



Newsletter of St John's Johnstone

September 2019

www.StJohnsJohnstone.org.uk



Getting ready to celebrate Harvest Festival

September is a month of changes for many people and households. We get used to new routines and new people as organizations often start projects and initiatives from September.

As we prepare to celebrate Harvest Festival on Sunday 29 September we do so knowing very little about where the food we put on our tables has come from unless we put in some considerable effort in sourcing the produce we eat.

For many younger people nowadays the 'air miles' that food has travelled is an important ecological factor in the choices they make of what to buy and eat. This is a privilege of only a few of us with the financial capacity to do this. What we can all do as we eat our food is be grateful. Being grateful is a spiritual practise that is at the centre of our SEC worshipping life.

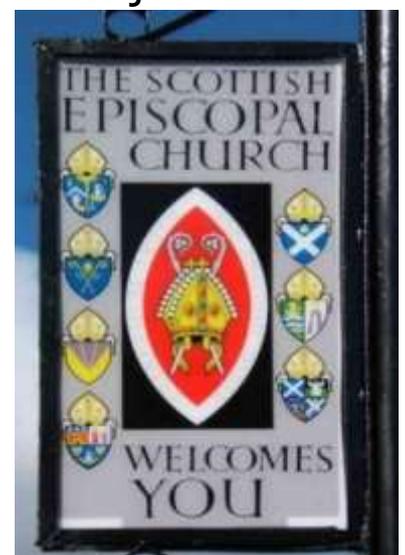


The great Eucharistic Prayer is a prayer of Thanksgiving and we recall again and again the story of our faith and the part Jesus had to play in it.

At Harvest we rehearse again the memory that *all we eat comes from the providence of God in creation*. We also have to remember the costs to many lives for bringing us our food so "cheaply". So as we approach harvest we give thanks, and we pray for greater justice for those who work in the farming and food production sectors. We also pray for those who try to help farm workers who are isolated and lonely in the modern food production systems. This is a challenge to our generation with so many farm producers and workers being alone in their tasks.

We remain thankful and joyful that we can add our voices to those who bring change and hope to all who labour on land and sea for our food sources.

Look out for the charities we shall support this harvest.



Regional Council

The next Regional Council meeting is on Wednesday 4 Sept at 7pm and hosted at St Margarets Renfrew. Our Reps are Wilma and June – Please take a look at our report since the last meeting and also what the other churches of the Region have to say.



HYMNS on Sunday

Thank you for the comments you have made on recent hymns and songs. You can always request a hymn that you particularly like and want using the little slips at the back of church. **The next hymn rota will run from Advent Sunday to the beginning of Lent 2020**



Vestry Meetings

The next Vestry meeting will be on **Friday 6 September at 1030am** in church. If you have items you would like discussed please give them to Kay. We shall be discussing the outcome of the Regional Growth Fund application, the Gala Days in 2020, the theft of the lead from the church roof, the Garden walling and preparations for Christmas celebrations.



For your Prayers – Regional Growth Fund application to help us host a Christmas Tree Festival at St John's.

The Vestry has submitted an application to the Regional Growth Fund of the diocese for a grant of about £1500 to help us put on a Christmas Tree Festival in church with the aim of reaching out to new people, groups and businesses in Johnstone, Elderslie, Kilbarchan, Howwood and Lochwinnoch. Please pray for success of our application so that we might reach out to new people here at St John's.



A thought – would you like to gift to St Johns a new crib set? A decent sized set to adorn our festival would cost several hundred pounds and we would need to order it in September so that we are ready for November. If this idea resonates with you have a word with Reuben and he will show you some examples of sets we might consider.



Some news and an invitation....

On Tuesday 10 September, during his annual leave, Reuben & Stephen will be married at St Mary's Cathedral in Glasgow. Their Civil Partnership was on 10 September 2013 so now that they can 'convert' (a legal term) it to a marriage, and Reuben can keep his job as rector here in SEC, that is what they are doing. The ceremony at St Mary's Cathedral will be a private event with **the parishes' invitation being to a Celebration shared buffet lunch on Sunday 29 September** (Harvest Festival Day) **at 1230pm** in the church hall at Renfrew. Please let Wilma, or John Mitchell, know if you would be able to attend this relaxed



celebration of Reuben & Stephen's wedding at the end of their holiday in September. It would be lovely to see as many of you as possible as well as getting a chance to see Reuben in his Welsh kilt and Stephen in his Irish one! George can't cope with a kilt!!

Congratulations to Dr Iain who grew up at St John's and attended both Sunday school and choir. Here he is graduating from Aberdeen University in June with an Honours Degree in Medicine and a Masters in Global Health. He has just started work as a junior doctor at Yeovil District Hospital in Somerset.





Sunday Worship Ministry Rota for September 2019

Sunday 1 September	Pentecost 12 GREEN	Rector
Epistle	Heb 13.1-8,15-16	
Reader	David Roberts	
Gospel	Lk 14.1,7-14	
Intercessions	Gill Reynolds	
Eucharistic Assistant	Wilma	
Sunday 8 September	Pentecost 13 GREEN	Rector
Epistle	Phil 1-21	
Reader	David Fowles	
Gospel	Lk 14.25-33	
Intercessions	Kay Cherrie	
Eucharistic Assistant	David Fowles	
Sunday 15 September	Pentecost 14 GREEN	LWL Gill Reynolds
	<i>Communion of the Reserved Sacrament</i>	
Epistle	1 T 1.12-17 ...	
Reader	Ann Lamont	
Gospel	Lk 15.1-10.	
Intercessions	Gill Reynolds	
Eucharistic Assistant	Ann Lamont	
Sunday 22 September	Pentecost 15 GREEN	LWL Gill Reynolds
	<i>Communion of the Reserved Sacrament</i>	
Epistle	1 T 2.1-7	
Reader	Agnes Fullerton	
Gospel	Lk 16.1-13	
Intercessions	Kay Cherrie	
Eucharistic Assistant	David Fowles	
Sunday 29 September	Harvest Festival (<i>Rogation Readings</i>) GREEN	Rector
Epistle	2 C 9.6-15 ...	
Reader	Ann Lamont	
Gospel	Lk 17.11-19	
Intercessions	Rector	
Eucharistic Assistant	Ann Lamont	
	<i>followed by Celebratory Buffet Lunch to mark Reuben & Stephen's marriage at Renfrew Church Hall – all welcome to celebrate</i>	

Note: The Lectionary readings for each Sunday are listed in full – we shall use those readings indicated in **bold type** If you are reading the Sunday Pewsheets available on the website from midday on Saturday

www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

Contact: Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

Mob: 07971 895897