



ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, OBAN

ST JAMES, ARDBRECKNISH & KILBRANDON

November 23rd Christ the King



Every Sunday
2nd & 4th Sundays
3rd Sunday
Wednesdays
Thursdays

10.15am
5pm
5.15pm
11am
10am

Cathedral Sung Eucharist
Fellowship @ 5 Informal worship in the Narthex
Cathedral Evensong
Shorter Cathedral Eucharist
Morning Prayer

ST JAMES ARDBRECKNISH
EPISCOPAL EUCHARIST IN KILBRANDON

Next service in St James tbc
Dec 7 @ 3.30pm with Provost Margi

SUNDAY NOV 23

10.15am

CHRIST THE KING

Sung Eucharist

Celebrant: Canon Paul Preacher: Provost Margi

Fellowship @ 5

5pm

Mon 24

7pm

Oban Gaelic Choir Winter Concert (details below)

Tue 25

2-4pm

Crafting the St Conans Tree... join Margi in preparing the Tree for the the Treefest—no skills needed, just help!

Wed 26

11am

Shorter Eucharist followed by coffee

12.45pm

Sitting with Silence (see poster)

6.30pm

Climate Café (see poster)

Thu 27

10am

Morning Prayer

10.30am

Coffee and Chat

7pm

Cathedral Choir Practice

Fri 28

11am

Celebration of Life for the Revd Ian McFarlane

All are warmly invited to attend.

7-8pm

George Cringles gives 'An Hour at the Organ' of St Columbas RC Cathedral in aid of our Organ—please do join him.

Sat 29

7-9pm

St Andrew's Eve Celebration (see poster)

Bookings in by Wed 26th for catering purposes

SUNDAY NOV 30

10.15am

1st Sunday of ADVENT

Sung Eucharist

FOR ALL ADVENT REFLECTIONS/ SERVICES please see page 2

TO NOTE Core Fire will be repairing and testing the Cathedral Fire Alarm system on Tue Dec 2nd—access may be restricted.

We expect the Chairlift to be finally repaired and fit for use following engineers visit on Mon Dec 8th—access may be limited.

Join the fundraising team for a

Holly Tea

St John's Cathedral



An AMAZING £650
made on the day

Still some home baking etc available to purchase on Sunday to take the total higher! Huge thanks to all organisers, helpers and supporters!



Stunning
new total

...See page 3 ...

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL, OBAN

Fellowship @ 5

All Welcome for
music, prayer
& discussion
with food

Every 2nd & 4th Sundays
5pm
St John's, Narthex, George Street

#inclusive #open #informal

SC016664

CLIMATECAFÉ
OBAN

Scotland's Climate Change Plan

A space to discuss the Scottish government proposals for cutting carbon emissions

Come to find out more and lend your voice to the consultation

Wednesday 26th November
18.30-20.00
St John's Cathedral, George Street

TIME FOR
CHANGE

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL | MONDAY
24TH NOVEMBER | 7.00PM

CÓISIR GHÁIDHLIG AN ÓBAIN
OBAN GAELIC CHOIR

Winter Concert

CUIRM-CIÙIL AIG AN FHEIS GHÉAMHRAIDH

Come and join us for an evening of songs and tunes, including our most recent Mod performance pieces.

Tiocaidean/Tickets:
£10/£5

oban WINTER FESTIVAL

SC041027

The Christmas Tree Festival 2025

Including a Tree from St John's Cathedral:
Looking through the tinsel to find....

Over 70 Decorated Trees!
Vote for Your Favourite

Carols, Organ, Choirs, Bands details on FB & Website
10th Anniversary Elfexclusive!
Hot Drinks & Home Baking Festive Raffle

Frid 28, Sat 29, Sun 30 Nov
10am-6pm daily
St Conan's Kirk, Lochawe, PA33 1AQ

Friends of St Conan's Kirk, SC00 SC05 SC06
Entry by Donation

ST ANDREWS
EVE

SATURDAY 29TH NOV
7pm-9pm

Share a meal together in the Narthex

FISH CHOWDER or
VEGETABLE CASSEROLE (Veg/Vegan)
CRANACHAN or APPLE CRUMBLE (Veg/Vegan)

With 'Am I telling the Truth?'
Come with a fact—true or false about your life
and see whether we can tell...

DONATIONS to cover costs / PROCEEDS TO ORGAN APPEAL

LIMITED NUMBERS: NEED TO BOOK—FORM IN CATHEDRAL

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL, OBAN.

Sitting with Silence

WEDNESDAY NOV 26TH
12.45PM—1.30PM

A time for silent reflection
in the Lady Chapel
with short guided introduction

Meet afterwards in the narthex
to eat byo lunches together

ADVENT 2025

The Great O Antiphons are a series of short verses which count down the days to Christmas Eve. Traditionally sung at the beginning and end of the Magnificat during Evensong, each antiphon begins with a different name for Jesus, best known from the verses from 'O come, O come Emmanuel....'. They draw on Scripture to help us learn about who Jesus will be, as foretold by the prophets. These will form the basis of much of our reflecting this Advent.



ADVENT BOOK

FOR PERSONAL READING

AVAILABLE: AMAZON, EDEN, CHURCH HOUSE BOOKS AROUND £9.99

This beautifully illustrated, full-colour daily Advent companion explores the ancient biblical names and images for the coming Messiah familiar to most people from the hymn, 'O come, O come Emmanuel'.

Well-known writers offer a total of twenty-four reflections, one for each weekday of the four weeks of Advent. The writers each offer three reflections on one of the seven antiphons: O Wisdom, O Adonai,

O Root of Jesse, O Key of David, O Morning Star, O King of the Nations, O Emmanuel. Lastly, there are three reflections on the Magnificat – Mary's Song – which the antiphons have been heard alongside since at least the eighth century. *Each day includes the text of the antiphon from Common Worship, a Scripture reading exploring its biblical roots, paintings of the antiphon as a focus for meditation, a reflection, a challenge to ponder and an Advent prayer. Contributors include Jane Williams, Chris Russell, Esther Prior, Philip North, Muthuraj Swamy, Tanya Marlow, David Hoyle and Lucy Winket.*

ADVENT COMPLINE & HOT CHOCOLATE

THUR DEC 4TH @ 6PM THURS DEC 11TH @ 6PM..... TUES DEC 16TH @ 6PM..... SUNDAY 21ST @ 5.15PM
Quiet reflection through the beautiful words of Compline, with Taize Chant and reflections from the Advent Book above....Hot Chocolate available afterwards

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

During Advent there will be images of 7 Antiphons—names of Jesus—in the Cathedral to reflect on. They will offer all who worship in or visit the Cathedral, to reflect on who the coming Christ is, who this child we will welcome at Christmas, can be for us in our lives today.

ADVENT ART

Listening Art afternoon

....on the theme of "waiting" in advent.

Art can be a wonderful way of communicating (both listening and sharing) with God beyond words. It is not about creating masterpieces, but about allowing images to emerge that can offer you new insights and be turned into prayer. You do not need to be an artist. There will be some guidance. Just come, use some art materials like acrylic paints, collage making, chalks, glue etc and enjoy the process, play and be open to let the art-making speak to you.

With Ina Watson.

Friday 12th December

2-4pm

St. John's Cathedral Oban
George Street.

'Perhaps the time has come when we learn to play with God...as well as pray with God. And in our play...true prayer will emerge,' M. Fox - a priest & theologian.



ADVENT SERVICES



During each of our
**EUCCHARISTIC
SERVICES**
from Advent 1

on Sunday November 30th and Wednesdays, we will reflect through our readings, prayers and music as we WAIT for the MESSIAH....expecting, hoping, longing for the reign of hope, peace, joy, and love.

In our waiting we will pray that God's coming in Christ will stir our hearts to be ready to hear the song of the angels.

Join us on this journey
going deeper in faith.

POETRY WORKSHOP. Rosemary Power, who has just published a collection of her poems, is leading a poetry workshop in Waterstone's (upstairs) at 4 - 5.30 on Thursday 04 December. Free, with paper and pens provided. Suitable for new, tentative and seasoned poets and others who want to write in a new style. No need to book.....

ORGAN FUND APPEAL 2025

THANK YOU SO MUCH! TO ALL WHO ARE DONATING & ATTENDING ORGAN APPEAL EVENTS. We have reached an amazing **£40,333.00**

We are being blessed with gifts and time, skills and support...donations both large and small all coming together to show the importance and value placed on the music in our worship, for us now and as a gift into our future.

Please take this as the Cathedral's ongoing thanks. We are looking, at the end of fundraising, at a way of marking all those who wish to have names mentioned as donors.

We hope that we can continue to take this total even closer to the cost through the many events yet to come....

Tours of the Cathedral will now happen in the New Year **but this week we have CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS CARDS** available and Calendars for 2026 should be out next week.

Don't forget to book by Wednesday for the **St Andrew's Eve Meal on Nov 29th**—details on the front page

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, OBAN
ORGAN FUND APPEAL 2025

CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS CARDS



£5
FOR 6
3 OF EACH
DESIGN



GREETING
Wishing you a joyful Christmas

FEATURING
Photographs by Tom Campbell of our 'Della Robia' plaque & Madonna and Child statue

Available while stocks last — some orders may be taken

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL
ORGAN APPEAL FUND

£20,745	£55,500
£17,500	£55,000
£16,000	£50,000
£12,000	£45,500
£10,000	£45,250
£9,000	£45,000
£8,000	£42,500
£7,000	£40,333.00
£6,000	
£5,000	
£4,000	
£3,000	£28,743.00
£2,000	£24,983.00
£1,000	£23,627.44
£500	

62 draw stops
183 keys
49 thumb pistons
16 channels
9 speakers
32 pedals
18 toe pistons

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, OBAN

ORGAN FUND APPEAL 2025

'An Hour at the Organ'

of St Columba's Cathedral

Friday Nov 28th 7–8pm

George Cringles will play and share about St John's Organ Appeal

We are immensely grateful to St Columba's for their hospitality and help.

Entry by donation

GALLERY CAROLS

Sat Dec 6th
10.30–2.30

St John's Cathedral

Come and Sing Workshop

led by James Campbell

on 18/19th century carols sung before the advent of church organs/ robed choirs.

Experience in part singing helpful.
£10pp donation inc music.

Soup lunch provided
Sign up sheet in the Cathedral
Proceeds to the Organ Appeal fund



ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL, OBAN

ORGAN FUND APPEAL 2025

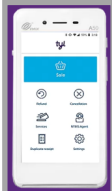
Cathedral T-shirts/ polos/ sweatshirts/ micro-fleece

AVAILABLE UNTIL NOV 30TH

CARD PAYMENTS

The Cathedral now has a Card Reader and can take **WEEKLY COLLECTION, ORGAN DONATIONS** or **COFFEE DONATIONS** by card.

It will be on the book desk on arrival and at coffee. We hope that this will help as less cash is carried!



DRINK COFFEE & TEA

at Cathedral services & events...

All donations PLUS All souvenir purchases go to the Organ Appeal



ORGAN DONATIONS

Can still be made through this QR CODE via CROWDFUNDING

Line up phone camera on QR code and link to crowdfunding.... follow instructions to pay into Cathedral account



Nov 23rd ~ Christ the King

Eucharist Readings Jeremiah 23:1-6 / Luke 23:33-43 **Hymns** NEH 443 SP 86 SP 267 NEH 352 Comm: SP 280

COLLECT Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in the kingdom of your well-beloved Son: mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, now divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

INTERCESSIONS

Province—Primus Mark, for all discerning vocations and those walking with them....the recent Provincial discernment panel

Diocese— Bishop David; Provost Margi; Canon Paul, Rev'd Tom Ebbens - Chpl RN/ Asst Pr ; Canon Ian -Priest (rtd)

Anglican Communion – Zanzibar, our link diocese: Bp Michael Hafidh / the worldwide network of Anglican churches, in over 165 countries (42 Provinces), our mutual commitment to advancing global mission and promoting Christian unity....pray for members all around the world.

Porvoo Communion communion of 15 Anglican and Evangelical Lutheran churches in Europe as we work and pray together, witnessing to unity in Christ

Our Ministry—For all who will come to our events, worship and outreach in the coming weeks, that they will know Christ's love , for all who come in quietness to pray through the week—that they may know God's peace and strength.

Oban Churches —for worshipping communities in and around Oban and for openness and trust with each other.

Worldwide and local... For places of conflict—Ukraine, Israel, Gaza and the West Bank, Sudan and all places of violence & unrest. That plans for peace will be lasting, fair and just. For the innocent caught up, those enduring starvation, the grieving, injured and lost, scared and those without homes or family. For trust to grow between nations and peoples.

For places disrupted and scarred by the unrest of nature, Bangladesh, Sudan, the Philippines, for positive outcomes from COP30

For all we know who are unwell, awaiting, undergoing or recovering from treatment; for the lonely & those who have lost hope...May your Spirit bring wholeness and healing, hope & the joy of new life.

For all mourning the loss of loved ones that your promise of eternal life will bring comfort and hope, especially those mourning the loss of Revd Ian McFarlane, his family and all he ministered to. *Rest in peace, rise in glory.*

NEW EVENTS IN CATHEDRAL LIFE

Vad's and Toddlers

Saturday December 13th
9.30-11.00 am
At St.John's Cathedral Hall
(Behind Coasters)

Bairns...banter...and bacon rolls.

Second Saturday each month.
Contact:
Paul 07943026773 for more information.



Friday 5th December 12.30 -2.30pm

An Initial meeting for a "ladies group"

St John's Cathedral

Soup lunch and cakes

**To explore possible future meetings to start in the new year...
at the Cathedral or people's home.**

*If the date and time is not suitable, please let Ina (07854562210)
or Mal (07548 366545) know a more suitable day/time or
if you are interested in general to join
us in the New Year.*

DATES to NOTE

full details nearer to each event

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Dec 6 | Gallery Carol Workshop |
| Dec 18 | Carol Service @ 7pm |
| Dec 23 | Cathedral decoration |
| Dec 24 | No Wednesday Communion
Crib Service 3pm
Midnight Mass 11.15pm |
| Dec 25 | Christmas Eucharist 10.15am |
| Dec 28 | Eucharist 10.15am |
| Jan 4 th | Epiphany |
| Jan 18 th | Cathedral AGM
after Eucharist |

SATURDAY Dec 13th

9.30am—1pm

Cathedral Clean for Christmas

Including coffee

All help welcome

TUESDAY Dec 23rd

10 - 1pm

Cathedral Decoration

with coffee & carols to help us
along...all help welcome



GOD MEETS US WHERE WE ARE. (MISSIONAL MUSINGS 2).

As we enter Advent the turning of the seasons draws us in once again to the great theme of waiting, that most human of all experiences. A lot has been made of the fact that Scotland have waited a long thirty years for another World Cup entry with one commentator even saying that the heartbreak and disappointments of these three decades were worth it for the joy at Hampden on Tuesday night. In the cold light of day I'm not so sure whether we are able to make trade off's like that but I know what he is trying to express.

Waiting implies that something is yet to happen and until it happens there will be a sense of things not being quite right, not quite complete, not yet fulfilled. And of course as we go through the Hebrew Scriptures and read those famous passages of longing and waiting during Advent we are taken on a journey that culminates in the joy of Christmas morning.

However, we're not there yet, so how do we live with our faith in the realities of the circumstances of our personal lives, our families, our congregations and communities...how do we wait well???

This week I have read two very different pieces which said the same thing word for word, except for one notable change. In an interview in the FT Weekend the recently retired head of MI6 is quoted as saying towards the end that '*a good spy is someone who accepts reality for what it is*'. Just two days prior to that I had read in a commentary on the Prologue to the Rule of St. Benedict, that '*a good monk is someone who accepts reality for what it is*'. Quite a remarkable coincidence!

Accepting reality for what it is does not mean that we submit to it or give in to it or think it cannot be changed or even stop praying for change to come. However, until change can come we really need to take stock of where we are and to pay attention to what is happening in this present moment. Human life is such that literally the only place that God can meet us actually in this very day with whatever internal and external weather systems we find ourselves in the middle of.

The great Advent question is where is God today, how is he coming to my life, my family, my congregation, my community? We need to start paying more attention and looking in unlikely places and even amongst unlikely people, to spot the often surprising ways that God meets us in this present moment. Change starts to happen from where we actually are, not where we want to be or think we should be.

A good question to ask is '*What possibilities are there of God here...what stories, homes, conversations is God showing us we need to dwell within?*' Often this can be through coming to terms with our own vulnerabilities and needs as it is within what we lack that we find our need of other people and of God. While we remain relatively self sufficient we can be closed off to God and others, but our needs (however uncomfortable and reluctant we are to face them) can be an invitation to others and God to enter our lives.

God meets us wherever we are this Advent and not just on Christmas morning so let us embrace and pay attention to this very present moment we find ourselves in, to look around at the communities our congregations are set within and curiously and hopefully start to explore what God could be up to and what he might ask us to join in and who we can partner with in our local areas.

Rev'd Canon Paul Watson

missioner@argyll.anglican.org

07943026773

CATHEDRAL VESTRY MEMBERS 2025

EX-OFFICIO

Provost as Chair
Rectors Warden—Ken Oxland—*plus Assisting Finance*
Peoples Warden & Synod Lay Rep—Colum Scott
Alt Synod Lay Rep—Daniel Stollard
Lead Property—Ken and Colum
Link for Finances—David Pollard
Secretary—Margaret Sime

4 CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

Stewardship/ Gift Aid—Susannah Hughes
Members: Mark Evetts, Jenny McEvoy, Joy Blakeney

ACTING ON BEHALF OF & REPORTING TO SYNOD

Safeguarding: Catriona Petit **Assisting:** Mel Crossley

WAYS of GIVING to the CATHEDRAL We are so grateful to all who give to the Cathedral to safeguard our present & future

BANK: RBS, George St, Oban Sort Code: 83-26-04
Acc: 00178722 St John's Cathedral Oban

For overseas donations

our IBAN is : GB46RBOS83260400178722
IBAN BIC (SWIFT) RBOSGB2L

For BACS gifts please enter name or 'anonymous donation' to help with book-keeping.

STEWARDSHIP /GIFT AID contact Susannah Hughes
Via website contact page

CONTACT DETAILS & INFORMATION

CATHEDRAL PROVOST & DIOCESAN DEAN

The Very Rev'd Canon Margi Campbell *Non work days (2) Friday*

Cathedral: provostoban@argyll.anglican.org
01631 562323

Diocese: dean@argyll.anglican.org

Assisting Priest: The Rev'd Canon Paul Watson

07943026773 *limited hours at Cathedral*
missioner@argyll.anglican.org

Assisting Priest (Rtd) The Rev'd Canon Ian Walter

Assisting Priest: (NSM) The Rev'd Tom Ebbens Chapn RN

CATHEDRAL WEBSITE stjohnsoban.org.uk/

CATHEDRAL FACEBOOK: [stjohnsoban](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsoban)

ST JAMES' WEBSITE stjamesardbrecknish@outlook.com

DIOCESAN WEBSITE: argyll.anglican.org/

PROVINCIAL WEBSITE: www.scotland.anglican.org/

CAF—Charities Aid Foundation

We are now registered for direct payments through CAF—as 'Cathedral of St John the Divine' find under that title or at <https://www.cafonline.org/system/donate?dbid=84ae628419dd4585a209b68bfbcb8f5ac>