



# UDDINGSTON OLD PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Charity Number SC016893



## MAGAZINE



### Pastoral Letter

*Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you... And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one." (John 17 vv1-11)*

Dear Friends,

Remember that old saying "never cast a clout till the month of May is oot".. how appropriate is that for us as we journey through this spring time. When you look around there are freshly blooming daffodils, snowdrops and new shoots pushing their way through the hard ground, sun glowing in the sky .... then hailstones, sleet and heavy rain .... yet we are never surprised by the changing weather ... of course we live in Scotland. The season of spring reminds us that new life, new ways of being and living are forming. From the perspective of the church calendar, we are preparing to leave the season of Easter to move towards Pentecost.

In many ways, spring is also about new beginnings and endings. We are working our way through the route path out of lockdown. We are tentatively emerging from the cocoon of our homes, to begin the next part of our journey, unsure what normality is, unsure if we will ever be free from restrictions.

The Old Parish is emerging from its cocoon and this Sunday the 9th May we are having our first inhouse worship service, albeit, in the large hall with restrictions in place. There is a sense of excitement and anxiety which is only natural as our normal way of worshipping is no longer. Yet those who gather whether it be online or in person are worshipping God and are part of the worshipping community.

As one writer wrote: "We are a community of faith of imperfect and flawed people who don't always get things right, who have no idea what the future holds, yet proclaim that the risen Christ is our way, our life and our truth. We who long to return to normal, even as we begin to recognise that life as we knew it will not, cannot be the same as it was. Yet, Jesus' reminds us with Pentecost on the horizon, that our future is known by God. And that we too are being prepared for what comes next for us."

Knowing this takes courage, while recognising that even though we cannot help but look back with nostalgia and hope for the glory days especially in these unusual times, we will continue to focus and trust in God. For we believe that we are created by God to do good things, and through that belief go and do those things.

So, my friends, take hope that even though the season of Easter may be coming to an end ... Christ promises us that this new resurrected life in this Easter community is only the beginning.

Blessings

Rev Fiona,

Reverend Fiona McKibbin

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#### Next Issue

Articles for the June  
magazine to the editors by  
Thursday 27th May 2021

Available

Sunday 6th June 2021

We are always happy to  
receive articles for inclusion  
in your magazine.

Submissions can be sent  
direct to the editors or

by e-mail to

[magazine@uddingstonold.org](mailto:magazine@uddingstonold.org)

or

on paper.

## Church Roll Intimations

### Deaths

At this sad time our prayers and condolences are with the families of

***Mrs Marjorie Grant***

Date of Death: 7th April 2021

and

***Mrs Beatrice Letham***

Date of Death: 29th April 2021

Stay connected with the  
Uddingston Old Parish Church

and

Rev Fiona McKibbin

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Facebook: [uddingston old parish church](https://www.facebook.com/uddingstonoldparishchurch)

[Uddingston old parish kidz](https://www.facebook.com/uddingstonoldparishkidz)

## Church Garden

April has been a kind month for the garden. The gorgeous spring bulbs have given a cascade of colour and continue to flower.

The trees are now in full blossom giving a spectacular display of lovely pink across the whole garden.

Work wise it has been quiet with an occasional tidy up and preparation of a plan for the rest of spring and summer. So we decided to focus on plant benefits and start with the humble dandelion. This poor flower has been a gardeners' enemy for years but actually is very beneficial to gardens and wildlife.

**There are three main benefits.**

**Food for pollinators:-**

Each plant has 100 flowers which are an excellent food for pollinators such as bees, moths and butterflies. Without pollinators Europe would have 80% less wildflowers .

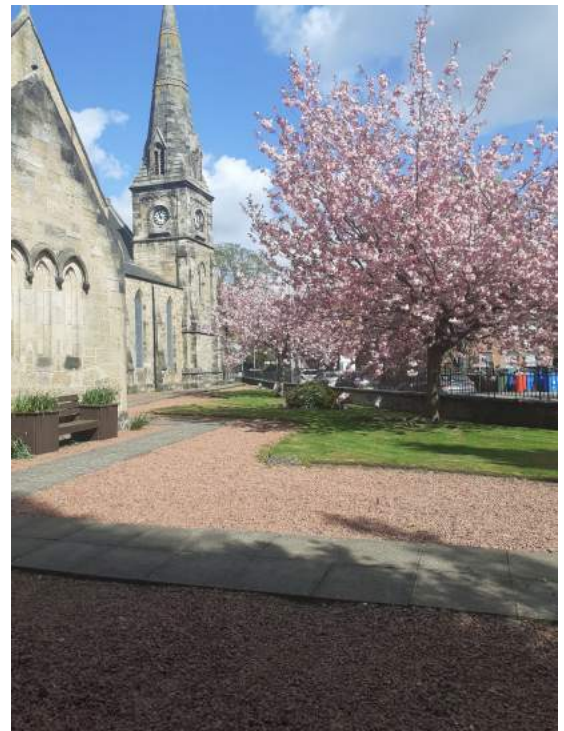
**Benefits to your grass:-**

They have far reaching roots which not only aerate the grass but also transport important minerals such as calcium from deep soil to other plants. They help reduce erosion and fertilise grass.

**Food for humans:-**

These are one of the most nutritious vegetables even more Vitamin A than spinach. Added to a salad or added to a shake or juice they are a good addition for health. Obviously they need to be well washed and not used if weedkillers / fertilisers have been used in the garden.

So just a few facts about such a humble much persecuted flower. Next time you see one please give it a second thought before destroying it and maybe just enjoy its lovely yellow uplifting colour



**Up and coming projects :-**

**No Mow May.** Everyone is being asked not to mow their lawn in May to try and help the bees. We've managed months without a haircut so maybe our grass could too??

**CARBON CAPTURE**

We hope to take part in a **tree study** run by Napier University. It will study trees growing on Church of Scotland land. More information to follow.



## We are Opening once again

Many people have been asking "When are we going to get back to Church?" Well, the good news is that Morning Worship will resume at 11am on Sunday 9th May, in the large hall for the next few weeks. Our plan is to move worship services into the Sanctuary thereafter, once the necessary paperwork has been submitted to Presbytery and their approval has been obtained. Keep your eye out on our social media pages, website and notice boards for any updates

Please be aware however that **Numbers** are still limited, so if you wish to attend a service in the large hall, you **MUST** pre-book a place by phoning the Manse on 01698 814757, and give your name, numbers attending (if more than one) and a contact telephone number (required by law for track and trace purposes).

We will be in touch if places are full as it is first come first served and if that is the case your name will be first on the list for the following week.

Can I ask that you **DO NOT JUST TURN UP**, and please do not attend if you have any COVID symptoms (you all know what these are by now!)

**Be aware that:-**

1. You must wear a face mask throughout the service.
2. There will be no singing
3. Since we have to ensure that we meet the physical distancing requirement you will be escorted to your seats by our friendly faced door team who are on hand to help.

I recognise that this has been a very trying time for us all, and it will be lovely to gather in person over the coming weeks for worship ..

So let us please remain patient and follow the procedures.

Blessings

Rev Fiona McKibbin

Jim Vasey Session Clerk

