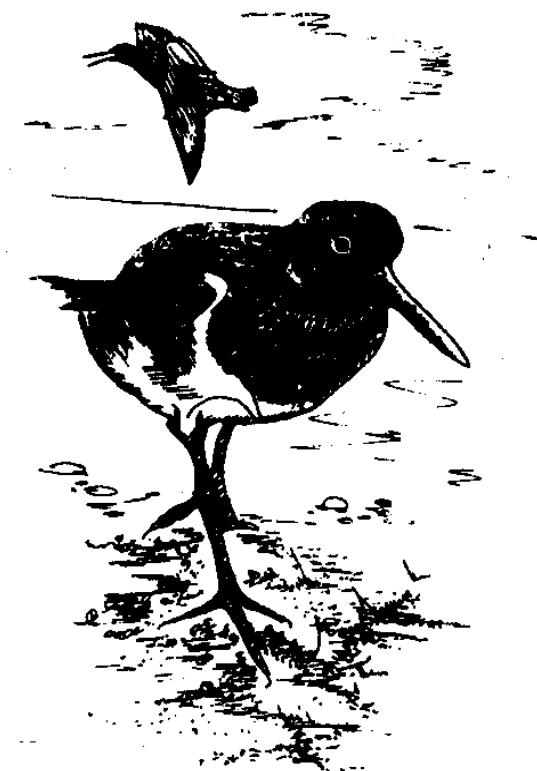


# THE OYSTERCATCHER



THE MAGAZINE OF ST BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

KELVINSIDE, GLASGOW

NUMBER 448 APRIL 2026

*The Scottish Episcopal Church Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway*

**ST BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
KELVINSIDE, GLASGOW**

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A Charity registered in Scotland, No. SC012625**

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## FROM THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

Dear friends,

During Lent, I have been reading the prayers of Dean Eric Milner-White. Fr Milner-White was the famous Dean of King's College Cambridge who popularised the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. He also wrote a series of prayers—what he called “A Procession of Prayers—meditating on the Lord's passion. These have a very distinctive tone: while taking the events of Holy Week with a deep seriousness, Fr Milner-White talks of a joyous journey to the Cross. Every step the Saviour takes is a sign of his love and the joy he takes in coming to our redemption, bringing new knowledge of the goodness of God even in suffering.

This is part of a prayer which Milner-White wrote for Easter:

O my God, thou art good: there is no good but thee; all greatness thou art, but all goodness first. Out of thy goodness thou madest me; by thy goodness I know thee; for thy goodness I love thee; after thy goodness I would walk; to the kingdom of thy goodness, come; thy goodness is immeasurable, unsearchable, unalterable: a sea no land can drain away, a land no sea can swallow, a forest no fire can waste, a fire no water can quench; thy goodness follows me every day of thy life. Praise thou the Lord, O my soul!

I have now been priest-in-charge of St Bride's for just over two years. It has certainly gone very quickly! As you may recall, Bishop Kevin appointed me for just three years. Bishop Nicholas, supported by the Vestry, has now offered Diocesan support to St Bride's for a further five years from 1 January 2026, making seven years in total.

I am deeply grateful to Bishop Nicholas and to the Vestry for their confidence in the future of St Bride's and in me. I have been very happy here but I am keenly aware that we have only begun the renewal of our community. With God's help there is much more to do.

To enable the full-time ministry of a priest at St Bride's, the Diocesan Council will be making a ministerial support grant. During 2026, this grant will be for 90% of the priest-in-charge's stipend and pension, which will taper by 10% each year until 2031. The Diocese will then meet 50% of ministerial costs, and St Bride's 50%. This sets us a real fundraising challenge but, to my mind at least, is more than generous of the Bishop.

In return for the grant, the Bishop has asked us to commit to his vision for the growth of the Diocese through the Natural Church Development Scheme. Canon Dawn Matthew writes about the NCH scheme in this edition of *The Oystercatcher*. Our first meeting will take place during lunch after Mass on Sunday 19 April. Can I ask you to make every effort to attend? It's a new process for all of us but promises to strengthen our witness and our life together.

With my prayers and good wishes for Easter,

Peter

**Fr Peter**

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## **Big Spring clean and church decoration for Easter**

There will be a big clean at church on Saturday 4 April from 10.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. There will a list of jobs needing done and all necessary materials will be provided. Jobs for all abilities and ages!

If you can help in any way with floral decorations, please speak to Viv. Viv and Harry (Floral and Hardy!) are looking for donations of eucalyptus and Fatsia japonica leaves. If you can supply these from your garden, please let them know.

## **Doors Open Weekend 2026**

A meeting will take place in the Rectory on Wednesday 15 April at 7.00 p.m. to begin our discussion and plans for St Bride's contribution to this year's programme. We will also recap and review the impact of our programme last year.

## **Hanging Lamps**

Four hanging lamps are available for sponsorship. The April-June sheets for recording your dedication/prayer intention are in a folder at the Welcome Desk or you can e-mail Harry on [harrydunlop@yahoo.com](mailto:harrydunlop@yahoo.com). We are seeking minimum donations of £5.00 per lamp per week.

## NEWS FROM THE FABRIC COMMITTEE

The south wall and the south-west buttress of St Bride's are protected by red-coloured cement rendering which covers the brickwork underneath. During the storms last year, sections of this rendering simply fell off. This is obviously a safety concern. As sections have become detached the fragile brickwork behind the render is being exposed to further degradation. We are advised that there is little point in repairing the worst patches as all the render must now be replaced. The stone wall to the south of the sanctuary has been pointed with concrete. This is damaging the stone, and the unsuitable grouting must be removed and replaced with lime pointing.

In addition, the Episcopal Church has asked all charges to consider how to reduce energy use. We have taken specialist advice and been told that there are some opportunities for us to reduce our energy costs. Prudently, the Vestry is considering how energy reduction provisions can be incorporated into the south wall project. Such Net Zero initiatives can attract significant funding.

This will certainly be a major project for St Bride's. An initial estimate of the cost of replacing the render is c. £160,000 plus VAT. As members will know we have no significant capital reserves. While Fr Peter is an experienced fundraiser, tackling this project would take up most of his time. We are therefore very fortunate that the Glasgow Building Preservation Trust (GBPT) recognises the importance of the built heritage of St Bride's and wishes to work in partnership with the Vestry to secure this for the future. The GBPT has made a proposal to the Vestry in two parts.

Firstly, the GBPT will recruit a team of professionals—architects, structural engineers, quantity surveyors, etc—to prepare a comprehensive design brief, to run a tendering process, and to raise the funds for this planning stage. Then, if all is well, the GBPT will lead on fundraising for the second, building, stage of the project. The GBPT will act as project manager throughout.

The GBPT has a strong reputation regionally, and nationally, and will lend credibility to our aspirations for the project. The Trust's established relationships with key funding agencies will maximise opportunities for funding. Importantly, the Trust has indicated that it will only seek recovery of its costs if the funds have been raised to cover these. No work will be begun before funding has been secured. The Vestry is therefore not exposed to financial risk.

We will be keeping you regularly informed of our progress. As we write, the GBPT has begun to secure tenders from architects to prepare the design brief.

**Fr Peter**  
**Anne Clackson**  
**Carol Lovett**

## What is Natural Church Development?

### **A Different way of Thinking about Growth**

*Natural Church Development* (NCD) is a **model** – a way of thinking about church growth. We believe that growth should be about quality (health) and not just quantity (numbers). The NCD process has demonstrated that quality should take priority over quantity in church growth thinking.

At the heart of the model is the Scriptural picture of the church as a living organism, not just an organisation (albeit a spiritual one). Looking at the church "organically" gives us a different perspective on what "health" and "growth" mean. The growth of organisms focuses on their health, their capacity to reproduce, and how the individual 'body' parts interact. They are grown, not built. They are nurtured, not assembled.

The NCD model says that if church growth is about growing an organism, the *health* (quality) of the organism will have a direct impact on its *size* (quantity). If a church becomes increasingly healthy over time, it is more likely and better able to reproduce disciples, ministries and eventually itself. We sow the seeds by using the NCD model, and as our churches are healthier, they will grow all by themselves.

How many times have church leaders counted the numbers of people in Sunday services but really had no true sense whether the members of the church community were growing to greater spiritual maturity and contributing all they could to Kingdom growth? Is size really a true measure of health?

The NCD model helps you think about growing your church as a healthy living organism.

### **A Long-Term Strategic Process**

*Natural Church Development* is also a long-term strategic **process** for progressively improving a church's health. It is a process of continual improvement, not a programme which guarantees "a healthy church" if particular steps are followed. Growing a church, like growing a plant, requires a long-term approach where the barriers impeding church growth are consistently addressed.

At the heart of the NCD process is a sophisticated diagnostic tool, the NCD Survey, developed in Germany. It is based on the only comprehensive international research ever done into what causes churches to grow or decline. The NCD Survey complies with the highest international statistical standards for validity and reliability.

Surveys are done annually, offering an accurate up-to-date "snapshot" of a church's health. Successive surveys enable church leaders to see the current state of health, how the church's health has changed over the previous year, and what areas need greatest attention over the coming year.

The capacity to see the health of the church very accurately as it evolves year on year enables priests and church leaders to develop a clear sense of how the "organism" is evolving and what impact various decisions and activities are having on church life. It also reveals longer term trends and enables leaders to identify and address the deeper issues that have long held the church back. As one leader so eloquently put it, "It gives every church leader the clear view of their church from 40,000 feet that they need when so much time is spent in the day-to-day."



Our recent St Bride's Day lunch prompted discussion of favourite foods, with so many tasty options on offer, and now we're looking for recipes for a short Oystercatcher series. Perhaps there's a much-loved dish that reminds you of childhood, or home, or a country you've visited? Or the culinary coup you produce to acclaim at dinner parties which is much easier than it looks? Food can prompt so many memories and it's good to share!

With a monthly recipe beginning in the May issue, we're looking for soups, starters, mains, desserts, baking (the occasional cocktail will be welcomed too...) as well as the chance to reflect our well-travelled congregation and the progression through the church year. Please contact Gilly McDougall at [argillymcd@gmail.com](mailto:argillymcd@gmail.com) to book your slot and we look forward to enjoying the results!

## SERVICES DURING HOLY WEEK & EASTER

### **Sunday 29 March: Palm Sunday**

8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer

10.30 a.m.: Procession of the Palms and Sung Mass including the singing of the Passion

6.00 p.m.: Evening Prayer via Zoom

### **Monday 30 March: Monday of Holy Week**

6.30 p.m.: Low Mass

8.30 p.m.: Compline via Zoom

### **Tuesday 31 March: Tuesday of Holy Week—*Fig Tuesday***

1.00 p.m. Low Mass

8.30 p.m.: Compline via Zoom

### **Wednesday 1 April: Wednesday of Holy Week—*Spy Wednesday***

6.00 p.m.: Stations of the Cross

6.30 p.m.: Low Mass

8.30 p.m.: Compline via Zoom

## THE SACRED TRIDUUM

*Preacher:* The Reverend Canon Judith Maltby

### **Thursday 2 April: Maundy Thursday**

7.00 p.m.: Mass of the Lord's Supper with Washing of Feet, Stripping of the Altars, and Vigil (till 10.00 p.m.)

### **Friday 3 April: GOOD FRIDAY**

8.30 a.m.: Morning Prayer and Litany

10.30 a.m.: Liturgy of the Passion with Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion

### **Saturday 4 April: Holy Saturday (Easter Eve)**

9.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer

9.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon: Church Big Clean

8.00 p.m.: SOLEMN VIGIL of EASTER

### **Sunday 5 April: EASTER DAY**

8.00 a.m.: Morning Prayer

10.30 a.m.: PROCESSION and SUNG MASS of the RESURRECTION

2.45 p.m.: Rehearsal for Come-and-Sing Evening Prayer

3.30 p.m.: Come-and-Sing Evening Prayer and Benediction

6.00 p.m.: Evening Prayer via Zoom

## **BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL The DAISY Project**

Bishop Nick's chosen charity this year is the DAISY Project, a domestic abuse support and advocacy service that has operated in Glasgow for over 25 years. They are a trusted, community-based organisation with a strong grassroots ethos, working alongside women and children at every stage of their journey away from abuse. Their model is flexible, relational and survivor-led, allowing us to meet people where they are and walk with them for as long as support is needed. Find out more and donate: <https://www.glasgow.anglican.org/bishops-lent-appeal.../>

### **THE OYSTERCATCHER**

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Publication date is usually the last Sunday of each month; copy deadline is the penultimate Sunday of the month. The Oystercatcher is the bird traditionally known as "the servant of St Bride". Contributions may be sent to the Editor.

### **Giving to St Bride's**

**If you would like to give to St Bride's on a regular basis, you can do so by taking out a standing order at your bank and making it payable to:**

**Account name: St Brides Episcopal Church**

**Bank: Virgin Money Branch code: 82-12-08 Account number: 30063266**



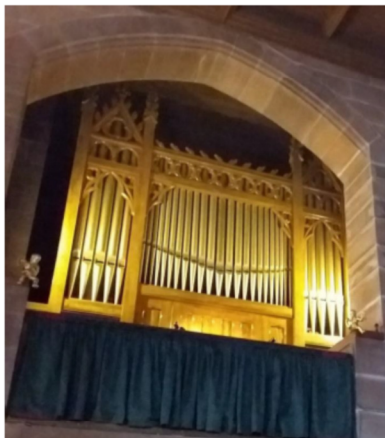
# **Organ Recitals 2025-26**

**first Sunday of the Month, 1.00-1.50pm**

[www.organrecitals.uk](http://www.organrecitals.uk)



**St Bride's Episcopal Church, Glasgow G12 9UX**



**5 October 2025 Peter Wakeford (Glasgow)**

**2 November 2025 William Briant (Glasgow)**

**7 December 2025 Alan Kitchen (Wellington Church)**

**4 January 2026 Eilidh Harris (Glasgow)**

**1 March 2026 Andrew Forbes (Glasgow Cathedral)**

**3 May 2026 Students from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland**

**7 June 2026 Pavlos Triantaris  
(Letchworth Traditional Anglican Church)**

[www.organrecitals.uk](http://www.organrecitals.uk)

**Free admission – donations to our Robert Lamont Music Fund welcome**



[www.stbridesglasgow.org](http://www.stbridesglasgow.org)



*St Bride's Episcopal Church is a charity registered in Scotland, No. SC012625*

*Cappella Nova Outreach at St Bride's*

## *Sing for Your Life!*

*Boost your health and wellbeing –  
have fun with like-minded people!*

**Thursdays, 2.00 for 2.15-3.15pm**

2025: 9 October, 13 November, 11 December,

2026: 15 January, 12 February, 12 March,  
16 April, 14 May, 11 June

St Bride's Church, Hyndland Road, GLASGOW G12 9UX

*... featuring a wide range of favourite songs*



Led by Alan and Rebecca Tavener, this singing-for-fun session is FREE to all, requires no experience of music or singing, and is a cheerful, relaxed get-together to enjoy the pleasure and health benefits of singing. Refreshments will be available.

Feel free to make contact in advance, [cappella.nova@strath.ac.uk](mailto:cappella.nova@strath.ac.uk)  
*...or, just turn up!*

## READINGS FOR CHORAL SERVICES IN APRIL

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Thursday 2 April</i> <b>Maundy Thursday</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mass of the Lord's Supper</i> Exodus 12, v 1–4, 11–14 Psalm 116, v 1–2, 11–16 1 Corinthians 11, v 23–26 John 13, v 1–17, 31b–35</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Katy Flynn  Andrew Lockyer</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Friday 3 April</i> <b>Good Friday</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Liturgy of the Passion</i> <i>With Veneration of the Cross</i> <i>and Holy Communion</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Isaiah 52, v 13–53, v 12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 4, v 14–16; 5, v 7–9 John 18, v 1–19, v 42 <i>(The Passion)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Talan Ferris- Morris  Jane Ross</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Saturday 4 April</i> <b>Easter Eve</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Easter Vigil</i> <b>The Liturgy of the Word I</b> Genesis 1, v 1–2, v 4a <i>(Creation)</i> Genesis 7, v 1–5, 11–18; 8, v 6–18; 9, v 8–13 <i>(The Flood)</i> Exodus 14, v 10–31; 15, v 20–21 <i>(The Exodus)</i> <b>The Liturgy of the Word II</b> Romans 6, v 3–11 Psalm 114 <i>Solemn Alleluia</i> Matthew 28, v 1–10</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Harry Dunlop  Jonathan Lord  Annie Blackwood  Gilly McDougall</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Sunday 5 April</i> <b>Easter Day</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Acts 10, v 34–43 Psalm 118, v 1–2, 14–24 Colossians 3, v 1–4 John 20, v 1–18</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Vespers</i> Psalm 114 Ephesians 2, v 4–6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Paul Sinclair  Sub Deacon or Tosh Lynch</p>

<p><i>Sunday 12 April</i>  <b>Easter I</b>  <i>(Low Sunday)</i></p>	<p>Acts 2, v 14a, 22–32  Psalm 16  1 Peter 1, v 3–9  John 20, v 19–31  <i>(Jesus came again and stood among them)</i></p>	<p>Elizabeth Moignard  Joseph Mannion</p>
<p><i>Sunday 19 April</i>  <b>Easter II</b></p>	<p>Acts 2, v 14a, 36–41  Psalm 116, v 1–4, 11–16  1 Peter 1, v 17–23  Luke 24, v 13–35  <i>(They recognised him in the breaking of the bread)</i></p> <p><i>Choral Evensong &amp; Benediction</i>  Psalm 142  Deuteronomy 7, v 7–13  <i>(God's faithfulness to his chosen people)</i>  Luke 16, v 19–31  <i>(The Rich Man and Lazarus)</i></p>	<p>Ebi Japhet  Annie Blackwood</p> <p>Fiona MacAdam  Andrew Lockyer</p>
<p><i>Sunday 26 April</i>  <b>Easter III</b></p>	<p><i>High Mass</i></p> <p>Acts 2, v 42–47  Psalm 23  1 Peter 2, v 19–25  John 10, v 1–10  <i>(I am the gate of the sheepfold)</i></p>	<p>Harry Dunlop  Jane Ross</p>

## MUSIC FOR APRIL

Date	Readings	Setting	Motet	Psalms	Hymns	Voluntary Before	Voluntary After
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> 19:00 Maundy Thursday, Eucharist of the Lord's Supper: Choral Eucharist	Exodus 12.1-4, 11-14 1 Corinthians 11.23-26 John 13.1-17, 31b-35	<i>Michael Haydn</i> Missa Quadragesimalis	<i>Dunstaple</i> Ubi Caritas	116. 11-16	269, 305, 270, 268	<i>J S Bach</i> Fantasia in C, BWV 570 <i>Christopher Nickol,</i> <i>Organist</i>	
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> 10.30 Good Friday: Liturgy of the Lord's Passion	Isaiah 52.13-53.12 Hebrews 4.14-16, 5.7-9 John 18.1-19.42		<i>Victoria</i> Popule meus (The Reproaches)	22	517, 79, 95		
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> 20:00 Easter Eve, The Vigil of Easter: Choral Eucharist	Genesis 1.1-2, 4a Genesis 7.1-5, 11-18, 8.6-19, 9.8-13 Exodus 14.10-31, 15.20-21 Romans 6.3-11 Matthew 28.1-10	<i>Jackson</i> Communion Service in G	<i>Leifer</i> This joyful Easter tide	114	124, 115, 110		<i>William</i> Chorale Prelude on Gelobet sei Gott (words at NEH107) <i>Christopher Nickol,</i> <i>Organist</i>
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> 10.30 Easter Day: Choral Eucharist	Acts 10.34-43 Colossians 3.1-4 John 20.1-18	<i>Jackson</i> Communion Service in G	Gibbs The Strife is o'er	118. 1-2, 14-24	109, 112, 121, 120	<i>Buxtehude</i> Toccata in F, BuxWV 157	<i>Widor</i> Marcia (Symphony No 3) <i>Jonathan Smith,</i> <i>Organist</i>

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> 15.30 Sung Evening Prayer for Easter Day	Ephesians 2.4-6	<i>Grayston, Ives</i> Salisbury Service	<i>Händel</i> I know that my Redeemer liveth	74	110, 268, Blessed and praised be Jesus Christ!	<i>Fischer</i> Christ ist erstanden ("Christ is now risen again")	<i>J S Bach</i> Fantasia Christ lag in Todesbanden, BWV 695
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> 10.30 Easter II, Low Sunday: Sung Eucharist	Acts 2.14a,22-32 1 Peter 1.3-9 John 20.19-31	<i>Grayston, Ives</i> Salisbury Service	<i>J S Bach</i> Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt walten ("If thou but suffer God to guide thee" (Schubler) <i>for organ solo</i>	16	119, 110, 104, 113	<i>Mendelssohn</i> Andante tranquillo (Sonata in A, Op 65 No 3)	<i>Mendelssohn</i> Con moto maestoso (Sonata in A, Op 65 No 3) <i>William Briant,</i> <i>Organist</i>
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> 10.30 Easter III: Sung Eucharist	Acts 2.14a,36-41 1 Peter 1.17-23 Luke 24.13-35	<i>Harris</i> Communion Service in F	<i>Stanford</i> O for a closer Walk	116. 1-4, 11-16	105, 117, 121, 112	<i>J S Bach</i> Erstanden ist der heil'ge Christ ("Christ our Lord is risen today, Hal- lelujah"), BWV628	<i>Rauschorn</i> Sortie on "The Strife is o'er" (words at NEH119)
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> 15.30 Choral Evensong for Easter	Deuteronomy 7.7-13 Luke 16.19-31	<i>Wood</i> Magnificat & Nunc dimittis in D	<i>Stanford</i> Ye Choirs of new Jerusalem	142	101, 125	<i>Stanford</i> Allegretto (Six Short Preludes & Postludes No 1). <i>Duraffié</i> Chant Donnée	<i>Stanford</i> Prelude and Fugue in C <i>William Briant,</i> <i>Organist</i>
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> 10.30 Easter IV: Choral Eucharist	Acts 2.42-47 1 Peter 2.19-25 John 10.1-10	<i>Barrie Cabena</i> Mass in the Dorian Mode	<i>David Blackwell</i> Glory to the Lamb	23	374, Hail Redeemer, King divine, 282, 119	<i>Bridge</i> Allegretto (6 Pieces)	<i>Händel</i> March (An Occasional Oratorio) <i>Jouathuan Smith,</i> <i>Organist</i>

## KALENDAR FOR APRIL

### April

1	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Wednesday of Holy Week</b>	Those who are betrayed
2	<b>Thu</b>	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>	Priests
3	<b>Fri</b>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	The faithful departed
4	<b>Sat</b>	<b>EASTER EVE</b>	The bereaved
5	<b>Sun</b>	<b>EASTER DAY</b>	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
6	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Monday in Easter Week</b>	Altar Servers
7	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Tuesday in Easter Week</b>	The Choir and Musicians
8	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Wednesday in Easter Week</b>	The Vestry
9	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Thursday in Easter Week</b>	Eucharistic Assistants
10	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Friday in Easter Week</b>	Readers and Sidespeople
11	<b>Sat</b>	<b>Saturday in Easter Week</b>	Church Cleaning Team
12	<b>Sun</b>	<b>EASTER I (Low Sunday)</b>	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
13	Mon	Monday of Easter I	Those newly baptised
14	Tue	Tuesday of Easter I	Those newly confirmed
15	Wed	Wednesday of Easter I	Those seeking faith
16	Thu	Magnus of Orkney, Martyr, c. 1116	The people of Orkney
17	Fri	Donnan, Abbot, & companions, c. 617	Diocese of Moray, Ross, & Caithness
18	Sat	Saturday of Easter I	Retreat houses and places of prayer
19	<b>Sun</b>	<b>EASTER II</b>	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
20	Mon	Maelrubha of Applecross, Abbot, 722	The Primus of the SEC
21	Tue	Anselm of Canterbury, Bishop, Teacher of the Faith, 1109	The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Anglican Communion
22	Wed	Wednesday of Easter II	Military chaplains
23	Thu	George, Patron of England, Martyr	The people of England
24	Fri	Friday of Easter II	Peace in places of conflict
25	<b>Sat</b>	<b>Mark, Evangelist</b>	St Mark's, East Kilbride
26	Sun	<b>EASTER III</b>	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
27	Mon	Monday of Easter III	The sick and those who care for them
28	Tue	Tuesday of Easter III	Schools, colleges, and universities
29	Wed	Catherine of Siena, Teacher of the Faith, 1380	Inter-Church Relations Committee
30	Thu	Thursday of Easter III	The unity of the Church in truth and charity