

THE SIGN

APRIL 2026



**ST. CUTHBERT'S
SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
COLINTON**

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APRIL 2026**

**St Cuthbert's
Scottish Episcopal Church
Westgarth Avenue
Colinton
EDINBURGH
EH13 0BD**



St Cuthbert's is a welcoming, loving community, sharing God's love through joyful worship and compassionate service.

If you wish to receive Home Communion,
please contact Revd Nicki McNelly –
Tel: 0131 441 7580



Facebook: @stcuthbertscolinton



Instagram: stcuthbertscolinton



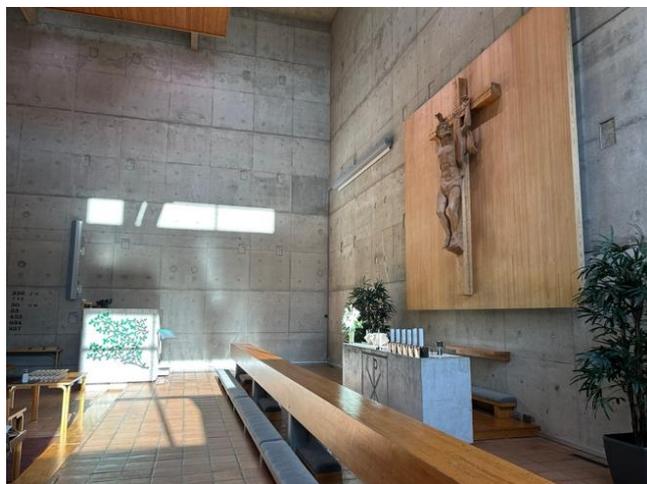
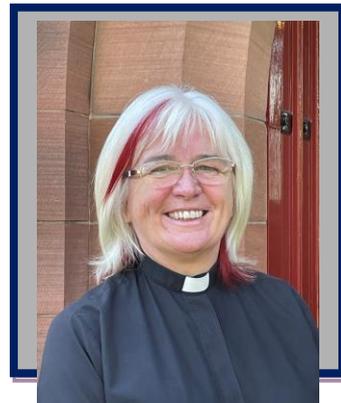
**St Cuthbert's Scottish Episcopal Church
Colinton**

Front Page Photo – Easter, St Cuthbert's

*Photograph: Louise Stobie
(2025)*

APRIL 2026

I have just arrived home from Espoo, and my head is full of information and of the many wonderful experiences I shared with the people there. One small mystery remains with me: their huge concrete churches are always warm—how? I did ask, but the clergy in Espoo have nothing to do with property or heating, so no one could enlighten me. I shall have to investigate further! This is where I preached in Järvenpää.



They have now lost most of their snow, though the lakes—and even the sea in Helsinki—are still frozen. They are eagerly awaiting the arrival of spring, so it was especially lovely for me to return home and find daffodils and blossom smiling from the church garden. How wonderful God's creation is. Despite their longing for spring, I found creation in Helsinki quite extraordinary too, as I saw the frozen sea for the first time. For some reason, I had expected the lakes to be frozen, but not the sea.

But enough of Espoo, and back to Colinton.

I hope your journey through Lent has been prayerful and fruitful, and that whatever you chose to do has brought you closer to God. I would like to thank Cletus for leading the Lent group. I was only able to attend once, but found it a truly peaceful and prayerful time.

You will see later in the magazine that we will be holding Prayers for Peace on Tuesday 31st March at noon. I mentioned at the Vestry Training that this is something very close to my heart, and now that our Primus has encouraged this, it feels like a good place to begin. It will be a short time of prayer, so please do join me if you can, along with the other services during Holy Week and Easter.

As always, the seasons of Epiphany and Lent seem to pass more quickly than we expect, and already thoughts turn towards summer holidays. Revd Margaret will not be with us over Easter, as she has a long-planned holiday. I am sure you will join me in wishing her a well-deserved time of rest.

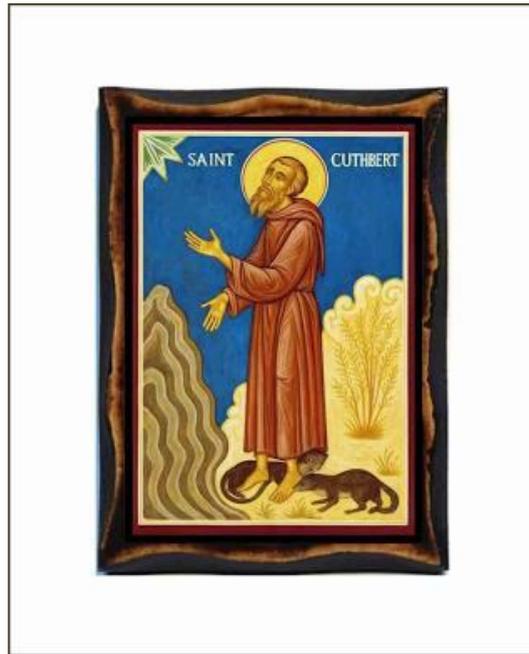
Wishing you all a blessed Easter season.

Love

Nicki



St. Cuthbert's Gift Month



Thank you to everyone who donated
during March to
St Cuthbert's Gift Month.
Your generosity is much appreciated.





Day of Prayer for
the people of the
Middle East

As Primus I had planned to visit Jerusalem and the West Bank during Holy Week, writes Bishop Mark Strange. The visit was planned with colleagues from USPG so that we could show support for our friends in the Diocese of Jerusalem and to see for ourselves how things had changed since our last visit.

Unfortunately, even though we had waited to see if the situation in the Middle East would calm, the final end to our hopes came with the cancellation of our flights. I had intended that the visit would provide the background for a season of prayer, using the experience to influence our thoughts.

This cannot now happen, so I have asked the College of Bishops if the Scottish Episcopal Church could hold a Day of Prayer for the churches and people of the Middle East on the Tuesday of Holy Week (31 March) – the day when I would have been on the West Bank.

Each Bishop has responded positively and we hope that an opportunity to pray alongside our brothers and sisters will be found across the Province. Please continue to pray for peace.

As was written by our friend Archbishop Hosam Naoum, the Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem and Primate of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East:
“Suddenly, our people from the Mediterranean to the Persian Gulf find themselves once again huddled in shelters.”

He said that those suffering in the strikes reside within “our ecclesiastical boundaries”. Members in the Diocese of Iran “are currently enduring the terror of aerial bombardment” and members in the Diocese of Cyprus & the Gulf “are witnessing the arrival of war at their doorsteps”.

He called for prayerful support from the global Church, urging Christians to be “bridge builders” because “even as diplomatic windows seem to slam shut, the Church must keep the doors of reconciliation open”.

The archbishop continued: “We refuse to see our neighbours as enemies, whether they be in Tehran, Tel Aviv or the military bases of the Gulf.”

He asks us to pray:

God of mercy, look with compassion
on all who are affected by the present conflict.

Grant insight to hardened hearts,
comfort to the fearful,

protection to those in danger,

and hope to those who are despairing,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**To support Bishop Mark, our church will hold
prayers for peace in the Middle East on March 31st at
12 noon.**

Message for April from Revd Margaret.

This year the month of April starts with the gradual unfolding of the events of Holy Week, leading up to the celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday, a day when the ‘hope that has been set before us’ is realised. The poet Ann Lewin beautifully captures the transition from the disaster in the Garden of Eden to the risen Christ from his garden tomb – *‘But in another garden, The risen Son, Adam renewed, Appearing as a gardener Brought new beginning, Showed that through God’s grace All can be life.’*

There have been so many new beginnings over the last few months, the birth of Jesus, the start of the new calendar year and the onset of spring, that I hardly dare repeat the words. Yet Easter is arguably the most significant new beginning for Christians, an occasion to sense joy and a time to look forward to once again experiencing all the gifts that God bestows on us, from the gift of his Son to the immense treasure of the Holy Spirit and all his small daily offerings of love. We are all too aware, of course, of the challenges we face in a world beset by ever increasing violence, immorality and injustice, but God’s promise of making us participants of his Eternal Kingdom, as well as his unlimited love and compassion are with us constantly. He is walking beside us every moment, at times carrying us when the going gets tough and we find ourselves floundering.

This Holy Season I am escaping these shores to reflect elsewhere on the events leading up to Easter, as I take a

cruise to France and Portugal, sharing the joy of Easter Sunday in worshipping with fellow cruisers and hoping to witness a different approach to this momentous season when we reach Portugal.

Back here in Colinton, please remember our Thursday services, which start this month on Maundy Thursday, with Joan sharing her own reflections on this crucial day. Then in May, fully re-instated in our church family, I will be leading a service on the theme of joy on Thursday the 7th. Please do join us for these more informal and thematic services on the first Thursday of every month, each of which is followed by fellowship and refreshments.

For now, I wish you all a very blessed Holy Week, a joyous Easter and a month of experiencing God's gift of love to us all, despite any earthly pains or setbacks.

With my love,

Margaret NSM.



April 2026 Music Notes

After a month of singing settings of the *Ave verum corpus* text, as we move into April, we also move into the season of Easter.



Throughout the month of April, all of our anthems take the theme of the Resurrection for their text, and are mostly contemporary settings or arrangements of the words of familiar Easter hymns. On 19 April, we have the first of our monthly summer Evensongs. The anthem at that service is an appropriate choice, composed and made famous by Hugh S Roberton, the founder and conductor of the famous Glasgow Orpheus Choir. It is a setting of words by the Irish poet Katharine Tynan, and was first published in 1911.

5 April (Easter Day):

The Day of Resurrection - Robert Jones

This joyful Eastertide - harm. Charles Wood

12 April: Now the green blade riseth - French trad

19 April, 10.30am:

O sons and daughters - arr John Barnard

19 April, 5pm Evensong:

All in the April evening - Hugh S Roberton

26 April: Jesus Christ is risen today - Richard Lloyd

Philip Rossiter



St Cuthbert's, Colinton
Evensong Services
2026

at 5pm

19th April

24th May

28th June

All Welcome





Tuesday 31st March & Thursday 2nd April
9am – Morning Prayer on Zoom

Wednesday 1st April
10.30am – Said Eucharist

Maundy Thursday 2nd April
6pm - Sung Eucharist & Washing of Hands

Good Friday 3rd April
Noon – 2pm - A time of personal prayer with
Stations of the Cross
2pm - Liturgy of the Good Friday Sacrament

Please contact Nicki for the link to
Zoom Morning Prayer.

Thank you.

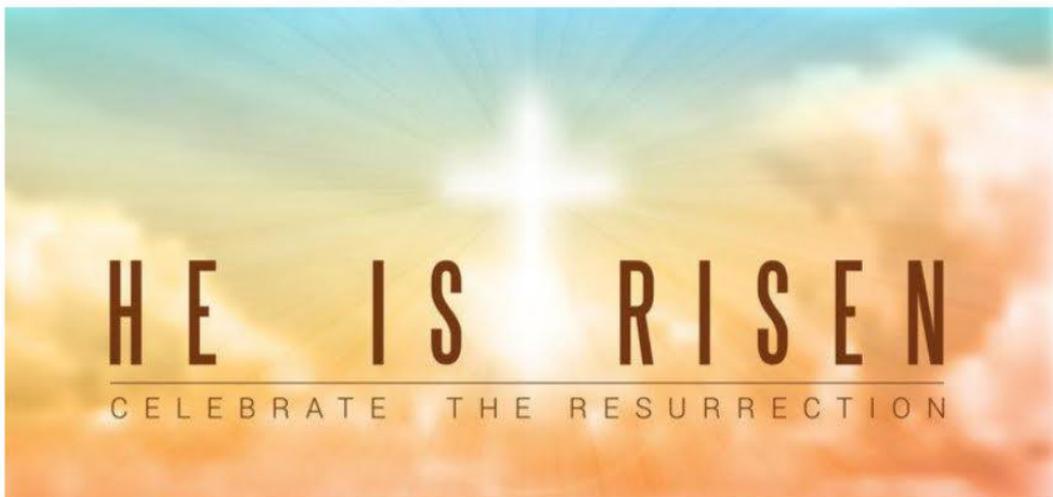
Easter Day

5th April 2026

6.30am – Service of Light
(Followed by croissants and coffee/tea –
please inform Nicki if you are planning to
attend)

8.30am – Said Eucharist

10.30am – Sung Eucharist
(Followed by Prosecco)





**APRIL 2026
ROTAS**

APRIL 2026 READINGS

5th April – Easter Day

Jeremiah 31. 1-6
Acts 10. 34-43
Matthew 28. 1-10

12th April – Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2. 14a, 22-32
1 Peter 1. 3-9
John 20. 19-31

19th April – Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2. 14a, 36-41
1 Peter 1. 17-23
Luke 24. 13-35

26 April – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2. 42-47
1 Peter 2. 19-25
John 10. 1-10

3rd May – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7. 55-60
1 Peter 2. 2-10
John 14. 1-14



The Thursday Service
Maundy Thursday
2 April 2026 at 2.30pm



All are welcome

Refreshments will be served after the service

Future Services: Thursday 7 May & Thursday 4 June

THE SIGN MAGAZINE

Please note –

The deadline

for information and articles

for the

MAY 2026 issue

is

Sunday 12 APRIL 2026

Please send to

stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com

Thank you!



**At St. Cuthbert's,
Westgarth Avenue, Colinton**

**PLEASE NOTE – THERE WILL BE NO
FORGET-ME-NOTES ON
EASTER MONDAY (6TH APRIL)**

THE ONLY SESSION IN APRIL WILL BE:

Monday 20th April

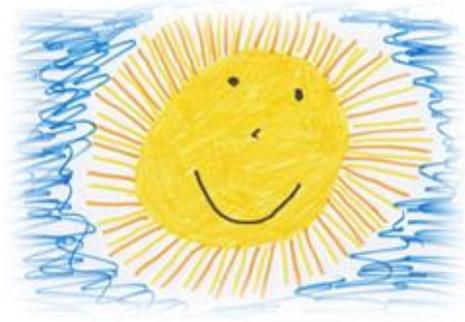
2pm – 4pm

Join us for an hour of music and memories.
Bring a friend or come and meet new ones.
Followed by refreshments.

forgetmenotes.org.uk
stcuthbertscolinton.org.uk

For more information, contact
stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com

All Welcome



St Cuthbert's Playgroup in the Church Hall

Monday 30th March –
is the last playgroup meeting in the term before the
Easter Holidays

Back on Monday 27th April!

10am - 11.30am - Every Monday
(during school term time)

Only £2 per family





Afternoon Tea ...

& Games

Saturday 18 April 2026

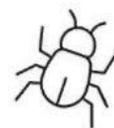
at 2.30pm - 4.30pm

in the Church Hall

St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church

Westgarth Avenue

*Enjoy a delicious afternoon tea and join in
some fun activities.*



Tickets £10

In aid of church funds

Contact any member of the Events & Fund Raising Group or

Email: stcuthbertsevents@gmail.com

Scottish Charity Number: SC007578

Dementia Awareness Workshop

If you would like to learn more about dementia, please join us in church

May 5th, 1.30-3.30pm.

We will be joined by Diane Kerr who will help us to understand more about dementia and particularly the most positive ways to engage with anyone living with the disease.

Save the Date

Church BBQ to celebrate refugee week in June.

June 27th 2-4pm

THE LEPROSY MISSION

GREAT BRITAIN



Donations: £32.75 was paid in on 11 March from blue tubs.
Thank you.

Prayers: In March the focus in the TLM leaflet prayer diary was Climate Crisis. ...”we take joy in the warmer days and signs of spring. It’s a time to celebrate the beauty of God’s earth, and to remember our call to care for it.”

Climate change and environmental destruction is devastating lives and livelihoods: from cyclones to droughts, each of the countries you support is on the front line. Already living in poverty, people affected by leprosy are some of the most vulnerable.

Climate Disasters People affected by leprosy and those with disabilities are especially vulnerable. Please pray the Lord will protect communities facing cyclones, floods and droughts across Africa and Asia. May the Lord in his mercy protect and provide for those in desperate need.

Climate Resistance Many families affected by leprosy rely on hand-to-mouth farming for food, but climate change is making it harder to grow crops. Give thanks, that communities in Sri Lanka and Mozambique are learning climate-resilient farming methods. Pray that families will build stronger and sustainable livelihoods.

Coming up to Easter and a new beginning in the risen Christ, the focus of prayers in April is on Vocational training. TLM runs six Vocational Training Centres in India where young people gain qualifications in marketable skills from IT to mechanical engineering.

We pray that this training will be a fresh start for young people affected by leprosy across India, and open doors to good opportunities.

If you would like to follow the TLM's prayers through the year, I can request more copies of the Prayer Diary. It is also possible to become a 'Prayer Partner' by email.

Child Leprosy: at the present time, TLM's fund-raising is focused on child leprosy. There are stories of great hope on the website below of children from different countries who have been found, diagnosed and treated, transforming their and their families' lives. leprosymission.org.uk

**From Easter Sunday if you listen out on Radio 4,
The Leprosy Mission is the chosen charity for the
BBC Radio 4 Appeal.**

*Praise Jesus for this opportunity to raise awareness about
child leprosy across Great Britain!*

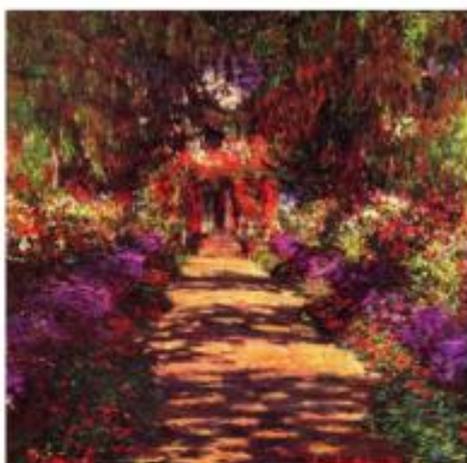
With thanks for your support.

Kay Dalley

Thursday Afternoon Service:

May 7th, 2026 at 2.30pm

Joy



Please join us for this informal service

Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you there

Refreshments will be served after the service

Future services: Thursday, June 4th and Thursday, July 2nd



THE PHOENIX GROUP

We are very grateful to Caroline Seville for another successful, enjoyable and well attended Quiz. As always, it was a convivial and fun afternoon with lots of interesting and varied questions, all set by Caroline. We look forward to her next Quiz probably in September.

We have nothing actually arranged at the moment but still plan to go for a buffet lunch at Liberton Golf Club, where Audrey Naden is a member.

We also plan to play Croquet again at the Meadows Croquet Club. It was such a special event last year and Jean Wood, a member of the Club, is very happy to host another afternoon there for us.

A further suggestion is that we go on a canal boat trip from Ratho again. These outings have worked very well in the past and we would be happy to organise another one, although people would have to arrange their own transport.

Please let us have any other ideas for future events and gatherings.

Margaret Kieran, Jean Myers and Margaret Temple

SINGING IN THE SUMMER

PLEASE COME and JOIN for a series of 8 fun, enjoyable evenings for all singers here at St Cuthbert's from 7.15 pm till 9pm on Monday 20 April until Monday 8 June inclusive, when we will learn and sing a wide variety of Classical, Popular and Folk Songs. There will be a break for tea, coffee and biscuits.

We will be singing purely for pleasure and without a performance. No previous experience of singing is required and you do not have to be able to read music.

The cost is £47 for the 8 sessions and includes music hire and tea and coffee.

Please reserve your slot by emailing: -
secretary@colintonchoir.org



For more information about our choir, please consult our website www.colintonchoir.org and our Facebook page.

Margaret Kieran on behalf of the Choir

WHO'S WHO AT ST CUTHBERT'S

Rector	The Revd Nicki McNelly stcuthbertsrector@gmail.com Tel: 0131 441 7580
NSM (Non-Stipendiary Minister)	Revd Dr Margaret McCrindle stcuthbertsnsm@gmail.com (07931 483906)
Church Administrator	Marie Neil stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com Tel No: 07761 056504 Working hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9am-1pm
Rector's Warden	Judith Mackintosh 443 1313
People's Warden	George Bungay 478 0834
Children/Young People	Contact Revd Nicki McNelly
Gift Aid	Contact Church Administrator
Lay Representative	Andrew Daye
Alternate Lay Rep.	Jean Wood
Safeguarding	Christine Nimmo 445 3053 christinenimmo@btinternet.com
Organist & Choirmaster	Philip Rossiter 283 0234
Property Committee	Nicki McNelly
Sacristans	Bev Henderson, Joan Smith
Treasurer & Book-Keeper	Heather Tidy stcuthbertstreasurer24@gmail.com
Vestry Secretary	Julia Roberts 441 4965 Julia.roberts01@btinternet.com
Website & Magazine Editor	Church Administrator stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com
Archivist	Christine Nimmo
R&R	Wendy Pearson wendypearson37@gmail.com
Badminton Club	Julia Roberts 441 4965
Coffee Rota	Audrey Naden 441 1545
Eco congregation	Kay Dalley 441 7920
Hall Bookings	Contact our Church Administrator
Events & Fundraising	Email: stcuthbertsevents@gmail.com
Leprosy Mission	Kay Dalley
Phoenix Group	Margaret Kieran 445 3751
St. Raphael's Rep.	Judith Mackintosh 443 1313
Vestry Members *	George Bungay, Jayne Churchill, Bryan Dale, Kay Dalley, Andrew Daye, Megan Emmerson, Mandy Johnston, Judith Mackintosh, Ian Miller, Julia Roberts, Christine Sanderson, Esther Srinivasulu

For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.

John 3.16



St Cuthbert's Scottish Episcopal Church

Westgarth Avenue, Colinton,
Edinburgh EH13 0BD

Tel: 0131 441 7580

Email: stcuthbertsrector@gmail.com

www.stcuthbertscolinton.org.uk

Services:

*(For details of our Holy Week and Easter Services
please see Pages 12 and 13 and on our Website)*

Wednesday:

10.30am Said Eucharist

First Thursday of each month:

2.30pm An informal service for all

Sunday:

8.30am Said Eucharist, no sermon

10.30am Sung Eucharist

**Evensong – ‘announced’ in our pew notices and
on our Website.**

Scottish Charity Number: SC007578

