

THE INFORMER

The Newsletter of Clincarthill Parish Church of Scotland

Church Website: www.clincarthill.org.uk



Issue 117: March 2026

Letter from The Marse

1How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

2It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard,

Running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe.

3It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion.

For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life for evermore.

(Psalm 133 NIVUK)

I wrote this around the same time as I was preparing the sermon on Nehemiah 6 to 7, where one of the themes was "Community" – specifically, the Church is called to be a community/family of God's people, and to exist following the principles or ideals of a community/family; i.e. all are welcomed in Jesus' name, have a place and a purpose, etc. As I was searching for other Scripture passages which also speak of this, I stumbled across this wonderful little Psalm.

This is one of the "Songs of Ascent". That is, the Psalms (Psalm 120 to 134) sung by the People of God as they journeyed toward Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. The Songs of Ascent contain many different themes, which help remind the People of God who they are, who God is, and what He has done for them.

This is particularly significant when we connect the Songs of Ascent with the Passover. By singing these songs, those journeying to Jerusalem are grounding themselves once again in their identity as God's People; those whom He saved from slavery in Egypt. They are remembering that, when they were powerless to save themselves, God came and rescued them, bringing them "home" to the Promised Land. These reminders would no doubt have helped the People as they then shared in the Passover together – the meal shared before the Spirit of the LORD "passed over" the Israelites, to bring judgement upon the Egyptians; all thanks to the blood of the sacrificial lambs.

The People who sang Psalm 133, then, would do so to create a sense of unity: although they descended from different tribes and families, they were united together because of the salvation they shared.

I trust that already the parallels for us today are becoming clearer as you read!

We too know that salvation of God, thanks to the blood of a "sacrificial lamb". Jesus is sometimes described in this way, as He took upon Himself the consequences of our rejection of God, in His death. In doing so, God is able to declare us as set free from these consequences, granting us the status of His dearly beloved children. In this declaration, we are also "brought home" – home into the family of God; home into His Church in the present; home into His presence for all eternity, in the New Creation, in the future.

Because this salvation is achieved for us by Christ, and His perfect and complete work, we cannot lose our place so long as we persevere with Him. And since this is granted to us by Christ, we are able to share in unity with other followers of Jesus: the worldly divisions we might draw melt away in the light of that which primarily unites us – that is, our shared faith in Christ.

We all could tell stories of the pain of Church disunity. And while there may be times someone could argue Christians should legitimately part company, that is not my focus here. Rather, I would want to echo David's observation: that when the People of God live together in unity, it is good and pleasant; in fact, it is so precious, it is like the anointing oil poured on the priest to purify him of sin, and set him apart in God's service; it is so refreshing, it is as if the dew of Hermon (which was known to be extremely plentiful!) was being poured down upon Mount Zion.

Such is the power of a united People of God (in the Church): that through us, God is able to bring the message of Gospel purification to that which is broken, and is able to refresh a dry and dark world!

As we continue to meditate on God's call for our Church, let us pursue the kind of unity which can purify and refresh!

With every blessing,

Stuart

Email: slove@churchofscotland.org.uk

Tel.: 07916 176 873



Join us in person
at Clincarthill Church
1220 Cathcart Road, Glasgow



Services are broadcast live
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Lent Reflection Mornings in Clincarthill's Resting Place

We are offering Lent Reflection Mornings based on this year's Lent Book from the Ignatian Spirituality Centre.

The theme this year is St Matthew's Gospel with material for prayer including Scripture, pictures, a thought for the day - there is music but it can only accessed online - the link is on the back of the book

Books are available in the usual places

- **Dates: Saturdays from 28th February to 4th April, 10am to 12 noon**
- **To be held in-person and online in Clincarthill Church's Resting Place**
- **This is not a Bible Study but an opportunity to meet together and share, as much or as little, of where God has been during our reflections and where He has connected with our everyday life.**

MESSAGE FROM MOUNT FLORIDA BOOKS

Hello!

I'm from Mount Florida Books and wanted to get in touch to see if you're able to support our Book Matching Scheme for the local Primary School, either by donating a book or by sharing it to your contacts.

We've been working with the teachers and students from Mount Florida Primary School to find out what they most wanted stocked and pulled together a list which you can see on our website

[Mount Florida Primary - Book Matching Scheme - Mount Florida Books](#)

For every book that you donate, we'll match it to help them build up their class sets. You can see the full list via our website or pop in store for more details

Thanks for reading!

All the best

Katia @_mfbooks



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March – Hope That Renews

Thought: Even in uncertainty, God's promises remain steady and His love is freely given.

Verse: "Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength." – Isaiah 40:31

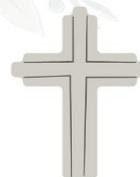
Prayer: Lord, breathe fresh hope into our hearts and steady us with Your peace.



Do you need prayer?

Contact:

0141 632 4206



Church Roll Update

Deaths:

Eddie Glen (Eastwood Court Care Home) died on 27th January 2026

Glasgow Commonwealth Games - 23 July to 2 August 2026

We have the exciting opportunity again to be part of this year's Games and we are looking for volunteers to be "Games Pastors" working alongside our Street Pastors, who will be out during the day and early evening in the city centre, providing help, care and listening opportunities to people. Some will be visiting the city and will just need a friendly face to help them on their way to where they are going.



We are also looking for people to pray over this period and if individuals in your church or church groups would be able to take a day/time slot to cover us, this would be much appreciated.

If you are interested or would like more information, please get in touch with Elizabeth at Glasgow Street Pastors by email to coordinator@gsp.scot

Games Pastors will be asked to:

- Fill out and return a short application form by Easter
- Have referees checked and PVGs applied for by early May
- A short training will be available in mid-late June in Glasgow
- It is hoped that Games Pastors will do a few shifts across the period of the games - times will be confirmed shortly but will be afternoon/early evening.



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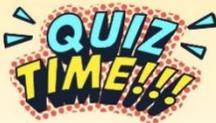
Clinicarhill Parish Church
a church for the community

COMMUNITY QUIZ NIGHT

In the Church Hall
On Monday 9th March
Start time: 7.30pm

Bring a friend (s)
Come along and enjoy yourself

£3 entry
Refreshments will be served

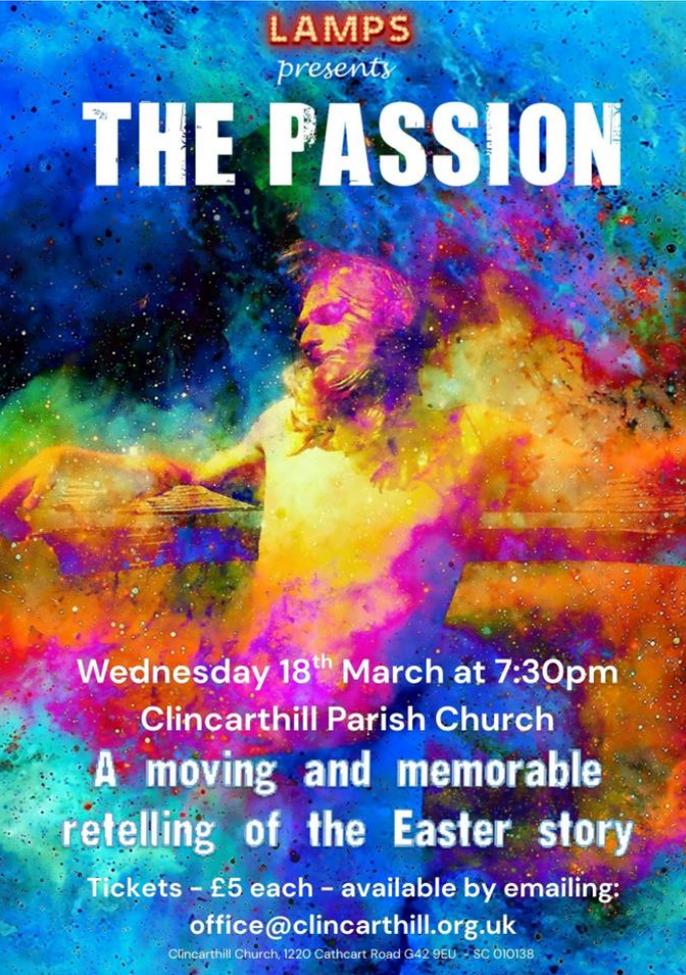



1220 Cathcart Road, G42 9EU (SC 010138)

The Guild
March 2026



2nd: Health Help International - Iain Park
9th: Community Quiz - Large Hall
16th: Glasgow Dance Halls - John Walker
23rd: Crochet- Liz Cowan
30th: AGM - Daffodil Tea



LAMPS
presents
THE PASSION

Wednesday 18th March at 7:30pm
Clinicarhill Parish Church
A moving and memorable
retelling of the Easter story

Tickets - £5 each - available by emailing:
office@clincarhill.org.uk

Clinicarhill Church, 1220 Cathcart Road G42 9EU - SC 010138

We are delighted to announce that LAMPS Collective (theatre company) are coming to Clinicarhill Church on Wednesday 18th March to perform a moving and memorable retelling of the Easter story - "The Passion". Please put the date in your diary and let your friends and family know. It would be wonderful to see the church filled that night.

Tickets are £5 each and are available by emailing:
office@clincarhill.org.uk

Or in person from Stephen Kennedy

YOUTH TEAM

Easter Breakfast – This year the team are planning to do an Easter breakfast on Sunday 5th April between 10.30 and 11.15 in the large hall. Come early and enjoy a roll with sausage or bacon, cereal etc. Tickets will be available in the next week or so, just so we can get an idea of numbers. A lovely way to meet together before the service to celebrate this very special day.

Holiday Club – We are looking for volunteers to help at our Holiday Club this summer from Monday 3rd to Friday 7th August (10am to 12 noon). This year's Holiday Club will only be able to go ahead if we can recruit enough leaders/volunteers for the week. If this is something you would like to be part of, please let either Mary MacCallum or myself know if you are interested in being part of the team for part, or all of the week. A sheet will be made available for volunteers to sign up to just outside the library room in the church over the next week or so. Please note that all volunteers need to be PVG checked beforehand (please speak to Rhona Gann).

Lorraine Kennedy
Youth Team



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MISSION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH TEAM

The warm space has just finished after 6 weeks. It ran every Thursday from 1pm to 4pm for the month of January and part of February. On average 20-25 people attended every week. Each week we provided soup and a roll, hot drinks, home-baking and treats. Music was provided by the LHM 360 Choir and others. Information was made available signposting to help in the community, as well as information on church and community activities. Newspapers and books were also available each week. Over the 6 weeks we had a quiz, a Burn's lunch (3 course), and a visit from the welfare rights team at Glasgow Golden Generation for ages 55+ and the Co-op.

One of the main reasons for doing this venture is to reduce loneliness and social isolation during the winter months, which can be a particularly difficult time for many. We received a generous donation of £100 from Howden Insurance in Mount Florida as well as other individual donations, and donations of groceries. These help the warm space run each year and ensure we can offer lunch free to all who visit. We are very thankful to all who donated. We are also thankful for the great team of volunteers who served and made each person feel special and welcome each week. It was very much appreciated.

Stephen Kennedy

Mission and community outreach team



83rd Glasgow BB Update

As has become traditional we're doing a soup and sandwich lunch after a service, this year on Sunday 22nd March, we have Alasdair Buchanan back to make the soup. All are welcome if you're able to stay please come along, there's no charge, though donations are welcome.

We're now well into the second half of the session, we've recently presented the first badges at Juniors to this year's new members. Company Section have been busy, a team of our younger members took part in the Battalion's Company 5-a-side Football tournament, finishing just out of the medals in fourth place. The Seniors 5-a-sides are on 1st March, last year we came away with bronze medals and the boys will be hoping to put on a medal winning performance again this year. Two of our S3 boys recently attended a Building Your Skills course as they work towards their President's Badge, hopefully they'll have finished all the required elements within the next few weeks to allow us to present the badges at our Inspection on 15th May.

Looking further ahead, 20 of our Company Section boys and 5 leaders are going on an adventure activity weekend to PGL Dalguise near Aberfeldy at the end of August.

We've been fortunate to receive a £2000 "Cashback for Communities" grant from BB Scotland towards this, the funding comes from the Scottish Government scheme which puts monies seized as proceeds of crime to good use in local communities across the country.

Stuart Buchanan,

83glasgow@boys-brigade.org.uk

Registered Scottish Charity: SC010138

Next Issue Deadline: Sunday 29th March – email: office@clincarthill.org.uk



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