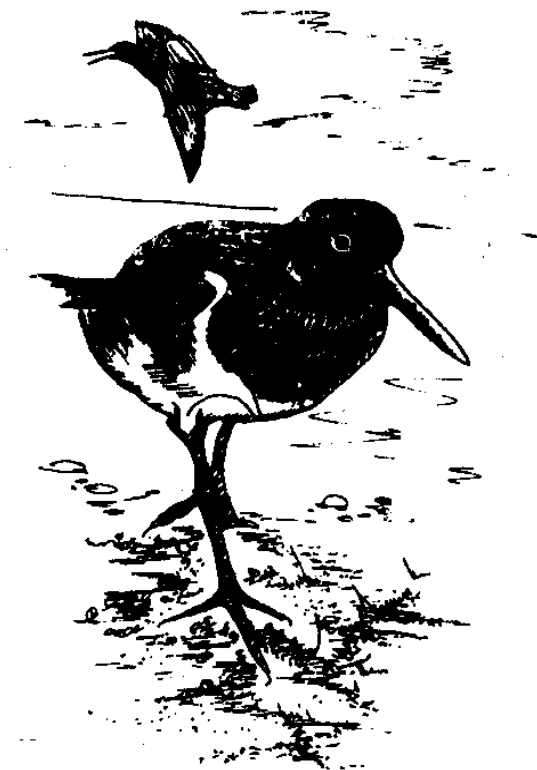


THE OYSTERCATCHER



THE MAGAZINE OF ST BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

KELVINSIDE, GLASGOW

NUMBER 452 AUGUST 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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Representative:

Pastoral Assistant:

Dr John Davies

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THE ANGLICAN CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL 19, BELFAST 2026

The Anglican Consultative Council (ACC) is one of the four Instruments of Communion of the worldwide Anglican Communion and is its most representative international body, bringing together bishops, clergy, and lay people from every member Church. The ACC meets approximately every three years, and is a forum for prayer, consultation, theological reflection, and shared decision-making on matters of mission, unity, and common concern, while respecting the autonomy of each Province.

The nineteenth meeting of the ACC was held in Belfast, Northern Ireland, from 27 June to 5 July 2026, hosted by the Church of Ireland under the theme ‘Called to One Hope’ (Ephesians 4.4), and I was there representing the International Anglican Liturgical Consultation, delivering a report on our work. The Scottish Episcopal Church itself was being represented by the Provost of St Mary’s Cathedral, Glasgow, and Dr Beth Routledge, also of the Cathedral, as it happens. This means that everyone from Scotland at the ACC was from a very limited geographical area.

I thought that readers of *The Oystercatcher* may be interested to know something of what I said to the ACC on Thursday 2 July. Here is the core of my address.

As we have celebrated the Eucharist each day of this meeting, it has struck home powerfully that the celebration of the Eucharist lies at the heart of why we are here.

At its deepest level, the Church is renewed through its liturgy, since it is through the liturgy – and through Baptism and Eucharist most precisely, as the sacraments of the Paschal mystery – that the Church is made and exists.

And the Church exists as a herald of salvation. For that reason the liturgy leads and impels us in mission. That also means asking how the Eucharist speaks into the realities of our own age. An age of digital technology and virtual meetings, global pandemics, mass migration, environmental emergencies, and the work of reconciliation after colonialism.

So, our conviction is that liturgical **formation** and **renewal** are the foundations of mission and growth. And **renewal** is really about the continuing theological formation of the whole Church as it learns to celebrate the Eucharist faithfully in every place and culture. It is less about revising liturgical texts.

So, we can ask – How can the Eucharistic worship offered throughout the Anglican Communion allow us all the more truly to stand at the centre of the world, like Christ, and bless God, so that we can receive the world from God and offer it back to God?

The community of love and faith, which is the Church, is also a community full of **hope** – **hope** and new life – **hope** and new life focused on sacrificial love and thanksgiving. And it is just this kind of sacrificial love and thanksgiving that is demonstrated at the heart of our liturgical life in the Eucharist.

Only through the Eucharist – the liturgy of word and sacrament at the heart of our common life – do we learn who we are in Christ and how we are known to one another and to the world. In this sense, the Eucharist both expresses and deepens our communion. It allows us to recognise the bonds we share, even as it calls us to seek fuller visible unity.

From the Eucharist, the life of Christ flows out from the gathered assembly, from the Church at worship, into the everyday life of the world. For the liturgy shows us how to see the world. The liturgy shows us how to live in the world. And that is why the liturgy is ‘for the life of the world’ (John 6.51).

Remember that Saint Paul called himself ‘a liturgist of Christ Jesus’ (Rm 15.16).

John Davies

Sacristan and Pastoral Assistant

Although there is no Choral Evensong on the third Sunday of the month during the Summer ‘break’, there will be one more opportunity for anybody and everybody to join in with *Come and Sing Evening Prayer*. Taking place on Sunday 16 August, we shall gather at 2.45 p.m. for a short session to acquaint ourselves with the hymns, psalm/Magnificat chants and Marian Antiphon, which Alan Tavener will lead, and the Service will take place from 3.30-4.15 p.m. Just come along – all will be made most welcome.



HALLOUMI WITH LEMONY LENTILS, CHICKPEAS AND BEETS

The August recipe comes from People's Warden and St Bride's chorister Annie Blackwood, and as befits the season and sunny weather, is a refreshing summer concoction, easily put together (who could resist 'lemony lentils'?).

The editorial team tried this one out, having never cooked beets before! A certain amount of caution is required, as these rich and earthy root vegetables can stain hands and chopping-boards with their vibrant colour.

We trimmed stalks and washed three whole beets, then made a foil parcel with olive oil, salt and a little red wine vinegar. Baked in the oven at 220 degrees for an hour before donning gloves to peel and dice! The flavour is worth the extra prep, and the dish can be enjoyed just as much cold, the next day.

Serves 3

Ingredients:

150g halloumi, sliced
1 cup cooked lentils
1 can chickpeas, drained
1 cup cooked beets, diced
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 tbsp lemon juice
1 tbsp olive oil
Salt and black pepper to taste
Fresh parsley chopped

Instructions:

Heat oil in a pan and cook halloumi until golden on both sides then set aside.
In the same pan sauté garlic for 1 minute until fragrant
Add lentils, chickpeas and beets and cook 3-4 mins until warmed through
Stir in lemon juice and season with salt and black pepper
Return halloumi to the pan and toss gently to combine
Finish with the fresh parsley before serving

Thanks to Annie for sharing this favourite recipe and providing a refreshing alternative to the usual summer salad. If you'd like *your* favourite recipe to appear in a future *Oystercatcher*, please speak to Gilly on a Sunday, or email drgillymcd@gmail.com. All contributions welcome!

The Vestry proposes that the Annual Congregational Meeting should be held after the Choral Eucharist on Sunday 11 October. This will avoid the holiday weekend. As the Constitution of St Bride's requires the Annual Congregational Meeting to be held before the end of September, the agreement of the congregation needs to be obtained for this departure from the normal timetable. Any member of the congregation wishing to object to this proposal should contact Jonathan Lord, the Secretary to the Vestry, by Sunday 13 September.

Schola Cantorum of St Bride

Many of you will have heard this small but beautifully formed group of singing women already – ladies from our Choir (plus friends) who have been a wonderful backing-group for our mediaeval music events (St Bride's Day, St Hildegard, St Patrick) featuring my professional colleagues of Canty. The Schola Cantorum of St Bride surely deserves the limelight in its own right, however, so it will be top-of-the-bill on the afternoon of the Saturday of Doors Open Days, 19 September.

If you think it's all about lofty plainchant, think again as they will sing mediaeval songs associated with pilgrimage from Italy, Spain, France, Ireland and Scotland. There will be *laude* from the ambulatory 'praise band' repertoire invented by St Francis of Assisi; walking ditties from pilgrim routes (often scurrilous songs reinvented with sacred words); songs about saints and, to crown it all, a snippet of rare chant from Ireland, written for the Feast of St Helena whose pilgrimage uncovered the relics of the True Cross. We'll be inviting everyone to make a lot of noise for the final piece, a jolly dance number called 'Ad mortem festinamus', with improvised percussion and a procession around the church!

There will be a singing workshop in the afternoon, led by Alan, for anyone who would like to take part. No musical/singing experience required, just a bring enthusiasm. Come on our singing pilgrimage with us! We promise a few laughs, plenty of vocal fun and no blisters...

Full details will be in the St Bride's section of the Doors Open programme.

Rebecca Tavener
'Magistra Schola'

Welcomers' Rota:

Would all Welcomers please ensure that they arrive at Church no later than 10.00 a.m.

Sunday 2 August – Ebi Japhet
Sunday 9 August – Jane Campbell
Sunday 16 August – Paul Sinclair
Sunday 23 August – Richard Gunn
Sunday 30 August – Alison Gifford

Music for a While – free, informal and welcoming

Music is attracting more people to St Bride's and the Choir continues to flourish. *Sing for your Life* is doing well with people who have time during the day. Now we're launching a new monthly venture called *Music for a While* aimed at workers, offering a calm oasis of 'down time' after office hours. People can come and go as they please, relax, let the stresses of the day dissolve and enjoy a moment of peace leading into their evening. It will be a sequence of informal, live professional performances from me and Alan with Gilly McDougall, speaker: a c35/40-minute themed programme of music and poetry, secular and sacred, on occasional Wednesdays between Evening Prayer and the AA meeting. Eventually we hope to invite professional colleagues to contribute, but let's see how it goes for the first few dates.

We will provide flyers which you can use to invite local 'workers' (or absolutely *anyone*) that you know, people in local businesses, for example. Please help us put the word about – you never know when someone new to St Bride's may come through our doors and never want to leave!

Please watch this space where dates/times and lists of the music and poems to be included will be published. We'll begin in October and the first one will include pieces by Purcell, Satie, Poulenc, Brahms, J S Bach, and 'anon'. Do ask Alan and me any questions you like when you see us in church.

Rebecca Tavener

Isaac Steele will be baptised in St Bride's on Saturday 8 August at 12.30 p.m.

The service will be followed by refreshments in the Crypt.

Alex and Heather extend an invitation to all members of the congregation to attend.



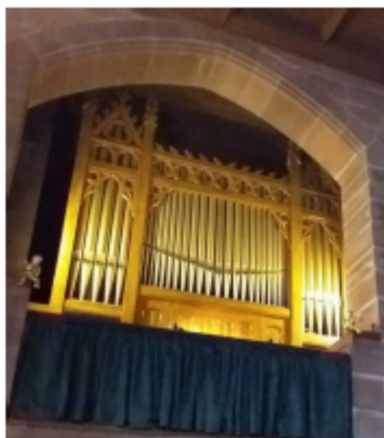
Organ Recitals 2026-27

first Sunday of the Month, 1.00-1.50pm

www.organrecitals.uk



St Bride's Episcopal Church, Glasgow G12 9UX



- 6 September 2026** Christopher Nickol (New Kilpatrick Church, Bearsden)
11(NB) October 2026 Jonathan Smith (Glasgow)
1 November 2026 David Hamilton (University of Strathclyde & St Mary's Episcopal Church, Hamilton)
6 December 2026 John Zhang (Royal Conservatoire of Scotland)
3 January 2027 John Gormley (Royal Conservatoire of Scotland & St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow)
7 February 2027 Malcolm Sim (Glasgow Cathedral)
7 March 2027 Michael Bawtree (Royal Conservatoire of Scotland & St Margaret's Church, Newlands)
11(NB) April 2027 Alan Tavener (St Bride's Church)
2 May 2027 Students from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
6 June 2027 Steven McIntyre (Dunblane Cathedral)

Free admission – donations to our Robert Lamont Music Fund welcome, scan here to donate



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Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival 2026

St Bride's is once again proud to be taking part in this popular annual event. Following the huge success of last year's festival, we are preparing another exciting programme of activities and events to attract – we hope – even more visitors to enjoy our beautiful church. The full programme, including tours and interactive workshops, will feature in the September edition of the *Oystercatcher* and on the Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival website. The programme will also be marketed via our own social media channels including the website, Facebook and Instagram.

We are now looking for volunteers to assist in a number of ways over the course of the weekend, including welcoming and greeting visitors, helping them make their way safely around the church, locating the spaces where specific events are taking place, serving refreshments, and assisting with the logistics of setting up and clearing away. Sheets with timeslots for volunteers etc. are now available at the Welcome Desk at the back of the church.

Some events are new to the programme and are marking the 800th Anniversary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi (c. 1181–1226).



Here are some highlights from this year's programme to look out for.

Friday 18 September

Glow After Dark

19:30–21:00

~~Experience St Bride's after sunset, in subdued lighting and the glow of flickering candlelight. Come and discover the church, or simply immerse yourself in the atmosphere.~~

Saturday 19 September

Singing Workshop: Come and Sing Mediaeval Pilgrim Songs

13:00–15:00

All are welcome to take part in this relaxed, informal singing workshop presented by Cappella Nova Outreach. Alan Tavener will guide you through mediaeval music associated with pilgrimage and Scottish saints, and give singing tips along the way. You will then have the option of taking part in an informal public performance with the Schola Cantorum of St Bride later on in the afternoon at 16:00.

Workshop: St Francis in Art (and Cookery)

14:00–15:00

In this interactive workshop, led by the Priest-in-Charge, Father Peter Bradley, we will look at mediaeval and modern artworks inspired by Saint Francis. We will experiment with some techniques used in mediaeval Italian art, and even taste Saint Francis's favourite biscuits, made to the original recipes.

Informal Performance:

Ad mortem festinamus!

We are all heading one way – so why not make it a pilgrimage?

16:00–17:00

Mediaeval songs of pilgrimage: from the Llibre Vermell and the Camino de Santiago de Compostela; the Cantigas de Santa Maria from the melting-pot court of Alfonso X 'El Sabio'; the Laudesi praise bands of Florence; and the sacred sites of Scotland and Ireland.

The Schola Cantorum of St Bride

Gilleán McDougall (reader)

Director: Rebecca Tavener

Community Choir directed by Alan Tavener (chamber organ).

Sunday 20 September

Knitting whilst Nattering

12:00–13:30

Fancy trying your hand at knitting or crochet? Come along and meet some of the St Bride's Knit and Natter group over a cuppa. Everyone from complete beginners to the more experienced can contribute to our group blanket. You are also welcome to bring along your own project. No experience is required, and all materials will be provided.

St Bride's and West End Sculpture

13:30–15:00

Glasgow sculpture historian (and newcomer to our congregation) Gary Nisbet presents an illustrated talk on the sculptures carved on St Bride's and other churches and buildings in Glasgow's West End. St Bride's is handsomely decorated, and its ornament is rich in symbolism and craftsmanship. In this talk, we will explore the meaning behind the symbols and the stories of some of the people who carved them, and investigate some of their work elsewhere.

St Bride's is a landmark among the West End's finest buildings, and its sculpture is a perfect introduction to the sculpture that also adorns them. We hope you enjoy this visual tour of the neighbourhood's sculptural gems, with St Bride's as its starting point.

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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.



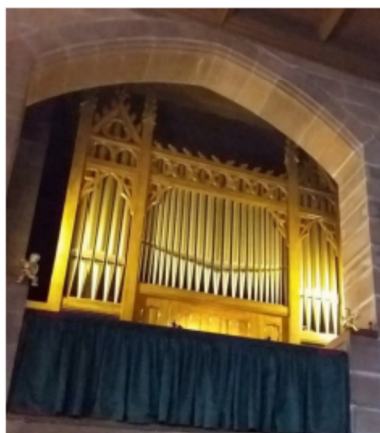
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READINGS FOR SUNG SERVICES IN AUGUST

<i>Sunday 2 August</i> Ninth Sunday after Trinity	Isaiah 55, v 1-5 Psalm 145, v 8-9, 14-21 Romans 9, v 1-5 Matthew 14, v 13-21	
<i>Sunday 9 August</i> Tenth Sunday after Trinity	1 Kings 19, v 9-18 Psalm 85, v 8-13 Romans 10, v 5-15 Matthew 14, v 22-33 <i>(Jesus walks on the water)</i>	
<i>Sunday 16 August</i> The Falling Asleep of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Eleventh Sunday after Trinity)	Isaiah 7, v 10-15 Psalm 45, v 10-12, 16 Revelation 11, v 19; 12, v 6, 10 Luke 1, v 46-55 <i>Sung Evensong and Benediction</i> Psalm 121 1 Corinthians 15, v 22-23	
<i>Sunday 23 August</i> Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	Isaiah 51, v 1-6 Psalm 138 Romans 12, v 1-8 Matthew 16, v 13-20 <i>(You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church)</i>	
<i>Sunday 30 August</i> Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity	Jeremiah 15, v 15-21 Psalm 26, v 1-8 Romans 12, v 9-21 Matthew 16, v 21-28 <i>(If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.)</i>	

MUSIC FOR AUGUST

Date	Readings	Setting	Hymns	Voluntary Before	Voluntary Communion	Voluntary After
Sunday 2 nd 10.30 Trinity IX: Choral Eucharist	Isaiah 55.1-5 Psalm 145.8-9,14-21 Romans 9.1-5 Matthew 14.13-21	<i>Joanna Forbes</i> <i>L'Estrange</i> The St Helen's Service	443, 350, 436, O love that wilt not let me go, 368	<i>Sweetinck</i> Fantasia Chromatica, SwWV 258	<i>Pachelbel</i> Fugue in D minor, P 154	<i>Rheinberger</i> Chromatic Fugue (Sonata No 4 in A minor)
Sunday 9 th 10.30 Trinity X: Sung Eucharist	1 Kings 19.9-18 Psalm 85.8-13 Romans 10.5-15 Matthew 14.22-33	<i>Joanna Forbes</i> <i>L'Estrange</i> The St Helen's Service	234, 200, 353, 73, 463	<i>Böhm</i> Variations Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend ("Lord Jesus Christ, reveal thy holy face")	<i>J S Bach</i> Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend, BWV 709	<i>Böhm</i> Prelude and Fugue in C
Sunday 16 th 10.30 Trinity XI: Sung Eucharist, The Falling Asleep of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Isaiah 7.10-15 Psalm 45.10-12,16 Revelation 11.19, 12.6,10 Luke 1.46-55	<i>Grayston Ives</i> Salisbury Service	181, 161, 188, 276, 478	<i>Liszt</i> Ave Maria von Arcadelt ("Hail Mary, full of grace")	<i>J S Bach</i> Meine Seele erhebt den Herren (Schübler), BWV 648 ("My soul doth magnify the Lord")	<i>Pachelbel</i> Magnificat Fugue No 3 on the Fifth Mode, P 316
Sunday 16 th 15.30 Come and Sing Evening Prayer for the Falling Asleep of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Psalm 121 1 Corinthians 15.22-23		180	<i>Frescobaldi</i> Ave Maris Stella	Motet <i>Franck</i> Ave Maria	<i>Dupré</i> Salve Regina (8 Short Preludes on Gregorian Themes, Op 45 No 1)

Date	Readings	Setting	Hymns	Voluntary Before	Voluntary Communion	Voluntary After
Sunday 23 rd 10.30 Trinity XII: Sung Eucharist	Isaiah 51.1-6 Romans 12.1-8 Matthew 16.13-20	<i>Joanna Forbes</i> <i>L'Estrange</i> The St Helen's Service	475, 467, 691, Take my life, and let it be, 437	<i>Stanford</i> Allegretto, Op 101 No 1 & <i>Vierne</i> Prélambles, Op 31 No 1	<i>Mendelssohn</i> Adagio (Organ Sonata, Op 65 No 1)	<i>Willan</i> Postlude in D Jonathan Smith, Organist
Sunday 31 st 10.30 Trinity XIII: Choral Eucharist	Jeremiah 15.15-21 Psalm 26.1-8 Romans 12.9-21 Matthew 16.21-28	<i>Barrie Cabena</i> Mass in the Dorian Mode	76, 495, 445, Who would true valour see	<i>J S Bach</i> Fantasia in G minor, BWV 542 I	Motet <i>Rebecca Groom</i> te <i>Velde</i> Take up your Cross	<i>J S Bach</i> Fugue in G minor, BWV 542 II

***Sing for Your Life!* will return on Thursday 3 September. Boost your health and wellbeing, and have fun with like-minded people.**

2.00 for 2.15 – 3.15 p.m. More information next month.

KALENDAR FOR AUGUST

August

1	Sat	<i>Feria</i>	Glasgow City Mission
2	Sun	TRINITY IX	Life and ministry of St Bride's
3	Mon	<i>Feria</i>	Those seeking employment
4	Tue	<i>Feria</i>	Those beginning new employment
5	Wed	<i>Oswald of Northumbria, Martyr, 642</i>	St Oswald's, King's Park
6	Thu	THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD	The people of Japan
7	Fri	<i>John Mason Neale, Priest, 1866</i>	Church musicians
8	Sat	<i>Dominic, Priest and Friar, 1221</i>	The newly baptized
9	Sun	TRINITY X	Life and ministry of St Bride's
10	Mon	<i>Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr, 258</i>	Foodbanks
11	Tue	<i>Clare of Assisi, Religious, 1253</i>	Religious communities
12	Wed	<i>Blane, Missionary, c. 590</i>	Schools beginning a new year
13	Thu	<i>Jeremy Taylor, Bishop, 1667</i>	The Bishop
14	Fri	<i>Maximilien Kolbe, Priest and Martyr, 1941</i>	Prisoners of conscience
15	Sat	The Falling Asleep of the BVM	The people of India
16	Sun	TRINITY XI (Mary the Virgin)	Life and ministry of St Bride's
17	Mon	<i>Feria</i>	The Prime Minister and First Minister
18	Tue	<i>Feria</i>	Refugees and support agencies
19	Wed	<i>Feria</i>	InterFaith Glasgow
20	Thu	<i>Bernard of Clairvaux, Abbot and Teacher of the Faith, 1153</i>	The SEI and Theological Institutes
21	Fri	<i>Feria</i>	Those who are isolated and lonely
22	Sat	<i>Feria</i>	Residents of care homes and staff
23	Sun	TRINITY XII	Life and ministry of St Bride's
24	Mon	Bartholomew, Apostle	The Anglican Communion
25	Tue	<i>Ebba of Coldingham, Abbess, 683</i>	Ecumenical partnerships in Scotland
26	Wed	<i>Feria</i>	Alcoholics Anonymous
27	Thu	<i>Monica, Mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387</i>	Parents and godparents
28	Fri	<i>Augustine of Hippo, Bishop and Teacher of the Faith, 430</i>	St Augustine's, Dumbarton
29	Sat	The Beheading of John the Baptist	Journalists who suffer persecution for seeking reporting the truth
30	Sun	TRINITY XIII	Life and ministry of St Bride's
31	Mon	<i>Aidan of Lindisfarne, Bishop, 651</i>	St Aidan's, Clarkston