



We invite you to come join us at our service each Sunday at 11am

Our Easter Service will be at 11am on Sunday, 5th April

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US

As we gather together in these early weeks of the year, there is a quiet and wonderful transformation taking place beyond our windows. The days are growing longer, snowdrops have pushed through the cold earth, bright colourful crocuses cheer us, and the first tentative signs of spring are beginning to show themselves across our land.

It is a season that never fails to lift the spirit, and one that speaks so powerfully of God's faithfulness and the promise of renewal. As the Psalmist reminds us, *"This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."* (Psalm 118:24)

Spring has always been a season of hope for God's people. Just as the natural world awakens from its winter slumber, so too are we invited to awaken to fresh possibilities — in our faith, in our fellowship, and in our service to one another and to our wider community.

The words of Solomon ring as true today as ever: *"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come."* (Song of Solomon 2:11-12)

This season also brings with it Mothering Sunday, a day on which we give heartfelt thanks for the mothers and mother-figures in our lives — women of patience, strength, and love who have shaped us more than words can say. The Book of Proverbs speaks beautifully of such a woman: *"Her children arise up, and call her blessed."* (Proverbs 31:28) Let us honour them not only in our words this Sunday, but in our kindness and care throughout the days that follow.

And what better time than spring to renew our commitment to one another as a congregation and to those beyond our walls?

Our community needs us — the lonely neighbour, the struggling family, the friend who has drifted away. We are called, as scripture tells us, to *"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."* (Galatians 6:2)

Let us step into this bright new season with open hearts, willing hands, and the sure and certain knowledge that we do not walk alone.



Pulpit Supply – All Services at 11am

March 1st Alasdair Graham
March 8th David Johnston

March 15th Donna Hays
March 22nd Philip Majcher

March 29th Eddie McKenna

St Leonard's in the Fields Coffee Morning

Our annual Coffee Morning will take place on **Saturday 7th March** in the Church Hall from 10.00am until 12 noon. There will be the usual stall. Tickets cost £4.00

This year the proceeds will go to Water Aid, a charity, which brings clean drinking water to many people who, at the moment, may have to walk a long way to find any water.

Easter Week - The St Leonard's in the Fields congregation have been invited to join with the North Church (at their church) at **7.30 pm** on **Palm Sunday (March 29th)** for an evening entitled The Easter Story, which has been written and developed by the Rev Stephen Miller.

Songs and Memories - Dementia Friendly Singing Group

The group welcomes everyone and anyone who enjoys communal singing, whether they think they can sing or not!

It is a very happy event, enjoyed by visitors and volunteers alike. We meet on the third Monday each month throughout the year, from 14.00 to 16.00 and are always delighted to welcome new faces. So why not come along and see for yourself? Come on your own, or bring a friend. Our next meeting is on **Monday, 16th March**.

For more details please contact:

Beryl Smeaton – beryl.s.111@outlook.com or Mary Wright marywright27@gmail.com

Book Group

Members of the Book Group have been enjoying reading author Kristen Hannah's books.

This month's recommended read was 'True Colours'. It was enjoyed by the group but not as much as 'The Nightingale' and 'The Women' both by Kristin Hannah. 'True Colours' is a story about a family and the complexities of family relationships. It is a New York Times best seller and well worth a read.

Maggie O'Farrell is another of our Book Group favourite authors. We enjoyed her book 'Hamnet' and her new Sunday Times bestseller 'This Must Be the Place' looks like another good read.

Book recommendations are always welcome and the discussions at Book Group are very interesting as members have their favourite genres. However, a monthly prescribed read does take us out of our comfort zone as it encourages us to read a book which might not be our chosen genre. I am always amazed to

hear about just how many people are members of the Book Group in Perth and it is a good conversation opener when meeting new people.

It's good to keep reading new titles but keep the old classics on the shelf too. I am about to reread 'To Kill a Mockingbird', as it is such a powerful story.

Our church's Book Group welcomes recommendations from non-members and our bookstall is open to everyone.

We meet on the last Tuesday of every month in St. Leonard's in the Fields church hall.

Happy reading to all, and see you on 24th March.

Liz Stewart



Long Service Certificates will be presented to the following elders at an award ceremony on **Sunday, March 29, 7pm in St John's Kirk.**

Wilf Bainbridge – 30 years
Graeme Giles – 47 years
Linzee Lindsay – 34 years

Ed Miller – 45 years
Keith Sievwright – 32 years

Beryl Smeaton – 38 years
Mary Wright – 34 years

Prayer Shawl Ministry - The next gathering is on **Saturday 28th March**, from 10.00 – 12.00, in the hall (enter from James Street). If anyone would like a shawl to give to someone who is celebrating a happy occasion or to offer comfort to someone going through sad or difficult times, please contact Mary Wright at marypwright27@gmail.com or 07460 002206

Mary Wright

Advance Notice of Maundy Thursday service at North Church - The St Leonard's in the Fields congregation have been invited to share communion with North Church at a Maundy Thursday service at **7pm on April 2nd**. It is hoped that there will be a good turnout from our church.

Stamp Donations

The Church of Scotland Stamp Appeal, which our congregation supported for many years, finished at the end of February. The good news is that we have found a local charity to support: RNIB (Royal National Institute for the Blind), so please continue to bring your used stamps to church (please remember to leave 1cm border) place them in the box provided in the front vestibule and I will deliver them to our local library.

Mary Wright

St Leonard's in the Fields Eco Hub

Located in the vestibule of the church are baskets for spectacles, stamps, and batteries. Contributions are always welcome and items soon mount up, and make a difference for many people. Recently, fifty pairs of glasses were taken to Specsavers where they will be recycled and re-used. The book table in the hall is often refreshed and extra books go to Oxfam. Thanks go to everyone who has contributed items to the Eco Hub, and in anticipation of more items being donated.

Perth North Church Activities - <https://www.perthnorthchurch.org.uk>

Open: Monday - Thursday 10.00 -12.00, Closed Fridays

Sunday Service at 10.30. - Live stream at <https://www.youtube.com/@perthnorthchurchlive1732>

Email: info@perthnorthchurch.org.uk

Activities at Perth North:

- Open church is held on Monday and Thursdays at 09.30
- Perth City Club meet on Mondays at 13.00
- The Badminton club meets on Tuesday mornings at 10.00 and Tuesday evening at 19.30
- The Dementia Cafe meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 10.00.
- The Guild meets on 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 14.00.
- Footwise clinic is held on 1 Wednesday of the month 14.00 – 16.00.
- Bible study group is held on 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month.
- Toddlers meet on Thursdays at 09.15
- Lunchtime service is held on Thursdays at 12.30, followed by a short service at 13.15
- The Walking group has planned walks to March 2026 - contact Tom Reid on 01738 636720
- Various house groups - contact the office for more info 01738 622298

Perth North Church - Dementia Café is a monthly gathering where people with dementia, their family, caregivers and friends can be together in a safe, welcoming environment, in the company of other caregivers. This is a group for people who are able to attend safely on their own, or who are accompanied by someone to support them. Volunteers and health and social care professionals are available for the purpose of emotional support, advice/guidance and opportunities for social interaction. The Dementia Cafe is held on the first Wednesday of the month at North Church Hall, High Street, Perth at 10am. For more information, please phone Andy Bennett on 01738 474566 or Diane McLellan on 01738 476831.

World Day of Prayer - Friday 6th March 2026

The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. A service is held annually on or near the first Friday in March. This Year Perth Action of Churches Together will be hosting the Perth World Day of Prayer service at **North Church, Mill Street, Perth** at **11am** on Friday, 6th March.

The service for 2026 was written by a group of ecumenical Nigerian Christian women. Nigeria is located on the western coast of Africa – the climate varies from equatorial in the south, tropical in the central regions and arid in the north. Nigeria has a population of over 211 million with over 250 ethnic groups; the three largest are the Hausa-Fulani, Yoruba and Igbo. Christianity is a major religious influence.

The writers of this service call us to find rest in God. The women explore different kinds of burden to help us understand both the weight of human suffering and the depths of divine compassion for those who are weary. Three women share their stories speaking to us about the suffering of widows, the shadow of religious persecution and the burdens of poverty which can bring despair. Their experiences show us how God provides rest through support from their community and their faith and hope in God. The World Day of Prayer is for everyone - men, women, and young people.

A warm welcome awaits you at the PACT World Day of Prayer Service and you are invited to share in faith, joy and hopes.

For further information contact the PACT Secretary secretary.pactperth@gmail.com

Sound and Sense - Saturday, 14th March 2026 from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Taking place at St John's Episcopal Church, Perth on Saturday, 14th March 2026 from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm and presented by John Bell and Jane Bentley from The Iona Community.

The Very Revd Graham Taylor of St John's Episcopal Church, Princes Street, Perth cordially invites you to a day of workshops, opening up new ways to experience the richness of songs and scripture, irrespective of musical ability or biblical knowledge. Both John and Jane have worked with churches throughout the UK and across the globe. Their work is to encourage local people to find new expressions of worship open to all ages, using both familiar and new songs and stories.

The day begins with coffee and tea at 11.00 am followed by three workshops and a short closing liturgy. There will be a break for lunch midway, and we would kindly ask you to bring your own lunch with you.

You are asked to sign up for this day in advance as places will be capped at 80. The day is supported by donations, and you are asked to please give generously as all donations will go towards the Iona Community fund and their travel to Perth. More information at <https://tinyurl.com/Sound-and-Sense-at-StJohns-SEC>

St John's Kirk Services

For anyone not able to get along to St Leonard's services on a Sunday, the 10.00. Sunday service can be followed online at <https://www.youtube.com/@stjohnskirkofperth6605/streams>

Also, on Wednesdays, St John's Kirk has a 'Time for Reflection' at 12 noon, and a short service at 13.00. <https://www.st-johns-kirk.co.uk/>

Concerts at St John's Kirk

Saturday, 7th March, at 1.00pm - Ishico Veizel (piano) - admission is free with a retiring collection.

Saturday, 7th March at 7.30pm - Perth Symphony Orchestra perform 'Sounds from the New World' with music by Copland, Delius, and Price. Tickets £15 from Eventbrite or on the door. 16-year-olds and younger get in for free.

Friday, 13th March at 7.30pm - Perth Chamber Music Society has a final concert of their 2025/26 season: Robin Michael (cello) & Daniel Tong (piano)

Robin Michael is principal cello of the Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique and Les Siècles, and is a frequent guest with the Australian Chamber Orchestra. Daniel Tong is one of the UK's leading solo and chamber pianists, a founder member of the London Bridge Trio, and director of the Wye Valley Chamber Music Festival.

The programme is: Fauré: Cello Sonata No. 2 in G minor, Op. 117; Mendelssohn: Sonata Op. 58 in D major; Liszt: Constellation & La Lugubre Gondola; and Brahms: Sonata in E minor, Op. 38 No. 1
Tickets are available online through the Perth Chamber Music Society website at perthchambermusic.org.uk

Saturday, 22nd March at 7.30pm – Mozart's Requiem and Solemn Vespers. City of Perth Sinfonia. Tickets - £20 - from www.PerthshireBoxOffice.com

St Mary's Monastery, Kinnoull is hosting a major **Holy Week Retreat** beginning on the very last day of March: a deeply prayerful and reflective Holy Week Retreat beginning at 5pm on Monday 30th March 2026 and concluding after lunch on Good Friday, 3rd April 2026. Details at <https://www.kinnoullmonastery.co.uk/event/holy-week-retreat/>

CrossReach (The Church of Scotland Social Care Council) CrossReach News –

The current magazine is available from the front vestibule or in the hall following the Sunday service. The newsletter highlights a commitment to inclusion and person-centred support across various sectors, including mental health, recovery from addiction, and disability services. It features employee and volunteer awards to celebrate staff dedication, alongside reports on a visit from the Moderator of the General Assembly to multiple

care facilities. Personal success stories, such as 'Amelia's journey' through counselling, illustrate the life-changing effect of the organisation's therapeutic and residential programmes. The magazine is also available online at <https://www.crossreach.org.uk/latest-magazine>

Perth Street Pastors

Perth Street Pastors are out in the city centre of Perth most Fridays and Saturday nights from 21.00 – 01.00 to listen, care and help. You could be a Street Pastor if you're looking for an opportunity to

show/share the love of Jesus in our community. Are you between 18 and 100 with a heart for people and two ears to listen? Contact chair.perth@streetpastors.org.uk for more details, or see the website at <https://streetpastors.org/locations/perth/>

AK Bell Library Book Sale Friday, 6th (9.30am – 4.30pm) and Saturday, 7th March (9.30am – 3.30pm)

A sale of adult fiction, adult non-fiction, and children's books.

Perth & Kinross Foodbank

Over 90% of the food distributed by foodbanks in The Trussell Trust network is donated by the public – that's why your food donations are absolutely vital to the Foodbank's ability to give everyone referred to us a balanced and nutritious three-day supply of food.

Urgently needed items:

Coffee, UHT Milk, Long Life/Diluting Juice, Pasta, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Soup, Tinned Main Meals, Tinned Fruit, Custard or Rice Pudding, Jam

For more information about where you can leave items, and about how to get help, visit the website at <https://perthkinross.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Perthshire Society of Natural Science (PSNS)

Wednesday 11th March — Archaeology & History Section

Tertia Barnett will be speaking on Rock Art in Scotland. This is a members' talk (though guests are welcome) held in the Sandeman Room at the AK Bell Library, Perth, at 7.30pm.

Friday 27th March — Curious Minds Lecture

Professor Jos Houdijk will present "How Secure is Britain's Food Supply?" This is a public talk held in the Soutar Theatre at the AK Bell Library, and tickets are available through Perthshire Box Office. These are the final talks of the 2025–26 winter season, which runs from October through to the end of March. The Curious Minds talks are open to all, while the Archaeology & History talk is primarily for PSNS members, though interested visitors are welcome to attend as guests. See the PSNS website for details of all the talks: <https://www.psns.org.uk/>

Also, visit the PSNS YouTube channel to see past lectures: <https://www.youtube.com/@PSNS1867>

Perform in Perth is an annual festival of music, speech and dance, now in its 102nd year, in which around 2,800 performers take part across a two-week period running from Monday 9th to Saturday 21st March. The festival is held across several venues around the city, with events covering instrumental music, choral and solo singing, speech and drama, Scottish country dance, and baton twirling. It has been awarded the King's Award for Voluntary Service - the highest honour a local voluntary group can receive in the UK. Full details at: <https://www.perthshire-music-festival.org.uk/>

St Leonard's in the Fields is the principal venue for the second week of the festival, hosting competitions across five consecutive days:

Tuesday 17th March - Singing and Piano, with Strings competitions beginning on the same day.

Tuesday 17th and **Wednesday 18th March** - Strings competitions continue across both days, making this the most extended single-discipline block at the venue.

Thursday 19th March - Brass competitions take place throughout the day.

Friday 20th March - Woodwind, Singing and Piano competitions.

Saturday 21st March (daytime) - Singing and Piano competitions continue.

Saturday 21st March (evening) - The festival concludes with its most prestigious events: the Singing Silver and Gold Medal competitions, and the Instrumental Larg and Premier competitions - the highest accolades the festival awards, bringing the fortnight to a fitting and celebratory close.

Brass, Wind, and Percussion Players Wanted

If you're interested in playing music, or know someone who is, there is an opportunity to become part of a brand-new Perthshire music ensemble.

Go along to North Inch Community Campus (PH1 5BF) on **Friday 20th** or **27th March** at 7pm to learn more. Details also available on the Perth Community Concert Band Facebook and Instagram pages.

Mary, Queen of Scots at Perth Museum & AK Bell Library

Perth is currently at the heart of one of Scotland's most significant cultural events of the year, as part of the National Library of Scotland's *OUTWITH: National Library Around Scotland* programme, marking the centenary of the National Library's founding.

At Perth Museum, Mary, Queen of Scots' last letter - written at 2am on 8th February 1587, just hours before her execution at Fotheringhay Castle - is on display in a free exhibition running until Sunday, 26th April. Perth Museum is open Monday to Saturday 10am–5pm, and Sunday 11am–4pm. The last admission to view the Last Letter of Mary, Queen of Scots exhibition is 4.40pm Monday to Saturday, and 3.40pm on Sunday.

Just a short distance away at the AK Bell Library on York Place, a complementary free display entitled "The Legacy of Mary, Queen of Scots" runs until Saturday, 25th April. This display features a manuscript of Robert Burns' poem "Lament of Mary, Queen of Scots on the Approach of Spring" written in Burns' own hand, alongside early archive material from Liz Lochhead's play "Mary Queen of Scots Got Her Head Chopped Off". The AK Bell Library display is open Tuesday to Thursday from 10am to 4pm, and 9.30am to 1pm on Saturday.

On **Saturday 7th March**, the AK Bell Library also hosts National Library Live, a special event bringing the National Library's collections and expertise directly to Perth audiences. Both exhibitions are free to enter, and together they make a compelling and unmissable double visit for anyone interested in Scottish history and literature.

Archive

Perthshire Advertiser - Wednesday 06 March 1935

Perth Church's Jubilee Year –

St. Leonard's-in-the-fields' increased liberality.

This is the jubilee year of the building of the present church of St Leonard's-in-the-Fields, Perth, and for this reason and because of a proposal to carry out extensive alterations in the interior of the church there is a special interest in the annual congregational meeting which takes place to-night. In the 91st annual report which has been issued to the members of the congregation it is stated that during the past year 85 members were removed from the roll by death or otherwise, and 78 were added, giving a total of 850, compared with 837 at the end of 1933. The finances of the congregation

continue satisfactory. The collections for the year by envelope and by plate (apart from collections for Assembly schemes), amounted to £1329 19s 10d as against £1314 14s 8d for 1933, while the balance of £37 12s 2d with which the year began was reduced at the close of the year to £3 1s 8d. During the year the congregation contributed the handsome sum of £119 8s 6d to the National Church Extension Scheme. The report deals in detail with the different organisations of the congregation, all of which are shown to be active and flourishing.

Note: £1 in 1935 = £62.06 in 2026



St Leonard's in the Fields, Marshall Place, Perth PH2 8AG

| St Leonard's in the Fields Contact Details | | 01738 ... | e-mail |
|--|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Interim Moderator | Rev Edward McKenna | | EMcKenna@ChurchofScotland.org.uk |
| Church Secretary | Wendy Lindsay | 632238 | office@stleonardsinthefields.co.uk |
| Catering | Linzee Lindsay | 710777 | duncraig@dlpltd.com |
| CATH | Margaret Montgomery | 634329 | |
| Flower Committee | Christeen Sievwright | 621509 | christeens9@hotmail.com |
| Freewill Offering | David Lindsay | | david@dlpltd.com |
| Gift Aid | Jim Granger | 552600 | jim.granger57@gmail.com |
| Magazine Distribution | Lindsay Adamson | 254104 | |
| Organist | Edna Auld | | misaloud@icloud.com |
| Prayer Shawl | Mary Wright | 07460 002206 | marypwright27@gmail.com |
| Presbytery Elder | Graeme Giles | 625805 | gpj.giles@yahoo.co.uk |
| Property Convener | Wilf Bainbridge | 718764 | |
| Roll keeper | Dorothy Moir | 624402 | dmoir150@gmail.com |
| Pastoral Care | Beryl Smeaton | 639364 | beryl.s.111@outlook.com |
| Safeguarding | Beryl Smeaton | 639364 | beryl.s.111@outlook.com |
| Starter Packs | Mary Wright | 07460 002206 | marypwright27@gmail.com |
| Treasurer and Finance Convener | David Grant | 626364 | davidgrant13@btinternet.com |

St Leonard's in the Fields Donations

A donation from you can help support the Church's work at St Leonard's in the Fields and ensure the Church is sufficiently equipped and resourced to serve the congregations and our community. Through the donation form (at <https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/donate> , or by scanning the QR code) you may choose to give a one-off donation or donate every month. For ongoing support, consider donating via Standing Order. Standing orders are still the most convenient and cost-effective method for regular givers and supporters. A simple standing order form is available for download.



(Please note: the form can be filled out on a computer but you must download it before filling it out, otherwise you will not be able to save your changes.)

St Leonard's in the Fields Newsletter – April

The final date for receipt of articles etc for the March edition of your Newsletter is **Thursday, 19th March.**

Please send anything you think will be of interest to the congregation to **StLeonardsPerth@gmail.com** at any time before then.