

# The Net

The Magazine of Priestfield Parish Church, Edinburgh  
*Living in the Way of Jesus*



Priestfield Parish Church is a Registered Scottish Charity No. SC014499

Web: <http://priestfield.org.uk>

Minister: Rev Donald Scott



*Dear friends,*

“The kirk’s eye looking for money!”

That’s a view often held by those who don’t come to church and never give to help its work.

I saw a youtube clip recently where a Church of England vicar was telling of an experience he’d had a year or two ago.

He was on a plane to New York, and the lady next to him was making polite conversation.

“What is it you do?” She asked.

He admitted that sometimes when you tell people you’re a vicar (or minister!) it shuts the conversation down.

So he said, “I work for a very large multi-national organisation in the field of human resourcing.”

“That sounds interesting!” said his neighbour.

“Yes,” he said, “we run all manner of facilities giving care from cradle to grave. We do family support, counselling, healthcare, elderly care, youth clubs, playgroups, work with the homeless, addiction support, education,.. there’s very few areas of human life we are not involved in.

“Wow!” Said his neighbour, “That’s fantastic!”

“Yes,” he said, “and we’ve representatives in practically every country on the planet, and branches in almost every community across the land!”

“I must have heard of you,” she said. “What are you called?”

The church in all its forms is a vital resource for people's lives and for communities. When we step back and look at the scope of what we do in Christ's name, it is truly breath taking.

However... we need help just now! Many of the ways we raise some extra finance for our work can't happen at the moment - hall lets, coffee mornings, rental from weddings and funerals are all severely curtailed.

Can you look closely at your current givings, and see whether it might be possible to give a little more?

We've a lot of work to do, especially just now. Thank you for helping.

Your friend,



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# Gift Day

As for all churches, 2020 is proving a difficult year financially for Priestfield. Even before the COVID pandemic hit, we had been looking at a deficit for the year of around £20,000 unless a sizeable amount could be raised from a Gift Day.

We are exceedingly grateful to all of you who have been able to continue with your usual level of weekly or monthly giving to the work of God in our church. However, with the church building closed for so many months, our income from the external groups who share our premises has been very significantly depleted. We have "core" monthly costs of around £7,000 per month whether the building is open or closed. The outcome is that without a Gift Day, we would now be expecting a deficit of closer to £25,000.

The Kirk Session has therefore agreed that **a Gift Day will be held on 1 November.**

Gifts including cash or cheques (made out to Priestfield Parish Church) can be brought to church in an envelope marked "Gift Day", if you plan to attend that morning. If you are part of the Gift Aid scheme, please remember to include your name with your gift so that we can claim back tax from the government. Alternatively, donations can be made directly to the church bank account, referenced "Gift Day".

Please contact Fiona Ferguson or Andrew Steven if you would like us to call round for your donation or if you need the bank details.

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## Blythswood Shoe Boxes



Despite and because of all the difficulties due to the pandemic, there is still a shoebox campaign this year. There is an even greater need for the boxes as people in Central Europe are in greater need due to the shortage of work because of restrictions. If you are able find a shoe box and cover it or use a shoe bag (not plastic), either download a leaflet from the Blythswood website or ask me for one and fill up the box or bag. **We will collect in the boxes during the first week of November.** Let me know and we will pick them up from your house.

*Diane Cross*



<https://blythswood.org/shooboxappeal/>

Over the spring and early summer, we had three Messy Church events online, produced by our Messy Church team.

From now up until Christmas we will have another three Messy Church events, one each month. Every Friday, just in time for the weekend, we'll be posting stories, activities and songs on the Priestfield Church Facebook page.

During October we'll be looking at David and Goliath.

Have a look!



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## Remembrance

### **8 November is Remembrance Sunday.**

This year, because of COVID restrictions on gathering together, we'll have to do things differently.

We hope to arrange the laying of wreaths at the war memorial on Prestonfield Avenue, which we'll record and post on our Facebook page for everyone to see and reflect upon.

*Keep an eye on Facebook for details.*

