



## February 1 ~ Feast of Presentation

|                   |         |  |
|-------------------|---------|--|
| Every Sunday      | 10.15am | Cathedral Sung Eucharist                       |
| 2nd & 4th Sundays | 5pm     | Fellowship @ 5 Informal worship in the Narthex |
| 3rd Sunday        | 5.15pm  | Cathedral Evensong                             |
| Wednesdays        | 11am    | Shorter Cathedral Eucharist                    |
| Thursdays         | 10am    | Morning Prayer                                 |

ST JAMES ARDBRECKNISH Easter Day: 11am with Bishop David  
EPISCOPAL EUCHARIST IN KILBRANDON Feb 1 @ 3.30pm with Provost Margi



### SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1

#### Presentation of Christ in the Temple /Candlemas

#### 10.15am Festive Eucharist celebrating Light

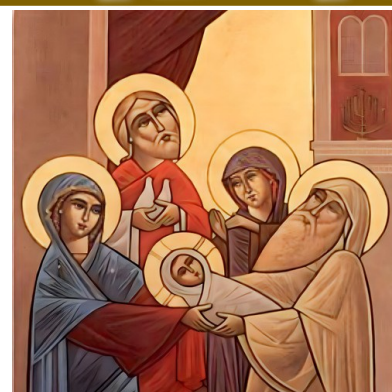
as our season around the Incarnation draws to its close

3.30pm Episcopal Eucharist in Kilbrandon

|       |             |  |
|-------|-------------|--|
| Wed 4 | 11am        | Shorter Eucharist with coffee St Brigid of Kildare |
| Thu 5 | 10am        | Morning Prayer                                     |
|       | 10.30-11.30 | Coffee Morning URGENT NEED for helpers             |
|       | 2pm         | Ecumenical leaders prayers in Parish Church        |
|       | 7pm         | Cathedral Choir Practice                           |

### SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 10.15am | Sung Eucharist with Baptism of Otis     |
| 2.30pm  | Oban Music Society Concert at Rockfield |
| 5pm     | Fellowship @ 5                          |



Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our  
light! Shine in your church gathered today.

*Bernadette Farrell*



#### THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

marks the day when the infant Jesus was brought to the Temple in Jerusalem as a firstborn son, according to the Law, to be offered to God in thanksgiving. Simeon took the baby in his arms and recognised him as the One that they had been waiting for:

*"A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel".*

Anna calls for all around to look and see who is truly in their midst. But

Simeon's final words, *that a sword will pierce Mary's heart*, move our attention away from the celebration of the Incarnation: we turn our focus to the Passion as Lent swiftly approaches in our Church Year.

Also known as **CANDLEMAS**, ancient traditions at this time blessed all the 'lights' or candles in the church; then offered a candle to all worshippers for use in their home, praying that all who saw the outward and visible light would remember and be blessed by the inner light of Christ:

*"who lightens everyone who comes into the world."*

We continue this tradition today in the Cathedral, offering a candle to each person to take home and use as a visible reminder of the light of Christ, within us and around us: and our calling to shine this light through our lives.



Of course, February 1st is also the **Feast of St Brigid** whom we shall remember on Wednesday. It is said that when Brigid built her monastery and church at Kildare, she continued the pagan custom of keeping a perpetual flame alight on the hill at Kildare. The flame represented for her the new light of Christianity shining brightly across the land. This flame survived until the 16th century when it was extinguished at the reformation of the monasteries, but was reignited, on February 1st 2006, and is now kept burning as a beacon of hope, justice and peace.

We take our candles home and place them prominently, to remind ourselves of the light of Christ, born into the world and now shining on through us. Whatever happens around us....

*the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Jn 1:5*





**Congregational Invite to the  
DIOCESAN CONFERENCE and SYNOD 2026  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February  
The Corran Halls, 54 Corran Esplanade, Oban, Argyll, PA34 5AB.**

## **THE DIOCESAN CONFERENCE—Tuesday 10 February 2026**

This day is open to both clergy and members of congregations.

We will be focusing on intentional discipleship and local mission during our first day of Synod. The Conference will be led by the Canon Missioner, the Revd Paul Watson. The sessions will be varied and engaging, participative and stimulating as we explore the hope that Jesus offers us personally and the communities in which we are placed. We will be unpacking what the local church is the hope of the world may mean for us in surprising and unexpected ways in our scattered and beautiful locations.

The day will begin with Morning Prayer at 10.00am, with tea and coffee available from 9.30am, and will conclude with Closing Prayers at 3.30pm.

A soup and sandwich lunch will be available.

Please contact the Diocesan office if you would like to attend but have not yet filled in a form.....[office@argyll.anglican.org](mailto:office@argyll.anglican.org)

## **DIOCESAN SYNOD EUCHARIST —Tuesday 10 February 2026 @ 5.30pm**

We hope that as many congregation as possible will be able to attend the Diocesan Synod Eucharist in the Cathedral, a wonderful opportunity to unite together in worship as the Diocese and to offer our welcome and hospitality. No need to book!

## **DIOCESAN SYNOD ANNUAL MEETING—Wednesday 11 February 2026**

All are warmly invited to attend

The Diocesan Synod business sessions will begin with Morning Prayer at 10.00am, with tea and coffee available from 9.30am, and will conclude with Closing Prayers at 3.30pm.

A soup and sandwich lunch will be available.

Please contact the Diocesan office if you would like to attend but have not yet filled in a form.....[office@argyll.anglican.org](mailto:office@argyll.anglican.org)

## **BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL 2026** Healing children. Supporting families. Restoring hope.



### **A Lifeline for Children in Gaza**

Children in Gaza are growing up amid devastating conflict, displacement and deprivation. Many are living with life changing injuries, trauma, disability, and severe malnutrition. Access to food, specialist healthcare and psychological support remains extremely limited - especially for the most vulnerable.

Through this year's Bishop's Appeal, we invite you to support the lifesaving work of Embrace the Middle East and its longstanding Christian partner, the Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre, as they provide rehabilitation, nutrition, therapy and trauma care for children in Gaza.

### **Faith in Action**

Princess Basma Centre is a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, responding to urgent need with compassion, dignity and professionalism. In the midst of ongoing crisis, their teams continue to show extraordinary courage and commitment.

Through Embrace the Middle East, churches and supporters in Scotland and the rest of the UK are standing alongside this vital Christian ministry of healing and peace. Even a small donation can make a powerful difference.

To donate, scan the QR code (right) and include the words 'Lent appeal' in the description - or contact the Diocesan Office on 01631 570870 or email [office@argyll.anglican.org](mailto:office@argyll.anglican.org)

SCAN QR CODE  
TO DONATE WITH  
'LENT APPEAL' IN  
THE DESCRIPTION



**"Rehabilitation is not only about survival - it is about restoring dignity, resilience and the chance to live."**

Journey with Embrace the Middle East this Lent. Embrace is a Christian development charity working with trusted partners across the Middle East to serve the most vulnerable. There are updates, video Lent reflections and more at: [www.embraceme.org](http://www.embraceme.org)



# INTERCESSIONS February 1 Presentation of Christ

**Eucharist Readings:** Malachi 3: 1-4 Luke 2: 22-40 **Hymns:** SP 11 SP 13 NEH 157 SP 33 Comm: SP 199

## COLLECT FOR PRESENTATION

Almighty and Everlasting God: as your Only-begotten Son was presented and received in the temple, so may we welcome and proclaim him as the light of the nations and the glory of your people; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

## COLLECT FOR ST BRIGID

O God, whose servant Brigid, kindled with the flame of your love, became a shining light in your Church: Grant that we also may be aflame with the spirit of love and discipline, and walk before you as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

O God, through our human frailty, we cannot stand firm: give us strength and protection, that, with your help, we may overcome all difficulties; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

## INTERCESSIONS

*Province*—Primus Mark, the Scottish Episcopal Institute - staff and ordinands and all within the discernment process.

For all involved in the electoral process for a new Bishop in Edinburgh.

*Diocese* – Bp David; Provost Margi; Canon Paul: Canon Missioner; The Rev'd Tom Ebbens, Chaplain R.N.; Canon Ian, assistant priest (rtd); Episcopalians on Barra, Benbecula, North & South Uist, Harris, the Outer Hebrides

*Anglican Communion* – Zanzibar, our companion diocese: Bp Michael Hafidh; Church of England: Archbishops Sarah Mullally and Stephen Cottrell.

*Porvoo Communion* – Bangor, Wales: David Morris, Acting Bishop until Feb 14); Dublin & Glendalough, Ireland Bp Michael Jackson, Faroe Islands: Bp Jógvan Friðriksson.

We pray also for the Episcopal Church and all faith communities in the United States who have asked us to pray with them for peace, justice and love. **The Episcopal Bishops pray: 'By the grace of God, may this season of grief become a season of renewal. May courage rise from lament and love take root in every heart.'**

We pray for peace in the world, in homes and hearts that all may know God's Kingdom in their lives; in the unrest and disquiet in so many countries....for those in authority.... for those living in fear.... for all whose homes and livelihoods have been lost or damaged in the violence of war or nature.

We pray for our community, schools and workplaces beginning this new year, emergency services and all caregivers: that each of our gifts to society's enrichment may be valued and enabled to flourish.

We pray for all who are unwell, troubled or distressed: may they know God's healing and strength, hope, renewal.

We give thanks for the lives of those who now worship in God's nearer presence and pray for those who mourn: that they may know God's comfort. For the lives of Susan Crosfield and Madam Morag MacDougall.

**'Kindle a flame to lighten the dark and take all fear away.'**

<https://pilgrimslivelink.wordpress.com/2020/03/23/kindle-a-flame/#:~:text=The%20link%20below%20will%20take,and%20take%20our%20fear%20away%E2%80%9D>. Link for meditative song...



It is with deep sadness that we share news of the loss of Madam Morag MacDougall, the 31st Chief of Clan MacDougall. The MacDougalls were benefactors of the building of our cathedral and it was wonderful that when in Oban, Madam Morag worshipped with us and was a joy to speak with. We offer our prayers for the family in their sadness. Details of her funeral will be published when confirmed.

*May she rest in peace and rise in glory.*



## St Brigid

You were a woman of peace. You brought harmony where there was conflict.

You brought light to the darkness. You brought hope to the downcast.

May the mantle of your peace cover those who are troubled and anxious, and may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world.

Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all God has made.

Brigid you were a voice for the wounded and the weary.

Strengthen what is weak within us. Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.

May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind, body and spirit. Amen.

(author unknown)

Statue of St Brigid in Kildare with the perpetual flame

There is much happening in the life of the Cathedral.....details of Lent services, Lent reading and gatherings in next week's sheet...

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL, OBAN

*Fellowship @5*

**Informal Worship**  
worship songs, prayer,  
discussion & food  
**All Welcome**

Every 2nd & 4th Sundays  
5pm  
St John's, Narthex, George Street

#inclusive #open #informal

SC016664

St John's Cathedral, George Street, Oban.

**Women's Group**


We will start a 6 session focus on Joyce Rupp's book  
"The Cup of our life",  
meeting fortnightly. 10.30am-12.00pm, on Fridays,  
Next meeting—February 13 by the coffee tables in the Cathedral.

The idea of the book is to use the symbolism of a physical cup to explore prayer about  
every day life. We will learn to pray with a cup in a creative, light way. Topics covered are:

The cup of life,  
The open cup,  
The chipped cup,  
The broken cup,  
The cup of compassion,  
The blessing cup.

Contact Mal: 07548366545 or  
Ina: 07854562210 for more information.

Otherwise, please join us on Friday 30th at 10.30 am and  
please **bring your own cup** that is special to you, to use  
in the session :)



**Dads and Toddlers**



Second Saturday of every month  
9.30am—11am  
St John's Cathedral Hall  
(behind Coasters)

Bairns...banter...and bacon rolls.  
Next February 14th

Contact:  
Paul 07943026773 for more information

St John's Cathedral

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ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL, OBAN.

**Sitting with Silence**

A time for silent reflection with others...  
with a short guided introduction  
12.40 – 1.15pm in the Lady Chapel

Facilitated by Peter Johnson & Rosemary Power

February 25 March 25 April 29  
May 27 June 24 July 29

A chance afterwards to eat lunches together in the Narthex

*All are always welcome*

SC016664

**OBAN MUSIC**  
@ THE ROCKFIELD CENTRE



**Pick Lee's Swinnet**  
Featuring **Alison Affleck**

**SUNDAY FEB 8 @ 2.30 PM**

Tickets £15 on the door  
No charge is made for children and young people  
attending our concerts

Featuring Music from the  
Golden Age of Jazz

Chamber Music Scotland

<https://www.obanmusicsociety.com/concerts/>

OSCR

*Morning Prayer*

is said in the Cathedral  
on Thursday mornings  
10am – 10.15am

We warmly welcome you

*A beautiful way to set the day with God.*

St John's Cathedral

**Coffee Morning**



**Every Thursday**  
10.30am ~ 11.30am  
Time to chat....  
**Everyone Welcome**

SC016664

**VISITS for HOME COMMUNION** Please ring Canon Paul on 079403026773 if you would like a visit, or home communion if you are unable to be at services.

## Not got cash? The Cathedral can now take CARD PAYMENTS

The Cathedral now has a Card Reader and can take Weekly collection, Organ Donations and or Coffee donations by card. Please do give it a go! It will be on the book desk on arrival and at coffee.



## CATHEDRAL VESTRY MEMBERS 2025 EX-OFFICIO

Provost as Chair  
Rectors Warden—Ken Oxland—*plus Assisting Finance*  
Peoples Warden & Synod Lay Rep— Colum Scott  
Alt Synod Lay Rep—Daniel Stollard  
Lead Property—Ken and Colum  
Secretary—Margaret Sime

### CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

Members: Mark Evetts, Jenny McEvoy, Joy Blakeney,  
John Murphy, Catriona Petit  
Safeguarding: Catriona Petit  
Assisting: Mel Crossley (not vestry)

**WAYS of GIVING to the CATHEDRAL** We are so grateful  
to all who give to the Cathedral to safeguard our present & future

**BANK:** RBS, George St, Oban Sort Code: 83-26-04  
Acc: 00178722 St John's Cathedral Oban

### For overseas donations

our IBAN is : GB46RBOS83260400178722  
IBAN BIC (SWIFT) RBOSGB2L

For BACS gifts please enter name or 'anonymous donation'  
to help with book-keeping.

**STEWARDSHIP /GIFT AID** contact Susannah Hughes  
Via website contact page

OSCR: SC016664

## CONTACT DETAILS & INFORMATION CATHEDRAL PROVOST & DIOCESAN DEAN

**The Very Rev'd Canon Margi Campbell** Non work days (2) Friday  
Cathedral: provostoban@argyll.anglican.org 01631 562323  
Diocese: dean@argyll.anglican.org

### Assisting Priest/Canon Pastor

**The Rev'd Canon Paul Watson**

07943026773 limited hours at Cathedral  
missioner@argyll.anglican.org

**Assisting Priest (Rtd) The Rev'd Canon Ian Walter**

**Assisting Priest: (NSM) The Rev'd Tom Ebbens Chapn RN**

**CATHEDRAL WEBSITE** [stjohnsoban.org.uk/](http://stjohnsoban.org.uk/)

**CATHEDRAL FACEBOOK:** [stjohnsoban](http://stjohnsoban)

**ST JAMES' WEBSITE** [stjamesardbrecknish@outlook.com](mailto:stjamesardbrecknish@outlook.com)

**DIOCESAN WEBSITE:** [argyll.anglican.org/](http://argyll.anglican.org/)

## CAF—Charities Aid Foundation

We are now registered for direct payments through CAF—as  
'Cathedral of St John the Divine' find under that title or at

[https://www.cafonline.org/system/donate?](https://www.cafonline.org/system/donate?dbid=84ae628419dd4585a209b68bfbcb8f5ac)  
[dbid=84ae628419dd4585a209b68bfbcb8f5ac](https://www.cafonline.org/system/donate?dbid=84ae628419dd4585a209b68bfbcb8f5ac)