



# Meldrum & Bourtie

## Parish Church of Scotland

Registered in Scotland  
Charity Number SCO15960

October / November 2021

Greetings,

Time is such a unique thing isn't it? My phone has a feature where it shows 'photos taken on this day' and just the other day was a photo of us preparing the manse for our arrival a year ago! Since then we have settled into life in Meldrum and welcomed our daughter Arabel. Last autumn we all thought the covid times were nearly over, not knowing nearly 2 years into this and covid would still be so prevalent. Time has changed so much and so little. How we measure time. How we look at time. How we plan time. It all seems different now.

Even before covid, you could be 'ahead of your time,' or 'behind the times.' The Church of Scotland feels like it is in a 'race against time' to adapt to a modern and changing world. Perhaps 'time is slipping away too fast,' which I certainly feel as a mother.

"All that really belongs to us is time; even he who has nothing else has that." Spanish writer Baltasar Gracian once said. We all have time, the question is how you use your time. Do you



# Kirk News

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give of your time or do you take? Do you fill your time with stresses or things that give you joy? How has covid changed your perception of time? How can you use time as a gift to others and yourselves?

A pivotal moment in J.R.R. Tolkien's book *The Fellowship of the Ring* is when Frodo comes to Gandalf for help and reassurance as he begins to grasp the enormity of the task that lay ahead of him. Frodo says, "I wish it need not have happened in my time." "So do I," said Gandalf, "and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us." All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us. I really want to encourage you to think seriously about 'Time.' How time is a gift, a gift to be given. Time given in a visit or phone call to a friend. Time given in care and service. I want to leave you with one last quote from Mother Teresa, "Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin." Let us begin, doing the work of the church in our lives by how we live. Let us begin, showing and sharing God's love with all. I can only imagine the multitude of gifts that will come when we live each day in such a way, for Meldrum and Bourtie Church, for our community, for the Church of Scotland, and the world beyond. So let us indeed begin!

Grace and Peace,  
Rev. Alisa McDonald

**HARVEST THANKSGIVING @  
MELDRUM & BOURTIE PARISH CHURCH**



**Please bring gifts for Harvest Thanksgiving  
Give thanks for the good things God gives us**

**Harvest Thanksgiving Services**

**On Sunday 10 October 2021**

**11 am @ Meldrum Church**

**2:30 pm @ Bourtie Church**

***We will also celebrate Holy Communion  
at our Bourtie Harvest Thanksgiving Service***

# PRAYER CALENDAR

## October 2021



This October we will be celebrating Communion in our church building after an interruption due to covid restrictions. We can take this opportunity to prepare for our Communion service and remind ourselves of God's great love for us all. In 2 Corinthians chapter 5 verse 19 we read the following;

'That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.'

A Prayer before Communion.

Loving Lord Jesus, I come before You and confess that You alone are the living God. You alone are worthy of all honour and praise, for You set aside Your heavenly glory and came into this world as a man, to redeem lost sinners.

I praise and thank you that I am included in your love and your gracious forgiveness. Thank you that You willingly offered up Your body to be the sacrifice for my sin. Thank you that Your body was broken for me, and that Your precious blood was shed to pay the full price for my wrong doing. A price paid not just for me but for all who trust in Your name.

Lord, prepare me to consume the bread and wine with a truly thankful heart. Inspire in me a pure spirit of remembrance and joy in the knowledge of Your undying love.

Amen.

# PRAYER CALENDAR

## November 2021



<b>Weeks 1 &amp; 2</b>	Own Church	We give thanks for all those involved in the Remembrance Day Services. We pray for all those who have given their lives to secure peace and those remembering and respecting their sacrifice.
	Presbytery	We give thanks for one of the Five Marks of Mission which includes the words “to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation”. Help us all to act with this in mind.
	World Issues	We pray in hope for an end to aggression. We remember all those working for peace and those who help people injured and displaced by warfare including those who go hungry as a result of conflict. We pray for all Aid Agencies working to support them including Doctors Without Borders.
<b>Weeks 3 &amp; 4</b>	Own Church	We give thanks for the rain and sun that allow crops to flourish and feed us. We pray for the continued health of our soil and the work of our farmers. May we use these resources wisely and with care reducing any waste and sharing food with those in need.
	Presbytery	We remember the Fifth Mark of Mission, “To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth “. Help us all to act with this in mind.
	World Issues	We pray for wisdom and agreement from all those delegates attending the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference COP26 in Glasgow on the 9 th to 19 th November. We pray that all delegates and countries will commit themselves to the good stewardship of our earth and God’s creation. We ask this for the good of everyone inhabiting our planet and for the future generations.

## **News update & links**

### **Covid-19 changes:**

Although the legal regulation to keep a register of those attending worship has been removed by the Government, when a congregation offers hospitality (tea and coffee after the service for example) the legal duty to maintain a register is applicable. It is recommended therefore that congregations continue to ask people to check-in to a church building for any reason which can be done via a QR code or a paper register.

We will no longer keep a paper register; however, you can still register your attendance at the church by simply scanning the QR code with a smartphone on which the Check In Scotland app has been installed. If the app is not yet installed, scanning a relevant QR code displayed in your church will start the app installation process. QR codes will be displayed at the entrance in each of our buildings -

**On the occasions that we are serving teas & coffee we will have a paper register to record the details of all who have attended.**

The Check In Scotland app has been developed on behalf of the Scottish Government and is widely used for NHS Test and Protect services. Once installed and set up on a smartphone, all the individual needs to do is point their smartphone camera at the QR code displayed in your church and click; the app will do the rest.

Participation in the Test & Protect strategy is important, both for our Church and for all attending Church but it is not compulsory for individuals to give their details.

In taking part we are joining the national effort to suppress COVID-19 and we will be acting in the best interests of our congregations. However, if people don't want to register their attendance, we cannot force them or deny entry, though we need to remind people that if they choose not to take part it

means the NHS cannot contact them and help them to take protective measures.

### ***Links:***

***Catch up with all the news*** (Intimations)

*News and events link:*

**@ <https://www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com/news>**

We continue to update our News & Events page on our website as and when items come in. You will now find 'all in one place' everything that is happening and being promoted at Meldrum & Bourtie Parish Church.

The latest edition (Oct/Nov 2021) of our church magazine '**The Kirk News**' is now available online

**@ <https://www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com/kirk-news>**

If you have any news or stories, you would like published in our Email newsletter our Kirk News or on our News & Events website page, please forward them to me at [info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com](mailto:info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com)

William Dalzell  
Session Clerk

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## **Deaths**

Mrs Margaret Anderson	Kirkhill Drive	6th August 2021
Mrs Evelyn (Bunty) Webster	Back Wynd	19th August 2021
Mrs Gladys Wilson	Westbank Home	31st August 2021

## Church choir - new & existing members

We will be shortly starting rehearsals to get our church choir restarted and invite all, new & existing members, who are interested to get in touch.

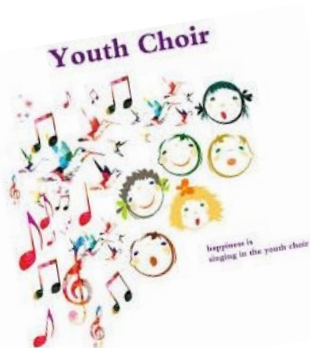


Rehearsals start October: Billy will contact all who have shown an interest with dates & times— there is still time to add your name to the list.

Call Billy on 07968 000 610 or

Email: [info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com](mailto:info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com)

## We are also keen to start up a junior/youth choir



If you and /or any of your friends are interested and would like to find out more please get in touch.



# **Your Invitation to Holy Communion**

**At Bourtie Kirk  
Sunday 10 October 2021  
@ 2:30 pm**

**oOo**

**At Meldrum Parish  
Church  
Sunday 31 October 2021  
@ 11 am**



The logo for 'Life & Work' is displayed on a red rectangular background. The word 'LIFE' is in large, bold, white capital letters. Below it, the word 'AND' is in smaller, white capital letters, and the word 'WORK' is in large, bold, white capital letters, matching the size of 'LIFE'.

**LIFE**  
AND **WORK**

Promotions for annual Print and annual Digital subscriptions are available for the Church monthly magazine Life & Work.

If you would like to receive a copy each month, please contact Anne McLean at [info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com](mailto:info@meldrumandbourtiechurch.com) for details.

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The background of the bottom section is a vibrant orange. It is decorated with various Halloween-themed items: black spider webs, black plastic spiders, black bat cutouts, a white skull, a carved jack-o'-lantern, a small white eyeball with a blue iris, and a black centipede. The text is centered in a black, handwritten-style font.

Meldrum & Bourtie Parish Church  
Upcoming  
Halloween all age event  
Details still in the planning  
Keep a lookout on our  
Facebook Page and Website



Collection of Knitting (and other things) During October I hope to collect all the Fish and Chips Vests and other knitting that has been completed in the last few months. The response earlier in the year was amazing.

A consignment is likely to be going down to Dundee in November for onward travel to Malawi. If you have knitted any matching items, can I ask that you attach them to each other with a safety pin or some wool?

I have also been asked to collect spoons. The children who get Mary's Meals, another wonderful charity, often eat with their fingers so spoons would be gratefully received.

Finally, the Theological College have issued a request for bibles. They don't want the King James Version (and I can't think they would want the Doric bible) but would be particularly pleased with the Good News, New International Bible or similar. Any of these items can be dropped off at church or, alternatively, if you wish items to be collected, please phone Sheila on 871957. Thank you.

# Contacts

Name	Position	
Alisa McDonald	Minister	872059
Mr W Dalzell	Session Clerk	872943
Mr W Paterson	Treasurer	01467 681796
Mrs Lorna Reid	Roll Keeper	01651 873000
Focus Groups:		
Pat Patrone	Worship Group	872797
Kirk News		
Brian Reid	Editorial Rep	872794
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Website	<a href="http://www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com">www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com</a>	

## Kirk News Articles

All items for the December 2021 / January 2022 issue of Kirk News should be in the hands of the Editors, Brian Reid, or Simon Hill by Sunday, 21st November 2021.

If you know of anyone who does not normally receive Kirk News and would like to, please contact the Editor. (see Contacts table)

You can also catch up with our latest news, events and videos on our website @ <https://www.meldrumandbourtiechurch.com/> or on our Facebook page.

