

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.

Sunday 27th March 2022



SUNDAY SERVICES

We gather for public worship this Lord's Day at 12.00noon and at 6.00pm. Both the services will be conducted in English and taken by the Minister. More details on the Congregation and our ministry are available on our website [here](#).

Services this Sunday

At the 12.00noon service we will continue our study of 'The Son of Man Passages in the Gospel of Matthew.' The sermon will be based on Matthew 26:17-25. The subject of the sermon will be 'The Son of Man – The Passover & The Stunning Disclosure.'

At the 6.00pm service, we will continue our study on *The Life of Samson*. The Sermon will be based on Judges 16:1-14. The subject of the sermon will be 'Samson - The Crisis of Confidence & Complacency.'

Psalm Singing

The praise will be led by our precentor and the Psalms for this Lord's Day are as follows:

	12.00 Noon Service		6.00pm Service	
1	Psalm 111:1-6	Psalter (391)	Psalm 31:1-6	Psalter (241)
2	Psalm 115:12-18	Psalter (395)	Psalm 119:161-168	Sing Psalms (167)
3	Psalm 41:9-12	Psalter (262)	Psalm 95:7-11	Psalter (357)

Audio-visual Equipment

We are still running with our interim arrangements for live streaming as we await the repair of our ATEM live stream switch. The switch has a 3-year repair warranty, and it has been returned to the supplier. We await an update on the repair.

English Services

The English services in the Church at 12.00noon and 6.00pm will be live streamed on our **YouTube Channel** [here](#). An audio recording of both services will be available on Sermon Audio as soon as possible after the services end. The services can be accessed on the Shawbost Free Church **Sermon Audio Page** by clicking [here](#).

Gaelic Service

A pre-recorded audio-only recording of the Gaelic service will be available at 12.00noon on Sunday on the **Shawbost Free Church Sermon Audio Page**. The audio-only recording of the Gaelic Service will also be available on the Twilio service, accessed by dialling 0131 510 2471. The video recording of the Gaelic service will not be available until our equipment is repaired and back in place.

MINISTER'S HOLIDAY

The Minister will be on holiday for ten days as from Tuesday 29th March 2022. The services on Lord's Day 3rd April 2022 will be taken by Mr Donald Macleod, Student for the Ministry, Pairc (Gravir). We thank Donald for his willingness to come again to take the services for us. We continue to pray for him as he completes his training. Please note that there will be no pre-recorded Gaelic service on Sermon Audio on Sunday 3rd April.

COVID RESTRICTIONS

We continue to observe the one-metre physical distancing in our services to help allay people's anxieties in public gatherings in the light of the ongoing presence of the COVID-19. The First Minister announced a decision on the review or lifting of the regulations on face coverings was put back until Monday 4th April 2022 due to high numbers of COVID cases. The Kirk Session will consider the announcement and will inform everyone of the resultant changes.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will meet this Lord's Day as usual. We continue to pray for our children and our families under the teaching of the Word of God. We also pray for our children in daily school life and at home.

KIRK SESSION

The Kirk Session will meet on Tuesday 29th March 2022 in the Church Hall at 7.30pm. The main purpose of meeting is to complete the Annual Congregational Survey.

PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY

The weekly Prayer and Bible Study meeting will be in the Church on Wednesday 30th March 2022 at 7.00pm. The meeting will be led by the Elders in the Minister's absence.

CONDOLENCES

We continue to remember John MacNeil (*Rubha Ghlas*, South Shawbost) as he grieves the loss of his wife Christine. We remember John's daughters, Mora and Donna, and their loved ones, as they grieve the loss of their mother. We also remember Christine's sister Mairi, and her family, as she grieves over the loss of her sister. The funeral service will take place in the Church at Shawbost on Tuesday 29th March 2022. **Please note** that the **service will commence at 11.00am** and not 11.30am as previously announced.

VACANCY – MISSION COORDINATOR

The Free Church of Scotland currently has a vacancy for a Mission Coordinator (Job Share). One of our current Mission Coordinators has a new role with a mission organisation. We are therefore recruiting for an enthusiastic and capable person to join our team of committed staff in the Church Offices to help support the work of the Mission Board of the Free Church.

The position requires a proactive and innovative individual with a heart for mission across Scotland and beyond; a confident communicator, with excellent interpersonal, organisational, and administrative skills; as well as someone with the necessary enthusiasm, flexibility, and experience to work under their own initiative in a small team environment.

There is an Occupational Requirement under the Equality Act 2010 for the post holder to demonstrate a firm Christian commitment. As such, the successful candidate will be a Christian with an active commitment and someone supportive of the values, vision, and ethos of the Free Church. More information is available on the Free Church website [here](#).

FREE CHURCH MEMBER AWARDED BEM

A retired nurse, who is a member of the Free Church in North Kessock, has been awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM) for her services to Marie Curie Cancer Care and the community. A celebration was held for Di Gillies at the Knockbain Free Church of Scotland attended by family, friends, and former work colleagues. She received the prestigious BEM from the Lord Lieutenant. Guests heard that Di started her nursing career in Kyle, before becoming a Marie Curie nurse. Following her retirement, she has volunteered and raised money for Maggie's Highlands Cancer Caring Centre in Inverness. More information on Di's services is available on the Free Church website [here](#).

THE CONFLICT & CRISIS IN UKRAINE

We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine in the ongoing invasion of Russia and the war situation that has developed. The atrocities brought to our attention daily in the media is but a small percentage of the ongoing suffering and loss and the displacement of so many Ukrainians to other countries for refuge.

Further news, updates on the ongoing situation in Ukraine, and options for making donations are available on the following links: Blythswood – <https://blythswood.org/donate-to-ukraine-appeal/>; Slavic Gospel Association - <https://www.sga.org.uk/ukraine-crisis/>; Moldova Group - www.moldovagroup.org; Tearfund - <https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/ukraine-crisis>; SBS - <https://scottishbiblesociety.org/appeals/ukraine-appeal/>

STORNOWAY STREET PASTORS

Stornoway Street Pastors will be taking on new Street Pastors this year. If you are interested in becoming a Street Pastor or would like more information then please email the Coordinator, Janis Brand, in order to obtain an application form: stornoway@streetpastors.org.uk. All application forms must be submitted by 1 May 2022. Training will begin later in the year.

PFOA – PRAYER POINTS

The following are prayer points issued by the Mission Board under the Praying For One Another Scheme (PFOA) in the past week.

Cornerstone

Pray that God would bless the people of Morningside and that as a church we would find ways to connect them to the message of Jesus. Give thanks for our Latino community and pray that they would grow in faith and love.

T, Central Asia

Give thanks for a group in one of the cities which gives discipleship training to believers, as well as experience in evangelism and diaconal ministry. Pray that all their needs would be met.

Dumisani Theological Institute

Pray for students at Dumisani Theological Institute, South Africa who will be doing exams at the end of March that these will all proceed and that no new lockdowns will happen.

Richard and Barbara, a European City

Pray for students from the islands at universities in France and other countries, that they may meet Christian students who will share the love of Christ with them. Some of the children we used to help with homework and bring the Word of God into their homes are now in this position and we pray that what they heard from us will be reinforced by others they meet along the way.

Merkinch

Thank the Lord for the continued growth of our connections in the community. Pray that we would as a group endeavour to keep meeting new people and boldness to share the Gospel with them. (You can sign up to receive more prayer points from Merkinch on the PrayerMate app.)