



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AT THE EARLY BIRD'S WEE SERVICE IN NOVEMBER

ST ANDREW'S IN THE GRANGE

JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2026

GREETINGS FROM THE MANSE

As we step into 2026, one phrase keeps coming to mind: 2025 was the year of planting. Not everything was big or dramatic, but it was a year of quiet, faithful work beneath the surface. A year of sowing seeds and trusting that God is at work, even when we cannot see the full picture.

We began new things and strengthened others. Our Book Club created space for people to connect and grow together. The Accessibility Project moved forward, helping us become a more welcoming church for all. We relaunched our Early Birds, giving our children a joyful and engaging space to discover faith. We kept showing up in our community with steady, practical love. One of the greatest encouragements has been seeing young people start coming back to church. It has been so lovely to see their faces and feel that sense of new life among us.

I am truly proud of our church, of the way we care, serve, and keep going, even when it is hard or slow. As we step into this new year, may we continue to plant, to water, and to trust God with the growth.

Happy New Year, and thank you for being part of this journey.

Blessings, Justin

UPCOMING EVENTS:

JANUARY:

- 11th COMMUNION SUNDAY
- 20th KIRK SESSION
- 25th EARLY BIRDS at 8:45

FEBRUARY:

- 1st COMMUNION SUNDAY
- 8th EARLY COMMUNION AT 9:00
- 22nd EARLY BIRDS AT 8:45



THE EARLY BIRD WEE SERVICE CONTINUES

After the joy and connection of our very first Early Bird Wee Service, we're excited to keep the tradition going. Join us on the last Sunday of each month for a warm and welcoming gathering for all ages. We'll start with a shared breakfast at 8:45 am, then move into a 30-minute, family-friendly service at 9:00am. It's a relaxed and joyful space to connect, reflect, and worship together before the day begins. Everyone is welcome, so come and see what the Early Bird joy is all about.



Church of Scotland Guernsey

Address:

Minister:

Website:

Facebook:

Instagram:

YouTube:

The Grange, St Peter Port, GY1 2QH

Rev Justin Taylor 257 345 or

jtaylor@churchofscotland.org.uk

www.cofsguernsey.org.gg

facebook.com/StAndrewsintheGrange

[@cofsguernsey](https://www.instagram.com/cofsguernsey)

www.youtube.com/@CofSGuernsey

ACCESSIBILITY ACCESS

Our new accessibility access is already making a real and visible difference. It has been a joy to see it in use, particularly by UnLtd Guernsey, welcoming people who might previously have found our building difficult or impossible to enter. Watching people move through the space with greater ease, confidence and dignity has been one of the quiet but profound gifts of this year.

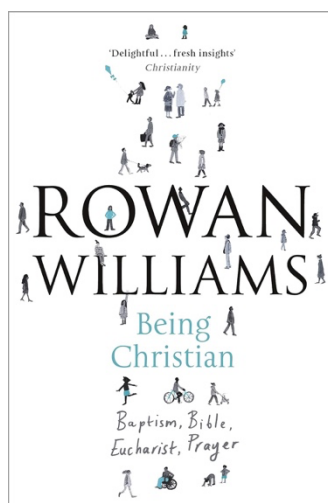
Our celebration service gave us a chance to pause and give thanks for how far we have come. It was a moment of shared pride, gratitude and hope, marking not just the completion of a project but a deeper commitment to being an open and inclusive church. These changes are not about bricks and mortar alone, but about people, presence and participation.

We are still around £20,000 short of our overall target, and there is more work to do. Yet even now, we are seeing the church spoken of and used as a true community asset. Our hope remains clear: that this building continues to serve the wider community, offering a space that is welcoming, accessible and rooted in care for all.

BOOK CLUB

You are warmly invited to join our book club, which meets every second Tuesday at The Cotils.

It is a relaxed and welcoming space for conversation, questions and shared reflection, whether you come with strong views, quiet curiosity, or simply a love of reading together.



Our next book will be *Being Christian*, and our next meeting takes place on Tuesday 14 January. You are very welcome to come along even if you have not finished the book, or if you simply want to listen and join the discussion at your own pace.

If you are not able to attend in person, we still encourage you to read the book in your own time. Justin is always available for questions or conversation, and the invitation to reflect, explore and think deeply together is open to all.

SUSTAINABILITY

Presbytery is encouraging us, as a Church, to look at our impact on the environment. This includes the area outside the church as well as what we do inside.

We need to look at what we are doing that is positive and think about ways to change where necessary. So any thoughts you have are very welcome.

Eco cleaning products, fairtrade biscuits/cakes and LED lights are some of the obvious indoor necessities. Outside we already have flowers but we should also consider bird boxes and bug hotels!

Lots to think about and I look forward to hearing from you. But watch out I might get in touch with you first!

Edith Mather

YOU'RE INVITED

If you have not been to church in a while, please know that you are warmly invited to come back. There is no need to explain your absence or have all the answers. We would love you to come and see the changes that have taken place, and to experience how the space is being opened up for wider use and deeper welcome.

Just as importantly, we invite you to be part of the life of this place. This church is shaped by the people who gather here, their stories, gifts and questions. Whether you come quietly at first or feel ready to get involved, there is room for you, and there is something of you that belongs here.

ROUND UP OF CHRISTMAS

December was one to be celebrated. We shared music in the community at Maison Laumone, St John's Residential Home and during Late Night Shopping, and we responded generously by collecting Advent calendars, presents and fuel vouchers for Guernsey Welfare, as well as raising funds for the Salvation Army Christmas lunch and Bright Beginnings.

Our worship through the season was joyful and varied, from the Scratch Nativity and Christingle to Nine Lessons and Carols and Midnight in Bethlehem. It was a busy and hope-filled month, marked by generosity, creativity and community.

YOUR PHOTOS AND VIDEOS

Please send your favourite church photos from 2025 to jtaylor@churchofscotland.org.uk. We are creating a short highlights video of the year, and would love to include your moments, memories, and glimpses of life in our church community.