

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

We continue to meet for 20 minutes of collective silent prayer in the Mitchel Chapel every Friday at 12 noon. In these times of conflict and anxiety across the world, we are reminded peace lives within us and is for sharing with all.

Parish Grouping – What's On:

ST MARY'S

Concert – Northern Lights Singers – Sunday 8th December at 2.30pm

ST STEPHENS

Mondays - new dance class for 55+, 10.30-11.30 - £20.00 per month

Wednesdays- Chatterbox - drop in cafe 10am-12noon

OLDMACHAR

Fridays - Community Cafe 10am-12noon. Adults £4.00 Children £2.00 which includes unlimited tea, coffee and snacks.

1st Saturday of every month - Ladies breakfast 9-10.30am - a relaxed friendly breakfast with a guest speaker chatting for a short while.

St Machar's Cathedral

Sunday 24th November 2024

SERVICES

Sunday 1st December 2024	11am Morning Worship with Rev Bill Smith 6pm Evening Worship with Rev Mark Rodgers
Sunday 8th December 2024	11am Morning Worship with Rev Sarah Brown 6pm Evening Worship with Rev Sarah Brown
Sunday 15th December 2024	11am Morning Worship with Rev Sarah Brown 6pm Evening Worship with Rev Sarah Brown

OUR CONTACT DETAILS

Office (Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri am): 01224 485988 – office@stmachar.com

Minister: Rev Sarah Brown – sarah.brown@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Alan Grant – a.bryce.grant47@gmail.com

***** *CATHEDRAL EVENTS and CONCERTS* *****

WOMAN'S GROUP COFFEE MORNING



With November coming to an end, winter is creeping closer.

Our next coffee morning will be on **Wednesday 27th November** - this will be our last coffee morning till March.

We will be in the West Gatehouse between **10.30am and 12 noon** as usual. Looking forward to seeing you all again.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Congratulations to Alex Loyo, one of our beadles, on receiving the Joe Swierzbinski Prize for Best Postgraduate Dissertation in Economics for his Masters at the University of Aberdeen. Well done, Alex!

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN CAROL SERVICE

The University of Aberdeen Carol Service is on **Wednesday 4th December at 7.30pm**

ORGAN RECITAL

St Machar's Cathedral

Old Aberdeen, AB24 1RQ

Sunday 24th November 2024 - 4pm

Presented By:

Angus & Finlay Donohoe

Introduced By:

Dr Roger Williams MBE

*Featuring the works of Léon Boëllmann, Girolamo Frescobaldi,
Johann Sebastian Bach, Johann Ludwig Krebs, Hendrik Andriessen,
Flor Peeters and more...*

*Free admission - Retiring collection in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support
Dedicated to the memory of Iane Leatherbarrow*

Saturday 30 November 2024

7:30 p.m. St Machar's Cathedral

Music from Eastern Europe

Aberdeen Bach Choir - Musical Director Paul Tierney

Kamil Mika - organ

Catriona Hewitson (Soprano)

Lea Katherine Shaw (Mezzo-Soprano)

Sam Marston (Tenor)

Ross Cumming (Baritone)

Tickets are now on sale from [Ticketsource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/), priced at £16, with concessions at £5 for under 26 years old (booking fee applies) and free for under 16 years old accompanied by an adult.

SCOTTISH ENSEMBLE

Concerts by Candlelight – Saturday 7th December at 7pm – in the depths of winter, warm your soul and explore a rich selection of music in some of Scotland's most atmospheric settings. Enjoy melodies that weave between past and present, combining seamlessly to create a beautiful sonic tapestry.

Scottish Ensemble are a pioneering collective of musicians who champion music for strings. Their annual Concerts by Candlelight tour offers moments of stillness, contemplation and a captivating musical adventure.

A 75 minute performance including...

Pēteris Vasks – *Musica Adventus*, Movements 1 & 4

Caroline Shaw – *Stem* from *The Evergreen*

Kaija Saariaho – *Sept Papillons*, Movement 4

Arvo Pärt – *O Weisheit* from *Seven Magnificat-Antiphons*

Johann Sebastian Bach – *Gott, durch deine Güte* and Movement 1 from Violin concerto in E major

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart – *Adagio* from *Gran Partita*

Hannah Kendall – *And at pains to temper the light* (World Premiere)

ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ???

Wednesday, 11th December at 7.30pm

Chris Collins (conductor)

Chaminade: Callirhoë Suite

Dukas: The Sorcerer's Apprentice

Mendelssohn: A Midsummer Night's Dream Overture

Ravel: Ma Mère l'Oye

Suk: Scherzo Fantastique

General admission: £17

Students & under 26: £5

Over 60s: £9.50

Tickets must be purchased online or by cash at the door

AUTUMN EDUCATION OFFICER NEWS



IONA TRIP 2025

We are hoping to take a church group to Iona 23rd-29th August. The cost of the trip is £792 (bed and full board) and transport is additional, with the possibility of using public transport for those who are eligible for free transport.

The Iona Community provide "community" accommodation, with shared bedrooms and communal bathroom facilities. The rhythm of the day includes shared meals, worship at 9am and 9pm in the Abbey Church, a morning of programmed activities and some free time in the afternoons. As part of community life, we take a share in household chores, of light cleaning or meal preparation.

A week on Iona provides opportunity to energise your own faith, to meet new people and to experience a different way of life and worship. Please speak to Sarah or Stuart, if you would like to know more or would like to sign up to come. If finances are a restriction, there are options to support paying in instalments or a bursary.

If you want to confirm a place, please contact Carol in the office before 30th November 2024.

There have been lots of young people in the Cathedral this autumn. In the October holidays we welcomed about sixty families to our **Family Fun Sessions**. The craft table with DIY autumnal wreath decorations was popular, foraging first for leaves in the Kirkyard. Children hunted for miniature shields around the building and made clay shields to take home. The more dramatic participants – of all ages - enjoyed a rail of costumes to dress up in.

Thanks to Roger and Stuart whose tours around the organ and invitation to play led to large, excited queues. Thanks to Ian and Susan in the belltower and Sandy in the Charter Room whose activities were equally popular. Appreciation for the good-hearted support from our beadies and volunteers. Watch out for more family sessions in the week after Christmas.

Friday Crafts – In early October we had a positive first craft night in the south aisle and four of us put together materials and information for Baby Loss Awareness Week (9-15th Oct) and re-vamped the prayer table. We are having another evening in the Cathedral on **Monday 25th November at 18.30** to move on to Advent and Christmas – so please join us then. Further details just email me.

In the **Kirkyard**, after the end of year cut, we have been planting bulbs and some wildflowers including foxgloves and Red Campion plug plants. If you would like to join our team, please be in touch. **Shout out** – we need border forks, spades, secateurs or trowels. Tools no longer needed in working condition would be gratefully received. In November Remembrance school visits and **poppy making** have been centre stage. Hopefully, you will admire the hanging 3D poppy books created by S3 History pupils at St Machar's Academy and the poppy photos in the Mitchell Chapel from Braehead Primary. Church members, visitors and school children have made the individual poppies. Thanks to all those who have taken part, helped with the display and donated resources. This year we focused on white poppies for peace and purple poppies for animals that died serving in wars as well as the traditional red poppy.

We have had a busy autumn with **school visits**. From senior pupils from St Machar's Academy studying Travel and Tourism and Bucksburn Academy pupils through to multiple classes from St Joseph's, Sunnybank, St Margaret's and St Peter's Primary schools. Thanks to the team of volunteers who have made this work possible. We are holding a 'thank you' afternoon tea for education volunteers in the west gatehouse on **Thursday 21st November at 14.30** – so if you would like to join our team please come along and find out more then.

Katherine Williams education@stmachar.com

BIBLE STUDY 2025

We are beginning a new bible study on the 2nd Sunday of the month in 2025, beginning in January. This will hopefully be an opportunity to deepen your faith by exploring scripture together. It will be chance to stretch our imaginations and build friendships.

Dates for your diary will be:

12th January; 9th February; 9th March; (no April meeting); 11th May; 8th June; (no meetings in July and August); 14th September; 12th October; 9th November and 14th December.

The group will meet in the Mitchel Chapel at 12.30pm for an hour. All are welcome to attend.

If you have suggestions of topics/texts you would like to explore or would like to assist in leading one of the weeks please let me know.

Rev Sarah Brown

CONCERT VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED!!

We have some extra Candlelight concerts arranged and would therefore appreciate some more volunteers to help on the following dates:

Wednesday 18th December

Saturday 28th December

Please contact the office if you can help or for more information.

Remember – you also get to enjoy the concerts!!

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP AT KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL

All are invited to join in the services of Wednesday Worship at 5.15 pm each week in term time in the University Chapel.

Do come along and enjoy this time of spiritual nourishment, which is followed by tea/coffee and biscuits - sustenance for the body as well as the soul!

CROSS REACH INITIATIVE

The woman's group are appealing for donations of any unwanted wool and buttons to enable us to knit Twiddle Muffs. These are for use with some patients in local care homes. Wool can be left at the shop The knitting pattern is available in the cathedral if any knitters would like to help.



CATHEDRAL SHOP



Have a look at the Cathedral Shop after the service – we have a new series of cards depicting the pulpit falls made by Ruth Lough. We have copies of the Friends of St Machar's book – A Living History.

We also have Christmas Cards, ornaments, chocolates, jewellery, scarves, 2025 calendars and various other gift ideas.