



# Church Magazine

## THE SPECIAL MEANING OF THE FOUR SUNDAYS OF ADVENT

### Week 2 FAITH

Prepare the way of  
the Lord, make  
straight his paths.  
(Luke 3: 4-5)

### Week 3 JOY

Do not be afraid; for  
behold, I proclaim to  
you good news of great  
joy that will be for all  
people. (Luke 2: 10-12)

### Week 1 HOPE

The root of Jesse shall come,  
raised up to rule the Gentiles;  
in him shall the Gentiles hope.  
(Romans 15: 12)

### Week 4 PEACE

Glory to God in the  
highest and on earth  
peace to those on  
whom his favor rests.  
(Luke 2: 14)



December 2025/January 2026

## **ST CUTHBERT'S TEAM**

### **Interim Moderator**

Dr Hazel Hastie

### **Locum Minister**

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Stewart Cowe

[magazine@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk](mailto:magazine@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk)

**Contents:** Locum Minister's Letter (p3), From the Tower Room (p4), Reports from St Cuthbert's (p5) including: December Services in St Cuthbert's (p5), Working towards union (p5), Bible Fellowship Group (p6), News from the Ukrainian St Margaret's Saturday School (p7); Feature Article: St Cuthbert's versus the Glasgow to Edinburgh Railway (p9), Angels, Shepherds and the Wise Men (p11); Bacon Roll Breakfast (p13), Welcome Guides Round up (p13); Out and About (p14) including Congregational tour of St Cecilia's Hall (p14); General Notices (p15), including Christmas Gift Service (p15). Tuesday and Saturday Coffee Mornings (p17).

**Front cover:** The meaning of Advent.

## Locum Minister's Letter

Dear Friends

We find ourselves once again about to start a new church year on the first Sunday of Advent. I wonder what sounds you think about at this time of year? Particularly the sounds that herald Christmas and the New Year.

For me, there are many sounds that are associated with this season, advent hymns and Christmas carols, familiar readings, brass bands sounding in the crisp air ... but the sound of bells really speaks to me; church bells, sleigh bells, and of course, at midnight on Hogmanay, THE Bells.



On Saturday I had occasion to be at St Cuthbert's briefly, what a busy place, what a well-used building. It struck me that the sounds within our space change daily, hinting at whatever might be going on inside. On Saturday the youthful voices of the Ukrainian Saturday School mingled with the sounds of an orchestra rehearsing. On Sunday the noises will be different, the bells ringing out, the organ, our voices singing and joining together in prayer. Then comes the sound of cooks working away in the kitchen ready for Steps to Hope's Sunday meal, followed by the buzz of those enjoying the meal and the warm space.

This past week saw the annual Oasis Quiz where we heard chatter, laughter and silence as cogs turned while the teams competed for the Ben Williams Memorial Trophy. The winning team this year came from the Bell Ringers, well done to them (we will include photos and a report in the next Magazine). Two loud rounds of applause showed how much all had appreciated the effort that Oscar puts into crafting such a clever quiz. We had a super evening raising funds for Fresh Start's invaluable work.

Week by week the congregation and those who come and go in our building contribute to the sounds that make up St Cuthbert's - quiet meetings, chatter at coffee mornings, musicians playing, concerts, talks, music exams, the clatter of setting up or taking down staging.

There are also welcome periods of deep and holy silence that allow us to find stillness in our busy lives.

I hope that the sounds of congregation and community gathering that echo round our church these coming months might continue, that our work and our worship might sustain many.

However, we know that in these days leading up to Christmas there are sounds we do not wish to hear in our world: the clamour of war, disagreement and discord. The cards soon to grace our homes so often contain the message "peace on earth" - that is our continuing prayer for all, for guns and drones to be silenced, for a quiet peace to descend.

May Christmas bring you peace, in your hearts and in your homes, as our ears hear once more the familiar story of the birth of the Christ Child, The Prince of Peace, and may our prayers for an end to conflict never cease. Peace on earth, good will to all.

Yours as ever,

**Suzie**

### **FROM THE TOWER ROOM**

The Festive Season, if not quite yet upon us, is fast approaching.

On that subject Suzie reflects on the sounds of Advent – hymns, carols, brass bands and the bells – while Martin Pearce tells us the significance of Angels, Shepherds and Wise Men in the Nativity story.

Martin also relays the excellent news that the Ukrainian St Margaret's Saturday school has been officially verified by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine – an outstanding achievement by everyone involved in such a short time.

Our Feature Article takes another look back at 19<sup>th</sup> century Edinburgh and how St Cuthbert's were affected by the proposed opening of the railway between Glasgow and Edinburgh. We take rail travel for granted nowadays, but how did its arrival inconvenience St Cuthbert's not just once but twice in the late 1830s/early 1840s? On that theme, how many realised that St Cuthbert's burial ground is the site of mass grave for those who succumbed to cholera two centuries ago?

Kirsten Kooy reports on a successful visit to St Cecilia's Hall, Edinburgh's oldest concert venue and home to many ancient musical instruments.

Finally, Derek Deans looks back on another busy year for St Cuthbert's Welcome Guides and announces St Cuthbert's own "Black Friday" sale.

Stewart Cowe

## REPORTS FROM ST CUTHBERT'S

### Services in St Cuthbert's in the coming weeks (Sundays unless stated)

Date	Day	Service	Venue
Nov 30 <sup>th</sup>	First Sunday in Advent	Joint Service of Holy Communion	GF
Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tuesday	Holy Communion at 12 noon	Memorial Chapel
Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Wednesday	Soul space 12.30pm	St C
Dec 7 <sup>th</sup>	Second Sunday in Advent	Holy communion 9.30am Morning Worship 10.30	Memorial Chapel St C
Dec 14 <sup>th</sup>	Third Sunday in Advent	Gift Service 10.30am followed by Holy Communion	St C Anam Chara Chapel
Dec 18 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	Community Carol Service followed by Congregational Lunch *	St C
Dec 21 <sup>st</sup>	Fourth Sunday in Advent	Morning Worship 10.30	St C
		Nine Lessons and Carols	Joint Service with Greyfriars at St C
Dec 24 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Eve	Carols Round the Tree 12 noon	St C
		Midnight Mass at St John's	St John's
Dec 25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Day	Joint Communion service with Greyfriars	GF (there is no service in St C)
Dec 29 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Joint Communion Service	St C

\*if you wish to attend the congregational lunch, please inform the Church Office

Please refer to the insert in the Magazine for fuller information and for information about services being held in Greyfriars Kirk.

Venues: St C = St Cuthbert's GF = Greyfriars Kirk

### Working towards Union



The Kirk Session joined with the Kirk Session of Greyfriars at Morningside Parish Church on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of November. This meeting was facilitated by the Deployment Committee of Edinburgh & West Lothian Presbytery.

We await feedback following this meeting to determine the next steps.

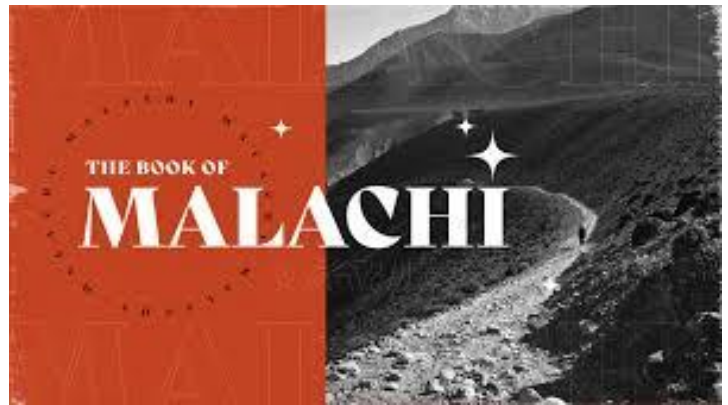
Christine McGuinness

Acting Session Clerk

## **St Cuthbert's Bible Fellowship Group**

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Having had a look at some of the inspiring Psalms during the autumn months we have turned our attention to the Book of Malachi – a book that I suspect few of us know well other than it is the last book of the Old Testament. It is interesting how many Bible themes are covered in its four chapters. You might wish to read something new such as



Malachi during Advent, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Saviour from sin, death, and judgement day. Here is a short summary of the Book of Malachi.

Malachi addresses a community wrestling with disillusionment and apathy toward worship. He points them back to wholehearted commitment and to anticipate the coming of the Messiah.

Malachi was written in the post-exilic period, after many Judeans returned from the Babylonian exile under Persian rule (fifth century BC). The Jewish temple in Jerusalem had been rebuilt, yet the people had not experienced the era of blessing they expected. Living in exile had seen spiritual devotion decline. Malachi confronted these attitudes by calling the people to renewed faithfulness. Below are five key themes from Malachi for reflection:

1. God's Covenant Love. The book emphasizes divine love: Malachi 1:2: "I have loved you," says the LORD. This reminder combats spiritual indifference by highlighting the love between God and His people.
2. Call to Sincere Worship (Malachi 1:7-8). God's standard for worship goes beyond rituals. Right worship requires purity of heart and reverence.
3. Challenge Against Spiritual Apathy. Many questioned God's justice as they observed the prosperity of wrongdoers (Malachi 2:17). The prophet assured them that cynicism is not the answer. True devotion involves trusting God's plan and acting faithfully, even during difficult times.

4. The Coming Messenger (Malachi 3:1) “Behold, I will send My messenger, and he will prepare the way...” Traditionally, this has been seen as fulfilled by John the Baptist, who heralded the ministry of Jesus. The prophecy closes with a reminder that God’s redemptive plan is still unfolding.
5. Day of the Lord and Judgment (Malachi 4:1-3). The ultimate hope lies in divine justice, which will bring both vindication for the faithful and punishment for the persistent evildoer.

Summary: Malachi’s call to return to wholehearted devotion resonates today. It challenges any lax approach to faith, Believers are reminded that genuine faith actively trusts God’s provision, respecting covenant obligations such as generosity and proper stewardship.

All our most welcome to join the Thursday Bible Fellowship group at 7.30pm via Zoom or a telephone. If you need help getting onto Zoom, just ask, and I will be pleased to help. We meet again from Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026 after the celebrating the Christ in Christmas. Every blessing,

Martin Pearce (email: martin.pearce2109@outlook.com)

### **Update on the Ukrainian St Margaret's Saturday School**

The school has over 40 children registered and our average attendance each Saturday is 33. The increase in numbers of children attending regularly is partly due to running the school at a later start time and for longer (10.30am to 2.15pm).

We continue to offer extra-curricular activities, which have included a visit a theatre trip to see “Robinson” and to the National Museum of Scotland. In addition, the children have enjoyed making camouflage nets for Ukraine, extra dancing and indoor games.

The reputation of the school continues to grow - see the following announcement.





Our fund raising this autumn received a wonderful boost from the National Lottery who are funding three of our core teachers for the school year, and we are very grateful to the Edinburgh Trades Charity who have supported the school once again. Private donations and parental contributions continue to be received which is wonderful. We need to raise a further £3,000 to meet the budget for the school year finishing in June 2026.

We are also very grateful to St Cuthbert's Parish Church, St John's Episcopal Church, Greyfriars Kirk, Barclay Viewforth Church, and St Stephen's Comely Bank Church for allowing us to use their premises and facilities to host our school on Saturdays. We do not have a permanent home for our Saturday School but thanks to the generosity of these churches, we manage to accommodate six classes for our children ages 5 to 17 years old.

But what do the children think of the school: here are some comments from our 10-to-13-year-olds:

"I really like this School because I gain more Ukrainian friends here."

"I really like how there is craft, trips, and I also like the maths."

“This School is great. Here I can have good friends. This School is lovely because the teachers do not get angry for no reason. I love this School because it is near to my house and I do not have to get up early.”

“I really like the food. I really like the whole school. I really like the teachers. We should add PE to the School.”

“I really like this School but I hate waking up at 9am. Here I gain more friends and my favourite teachers are in this School.”

“I think we need more trips.”

“In this School, I like that I can see my friends. I also like that we get food, and I would have more craft.”

Finally, a big thank you from all the children (see picture on page 8) to all at St Cuthbert’s and to Reverend Dr Peter Sutton – our first church of supporters who helped us to get started.

Martin Pearce (Secretary and Treasurer) – email [martin.j.pearce@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:martin.j.pearce@blueyonder.co.uk)

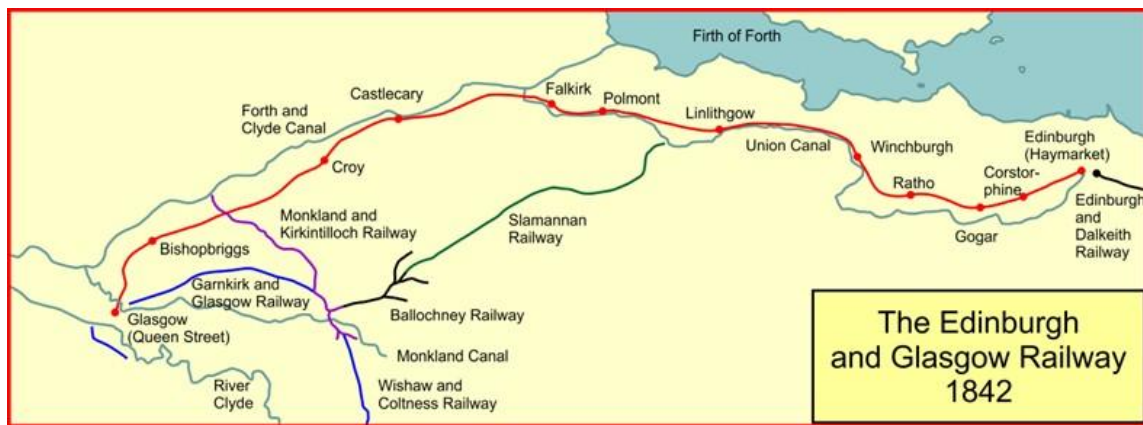
## **Feature Article: St Cuthbert’s versus the Glasgow to Edinburgh Railway**

The Church Magazine has previously chronicled St Cuthbert’s fight with the railway companies’ expansion in the 1890s. But this was not the first instance that St Cuthbert’s had to take a stance against what many regarded as progress. More than 50 years earlier, the planned introduction of a rail link between Glasgow and Edinburgh raised quite a few hackles on both sides of the country.

The first brush with the cross country rail link being proposed by the Glasgow and Edinburgh Railway Company was in April 1835 when they informed the Kirk Session of their plans to construct a railway between the two cities, the eastern most section requiring the construction of a tunnel from Haymarket to the start of Princes Street Gardens and from there through a cutting in the Gardens and on to the proposed terminus near the already existing terminus of the North British line from Berwick.

To do so required the loss of a portion of burying ground. From the railway’s point of view, as it was a very new part of the burying ground containing just a couple of graves, it seemed not a great loss to the Church. But from St Cuthbert’s point of view, burials





were a valuable source of income and the opening of this new part offered the prospect of much income into the future.

One argument the Session was keen to pursue was one of health. The railway company was unaware that even though it appeared that the burial ground under discussion contained few graves, it was the site of a mass burial just a couple of years earlier. The first cholera epidemic hit Edinburgh hard in 1832 and 600 bodies were buried there – buried at depths of between 14 and 20 feet. The Session wished to argue that it would be “injurious to health” if these bodies were to be disinterred and reburied elsewhere. It hoped that a favourable answer (i.e. “you must in no circumstances move the bodies”) would be forthcoming from the medical profession. Unfortunately, the advice received was that no danger whatsoever would arise from disinterring these bodies so that was one argument defeated.

St Cuthbert’s seemed to accept the inevitable, and tried to negotiate a fair price for the loss of the portion of burying ground. The railway company offered £2,000, the Session demanded £3,000 but would have accepted £2,500. But before any further discussion could take place, the railway company decided to terminate the eastern line at Haymarket. They informed the Session in December 1837 that negotiations with the Kirk Session were entirely at an end and so the Session could release the land for future burials. The line to Haymarket opened in early 1842. The journey time was 2½ hours, immeasurably long by today’s standards, but much quicker than by other means then, e.g. by stagecoach or canal.

The status quo lasted less than three years with the Session receiving another letter in November 1840 asking whether they would consider a proposal to carry the railway through the burial ground with a view to building a terminus near the slaughterhouse at the North Bridge – the same plan that they had proposed previously.

The Session, having all but agreed of the plan two years earlier, accepted that the railway line would extend through the Gardens and that they would lose part of the burying ground but they were clearly unhappy with the prospect of trains running so close to the Church and so they completely shifted their line of attack.

Railways were still a new concept in Britain but it was clear that those railways already up and running in England were being used seven days a week, this being helped by the requirement to use the railways for the conveyance of mail. (Rowland Hill's 'penny post' had just started that year.) The Session then sought not to fight the proposed construction of the railway extension itself but to oppose vehemently its running on a Sunday and to use "every lawful means to oppose the plans".

Kirk Session minutes described the use of the railway on Sundays as the "Railway Sabbath Desecration". One action was to urge parishioners to write and complain to the directors of the railway company and to that end, the Session provided their names and addresses.

As the use of the railways increased, the session realised they were fighting a losing battle. The Glasgow to Edinburgh service ran two trains in each direction on a Sunday, and at times "which would not interfere with the ordinary period of divine service".

Even that opposition was questioned when it was pointed out the by extending the line from the original terminus at Haymarket to what is now Waverley Station, it would put a stop to an "even greater desecration of the Sunday" - that of the running of carriages through the street to Haymarket.

By early 1844, an agreement was reached with the railway company. St Cuthbert's received more than they had wished for – a grand sum of £2,750 for the loss of the part of the burial ground. Adjusting for inflation, that monetary amount is now equivalent to £305,000.

The extended line opened in August 1846.

Travelling then by railway was not as comfortable as it is now. Then, there were three classes of fare – first, second and third class. Only in first class could any modicum of comfort be assured. But of course, only the rich could afford such luxury. Third class passengers did not even have a seat (2½ hours is a long time to stand!) and the carriages for second and third class passengers did not even have glazed windows. Tickets were also very expensive. In 1840, the first class single fare between the two cities was between 10 and 15 shillings (50p-75p), second class cost 7 shillings (35p) and third class cost 5 shillings (25p). At a time when the average weekly wage was about 12 shillings and 6 pence (62½p): (source Measuring Worth).

### **The significance of Angels, Shepherds and Wise Men in the Nativity Events.**

Christ's birth is a world-changing story of God's grace, and humility. Jesus was born in humble circumstances to a young girl called **Mary**, probably about 16 years old, who had no status or money. She was an ordinary girl and showed amazing faith in God by responding to the visit of the angel Gabriel with total obedience after being told she would be blessed with a baby following a miraculous gift by God.

Her partner, and eventual husband, **Joseph**, also showed remarkable obedience to God by accepting Mary as his wife, even though she was pregnant. He treated her with love, respect and understanding because he trusted in what the Angel told him.



**Angels** come from heaven in majesty and are significant messengers in the Nativity events. For example, an angel declared a prophetic message to the shepherds: “For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour,

who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger” (Luke 2:11-12).

Another angel brought a celebratory message: “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.” The single angel was soon accompanied by a host of angels, all of them praising God.

**So much for angels, but what was the significance of the shepherds, and the wise men?**

The significance of the **shepherds**? The shepherds may have been mostly young men or youths who were poorly educated, had little income, and were given the tough job of looking after the sheep at night. However, the shepherds were the first to learn of Jesus’ birth. They believed the message from the angel and went to see the “Christ Child” with haste. They saw Jesus in the manger long before the wise men when He was less than a-week-old. They were the first evangelists of “Good News” because they spread the news in Bethlehem and beyond about the supernatural events announcing the birth of Jesus.

The significance of the **wise men**? The visit of the Wise Men (or magi) to worship the “new born King” is a moment of great reverence and recognition of Jesus’ divine nature. Their homage signified the acknowledgment of Jesus by gentile, wealthy scholars, which highlighted the universal significance of his birth.

The birth of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, is to be celebrated by everyone because all are invited into God’s family, poor or rich, ill-educated or learned, old or young. People from all nations and all walks of life are welcome into the family of Jesus Christ when we repent of our sins and follow His ways.

Have a joyful Christmas and a peaceful 2026,  
Martin Pearce (email: martin.pearce2109@outlook.com)

## Bacon Roll Breakfast

Many thanks to all who came to our Bacon Roll Breakfast. We raised £228 for the Scottish Television's Children's Appeal. This year, all donations up to £1million will be matched by Kellogg's.

## Welcome Guides Round-up for 2025

After a slow start we moved into the busier part of the Season and ended up with a total of 7,000 visitors and around £2,500 taken in the Church shop both of which were less than last year but we had quite a few days lost for Church lets which explains a lot of the difference. In particular we were closed during the busy season for several weeks.



### Highlights of the Season

- This year we added Catalan to our language leaflets
- The busiest day was Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August with 238 visitors
- The largest sale day was Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June with £158 taken

Visitors to the Church are always appreciative of the welcome that the Guides give and of the knowledge which they share with them.

Some of their comments from the Visitor Book are listed below

### Main Comments

Lovely! Beautiful! Lovely people! Lovely Tiffany Window

### Below are more detailed comments

- "Very kind people and lovely Church – Veroni Diwelgawa from Sri Lanka
- "I am privileged to have one of your pews in our dining room" – E Mcallan from Glasgow
- "Ancestors members here in 1775" - Phillippa Kidd from New Zealand
- "We sang here during the Festival" – Clare Price from 'Got to Sing' Hereford
- "Breathtaking Architecture" – Salima Nasar from Palestine
- "Thank you for your kind hospitality" - Sharon and Campbell from Australia
- "Our ancestors were baptized here" – Jean & Sue from Yorkshire
- "I am the 11<sup>th</sup> generation (or so!) grand daughter of John Napier" – Suzanne Rible from California

Our Guides are keen to start the new Season in 2026 and we would welcome anyone interested in joining us to contact us as below

Lyn & Derek Deans email [deans\\_d@sky.com](mailto:deans_d@sky.com) or telephone or text on 07704 131 276

## OUT AND ABOUT

### Congregational Tour of St Cecilia's Hall

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On 17<sup>th</sup> October some parishioners sallied forth for a private tour of St Cecilia's Hall and Museum, which is a sometimes overlook gem in Edinburgh's many wonderful museums. The museum holds over 6,000 instruments and is also the oldest concert hall in Edinburgh.

Eddy Blair, Irene Gill, Charles Revolta and Kirsten were also joined by a Maltese family, Daniela and her two sons, Simon and David, both of whom are gifted music students.

The guide let the boys play and demonstrate Beethoven, Mozart and Lewis Capaldi on various centuries old musical instruments. Charles also informed the guide that a member of the congregation had had his own purpose-built organ in his Stockbridge lounge!

The tour was so interesting and interactive that it over ran by more than 30 minutes. After which all present went off together for a delicious burger to recover from all the education. All in all, it was an unusual and interesting way to spend a Friday morning and a huge thanks to St Cecilia's Museum for hosting the wonderful private tour.

Kirsten Kooy

And thanks too to Kirsten for organising the visit.



## GENERAL NOTICES

### **Deaths *I am the resurrection and the life***

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20<sup>th</sup> October Mr George Gilchrist

### **Baptism –**

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2<sup>nd</sup> November – Morven Esme Earle-Wright infant daughter of Ben Earle-Wright and Katherine Ralph

### **Weddings –**

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July 2025 Sochi Green & Joshua Dumbrell

September 2025 Polina Vershinina & Oliver Graham

**New Member** - by resolution of the Kirk session – Katherine Ralph

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### **Christmas Gilt Service**

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The Christmas Gift Service will be held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December at the 10.30am morning worship in St Cuthbert's. Again, the gifts will be donated to the Hailesland Early Years Centre at Wester Hailes.

We have been especially asked for hats, scarves and gloves for boys and girls aged 1 to 6 years and baby clothes for those under 2. Please wrap and write whether the gift is for a boy or girl and to what age it is appropriate. Anyone not able to attend the Gift Service, gifts can be brought to the church between noon and 3pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

St Cuthbert's has been supporting this centre for a number of years and your generosity has been much appreciated. I hope we can continue this support this year.

Jean Watt

### **Communication**

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It would be helpful if members moving house would notify either their elder or the Church office of their new address.

### **Church Flowers**

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Anyone wishing to donate flowers on an anniversary or other special occasion or give a financial donation to the Flower Fund is invited to contact the Flower Committee via the Church Office or place a donation in the offering bag clearly marked Flower Fund.

We would also like to welcome new members to the Committee and shall be very pleased to hear from any member interested. Help will be provided if required.

## **Recordings of 10.30am Sunday Services**

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Recordings of the Church services are available on the Church website (stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk).

## **Telephone Prayer Circle**

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Requests for prayer in a crisis situation or in time of trouble should be sent by email to Irene Gill at [prayercircle@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk](mailto:prayercircle@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk)

Prayer is normally offered for one week. Names of those for whom prayer is required in the longer term should be entered in the Intercession Book (which can be found on the table in the vestibule).

All information will be treated in confidence.

## **Intercessory Prayer**

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Are you interested in being involved with our intercessory prayer team, either writing or reading pre-written intercessions for the Sunday Service, or even both? If so, please get in touch with Christine McGuinness at [sessionclerk@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk](mailto:sessionclerk@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk)

## **Fresh Start**

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Fresh Start are very grateful for all our donations of household items and non-perishable food. Please continue to place your donations in the “Big White Box” in the vestibule.

If you are unable to deliver them, please telephone Jim McLean and leave a message with your name, phone number and that the call is about Fresh Start. Alternatively, email [jamesangusmclean@gmail.com](mailto:jamesangusmclean@gmail.com)

## **Steps to Hope**

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Our charity partner continues to provide, on Sunday and Monday evenings, a hot home-cooked meal for people who find themselves in difficult situations.

Would you be interested or do you know of anyone who would like the opportunity to support the local community and volunteer to assist with the Sunday meals at St Cuthbert's?

The main duty is to open and close the building to ensure that our Charity partner can continue to provide the meal service.

Please get in touch with the church office for more details.

## **Tuesday and Saturday Coffee Mornings**

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A reminder that St Cuthbert's have two dates for coffee mornings in the Church.

Every Tuesday, you can come for a coffee and a chat in the Lindisfarne Room between 10.30 am and noon.

The Saturday Coffee mornings on the last Saturday of the month have continued, and we have raised a total this year of over £700 from coffee & cake sales alone which goes into Church funds. So a special thank you is well deserved to volunteers and providers of home baking for their efforts.

The dates and times of the Saturday coffee mornings are published here in the magazine and are posted on the Church Notice Boards. After the end November coffee morning on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November, there will be no coffee morning in December and so the next will be on January 31<sup>st</sup> between 11am and 2pm. It would be great to welcome more members of the congregation and any offer of help would be gratefully received.

P.S. we have a 25% off sale on in the Church shop which we will keep until the end of the year

Please contact Derek & Lyn for more details on [deans\\_d@sky.com](mailto:deans_d@sky.com) or 07704 131 276

Best Regards

Derek

**To All our Readers**



**From All at St Cuthbert's**

## Future Church Magazines



Are you receiving the magazine the way you would prefer? Are you receiving a printed copy when one sent by email would suffice? Do we have the correct postal address (or email address) for you? If not, please get in touch so that we can sort it out and provide you with the magazine the way you want it.

Please contact the Magazine Editor either by email (to [magazine@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk](mailto:magazine@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk)), by post to Magazine Editor (at St Cuthbert's Parish Church, 5 Lothian Road, Edinburgh, EH1 2EP) or leave notification in the Magazine Editor pigeon hole in the Church Office.

Thanks to those who have already contacted the magazine, but if at any time in the future, you would prefer to receive it in a different format, please do get in touch.

Thank you for sending in articles for the magazine. Please keep sending them in. If you wish to contribute items to the Church Magazine, please note the following deadlines for the upcoming editions. Material should be sent to the editor by:

February/March 2026 by Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January

April/May 2026 by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March

either by e-mail to: [magazine@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk](mailto:magazine@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk) or please leave in the 'Magazine Editor' pigeon-hole in the Church Office.



## STANDARD WORSHIP AT ST CUTHBERT'S

### SUNDAY

9.30 am     **Holy Communion**, Memorial Chapel, on the first Sunday of the month

10.30 am   **Morning Worship**  
Communion is included in the service on the last Sunday of each month

We celebrate a more formal Holy Communion service on a quarterly basis: on the last Sunday of January, June and October and on Easter Day

On the second Sunday of each month, Holy Communion is celebrated after the morning service in the Anam Chara Chapel

### FIRST TUESDAY IN THE MONTH

12.15 pm   Post Coffee Morning Worship, Memorial Chapel

### FIRST WEDNESDAY IN THE MONTH (not January, July and August)

12.30 pm-5 pm   **soul space** *Come and go!*  
Reflection at 1 pm and 4.30 pm,  
Soul Space takes place in the Church and is also available online



# THE VISION OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST CUTHBERT

**To be living out the Gospel of Jesus Christ at the heart of our city as God's people in the West End of Edinburgh; sharing God's love, offering a home to friends and strangers alike, and providing a hub to discern the Vision of God.**

*St Cuthbert's is a congregation of the Church of Scotland. We also belong to the ecumenical parish grouping Edinburgh City Centre Churches Together. We are also part of the HeartEdge network of churches initiated by St Martin-in-the-Fields, London*

*St Cuthbert's is an 'eco-congregation'*



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