



PAISLEY WEST CHURCH

Church of Scotland

PARISH PROFILE

King Street

Paisley

PA1 2FS

www.paisleywest.org.uk



MISSION STATEMENT

As part of God's family, we strive to show Christ's love to all, for the glory of God.

Believe in One God; Praise God the Father; proclaim Jesus, God the Son; trust God the Holy Spirit; Rejoice in the gift of eternal life.

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WELCOME

Paisley West Church was formed in May 2018 following a union of Martyrs' Church and St. Columba Church. Following a period of interim ministry we are looking to call a minister on an unrestricted tenure. We have voted to depart from the historical position of the Church of Scotland and therefore welcome applications from those in same sex relationships.

As a united church we are seeking a minister to lead us and help us develop as a congregation, both inside and out across the Paisley West Parish.



OUR VISION

We seek a minister who can:

- Inspire all ages in worship, interpreting the scriptures in a way that is meaningful and relevant to our daily lives.
- Encourage and utilise the diverse talents within our congregation to help us sustain and grow the broader life of the church.
- Reach out to the wider community, ensuring that everyone, regardless of faith, race, or gender, feels a genuine sense of belonging.
- Nurture and sustain the faith of our young people, creating a strong foundation for them in an ever-changing world.
- Enable us to engage missionally in our parish and help us develop an outward looking focus.



WHO WE ARE

Paisley West Church was formed in May 2018 following a union of Martyrs' Church and St. Columba Church and came into being as a result of the Clyde Presbytery Plan.



Paisley Martyrs', in the West End of the town, was founded in 1842 and was named after the martyrs who were executed in 1685. The Church was built in 1847, with later additions and alterations, which included the tower and south front in neo-Norman style in 1905. Inside are galleries on three sides on cast-iron colonnettes, while the 18ft long pulpit has been likened to the bridge of a ship.

St. Columba church in the Foxbar suburb of Paisley was opened in 1959 to accommodate the Gaelic Church of Scotland in Paisley. The Gaelic church had been erected for the purpose of accommodating Highlanders who had migrated to Paisley and the surrounding areas, for Gaelic worship. On 31st May 1834 the General Assembly granted a chapel constitution to the district of St Columba and in 1874 the parish was disjoined from the High Church and erected by the Court of Teinds as a Gaelic charge. In 1958 the charge of St Columba became Paisley St Columba Foxbar.

We have been without a permanent minister and our services have been conducted by ministers on pulpit supply, our worship leader, and a locum. An Interim Minister was appointed in May 2024 who currently leads our worship.

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OUR CONGREGATION

Our congregation reside in all parts of Renfrewshire with the church having a roll of 148 members, 4 adherents and 52 on the supplementary roll.

Our average attendance at Sunday morning worship is on average 70 people and at present we do not have an operating Sunday School, although 5 children under the age of 5 attend regularly, while 6 teenagers attend intermittently.

Our congregation is supported by our Kirk Session who visit each member at least 4 times a year.

We have a small, but keen, choir who provide the introit each week and are supported by 2 organists who share the duty.

A quarterly newsletter keeps our congregation informed of the life of the church.



CHALLENGES

There is now an expanded parish to serve.

There is a need to continue to build relationships across the whole congregation.

There is a need to ensure that existing members continue to feel cared for and loved by the church.

Although we have an ageing congregation, we wish to encourage young people and young families to join us in a caring and Christian environment.

We would like our new minister to reinvigorate our supportive Kirk Session and congregation.

WORSHIP

Sunday worship takes place on a weekly basis at 11am. The service is livestreamed online and is available afterwards for download.

There is a prayer group which meets at 10.30 am before each Sunday service.

Members of the congregation participate regularly by reading scripture. Hymns and music come predominantly from CH4.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated four times a year, the first Sunday of March, June, October and December. Special services are held throughout the Christian calendar.



CHURCH AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Our congregation gives regularly to a variety of charities. We support Christian Aid with a sponsored walk in May, and church collections both in May and December. We donate Christmas boxes to Operation Christmas Child. We collect for Renfrewshire Foodbank on a monthly basis. We support Crossreach Sunday in November. We donate seasonally to charities suggested by our Kirk Session.

Our premises are used extensively by organisations of the church and community.

CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

8th Paisley Boys' Brigade Company - providing opportunities for young people from P1 to 18 years of age.



Pastoral Committee - the committee organise regular events which focus on fun, food and fellowship, while also running regular fundraising lunches.

Wee Blether - weekly meeting providing opportunities for social gathering over tea, coffee and cake.



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CHURCH AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES (CONT'D)

Inside Out - this group uses craft and art to express the faith we hold both inside and outside the building. Displays have been created to celebrate Remembrance, Christmas, Easter and Pentecost. This involves people opting in and working in their own homes as well as those who come together to work on projects.



COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS

Zumba classes, Starlight Musical Theatre, King Street Medical Practice, Narcotics Anonymous, Castlehead High School, Tannahill Association, Yoga, Councillor Surgeries

The premises are also used by the local authority as a polling station during elections.

OUR BUILDING AND FACILITIES

Our building has a large bright interior. It benefits from disabled access with a ramp leading into the Chancel area of the church with space for wheelchairs. A loop system has also been installed for those with hearing difficulties.

The church benefits from a sound system with two radio and two static microphones. We also have two large screens which are linked to a laptop computer providing audio/visual capabilities to support worship and enhance the experience (Church Copyright Licence - 761855, + CCLI streaming licence - 238876).

The organ in use is a Wyvern (electronic) and a piano is also available in church. We are fortunate in that the layout of the building has integral halls, upstairs and downstairs to accommodate all Church activities and those of the community who use our premises.

Upstairs is the Vestry (with private toilet), a large upper hall with projector and screen. Access to the Pulpit is from the upper landing.

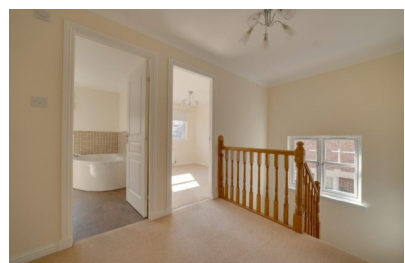
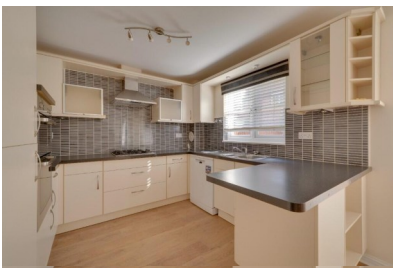
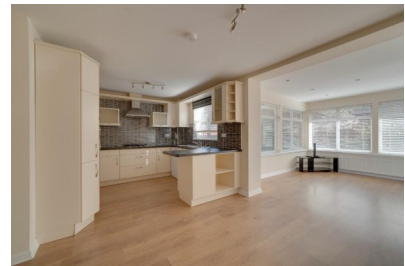
Downstairs is the main hall which can seat 120 persons and has a stage with sound system and screen. There is a Session/meeting room, new office with computers, printing facilities and internet access. We also have a well-equipped modern kitchen.



OUR MANSE

Our Manse is located in a desirable, quiet neighbourhood at 5 Glenvilla Crescent, Paisley, PA2 8TL. It is a spacious four-bedroom detached house comprising:

- Livingroom featuring bay windows
- Modern open plan kitchen with dining area
- Sunroom with access to back garden
- Further room and WC on ground floor
- Garage with internal access
- Master bedroom with ensuite shower room
- Bedrooms two and three benefit from a shared ensuite shower room
- Fourth bedroom
- Family bathroom
- Private gardens surrounding the property and driveway



LOCAL AREA AND PARISH

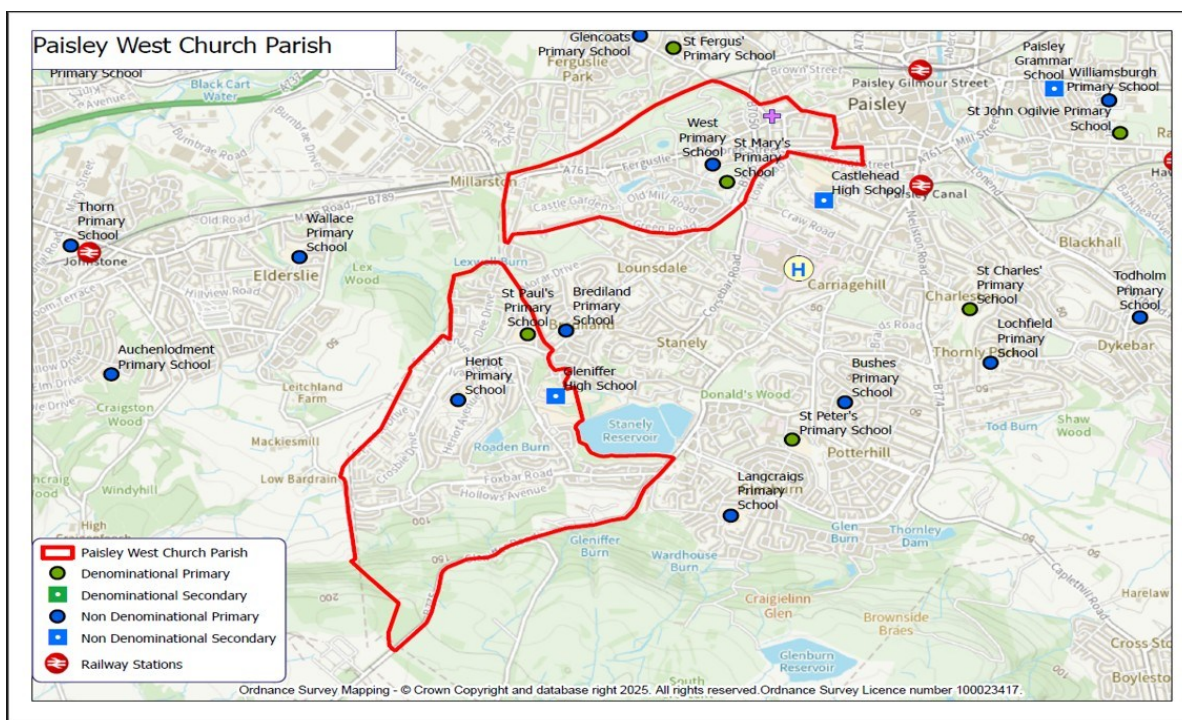
The Church occupies a main road corner site in the West End of the town. Paisley benefits from convenient access to the M8 motorway and railway links from 4 stations in the town.

Paisley is the largest town in Scotland, 7 miles from Glasgow and 2 miles from Glasgow International Airport.

Sporting, leisure and cultural facilities are varied and includes St Mirren Football Club, David Lloyd Sports Centre, One Ren Leisure facilities and Braehead Shopping Centre. There are numerous golf courses, bowling greens, cricket and rugby clubs locally.

Paisley has many fine buildings including Paisley Abbey, Museum and Art Galleries and many others, some which have been converted into private housing.

Throughout the town there are primary and secondary Schools with further education at West College Scotland and at The University of the West of Scotland.



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WHAT'S NEXT?

The Kirk Session and Congregation are fully committed to sharing the responsibilities, easing the day-to-day pressures, and giving you the space to explore and grow in facing the challenges we all face in maintaining and developing our church.

We will support our minister in encouraging the taking of time off and annual leave. We understand the importance of continual learning and will also encourage the taking of study leave.

Informal enquiries may be made to the Interim Moderator:

Rev. Sandra Black

Phone: 07703 827057

E-mail: sblack@churchofscotland.org.uk

We ask applicants to provide a covering letter containing a brief outline of how they might see themselves as being suitable for this vacancy, together with a CV and the names of two referees (one to provide a professional reference, the other a personal one). Referees will only be contacted if the application is being taken further. Applicants should (where possible) include links to any recent online services that they have conducted.

Documents relating to this vacancy can be found at:

<https://dev.paisleywest.org.uk/vacancy-details/>

Applications should be sent to:

William Ross

Clerk to the Nomination Committee

Phone: 07944 090468

E-mail: vacancy@paisleywest.org.uk