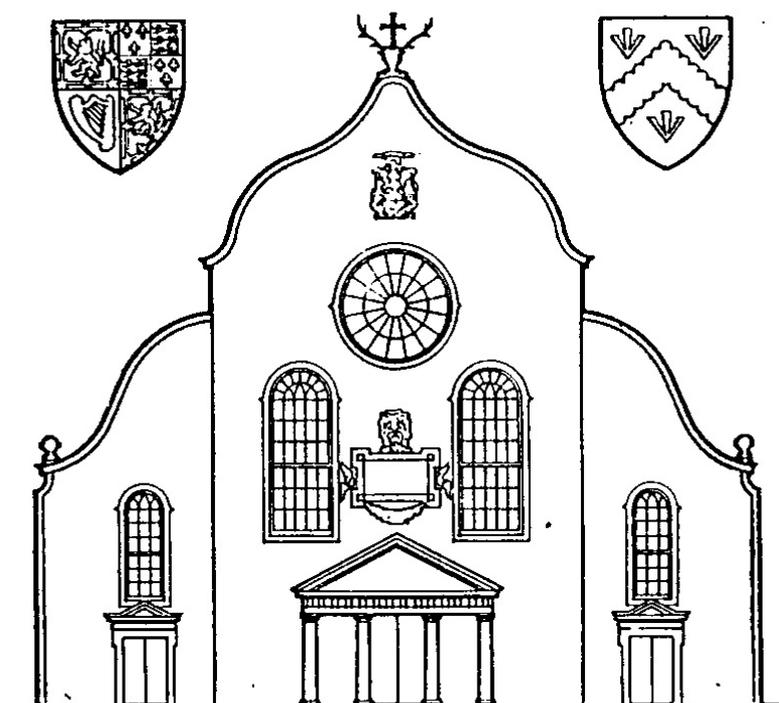


CANONGATE KIRK  
THE KIRK OF HOLYROODHOUSE  
& EDINBURGH CASTLE

Newsletter  
July 2017



**FORTHCOMING SERVICES**

<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Trinity 3	10:	Family Service
		11-15:	Parish Worship
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	Trinity 4	10:	Family Service
		11-15:	Parish Worship
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	Trinity 5	10:	Family Service
		11-15:	Parish Worship
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Trinity 6	10:	Family Service
		11-15:	Parish Worship
<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	Trinity 7	10:	Family Service
		11-15:	Parish Worship, with Holy Communion

## PARISH REGISTER

### Baptism

18<sup>th</sup> June Finn Mark Hindle

*“Then he took them in his arms and blessed them”.*

### Weddings

3<sup>rd</sup> June Charlotte Ayles & Jack Nunn

10<sup>th</sup> June Danielle Hunter & Thomas Kerr

24<sup>th</sup> June Carlos & Teresa Hamlet (Renewal of Vows), St Margaret’s Chapel

*“Those whom God has joined together, let not man divide.”*

### Funeral

30<sup>th</sup> June James Pollen, Belleville Lodge Nursing Home

*“Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”*

## MINISTER’S LETTER

There have been a number of extra services taking place in Canongate Kirk over the last few weeks, including a Lutheran service for the Swedish community around the time of their national day in early June, a service marking the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St Margaret’s Chapel Guild, and on 1<sup>st</sup> July a service organised by Royal British Legion Scotland to mark the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Falklands War and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of military operations in Northern Ireland. The latter was prompted by a feeling among military veterans that with all the current commemorations of the centenary of the First World War, those who served in more recent conflicts have been somewhat overlooked and neglected.

I sometimes think something similar happens in the Church. We focus inevitably on the first followers of Jesus, Andrew and Peter, James and John and the other disciples, and we reflect frequently on the challenges faced by the first generations of their successors in Corinth and Ephesus and Rome. Along the way we occasionally stop to consider the efforts and achievements of certain saints and heroes of the faith – Ninian, Columba, Margaret herself – but sometimes more recent generations can be somewhat overlooked and neglected. So let’s not forget those more recent generations, who worked away quietly and faithfully without drawing attention to themselves, to build up and hand on the Church we inherited both nationally and locally. Let’s not forget those who played their part in the story of Canongate Kirk, and not least through the twentieth century, our own veterans if you like, who supported and maintained our parish church through difficult years of war and depression, depopulation and reconstruction, and let’s give thanks for their giving of themselves in so many ways.

*Our vows, our prayers, we now present before thy throne of grace:  
God of our fathers! be the God of their succeeding race.*

## **OPEN KIRK**

Thanks to our team of willing volunteers we have already raised over £5000 for church funds this season and with more and more tourists and visitors descending on the Royal Mile from now on, it's really important to have the doors open as much as we possibly can. Royal Week (3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> July) always brings extra visitors to the parish for the Garden Party, investitures and awards, and because the Palace itself is closed to tourists it's good to offer them alternatives. If you would like to volunteer to help with Open Kirk at any stage, please add your name to the board in the foyer or speak to Lesley Wallace or Ann Gibson for more information. This year, Eric Drake of Friends of the Canongate Kirkyard and the Old Town Association, is running free tours of the kirk and kirkyard every Sunday at 1pm.

## **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK**

Every year members of our congregation who live in areas that do not get door to door collections are given an opportunity to contribute to Christian Aid at church. This recently brought in an additional £138 for this worthwhile cause. The Rev Sally Foster-Fulton, Head of Christian Aid Scotland, wrote in a letter of thanks; 'In this Christian Aid Week's 60th anniversary year, I would like to thank you, and everyone who joined with you, for enabling us to continue to show solidarity with, and offer support to, such people as Nejebar whose story featured in this year's appeal resources.'

## **COFFEE MORNING**

The final total from June's event to raise funds for the support we give to feeding the homeless projects during the winter came in at just over £1,100. Many thanks again to everyone who contributed in any way to such a successful result.

## **NEW PLAY**

Dogstar Theatre company have been recently rehearsing in the Harry Younger Hall for the world premiere of Matthew Zajac's play 'The Sky is Safe', directed by Ben Harrison. The play is a personal response to the Syrian tragedy and has been selected as part of the 2017 Made in Scotland Showcase. It will run at Summerhall during the Fringe from 4th - 27th August. More information can be found at the Fringe box office or from [www.dogstartheatre.co.uk](http://www.dogstartheatre.co.uk)

## **DEMENTIA WOODLANDS ACTIVITY PROGRAM**

Part of a research study for people with early-stage dementia and their carers, this programme involves fun and exciting woodland activities once a week for 12 weeks at the Hermitage of Braid. The course started on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June but people can come along on later Thursdays and dip in and out. To book a place

contact Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust at [www.elgt.org.uk](http://www.elgt.org.uk) or Abby Boulton on 0131 445 4025, 07903 448 483 or [Abby@elgt.org.uk](mailto:Abby@elgt.org.uk)

### **FREE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SKILLS TRAINING**

On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July from 11am to 2pm, St John Scotland will be giving free CPR training at the Harry Younger Hall. Come and learn critical skills - you never know, you could save someone's life.

### **CONCERT IN CANONGATE KIRK**

The Robin Chapel Choir is giving a fundraising concert for their tour of Austria. The evening will feature music by Bruckner, Gibbons, Parker, Weelkes, Allegri, Palestrina, Harris and some Scottish song arrangements on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 7.30pm. Tickets £10/£8 on the door.

### **MARIA MERIAN'S BUTTERFLIES**

This exhibition at The Queen's Gallery, Palace of Holyroodhouse, tells the story of the German artist and entomologist who set sail for South America in 1699. Her beautiful pictures of butterflies, plants and insects recorded on her trip have been selected from the Royal Collection. The exhibition runs until 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2017.

### **CARAVAGGIO EXHIBITION**

The first exhibition of works (several with a religious theme) by the 16<sup>th</sup> century Italian painter Caravaggio and his followers ever to be shown in Scotland is showing at the Scottish National Gallery on the Mound until 24<sup>th</sup> September.

### **DUTY ELDERS FOR JULY**

Stuart McFarlane	Fiona Grant	Jane Stewart	Robert Watson
Colin Stewart	Roddy Gow	Jacky McFarlane	Rachel Wright
Ann Gibson			

### **DUTY ELDERS FOR AUGUST**

Rie Stevenson	Anne Baker	Gavin Brydone	Kate Church
Anne Croft	Dinah Croy	John Fanning	Etta Geekie
Martin Baker	Mark Peel		

<b>Minister</b>	The Revd Neil Gardner	556 3515
<b>Kirk Secretary</b>	Imogen Gibson (office)	556 3515

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