THE SIGN

NOVEMBER 2026

ST. CUTHBERT'S

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
COLINTON

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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 – Remembrance

Photograph: Louise Stobie

NOVEMBER 2026

November is, perhaps more than any other month, a time for remembering. We remember those who have given their lives in war and conflict, those whom we have loved and lost, and the many people whose lives have shaped our own.

As Christians, our remembering is never simply about looking backwards. We remember with thanksgiving, with hope, and with the assurance that in Christ death does not have the final word.

This year I will be attending the Festival of Remembrance in London, and so I shall not be with you for our Remembrance Sunday service. I am very grateful to Revd Margaret, Philip, Julia, Megan and Gordon, who came along to a rehearsal in October to make sure that everything is timed, in place and that the service runs smoothly on the day. My thanks to them, and to everyone who will be involved in making Remembrance Sunday special at St Cuthbert's, including those running the Christian Aid lunch.

November also brings a couple of changes in my ministry. On 15 November I shall stand down as Interim Pastor of Christ Church, Falkirk. It has been a privilege to walk alongside the congregation during this period of transition, and I am particularly grateful for the welcome and friendship I have received. I shall, however, continue as Cletus's 'buddy' while he completes his studies, so I am not disappearing altogether!

I shall also be absent from church on 15 November for another reason. On 13 November I am having both lenses in my eyes replaced and will need a little time to recover afterwards. I am hoping very much that I shall be back on my feet – and seeing the world rather more clearly! – in time for our AGM on 22 November.

Earlier in the month I shall be at our annual clergy conference in Pitlochry. These few days are always a precious opportunity for fellowship, learning and support. Ministry can sometimes feel like a solitary calling, so it is good to spend time with colleagues, to listen, to learn from one another, to laugh together and occasionally to admit that we all have days when we wonder quite what we are doing!

I am also delighted to welcome a new student from the Scottish Episcopal Institute, Lenore Simson, who will be with us until April next year. I hope that you will make Lenore feel very welcome and take the opportunity to get to know her. Part of theological formation happens in books and classrooms, but a very important part happens in the life of a congregation – in worship, conversation, coffee, pastoral ministry and simply being part of the family of faith.

And then, before we know it, Advent will be upon us. The Church gives us these precious weeks to pause, to watch and to wait. In a world that is often noisy, hurried and uncertain, Advent reminds us that God comes to us not with noise and spectacle, but quietly: in hope, in promise and ultimately in the child of Bethlehem.

As we remember those who have gone before us this November, may we also remember the faithfulness of God through every generation. And as we turn towards Advent, may we be ready once again to welcome Christ among us – in our worship, in our community and in one another.

With every blessing, Nicki

ST CUTHBERT'S
SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
COLINTON

AGM

SUNDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2026
following the 10.30am Service

If you wish to ask a question during any other business, could you please submit it in writing to the Vestry Secretary by Sunday 8th November to enable a full response.

The Annual Reports will be available in church from Sunday 8th November.

If you would like a full set of the accounts, these can be obtained from our Church Administrator – email: stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com

VESTRY REPORT

Vestry September 2026

- Constitution changes- The Diocese had asked for a change in wording to ensure that the Chair shall usually be the Rector and that even when the Rector is not the chair, they will always have the deciding vote when there is an equality of votes. Vestry approved the change.
- Rectory Solar Panels- Vestry had agreed by email that we would pay for a second battery for the system. The new cost is then £17393.24+VAT
- Church Boiler repair: ongoing but should be completed this week.
- Heather had sent a preliminary end of year accounts for Vestry. She noted that there will be some changes when year-end adjustments are processed. Standing Order donations are down from last year, but other forms of donation and income are up resulting in a slightly smaller deficit than predicted in the budget. Members will be encouraged to review their standing orders.
- Andrew reported on QR codes and the use of a Stripe account to collect donations from visitors to the church. Vestry approved the go ahead with this and Andrew will set up the account which has no subscription fee but takes a small percentage of each transaction (1.5%). QR codes will be laminated and visible in church and in the pew sheets which will take people to the page where they can donate. It can also be linked to the website with information on how to set up a standing order directly.
- Vestry had received a letter from the Bishop Dagmar asking that we support our Rector to attend the Clergy Conference in Pitlochry 2-5th November (cost to Vestries £360). This was approved by Vestry.
- An E-Mail has been received from Neil Rawlins (Carbon Projects and Data Officer, Scottish Episcopal Church) about a Scottish Government Pilot Fund available from 1st October to enable churches to reclaim back VAT via a grant, for eligible work such as repairs and Net Zero updating.
- Jayne (by email) asked that we discuss lone working policy for people opening and closing the church during spring and summer. We have a lone working policy, and most volunteers have someone who knows where they are and when they should be home. We also have the option of notifying the group on WhatsApp for this activity, that they are safely home.
- Joan has kindly given Julia training in Minister of the Word duties. Nicki to arrange a date with Jayne and Mandy for training in administering the chalice. Christine has agreed to join the property group with George and Kay.
- Kay met with Marcos Watt from Edinburgh Stained Glass about repairs to the small cracks in the West window in the hall as detailed in the last Quinquennial report. He proposed repairing in situ as they are minor. Kay has also met with Zoe from rainbow Glass and therefore hopes to obtain two quotes.
- Ross is looking for a suitable chain to improve the securing of the tables in the hall. Pentland Men's Shed have realigned the guttering by the corner of the Toy Shed which was spilling over and has rotted the shed. They will return to repair the shed itself.
- Nicki has contacted Sentry Electrics on 26 August and 3rd September about fixing the pulpit light and replacing bulbs in the church. They have not replied and so we don't have a date for this work. We are still waiting for a quote for the proposed Christmas lights.
- Rectory Net Zero work: The project of work for this was emailed to Vestry. This eliminates the need for replacing gas fires with electric as the electric heating should be sufficient. Scotia are visiting to provide a quote for the removal of all gas related equipment (often a requirement for grant approval). Ros (Tod and Taylor) is

submitting a planning application for the solar panels on the rectory. Nicki has been asked to break down the project into elements costing roughly £10,000 when applying for grants and then making multiple grant applications to maximise the possible grant funding obtainable. Vestry approved that this could go ahead.

- Church Net zero work: The Diocese will not approve the replacement of gas boilers and systems. We need 3 quotes to make grant applications. We are waiting for a quote from Darren (Climate Control Services) for air source heat pumps for the church and hall, with electric radiators for the smaller areas. Trust electric has provided a quote for heaters in the smaller areas (about £6000 inc. VAT) but not including the removal of existing radiators. Herschel (chandelier heaters) have provided an approximate cost of £92,801.23 on information they have been given for heaters for the church only. A site visit would cost £500. Nicki is meeting with Gemma Grogan from Heat save Scotland on Wednesday 16th September (She worked with Darren at Lasswade). This is to look at solar panels, insulation and grant applications. CMS (who are doing the rectory solar panels) are visiting on the 21st of September at 9am to look at fitting air source heat pumps and solar panels.
- Nicki has made an expression of interest to CARES, a Scottish Government Grant body, and has been informed that we meet the criteria. Nicki now needs to open an account with them once she knows Vestry is willing to take this work forward. They will offer up to 80% of £100K. Provincial Building Grants will not exceed 50% of the cost of the work (next deadline is November 17th). There are other grant givers on the SEC website and Gemma Grogan may give us further insight. Vestry approved that we should go ahead with getting quotes and applying for grants with the intention that we will go ahead with one of the companies to move to electric heating.
- **Mission Action Plan:** Year 1-Stabilise & Discern
  Hold a congregational vision day to clarify mission priorities-this was replaced with a vestry training day dedicated to mission. Review sustainable worship patterns and strengthen lay participation- training new MoW and Chalice Administrants. Launch low-cost community activities and create a welcome pathway- Art reach is beginning in October. (We had to postpone the newcomer's afternoon tea). Conduct a full financial review and launch a giving review. Begin discussions with the Diocese about future ministry models (Nicki thinks that the Diocese expects St Cuthbert's to maintain a full-time Rector as no concerns have arisen at DMMC (Diocesan Mission and Ministry Committee)).
- Nicki suggested that the agenda should have a regular 'Events Group' report to update us. Judith confirmed that we have Harvest lunch, a celebration after Harvest evensong, Christmas Fayre on November 28th and a Christmas Tea all planned for the coming months.
- AGM (22nd November)-Vestry membership:
  The longest serving member is Kay. We have lost Ian and Bryan from Vestry in recent months, and Esther will be standing down. Kay is now involved with property and has agreed to stay on for another term. We hope then to advertise for at least two more members. Both Judith and George are at the end of their time as wardens. Both George and Jean Wood would like to come back as a Vestry member. Nicki will appoint a Rector's Warden, but the People's Warden will be advertised. Andrew as Lay Rep. and Jean as Alternate Lay Rep. do not have time limits and have agreed to stay in post.
  Julia will have done 2 lots five years in November 2027 and has agreed to stay on for the final year. Heather will be asked if she is willing to stay on as Treasurer.
  Marie has sent out requests for reports for the Annual Report booklet.

The full minutes are available from the Vestry Secretary. An electronic version can be requested by email, contact: julia.roberts01@btinternet.com

Vestry Changes at the AGM –

Is God Calling You?

Could God be calling you to serve St Cuthbert's in a new way?

When we think about Vestry, we can sometimes think about meetings, finance and practical decisions. But Vestry is much more than that. It is an opportunity to help shape the life and mission of our church, to listen, to pray, to offer your gifts and experience, and to work together for the good of our congregation and our wider community.

You may never have considered standing for Vestry before. Perhaps you have wondered whether you have anything to offer, or whether you know enough about how the church works. You don't need to have served on Vestry before. What matters is a willingness to contribute, to listen, to work collaboratively and to support the Rector and mission and spiritual life of St Cuthbert's.

As we look ahead to our **AGM on Sunday 22 November**, there will be some changes to our Vestry. Nomination forms will be available at the back of the church for anyone who feels that God may be calling them to serve in this way.

If you would like to stand for election, you will need someone to **nominate you** and a **seconder** to support your nomination.

For information, Section 13 of our Constitution states:

“Duties of Vestry (and Churchwardens) - The Vestry shall ensure that the needs of the whole Church in regard to mission work at home and overseas and the other objects of the General Synod may receive the interest and support of the Congregation. The Vestry shall generally assist the Rector (subject always to his/her canonical rights and duties) in every way in their power in all matters affecting the spiritual welfare of the congregation.”

So, as you pray about the future our church, why not ask yourself: “Is God calling me to serve?”

If you feel you could support St Cuthbert’s as a Vestry Member, I would be very glad to hear from you. Please come and have a chat with me if you would like to know more.

Blessings, Nicki

Hi, my name is Lenore Simson and I’m in my 3rd year training for non-stipendiary ministry at the Scottish Episcopal Institute. I am delighted to have my placement with St. Cuthbert’s Church community and will be with you till around Easter next year. I grew up and still live on the Southside of Edinburgh but do have a connection to Colinton, my husband, Roddy, grew up here. We have a son who lives in Dunfermline and at home we are managed by two cats and a dog. Away from studying I enjoy music, playing bass clarinet in a community wind band. I look forward to getting to know you all in the weeks to come!

Lenore

Reflections for November from Revd Margaret.

November. What do our thoughts turn to at the start of this penultimate month of the calendar year? For us, as Christians, we recognise initially the commemoration of All Souls and the celebration of All Saints. Close on their heels comes the time to remember, across the nation, the sacrifice of so many lives in the First and Second World Wars and ensuing conflicts. Although primarily focussing on commemorating lives lost, the lasting effects on the lives, livelihoods and well-being of all those left to move forward across the years are also remembered.

In the environment around us there are noticeable physical changes appearing this month. Autumnal leaves are shed and the bare outlines of trees spread their arms skywards, presenting intricate traceries or dramatic shapes. God's incredible creation never fails to amaze. However, this is naturally accompanied by such features as falling temperatures, bitter winds, shorter days, longer nights and frosty mornings. Home from work, and for those of us retired, joy is found in cozy indoor times, with hot drinks, comfort food, warm rooms and snuggling into comfy jumpers and fleecy blankets or throws. Winter is truly upon us.

It is a month to savour, a month to appreciate all that God can offer us in every sense, despite the media bombarding us with their insistence that we need to prepare ourselves for Christmas, for organising food and drink for the Festive Season, and making sure we have bought all the (often unnecessarily expensive) gifts.

But I will turn now to our offerings at the monthly Thursday afternoon services. On Thursday November 5th (No! It will not refer to 'gunpowder, treason and plot!), I will be considering 'Saints of Every Ilk,' acknowledging that, although we are all God's saints, there are canonised saints whose feast days occur in November, ranging from the probably unknown to St. Andrew himself. Our ensuing Thursday afternoon service takes place on 3rd December. As we will then be into the liturgical season of Advent, we have chosen an appropriate but very different theme, 'The Advent Antiphons.' Intrigued? Then do come along to this, and indeed to all or any of our services, which are always followed by refreshments and fellowship in the Hall.
In the meantime, I hope that, in the constant and loving presence of our Lord, November will offer you joyous, pleasant and positive experiences, recognising that, alongside happy memories there may be times of distress and moments of sadness.

My love and blessings to you all,
Margaret. NSM.

MUSIC ARTICLE FOR NOVEMBER 2026

In the month of November, which opens with All Saints' / All Souls' and Remembrance Sunday, the music selected for the choir to sing is mostly meditative. The anthem chosen for the third Sunday of the month is a setting of the words of the famous eucharistic text by RL Peasall (1795-1856), who is chiefly remembered today for his arrangement of the carol *In Dulci Jubilo*. On the penultimate Sunday of the month, we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King with a transcription of Charpentier's famous *Te Deum*, also known as a Trumpet Voluntary, with words which celebrate Christ's Kingship, and we complete the month by moving into the "season of carols" with an Advent French carol taken from the Oxford Book of Carols.

1 November:	A Prayer of St Richard of Chichester	- LJ White
8 November:	A Prayer for Peace	- Margaret Rizza
15 November:	Ave verum corpus	- RL Pearsall
22 November:	Proclaim the story	- Charpentier
29 November (Advent):	People. Look east	- Besancon Carol

Philip Rossiter

St Cuthbert's Playgroup in the Church Hall

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

Play, craft, snack and sing

Only £2 per family

Art-Reach 8th October

Autumnal Felt craft

(& cake !)

JOIN US ON THURSDAY 12TH NOVEMBER

Art-Reach
St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church,
Westgarth Ave, Colinton
Enter through main church door
Thursday 12th November 10-12
Try your hand at stenciling
Come for Craft, Cake and Community !
All materials, instruction and refreshments provided
Book your place : artgroupstcuthberts@gmail.com

PHOENIX GROUP

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

THURSDAY 10 December
12.30pm for 1pm
at the KINGSKNOWE GOLF CLUB

We are very pleased to say that Caroline Seville is going to organise our Christmas Lunch this year. We thank Jean Myers for all her efficient and dedicated work on previous lunches and many other events throughout the years.

Caroline has booked our CHRISTMAS LUNCH for Thursday 10 December at the Kingsknowe Golf Club, 326 Lanark Road, EH14 2JD. There is a new catering team there now. Please come along from 12.30pm for 1pm.

Caroline will be circulating the Christmas Menu soon. We are just going to have 2 courses at a cost £27 plus a tip of £3 making a total of £30. This price does not include coffee, tea or drinks so these will have to be paid for separately. Thankfully deposits are not required this time.

Please book your place with Caroline and let her have your Menu Choices as soon as possible.

Caroline Seville and Margaret Kieran

ST. CUTHBERT'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Westgarth Avenue

PRAYERS FOR PEACE □

Join us as we come together in prayer
for peace in our hearts, our communities,
and our world.

"Blessed are the peacemakers"

Let us pray for:

- Peace among nations
- Comfort for those suffering
- Unity in our community
- Hope for the future

All are welcome

Last Tuesday of each month at Noon

NOVEMBER 2026 ROTAS

1st Nov	Welcome: Julia Roberts & Kay Dalley Reader: Andrew Daye Intercessor: Megan Emmerson Minister of word: Esther Srinvasulu
8th Nov	Welcome: Christine Nimmo Reader: Caroline Seville Intercessor: Joan Smith Minister of word: Julia Roberts
15th Nov	Welcome: Christine Sanderson Reader: Kate Emmerson Intercessor: Margaret Temple Minister of word: Margaret Temple
22nd Nov	Welcome: June & George Bungay Reader: Hilary Pritchard Intercessor: Roma Soderberg Ministry of Word : Wendy Pearson Ministrant: Mandy Johnston
29th Nov	Welcome: Christine Sanderson Reader: Kate Emmerson Intercessor: Lenore Simson Minister of word: Lenore Simson
6th Dec	Welcome: Christine Nimmo Reader: Caroline Seville Intercessor: Joan Smith Minister of word: Joan Smith

NOVEMBER 2026 READINGS
Taken from NRSV

1st November – All Saints (All Souls)

Revelation	7. 9-17
1 John	3. 1-3
Matthew	5. 1-12

8th November – Remembrance

Job	19. 21-27
1 Corinthians	15. 51-57
John	6. 37-40

15th November – Pentecost 25 (2nd Sunday before Advent)

Zephaniah	1. 7, 12-18
1 Thessalonians	5. 1-11
Matthew	25. 14-30

22nd November – Christ the King

Ezekiel	34. 11-16, 20-24
Ephesians	1. 15-23
Matthew	25. 31-46

29th November – Advent 1 (Year B)

Isaiah	64. 1-9
1 Corinthians	1. 3-9
Mark	13. 24-37

6th December – Advent 2

Isaiah	40. 1-11
2 Peter	3. 8-15a
Mark	1. 1-8

A More Personal All Souls

Sunday 1st November 2026

This year, following a suggestion from the Revd Jaakko, from Espoo, who preached at last year's All Souls service, we are going to make our All Souls remembrance a little more personal.

All Souls is a time when we remember with gratitude those we have loved and lost, and bring their names and memories before God. In the past, I have read out a long list of names during the service. This year, instead, everyone will have the opportunity to come forward, light a candle and name aloud the person or people they wish to remember.

For some, the loss may be very recent; for others, it may be many years ago. Either way, we all carry people we remember and love.

I hope this simple act of lighting a candle and speaking a name will give us space to remember, to give thanks, and to place those we love once again into God's loving hands.

THE SIGN MAGAZINE

Please note –

The deadline

for information and articles

for the

DECEMBER 2026 &

JANUARY 2027 issue

is

Sunday 15 November 2026

Please send to

stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com

Thank you!

‘THE SIGN’ Subscriptions 2027

‘Thank you to all our magazine subscribers.’

The Sign Magazine will continue to be sent by email each month. If you would like to be added to this email distribution list, please contact stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com

If you would like a PAPER copy of ‘The Sign’ magazine each month in 2027, starting with the February issue, subscriptions are due by 31 January 2027 please.

Annual Subscription Cost:- Paper copy £22

We value your continued support. If paying by cheque, please make payable to St Cuthbert’s Episcopal Church, and either hand in or send to: Church Administrator, c/o The Rectory, 6 Westgarth Avenue, Edinburgh, EH13 0BD.

If paying by cash, put in a clearly marked envelope and hand to one of the welcome team.

If you would like to pay by bank transfer, or for more details, please contact our Church Administrator – stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com

Forget me notes

At St. Cuthbert's,
Westgarth Avenue, Colinton

2pm – 4pm

Monday 2 November
Monday 16 November

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

A Thought About Giving

As we look ahead to another year at St Cuthbert's, I would like to ask us all to think and pray about our financial giving to the church.

We are entering an exciting period as we explore what it might mean to move both the Rectory and the church towards Net Zero. There will be costs involved in this work, even though we will be seeking grants and other sources of funding. We are also conscious that, alongside these projects, we need to continue meeting the ordinary costs of running and maintaining our church.

We are fortunate to have money in investments, which gives us some security and allows us to undertake some projects that would otherwise be difficult. However, investments are there to support the long-term life and mission of St Cuthbert's; they cannot be used indefinitely to cover the gap between what we receive in giving and what we spend each year. We need to make sure that our regular giving keeps pace with our regular outgoings.

As you think about your giving, please take some time to pray about it. If you already give by standing order, have you considered whether you might be able to increase it, even by a small amount?

Regular giving makes it much easier for us to budget and plan ahead, particularly when we know what income we can expect each month.

I also want to say very clearly that I understand that not everyone is in a position to increase their giving – and that is absolutely fine. We all have different circumstances, and Christian giving is not about comparing ourselves with anyone else. It is about responding prayerfully and generously to what we have been given.

Thank you to everyone who already gives regularly to St Cuthbert's, whether through a standing order, the collection plate or in other ways. Every gift, large or small, contributes to the life and ministry of our church.

As we consider the future of our buildings, our mission and our ministry, I hope we can also see our giving as part of that future – helping to ensure that St Cuthbert's remains a welcoming, worshipping and serving community for generations to come.

THE LEPROSY MISSION GREAT BRITAIN

Our next collection for the Leprosy Mission will be at the end of November – Sunday 29th being the last Sunday.

Heading towards the Advent season, may I draw your attention to the Leprosy Mission Shop – for Christmas cards and other attractive gifts, as well as the 'Gifts that Change Lives' dedicated to a friend by a card, including for example nurses' training, a walking frame, new bedding in hospital, bandages, specially fitted protective shoes. The website is at theleprosymissionshop.com

In the Prayer Diary for November, the focus is on Ethiopia. In recent years Ethiopia has experienced the worst famine for 40 years, and millions are facing a humanitarian crisis of climate change, poverty and violent clashes between armed groups. Leprosy and disability make life even harder. The lack of health care and awareness means that leprosy is spreading and many are diagnosed too late to prevent disability. We give thanks that health workers in rural regions are learning to recognise and treat the disease.

One story of hope is of 9 year old Elilii who lives in the Great Rift Valley. Elilii's uncle was diagnosed with leprosy by a health worker who had received specialist training through the Leprosy Mission. As part of the follow-up contact tracing process the whole family was checked. Signs of leprosy – discoloured skin patches- led to Elilii being diagnosed and given the tablets that would cure her. Soon there will be no sign that she ever had the disease. Elilii's experience has inspired her hope to become a doctor one day.

Please pray for the small Leprosy Mission Ethiopia team – for strength and wisdom for Bel, the country leader, as she guides them. There are other hopeful stories in the September issue of New Day at the back of the church – please take one.

Kay Dalley

Harmonies In Wood

Nicki recently visited Scott Irvine of Harmonies in Wood in Balerno, having discovered his beautiful work on Facebook. Pictures really don't do his work justice, but Scott very kindly made a special light catcher featuring a sketch of St Cuthbert's.

If you would like to purchase a light catcher or coaster, please let Nicki know and Scott will happily make one for you.

Light catcher on a card: £15, Coaster: £20

If you would like to see the St Cuthbert's light catcher before placing an order, just ask Nicki.

Help Mary's Meals feed more children this Christmas

This Christmas we can help to provide life-changing school meals to children living in some of the world's poorest countries.

I'm hosting a stall at the **Christmas Fair on 28tth November** and all money raised will go to **Mary's Meals**. The charity, which started in Scotland, is tackling child poverty and hunger through the promise of a daily school meal.

Sadly, around 45 million children around the world suffer from severe malnutrition and 78 million primary-age children don't go to school, instead having to beg or work to survive. Mary's Meals works in 16 countries around the world, providing daily school meals to children most in need. These meals encourage them into the classroom, where they can also learn and build a better future.

It costs just £19.15 to provide a child with meals for a whole school year and the stall will raise much needed funds for the charity.

You can help in two ways – firstly by giving donated items for the stall and by coming along on the day and buying or giving a financial donation.

If you have any items you would like to donate, please can you give them to me or my husband George by Sunday November 22nd.

Many thanks in advance.

June Bungay

(07905 952125 //email address jrbungay@hotmail.co.uk)

the colinton & merchiston community choir

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Please join us for our CHRISTMAS CONCERT at 8pm in the MEMORIAL HALL on MONDAY 7 DECEMBER when we will be singing Mendelssohn's "CANTATA : VOM HIMMEL HOCH", "THE SHEPHERDS" by Rheinberger, " IN TERRA PAX" by Finzi and a delightful selection of CHRISTMAS CAROLS, some with audience participation.

The door will open at 7.30 pm. Tickets £10 or £5 for under 18's will be available in advance from choir members or at the door (cash only).

Margaret Kieran on behalf of the Choir

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Fresh Start
helping people make a home for themselves

A BIG thank you to all those who supported our Fresh Start Collection on Saturday 10th October. What stood out was the appreciation from folk in the wider Colinton community of an opportunity from St Cuthberts' to give generously to those living on the edge. We had a steady stream of people and are delighted to report that a full van left Westgarth on Monday morning, heading to the Fresh Start warehouse in North Edinburgh. *Many thanks, Wendy Pearson*
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Christmas Fayre

Saturday 28 November 2026

Tombola Stall

We are delighted to have lots of different stalls booked into our Christmas Fayre and we would like once again to have a church Tombola Stall as this has always been a great success.

We hope to have a wide range of good quality items and any contributions for this stall will be most welcome.

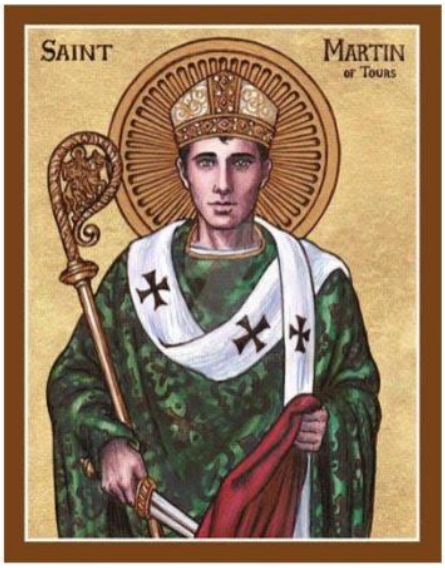
Please put your contributions into the red box at the back of church, or speak to Judith Mackintosh or Joan Smith.

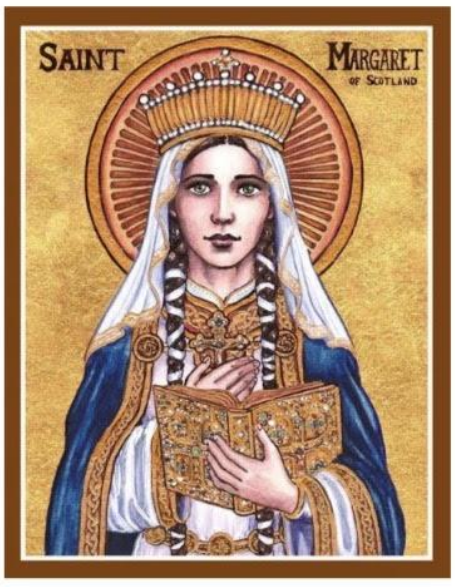
Thank you!

Thursday Afternoon Service

November 5th, 2026

Saints of Every Ilk





Please join us for this short informal service

Future services: December 3rd, 2026 and January 7th, 2027

“Lest We Forget… victims of war today”
Remembrance Sunday

Christian Aid bread and soup lunch
Sunday 8st November, in the church hall, directly after church.

Use the Christian Aid envelopes provided for your donations.

Remember the 25% Gift Aid!

PS Please also bring a single £1 coin to join in the Welcome Game fun!

“Lest We Forget… victims of war today”

It seems appropriate on Remembrance Sunday that our first Christian Aid Bread and Soup Lunch for some years should be offering our St Cuthbert’s Family a chance to give generously in the name of those suffering in war torn parts of the world now. We are all aware there are many places crying out for emergency support, for peace and for justice, and your money will be divided between two community led responses: in Ukraine and in The Middle East. All funds raised through the Ukraine appeal will go to the Ukrainian-led Pooled Fund, which provides flexible funding to trusted local civil society organisations responding to urgent humanitarian and early recovery needs. By placing decision-making in the hands of communities themselves, the fund ensures support remains relevant, accountable, and rooted in local priorities—now and for the long term.

And why The Middle East? Following the escalation of the conflict across the Middle East in February 2026, when Israel and the US launched air strikes on Iran, people in Gaza said they feared running out of food. With most crossings closed, the price of goods doubled in days. And with attention elsewhere, reports of Israeli armed settler violence against Palestinians increased immediately in the West Bank, according to Israeli human rights group B'Tselem, a Christian Aid partner. Christian Aid partners in Lebanon said so many people had been displaced due to Israeli bombing and evacuation orders that there was ‘no space left in Beirut's shelters’. They said it was impossible to evacuate priority cases, such as older people with disabilities and chronic health issues. Lebanon does not have enough resources to help everyone who has been displaced. Even before the recent escalation, 874,000 people in Lebanon lacked food. Many will not be able to return to their homes for many months, if at all. Our partners across the Middle East need our support more than ever as they rapidly assess how they can best help those affected and scale-up their work.

If you are unable to attend the lunch, please make use of the envelopes available in church.

Thursday Afternoon Service

Advent Antiphons

December 3rd, 2026 at 2.30pm

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, January 7th and Thursday, February 4th

Save the Date

Christmas Fayre

St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church

Westgarth Avenue

Saturday 28 November 2026

2pm – 5pm

Gifts, cards, handicrafts and more

Browse the stalls

Buy for Christmas

Enjoy a cup of tea and a mince pie

Admission FREE

Scottish Charity Number SC007578

Save the Date

CHRISTMAS TEA

Saturday 12 December 2026

at 3.00pm – 5.00pm

St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church

Westgarth Avenue

Enjoy a delicious afternoon tea with a Christmas theme

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

"SAVE THESE DATES"

St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church, Colinton
(Additional to our usual weekday and Sundays)

Sunday 6 December - 5.00pm
Celebrating Switching on Christmas Lights in the Garden
with Carols, Refreshments and Children's activity

Sunday 20 December at 5pm
Nine Lessons and Carols
Followed by Prosecco from Nicki & Iain

Thursday 24th December at 3pm
Crib Service

Thursday 24th December at 11.30pm
Midnight Mass

Friday 25th December at 10.30am
Family Eucharist

Traditional Burn's Night Supper

22nd January 2027

St. Cuthbert's Episcopal
Church Hall, Westgarth Avenue

Begins at 7pm

£32 a ticket (3 course dinner)
Tables of 8
Bring Your Own Bottle
(and take your empties home please)

Raising funds for the church

Food, fundraising & fun!

For tickets contact Nicki
stcuthbertsrector@gmail.com

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** *christinenimmo@btinternet.com*	*445 3053*
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** *Julia.roberts01@btinternet.com*	*441 4965*
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**	
Fresh Start	**Wendy Pearson** *wendypearson37@gmail.com*	
Christian Aid	**Wendy Pearson**	
Phoenix Group	**Margaret Kieran**	*445 3751*
St. Raphael's Rep.	**Judith Mackintosh**	*443 1313*
Vestry Members *	George Bungay, Jayne Churchill, Kay Dalley, Andrew Daye, Megan Emmerson, Mandy Johnston, Judith Mackintosh, Julia Roberts, Christine Sanderson	

But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:31

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:

Wednesday:
10.30am Said Eucharist

First Thursday of each month:
2.30pm An informal service for all

Last Tuesday of each month:
12 noon Prayers for Peace

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