

CARDROSS PARISH CHURCH

PARISH PROFILE



Cardross Church
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OUR HISTORY IN BRIEF

We can trace the origins of a church in Cardross back to 1226 in a charter of Maldoven, Third Earl of Lennox, which granted the Bishop of Glasgow *“the Church of Cardrinos, with lands, tiends, fishing and pertinents of every kind, in pure and perpetual alms to be devoted to the use of the Bishop’s table.”* Throughout the centuries, Cardross has always had a church within its parish.

In May 1941, the Church was one of a number of buildings destroyed by heavy bombing. Also within the village was a Free Church, which was opened in January 1872 and a decision was taken for a merger of the two churches and this building was adapted for use as the present Cardross Parish Church. The forward thinking congregations at that time, decided to use the money awarded to restore the destroyed Church, to build a suite of Church Halls and the old Church Tower was retained as a War Memorial. As a Millennium Project the old Church Tower was completely restored and at a Service held on 10 October 1999 was rededicated “to the glory of God, as witness to past faith and future hope.”

ABOUT OUR LOCAL AREA

Cardross is a distinct village community, situated on the banks of the river Clyde, in a semi rural area approximately four miles equidistant between Helensburgh and Dumbarton. It is approximately 20 miles west of Glasgow and there are excellent road, rail and bus links to Glasgow city centre. Glasgow has a number of Universities, Colleges and the renowned Conservatoire for the study of Music and drama.

The population of the village is around 2500. The village has both social and private housing and has been growing over the past ten years with a possible further housing development proposed within the next five years.

The community is well served by a wide range of local amenities, including a primary school with nearly 200 children, most of whom have attended at the local playgroup or private nursery. The village has a number of shops, including post office, pharmacy, restaurant, hairdressers, newsagents and a library. Cardross is also renowned for its sporting facilities bowling club, tennis club, football team and an 18 hole Golf Course. The village is approximately six miles from Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, which provides excellent opportunities for walking, camping and engaging in water sports.

WORSHIP

The main service of worship takes place on a Sunday at 11.00am although in the summer months late June to August the time is brought forward to 10.30am with an average attendance of around 80. Our locum minister David Munro is currently taking the service. The format is one hour in length with a mix of hymns both ancient and modern along with other songs and anthems led by the choir of 20 under the tutelage of the organist and choir mistress. While the format is quite traditional, the content is less so with interaction, reflection, responses and relaxed atmosphere. Children are usually present for the first part of the service before going to the hall for their own activities. There is a rota of those helping with Bible Readings and Prayers of Intercession. The congregation has one Presbyter Reader.

Worship takes place in other formats; monthly at Messy Church, a week long summer Holiday Club and during Lent and Advent, special House Groups take place.



At Easter balloons with an Easter message are released at an 8.30 am breakfast Service and later at 11.00 am Service. We later receive responses, which tells us how far the balloons travelled and who has received the Easter message from Cardross.



At the conclusion of the Sunday morning service tea and coffee are served in the halls. This allows fellowship and discussion to continue in a more relaxed environment. Once a month we have a fair trade stall selling produce associated with this charity.

There are special services throughout the year including Thinking Day, the world day of prayer and the Guild Week. There is a Remembrance Day service at the war memorial within the village, which is attended by all sections of the community including various youth organisations.

Cardross Parish Church enjoys strong links with the local Roman Catholic Church sharing services for Christian Unity, Remembrance Sunday and at Christmas.

AREAS OF MINISTRY AND LINKS WITH THE COMMUNITY



SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY

Ministers have been chaplain to Cardross Primary School and also been a member of the team of Chaplains serving Hermitage Academy in Helensburgh.

ENGAGING WITH WIDER COMMUNITIES AND CHARITIES



ADMINISTRATION

The Church operates under a Model Deed of Constitution with 38 elders on the Kirk Session. All elders are members of the Congregational Board together with 12 elected congregational members. There are a number of committees covering Worship, World Outreach, Mission & Service, Education, Communication & Publicity and Social Group (covering the remit of the Kirk Session) and Finance and Property Committees within the remit of the Congregational Board. The current membership is 387.

We are pleased to have the services of one part-time church secretary, organist, church hall cleaner and three teenage bell ringers.

BUILDINGS

CHURCH

Our Church has been well maintained both internally and externally. As part of the church's millennium project, additional bells were added to create a full octave. Within our church sanctuary, there are magnificent embroidered panels by Hannah Frew Paterson, silk hangings by Susan Sumison, windows depicting the four seasons by Sadie McLellan, etched Gospel windows by John Lawrie and stained glass windows by Susan Bradbury. All of these attract many visitors throughout the year. The church has a universal access. Adjacent to the sanctuary, there is an office, vestry and cloakroom.



HALLS

At Cardross we are fortunate to have an excellent suite of halls, which were built in the 1950's and recently extended. The suite of halls has universal access to one large and one small hall, meeting rooms, workroom, kitchens, cloakrooms and disabled toilet. Church organisations as well as our wider village community many regularly use these facilities, which are situated in spacious grounds.



MANSE

We have recently purchased a new manse which is a large detached bungalow located within the conservation area of the village. The new manse features spacious and flexible accommodation and comprises of: entrance porch, reception hall with open plan dining room, lounge with feature fireplace, fitted kitchen with integrated fridge and dishwasher, breakfast room off, utility room plumbing for washing machine, 4 double bedrooms, en suite bathroom and shower room. In addition there is a floored loft area and a double brick built garage. The property is in first class condition and has a well maintained garden.



NOMINATION COMMITTEE

A nomination committee has recently been appointed to commence a search for a new Minister. Our vacancy is for a part time minister to the equivalent of 70% of a full time minister. The congregation sees this as an exciting opportunity to attract a candidate who will be able to achieve an excellent work/life balance and time to pursue other interests such as further academic studies, quality family time or other ventures whilst pursuing their chosen profession.

OUR NEW MINISTER

We are prayerfully seeking a minister able, under God, to -

- ❖ Lead worship effectively
- ❖ Give pastoral care with warmth, sympathy and spiritual understanding throughout the whole parish
- ❖ Have an excellent rapport with children and young people
- ❖ Encourage and inspire Church members to use their gifts in outreach and service
- ❖ Engage proactively with the whole community.

This is an exciting and challenging appointment for someone with vision, energy and a sense of humour. Working with our new minister we would seek to respond to the many challenges and opportunities that will be presented to us, and to move the Church forward in a modern progressive society.

