

CHURCH BULLETIN

We are a congregation of the Free Church of Scotland. We gather each Lord's Day to praise and worship the only true and living God

11th May 2025



WELCOME TO OUR SERVICES TODAY

Today's services will be taken by Rev Roddy Macrae (11am and 6pm). Our 11.00am service is livestreamed at: <https://www.youtube.com/@shawbostfreechurchofscotland>

At the 11.00am service, the Scripture reading will be from John 13:1-17. The sermon is entitled *Unless I Wash You*.

At the 6.00pm service the Scripture reading will be from John 19. The sermon will focus on verses 28-37 and is entitled *It is Finished*.

	11.00am Service		6.00pm Service (English)	
1	Ps 100	Scottish Psalter	Ps 40:1-5	Scottish Psalter
2	Ps 130	Scottish Psalter	Ps 22:14-20	Sing Psalms
3	Ps 110:1-5	Sing Psalms	Ps 22:22-25	Scottish Psalter
4	Ps 85:	Sing Psalms	Ps 27:4-8	Sing Psalms

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will be on at the usual time during the service and the children will go to their classes during the second item of praise. Please remember the Sunday School in prayer.

SERVICES NEXT LORD'S DAY

The services next Lord's Day will be taken by Mr Nathan Kish (Minister in Training).

PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY

The prayer meeting and Bible study will take place on **Wednesday 14th May at 7pm in Bragar**. Everyone is most welcome and encouraged to attend.

DEACONS' COURT

There will be a meeting of the Deacons' Court on **Monday 12th May at 7pm** in the Church Hall.

SCALADALE JUNIOR YOUTH CAMP

This past weekend 20 campers from across the Presbytery gathered for the Presbytery Junior Youth Camp for P7-S2 at the Scaladale Centre. A great weekend was had by all as they took part in various indoor and outdoor activities, as-well as learning from God's word and building new relationships with one another. These camps are part funded by the Presbytery Youth Fund which many individuals throughout the presbytery contribute to. The Presbytery Youth Committee would like to thank everyone for their contributions which makes weekends like this possible. The seed has been sown and we pray that the Lord would use that seed of the gospel in the lives of all who came along.

PRESBYTERY PREACHERS' WORKSHOP

The Western Isles Presbytery has organised a preaching workshop on **Saturday 24th May from 9.15am to 12.30pm at Back Free Church Hall**. The main speaker will be Dr Ben Casteneda, Lecturer in New Testament at ETS. This workshop has arisen from the two-fold need both for God to call more men into ministry and for there to be more men willing to help with supply preaching across our Presbytery. This workshop is therefore aimed at both those men already involved in lay preaching, and those who may wish to explore the possibility of starting to preach. Moreover, the workshop is open to all those who would like to learn more about the core basics of preaching God's word.

PRAYER POINTS 5TH MAY - 11TH MAY 2025

Monday 5th May

Shawbost

Pray that the Lord in would provide a minister for the congregation. Ask that the church be sustained in unity, patience, and would know God's blessing.

Tuesday 6th May

OM

South Asia: Pray for boldness in sharing the gospel, the end of persecution, the growth of digital media ministries, and for those who are not yet believers

Wednesday 7th May

Teens Conference

Please pray for the teens attending the teens conference, that they would be grounded in God's Word, grow in their love for Christ, and be strengthened to live faithfully in a challenging world. Pray that lasting friendships and a deeper commitment to the Lord would be formed.

Thursday 8th May

OM

Pray for those facing persecution and for God's protection and provision.

Friday 9th May

Shawbost

Pray that the congregation will continue to reach their community with the gospel, and that the Lord would grow and strengthen relationships with those in the community.

Saturday 10th May

Sleat and Strath

Pray that the congregation of Sleat and Strath would know God's presence and blessing over them. Pray that the Lord would minister to them and draw them close to Him.

Sunday 11th May

OM

Pray for the nations, particularly Europe and South Asia, where the church is facing challenges or has unreached people groups.

JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF! - J. C. Ryle, "The Real Presence")

There is a real "spiritual presence" of Christ, wherever His believing people meet together in His name. This is the plain meaning of His famous saying, "Wherever two or three are gathered together in My name—there I am in the midst of them!" (Matthew 18:20). The smallest gathering of true Christians for the purposes of prayer or praise, or holy conference, or reading God's Word—is sanctified by *the best of company*! The great or rich or noble may not be there—but the *King of kings Himself* is present—and angels look on with reverence!

The grandest buildings which men have reared for religious uses, are often no better than whitened sepulchres—destitute of any holy influence—because they are given up to superstitious ceremonies and filled to no purpose with crowds of *formal* worshipers, who come unfeeling, and go unfeeling away. No worship is of any use to souls—at which Christ is not present! Incense, banners, pictures, flowers, crucifixes, and long processions of richly dressed ecclesiastics—are a poor substitute for the great High Priest Himself!

The poorest room where a few penitent believers assemble in the name of Jesus—is a consecrated and most holy place in the sight of God! Those who worship God in *spirit* and *truth*—never draw near to Him in vain. Often, they go home from such meetings warmed, cheered, established, strengthened, comforted and refreshed. And what is the secret of their feelings? They have had with them the *great Master of assemblies, Jesus Christ Himself*!