Saturday December 6th: Christmas Tree Festival

2026

Friday February 13th: Burns Supper

Get in touch please if you know of someone who can address the Haggis. More details next month

Ardrossan & Saltcoats
Kirkgate
PARISH CHURCH

**Chapelwell Street,
Saltcoats**

CHRISTMAS FAIR

**Saturday
29th November**
11.00am - 2.00pm

All the usual stalls:
Home Bakery • Sweets
Jewellery / Accessories
Toys / Jigsaws • Soft Goods
Books • Bottle Stall • Bric-a-Brac •
Hand Made Cards

TEAROOM

FREE ADMISSION TO CHRISTMAS FAIR
Tearoom Tickets: Adults: £3, Children: £1
(Roll & Sausage extra £2)

Ardrossan & Saltcoats
Kirkgate
PARISH CHURCH

**Chapelwell Street
Saltcoats**

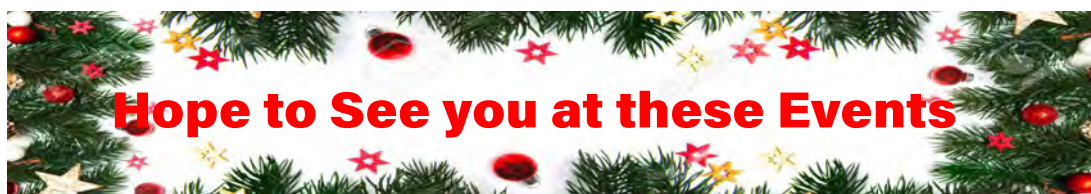
CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

**Saturday
6th December**
from 10am and finishing with a
Shoppers' Carol Service at 3pm

Admission: FREE
Tea & Coffee
Donation welcomed
**Children's
Activities**

Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church, Registered Scottish Charity: SC023003



Hope to See you at these Events

Kirkgate Pastoral Care



The Church is wherever God's people are seeking to reach out and touch folk wherever they are.....

PASTORAL CARE CONTACTS

The Pastoral Team are working very hard behind the scenes. Please keep the team up-to-date with information about people who need pastoral care or support at this difficult time for everyone. Please don't assume they already know - they would rather hear several times over than not at all.

The main contacts for Pastoral Care are:

Mrs Moira Cooper, (01294 468851)
Mrs Jean Hay, (01294 469986)
Mrs Evelyn Green (07737225943), and
Mrs Jennifer Fox (01294 465947).

For flower recipients please contact co-ordinator:
Mrs Morag Forsyth (01294 463762)

Prayer Shawl Ministry



If anybody is interested in starting a Prayer Shawl Ministry, or would like a shawl to give to somebody, please speak to me on a Sunday morning or phone 07884 957 389 or email gillsusan529@gmail.com

Please note my new email address.

Susan Gill

Fire Drill

**Ladies & Gentlemen,
Thank you for your full
co-operation at the recent
Fire Drill.**

A Fire Drill, in addition to meeting regulations, is an opportunity for the Trustees to see if and how we can improve our evacuation of the building should the unexpected happen.

The building was evacuated within 1 ½ minutes which is very acceptable. What we did notice was that out of the three exit doors from the sanctuary only two were used by the members. The time of 1 ½ minutes could have been less if all the exit doors had been used. If you are unsure of the location of the exit doors, please view the 'layout of the building plan' or

The Guild



We had a good attendance at our opening Communion on Monday 6th October, even Flat Jesus was there.



Next was our concert on 20th October, the 'HUGS' ukulele band along with Mary and Alan Ward with their saxophones entertained us in the sanctuary and approx 60 folk enjoyed it and the afternoon tea served afterwards. Many thanks to all who helped in any way.



Dates for your diary:- 2.00pm

Nov 3rd - Whiteley's Retreat for Families - Ayr
Nov 17th- Frances Gay of the Sunday Post

Dec 1st - RNLI & Christmas Flowers
Dec 6th - Christmas Tree Festival

It is hoped that some guild ladies will take on the challenge of decorating a tree.

Dec 15th - Carols & Readings - Mince pies & £5 Charity donation instead of Secret Santa.

ask an Elder to highlight them to you. If individuals have mobility difficulties, they may find it easier to use either of the side doors as they do not have steps rather than the central church doors. Members are always welcome to comment on the drill or any safety feature causing concern and they will be discussed by the Trustees.

Remembrance Sunday 9th November 2025

The Scottish Poppy Appeal is Scotland's largest fundraising campaign.



We provide support for current and former members of the Armed Forces as well as their families. This support, in recognition of their sacrifices and service, is holistic and bespoke.

We have helped countless men, women and families with issues linked to their time in the Armed Forces or with struggles adjusting from military to civilian life. We even help with needs that have arisen long after someone has left the Armed Forces. Whenever, wherever support is needed, we are here.

There will be an opportunity to donate to the Poppy Scotland Appeal at Kirkgate's Service of Remembrance on Sunday 9th November, and our church building will be lit up in red once again for a few weeks.

Care & Share



The clocks have changed, the nights are drawing in and the weather is well, it's Scottish!! A nice warm lunch on a Friday is what we all need to set us up for the weekend. Halloween is upon us so maybe we could have spicy pumpkin soup this week.



Next it will be bonfires and fireworks. Remember to keep the pets inside and away from the loud bangs! We have quite a few dogs who come to visit on Fridays though they are not allowed inside at lunchtime. Usually we can find a treat or two and a bowl of water while their humans have lunch.

The entertainment for the Christmas Party have confirmed and it will be on the 12th December at the usual time. We had a fantastic time last year and I'm sure it will be again this year. Santa has also confirmed and is asking the elves if they are available to help him on the day. So now it's all systems go with the gifts and menus!

My recent appeals have resulted in a couple of new volunteers coming forward and a couple who are considering helping. One or two former volunteers have also said they would be willing to come back. Thank you all very much indeed.

Don't think that lets you off the hook though as I'm always on the lookout for future helpers!

Your support for the lunch club is very much appreciated and you are welcome to join us for lunch anytime. Come along and enjoy the fun.

With love, Pam xx

Argyle Community Shop

The local produce and apples have now run out and we are looking towards ingredients for hearty, warming soups and stews. Angela



usually manages to find tasty recipes using the items available in the shop. It's really amazing what you can make.

Another successful funding application means we can buy much needed new equipment eg till, fridge and freezer. These things were all second hand when the shop was established and have come to the end of their useful, efficient lives. It will be a great boost to get these new items.

The Christmas Raffle is almost under way. Angela has been hard at work looking for donations of prizes from local businesses and individuals. Look out for the ticket sales! Last year she raised over £2,000 and, while every penny is a bonus, wouldn't it be great if we can match, or pass, that total again this year.

A huge thank you to all at Kirkgate for the generous cheque from your Harvest Thanksgiving service. It is very much appreciated and will help to fund the shop in the coming weeks.

Thanks, as always, for all the interest and support we receive.

From All at The Argyle Community Shop

Thursday Service

We have had approximately 30 people attending the Thursday service which is great.



The social side with tea/coffee and scones etc afterwards is always delightful, although I must admit this time can be very noisy as people get together for a chat. So again if you find yourself free and in the town on a Thursday join us.

The Thursday Team

Prayer Group

We moved to the small hall last month as it can be very noisy after the service in the sanctuary, when people are still leaving. We found this was a lot better.



If you wish any prayers for yourself or others said please let me know or come along and join us.

Margaret Cassidy

Connect with Kirkgate

In addition to meeting in person for our Sunday (10.45am) and short midweek Thursday (10.30am) services you can also find us online.



Website:

www.kirkgatechurch.org.uk

Contains our Sunday service, intimations, magazine, church history, contact details.



Facebook:

www.facebook.com/Kirkgatechurch

A link to our Sunday Service is usually published around 10.30am on Sunday mornings on Facebook. Also regular posts about our other events and Sunday School activities, along with other Church of Scotland news.



Podcast:

An audio version of our Sunday service is usually available shortly afterwards on Spotify, Apple Music and other podcast providers. Search for Kirkgate Church.

Property Report



Manse

The manse staircase has nearly been completed by Gary whilst Nigel and the family were away on holiday. Nigel said it was looking so much better. Thanks again Gary.

The manse boiler will be serviced mid November.

Church

The Church has had an issue with the corridor lights just outside the vestry door, but I am pleased to report that Andrew the electrician has been and dealt with it and the lights are all working again.

The garden has been looking really well over the summer with a beautiful array of coloured flowers so a big thank you goes to all those who keep the garden and the tubs tidy and looking neat.

Thank you once again for the donations towards the kitchen (please keep them coming) I am hopeful this will commence mid January with Andrew rewiring the kitchen the week before.

Margaret Cassidy



YouTube

YouTube:

www.youtube.com/@kirkgatechurch

Watch live or catch up later with all our live broadcasts and some special events (available on request for funerals and weddings). A recording of the Sunday Service will usually be available by mid-afternoon on the Sunday in the event of the livestream failing. Subscribe to our channel for free to get updates on the latest content. Thanks to the 176 subscribers we currently have.



Email:

We send a monthly email with a link to a digital version of this magazine to our members and friends for whom we have an email address. Contact messenger@kirkgatechurch.org.uk to be added to our mailing list.

Church Rotas

SUNDAY DOOR DUTY & COUNTING ROTA			
2 Nov	J. Stewart	D. MacLeod	E. Howie
9 Nov	M. Cooper	B. McWilliam	B. McCracken
16 Nov	E. McInnes	P. Martin	S. Gill
23 Nov	J. Rainey	L. McDougall	E. Green
30 Nov	J. Stewart	M. Hunter	F. Liddell
7 Dec	M. Cooper	G. Armstrong	P. Armstrong
14 Dec	E. McInnes	D. MacLeod	E. Howie
21 Dec	J. Rainey	P. Martin	L. McDougall
28 Dec	J. Stewart	B. McCracken	B. McWilliam



MONTHLY TEA ROTA	
	Organisers
30 Nov	Evelyn Green
21 Dec	Elizabeth Howie

Should you wish to contribute flowers for the sanctuary, please speak to Chrissie Baillie, Tel: 01294 463903.

Should you be unable to do your delivery of Sunday flowers, please contact someone else on the team and try to do a swap to avoid the distribution team having to find someone last minute after the service. Contact Elizabeth McMahon 01294 464428 should you wish to volunteer to deliver the flowers or should you wish to retire from this duty as the list is being updated for 2026.

Pastoral Team member Morag Forsyth, Tel: 01294 463762, is co-ordinating the names of recipients for flowers and will keep Agnes Wilkie and her distribution team informed of those in need.

THE POINSETTIA

Christian symbolism of the poinsettia:-



The Star of Bethlehem: The star-like shape of the poinsettia's leaves is symbolic of the star that led the Wise Men to the baby Jesus.

The Blood of Christ: The prominent red color of the leaves represents the blood of Jesus, particularly the sacrifice he made during his crucifixion.

Purity and Sacrifice: The white leaves of certain varieties are seen as representing Christ's purity, while the red leaves also symbolize his sacrifice.



CHURCH FLOWERS		
VACANT DATES: 2 FEBRUARY, 2 MARCH 2026		
	DONATED BY	DELIVERY
2 Nov	A. Buick	J. O'Hare
9 Nov	C. Meney	E. McInnes
16 Nov	S. McCulloch	S. Donald
23 Nov	C. Gilmour	J. Hay
30 Nov	J. Fox	M. Cooper
7 Dec	E. Frew	E. Breakenridge
14 Dec	A. Aitken	M. Cassidy
21 Dec	POINSETTIAS	No Delivery
28 Dec	POINSETTIAS	No Delivery



Online Fundraising

A wee reminder that if you make any purchases online as we approach the end of the year, then please consider signing up with easyfundraising.org.uk and making 'Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church' your chosen cause. We currently have 18 supporters who have raised a total of £148.31 to date at no extra cost to themselves.



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Who's Who in Kirkgate

Church Address: Chapelwell Street, Saltcoats KA21 5EB. Tel: 01294 472001

POSITION	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
Minister	Rev Nigel Chikanya	10 Seafeld Drive, Ardrossan KA22 8NU	Tel: 01294 683379 Mob: 07566 278132	NChikanya@churchofscotland.org.uk
Session Clerk	Vivien Bruce	57 Dockers Gardens, Ardrossan KA22 8GB	01294 605113	sessionclerk@kirkgatechurch.org.uk
Deputy Session Clerk	Mima McSwan	23 Springvale Court Saltcoats KA21 5LY	01294 602410	

POSITION	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Pastoral Care	See magazine article for various contact details		
Organist, Rollkeeper, Data Protection, Website	Stuart McMahon	93 Montfode Drive, Ardrossan KA22 7PH	07588 665191
Treasurer	John Stewart	5 High Road, Saltcoats	01294 464526
Gift Aid Convenor	George Armstrong	46 Whitlees Court, Ardrossan KA22 7PD	01294 466867
Freewill Offering Envelopes	Moira Cooper	1A Bridgepark, Ardrossan KA22 8BQ	01294 468851
Property Convenor	Margaret Cassidy	3 Eglinton Street, Saltcoats KA21 5DE	01294 605535
Safeguarding Convenors	Christine Ewing	210 Glasgow Street, Ardrossan KA22 8JS	01294 601700
	Elizabeth Howie	93 Argyle Road, Saltcoats KA21 5NE	01294 467881
Magazine Editor	Elizabeth McMahon	8 Kennedy Road, Saltcoats KA21 5NJ	01294 464428
Flower Convenor	Chrissie Baillie	40 Gladstone Road, Saltcoats KA21 5LD	01294 463903
The Guild	Elizabeth McMahon	8 Kennedy Road, Saltcoats KA21 5NJ	01294 464428
Prayer Group	Margaret Cassidy	3 Eglinton Street, Saltcoats KA21 5DE	01294 605535
Craft Team	Jean Hay	18 West Doura Avenue, Saltcoats KA21 5NS	01294 469986
Country Dancing	Elizabeth Howie	93 Argyle Road, Saltcoats KA21 5NE	01294 467881

Kirk Session Committees

PASTORAL CARE:

Co-ordinators*: Mrs Evelyn Green

Miss Alison Buick	Mrs Jean Rainey
Mrs Moira Cooper*	Mrs Morag Forsyth
Mrs Jennifer Fox*	(telephone contact elder)
Mrs Maureen Hunter	Co-opted:
Mrs Fiona Liddell	Jean Hay*
Mrs Solveig McCulloch	Anne Aitken
Mrs Elizabeth McCracken	Phyllis Armstrong
Mrs Eunice McInnes	Christine Ewing
Mrs Barbara McWilliam	

PROPERTY:

Convener: Margaret Cassidy

Mrs Vivien Bruce	Mrs Pamela Martin
Mrs Jennifer Fox	Mrs Maureen Hunter
Mr John O'Hare	Mrs Margaret O'Hare

COMMUNICATION:

Co-ordinator: Mr Stuart McMahon

Vivien Bruce. Co-opted: Mrs Elizabeth McMahon

CHURCH & COMMUNITY:

Convener: Mr Andrew Bruce

Mrs Margaret Cassidy	Co-opted:
Mrs Pamela Martin	Mr David MacLeod
Mrs Mary Stewart	Ms Fiona Wright

FUNDRAISING & SOCIAL:

Mrs Eunice McInnes	Co-opted:
Mrs Evelyn Green	Mrs Phyllis Armstrong
Mrs Jean Rainey	Mrs Jean Hay
Mrs Fiona Liddell	Mrs Carol Gilmour
	Mrs Allison O'Neill

FINANCE:

Convener: Mr John Stewart

Mrs Moira Cooper
Mrs Jean Rainey
Co-opted: Mr George Armstrong

Church Website: www.kirkgatechurch.org.uk



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