

**THE MAGAZINE OF  
SAINT NINIAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**Corner of Albert Drive and Pollokshaws Road Glasgow  
[www.stniniansglasgow.org.uk](http://www.stniniansglasgow.org.uk)**



**October 2017**

## *Service Times*

### **Sunday Services**

month only)

**8am** Morning Prayer (first Sunday of the

**8.30am** Eucharist (said)

**10.15am** Sung Eucharist

### **Weekday Services**

**Thursday**      **9.30am** Morning Prayer

**10am** Eucharist (1970)

**Saturday**      **10am** Healing Service (first Saturday of the month only)

**Saints' Days**      Eucharist as announced

### *Clergy and Ministers*

**Bishop:**            The Right Revd Dr Gregor Duncan, Bishop's Office, 5 St Vincent Place, G1 2DH  
Tel 0141 221 6911/6912 Fax 0141 221 6490  
E-mail: [bishop@glasgow.anglican.org](mailto:bishop@glasgow.anglican.org)

**Rector:** The Revd Paul Romano, 32 Glencairn Drive, G41 4PW  
Tel 0141 423 1247  
E-mail: [paul.romano@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.romano@btinternet.com)

**Deacon:**            Mr Paul Whitton,

### **Eucharistic Assistants:**

Mrs Liz Booth  
Mr Vivian Davey

If you would like your copy of the magazine sent to you by email, please email [info@stniniansglasgow.org.uk](mailto:info@stniniansglasgow.org.uk) The magazine may also be read on our website - [www.stniniansglasgow.org.uk](http://www.stniniansglasgow.org.uk)

## *Rector Writes*

At a recent meeting and Eucharist for our Prayer Circle members, the chosen epistle was St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians and in particular the portion in chapter 12 which uses the image of the human body to make the vital point that worshippers are not an isolated single organism coming to church on a Sunday and remaining in an isolated private bubble, so to speak. More than that, St Paul exhorts his readers to remember that.....'God has arranged the body.....that there may be no dissension within the body, *but the members may have the same care for one another. If one members suffers, all suffer together with it.....*' Hold that thought for the moment as I remind you that during my sermon for our patronal festival I quoted from the hymn that was written for the feast of St Ninian and in particular the final verse -

*Say not that Ninian toiled in vain,  
That all he gained was lost;  
The light is never overcome,  
Though skies are overcast.*

I made an oblique reference at the end of my sermon to the need for us to come together and work to make sure that "*all he gained [would not be] lost*". I did not spell out precisely what I thought might be the issue but the time has come to tell you. To borrow again from St Paul, we have reached the stage that the body (the church family) is in trouble.

We are now suffering from the combined effects of the deaths of members and the consequential loss of income. The vestry has worked very hard to maximise all of our other sources of income to the effect that we have almost reached a full occupancy of the hall so the potential for greater receipts of income are limited.

Whilst our treasurer performs miracles with the books (all legally, of course!) the fact remains that slowly but surely our income balance is suffering against our expenditure. We cannot continue to expect that a

special campaign of extra giving will cure the long term deterioration despite the very generous giving of individual members. To my mind the answer lies in an increase in attendance with new members joining. How, of course, we achieve this is the very heart of the problem.

Accordingly, I am calling a congregational meeting for Sunday 5th November to be held during the coffee spot after the Eucharist. A really good attendance is vital because I and the vestry need to hear your views and positive suggestions as to how we tackle this problem. I am giving you this notice in advance so that you might both pray about the subject (attempting to discern the will of God for St Ninian's) and give you a chance to mull over possible solutions. I also decided to use this pastoral letter to impart this information because there are a sizeable number of people who receive our magazine by post because they are either house bound members or are "friends of St Ninian's". I believe that both groups have a right to express their views and suggest solutions. Thus, I shall be pleased to receive any comments from readers of our magazine. Let us not be despondent and let us remain faithful to God's calling that, as the hymn, reminds us - *The light is never overcome, though skies are overcast.*

*Rector*



## CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 2017

\*\*\* indicates use of incense

1 Sun ***Pentecost 17***  
8am Morning Prayer 8.30am Eucharist  
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1970 Liturgy

8 Sun ***Pentecost 18 Harvest Festival***  
8.30am Eucharist  
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy  
Bring and Share Lunch

15 Sun ***Pentecost 19***  
8.30am Eucharist  
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy

22 Sun ***Pentecost 20***  
8.30am Eucharist  
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy

29 Sun ***Pentecost 21***  
8.30am Eucharist at St Ninian's  
10.30am Joint Service at St Margaret's

### *October Mindings*

		19	Jessie Hannay
2	John Guild		Richard Thomas
	Sybil Reid	21	Andrew Banks
	Thomas Stead		McMillan
	Nellie Carlisle	22	Archibald McFarlane
3	Joseph Bullough, priest		Connie Lang
	Allan Clark	23	Frederick Goldie, Bishop
6	Clement Yates	24	Geoffrey Ipgrave
	Cecily Frances Nash	26	Davie Watson
11	Evangeline Mangham	28	Graeme Tully
	Frank Quinn		Alan Forrest
13	John Vincent	29	Roger Elmhirst
14	Nette Duncan		Richard Kissell
15	Julie Miller	30	Marion Jack
16	Isabel Hedley	31	Ethel Sinclair

## **Saints Alive**

In the Church Calendar we have a number of feast days for saints and commemorations for notable people in the Church. Here is a taster for October.

2nd October: Gregory the Enlightener, Bishop and Apostle of Armenia. AD332. He was the first man credited with making Armenia a Christian country. Married with two children he and his wife later agreed that he should enter a monastery to further his evangelisation of Armenia.

James of Jerusalem, Apostle and Martyr, cAD62.

Said to be the brother of Jesus, he was an important figure in the early Church. He was head of the early Church as Bishop of Jerusalem.

Episcopalians, Orthodox and Roman Catholics who believe in the virginity of Mary, see James as perhaps a cousin, as a result of a previous marriage of Joseph. However, this is speculative.

## **Graham Vahey**

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## **Gonna be a Bear**

On our recent tour of Canada we came across the following article which we thought might be amusing to you all.

In this life, I am a woman. In my next life, I'd like to come back as a bear.

Let's look at the facts:

When you are a bear, you get to hibernate. You do nothing but sleep for six months.

I could deal with that.

Before you hibernate you eat yourself stupid.

I could deal with that.

When you're a female bear, you give birth to your children (who are the size of walnuts) while you're sleeping and wake up to partially grown, cute cuddly cubs.

I could definitely deal with that.

If you're a Mama bear, everyone knows you mean business. You can swat anyone who bothers your cubs. If your cubs get out of line, you can swat them too.

I could deal with that.

If you're a bear, your mate EXPECTS you to wake up growling. He EXPECTS that you will have hairy legs and excess body fat.

Yup ....gonna be a bear.

**Sandra Whitton**

### Prayers for Healing

Please keep praying for little Jacob Eli Chapman (4) and his family who await the results of a recent operation; also for Dorothy Ward and Chris Zochowski and family. Very many thanks, your prayers are always very much appreciated.

**Alva Caldwell**

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### Crafty Coffee Morning



Saturday October  
14th  
10-12

Donations to the  
stalls and raffle are

always gratefully received.

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### Men Who Lunch

The next one will be on Tuesday, 10th October at 12.30pm at the White Cart Inn, Busby. Intimations to Graham Vahey by Sunday 8th October. [gvahey@btinternet.com](mailto:gvahey@btinternet.com)  
0775 481-2836. 0141 644-2897.

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### Magazine

Thank you for your generous donations: Mrs D Wason and Ms N Bain. Much appreciated.

**J.S.**

### Save the Children Fund

It is coming up to October again and Paul and I intend to be at the coffee mornings for the three months leading up to Christmas (oops I said it). Please help us and the many starving children by buying some of your Christmas cards, wrapping paper etc. Thank you,  
**Sandra Whitton**

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### Puss in Boots

R.A.T.S.presents *Puss in Boots* Wed 29th November to Sat 2nd December at 7.30pm and Sat 2nd December at 2.30pm. Tickets £10 (£8) from Joyce Maxwell.

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### Open Doors

Thank you to all who helped in any way. We had 82 visitors over the two days, all of whom were very impressed by the size and beauty of the church. Some even likened it to a Tardis because it seemed so much smaller from the outside!

**Rosemary Anwar**

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### September Coffee Morning

Many thanks to all who contributed to our September coffee morning, especially Allan and Yvonne who helped us set up.

**C. and D.**

## Cefalù, Sicily May 2017

Mediterranean darkness falls early. We saw nothing of the Italian coast. Then, as the plane lost height and plunged through the high, thin cloud layer, the bright lights of Messina shone ahead. After that, total darkness, which was the towering mass of the volcano Etna, at 3,000 metres even higher than Vesuvius, and much alive; moody, destructive and beneficent by turn, the only remaining live volcano on Sicily, which is the largest by far of a string of volcanic islands. Active, the power of its earthquakes shakes and destroys whole villages and towns. The burning ash sets light to forest and rooftop and the flowing lava can engulf even a speeding car. But lava and ash provide a richness of soil for orchards and viticulture, vegetables, fruits, forests and wild flowers; minerals and quarries. It is not the football of the Italian boot: it is a country which would prefer to be self-contained. After millennia of invaders and invasions from Phoenicians (Lebanese), Greeks, Romans; Arabs, Byzantines, Norman Vikings, not to mention more modern empire builders like Austria, Spain, France and Germany, who could blame them? The mini states and overlords warred among themselves, as in England and Scotland, and invitations to outside powers could prove disastrous, as history shows; marriage alliances between kingdoms, worse.

The Phoenicians brought trade by sea to safe harbours, such as Cefalù, where we stayed. The Greeks brought war, but culture too: temples, sculpture and amphitheatres for drama, like Taormina. The Romans brought villas with precious mosaic floors, as at Immersi Maritima, still being excavated near Cefalù. Viticulture and wheat swelled Roman coffers. The Byzantines brought Christianity, and the most highly-developed wall mosaics yet seen. Arabs brought oranges and lemons to the rich soils, but swept aside Christianity. They too chose Cefalù as a favoured anchorage, and the Arab city architecture of tall, narrow, terraced streets remains there. Norman Vikings, a cadet branch of Dukes of Normandy, Kings of England, sought softer climes, perhaps wisely, and a more luxuriant culture. After a typically brutal Viking campaign, they re-established Christianity and established a tolerant society while maintaining peace and justice. This tolerance and luxurious lifestyle did not go down well with Popes in Rome. In Palermo, an English bishop was appointed, and the enormous cathedral built. William responded by

building the exquisite Cathedral of Monreale up the hill overlooking the city. It is now a World Heritage Site. The whole interior is embellished with the chief Old Testament stories and those of the Gospels in Byzantine-style mosaics. No need to be able to read or access a bible. Christus Pantocrator, all seeing, all-knowing and judge of all, looks under veiled lids at all from the East end of the Duomo. Christian art historians do say that Cefalù's Christus in its Duomo's eastern apse is a yet greater portrayal.

Our choice of Cefalù for a week's holiday destination was fixed by my earlier visit and desire to share it with Catherine.

The plane rounded Etna and the perfect bay of Taormina's lights came into view. With its Greek amphitheatre, elegant, partly baroque town, it too is a World Heritage Site. That was in our planned holiday schedule. 36 hours before leaving home, an email from the tour company informed us that the G7 would be meeting there, and the town closed to all for a full week as a security measure. I had wanted to return there in part for Catherine's serious interest in archaeology. She felt sorrier for the little business people with cafés, souvenirs, ice creams; small hotels, shops, holiday rentals losing trade in the holiday season. We landed at Catania for the two-hour coach drive to Cefalù hotels. Where the autostrada crossed a river valley on stilts, the frisson returned.

Seven or eight years earlier, a High Court Judge and his cavalcade, sent from Rome to disperse justice in Palermo's High Court, where other judges had been compromised or terrorised by the Mafia, was assassinated by explosions beneath the autostrada's viaduct, set off by waiting Mafia in deserted farmhouses nearby. Sicilians were shamed, and the Mafia never arrested. We had, unknowingly, arrived during the anniversary week of the atrocity, which shamed Sicilians.

The high cliff-faced rock, which gives Cefalù its name, was lit by a cross every night. Below is the convent church whose bells ring out for Mass, Angelus and Compline each day. From our terrace balcony the eastward view of the little city is dominated by the floodlit Duomo each night until midnight. Each evening, the pink glow of sunset suffuses tall buildings in silhouette against a turquoise sky, while a crimson sun to the west colours navy and purple ranges of mountains beyond Palermo, invisible by day. Around dawn, the small fishing boats make way to the ancient port of

Cefalù with the night's catch. Fish is served in many restaurants close by. Farmers bring strings of onions, garlic, chillies and sometimes melons loaded on creaking farm pickups door to door, and then park up for passers-by.

The Piazza del Duomo was daily full of children with brightly-coloured caps for each primary school group. All were escorted to the cathedral by teachers and being photographed with smiling faces seated on the flight of wide stone steps. The cathedral, its Romanesque form belying the two treasures within, was packed with visiting children too. Neither they nor we could view the apse, with its world-famous mosaic Christus Pantocrator, veiled off behind a large canvas screen reproduction for restoration under a WHS grant. A major, if necessary, disappointment. The fourteenth-century Virgin and Child marble statue was in place.

Two days later, Ascension Day, in our guided group we were unsurprised to find large parties of school children packing the Duomo at Monreale with their tutors reverentially marvelling at the Byzantine-style mosaics of the Christus and the bible stories. Half-term holy day, we thought. The peace of the Duomo spilled into the Piazza gardens and all too soon the timed ticket of our coach expired.

The power of the Mafia ruled Palermo. It had called a traffic light control strike, coinciding with the opening of a major High Court trial in the city. Near gridlock was established and many diversions and closed coach parks. Palermo Cathedral, too, was packed with schools. It was here that our German-Swiss guide took me aside to explain the rationale of the national schools' holiday to educate the young against falling under the power of the Mafia, as a memorial to the judge who perished. We were standing beside a side altar just rededicated to a priest and theologian recently murdered by the Mafia for his work in a Palermo slum.

Palaces, museums and university buildings abound, as do slums, penitentiaries and prisons. Food markets provide in abundance the riches of the island. The unexplained death of a café owner at the market café the guide had chosen spoke volumes. Probably failed to pay "protection" money. Shocked, from a pavement café for a late pasta lunch, I watched a procession of prison vans, police, prison officers and warders pass by.

With yet more diversions, the coach reached famous catacombs which the party visited, but so delayed that the beautiful churchyard garden with the grave of Guiseppe Di Lampedusa was closed. The gleaming café restaurant opposite offered what Palermo is best at; perfect coffee served with a genuine hospitality.

In Cefalù, Mediterranean herbs, local cheeses and deli shops and fish restaurants are tightly sandwiched between tourist, pizza and ice cream outlets. In a quieter street, the blank wall of a palace houses the treasures within; a collection of Sicilian artefacts from Bronze Age finds to 17th, 18th and 19th century pictures, portraits, furniture and scholars' library: smaller, but bearing comparison with the Burrell collection.

The Madonie National Park stretches from the great rock cliff of Cefalù into the Madonie Mountains. Catherine walked the steeply-stepped path to the hermit's cell and ruined chapel and took a gentle guided horse ride in the park another morning. A packed coach took us to the highest city of San Mauro, a pilgrimage, holiday and annual music festival destination. The scenery of the park ranges in late afternoon sun was awe-inspiring: the little city at 2,200 metres hugged into the mountain slope, its narrow lanes interlocking until reaching the amphitheatre fronting a church built from donations. Within, the atmosphere was hushed, as the priest prepared young children for First Communion. The shops and surgery housed all the needs of a community often cut off by winter snows. A glossy and hospitable café provided welcome hot coffee and a sunny view out of the biting wind, and San Mauro's shadowed streets and to the Piazza del Duomo del San Mauro

The coach snaked downwards past pines, then wild prickly pears, olives and open deciduous forests to the farm. There in the summer kitchen, the Sicilian tomato sauce and round Sicilian aubergines were cooked. We were more than ready for dinner at long tables in the farmhouse, tucked into the slope below.

Glasses were filled and refilled with Sicilian wines; red or white, and large ashets passed around with delicacies like the finely-sliced prickly pear and aubergines, pan-fried in olive oil. Pasta followed and bowls of fresh tomato sauce. We were a convivial party on our table: to my left, the politest possible Bulgarian, and then his jolly Polish wife, NHS employees

from Sheffield; beside them and opposite me, a Dutch couple from Alkmaar who had toured Scotland on occasion when TATRA employed him in Middlesbrough. His wonderful baritone voice boomed out when we joined in the choruses of Sicilian songs led by mine host and his accordion-playing neighbour. Catherine's sociable table companions were Belgian. So much for BREXIT.

Sunday morning following, we were in Cefalù's Piazzza del Duomo drinking coffee before High Mass when we observed a group of children emerging from a nearby church, clad in white chasubles and bearing small crosses. As Mass began in a very full cathedral, the children were led in procession to the choir, where the Bishop was ensconced. In due course, each child was called by name to read his or her profession of faith and personal promise to work to improve the world or life for others. There was a round of applause from all the parents, grandparents and godparents when the confirmation ended. Catherine and I were uplifted by this very spiritual Mass and celebrated with an appropriate Sicilian fish lunch of spada.

The late afternoon return coach journey to Catania should have given a marvellous sight of Etna and the lemon and orange orchards gracing its hem, but Etna sat gloweringly enveloped in a mantle of dark, grey cloud, along with its orchards: no wonder at its mood, as the G7 meeting with El Presidente Trompeto's declaration taking the USA out of Paris Accord and Signora Brexit May leading us out of Europe. The Italian Army security forces were leaving as we arrived at Catania Airport.

*Sheila Cumming*

<b>Date</b>	<b>1st October</b>	<b>8th October</b>	<b>15th October</b>
	Pentecost 17	Harvest	Pentecost 19
<b>Sidespeople</b>	A Marr A Caldwell	E Graham C Graham	G Vahey E Laurie
<b>Readers</b>	L Lucas	C Shearer	J Maxwell
<b>Readings</b>	Ezek 18.1-4, 25-32 Phil 2.1-13 Mt 21.23-32	Deut 26.1-11 2 Cor 9.6-15 Luke 17.11-19	Is 25.1-9 Phil 4.1-9 Mt 22.1-14
<b>Servers</b> (r) (l) (th)	R Anwar P Whitton	S Whitton I Nairn	I Nairn P Whitton
<b>Intercessions</b>	P Whitton	Y Grieve	Rector
<b>Elements</b>	J Seenan T Baylis	C Seenan R Anwar	L Booth E Graham
<b>Coffee</b>	A Forrest T Baylis K Zochowska	J McLean C Shearer J Maxwell	D Sinclair J Sinclair V Rodgers
<b>Welcomer</b>			E Graham

<b>Date</b>	<b>22nd October</b>	<b>29th October</b>	<b>5th November</b>
	Pentecost 20	All Saints	Pentecost 22
		<b>10.30am at St Margaret's</b>	
<b>Sidespeople</b>	J Sinclair D Sinclair		J McLean M Montgomery
<b>Readers</b>	G Vahey		T Baylis
<b>Readings</b>	Is 45.1-7 1 Th 1.1-10 Mt 22.15-22		Mic 3.5-12 1 Th 2.9-13 Mt 23.1-12
<b>Servers</b> (r) (l) (th)	S Whitton R Anwar		R Anwar I Nairn
<b>Intercessions</b>	E Rodgers		S Walker
<b>Elements</b>	J Seenan T Baylis		L Booth E Graham
<b>Coffee</b>	A Marr Y Grieve A Grieve		A Forrest T Baylis K Zochowska
<b>Welcomer</b>			E Graham

## *Lay Officers*

### *Lay Officers*

Lay Representative	Chris Zochowski
Alternate Lay Rep	Mrs V Vahey
Regional Council Rep	Susan Walker
Rector's Warden	Liz Booth
People's Warden	Vacant
Vestry Secretary	Irene Nairn
Vestry Treasurer	Vivian Davey
PVG Officer	Rosemary Anwar
Property Convener	Peter Falconer

### *The Vestry*

The Rector, Liz Booth, Irene Nairn, Vivian Davey, Chris Zochowski, Val Vahey, Angela Forrest, Thomas Baylis, Joyce Maxwell, Christine Shearer, Nicola Gordon, Lesley Lucas, Eileen Graham, Graham Vahey, Kate Zochowska.

### *The Church*

At St. Ninian's, as in nearly all Episcopal Churches in Scotland, we reserve the sacrament of the Eucharist. From this reserved sacrament Holy Communion is given to the aged, sick or infirm at home, in hospital or in hospice to assure them of Christ's love and presence and to enfold them in the communion and fellowship of the church. The sacrament is also reserved to assure us all of Christ's constant presence with his people.

For Baptism, Visitation of the sick, Funerals, Marriages and Confession please speak to the Rector.

At St. Ninian's, we meet our needs largely through planned giving envelopes. Every member of the church is urged to pledge a definite amount and, if possible, to Gift Aid their offering. Please apply for information and envelopes through either the Recorder or the Treasurer.

The Vestry has reluctantly decided that it is unwise to keep the church open on weekdays. If you need access at times other than the services and events posted on the notice board please phone the Vestry Secretary.

**Life at St Ninian's – to contact any of the individuals below, please email [info@stniniansglasgow.org.uk](mailto:info@stniniansglasgow.org.uk)**

**Organization**

**Contact**

Bible Reading Fellowship  
Choir  
Christian Aid  
Flower Guild  
Hall Convenor  
Library

Graham Vahey  
David Spottiswoode  
Rosemary Anwar  
Sandra Whitton  
Joyce Maxwell  
David Pritchard, Isabel  
Stainsby

Magazine

The Rector (Editor)  
Joyce Sinclair (Sec &  
Treasurer)

Mothers' Union

Lesley Lucas (Branch Leader)  
Aileen Grieve (Secretary)

Paperback Book Club

Rosemary Anwar

Pew Sheet

Valerie Rodgers

Pollokshields Churches Together

Vivian Davey

Prayer List

Alva Caldwell

Recorder

Sandra Whitton

Sacristy Guild

Christine Shearer

Sanctuary Guild

Sandra Whitton

Servers Guild

Paul Whitton

Traidcraft

Catherine Cumming

Web Page

Susan Walker

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