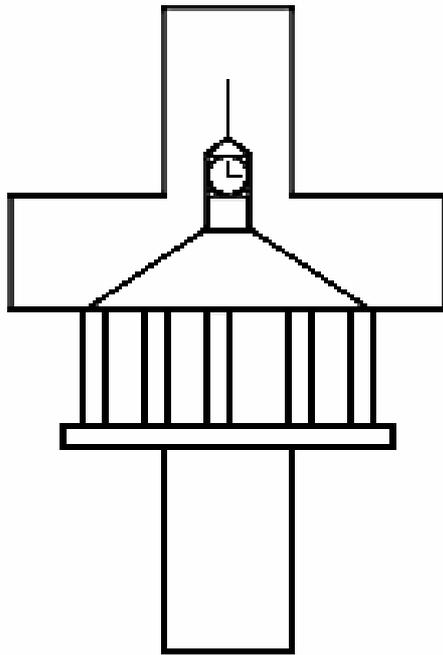


# CHALLENGE

## **Bridgeton St Francis-in-the-East Church of Scotland Parish Magazine**



**Let us rise up and build**

Church: 26 Queen Mary Street, Glasgow, G40 3BB  
Tel: 0141 556 2830

Minister: Rev. Howard Hudson, Tel: 0141 587 8667  
Session Clerk: Mr James Gibson, Tel: 013552 41377  
Church House: 22 Queen Mary Street, Bridgeton

[www.bridgetonstfrancis.org.uk](http://www.bridgetonstfrancis.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/bridgetonstfrancis](https://www.facebook.com/bridgetonstfrancis)  
Scottish Charity SCO12535

**WINTER 2019**

## **WE HAVE A DREAM...**

**We have a dream of a church** that is full of people of all ages including the young, from the district and beyond, enthusiastic, willing to play their part, keen to know the Lord, praising and thanking God from the very bottom of their hearts, willing to share their love, caring for others, both inside the church and outside it.

**We have a dream of a church** that is hungry to be led by God, to serve the Lord, study the Bible, grow in faith, communicate clearly, worship, spread the gospel in the community, pray, and live in fellowship with each other.

**We have a dream of a church** made up of tolerant people between whom there are no barriers of class, colour or creed, age, hatred, bitterness, jealousy, criticism, wealth or poverty, appearance, health, sex, status or position.

**We have a dream of a church** that is inclusive and open to everyone, no matter who they are or what they might have done, whether they are like us or not, and that is open to ways of working in the community.

**We have a dream of a church** that has a heart for the community, our neighbours, pleasing God, other people's needs, friendship, mission here at home and abroad, and has the courage to take the flack for being Christians.

We have a dream of a church in which God's Spirit is present, is really believed in, and is working in us to fulfil our commitment to Christ, leading us, always near, felt, transforming us more and more into the people God wants us to be.

**We have a dream of a church** that is excited and passionate about Jesus, the gospel, praising and worshipping God, prayer, evangelism, reading the Bible, full of hope for the present and the future.

This is our dream for Bridgeton, St. Francis-in-the-East Church. Will you share it with us? Will you help us make it a reality?

*- Your Kirk Session*

## *Message from the Manse*

Dear Friends,

That's us heading for a General Election on 12<sup>th</sup> December, only 2 ½ years after the last one. And what a time to have it- only two weeks before Christmas! But despite that and everything else we may have on then, it looks like this could be a fairly significant election so it's important that we all do take the time to vote and every day till then ask God to help us know who to vote for.

However one of the things that concerns me is how some people seem to think that Brexit or Scottish Independence will be the answer to all our problems. If you think that, you'll end up disappointed. Because it's not Brexit or Scottish Independence that we need to put our hope in, but Jesus! After all, what do we celebrate at Christmas? That in Jesus God became one of us to be Immanuel which means "God with us" and to save His people from their sins (as Matthew chapter 1 verses 21-23 tells us). And that's something that neither Brexit nor Scottish Independence nor any politician or anyone else can do, only Jesus. Only Jesus can be with us always, every minute of the day and every second of the night, more than able to help us in all that we go through in life. And only Jesus can save us from our sins which cut us off from God and from ending up in heaven and which also time and time again get between us and others. No-one and nothing else can do that, and in so doing meet our deepest needs. And all this becomes real for us when we turn from living our own way and from putting our hope in people or things that can't meet our deepest needs and save us, and instead trust ourself to Jesus and put our hope and faith in Him and share all we're going through with Him, looking to Him for all we need to live His way.

The good news of Christmas is that in Jesus God has done what no-one and nothing else can do. So don't get so caught up in all the Christmas hype or the promises of politicians that you lose sight of this. Instead trust yourself to Jesus and see everything else in the light of who He is and what He wants, and what a

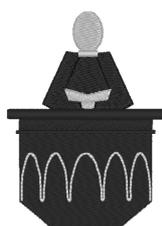
difference that will make, not only to you but also to those around you and our world as you keep living His way.

Wishing you a Christ-centred Christmas and a gloriously godly New Year,

Yours in His love,  
Howard.

---

## MINISTER'S MENTIONS



- I will be on holiday from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January till Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January when Rev. Ronnie Craig will be taking our service. If you need the help of a minister while I'm on holiday, please phone Rev. Peter Davidge at 07765 096599
- 

## COME BACK TO CHURCH THIS CHRISTMAS!

Sometimes when people have not been attending church for a while the thought of coming back can be a bit daunting. Of course, people are welcome to come back at any time, but what better time to come back than at Christmas? After all, it's a time when other people who don't normally come to church attend, and so people do not stand out so much in the crowd. It's also a time when we sing together the well-known carols and remember what Christmas is really all about. So don't keep away, come back and be part of us once again!

---

## REGNAL

**Mondays at 7.30pm**



The Regnal Christmas Dinner will be on 12<sup>th</sup> December, where we hope to have a good time at the Burnside Hotel.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.

- *Robert Humphries*

# CRÈCHE ROTA

Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>	May Livingstone	Nancy Humphries
Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	Henrietta Ndabai	Betty Glassford
Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Glassford	Margaret Miller
Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup>	May Livingstone	Nancy Humphries
Dec 29 <sup>th</sup>	Henrietta Ndabai	Margaret Miller
Jan 5 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Glassford	Margaret Miller
Jan 12 <sup>th</sup>	May Livingstone	Nancy Humphries
Jan 19 <sup>th</sup>	Henrietta Ndabai	May Livingstone
Jan 26 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Glassford	Margaret Miller
Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	May Livingstone	Nancy Humphries
Feb 9 <sup>th</sup>	Henrietta Ndabai	Nancy Humphries
Feb 16 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Glassford	Margaret Miller
Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup>	May Livingstone	Nancy Humphries
Mar 1 <sup>st</sup>	Henrietta Ndabai	Betty Glassford
Mar 8 <sup>th</sup>	Betty Glassford	Margaret Miller



Anyone willing to help with the crèche please speak to Betty Glassford. Thank you.

## COME ALONG TO OUR PARISH GROUPING CHRISTMAS SERVICE

SUNDAY, 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER AT 6.30PM in CALTON PARKHEAD CHURCH HALL, HELENVALE STREET. EVERYONE VERY WELCOME.

## CHRISTMAS FAIR



Our Christmas Fair was held on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November. The total raised will be on the 'What's on Sheet'. THANK YOU all for your efforts; those that helped set up on the Friday morning, all the adults and young people who manned the stalls and tea room, everyone who donated items, baked or bought things and everyone who cleared away at the end. WELL DONE! 😊

## QUIET TIME

The small group of people who meet once a month to pray for those who are ill, worried, or lonely as well as praying for the needs of our local church, the wider church and the community we live in does so on the first Sunday of each month. We would be delighted to welcome anyone who would like to join us in the Billiard Room at 10.30am on either a one off occasion or more frequently. If you are unable to join with us but would like to include someone or some situation in our prayers please let one of us know.

By the time this magazine comes out we will be into Advent so, in view of this, while wishing you all a very Happy Christmas, I would like to share the following prayer by Helen Steiner Rice.

May the kindly spirit of Christmas  
Spread its radiance far and wide,  
So all the world may feel the glow  
Of this holy Christmastide.  
Then may every heart and home  
Continue through the year  
To feel the warmth and wonder  
Of this season of good cheer.  
And may it bring us closer  
To God and to each other  
Till every stranger is a friend  
And every man a brother.

- *Helen Knight*



## FUNERALS

17/10/19

*Mrs Mary Anderson*



# FLOWERS

Many thanks to all who have contributed in any way to the church's Flower Fund. Your donations are always appreciated. If there is anyone else who would like to put flowers in the church, perhaps in memory of someone or an anniversary, etc, please speak to either Rita McKenna or Sharon Miller. Donations are as follows:

## SEPTEMBER

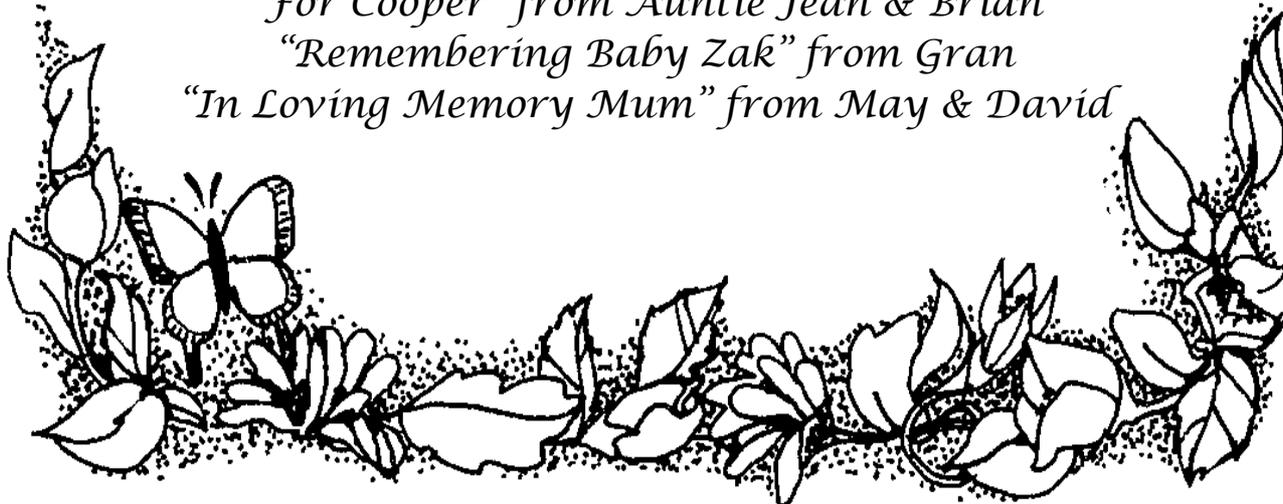
*"For Our Anniversary, Jackie" from Pearl*  
*"In Memory of Mum & Dad" from Sandra & Willie*

## OCTOBER

*"In Memory of my Husband George" from Sadie*  
*"In Memory of my David, Gone but not Forgotten" from Agnes*  
*"In Loving Memory of Dad" from May & David*  
*"In Memory of Mum, Nancy" from Elaine*  
*Flowers donated from funeral of Mary Anderson*

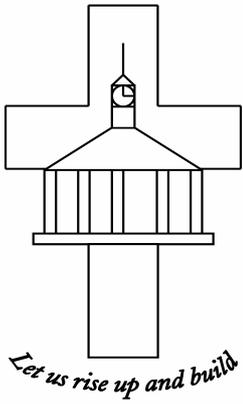
## NOVEMBER

*"For Cooper" from Auntie Jean & Brian*  
*"Remembering Baby Zak" from Gran*  
*"In Loving Memory Mum" from May & David*



*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."*

**John 3:16**



Bridgeton, St. Francis-in-the-East  
Church of Scotland  
26 Queen Mary Street, Bridgeton  
*(Scottish Charity Number SCO12535)*

COME ALONG TO OUR  
**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS**

**KARAOKE CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**

Tuesday, 3rd December at 1.30 pm in our church hall  
*(hosted by the Guild)*

**RECEIVING THE LIGHT**

Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 11am

**THE TRUE LIGHT**

Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 11.15pm  
*(with community carol singing from 11pm)*

**GLORIOUS LIGHT**

Christmas Day, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December, 10.30 am

**LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS**

Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> December at 11 am

**FOLLOWING THE LIGHT**

Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> January at 11am

*EVERYONE WELCOME*



Come along to our next Messy Churchy in Church House on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 3pm when our theme will be "A New Start" near the beginning of a new year.

Messy Church is a different kind of church that meets at a time that suits those who normally would not be able to, or not want to, come to a regular church service. All ages are welcome (children must be accompanied by an adult) and together we enjoy crafts, fun activities, a time of celebration and a meal. It is completely free. Come exactly as you are - no cost and no expectations for who you are supposed to be.

We are also in need of some more people to help at Messy Churchy so if you would like to help, whether with the food, the crafts, the games, the celebration, or just setting up or clearing the hall please have a word with Howard. And one way we can all help is by praying for God to lead, guide, bless and work through Messy Church for His glory and the good of all who come.

If you want to find out more about our Messy Church, please look at our Facebook page.

**[www.facebook.com/MessyChurchBSF](http://www.facebook.com/MessyChurchBSF)**

---

## **FOODBANK**

**Every Thursday 11.00am to 1.00pm**

Thank you all for your kind donations and support which is greatly appreciated by our clients. Our numbers are slowly increasing. Thank you all.

*- Betty Arbuckle*



## **ROLL KEEPERS REPORT**

We have 73 members on the church roll. At the October communion 41 members communicated.

*- Betty Glassford (Roll Keeper)*

### **LHM - HARVEST**

Once again our harvest appeal of food and LHM money envelopes has been a great success. We managed to raise an amazing £312 plus a further amount of £55 totalling £367. Once again you have risen to the challenge to commit to helping those less fortunate than ourselves, so on behalf of all at LHM a very big THANK YOU to each and everyone for your very generous donations.

### **LHM - ORDINATION**

On Thursday 14 November Nancy and I attended the ordination of Claire Herbert to the Diaconate. The service was officiated by Rev Daniel Carmichael Moderator. This was a lovely service and it made official Claire's position of chaplain to LHM. Claire is up for the challenge bringing her love of God and the needs of the service users to her new position.

### **LHM - CHRISTMAS TABLE**

From Sunday 24 November there will be LHM Christmas cards along with other Christmas cards and a variety of other goodies. So please stop at the table and browse, as all donations will go towards the work and witness at LHM.

NEW CHALLENGE - Instead of buying Christmas crackers could you spare the money instead and buy a hot meal for the service users at LHM. Please read the poster above the tea hatch for more information.

Once again the night shelter at LHM will open their doors, this runs from 1 December until 31 March 2020. This has been an enormous success over the past years as it enables 40 service users a safe warm place to spend the night, escaping the cold harsh winter nights, and they can wake to a warm breakfast and also they can spend the day there in the warmth and safety away from the harsh streets.

I would once again like to take the time to thank you all over this past year to committing helping the service users at LHM. Thank you for your amazing response to the appeal of sugar which ran out in the store larder earlier this year, never been

heard of before and once again Bridgeton St Francis rose to the challenge. THANK YOU.

LHM could not function the way it does without the help of all the churches help and generosity which contributes towards the work and witness of all the service users at LHM. So on behalf of the staff, the chaplain, volunteers and the service users a very big THANK YOU

Merry Christmas

- Jackie Hughes (LHM Rep)

---

## How to give money to our church without it costing you more



If you pay Income Tax and want any money you give to your church to be worth more, whether it's through your offering, gift envelopes or whatever, then please make sure that you sign a Gift Aid form, and then put the number on your planned giving envelope on every gift envelope or on a sealed envelope containing any other donation you give to the church.

That way **for every £1 you give, we can reclaim 25p from the Inland Revenue.** If you would like to sign a Gift Aid form or if you would like more information regarding any of this, please see Jim Gibson. Remember:

1. It is very easy to do. Anyone, young or old, retired or working, can do this, as long as they pay income Tax, no matter how little. You only need to sign a Gift Aid form once.
2. For each pound you give the church receives another 25p.
3. Gift Aid costs you nothing. The extra money has already been paid by you in tax, and is simply being reclaimed from the Inland Revenue, which treats the church as a charity for these purposes.
4. There are no tricks, pitfalls or difficulties involved. It's all open and above board. It just means extra money for the church at no cost to you in time, money or effort.

# YOUNG FRANKIES

*Mt. 19:14 Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me..."*

We continue to meet downstairs in the hall during morning worship. Numbers fluctuate from week to week as is only expected. We continue to use the HeartShaper material, which we find quite easy to adapt depending how many youngsters attend and the age range we have to cover on any particular Sunday morning.

Edith has net on a couple of occasions to lead a Bible Study with the two older lads. This seems to be working well. We hope that soon we will be able to involve them, in addition to bible study, in using the Bible Minecraft material with the younger people. Edith, Sandra and I will be very much dependant on their superior expertise with all things technical.

There has been a hold up in getting this off the ground but we have now used some of the funds, donated by the Guild for our work with Young Frankies, to purchase second-hand an X-box 360 and a Minecraft disc. The book that accompanies this has been donated so we are all set to go as soon as we take delivery.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Guild members for their kindness in making this possible. It is very much appreciated.

I would also like to take this opportunity to make a heartfelt plea; is there anyone in our congregation who would be willing to assist with Young Frankies? There are three of us at the moment. It would be useful to have at least one other named person who could stand in if any of us are unable to come because of ill health, etc. Everyone who works with Young Frankies has to have a PVG certificate but don't let that put you off as this can be arranged. It would be a pity if, now, having such an enthusiastic group, we were unable to fulfil the church's call to work with people of all ages in our church.

*- Helen Knight*

## NOTICEBOARD

Please remember to let the minister know about any of our members who are seriously ill or in hospital. He will never know about it unless someone tells him.

Remember to keep looking at our church notice boards near the lane door, above the hall piano, and in the corridor between the kitchen and session house.

Please remember to look at our table of **FREE LITERATURE** near the front door of the church and take from it anything you want.

If you have an email address, please let Howard know at **[hhudson@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:hhudson@churchofscotland.org.uk)**

Please remember to **CLOSE ALL DOORS** behind you when you come into church to keep in the heat.

A very **BIG THANK YOU** to all who donate tea, coffee, etc. It is greatly appreciated.

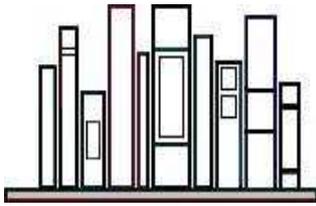
Thinking about joining the Church? Or wanting to know more about living for Jesus? Then please see the minister as soon as possible so that he can arrange a new series of the **Enquirer's Group** at a time that suits you. The Enquirer's Group meetings are very informal and open to anyone, whether a member of the Church or not, whether wanting to join the Church or not. No pressure is put on anyone to join the Church.

If you want to see the minister on a Sunday, please see him after the service.

There is a **SUGGESTION BOX** on the table at the front door of the church. If you have any helpful suggestions to do with our church, please put them in the box. All suggestions will be carefully considered.

If you are housebound and would like to receive a tape of our Sunday service each week, please let your elder know. We can supply a tape recorder if you don't have one.

## CHURCH LIBRARY



The Church Library is open each Sunday, just next to the piano in the main hall, for everyone to use. A wide range of Christian books are available for borrowing, including books on Christian history, biographies, practical books to help you pray, or read your Bible, as well as theology books for anyone wanting to study that bit deeper. In fact, there's something there for everyone including children. Just make a note in the jotter of anything you take, and enjoy your book. Remember the library is there for you.

---

## RETIRING OFFERING

There will be our annual retiring offering for Church House after our communion services on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Please give generously.

---

## GUILD



May I take this opportunity to thank all those who have attended and took part in our Guild meetings in the first half of our session. Please remember that we are off the Month of January but looking forward to the second half of our year. Wishing you all a great Christmas and Happy and Healthy New Year and may our Lord bless and keep you.

- *Edith Watt*

---

One of our members Grace Donald has moved into a care home in Wiltshire. If anyone wants to send a Christmas card her address is:

Avoncourt Care Home  
St Francis Avenue  
Chippenham  
Wiltshire  
SN15 2SE

# DATES TO REMEMBER

## DECEMBER

3	Karaoke Carols by Candlelight (hosted by The Guild)	1.30pm
5	Kirk Session	1.30pm
10	Dalmarnock Primary Christmas Services	9.30am & 11.00am
22	Receiving the Light	11.00am
22	Parish Grouping Christmas Service (Calton Parkhead)	6.30pm
24	The True Light (carol singing from 11pm)	11.15pm
25	Glorious Light	10.00am
29	Light in the Darkness	11.00am

## JANUARY

5	Following the Light	11.00am
16	Congregational Board	7.00pm
19	Messy Church (in Church House)	3.00pm

## FEBRUARY

13	Kirk Session	1.30pm
23	Communion Services	11.00am & 6.30pm

# WEEKLY EVENTS

## EVERY SUNDAY

Service	11.00am
Crèche	11.00am
Young Frankies	11.00am

## EVERY MONDAY

Mens Regnal Circle	7.30pm
--------------------	--------

## EVERY TUESDAY

The Guild	1.30pm
Brownies	6.30pm

## EVERY WEDNESDAY

See the Minister	1.00pm
Unlock the Bible	7.30pm

## EVERY THURSDAY

Food Bank	11.00am
-----------	---------

Anyone wishing to submit material for the magazine should either hand it to Barbara Jennings or email to:

[barbara.jennings1@ntlworld.com](mailto:barbara.jennings1@ntlworld.com)

The deadline for the Spring 2020 magazine will be

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020**