

# **Church Family Notices**

## Date: Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## Morning Worship 10:00 am

## Today's reading: Luke 13 verses 31 - 35

Worship in Dunscore Church is for everyone regardless of age, nationality, status, or ability. You will be made most welcome at our services. If you can't make it to our Sunday services, you can join online at this link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86939887756</u>

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER:

As we rush through Lent, the Sundays become vital pit-stops for us. Not just because they are Holy Days and not Fast Days, but because they help us re-set for the week ahead. An opportunity to come before God, to meet with Him, to pray, to praise, to listen. An opportunity to be with others on the same journey of faith, those who struggle, those who doubt, those who are sad, lonely, isolated for the rest of the week.

Coming together is an integral part of following Christ. I have heard it explained thus: As we travel the way with Jesus, the road narrows and we are put into closer contact with those also on that path, but we are not distracted or knocked off our stride as we focus on Jesus, walking with us, ahead of us, guiding and leading His People through life's turmoil. Indeed, walking shoulder to shoulder with our brothers and sisters helps us hold our position on the narrow path, protecting us from wandering, nudging us forward as a body, Christ's Body.

Next Sunday we hold our Annual Congregational Meetings – a chance to see what God has been doing over 2024, a chance to thank God for His provision along the way, a chance to look forward to what lies ahead (known and unknown), a chance to re-commit to the Mission and Ministry of the Church. It is not a Sunday 'off', but an integral part of our togetherness in Christ. Let's re-capture the vitality and vital-ness of Sundays together – join us!

God Bless,

Mark

PS: I'm 'off' this coming week so please contact Nan Tait (Moniaive 200403) or Rev Tim Harmer (Dunscore 820861) if you need any help or information.

**PRAYER THEME** – Ask God to help you Resist, Prepare, and Remember in faith.

#### PRAYER FOR LENT

Father God, thank You for your Word, an effective weapon that equips us for survival.

We give thanks for the unshakeable truths on which we can stand firm.

Lord Jesus, we praise You for always watching over us, through good times, bad times and desert times.

Thank You that when we falter all we need do is cry out to You and we are heard.

Holy Spirit, thank You that no matter what hardships we encounter, whatever dry wilderness places we may find ourselves in, You always guide us through.

We praise You for the angelic help we receive in times of weariness from neighbours, friends, colleagues or strangers.

Father, Son, Holy Spirit, thank You for helping us to survive and thrive.

#### COMING SOON:

Thursday 20 March: 7:30 pm – Connect Bible Study at Dunscore Church. All most welcome!

Sunday 23 March: Stated Annual Meeting for the congregation follows the 10:00 am service

**ECO SNIPPET** (these are prepared each week by members of our Eco Group): **Reduce Food Waste**: Food waste is a significant contributor to environmental degradation and is a huge problem in the U.K. Plan meals carefully and buy only what you need. By storing food correctly and composting organic waste, you can minimise the amount of food that ends up in landfills. This not only reduces waste but also saves money on groceries, so it is a easy win-win!

**PLANT SALE:** The Plant Sale this year will take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May at the Glenriddel Hall. There will be the usual stalls of plants, books, bric-a-brac with teas etc. All donations will be gratefully received. Contact Mary Waugh 820301 if you want to help or donate.

**HYMN / SONG CHOICES:** If you have a favourite hymn or worship song, please send it to Mark and he will include it in a future service. This might not be immediately but will be included when the service theme is appropriate.

**CHURCH FAMILY NOTICES:** If you have anything that you would like to be included in next week's CFNs please send it to Matthew at auchenage@gmail.com by noon on Friday.

Contact Us
Minister Rev Mark RS Smith 801387 820475 07762 152755 Amark.smith@churchofscotland.org.uk
Session Clerk Colin Mitchell 🕋 01387 820455
Find Us On dunscorechurch.org.uk
To receive these Church Family Notices, links to service recordings and Dunscore Church information by email, click this link: <a href="http://eepurl.com/ds0gzi">http://eepurl.com/ds0gzi</a>
Registered Scottish Charity: SC016060 Congregation Number: 080454