



March 15 ~ Laetare/ Mothering Sunday

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		Easter Day @ 3.30pm Provost Margi



SUNDAY MARCH 15 LAETARE/ MOTHERING SUNDAY

10.15am	Sung Eucharist 'All embracing love' followed by coffee
5.15pm	Evensong for Lent 4

Today, the traditions of years gone by come together, as we celebrate **Laetare Sunday**, the 4th Sunday in Lent; so called from the first word "Rejoice (Laetare) Jerusalem" (Is 66:10), which used to be sung at the introit of the liturgy.

It is also known as **Refreshment Sunday**, because it may be observed with some relaxation of Lenten strictness, symbolised by the wearing of rose-coloured vestments in place of purple. Simnel cakes were originally made to be consumed on this day, again symbolising the breaking of the strict Lent fast rules.

Mothering Sunday grew out of this with a traditional reading stating that the heavenly Jerusalem "is the mother of us all" (Gal 4:26). In the days of child service, Laetare/ Refreshment Sunday, was the one day when children were allowed a day off to return to their homes from their work to worship in the 'home' church and visit their mothers. From this the church developed the tradition of churchgoers making the journey to their Diocesan Cathedral to celebrate in their mother church—their Cathedral. For all of us it is a chance to give thanks for those who have nurtured us in our lives and a reminder of the cherishing nature of God, whom Julian of Norwich refers to as 'God, mother and father of us all'.

Wed 18	11am	Shorter Eucharist followed by coffee
Thu 19	10am	Morning Prayer
	10.30-11.30	Coffee Morning
	2pm	Lent Group in the Narthex see p2
	7pm	Cathedral Choir Practice
Fri 20	11am	Funeral for Sonia Sandell in St Columba's, Gruline <i>This will be taken by Provost Margi</i>

SUNDAY MARCH 22 LENT 5

10.15am	Sung Eucharist followed by coffee
5pm	Fellowship @ 5—Lent Worship see poster

LENT APPEAL: EMBRACE THE MIDDLE EAST EMERGENCY APPEAL

Helping those devastated by the escalating devastation across the Middle East... see p 2 and
<https://embraceme.org/emergency-appeal>

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL,
GEORGE STREET, OBAN

Mothering Sunday Eucharist

March 15
10.15am
Refreshments afterwards

Giving thanks for all who have shown us God's 'mothering love'

All welcome All invited

SC016664

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL, OBAN

Fellowship @ 5

LENT
Informal Worship

Pursuing revelation and wisdom from God above all else.

All Welcome

March 22

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

#inclusive #open #informal

SC016664

ROTA for Sunday Services

This will come out next week—those being asked for Sunday March 22nd will be contacted separately. If you would like to read, welcome, steward, serve or offer prayers—do contact Margi as soon as possible. We are always delighted to have more people involved. Help can be given!



THANK YOU to all who organised, set up, came along, contributed and enjoyed the Coffee Morning, raising funds for Marie Curie at the Cathedral, all those who brought cakes on Sunday 8th and all who made amazing donations.
An wonderful £700 was raised!

PALM SUNDAY
 March 29
JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

10.15am The Passion Reading with anthems, hymns and Eucharist followed by coffee

LENT LUNCH from 11.45am in the Cathedral Hall
 Booking required

COMPLINE at 6pm

ALL ARE WARMLY INVITED AS WE ENTER HOLY WEEK

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL, OBAN

HOLY WEEK and EASTER 2026

MARCH 29 PALM SUNDAY

		Journey to the Cross	10.15am
		Eucharist with Passion Reading - hymns - anthems - palm crosses	
March 30	Monday	Compline with Reflection	6pm
March 31	Tuesday	Compline with Reflection	6pm
April 1	Wednesday	Eucharist	11am
		Compline with Reflection	6pm

APRIL 2 MAUNDY THURSDAY

Morning Prayer & Coffee	10am
Eucharist of the Last Supper with Stripping of the Altar & Vigil	7pm until 9pm

APRIL 3 GOOD FRIDAY

Coffee with Hot Cross Buns	12-12.20
Reflections on the Cross readings - hymns - silence	12.20-2.30pm
Reflections each 20 minutes based on Stephen Cottrell 'The Things He Carried'	
The Last Watch with Communion	2.30-3pm

APRIL 4 HOLY SATURDAY

Lighting of the Holy Fire & Story of Salvation	6pm - 7pm
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APRIL 5 EASTER DAY ~ RESURRECTION JOY & HOPE

Cathedral ~ Celebration Eucharist	10.15am
Ardbrecknish ~ Celebration Eucharist	10.30am
Kilbrandon ~ Episcopal Eucharist in CofS for all	3.30pm

All are warmly welcome

Jesus is Risen!

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL, GEORGE STREET, OBAN.

LENT LUNCH
 MEET AND EAT TOGETHER ON PALM SUNDAY
 March 29 from 11.45am in the Lindsey Room (under Cathedral)

Contributions to Bishop's Lent Appeal 2026 Embrace the Middle East Scan QR and enter Lent Appeal

Or contributions on the day

Please SIGN UP on sheet in the Narthex

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: March 27 in Oban Bay Hotel

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.

please bring your own cup that is special to you, to use in the session :)

Wednesday March 25 @ 1pm at Wetherspoons.

Chat, Ciabattas and Company...

come and enjoy and bring a pal too if you want. Contact Paul Watson on 07943026773 if you need more info otherwise

DIOCESAN ONLINE LENT PILGRIMAGE During Lent the Church has always understood itself as on the way. Lent is not simply about giving things up; it is about learning again how to walk — with God, with one another, and sometimes with ourselves. This course is an invitation to let that vision sink deeper, as a spiritual reality. Before pilgrimage becomes something we organise, it must become something we inhabit. Bishop David and the Canon Missioner will be co-leading three online sessions during Lent on **Thursday evenings from 7-8pm: February 26th, March 12th and 26th.** Based on *The Return of the Prodigal Son* by Henri Nouwen and *Life, Loss and Learning to be a Pilgrim* by Jill Baker

Join Zoom <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86762479299?pwd=qaOm5GP8evTorUMO6uounEMN37smVp.1>
Meeting ID: 867 6247 9299 Passcode: 404984

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



EMBRACE
the Middle East

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

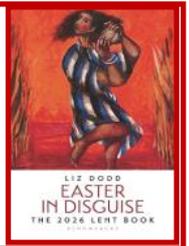


To DONATE—scan the QR code and put **LENT APPEAL** in the description. OR Contact the Diocesan Office on 01631 570870 or email office@argyll.anglican.org

CATHEDRAL LENT BOOK Opportunities to read and discuss **EASTER in DISGUISE** by Liz Dodd

EACH THURSDAY DURING LENT AT 2PM IN THE NARTHEX led by Margi/ Paul
TUESDAY EVENINGS AT 7PM - the last one on March 24th
at 7 Balnakeil, Kirk Rd, Dunbeg, hosted by Paul and Ina

All are welcome



OBAN MUSIC
@ ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL
WELCOMES

Duo M
PARISIANS
CONTRARIANS



Violaine Melançon, violin Meagan Milatz, piano

FEATURING MUSIC OF
PHILIPPE HERSANT CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS GABRIEL FAURÉ
ERIK SATIE MEL BONIS MAURICE RAVEL

SUNDAY
MARCH 22 @ 2.30PM

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

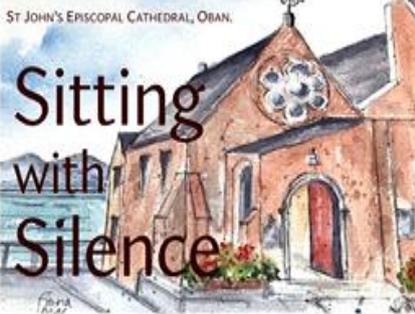
Refreshments during the interval
<https://www.obanmusicsociety.com/concerts/>

Chamber Music Scotland



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

CATHEDRAL VESTRY

The Vestry met on March 11th, welcoming its 2 new members—John Murphy and Catriona Petit and Emily D'Silva—as an Ordinand she is invited to observe. In her Safeguarding role, Catriona spoke about potential workshop days in the future to highlight personal safety. John offered insights in property matters as, amongst other things we discussed:

- Installing a disabled access toilet in place of our current facility in the lobby.
- The potential of a further toilet by the Macfarlane room lower entrance.
- Replacement of the condemned water heater in the Halls.
- Invitation to the Net Zero team to carry out a feasibility study to increase compliance, make us water tight, seek funding potential.
- Sound System—an expert is being invited to report on the system/ suggest improvements or renewal to make it work effectively for all.



DECORATING FOR EASTER

All are invited to come and help fill the Cathedral with spring flowers as we celebrate the new life of the resurrection. Please bring flowers/ greenery to use. Vases are available. Saturday April 4th from 10am—12.30pm Refreshments available during the morning..

- Organ Appeal—a few more concerts and talks will be scheduled in the Spring and the Appeal then closed. At that point a Donations Plaque will be furnished with those requesting to be included. The Cathedral will invest in the organ to meet any deficit. We currently stand at £43,492 of the £55,500 cost.
- We noted our financial position and Quinquennial property needs along with WiFi provision to better serve our fire alarm system. Future meeting will discuss provision for young children.

This is a brief and not full account of the meeting.

Pravest Margi

PRAYERS for Mothering Sunday

Eucharist Readings: 1 Samuel 16: 1-14 Luke 2: 33-35

Hymns: Sheet, Sheet, NEH 413, NEH 186 Communion: SP 217

PRAYER for MOTHERING SUNDAY

God our Father and our Mother,
we give you thanks and praise for all that you have made,
for the stars in their splendour, the world in its wonder,
and for the glorious gift of human life.

With the saints and angels in heaven we praise your holy name.

grant that we, who are weighed down by our sins, may be relieved and encouraged by your grace;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen**

INTERCESSIONS

Province—Primus Mark, Bp Dagmar Winter: Bp Elect in Edinburgh, The move of General Synod Office to new premises.

Diocese – Bp David; Provost Margi; Canon Paul: Canon Missioner; The Rev'd Tom Ebbens, Chaplain R.N.; Canon Ian, assistant priest (rtd); the people of this Diocese as we discern what it is to be a pilgrim people.

We pray that we may set out in Lent, as pilgrim people, not with every answer, but with hearts open to God's leading. In our travelling – across land and sea, through tradition and change – we trust that Christ walks beside us. Bp David

Holy Trinity, Dunoon, St Paul's, Rothesay, Tighnabruaich, Kames, and West Cowal: The Rev'd David Rushton
Anglican Communion – Zanzibar, our companion diocese: Bp Michael Hafidh; Anglican Church of Kenya: Archbp Jackson Nasooore Ole Sapit

Porvoo Communion –Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia: Archbp Rinalds Grants; Lichfield, England: Bp Michael Igrave; St David's, Wales: Bp Dorrien Paul Davies

We continue to pray for churches in Ukraine and the Anglican Churches in Gaza and across the Middle East. ... all places where violence and pain disrupt and destroy lives and especially the tension and fear engendered by the recent escalation of violence.

We pray for peace in the world, in homes and hearts that all may know God's Kingdom in their lives
We pray for the Rev'd Tom Ebbens RN and all military chaplains in their service of spiritual and pastoral care
We pray for our community—for all in the care and medical sectors 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, especially for families and all caring for those nearing the end of life

We give thanks for the lives of those who now worship in God's nearer presence, remembering Sonia Sandell, her worshipping life in the Cathedral and in St Columba's Gruline, and pray for her husband Ian, with all those who mourn: that they may know God's comfort and strength.

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

Almighty God, grant that we, who are weighed down by our sins, may be relieved and encouraged by your grace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end

CATHEDRAL VESTRY MEMBERS 2026 OSCR: SC016664 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
Observing Ordinand: Emily D'Silva
Observing Clergy staff: Canon Paul Watson

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

CONTACT DETAILS & INFORMATION CATHEDRAL PROVOST & DIOCESAN DEAN

The Very Rev'd Canon Margi Campbell *Non work days (2) Friday*

Cathedral: provostoban@argyll.anglican.org 07474911141

Diocese: dean@argyll.anglican.org

Assisting Priest: 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/

CATHEDRAL FACEBOOK: [stjohnsoban](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsoban)

ST JAMES' WEBSITE stjamesardbrecknish@outlook.com

DIOCESAN WEBSITE: argyll.anglican.org/

PROVINCIAL WEBSITE: www.scotland.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?dbid=84ae628419dd4585a209b68bfbcb8f5ac>

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.

We hope that this will help as less cash is carried and help those banking!

