



STRATH & SLEAT
Church of Scotland
AN SRATH IS SLÈITE

NEWSLETTER ❄️
Christmas 2023

Mission Statement

Our purpose is to honour and enjoy God, proclaim Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, serve our community in Jesus' name, strengthen one another in our spiritual life, and influence our world through prayer, witness, truth and grace.



Need prayer or someone to pray with you?

Email Mary Fennell: prayercoordinator1995@gmail.com

Need to talk? Questions about the Christian faith?

Contact the Session Clerk, who will find the right person to speak to you. Details are on the last page.

Website: www.sschurch.co.uk

Notices: lesleyinskye@yahoo.co.uk



Notice and Pastoral Care

Although no longer Minister in the Parish, Rory had kindly offered to continue preaching, and the Session agreed that this would continue until the end of the year. Once into the New Year, a nomination committee will be elected and the vacancy will be advertised and, with the official start of the new presbytery on 1st January 2024, it was felt best to leave Rory in peace to focus in the new role.



For those reasons, it was agreed to hold a leaving event in January, an opportunity to give thanks to Rory and Annice for their service across the parish these last nine years.

A date will be set and communicated early in the New Year.

In the absence of the minister, if you are aware of someone in need of a visit, or in hospital, or if you would like a visit yourselves, it would be helpful if you could contact Nicola, the Session Clerk, who will co-ordinate visits with Session members and Elders accordingly.

Mòran taing. Thank you.

Nicola Thomson, Session Clerk, 07825 302548, strathandsleat@gmail.com

Introducing Fred Vincent

Dear Strath & Sleat Friends

Just saying hello, as the new interim-moderator for Strath & Sleat, recently appointed by presbytery following Rory's demission.

I'm the minister of Glenelg, Kintail & Lochalsh, your neighbouring parish over the bridge, where I've been since June 2021.

My role is to support Strath & Sleat as you continue your ministry and mission and, at the same time, look to fill the Minister of Word and Sacrament vacancy which has arisen.

Being in vacancy for a congregation is a time for giving thanks for the life of a congregation; acknowledging the gifts, talents and commitment present in its people; and seeking to discern God's vision for the future while responding to God's invitational call to bring His kingdom reign to fruition.

I look forward to journeying with you during this next while and until, under God, Strath & Sleat and a new minister find one another and agree to travel in faith together into the future!

A wee while ago (actually June 2022 – where did that year go!?) I shared a bit about myself in Talking Ministry on the Church of Scotland website. If interested, you can find out a bit more about me here: bit.ly/47WI4wO

Regards

Fred Vincent





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Harvest Collection

A huge
THANK YOU!
to everyone who
donated items to the
Skye Foodbank!

*What do ducks do before their
Christmas dinner?
They pull Quistmas Quackers!*



Church Life

Harris Morrison sadly passed away on Tuesday 28th November at the tender age of 9. Our thoughts and prayers are with Ruth, Peter, Jack and the wider family. Funeral details to be confirmed.

Funerals

Kyleakin

5/10/23 Louise Saunders, Rev Rory MacLeod, Balmacara Cemetery

Broadford

27/11/23 Ewen Smith, Rev Fred Vincent, (F MacLeod) Broadford Cemetery

Torrin

30/11/23 Lachie Nicholson, Rev Fred Vincent, Broadford

Kilmore

1/12/23 Hector Mackenzie, Rev Fred Vincent, Kilmore

Kilmore Youth Vestry Trip to Jordan

Well, it was a few years in the planning, but we finally made our trip to Jordan a reality! It's tricky to squeeze our 8 night visit into a newsletter article but here's a little insight into what was a remarkable time together, only made possible by you guys!

Leaving the UK on 11th October, we were aware that war was inevitable in the Middle East. We'd been assured that Jordan was safe, however, and we'd had many messages of prayers as we were leaving Skye on the 10th. Once we'd boarded our flight, the pilot explained that the flight would be diverted through Egypt and up through the south of Jordan, to avoid flying over Israel. It meant an extra hour and a half but we were glad to be avoiding any danger.

We arrived into a fairly quiet Queen Alia airport in Amman, about 1.30am, and were soon met by the friendly smile of George - Rev. George al-Kopti, pastor of St Paul's church, husband to Mary, host for our trip, king of the Dad jokes and a genuinely lovely person, with an infectious laugh! After a cup of mint tea at the manse, we all collapsed into our beds around 4am.

St Paul's and the Youth Conference (days 1-2)

Following a comfortable first sleep, and an early call-to-prayer booming out of the mosque speakers (our alarm for the duration), we were treated to a typical Jordanian breakfast of falafel, hummus, olives, flatbread, cheese and *foul* (fortunately pronounced "fool", a delicious mix of broad bean, garlic, lemon and spices) and we enjoyed some of George's stories and jokes. He helped us debunk some of what we'd read in the guides. And already we knew we had met a man with a huge heart and a generous spirit.

George then showed us around the campus of St Paul's which is based in Ashrafieh, one of the poorer districts in the east of the capital. First, we visited their care home which provides 24 hour care and ministry for up to ten Christian women. We all sensed the friendliness of the women and the staff, despite their limited English. It was clear too that they welcomed and appreciated George's cheerful daily visits. We got our first taste of cardamom coffee here too – mixed reviews!



Upstairs then, to visit the church itself; a newer version of the original, which was founded by Palestinian refugees in the 1950s, the new church was built in the 1980s, with spectacular views across Amman. George took us right up onto the rooftop – wow! We had no idea Amman was so vast! Built across seven hills, you could see houses and buildings as far as the eye could see in all directions. Most were adorned with a satellite dish and a huge water tank, as Jordan is one of the most water-scarce countries in the world, with families dependent on weekly deliveries and continued resourcefulness in

how to make it last. Then, above the manse living quarters, we were shown around the Olive Tree Centre, which provides Arabic and English classes, art and music lessons and additional life skills to the Christian refugees and local Jordanians alike. All of this formed the church campus.

Before heading to the Youth Conference that afternoon, George showed us how to make a proper Turkish/Arabic coffee and treated us to another Jordanian treat - *kinaffe* - a sweet pastry with a soft cheese middle and a smattering of pistachio crumbs. The girls were not convinced, but Archie and I loved it!



The Youth Conference was in another multi-use space on the campus and we were met by around 20 youngsters, aged between 13-17. Friendly faces, and a variety of English language abilities, we soon got chatting with those who were pleased to practise their English on us. There was a combination of teen refugees from Iraq, Egypt and Syria and locals from Amman itself.

We spent the next day and a half with them, alongside George, his wife Mary (who is Principal of Whitman Academy's secondary provision), Kareem (their youth

worker) and Kimberley (an American living in Amman who has almost perfected her Arabic and volunteers with the church). We enjoyed a variety of sessions which we had helped prepare with George and Mary prior to the trip – fellowship, worship, Bible studies, games and icebreakers, football, and food! Lots of food! And sharing our cultures. After sharing about each others' cultures, we started on the dancing! Iraqi and Jordanian first, and then we demonstrated our Strip the Willow and got them all up on the dance floor. Archie was delighted to spend every break and lunchtime playing footie with them and scouting for talent for a Sleat & Strath vs St Paul's 5-side!

That evening Mary and George took us across town, to the very hip Western Amman, where the girls were delighted to discover Mary's love of a thrift shop! Soulmates!

Biblical Sites (day 3)

We set off early on Saturday, heading down into the Jordan Valley, the lowest on the earth, and walked to the Baptismal Site of Jesus in scorching 34 degrees. It was great having George alongside us, essentially providing a free tour guide service. The grandmother of some of the young people we had met was visiting from Egypt, her first visit in 8 years, and she had asked to come with us as she had never been to these sites. It was humbling watching how she revered it all, taking off her head scarf and rinsing it in the water. Onwards then, to the Jordan River spot, where a baptismal font and seating area was busy with tourists and pilgrims, and where we each got the chance to dip our feet in and to stand in the river. The river, at this point at least, is very narrow – insignificant to look at in some ways and





very murky, and yet it forms the highly significant boundary (marked by thin ropes with buoys attached) between Jordan and the West Bank (Occupied Palestine), although Israel controls the borders too. George invited us then around the baptismal font, praying in Arabic and English before sprinkling each of us, and we finished with a time of prayer in our own Gaelic. For myself, this was the most poignant part of our trip. It was difficult to marry up the peace in which we were stood, taking it all in, and the onset of war that was taking place across from us. When our prayer was over, there was nobody left in the area. It was very special.

Leaving the Jordan Valley then, via the bottled water and ice-lolly stand (they must make a fortune every day!), we began the ascent to Mount Nebo, where Moses is believed to have taken in the view of the Promised Land and later died. From the viewpoint, George pointed out Jericho, Hebron, Jerusalem in the distance, Neblos (Sa-

maria) and we also saw Moses' springs, as if they'd been dropped out of the sky onto the arid earth around them. Very surreal to be looking across to the places most of us have only ever read about in our Bibles. I had to pinch myself a few times!

We headed then to Madaba, a bustling town and visited St George's Church which houses the mosaic map of the Holy Land, believed to be from 539 BC. George, clearly getting to know us already, whisked us off to Planet Donut, for a much appreciated sugar injection, before embarking on some souvenir shopping and witnessing some haggling – Jordan-style!

Church and the Citadel (day 4)

On Sunday, we attended St Paul's in the morning (a 9.30am service, reminding us of those Kilmore early starts!) and then St Luke's in the evening, in Marka, a district further north in Amman, which has come under George's remit since the New Year. We sang Psalm 23 in Gaelic and Ùrnaigh – a Gaelic prayer about peace, written by Staffin's own Amy Cruickshank. We had always planned to sing it, as it is a favourite, but, given the situation that was unfolding, it seemed more poignant than ever. We provided a rough translation on the screen and a few folk thanked us afterwards, visibly moved by the words and all that was going on. People were so kind, and it was lovely to recognise faces in St Paul's, following the youth conference and meeting some of their parents.

In the afternoon, we visited the Jordan Museum and the citadel, where we bumped into Helen Barnes, whose Uncle Angus lives in Kilmore, and who was visiting her daughter who currently lives in Amman. Helen's cousin had sent her the article in the Free Press about our trip and, when she spotted George's dog collar, she then recognised the girls from the photo in the paper and came to say, "Hi!" Walking around with George was an experience in itself – George is clearly a very well-respected man, and hugely proactive in terms of ensuring ecumenical relations are healthy. He always found a connection with whoever he stopped to chat with.

That evening we ate *mansef*, believed to be the meal served to the angels by Abraham, and Jordan's national dish. Despite not knowing where on earth all this food was going, we ate all that we were given and thoroughly enjoyed it! (In fact, we could probably write a separate article about the meals...!)

Heading for the south (days 5-7)

Monday morning, and we (and George) were collected early by our driver, who would transport us south for the next three nights. First stop Petra, some four hours down the Desert Road. Absolutely stunning. I knew little about Petra before planning this trip, and not being an Indiana Jones fan, but it really was quite something. All these buildings carved into the sandstone, and the place was bustling with people, camels, donkeys, and little markets all along the route. The Nabataeans inhabited Petra, which was a significant trading hub from as far back as the 2nd century BC. Known as the rose-city, the colour of rock changes according to the position of the sun. Although we didn't get to see it at dawn or dusk, it was truly an amazing day.



Our second day in the south, took us along the King's Highway, stopping off for a photo opp on the train from Lawrence of Arabia, and then arriving at Wadi Rum, the desert, where we would spend the night in a Bedouin camp. I had warned the parents that we might not be in touch for a day or so if there was no signal. Our sandy adventure started with a half hour camel ride which,



whilst happy to try anything once, I was quite delighted to get off! The girls seemed to love them though! A three hour jeep tour then across the vastness of red and beige sands, up sand dunes, climbing unusual rock formations and stopping for some Bedouin hospitality along the way. When we eventually arrived at our camp, we were surprised to find our tents had proper iron beds, a light, USB ports and full Wi-Fi! Not exactly roughing it then. We enjoyed a lovely dinner that night, preceded by the "magic show" where the meat was dug out from the sand, having been slow cooked by the

heat of the sand during the day, in the traditional Bedouin manner. We then sat watching the sun going down on the desert, nothing but sand and rock ahead of us, with the pacing gait of the camel herds passing by every now and then. Incredible.

On our final day in the south, we visited Aqaba, the administrative capital of Jordan, with the national flag of its castle flying at half-mast. We stood on the shore of the Red Sea, looking across to Egypt, up to Israel, with Saudi Arabia a mere 30km south of where we stood. Another surreal moment, although the glass-bottomed boats bobbing around us did make me feel like I was in a hot Kyle of Lochalsh! A final chance to pick up some souvenirs and back on the road, then passing by Lot's Cave (a recent discovery) and the statue to his wife, as we drove through Sodom and Gommorah, before arriving at the Dead Sea – another scorching 34 degrees, back in the depths of the Jordan Valley. After some lunch, we headed for the shore and spent the most

incredible hour floating on the water, lathering ourselves in mud, and then going back in to rinse it off! A truly memorable day for us all!

Returning home to Amman for our final evening with George and Mary, we ran up to catch a final sunset on the rooftop, before being treated to *magluba*, another Jordanian dish, with cauliflower and potatoes cooked in layers. After an early start, and an emotional airport farewell, we were back in the air, flying over Egypt, Cyprus, Greece and all the way back to Heathrow T5 and yes, straight to Costa for a cappuchino! Such Westerners!

Reflections



Our trip was memorable in so many ways. George and Mary made it what it was. We were quite at home there. They were so kind and generous of their time, despite their own concerns rising at all that was happening to those across the border. One of the hospitals which was bombed was part of their diocese, which made it all the more real for us all. Each night we watched snippets on the news, and sensed from the pictures and videos that things were escalating. My own limited understanding of all that was going on was certainly enhanced from our time there and conversations with Mary and George. The day before we left, Mary had in fact closed her school (which was considered an American school) as the risk was too high that someone might wish to take out their anger on it, following President Biden's speech that morning.

Archie and I reflected on the real sense that the work of St Paul's is a whole-life-ministry set-up. It was clear that all the teenagers had real relationships with the team; they were all at ease, involved in all aspects of each other's lives and families. It was really lovely to witness. George and Mary invest so much of their time and energy into making the lives of these young people better and always pointing them to Jesus, in many ways echoing the Whitmans who had inspired the Christian school where Mary is Secondary Principal. The youth groups and Sunday Schools met midweek and after church, rather than leaving during the services. Their mission is to ensure that the children and young people are equipped with sound and orthodox Biblical knowledge.

We were so proud of Caramarie, Emily and Eubha while we were in Jordan. They represented our church so well, they were polite, they ate all their food, they shared their faith, they prayed publicly, they were willing to try anything we'd planned, they grew in confidence, they spoke lots of Gaelic and they had experiences that were only possible because of this twinning with St Paul's. Faithful, young ambassadors.

We each learned a lot from this trip. We learned about other cultures. We learned things we didn't all know from the Bible. We learned from seeing how others do things. We learned that we need to up our game perhaps, when it comes to meaningfully sharing the whole Bible with our young people. In some ways, even that will be different now, having been to some of the



What did one mince pie say to the other?
Nothing, mince pies can't talk!

places where Jesus Himself walked.

We learned that loving Jesus does not stop wars. But we reminded ourselves too, that it was in Jesus that we were all united. We pray for all those people, young and old, whom we met, that some of them might visit us here, that their faith is strengthened and that whatever shape their lives take, that they might have taken some encouragement from our time together too, as we did from them. We pray for the whole region too, that peace will return. And we are incredibly thankful for our safe journeys.

We give thanks to each person who contributed to this trip. But most of all we give thanks to George and to Mary for being the most incredible hosts. Find out more about the school where Mary is Secondary Principal: bit.ly/46DMoQi

Find out more about St Paul's (click on Jordan, then St Paul's, Ashrafiyeh): bit.ly/40Vb9q0

Shukran. Mòran taing. Thank you.

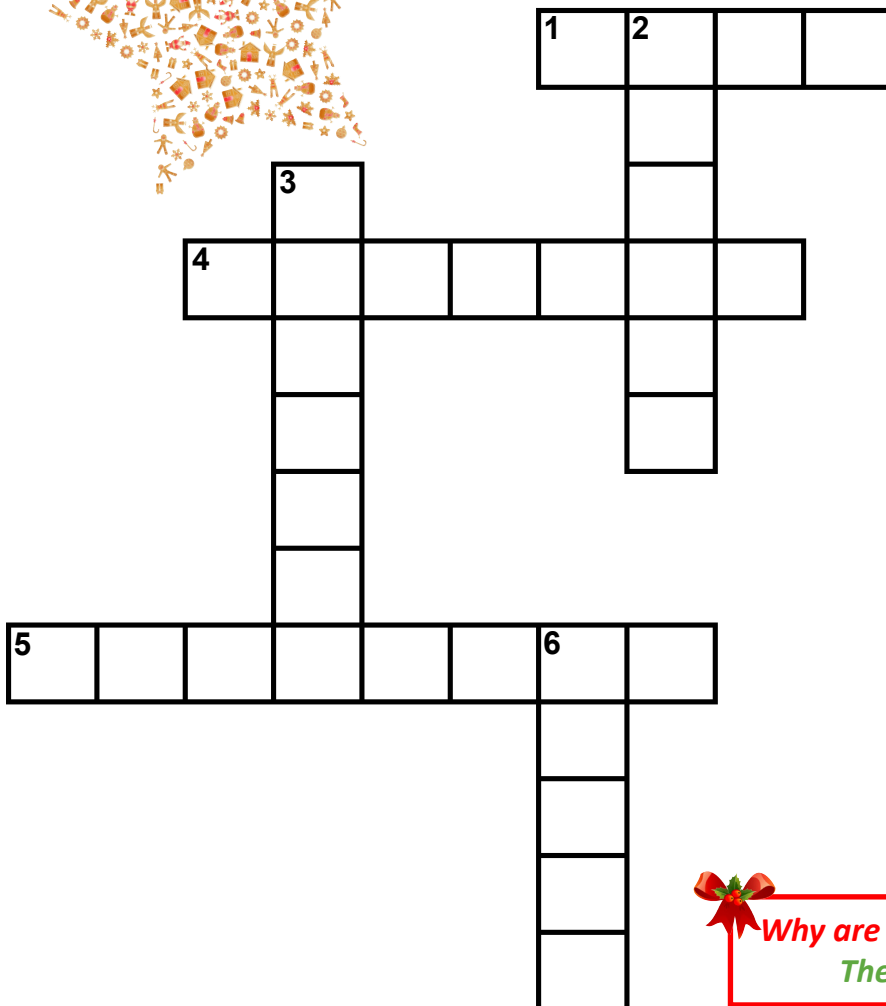
Nicola Thomson

We will be meeting George, Mary and some of the young people in the next week or so, to discuss the future possibilities of our developing partnership. If you are interested or would like to learn more about the work they do, follow the links above or speak to myself or Archie.

(Kilmore Youth Vestry recently shared their stories at Kilmore Church, see the video here on Facebook: bit.ly/3QWt1MC- Editor)



Tòiseachan-tarsainn na Nollaige



TARSAINN

1. Dè an t-ainm air an laoidh Nollaig "Leanabh an..."?
4. Lean na Magi dè airson Iosa a lorg anns a' phrèsaich?
5. Dè am baile anns an do rugadh Iosa?

SÌOS

2. Bha Màiri dol a phòsadh an duine seo
3. Cò dh'innis do Mhàiri gum biodh leanabh aice?
6. Thuir an t-aingeal ris na buachaillean "na biodh --- oirbh"

Bàbaidh NicThòmais



*Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing?
They always drop their needles!*



You will probably all remember that in 2019 six families from our congregation took part in a New Scots Holidays scheme run under the auspices of the organisation Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees, of which the Church of Scotland is a member. This was very successful, but planned follow ups had to be cancelled due to covid and, by the time this was no longer a barrier, SFAR's funding for such schemes had come to an end. However, as the Session felt that this was a very effective way of welcoming and showing love to some of those who had come to our country for refuge, they approved a proposal to independently organise a similar holiday in our Parish. We were fortunate to receive advice and support from the co-ordinator of SFAR, Sabine Chalmers (until she went on maternity leave!), for which we were very grateful.



As we were just finding our way in running the scheme independently, we decided to keep it small and to directly approach those families who had hosted in 2019. This resulted in us recruiting three families who were keen to participate again. Sabine had also put us in touch with the Refugee Resettlement Team at Stirling Council and, through them, three families were identified who were keen to take part and who matched the accommodation our hosts were able to provide. This resulted in us hosting a Syrian family, an Afghanistan family and a family from South Sudan, a total of five adults and six children ranging in age from 2 to 12 years.

Once matched with our families, the hosts made contact first of all with the family's support worker and then with the family themselves through phone, WhatsApp and/or Zoom. This allowed us to start getting to know each other and to plan for the trip, which was scheduled to run from 9th - 13th October.

Unfortunately, flooding in the Central Belt meant that no trains were running from Stirling on the 9th and continued disruptions on the 10th meant our guests didn't arrive at Kyle railway station until 9.15pm! Despite this less than ideal start, our guests were in good spirits when they arrived and didn't seem to mind that they had to wait until the next morning to see any of the island they had come to visit!

As well as spending time with their own host families, some joint activities were organised, the main ones being a visit to Armadale Gardens and a ferry boat trip to Mallaig for lunch. Despite the inclement weather, our guests entered into these activities with enthusiasm and certainly seemed to enjoy them!

The highlight of the stay was probably the ceilidh we held in Ardvasar Hall on the second evening. Despite so many local people being away on holiday at the time, we managed to pull together a really talented group of people who sang,



danced and played musical instruments to give our guests a taste of our culture. In turn, one of the ladies from southern Sudan demonstrated a traditional dance and the two little Syrian boys quite spontaneously danced for us as soon as Eilidh Ceilidh started playing the accordion!



Our guests also shared their culture in other ways: some brought traditional food with them to share, and others prepared food at our homes. We learned a little of their stories and marvelled at their ability to overcome such adversity and at their willingness

to adapt to life in another country in order to enable their children to flourish. We, the hosts, were enriched by the experience and we made new friends and plan to keep in touch. The feedback we have had from our guests would indicate that they thoroughly enjoyed having a break away from their usual lives and appreciated the opportunity to meet new people and to see a different part of their adopted homeland.

We want to thank all those who helped in any way to make this holiday possible including those who willingly performed at our ceilidh, those who provided food and those who loaned child car seats. Financial help was received from Stirling Council who paid for the families' travel, and outings were financed through a grant the church had previously received for a refugee related event.

*I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me.*

Matthew 25:40

Jean Gillies



**What do reindeer hang on their Christmas trees?
Horn-aments!**

The 12 Days of Christmas

The 12 Days each traditionally celebrate a feast day for a saint and/or have different celebrations (these can be different between countries and regions, but common ones are below).



Day 1 (25th December): Christmas Day - celebrating the Birth of Jesus



Day 2 (26th December also known as Boxing Day): St Stephen's Day. He was the first Christian martyr (someone who dies for their faith). It's also the day when the Christmas Carol "Good King Wenceslas" takes place.



Day 3 (27th December): St John the Apostle (one of Jesus's disciples and friends)



Day 4 (28th December): The Feast of the Holy Innocents - when people remember the baby boys which King Herod killed when he was trying to find and kill the Baby Jesus.



Day 5 (29th December): St Thomas Becket. He was Archbishop of Canterbury in the 12th century and was murdered on 29th December 1170 for challenging the King's authority over the Church.



Day 6 (30th December): St Egwin of Worcester



Day 7 (31st December): New Year's Eve (known as Hogmanay in Scotland [of course!]). Pope Sylvester I is traditionally celebrated on this day. He was one of the earliest popes (in the 4th Century). In many central and eastern European countries (including Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czechia, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Slovakia, Switzerland and Slovenia) New Year's Eve is still sometimes called "Silvester". In the UK, New Year's Eve was a traditional day for games and sporting competitions. Archery was a very popular sport and during the Middle Ages it was the law that it had to be practised by all men between ages 17-60 on Sunday after Church! This was so the King had lots of very good archers ready in case he needed to go to war!



Day 8 (1st January): 1st January - Mary, the Mother of Jesus



Day 9 (2nd January): St Basil the Great and St Gregory Nazianzen, two important 4th century Christians.



Day 10 (3rd January): Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. This remembers when Jesus was officially "named" in the Jewish Temple. It's celebrated by different churches on a wide number of different dates!



Day 11 (4th January): St Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first American saint, who lived in the 18th and 19th centuries.



Day 12 (5th January also known as Epiphany Eve): St John Neumann, who was the first Bishop in America (and so far the only US male citizen) to become a saint. He lived in the 19th century. In some churches, it's also the saint's day of St Simeon Stylites the Elder, who lived on a small platform on the top of a pillar for 37 years!

Suggested by Màiri Strachan

www.whychristmas.com/customs/12-days-of-christmas

Reproduced by kind permission of James Cooper, site owner

Who can work out the maths? How many gifts in total were received?

(See page 15 for the answer!)



SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER

11am Joint Parish Service in Kilmore

SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER

11am Gift Services in All Churches

An opportunity to donate food items (staples as well as more Christmassy items) which will be made up into Christmas food parcels and distributed to local families by Social Services

MONDAY 11th DECEMBER

Kyleakin School Experience "Messy Christmas" in Kyleakin Church
(NB. School children, teachers and performers only)

TUESDAY 12th DECEMBER

Sleat School Experience "Messy Christmas" in Kilmore Church
(NB. School children, teachers and performers only)

FRIDAY 15th DECEMBER

10am Sleat School Christmas Service in Kilmore Church

*How does Good King
Wenceslas like his pizza?
One that's deep pan, crisp
and even!*

SUNDAY 17th DECEMBER

11am Family Nativity Services in Kilmore and Kyleakin

2-4.30pm Christmas Holiday Club in Kyleakin Village Hall

Registration essential. To register, for more information or to offer help, contact Janette Currie 07415 112820 janette.timmy@gmail.com

4pm South Skye Chorus and Island Chorus Christmas Concert
Broadford Church

TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER

Broadford School Christmas Carol Service plus part of "Messy Church"
(NB. School children, teachers and performers only)

SUNDAY 24th DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS EVE

11am Morning Services in Broadford, Kilmore and Kyleakin Churches

7pm Carol Service in Kilmore Church

SUNDAY 25th DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS DAY

11am Christmas Day Service in Kyleakin Church Hall
A short informal family service

SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER – NEW YEAR'S EVE

11am Morning Services in Broadford, Kilmore and Kyleakin



Hope and Faith Gift Cards and Calendar 2024

Calendars and gift cards are available again this year! Calendars cost £10 and gift cards £5. All proceeds go towards the feeding programme at Hope and Faith Christian Community School in Ngombe, Lusaka, Zambia. www.hopeandfaithschoolngombe.org

They will be available in Kilmore and Kyleakin churches, or email Tony to order: strathandsleatworship@gmail.com



Thank You

I would like to thank the church family for all the prayers said for me and with me since my stroke last December. Indeed, God has answered your prayers wonderfully and I give Him all the glory. Your kindness in visiting me, sending cards, flowers, gifts, baking and meals has been overwhelming. I have felt so loved!

In this illness God has taught me many things which have brought about a change. Things have not always to be done my way and pride is being knocked on the head bit by bit!!

The strength I have each day is from God alone and I am so thankful for it, as feeling tired is part of the illness. Jesus is always so close, and we know that He intercedes for us day and night.

So, from the bottom of my heart, thank you!

May God grant you His richest blessings.

Marianne McMillan

Image by coolvec on Freepik.com



Robin Redbreast



All clipart royalty free or by Freepik.com

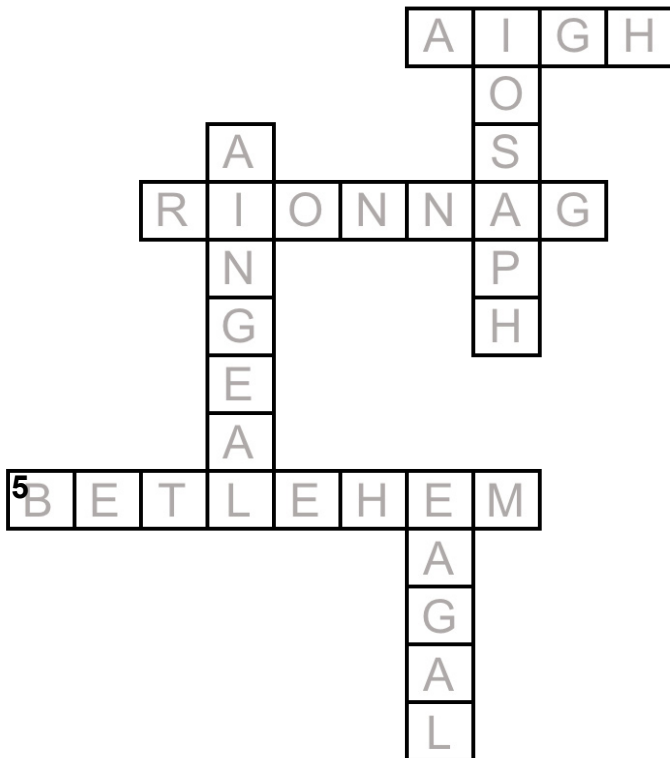
Sweet Robin, I have heard them say
 That thou wert there upon the day
 The Christ was crowned in cruel scorn
 And bore away one bleeding thorn,—
 That so the blush upon thy breast,
 In shameful sorrow, was impressed;
 And thence thy genial sympathy
 With our redeemed humanity.

Sweet Robin, would that I might be
 Bathed in my Saviour's blood, like thee;
 Bear in my breast, whate'er the loss,
 The bleeding blazon of the cross;
 Live ever, with thy loving mind,
 In fellowship with human-kind;
 And take my pattern still from thee,
 In gentleness and constancy.
George Washington Doane



Why was the snowman rummaging in the bag of carrots?
He was picking his nose!

Tòiseachan-tarsainn na Nollaige



Easter Newsletter

Deadline: Monday 4 March

Please send anything you would like to have included in the Easter newsletter to me at alisonorr1@gmail.com. I would also very much appreciate any feedback on the newsletter, constructive criticism especially! Is there anything you really like about it? Is there anything you really don't like about it? I will do my best to take on board all your comments. Thank you!

Alison Orr, Newsletter Editor



The answer to The 12 Days of Christmas question is – **364!**

All jokes reproduced by kind permission of James Cooper, www.whychristmas.com

Services and Meetings



OUR CHURCHES

Broadford

High Street
Broadford
Isle of Skye
IV49 9AB

Kilmore

Kilmore
Sleat
Isle of Skye
IV44 8RG

Kyleakin

Meuse Lane
Kyleakin
Isle of Skye
IV41 8PH

SUNDAY SERVICES

All three churches have an 11am Sunday morning service

NB Except 4 times a year when the whole parish meets in one church to celebrate Communion (please see weekly notices for dates)

Kyleakin 4.30pm **Nourish**, 1st Sunday of term-time months
6pm **Fellowship**, on the other Sundays

Gaelic Services 3pm **Broadford**, 1st Sundays
3pm **Kilmore**, 3rd Sundays

MID-WEEK MEETINGS (please contact one of the elders for more information)

Mondays 10.30 -12.30 **Make It Count Sleat** - babies with parents/carers - in the Sleat & Strath Free Church, Teangue
11am **Prayer for Revival** (on Zoom)

Tuesdays 10.30 -12.30 **Make It Count Broadford** - babies with parents/carers - in Broadford Church
7.30pm **Kykeakin Prayer Meeting** in Kyleakin Church hall

Wednesdays 7.15pm **Buidheann Bhiobail** ann an Seòmar Eige, ACC, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig
7.30pm **Broadford Bible Study** - in Broadford Church

Thursdays 2pm **Ladies' Group Meeting** in Kilmore Church - all ladies welcome - please speak to Jane or Jean for further info

Contacts



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