

Cadder Parish Church
www.cadderchurch.org.uk



Part of the Church of Scotland
Charity Number SC015193

1st July 2020

Dear Member,

I hope that you are all well and getting through this lockdown as best as you can. I'm sure that you are all missing Sunday morning worship and that you are missing having fellowship with your friends.

Now that we have entered Phase 2 of the lockdown, you may be wondering when will the church reopen as the Scottish Government announced that churches can now open for private prayer.

However, this phase comes with severe restrictions, social distancing and strict hygiene practices are to be put in place. The Church of Scotland has a strict risk assessment that needs to be completed and this has to be agreed by our Kirk Session and then by Presbytery. So, you can see that this is not going to be a quick process.

The virus is still in Scotland and the social distancing rules at present for private prayer would limit numbers in church at any one time to about 30-40 people. There is also the fear of a second wave.

The Kirk Session met by video-link to discuss the issue and reflect on the guidelines for reopening and they have wisely decided to be patient and not to rush into reopening. We have formed a small team, comprising of Bill McInnes, Jim Johnstone and myself to study the guidelines and put a plan in place that would satisfy the requirements of the Church of Scotland Risk assessment.

Phase 3 may come into place on the 23rd of July which would hopefully lift some more restrictions around social distancing in places of worship. But the Kirk Session want to satisfy itself that there will be no risks taken that will make the church a place where the virus might spread. So, it may well be Phase 4 before we think about reopening. Most churches are taking this cautious approach to reopening.

In the meantime, our online services will continue through the **Cadder Church YouTube channel** which is available through our church website. The website address is www.cadderchurch.org.uk and the services can be watched at any time during the week.

I know that a number of you have been following my Ramblings, which are short messages of encouraging our faith, and these are all available on **RevJohn's Ramblings** and can be accessed through the website.

Minister:

Rev John B MacGregor BD
231 Kirkintilloch Road, Bishopbriggs
G64 2JB tel: 0141 576 7127
jmacgregor@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk:

Mrs Marjory Tweedie
9 Buchanan Place Torrance
G64 4HW tel: 01360 622158
marjorytweedie@hotmail.com

Treasurer:

Mr David Watson
2 Ochil Road, Bishopbriggs
G64 1EW tel: 0141 772 5970
d.watson277@talktalk.net

There is also a telephone service with the Sunday services available.... **Dial a Cadder Church Service** is 0141 **280 1113**.

Thank you for your continued **offerings for our church, it is greatly appreciated and your support at this time is vital. Thank you to all who have been supporting others in different ways.**

I'm now also the interim moderator at Kenmure Church, as their minister has moved churches. They also are facing the same challenges with the coronavirus as are all the churches.

The church at Cadder will reopen and it will go forward. Let us remember that this is God's church and it's vitally important to keep praying and trusting in our Lord at this time. He is in the midst of all this and as the Apostle wrote, "all things will work to the good for those who trust him" and He calls us to work with Him through this challenging time.

The Church of Scotland website is also a good place for us to visit for further information. When I have any further updates, I will let you know.

I hope and pray that this crisis ends soon, but if you want a chat with me, at any time, please just give me a call, my number is at the top of the letter or drop me an email.

Every blessing to you all,
Rev John

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