

EKO

The Magazine for
East Kilbride
Old Parish Church



APRIL 2025

EDITION 636

Church Calendar



APRIL

Sunday 6th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 13th	Palm Sunday Worship	11am
Thursday 17th	Sacrament of Communion	7.30pm
Friday 18th	Good Friday Service	3pm
Sunday 20th	Easter Sunday All-age Service	11am
Sunday 27th	Morning Service	11am

MAY

Sunday 4th	Morning Worship	11am
------------	-----------------	------

Flower Calendar



APRIL

Sunday 6th	In memory of Jean and Ed Kelly
Sunday 13th	The Church Flower Fund
Sunday 20th	In memory of Jane Devennie
Sunday 27th	In memory of Sheena, Bobby and Ian Nimmo

If you would like to dedicate the flowers for any specific Sunday,
please phone Elizabeth Robertson: 01355 243205

Pastoral Letter



Why is Easter so late this year? Well, in 325 A.D., Constantine, emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, convened the Council of Nicea. Among the business before the council was to establish a uniform date for Easter. Out of the discussion and debate came the "Easter Rule," setting Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. As is often the case with church councils, the decision was not unanimous. The Eastern bishops wanted to schedule Easter in conjunction with the Jewish Festival of Passover since, after all, Jesus went to Jerusalem, in the first place, to celebrate Passover. The Western bishops preferred a date corresponding with the beginning of spring, because that was the time already established for a lot of pagan celebrations, and they thought that this would be good to capitalize on the momentum. So, we have Easter in the Spring.

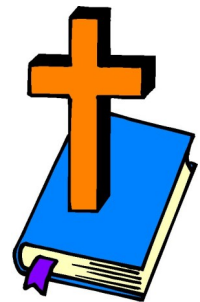
Already the daffodils and other Spring flowers are growing. They have lain dormant in the cold earth, and now they are bursting through with their promise of new life. The last few days have been much warmer, and I think it's finally time to put away the black winter jacket I put on in October, and bring out some brighter colours. The days are getting longer, and more light gets us outside more.

What better time to celebrate the resurrection than in the Spring, and as Easter is late, we hopefully we will experience an Easter of brightness and warmth. The world around us is coming to life after the darkness of winter. New life is what the message of Easter is all about: new life given to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

I pray that each one of us might experience that new life this Easter Season.

Yours in love,

Anne Paton



"DATES FOR YOUR DIARY" :-

1. Coalburn Silver Band Concert in the Church on Friday 30th May at 7.00 pm. Tickets will cost £7, £5 concession and children under 16—Free. Tickets available at the beginning of May.
2. 16th August 2025 - Afternoon Strawberry Tea - time to be confirmed.
3. 29th November 2025 - Christmas Fayre.

Catherine Selfridge



East Kilbride Old Parish Church



CHRISTIAN
SOLIDARITY
WORLDWIDE
VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS

FROM CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLDWIDE

Soldiers from the State Administration Council (SAC), which falls under the authority of Myanmar/Burma's military junta, reportedly set fire to St. Patrick's Cathedral in Banmaw, Kachin State, on the evening of 16 March.

The cathedral, a significant historic and spiritual landmark for Kachin's Christian community, was targeted during military operations conducted by the junta shortly before the celebration of Saint Patrick's Day, the patron saint of the church. A source told DVB English News that the church was 'reduced to ashes'.

The destruction of the cathedral took place weeks after the junta demolished the priest's residence, diocesan offices, and a high school located on its grounds on 26 February, and is part of a larger and increasing trend of violence directed at religious groups, particularly Christians, in Myanmar.

On 6 February junta airstrikes destroyed the Sacred Heart Church in Mindat, Chin State. On 3 March a junta bombing raid resulted in the destruction of the pastoral centre at St. Michael's Catholic Church in the Banmaw Diocese, Kachin State. On 16 March, a junta airstrike targeted a monastery in Nawnghkio, Shan State, resulting in the deaths of at least nine people who were seeking refuge there, including six Buddhist monks.

These attacks are among the latest in an escalation of violence which has been ongoing since 2023, in which the military has intensified airstrikes on civilian areas and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Chin, Kachin, Karen, and Karenni States, all of which are regions with notable Christian communities. This escalation follows the launch of Operation 1027 against the military by ethnic resistance groups. The punitive measures of increasing junta's assaults on religious sites, and civilian shelters reveal a distinct approach aimed at penalising entire communities due to their ethnic and religious identities for supposed backing of ethnic resistance groups to crush dissent by focusing on entire communities, in violation of the international humanitarian prohibition of collective punishment.

EDITOR

Christian Aid Week runs from Sunday 11th May till Saturday 17th May. This year is special – it's Christian Aid's 80th Birthday. How did it begin?

What we now call "Christian Aid" has its roots in the immediate aftermath of the Second World War, when Europe was in ruins and hundreds of thousands of people were in dire straits. One day, a Church of Scotland Minister called Douglas Lister, who was serving as an Army Chaplain, was approached by a man wearing a Luftwaffe uniform. The man asked if Douglas could help with caring for hundreds of starving and frozen refugees, all Germans, who had fled west from advancing Soviet forces. Douglas replied that he was not permitted to help, since "fraternising with the enemy" was forbidden. But then he spoke to his own CO, the Brigadier in command of the 4th Armoured Brigade, stationed at Luneberg. To his eternal credit, the Brigadier said "Go ahead, Douglas, and may God bless these poor people".

Douglas Lister did go ahead. He sent an appeal – not to the Government – but to the Churches of Britain. And there was a great response. Out of that response grew the "Inter-Church Aid and Refugee Service", which in turn became Christian Aid, now involving some 51 different Protestant and Orthodox Churches across the UK and Ireland. It's a great story and we are part of it still.

Our own plans for Christian Aid Week include the launch of the Week at the Service on Sunday 11th; the Sponsored Walk by one of our Elders, Anne Daniels and her husband Peter; our Big 80th Birthday Coffee Morning on Saturday 17th; and the possible planting of a "Tree of Hope" somewhere in the Church grounds. More information about these plans can be found elsewhere in this issue of EKO.

Used Stamps Appeal. Last year, the Church of Scotland raise £18,000 from used stamps and stamp albums. The money has been used in work overseas. We are encouraged to keep bringing used stamps to the Church or Halls, where there are collecting boxes. Stamp Albums holding collections of used stamps are also most welcome. These can be handed in at the Church door any Sunday morning.

Leprosy Mission. The total for the World Leprosy Appeal came to £902.82. That figure includes donations made through the Blue Tubs. Very many thanks to everyone.

Mary Smith

Christian Aid Fundraising Walk

This year, as you may know is the 80th birthday of Christian Aid – a charity which provides support worldwide for people facing poverty, injustice and disasters such as famine, floods and wars.

To fundraise for Christian Aid, I am planning to walk 80 laps of the Heritage Park Loch in East Kilbride. My husband, Peter, will be doing the walk with me. We will be walking five laps per day for sixteen days between Thursday 24th April and Friday 16th May.

Here are the details of my link to the 'Just Giving' page where you can donate:-

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/anne-daniels-1>

We will be grateful for any donations to raise funds for this most worthwhile cause.

Thank you,

Anne Daniels



Christian Aid Coffee Morning

ADVANCE NOTICE – CHRISTIAN AID

The Christian Aid Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 17th May at 10am until 12 noon. It will be held in the Glebe Street Hall where there will be tea, coffee, and cakes along with a few stalls.

Please come along and support us for this most worthy of causes in the 80th birthday of Christian Aid.

Evelyn Brownlie



The Craft Group

It would seem that there are more 'craft' people out there than we realised, since we have had more recent interest in joining the group. Do not fear! All are welcome on Wednesdays at 10am until 12 noon in the Lounge Area.

Come and add to the amazing diversity of crafting ability in our group.

Jill Cowan



The Prayer Group

Catherine Selfridge , Janice Gourlay, Anne Learmonth and Marilyn Ross meet in the Lounge Area after the Church service and invite you to visit/join them in the Prayer Group at any time.

There are Prayer request boxes in the Church Sanctuary - one upstairs at the east side and one downstairs next to the Baptismal Font. Rest assured all Prayer requests will be treated with the utmost respect and discretion. Only first names should be given along with a brief reason for the request, i.e. awaiting treatment, etc.

APRIL

- 1st. Jesus, you prayed. As your disciple, teach me about spiritual discipline in my relationship with you.
- 2nd. We pray, Father, that those who work on climate change may find solutions so that the erosion of soil may be halted or reversed.
- 3rd. Lord, grant me the promise of days yet to come, and the thankfulness of past days well used.
- 4th. Thank you, God, for the opportunity to see this new day. Please help me to overcome any hurdles that may come my way.
- 5th. Father, help me not to look for tasks equal to my powers, but powers equal to Your tasks.
- 6th. Please give me wisdom and guidance, Lord, in everything that I do today, so that my words and actions will honour Your name.
- 7th. Lord, thank you for the knowledge that you hear all my unspoken prayers.
- 8th. Father, be with all who work for the vulnerable, offering care and support.
- 9th. We pray, Father, that water and other vital supplies may not be used as a weapon of war in countries where resources are scarce.
- 10th. Father, I do not know what this day has in store for me, but you do, and I ask that you lead me in all I do.
- 11th. God of Love, may we always be inspired to show our love for others. May we be truthful, authentic, and compassionate.

- 12th. Help us, Lord, to surrender our weaknesses and fears to You. We ask that you replace them with Your strength and courage.
- 13th. Lord Jesus, as we remember your triumphant entry into Jerusalem, open our hearts to the joy of Your love and the weight of your sacrifice, that we may follow you faithfully.
- 14th. We give thanks for the life-giving water to which we have easy access. We pray that all people may have sufficient safe water to meet their needs.
- 15th. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. Psalm 144:8-9
- 16th. Gracious God, open our hearts to our own failings before we leap to judge others in anger.
- 17th. Lord, on this Maundy Thursday, we pray for the grace to follow Your example of love and service, remembering Your sacrifice and Your commandment to love one another as You have loved us.
- 18th. Heavenly Father, on this Good Friday, we come before you with grateful hearts, remembering the ultimate sacrifice that your son Jesus Christ made for us on the cross.
- 19th. Thank you for your faithfulness and for walking with us through every challenge and victory. As we step into this day, may we do so with confidence in Your goodness and with hearts ready to serve You.
- 20th. On this Easter Sunday, let us pray, remembering the resurrection of Jesus, as we find hope and joy in his victory over death, as stated in 1 Corinthians 15:20-21.
- 21st. Risen Jesus, we give thanks for the new life and hope you bring us this Easter day.
- 22nd. God, our shield, protect us as we speak out against injustice in our world.
- 23rd. Faithful God, help us to put you first in our lives and to reject the worldly pressures that distract us from your love.
- 24th. Lord, today I ask for hope and peace within.
- 25th. Help us, Lord, to overcome feelings of hopelessness and fear when faced by so much sad news.
- 26th. Father, be with those for whom this world has become confusing and challenging.
- 27th. Father in Heaven, when we are anxious, afraid, or lonely, grant us the grace to know we are not alone that you are always alongside us, gently showing us the way of hope.
- 28th. Lord, help me to remember that something grows whenever it rains.
- 29th. Loving Lord, together with our sisters and brothers, may we create a sense of global community, where each of us care for all.
- 30th. Father, today I will not worry about anything. Instead, I will pray about everything.

Prayers Continued.

MAY

1st. God of peace, we pray for those who suffer because of violence and conflict. Make us a people of peace, bringing hope to our wounded world.

2nd. Lord, help me learn from my mistakes, and give me the confidence to go on.

3rd. Dear God, thank you for this new day and all the blessings it brings. Guide my steps and grant me the strength and wisdom to face whatever challenges may come my way.

4th. Father, you reach out to us in love. Open our hearts to the needs of others and make us generous in our response.

5th. Father, help me leave a smile where there was not one before.



Ministers during Covenanting Times - Part 1

David Sharpe M.A. son of Patrick Sharpe, Minister of Govan, was born in 1576. He graduated at Glasgow University, ordained at Bothwell and translated to Kilbride in 1608. David married Margaret Hay and had five children: Patrick who would succeed him as minister, John, Janet, Margaret and Elizabeth. Margaret Hay died in September 1621.

David's 2nd marriage in 1622 was to Nicola Lindsay. She was possibly born in the parish, and in 1633, Nicola became owner of the heritable land of Cross, Braehead and Over Milton. In 1638 David Sharpe died leaving his widow with four children. In that year, the College of Glasgow allowed her the sum of £323. 6s (Possibly Scots £) in aid of herself and family. She died in 1684 and is buried in Greyfriars Churchyard, Edinburgh.

At the time of David Sharpe's death, King Charles I's religious reforms met opposition in Scotland which resulted in the introduction of the National Covenant in February 1638 and the Bishop Wars of 1639 and 1640.

In Kilbride in 1639 **Patrick Sharpe** succeeded his father as Minister of the Parish. Patrick was born in 1603 and graduated from Glasgow University in 1624. He married in October 1635, Janet Wilkie daughter of Robert Wilkie Minister of Blackfiars Parish, Glasgow and related to the Wilkie of Foulden family¹.

They had four children:

- Patrick became Minister of Foulden in the Borders. In 1692 he had sasine of land at Limekilns.
- Jean married James Crichton, Minister of Kilbride.
- Robert and Margaret.
- Patrick Sharpe S^{nr} died in 1651.

Ref: ¹ The Wilkie family were the owners of Foulden House, principal landowners and Heritors in Foulden Parish in the Borders. On 23rd March 1587, Foulden Church was where Queen Elizabeth's commissioners met with those of King James VI to vindicate the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots.

Ref:

"East Kilbride The History of Parish and Village" by Thomas Eric Niven.

"Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae: the Succession of Ministers in the Church of Scotland"

"East Kilbride Old Parish Church: A History of the Christian Faith in East Kilbride" by Bill Niven

Fiona Dawson

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES UPDATE (APRIL 25)

Here is a list of the activities / events which are being planned for children, young people and families up to the school summer holidays which begin on 25th June 2025. As well as all these special events and activities our normal weekly groups will all be on.

I encourage you to pass all this information to any family members, friends or neighbours who you think may be interested in joining us at some or all of the following.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

EASTER SUNDAY HYBRID MESSY CHURCH - Sunday 20th April

from 10am until noon in the Church and halls in Montgom-

ery St. From 10am there will be Easter arts and crafts in the upper hall, an animated version of the Easter story in the lounge and an Easter treasure hunt around the church grounds. There will also be tea, coffee, juice and snacks in the lower hall. Then at around 10.50am we will all go into the church for the 11am Easter Sunday all age service.



THE ANGUS MCCONNELL MEMORIAL CHURCH & COMMUNITY FOOTBALL

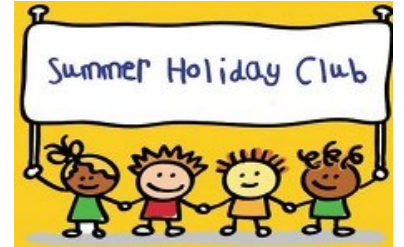
TOURNAMENT – Sunday 8th June from 2-4pm at Kirk-

tonholme Stadium West Mains Rd East Kilbride. This is our 5th event in memory of our dear friend Angus – we

have 9 teams so far able to join us for this fun afternoon of football, fun & fellowship. Come along and support our team and be encouraged by almost 100 children (boys & girls) having a great time playing football.



[SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB 2025](#) – The provisional week for our 2025 holiday club is the week Monday 4th – Friday 8th August, every morning from 10am until 12.30pm in the Church, Lower Hall & Upper Hall – Registration forms will be available soon. The leaders will meet shortly to finalise the dates, theme and programme for this year's club. We also have plans to have a trip on the final day similar to last year when we went to Strathaven Park – again more details when they are finalised. It's not too late to get involved even if you can only help for 1 or 2 mornings, that would be greatly appreciated – if you think you would like to get involved, please let Iain know asap.



RECENT EVENTS

[FAMILY FUN QUIZ NIGHT](#) on 22nd February in the Glebe St Hall – We had a packed church hall with 12 teams and around 70 in attendance – It was a great expression of intergenerational church at its best with children, young people, families and members of both the congregation and some representing Church groups all in attendance having fun and fellowship together in a fun, enjoyable but competitive way. There were only a few points separating the top 4 teams and it all came down to the final round to determine the eventual winners of the gold medals and Trophy. Congratulations to the winning team The Toast Toppers (Summer Rose, Gordon, Gillian, Teresa and Stuart)

Following, there are a few pictures of the event and the winning teams

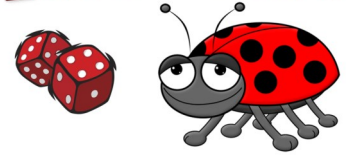




FAMILY BEETLE DRIVE – on 22 March in the Glebe St

BEETLE DRIVE

Hall – The winners and pictures will appear in the next edition of EKO.



LET'S END IN PRAYER

There's work to do, deadlines to meet you've got no time to spare.
But as you hurry and scurry, always say a prayer.

In the midst of family chaos, quality time is rare.

Do your best; let God do the rest, always say a prayer.

It may seem like your worries are more than you can bear.

Slow down and take a breather, always say a prayer.

God knows how stressful life is; He wants to ease our cares,
He'll respond ASAP- Always say a prayer!

AMEN

Thank you for all your encouragement, support, prayers and friendship – I really appreciate it so very much.

Iain (Youth & Families Worker) mobile 07912 295943 / email iain-

shaw18@gmail.com

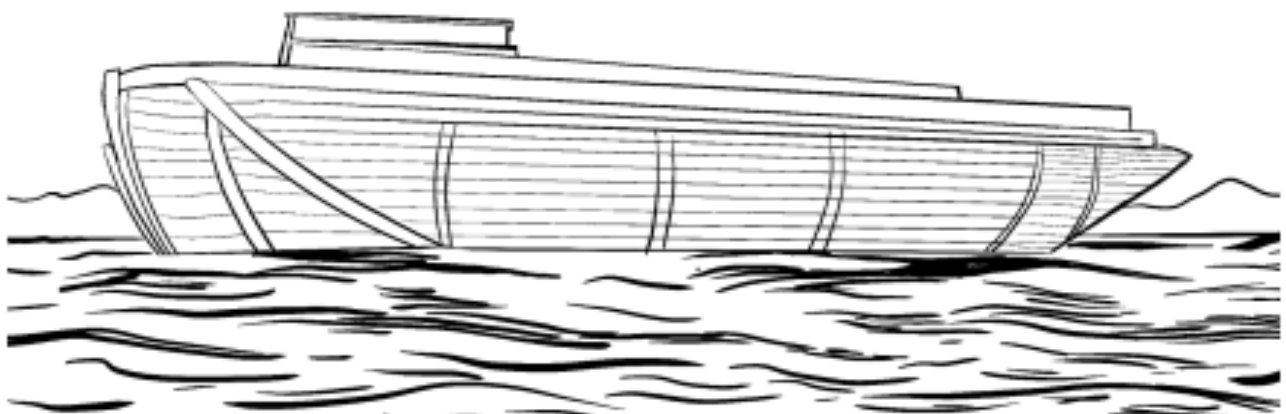


NOAH'S ARK



TRUE OR FALSE

	TRUE	FALSE
God told Noah to build an ark because there was going to be a flood. (Genesis 6:14)		
Noah was told to bring one pair of each kind of clean animal onto the ark. (Genesis 6:19-20)		
The flood lasted for 40 days and 40 nights. (Genesis 7:12)		
Noah's ark was made out of wood. (Genesis 6:14)		
Noah and his family were the only people saved during the flood. (Genesis 7:7)		
The flood covered the earth for one year. (Genesis 7:11)		
Noah's wife's name was Sarah. (Genesis 6:18)		
God closed the door of the ark after Noah and his family were inside. (Genesis 7:16)		
The ark was 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high. (Genesis 6:15)		
Noah was 100 years old when the flood occurred. (Genesis 7:6)		



Pastoral Register

Deaths - "I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Morvern Anderson
Margaret Cochrane
Jane Gilmour



EKO Submissions

The dates for submission of material for the May EKO are: for hand/type-written copy **Sunday 20th April** and the deadline for submitting electronic copy is:- **Wednesday 23rd April**.

Thank you. *David Kent* - Editor 01355 237275, 07890 262267

or, davidkent28@virginmedia.com



EAST KILBRIDE OLD PARISH CHURCH

In case of illness and bereavement, would the family please contact the minister immediately and directly.

Rev. Anne Paton will be available for consultation in the vestry after Sunday morning worship. Please arrange such consultation with the door duty team.

East Kilbride Old Parish Church, Church of Scotland, Scottish Charity—SC000609

Minister Rev. Anne Paton BA BD Tel. 01355 220732
40 Maxwell Drive. G74 4HJ Mobile 07912295940
E-mail address: apaton@churchofscotland.org.uk

Pastoral Assistants: Rev. Stewart Smith MA BD
and Miss Sheena Bell

Youth & Families Worker Iain Shaw
E-mail: iainshaw18@gmail.com

Session Clerk Alistair Walker

Treasurer Des Laverty

Roll Keeper Robert Cossar

Gift Aid Des Laverty

Church Secretary Janet Boyce (Hall Letting)
Church Halls, 3—5 Montgomery St. Tel. 279004
Glebe Street Hall

Church Office E-mail Address: ekopc.office@btconnect.com

Organist Colin Thomas

Communications Convenor Janice Gourlay

Magazine Editor David Kent 07890 262267
davidkent28@virginmedia.com

E-mail copies of April's EKO magazine are available from:-
ekopcmagazine@gmail.com

Visit the East Kilbride Old Parish Church Website at: www.ekopc.org.uk

OR Facebook page: www.facebook.com/EKOLDPC