



**GIFFNOCK: THE PARK CHURCH**  
*SC0 No. 02965*  
*Minister : Rev Calum D. Macdonald*  
*Organist: Miss Hebba Benyaghla*

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

**11am**

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**A Service of Lessons & Carols**

Introduction and Welcome

**CH3 160 Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes**  
Prayer & Lord's Prayer  
Reading: Isaiah 9: 2; 6–7 (page 693)

**RCH 44 Little children wake and listen**  
Reading: John 1: 1–14 (page 1063)  
Offering & Dedication

**RCH 56 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come**  
( Omit verses 4 & 5)  
Reading: Luke 1: 26–35; 38 (page 1026)

**CH3 170 It came upon that midnight clear**  
Reading: Luke 2: 1; 3–7 (page 1027)  
Prayer of Intercession

**CH3 180 Child in the manger**  
Reading: Matthew 2: 1–12 (page 966)  
Minister's Address

**CH3 221 Who is he in yonder stall**  
Benediction

*A warm welcome to you this morning as we gather for worship.  
Whoever you are please feel free to come through for tea and coffee after  
the service. If you have to race away we wish you God's blessing for the week  
ahead and hope you have enjoyed your time with us in Church this morning.*

*A warm welcome to you this morning as we worship together in our service of Carols and Lessons .*

*As Christmas this year draws ever closer our commercialised society seeks to fill our lives with all sorts of 'stuff'.*

*In 1951, Meredith Wilson, a song writer drafted the lyrics of a song called, "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas." This song has become so popular thanks to many famous artists including and perhaps most famously by Bing Crosby. It's an upbeat song which reminds us that Christmas is nearly upon us and as you look around, you can see that Christmas is indeed nearly upon us. We decorate our churches and homes in anticipation. Some of our shops still dress the windows to attract customers while all the old Christmas favourites play in the background. Online shopping and TV advertisers will bombard us with the latest and best gifts to get for Christmas 2019, preparations that have been under way since the end of the summer holidays. We dig out our Christmas card lists to send our Christmas greeting to our friends and close relatives as well as those relatives, friends and associates we would otherwise not usually be in contact with.*

*Now I confess that I am often willing to be sucked in to the stuff of Christmas, no doubts echoing the words of another Christmas song, "It's the most wonderful time of the year." It is one of my favourite times of the year. It seems that there's a different spirit at Christmas. Maybe there is a different kind of desire to give because God is a giver and we enter into that spirit of giving and that spirit of rejoicing. The story is told of a father who was talking with his family giving them the pre-Christmas speech. He said "This Christmas we're going to have the best Christmas ever. Will you all ensure that we will endeavour to make this the best Christmas ever?" His six year-old son replied, "Dad, how could we possibly improve upon the first one?" And he was so right. It's a great question. How can you improve upon the first Christmas? The truth of the matter is - You can't ! You can't and you won't ever improve on the gift God gave that day, no matter how much we commercialise and secularise Christmas even when taking Christ out of our 21<sup>st</sup> century Christmas celebrations. No matter how hard you try there is no greater Christmas than the first one.*

*Have a great week*



## Weekly Diary

### **Monday**

Monday Club..... 1.45 - 3.45pm

Chess Club..... 7pm

Eastwood Choral..... 7.30pm

### **Tuesday**

Church Office..... 9.30-12noon

Powerhouse of Prayer .... 10am

Mother & Toddlers ... 9.30- 11.30am

Rainbows & Guides ...\*

Bible Study..... 7.30pm

*( 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the Month)*

### **Wednesday**

Church Office..... 9.30-12noon

Mother & Toddlers ... 9.30- 11.30

Brownies ..... \*

### **Thursday**

Church Office..... 9.30-12noon

Indoor Bowling ..... 10-12 noon

Guitar Class ..... 6.30pm

Park Ladies Keep Fit .... 7.15pm

### **Friday**

McCarthy School of Dance ... 5pm - 9pm

### **Saturday**

Allison's Aerobics..... 9.30am

Please Place  
your gift of  
Socks in the  
Santa  
Socking in  
the Vestibule





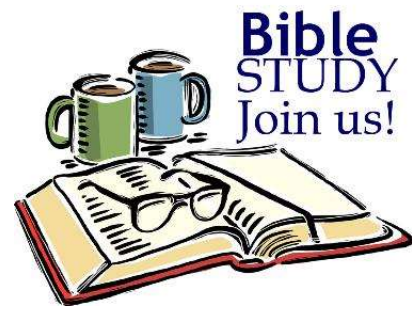
### **PRAYER GROUP**

*"More things are wrought by prayer  
than this world ever dreamed "  
( Alfred Lord Tennyson )*

*" O Let the place of secret prayer become  
to me the most beloved spot on earth"  
(Andrew Murray Scottish Preacher )*

*We meet on Tuesday mornings  
from 10-10.45am  
Everyone is welcome.*

**2019**



**Bible  
STUDY  
Join us!**

The Bible Study Christmas Party will  
be on  
17th December  
from 7pm.  
at The Manse  
All are welcome.



### **Today's Flowers**

*The flowers today are Donated by Mrs Val Richardson in fond  
memory of her Dad Ron Baillie*

© Randy Glasbergen.  
[www.glasbergen.com](http://www.glasbergen.com)



"IT LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE WILL BE GETTING WHAT THEY  
WANT THIS YEAR...SOMEBODY POSTED MY CREDIT CARD  
NUMBER ON THE INTERNET!"

**Park Church : SC002965**  
**Please Note our New Office Hours :**  
**Tuesday Wednesday & Thursday mornings**  
**9.30 - 12noon**

**Contact Details**

<b>Church Secretary :</b> Mrs Elvira Sanza <b>Tel No.</b> 0141 6202204 <b>email:</b> parkchurch@hotmail.co.uk	<b>Minister:</b> Rev Calum D. Macdonald <b>Tel No.</b> 0141638 3023 <b>email:</b> parkhoose@msn.com	<b>Session Clerk:</b> Mr. David Mackie <b>Tel No.</b> 0141 321 3300 <b>email:</b> davidmackie53@hotmail.com
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*Freewill offering envelopes will  
available from Sunday 1st December.  
All enquiries regarding FW Offering  
Envelopes, please speak with  
Mrs Margaret Loudon*

**Sunday Preaching Diary**

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Carols and Lessons Service  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday School Nativity  
Service

Christmas Eve Services  
Family Service at 7pm  
Carols By Candle Watchnight service  
11.30pm



**Christmas Presents for the Mallard**

*The Mallard provides a safe, stimulating and homely environment where young people can come and stay over. Our staff support them during their time here.*

*We've been providing residential short breaks at the Mallard for over 20 years, and we still love every minute we spend with the young people.*

*Our house is in Springburn, ten minutes from Glasgow city centre. Our young guests have their own en-suite bedroom, as well as access a large lounge/dining room, sensory room, spa and computer room. We also have a well-equipped outdoor space with sensory garden and summer house. Every part of the Mallard is wheelchair accessible.*

*Here at Park Church we have been donating gifts to The Mallard Children's Service based in Springburn for a number of years and we would like that to continue again this year. If you have a children's toy to bring to our nativity Service it will be gratefully received.*

## What's On in other Churches

### *Sunshine Cafe*



**The Sunshine Café: Giffnock  
United Reformed Church  
Dementia respite lunch club  
11.30-3.30 on Thursdays  
A joint churches venture by  
local Giffnock Churches  
For more information speak  
with the minister**

### *Giffnock United Reformed Church*

*Every Wednesday:  
Lunchtime service at  
11.15am followed by  
Lunchbite at 12.15pm*

*Every Saturday: Coffee  
morning at 10.30am*

## URC Cakes & Carols

You are warmly invited to “**Cake and Carols**” on **Tuesday 17th December at 2pm** in the hall of Giffnock United Reformed Church (ramp entrance).

Come and enjoy meeting friends and enjoying the spirit of Christmas!  
No charge!





*Park Church Hosts an  
afternoon of*  
**LET  
THERE BE  
CHRISTMAS**

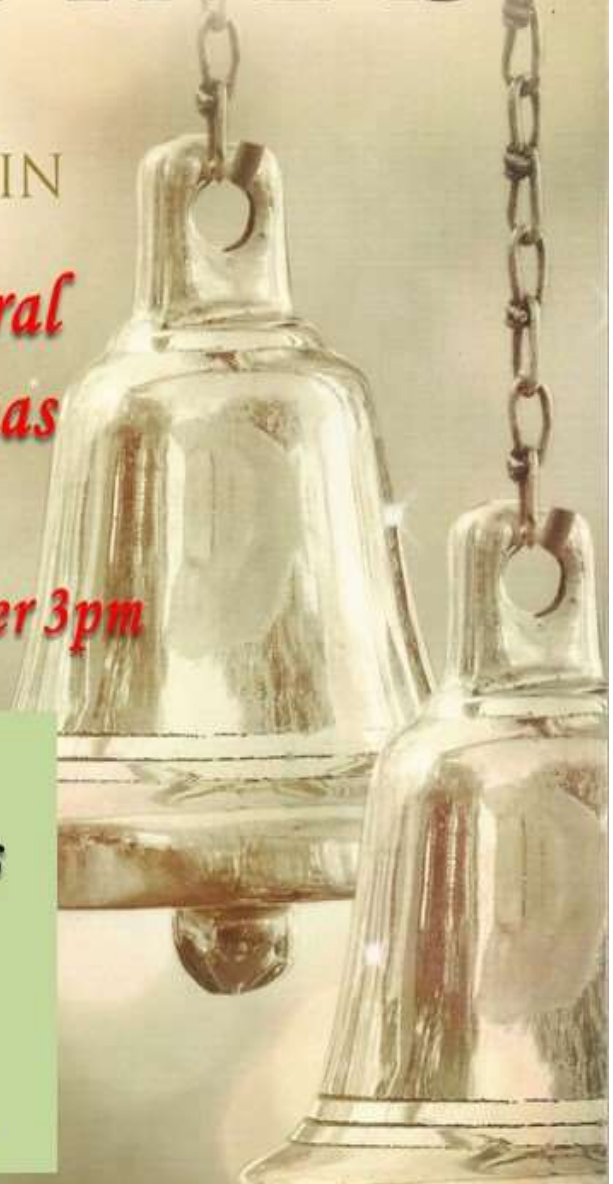
A CANTATA BY  
JOSEPH M. MARTIN

*Eastwood Choral  
Society Christmas  
Concert*

*Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 3pm*

*With Special Guests  
Our Lady of the Missions  
School Choir*

*Tickets Priced  
£ 8 adult & £4 children*



*RCH 44 Little Children Wake and listen*

*Little children, wake and listen!  
Songs are breaking o'er the earth;  
While the stars in heaven glisten,  
Hear the news of Jesus' birth.  
Long ago, to lonely meadows,  
Angels brought the message down;  
Still, each year, through midnight shadows,  
It is heard in every town.*

*What is this that they are telling,  
Singing in the quiet street?  
While their voices high are swelling,  
What sweet words do they repeat?  
Words to bring us greater gladness,  
Though our hearts from care are free;  
Words to chase away our sadness,  
Cheerless though our hearts may be.*

*Christ has left His throne of glory,  
And a lowly cradle found;  
Well might angels tell the story,  
Well may be their words resound.  
Little children, wake and listen!  
Songs are ringing through the earth;  
While the stars in heaven glisten,  
Hail with joy your Saviour's birth.*

***SPCK Traditional Carol ( 1869)***

## FROM HEAVEN ABOVE TO EARTH I COME

(Omitting verses 4&5)

1. *"From heaven above to earth I come  
To bear good news to every home;  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,  
Whereof I now will say and sing:*

2. *"To you this night is born a child  
Of Mary, chosen mother mild;  
This little child, of lowly birth,  
Shall be the joy of all your earth.*

3. *"Tis Christ, our God who far on high,  
Hath heard your sad and bitter cry;;  
Himself will your Salvation be  
Himself from sin will make you free.*

6. *Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,  
Make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled,  
Within my heart, that it may be  
A quiet chamber kept for Thee.*

7. *My heart for very joy doth leap,  
My lips no more can silence keep,  
I too must sing, with joyful tongue,  
That sweetest ancient cradle-song—*

8. *Glory to God in highest Heaven,  
Who unto man His Son hath given!  
While angels sing, with pious mirth,  
A glad New Year to all the earth.*

**Martin Luther**