



LOGIE & ST. JOHN'S (CROSS) PARISH CHURCH

NEWSLETTER No.20

Last Sunday I wasn't at home to join in our weekly Zoom coffee chats. I was driving along the banks of Loch Awe and lucky enough to be able to stop and visit St. Conan's Kirk. <https://www.stconanskirk.org.uk/> Described as Argyll's hidden gem it is indeed a beautiful church. Originally built in the late 1880s and extended in the 1920s, it no longer offers regular worship but does still play a part in the community and is available for wedding ceremonies.



The website explains that although it is one of the most popular visitor attractions in Argyll, the surprising size of the Kirk means you can feel you have the place to yourself regardless of how many others are around. On Sunday we did have the place to ourselves which made it even more special. Yes, we wandered and took photographs but there was time to stand quiet and marvel at our surroundings, to give thanks for all the beauty that surrounded us. It stirred memories of a hymn from my younger days.....

For the beauty of the earth,
For the beauty of the skies
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies
*Christ, our God to thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise*

WORSHIP

This week, Sunday 9th August, our worship will be led by Jim MacDonald. Jim's reflection will centre around 2 Chronicles 20:1-19



Zoom Connect coffee and chat continues each Sunday at 11.45am. Details on how to join are on the website.

(Remember to bring your own cuppa ☺)

FOR OUR YOUNG MEMBERS (AND YOUNG AT HEART)



This week schools return. For some of you that will be exciting and and for some less so. It's been a long, long time since you were together with your classmates and teachers and school won't be exactly the same as it was when you were last there. Coronavirus means that there are new rules you will have to be aware of but a lot will be the same. Like the start of any new term you will have new teachers, maybe new classmates and I suspect you will have been 'Back to School' shopping. Have you got new school shoes, a new school bag, new pens and pencils? And is everything labelled with your name?

It's important that you label your belongings in case you lose them. And as you start back to school it's important to remember that you belong to God and that he has labelled you. Now we can't see that label but as followers of Jesus we belong to God and are a part of his family and he wants us to make a difference for Him. Just as your pencil leaves a mark in your jotter when you write God wants us to make a mark. In school this week how will you make your mark? Will you.....

....Be kind to your friends? Listen to your teachers? Try your best? Remember to do your homework? Pray for your friends?

Dear God

Thank you for looking after our school

Thank you that you love every teacher, every pupil and all who work there

Help us to learn, to play and to share together

And keep us safe

Amen

PASTORAL CARE

If you are, or know of anyone else, in need of immediate pastoral care please contact our Session Clerk, Mike Duffy by emailing sessionclerk@logies.org

RETURN TO OUR CHURCH

As you will be aware the Scottish Government has said that with safeguards and appropriate risk assessments Church of Scotland buildings can open for worship. Some of our local churches have already begun to do so whilst others are still planning. As intimated a couple of weeks ago, our Property Convenor and Health and Safety Administrator (Alex Duncan and Frances Dent) have begun to plan for the opening of Logie & St. John's (Cross) and, following discussions at the Kirk session meeting this week, that day is getting closer. We now need to prepare the church. We want to ensure that our preparations make the building as safe as possible. Amongst a list of things to do the cushions will need to be removed from the pews, surfaces cleaned, sanitizing areas identified, appropriate signage put in place, and designated areas for seating identified but we hope that by the end of this month we will have a date for opening.

We will send you further information soon. Of course our online recorded worship will still be available and we appreciate that, for some, returning to our building may not be possible in the immediate future. Church is much more than the building.