

EKO



**The Magazine for
East Kilbride
Old Parish Church**

NOVEMBER 2025

EDITION 642



Church Calendar



NOVEMBER

Sunday 2nd	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 9th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 16th	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 23rd	Morning Worship	11am
Sunday 30th	First Sunday in Advent	11am

DECEMBER

Sunday 7th	Service with the Coalburn Band	11am
Sunday 14th	Cantata 'A PROMISE KEPT'	
	Service led by the Church Choir	11am
Sunday 21st	All-age Service	11am
Wednesday 24th	'Christingle' Service	7pm
Thursday 25th	Christmas Day Service	10.30am
Sunday 28th	Joint Service with the West Kirk	11am

JANUARY 2026

Sunday 4th	New Year Service	11am
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Flower Calendar



NOVEMBER

Sunday 2nd	In memory of Robert Craig
Sundays 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th will be presented by the Flower Fund	

DECEMBER

Sunday 7th	in memory of Ken Mathieson
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Pastoral Letter



A gathering of friends at an English estate nearly turned to tragedy when one of the children strayed into deep water. The gardener heard the cries for help, plunged in, and rescued the drowning child. That child's name was Winston Churchill. His grateful parents asked the gardener what they could do to reward him. He hesitated, then said, "I wish my son could go to university someday and become a doctor." "We'll see to it," Churchill's parents promised.

Years later, while Sir Winston was prime minister, he developed pneumonia. The country's best doctor was called for. His name was Dr. Alexander Fleming, the man who discovered and developed penicillin. He was also the son of that gardener who had saved young Winston Churchill from drowning. Later Churchill remarked, "Rarely has one man owed his life twice to the same person."

I wonder who we feel we owe our lives to. We can all think back to those who have influenced us and shaped the people we have become. We have our families, friends, and church family members who helped us grow in our faith. As the author Alex Hailley says, "If you see a turtle on a fencepost, you know it didn't get there by itself." None of us is the person we are because we got there solely by ourselves.

Jesus said, "Greater love has no one than this; that he lay down his life for his friends." May we, in this remembrance season give thanks for those who have laid down their lives, and vow to live our lives ensuring that their sacrifice was not in vain.

Yours in love

Anne Eaton



Advent Journey



Are you ready to join Mary and Joseph on their journey to Bethlehem?

How long did it take for Mary and Joseph to journey to Bethlehem? Scholars say that it would have taken around a week for them to do the journey, and remember, there is no mention in the bible of the beloved donkey of the Christmas Carols, but who knows if they took longer than that. This Advent, we, in the Old Parish, are going to journey with them. We will begin our journey on the first Sunday in Advent, 30th November, and will arrive at the manger on Christmas Eve. Are you willing to host them for a night?

You will receive a knitted Mary, Joseph and a donkey, and a storybook telling the Christmas story. When they stay with you, you have the opportunity to take them anywhere, do anything with them, but you should record their journey with you in their journey to Bethlehem diary. While this might be directed at younger members of families, there are 24 days and nights available, and we're all big kids at heart. So, watch this space, and get yourselves ready to host them, for it will enhance your advent journey. *Anne*

Church Communion Roll

Every church in the Church of Scotland holds a Communion Roll with the names and addresses of its members. This roll is held electronically, and access is limited to the Minister and key office-bearers. We rely on members notifying us of any changes in their circumstances but when, for example, members have moved away, or they have ceased to be active members of the congregation, we don't always know, so over time the roll becomes less accurate.

The General Assembly recently reminded churches of the importance of maintaining Communion Rolls accurately and up-to-date. This is aimed at ensuring compliance with the legal requirements concerning the personal data which we hold in respect of our members. In order to do this, there will be a wholesale review of our Communion Roll during November. Our elders will have a key role in this by contacting every member in their district who will receive a pastoral letter from Anne, and a Questionnaire which should ensure that the personal details we hold for each member are completely accurate.

We recognise that for a variety of reasons members sometimes no longer feel the extent of commitment of past years. The contact with the district elder will give an opportunity to discuss this and if members would prefer that their details were removed from the Communion Roll this will be arranged. This will help us meet the legal obligation to ensure that we don't continue to hold personal information that is no longer necessary.

If you haven't been involved with us to any great extent recently but would like to re-connect with us, then you will be welcomed back to our services or our church groups.

Alistair Walker Session Clerk

Craft Group

Wednesday morning Craft Group.



We meet in the lounge weekly on Wednesdays from 10am until noon.

New members are welcome.

Jill Cowan.

The Prayer Group

The Prayer Group meets in the Lounge Area after the Church service and invite you to visit/join them at any time.

There are Prayer request boxes in the Church Sanctuary - one upstairs at the east side and one downstairs next to the Baptismal Font. Rest assured all Prayer requests will be treated with the utmost respect and discretion. Only first names should be given along with a brief reason for the request, i.e. awaiting treatment, etc.

NOVEMBER

1st. We give thanks, Lord, for the growing crops and changing seasons.

2nd. God, help me to trust you with my decisions and future. Let me lean on you with all my heart instead of relying on my own imperfect understanding.

3rd. Lord, I come before You just as I am. I am sorry for my sins and ask you to please forgive me.

4th. Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger or discipline me in your wrath. Be merciful to me, Lord, for I am faint.

5th. Lord, as ever, we pray for peace throughout the world and help and support for the homeless and the starving.

6th. Thank you, Lord, for always being there when I need help. You are my strength.

7th. Father, thank you for this new day. Help me to live with compassion.

8th. Lord, be with all who serve in other countries, bringing help and practical support.

9th. Almighty Father, we remember with gratitude before You those who gave their lives for us; and we pray that You will help us not only to keep their memory fresh, but also to do all in our power to strengthen the forces of love and peace.

10th. Thank you, God, for the gift of life. Help me to be strong in tricky situations.

11th. Heavenly Father, guide with your just and gentle wisdom all who take counsel for the nations of the world, that all your people may spend their days in security, freedom, and peace.

12th. You do not judge me by how I look. You see the content of my heart, faith, and integrity. Thank you.

13th. Father, give me peace in uncertainty and strength to cope with whatever I face.

- 14th.Lord, I ask for your guidance. Show me Your ways and teach me Your paths.
- 15th.If we hope to make changes help us to see we need to work with other Christians, different faiths and all who share this world.
- 16th.Father, shine Your light on my ways and help me to know the next step to take. Grant me the wisdom and courage to trust in You and to follow Your will.
- 17th.Father, everywhere I walk, let It be on your path. Everything I see, let it be through your eyes, and everything I do, let it be your will.
- 18th.Lord, I ask for strength to continue serving others to the best of my ability.
- 19th.God, help me accept the things I cannot change, give me the courage to change the things I can, and give me the wisdom to know the difference.
- 20th.Lord, you do not let me want for anything, so please give me the courage to leave behind all that I do not need.
- 21st.Father, I ask you for strength when I am weak, love when I feel forsaken, courage when I am afraid and wisdom when I feel foolish.
- 22nd.Heavenly Father, please calm my mind, heal my heart, and take away my worries.
- 23rd.Guide my steps and decisions, Lord, and help me to walk in Your ways and avoid any path that leads to danger or trouble.
- 24th.Forgive me, Father, when I say hurtful words and help me to be more understanding towards others.
- 25th.Lord, remove any laziness or procrastination from my mind and body. Push me, Father, to my full potential.
- 26th.Lord, be with all who are dealing with difficulties in their life and help them to overcome them.
- 27th.Thank you, Lord, for all the blessings you have given me. Help me to be more appreciative of this.
- 28th.Father, give me the ability to recognise what really matters when speaking with others in need.
- 29th.Heavenly Father, I am feeling down, please help me to know Your peace and presence more.
- 30th.Lord, help us to cast away darkness and “put on the armour of light” as we pray for Jesus’ return.

DECEMBER/over



DECEMBER

- 1st. Lord, make me listen more than I speak, appreciate more than I do, and enjoy life more than I have.
- 2nd. I give thanks, Lord, that I am fortunate enough to have food on my table, clothes to keep me warm and a roof over my head.
- 3rd. Dear God, please bring peace to my confusion, joy to my sadness, and hope to my heart.
- 4th. Jesus, build us, strengthen us, and grow our faith. This is YOUR church. You created us. We are Yours. Use this church as YOU will, not as we will.
- 5th. We pray for healing, for the hostages recently released, and for lasting peace. May our prayers bring light to their darkness.
- 6th. We pray for your great healing on our land. Shine your face and your blessing over us.

HISTORY CORNER



REMEMBRANCE

On 11th November 1918 the First World War ended and this year marks eighty years since

the end of the Second World War.

The Memorial Plaques at the front of the church lists the names of the fallen, in both world wars, who had links to East Kilbride Parish Church.



WWI

Private Robert Anderson, Black Watch 7th (Fife) Battalion, 28th September 1883 East Kilbride - 23rd April 1917 aged 35 years. Before the war Robert was a post-man in East Kilbride. He was a member of The East Kilbride Parish Church Choir and an assistant scout master to the 1st E.K. Boys Scout Troop. In 1910, he married Jean Carruthers and lived in Main Street. Robert was killed during the Battle of Scarpe in the Nord-Pas-de-Calais region of France and is buried at Brown's Copse Cemetery, Roeux, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France.

Private Hugh Ballantyne, Royal Scots, 1894 – 17th April 1917, was the youngest son of James and Isabella Ballantyne nee Chapman, Main Street, East Kilbride.

Before the war Hugh was employed in farming. Hugh was killed in action, aged 22 years in pursuit of the Germans to the Hindenburg Line and has no known grave.

Private Robert Borland, Gordon Highlanders, was born in Rutherglen and before the war worked at Loanend Colliery. He was declared killed in action on 18th June 1915 following second action of Givenchy and has no known grave. His grandmother was Mrs R Pollock, Main Street, East Kilbride.

WW II

Allister Duguid, First Radio Officer, Merchant Navy, SS Bradfyne (Bideford), was the son of Mr & Mrs Charles Duguid of 19, Main Street, East Kilbride. Alistair was baptised in East Kilbride Parish Church on 17th February 1920 and was killed on 23rd November 1940, aged 20 years.

At 01.17 hours on 23rd November 1940 the Bradfyne was in a convoy when she was hit amidship by a torpedo from a U-boat and sank southeast of Rockall. The master, 37 crew members and one gunner were lost. Four crew members in a lifeboat were rescued two days later by the Norse King and landed at Belfast.

There are nineteen names on the World War I Memorial Plaque and five names on the World War II Memorial Plaque.



"At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them."

Ref:

East Kilbride Old Parish Church Archives.

Scotland's People.

The Fallen of East Kilbride Parish 1914 - 1918 by Lindsay Freeland and Morag F White

17th EK Guiding Units

Over the next few months we have a very full and varied programme for the girls involving all the good stuff they like: learning new skills, working for badges but most importantly doing things for other people especially out in the community.

We thought the garden at the Glebe St Hall needs cheering up so we are going to decorate stones and put them in for the winter. We will be filling planters for McKillop Gardens and planting hyacinths for Christmas. If you have any suitable plant pots for bulbs you are happy to gift, we will give them a good home.

From the beginning of November we start singing practice with Elspeth before the girls sing for the Residents at McKillop Gardens. We have also been invited to sing at the Church Fayre on Sat 29th Nov. So exciting! At the Fayre we will be hosting a bottle tombola and a little something for the kids. All proceeds going to church funds so your support would be welcomed and greatly appreciated.

Over the last few weeks the girls have been involved in our planning process. The Brownies have drafted their new rules, displayed on our wallboards at Glebe St. They also came up with SPARKLED standing for

S - supportive

P - protective

A - always be helpful

R - respectful

K - kind

L - leadership

E - equality

Have you sparkled today !

At the beginning of Nov our new Rainbows and Brownies will be making their promise. This is always a special night and our girls are all practicing hard to be ready.



BLYTHSWOOD SHOEBOX APPEAL 2025/over

BLYTHSWOOD SHOEBOX APPEAL

For many years our Church Family were strong supporters of Blythswood and the annual Shoebox Appeal. The Rainbows, Brownies & Guides enjoyed filling them and sending them to new homes with our love.

In recent years our girls at their request have been supporting charities closer to home.

If you would like to donate boxes for Blythswood this year, a van will collect them from the car park at Morrisons at Stewartfield on Wed 5th Nov from 9.30pm-10.30pm. Please keep all the people involved in this year's appeal in your thoughts and prayers as they bring warmth, joy & hope this Christmas.

We thank all our church family for your continuing help, support and kindness. Please keep all our girls and leaders in your thoughts and prayers.

17th EK Guiding Leadership Team, *Jennifer, Caroline, Olivia, Claire, Emma, Liz, Lorraine, Ella, Pamela, Louise, Lynne, Gemma, Mirren, Michele & Christine*



Job Vacancy



We are looking for a Part-Time Youth & Families Worker.

10 hours a week; £14.77 per hour.

Some evening and week-end working.

If you know of anyone who might be interested they should contact the Minister or Session Clerk or submit a brief CV to ekopc.office@btconnect.com

Alistair Walker - Session Clerk

The Guild



On Wednesday 12th November, at 2pm in the Glebe St Hall, our Speaker will be Laura Fleming. Her talk is called "Teaching from Beginning to End".

On Wednesday 26th November, we will have an afternoon of Country Music with the Jolly Beggars. All welcome, women and men.

Mary Smith

The Men's Association

We have two meetings in November. On the 3rd, our Speaker will be Mrs Mary Coles and her subject is the Church of Scotland's Safeguarding Policy. Then, on the 17th, we will welcome Mr Ian Anderson. His talk is entitled "Stories from a Head Teacher".

We meet in the Glebe Street Hall at 2pm and a warm welcome is extended to anyone who would like to come along.

On the alternate Mondays – 10th and 24th – the **CARPET BOWLING CLUB** meets, also in the Glebe Street Hall at 2pm. New members welcome.

Stewart Smith

THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Our Christmas Fayre will be held in the Glebe Street Hall on Saturday 29 November between 10.00am and 2.00pm. Stalls will include:-

- HOME BAKING,
- WOODCRAFT & JEWELLERY,
- KNITTING AND HANDCRAFTS,
- BOTTLE STALL,
- GOODIE BAGS
- CARDS.



The Brownies will also be entertaining us with their singing.

Entry £5 which will include tea/coffee and home baking.

We look forward to seeing you there.

The Hogmanay Ceilidh will take place, as usual in the Glebe Street Hall from 8.00pm on 31st December 2025. Tickets, priced £5 will be on sale from the beginning of December.

Catherine Selfridge - on behalf of the Kirk Life Committee

The Macmillan Coffee Morning

Macmillan Coffee Morning

A huge 'thank you' to everyone who helped in the kitchen, donated baking, donated to and tended the Arts & Crafts stall and sold tickets for the Macmillan Coffee Morning and also to all of you who attended and gave most generously for this most worthy of causes.

We raised £962.50! A magnificent amount! Thank you, thank you again!!

Ann Doran

Macmillan
cancer relief



Pastoral Register

Deaths “I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

Mary Thomson

Anne Smith

Margaret Mitchell

Isobel Douglas



EKO Submissions

The dates for submission of material for the December EKO are: for hand/
type-written copy **Sunday 23rd November** and the deadline for submitting
electronic copy is:- **Wednesday 26th November**

Thank you. *David Kent* - Editor 01355 237275, 07890 262267

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EAST KILBRIDE OLD PARISH CHURCH

In case of illness and bereavement, would the family please contact the minister immediately and directly.

Rev. Anne Paton will be available for consultation in the vestry after Sunday morning worship. Please arrange such consultation with the door duty team.

East Kilbride Old Parish Church, Church of Scotland, Scottish Charity—SC000609

Minister	Rev. Anne Paton BA BD 40 Maxwell Drive. G74 4HJ E-mail address: apaton@churchofscotland.org.uk	Tel. 01355 220732 Mobile 07912295940
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Youth & Families Worker	Position Vacant at present	
Session Clerk	Alistair Walker	
Treasurer	Des Laverty	
Roll Keeper	Robert Cossar	
Gift Aid	Des Laverty	
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