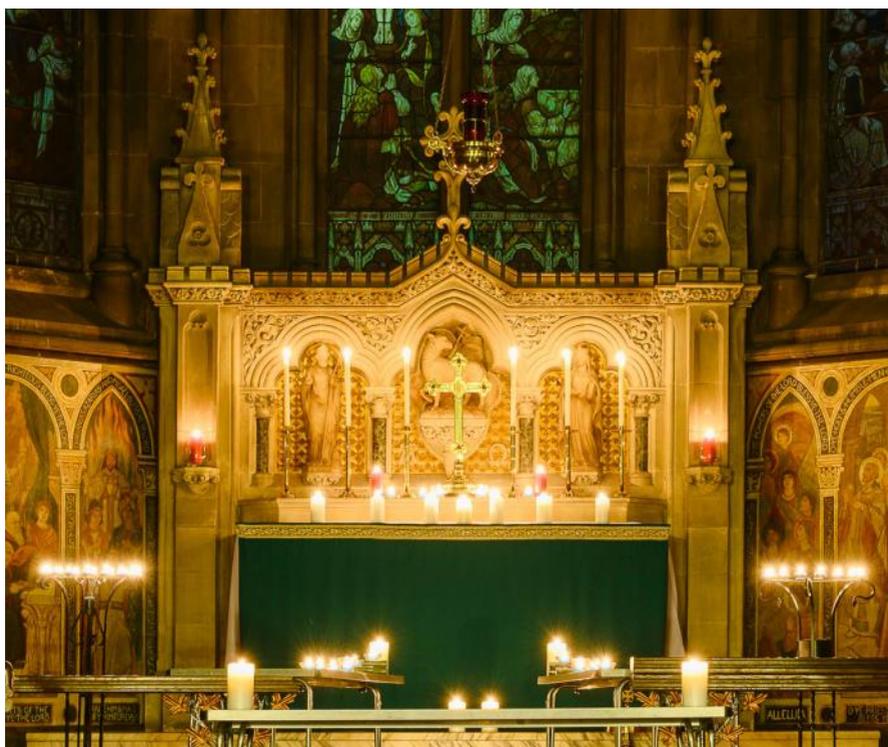


**THE MAGAZINE OF  
SAINT NINIAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
(Corner of Albert Drive and Pollokshaws Road Glasgow)**

**[www.stniniansglasgow.org.uk](http://www.stniniansglasgow.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/StNiniansPollokshields](https://www.facebook.com/StNiniansPollokshields)**



**December 2019 - January 2020**

## *Service Times*

### **Sunday Services**

**8am** Morning Prayer (1st Sunday in the month only)

**8.30am** Eucharist (said)

**10.15am** Sung Eucharist

### **Weekday Services**

**Thursday 9.30am** Morning Prayer

**10am** Eucharist (1970)

**First Saturday of each month: 10:00 am Healing Service**

**Saints' Days** Eucharist as announced

## *Clergy and Ministers*

**Bishop:** Vacant,

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)

## *Rector writes*

In both Catholic and Reformed traditions, the concentration on Jesus' nativity as *the* Christmas event has meant that we have lost a more profound and deeper view. Translated to our secular culture, the nativity is remembered simply as an archetypal human birth without its deeper significance as vital for our salvation. I would go further and suggest that for the secular world the highly sentimentalised "nativity scene" has quite obscured the Christian meaning of the event.

I quite appreciate that I am swimming against a very strong tide and will, no doubt, get caught up in the baubles of Christmas just as much as the next person. However, this should not deflect me from pointing out that such a de-Christianised view has given way to the archetypal image of jolly roly-poly old Santa Claus (the image being an invention of the Coca-Cola marketing department) and the very politically correct 'Season's Greetings' which has crept across the Atlantic. Peace and goodwill will be warbled by the Christmas crooners but neither the angels who first proclaimed it nor the earth-shattering event that inspired their message will be remembered.

Christmas still remains, I am glad to say, a festival for friends and families to renew their bonds of love and affection but it is hard to see how this will survive without the religious core that gave it meaning. It is all the more important for us to hold on to the fact that the celebration of Advent and the festivals of Epiphany and the Baptism of Christ are both essential for understanding a proper celebration of his birth. Christmas is not just about the human birth of Jesus. The birth is the revelation of God himself made manifest in human time and place - the eternal Word made flesh. The meaning of Christmas is expressed in the 'waiting time' of Advent. At its deepest level, Christmas is not in fact centred on the birth of a child but on the coming of an adult Christ. The best of Christmas carols and hymns offer this vision of redemption as implicit in the birth of Jesus.

To give but one example, you are very familiar with *Hark, the herald angels sing...* As originally framed, it had four verses but the fourth was dropped. The fourth verse has now been restored to many hymnals including our 'green' hymnal (although rather interestingly the verse is

starred!) and says ....*now display thy saving power/ruined nature now restore/now in mystic union join/Thine to ours, and ours to thine.* Do you see? The restoration of creation, the new birth of humanity, the making divine what is human, are all themes implicit in the celebration of Christmas. It is indeed right and proper that we should celebrate the coming season with everything at our disposal, both spiritual and temporal. Let us do so without losing sight of its true significance and value.

A very merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!

The Rector

Cover photo: the high altar ablaze with candlelight at the Taizé service for All Saints. Photo: Susan Walker

*If you have any photos suitable for the front cover of the magazine, please send them with a brief description. Credit will be given for any photos used.*

IS

## ***DIARY FOR DECEMBER 2019***

**\*\*\* indicates use of incense**

**1 Sun**

***Advent 1***

**8am** Morning Prayer

**8.30am** Eucharist 1970 Liturgy

**10.15am** Sung Eucharist 1970 Liturgy

**6.30pm** Taizé service for Advent

**5 Thu**

**10am** Eucharist 1970 Liturgy

Week 2 of Advent course

- 7 Sat 10.00am Healing Service
- 8 Sun *Advent 2*  
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1970 Liturgy  
AGM
- 12 Thu 10am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy  
Week 3 of Advent course
- 13 Fri 7pm Carols & Mulled Wine
- 14 Sat 10am-12noon Christmas coffee morning
- 15 Sun *Advent 3*  
8.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy  
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
- 19 Thu 10am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy  
Week 4 of Advent course
- 22 Sun *Advent 4*  
8.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy  
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1970 Liturgy  
6.30pm PCT Carols by Candlelight at Sherbrooke Mosspark
- 24 Tue 11pm Christmas Midnight Sung Eucharist, 1982 Liturgy\*\*\*
- 25 Wed 10am Christmas Day Eucharist
- 26 Thu 10am Eucharist
- 29 Sun *Christmas 1*  
8.30am Eucharist 1982 Liturgy  
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy

# DIARY FOR JANUARY 2020

\*\*\* indicates use of incense

- 4 Sat 10am Healing service
- 5 Sun *Epiphany*  
8am Morning Prayer  
8.30am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy  
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy\*\*\*
- 9 Thu 10am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
- 12 Sun *The Baptism of the Lord*  
8.30am Eucharist 1982 Liturgy  
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy
- 16 Thu 10am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
- 19 Sun *Epiphany 2*  
8.30am Eucharist 1982 Liturgy  
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy  
12.15pm Week of Prayer for Christian Unity lunch  
at Pollokshields Church
- 22 Wed 7pm Week of Prayer for Christian Unity joint  
service at St Albert's
- 23 Thu 10am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy
- 26 Sun *Epiphany 3*  
8.30am Eucharist 1982 Liturgy  
10.15am Sung Eucharist 1982 Liturgy
- 30 Thu 10am Eucharist 1970 Liturgy

## *Mindings*

### *December*

- 2 Nancy Britton
- 3 Muriel White, Tom White,  
Graham White
- 4 Peter Gibson
- 6 Frank Currens
- 8 Gladys Smith, Bill Ruffell
- 9 Jean Graham  
Robert Morrison
- 12 Emily Hinds
- 14 Grant Carson
- 15 Arthur Layland



### *January*

- 1 Ray Aitken
- 2 Bob Hardy
- 3 Norman Whitton, priest  
Anne Hardy
- 4 Edward West, Phyllis  
Watson, Anne McPherson
- 5 Thomas Ross Kennedy, Nellie  
MacDonald, Helen Rice
- 7 Arthur Nash, Stella Cameron
- 8 John Fraser, Alexander Tait,  
Agnes Liddell, Chris  
Zochowski
- 9 John Shearer, John Reidford,  
David Corkill

- 17 Helen Kissell, Alec McCaw
- 21 Rosalind, Jack, Paul and Lynsey  
Somerville (Lockerbie 1988)
- 22 Marjory Laing  
Edward Turner Smith
- 23 Mauraide Hamilton  
Alex Wason
- 24 Pat Ferris, Jessie Clucas
- 29 Madge Hart
- 30 Florence Ritchie  
Audrey Macauley
- 31 Eva Kennedy, Kate Carson

- 10 Ted Clucas
- 11 Tom Watson
- 12 John Reid
- 13 Bernadette Rodgers,  
Rev Barbara Morrison
- 14 Ian Angell
- 16 Richard Lowe
- 17 Margaret Laidlaw
- 20 John Fairful Smith,  
George Fairful Smith
- 21 Minnie Howbridge
- 22 Netta Bulger
- 23 Vera Ross, John Herford
- 27 Bill Young
- 29 Sadie Chalmers

### *Coffee morning*



Thank you to all who helped at or attended the November coffee morning. We raised £207 for church funds, £165 for Save the Children and £30 for Traidcraft. Please come to the next one on 14 December and bring your friends.

Rosemary Anwar

### *Baking stall*

Many thanks to all who contribute baking, or donate money. Thank you to those who buy from the stall the day after the coffee morning. Sometimes food is left over and is either given to RATS for their rehearsals, or Rosemary takes them to the Talbot Centre for the homeless. If you have not been to the coffee morning for some time, do come soon. The Christmas one on 14 December will be great, with the 50:50 Santa prize and the Christmas raffles basket(s). The fellowship is great too.

Margaret E. Anderson

### *Magazine donations*

Many thanks for your generous donations to Mrs J Reid and Ms D Rendall. We are glad to hear that Doreen has finally moved into her new flat. We have received a

lovely letter from Janet, who sends her best wishes to her friends at St Ninian's.

JS

### *Prayers for healing*

Please pray for Moira Watson, John Murphy, and Ian and Twinks Read. Very many thanks, your prayers are always very much appreciated.



Alva Caldwell

### *Foodbank*

Thank you for all your kind donations and please keep up the good work. In the run up to Christmas, they are looking for festive fare: please see the notice in the vestibule.

Rosemary Anwar

### *Bible reading fellowship*

Bible reading notes are available to sustain and nurture Christians in their daily walk with God in many different formats, including print, apps, daily emails, and audio for people with sight loss. They also offer an approach called "Parenting for faith", of which a core resource is the free eight-session online course. For more information, or to sign up for the notes, please speak to Rosemary Anwar.

## *Money matters*

In January it looked very likely that collections would decrease by £3,000 compared with 2017/2018 and that, overall, expenditure might exceed income by as much as £8,000. The Vestry therefore decided that it would be necessary to hold an Increased Giving Campaign in March. As so often in the past, the congregation responded with great generosity and in the second half of our financial year collections increased as a result by £5,700 and tax recoveries under the Gift Aid Scheme by £1,300. Then, in the last six weeks of the financial year, two donations totalling £1,750 entirely eliminated the shortfall. It is therefore with great pleasure that I can report a small surplus; a marvellous turn-around in our financial position! The Vestry therefore wishes to place on record its thanks to all members of the congregation for the generous financial support they have provided to maintain the ministry of St Ninian's.

In addition to the collections, members of the congregation gave generously of both their time and money at the various fund-raising events. These raised £4,500, including the admirable sum of £2,900 from the monthly coffee mornings and £1,000 from the Burns Lunch, The Italian Job and the Arts Festival. Special mention must also be made of the splendid support from RATS by way of donations totalling £1,800 from the proceeds of the Christmas pantomime and the play staged in the springtime.

Donations for hall lets continued to bring in the substantial sum of £12,800 in the year. Having succeeded in reletting the two office rooms which were vacant in September 2018, the income from the rents of all three rooms came to £3,500.

We were successful in obtaining a grant of £5,540 from Viridor to assist with the cost of refurbishing the vestibule and re-carpeting the church. The total cost was £10,908 and the balance of this amount in excess of the grant was taken from the legacies, it being felt that the people who had left legacies to the church would very much approve of the aim of making the building more attractive and welcoming. The other item of capital expenditure was the repair of the roof of the south aisle as recommended in the quinquennial survey. The cost of £1,370 was met from the Church Fabric Fund which was "topped up" from part of a large donation last year in anticipation that the survey would show that some major repairs would be necessary.

Further information about the finances and details of the congregation's activities over the year are contained in the Annual Report & Accounts which accompany this magazine. Please take time to read this record of the past year at St Ninian's.

**Vivian Davey**

### *Christian Solidarity Worldwide*

Please pray in the 1st week in December for Laos. Urban Christians are finding things improved but rural ones are suffering a whole range of attacks, especially Protestants. 2nd week. Please pray for human rights defenders in many countries including China, Vietnam, Pakistan, Nigeria, Sudan, Colombia, and Syria. 3rd week. People in Pakistan from a range of religions are suffering persecution - Christians, Hindus, Shi'as and Ahmadhs. They are all regarded as second-class citizens, with legislation against them. 4th week. Nigeria has problems with Boko Haram attacks. Please particularly remember Leah Sharibu on her second Christmas in captivity, and her fellow slave, Alice Ngaddah.

In the 1st week of January, India is the object of our prayers, with rising Hindu nationalism seeing many religious minorities targeted in all sorts of ways. Week 2 please pray for Juana in Mexico driven out of their village because they were Christian; her husband has died and she is having a real struggle to make ends meet, having had to build a home and to work for the family. Her eldest child cannot go to school since she must stay at home to care for the younger children. I don't yet have the later weeks of January but you can find them on the CSW website when that time comes. Thank you.

Margaret E. Anderson

### *Prayer chain*

After there was some confusion about who is noted on the prayer sheet, we thought we should clarify things for you all. There has also been a change to what we may print since the new data protection rules came in early in summer 2018.

A small group of us commit to praying daily for those on the prayer chain list - printed and not printed. We pass on need for prayer to one another as we are asked to do, and we meet about every three months to bring updates and discuss the people we pray for. What we discuss is confidential.

The printed sheet, used at the various intercessions at services through the week, is also available in the rack in the vestibule for anyone who wants to see it and indeed pray from it at home.

There are four categories of group for whom we pray - the main grid, the PKPF list, i.e. 'Please keep praying for', the home communicants, and those for whom we pray but whose names do not appear on the public list. 1. The main list is for those who have a major need or when the matter is first drawn to our attention. 2. PKPF. This is for those no longer critically in need of prayer, or with long term problems where we know the need but no longer need it spelled out on the grid. Names can be removed from these lists if we are informed that the need is no longer there, or that the person has died, or that we have no means any more of finding out about how the person is. If we remove a name for the last reason and are then informed of the person's latest state, we will, if appropriate, re-instate the name. We sometimes just print the first name if the family/person thinks that is more anonymous. 3. Home communicants. 4. Those who have asked to be prayed for but do not want their names printed; those for whom we have been asked to pray but not by the person him- or herself. We need their permission to print the name, unless it is a parent asking re a child, or a spouse.

The rear of the prayer sheet notes those on the main front grid who are linked to the congregation and prayed for at the main Sunday service, while the lower grid is those on the main grid not part of the St. Ninian's family who are prayed for at the Thursday service.

Please feel free to ask to have someone prayed for, and accept that we will request updates from you on a regular basis. You will find our names and contact details on the prayer sheet.

Margaret E. Anderson

## *Getting to know you - the Rector*

**What is your name?**

Paul Romano

**How long have you been coming to St Ninian's?**

I came as Rector nearly 9 years ago.

**Please tell us something about your faith journey.**

I was brought up in a very religious home with a very traditional Roman Catholic background and entered the full life of the church as an altar boy. As a young student I toyed with the idea of the priesthood. Later, as an adult, I became sure that God did not want me to remain where I was and thus began my journey to the Episcopal Church which I joined nearly 30 years ago.

**What is/was your job/profession?**

I had a career in local government as a lawyer rising to become Head of Litigation and Licensing for Glasgow City Council before early retirement and full-time ministry.

**Where did you grow up?**

Glasgow

**What did you want to be when you were growing up?**

A steam engine driver.

**Who or what is the greatest love of your life?**

Wife apart, steam engines and Mahler.

**What do you owe to your parents?**

A grounded faith and a healthy appetite (too healthy...).

**Cat or dog?**

Cat.

**What would your superpower be?**

A perfect memory!!



**When were you happiest?**

Who says I'm not happy now?!

**Which living person do you most admire?**

My wife for her strength in enduring constant pain and despite that supporting my ministry.

Pumpkin. The Rector's cat is a fluffy cat. Photo: Paul and Vevanne.

**If you could bring something extinct back, what would it be?**

Steam engines for general use.

**What is your greatest fear?**

Becoming physically immobile and not then being to attend to my wife's needs.

**What is your earliest memory?**

Going on my first trip by train all the way to my aunt who lived just south of Rome.

**What is your favourite book/piece of music/artwork?**

All of Mahler's symphonies and Dickens' Pickwick Papers.

**What is your favourite hymn, and why?**

*Lift High the Cross*. It says all that needs to be said.

**What is your guilty pleasure?**

Haribo gummy bears! Yummy!

**What keeps you awake at night?**

That in some way I am not meeting the legitimate needs and expectations of the congregation.



Paul at Easter. Photo: Susan Walker

**Who would you invite to your dream dinner party?**

If I could bring back the dead, then Shakespeare and Dickens.

**Which Biblical character (other than Jesus!) would you most like to meet, and why?**

It could only be Zacchaeus – the patron saint of wee men!

**Where would you most like to be right now?**

A holiday would be nice – somewhere warm.

**What is the most surprising thing about you?**

I have helped fire (i.e., put coal into the fire box of) a ginormous South African steam engine steaming between Pretoria and Johannesburg.

*Any volunteers for next time? There's no need to answer all the questions (although Paul did!) and there's no need to tell us anything you're not comfortable with telling us. You supply the photo or get right of veto. Anyone?*

*If you don't want to feature in Getting to Know You, but have other things to contribute, then please submit them. Anything relating to faith, the Church, churches, Christianity, the Bible... will be considered. This is your magazine and I need your help to keep it going. Thank you.*

IS

## DUTY ROTAS

<b>Date</b>	<b>8 December</b> Advent 2	<b>15 December</b> Advent 3	<b>22 December</b> Advent 4
<b>Sidespeople</b>	J Sinclair D Sinclair	J McLean M Montgomery	E Graham C Graham
<b>Readers</b>	R Anwar	V Davey	Y Grieve
<b>Readings</b>	Is 11.1-10 Rom 15.4-13 Mt 3.1-12	Is 35.1-10 James 57-10 Mt 11.2-11	Is 7.10-16 Rom 1.1-7 Mt 1.18-25
<b>Servers</b>	(r) S Whitton (l) P Whitton (th)	R Anwar I Nairn	J Whannel P Whitton
<b>Intercessions</b>	Rector	S Walker	Y Grieve
<b>Elements</b>	T Baylis R Anwar	L Arrol L Booth	A Forrest T Baylis
<b>Coffee</b>	J McLean C Shearer J Maxwell	D Sinclair J Sinclair A Forrest	A Marr Y Grieve V Rodgers
<b>Welcomer</b>	E Graham		C Graham

## DUTY ROTAS

<b>Date</b>	<b>24 December</b> Christmas Midnight	<b>29 December</b> Christmas 1	<b>5 January</b> Epiphany
<b>Sidespeople</b>	L Booth V Davey	A Marr E Laurie	J Sinclair D Sinclair
<b>Readers</b>	S Walker	L Lucas	I Stainsby
<b>Readings</b>	Is 9.2-7 Titus 2.11-14 Luke 2.1-14	Is 1.10-18 2 Th 1.1-4,11-12 Lk 19.1-10	Is 60.1-6 Eph 3.1-12 Mt 2.1-12
<b>Servers</b>	(r) S Whitton (l) R Anwar (th) I Nairn	I Nairn P Whitton	I Nairn P Whitton J Whannel
<b>Intercessions</b>	P Whitton	E Rodgers	I Nairn
<b>Elements</b>	N Gordon E Graham	R Anwar L Arrol	L Booth E Graham
<b>Coffee</b>		A Forrest T Baylis E Laurie	J McLean C Shearer J Maxwell
<b>Welcomer</b>			

## DUTY ROTAS

<b>Date</b>	<b>12 January</b> The Baptism	<b>19 January</b> Epiphany 2	<b>26 January</b> Epiphany 3	<b>2 February</b> Presentation
<b>Sidespeople</b>	J McLean M Montgomery	E Graham C Graham	A Marr E Laurie	J Sinclair D Sinclair
<b>Readers</b>	L Lucas	C Shearer	J Maxwell	G Vahey
<b>Readings</b>	Is 42.1-9 Acts 10.34-43 Mt 3.13-17	Is 49.1-7 1 Cor 1.1-9 John 1.29-42	Is 9.1-4 1 Cor 1.10-18 Mt 4.12-23	Mal 3.1-4 Heb 2.14-18 Luke 2.22-40
<b>Servers</b>	(r) S Whitton (l) R Anwar (th)	R Anwar P Whitton	I Nairn R Anwar	S Whitton P Whitton
<b>Intercessions</b>	Rector	S Walker	Y Grieve	P Whitton
<b>Elements</b>	A Forrest N Gordon	T Baylis L Arrol	L Booth E Graham	R Anwar A Forrest
<b>Coffee</b>	D Sinclair J Sinclair A Forrest	A Marr Y Grieve V Rodgers	A Forrest T Baylis E Laurie	J McLean C Shearer J Maxwell
<b>Welcomer</b>	E Graham	C Graham		



## *Lay Officers*

Lay Representative	Thomas Baylis
Alternate Lay Rep	Vivian Davey
Regional Council Rep	Joyce Maxwell
Rector's Warden	Liz Booth
People's Warden	Vacant
Vestry Secretary	Irene Nairn
Vestry Treasurer	Vivian Davey
PVG Officer	Rosemary Anwar
Property Convener	Vacant

## *The Vestry*

The Rector, Liz Booth, Irene Nairn, Vivian Davey, Angela Forrest, Thomas Baylis, Joyce Maxwell, Eileen Graham, Catherine Cumming, David Spottiswoode, Nancy Bain.

## *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

All phone numbers have the code 0141 unless otherwise indicated

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Bible Reading Fellowship	Rosemary Anwar
Choir	David Spottiswoode <i>choir@stniniansglasgow.org.uk</i>
Christian Aid	Rosemary Anwar
Coffee Convenor	Yvonne Grieve
Flower Guild	Sandra Whitton
Hall Convenor	Joyce Maxwell <i>hallbooking@stniniansglasgow.org.uk</i>
Library	David Pritchard, Isabel Stainsby
Magazine	The Rector (Editor) <i>rector@stniniansglasgow.org.uk</i> Joyce Sinclair (Sec & Treasurer) Isabel Stainsby (Copy Editor)
Mothers' Union	Lesley Lucas (Branch Leader)
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 <i>info@stniniansglasgow.org.uk</i>

*St Ninian's Episcopal Church, Glasgow, is a charity registered under no. SC010966*

