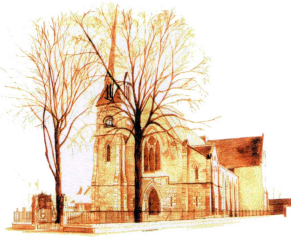


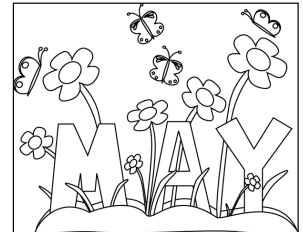
UDDINGSTON OLD PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Charity Number SC016893



MAGAZINE

May 2026



Pastoral Letter

Albert Einstein wrote “Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.”

Dear Friends

Just this week we witnessed the destruction of livelihoods, careers, a family business and places of work, when fire broke out at the MoT station in Uddingston. First and foremost, our thoughts and prayers are with all who have been affected by the fire as they take stock of what has just happened.

We also witnessed the bravery of the fireman and police officers who did all they could to contain the fire as well as control the crowds who gathered. Putting yourself in the frontline for people who you don't even know takes courage, in many ways this is their calling to serve others. They are the real superheroes except they don't wear capes.

Let's be honest we love our heroes. The people that we look up to. Many people dream of being a Superhero especially when we are children, I know I did, and I had the bruises to prove it.

I wanted to be Darth Vader from Star Wars, but I didn't have the force in me or a light sabre. All I had was a cardboard cylinder out of the tinfoil pack. Those were the days.

As we grow up we realise that heroes come in many shapes and sizes and if truth be told I have yet to meet one who got that way because there were bitten by a radioactive spider or survived a fall into toxic waste. In fact, when it comes to people who are heroes because of special powers I only know of one, **Jesus**.

Jesus who walked on water. Who raised Lazarus from the dead, who healed the lame and ascended into heaven. He did this because this was his life, his task, his calling.

Through Jesus we are reminded that God gave us life, love and purpose. God gave us choice, law and second chances. God gave us his son Jesus and the gift of the Holy Spirit. God gave of himself and God has called us.

“You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” (1John 4:4)

All of us have something inside of us that can change the world. We've got something inside of us that makes us stronger and more powerful.

We have faith that can move mountains.

Like those policemen and women, those firefighters who give of themselves every day they put on that uniform. Ordinary people doing extraordinary things and sadly at times willing to give their lives for others. We too can use our gifts, our sense of call to change the world. All we need is to **believe in ourselves**, that we too are ordinary heroes who can do extraordinary things for God's kingdom

To the ordinary heroes of our communities our heartfelt thanks for your service.

Blessings

Rev Fiona

Reverend Fiona McKibbin

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Next Issue

Articles for the

June Magazine

to the editor no later
than **Thursday 28th May**

2026

Available

Sunday 7th June 2026

We are always happy to

receive articles for

inclusion in **your**

magazine

by email to

magazine@uddingstonold.org

or on paper

Church Roll Intimations

Deaths

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

Mr Andrew Mason

Date of Death: March 2026
and

Mrs Eliza McCarney (Betty)

Date of Death: 8th April 2026
and

Mrs Betty Lambie

Date of Death: 11th April 2026

We welcome

to our congregation

Mrs Mary Bradshaw

Transferred from Viewpark Parish Church

Door Duty Rota

Morning Service at 11am
Front Door teams for the next months

<u>May</u>	3rd	Team 3	Helen Cuthbert
	10th	Team 4	Muriel McCandlish
	17th	Team 5	Andrew McCandlish
	24th	Team 6	Walker Lyttle
	31st	Team 7	Liz Lyttle

June

7th Team 8 Mary Fox
(Communion)

14th Team 1 Jillian Ballantyne
21st Team 2 Colin Pettigrew
28th Team 3 Helen Cuthbert

If you are in one of the above teams, please bear in mind that you should try to arrange for a substitute if you can't make it.

WaterAid

Thank you to everyone who brought jars of change for our WaterAid collection. We have banked £901 to date. Any further donations should be brought to Church not later than 10th May.

Stay connected with the

Uddingston Old Parish Church

and

Rev Fiona McKibbin

01698 814757

fmckibbin@churchofscotland.org.uk

Date for your diary

**'Souper Sunday' Lunch -
Sunday 10th May 2026 -
after morning service**

You are warmly invited to join us in the church hall at 12 noon after the morning service. Soup, home baking and tea/coffee will be available for a donation with all proceeds going to Christian Aid. Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you there!.

If I only had a tail

If only I had a tail.
Would I be a fish or even a snail?
Would it be nice to have a tail?
Yes, I'd hold it high as if it was a sail.
A cow uses its tail to flick flies.
A horse's tail can win it a prize.
A cat uses its tail to show surprise.
A tail is a bonus no matter what size.
A tail could be a useful thing.
Monkeys use them in trees to swing.
Kangaroos use them with running balance.
And also, with their three point stance.
A cat's tail can show hidden emotion.
When it moves in real slow motion.
Fishes tails help them swim in the ocean.
Deal with the salt, we would need some lotion.
Some dinosaurs used theirs as a weapon.
But a long tail is so easy to get stood on.
Birds can use theirs as a rudder.
Peacocks can make their tail shudder.
People hiding emotions can be a pain.
With a tail, emotions are never hidden again.
At life, I feel I could never fail.
If I, or we, only had a tail.

B B J August 2023.

QRCode



We now have an Uddingston Old QR Code for electronic donations.

Many people no longer carry cash and it is hoped that the QR Code will be useful for visitors to both the Church and our website. This is in addition to the established forms of giving by Standing Order, WFO and cash.



1st Uddingston Boys' Brigade's Centenary Weekend Schedule



The **Company** will mark its **Centenary** in May with a weekend of celebratory events.
Friday 15th May – Company Review in Uddingston Grammar School

All Company, Junior and Anchor Boy Sections should arrive at **Uddingston Grammar** at 6.30PM.
 Boys must wear full uniform.

The **Review** will start at **7pm** sharp. All parents, grandparents and siblings are invited to join us.
 We would advise you to arrive by 6.45pm to have plenty of time to select your seat.

The Review will finish at **9pm** sharp. There will be a short window for boys to have their photo taken with the Colours, trophies and badges etc afterwards.

Saturday 16th May – A Review of Boys' Brigade Artefacts in the HUBB

Between 12pm and 4pm, some former members of our Company are hosting this exhibit in the HUBB.

A selection of old 1st Uddingston photographs, artefacts and memorabilia will be on display.

Everyone interested is invited to pop in to view.

Saturday 16th May – Reunion Dinner for Former Members

Everyone who has completed our survey should keep an eye on their emails for their digital invitation.

Sunday 17th May – Centenary Church Service

Boys and former members will parade to Uddingston Old Parish Church from Uddingston Train Station.

All boys and former members should join us at Uddingston Train Station at **9.45am for a 10am** start.

The service at Uddingston Old Parish will begin at **11am**. The boys and former members will do a short march-past after the service – the parade will finish at Loancroft Gate (opposite the HUBB), we will not be parading back to Uddingston Station.

After the service and parade, everyone is invited to join us for tea, coffee and biscuits in the Church Hall.

Our exhibit in the HUBB will also be open for a short time in the afternoon following the service and parade.

Priorities



“A weakness of all human beings,” Henry Ford said, “is trying to do too many things at once. That scatters effort and destroys direction. It makes for haste, and haste makes for waste. So we do things all the wrong ways possible, before we come to the right one. Then we think it is the best way because it works, and it was the only way left that we see. Every now and then I wake up in the morning headed toward that finality, with a dozen things I want to do. I know I can’t do them all at once.”

When asked what he did about that, Ford replied, “I go out and trot around the house. While I’m running off the excess energy that wants to do too much, my mind clears and I see what can be done and should be done first.”

Nature notes May 2026

We are well into 2026 which has passed surprisingly fast. Plants are springing into life and our wildlife is preparing for a new season too.

I was away for a few days, before I left the garden looked a bit dull however on my return the plants were flowering providing a bit of colour. There are lots of cuckoo flowers in bloom and the first cuckoos/ gowks have been heard already.

The ospreys have returned causing quite a stir at the reserve as they fish in our lochs. They really are magnificent to watch, such skilled flyers.

Along with their return we have lots of others as the reserve comes alive with its summer visitors. Its lovely to watch them choosing a nesting site and then watch their courtship dances. Fascinating to see all the different dances.

Over February and March I was privileged to be a member of an ORCA surveyors team invited onto a cruise ship heading into the Arctic circle. It was a great trip with some challenging weather but some magnificent sights. We were lucky enough to see not only marine mammals but also a wide range of birds.

Amongst them fin whale, minke, humpback and sperm whales plus 200 + white beaked dolphins. We saw white tailed eagles, megansers, long tailed ducks, eider ducks and many more birds. The eiders are so funny they sound as if they've just heard a juicy bit of gossip. Anyone that's heard them will understand.

It was hard work but the passengers were amazing, we had our regulars that joined us everyday and one even wrote a song about us.

We also saw the Aurora which was amazing. No light pollution at sea which made it even more spectacular.

Back to Bonnie Scotland and off to the islands. Sailed up to Barra on the new Isle of Islay. It was lovely to be on the brand new bridge which was a contrast to the 39 year old Isle of Mull on the following Coll/ Tiree run. Minke whales, common dolphins and porpoise to keep us entertained.

Lets hope you all have some memorable wildlife encounters over the coming seasons.

Good for the soul.

Connie

Check out the Christian aid website to see what's happening as we approach

Christian Aid week. www.christianaid.org.uk

Perseverance

The person who looks for quick results in the seed-planting of well-doing will be disappointed. If I want potatoes for dinner tomorrow, it will do me little good to go out and plant potatoes in my garden tonight.

There are long stretches of darkness and invisibility and silence that separate planting and reaping. During the stretches of waiting there is cultivating and weeding and nurturing and planting still other seeds."

Eugene Petersen

Christian Aid Week

May 10th -16th 2026

**Make your faith count.
Seven days to make a difference... what will you do?**

During Christian Aid week Uddingston Old Parish Church will be supporting the work of the charity, through fellowship, prayer and giving. If you wish to join in then here are a few ways you can.

Join with us

- at our weekly Sunday Morning Service, Monday Club or Friday Community Cafe
- at our 'Souper Sunday' lunch on 10th May
- in prayer : praying for peace and harmony in the world, for those affected by poverty and humanitarian crises and for Christian Aid's work around the world
- in giving

Christian Aid Donations

A Christian Aid Envelope has been included with this magazine. Any donations made this way should, if possible, be returned to the church by Sunday 17th May.

NB If you would like to add Gift Aid to your donation then please use this method and remember to complete the form attached to the envelope.

Donation boxes will be available at various activities in the church from 10th - 16th May.

If you wish to make a donation but are unable to return it to the church, then please use the enclosed envelope and contact Louise Kerr on 07711277736 to arrange for uplift.

Monday Club

All are welcome on
Mondays 2pm till approximately 3.30pm
Coming programme:

May

4th Bite & Blether & Games

11th Film



18th Singalong



25th Sports Day



June

2nd Coach Trip

9th Summer Serenade



16th Picnic

23rd Tea Dance

Monday Club Trip 1st June

The Monday Club is going to Helensburgh on 1st June we still have a few seats on the coach. The cost is £20 this covers a 2 course lunch in the Commodore Hotel.

We depart at 10am and return to Uddingston around 5pm.

If you would like to join us please contact Mary Fox

Citizen's Advice Older Persons Out Reach Clinic

The next Citizen's Advice Outreach Clinic will take place in the side sanctuary on
Friday 15th May 11am to 2pm
Future dates:
Friday 12th June 11am to 2pm

The clinic will be run by Linda Smith
CAB Out Reach Community Adviser.

Linda's focus as a community adviser is the over 65's group but she will see anyone who is looking for help.

Citizens Advice Hamilton has several teams that she can signpost folk to including:

HWA - Health and Wellbeing team

Layrep - Representation at Hamilton Sheriff Court and predominantly housing issues.

Older Persons Project - Income maximisation and other enquiries for over 65

Money Advice - Financial Services