

# ST ANDREW'S IN THE GRANGE JULY - AUGUST 2025

#### **GREETINGS FROM THE MANSE**

You may notice something different this month—our newsletter is now a shorter, double-sided format! We're trying something new to make our communication more clear, focused, and accessible.

There's so much happening in the life of our church, and we want to make sure everyone stays connected and informed. This new layout highlights the most important updates, events, and reflections in a way that's easier to read and share.

We're always learning and growing, and this is just one of the ways we're working to communicate better with you—our vibrant, engaged, and caring community.

With gratitude,

Justin

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Date: 26 JULY 2PM BEACH CLEAN
AT CHOUET

Date: 27 JULY WEE SERVICE

Date: 27 JULY URC COMING TO US Date: AUGUST SUMMER SERVICES

- 3 AUGUST CAFÉ STYLE
- 10 AUGUST OUTDOOR SERVICE AT LES COTILS
- 17 AUGUST CAFÉ STYLE
- 24 AUGUST CAFÉ STYLE Date: 31 AUGUST WEE SERVICE

#### **UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

Work is underway to make our church building more accessible. From widened doorways to improved facilities, many changes will make it easier for everyone to enter, move around, and feel at home. We've raised £45,000 out of our £85,000 target, and we appreciate every gift, no matter how small. Please continue to pray for the safety of the builders and the success of the project. Together, we're building a more welcoming church for everyone.





#### THE EARLY BIRD WEE SERVICE IS BACK

Join us on the last Sunday of each month for our *Early Bird Wee Service*—a warm and welcoming time for all ages. We begin with a shared breakfast at 8:45am, followed by a 30-minute family-friendly service at 9:00am. It's a relaxed space to connect, reflect, and worship together before the day begins. Everyone is welcome!



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**Website:** www.cofsguernsey.org.gg

**Facebook:** facebook.com/StAndrewsintheGrange **YouTube:** www.youtube.com/@CofSGuernsey

### MESSAGE FROM DAVID MCINTOSH

David McIntosh, eldest son of the late Audrey McIntosh, has shared a heartfelt appeal with the congregation.

Following Audrey's funeral last October, the family has been searching for a treasured family Bible once belonging to David's greatgrandfather, the Rev William McIntosh—a minister in South Africa from 1903–1926. The Bible had been passed down through generations and was last known to be in Audrey's home. Sadly, it is now missing.

While it holds little monetary value, the Bible has immense personal significance for the family. David wonders if Audrey may have lent it to someone, not knowing she would pass away so soon.

If anyone knows of its whereabouts, please contact David directly at 07940 204948 or davidzmcintosh@btinternet.com.

David, Ian, and Andrew remain deeply grateful for the support and kindness shown by the St Andrew's community.

# CHURCH OUTDOOR SERVICE AT LES COTILS

We're heading outdoors! On Sunday 10 August, our morning service will take place at The Cotils, starting at 10:30am, followed by a bring-and-share picnic.

It's a lovely chance for all ages to gather in the beauty of creation, share food, and enjoy relaxed fellowship together. Please bring something to sit on, food to share, and anything else you might need to feel comfortable outdoors.

If the weather turns, we'll move back to the church halls—so the picnic will go ahead, rain or shine! We look forward to seeing you there!

## HILARY BOYLE'S REFLECTION ON GENERAL ASSEMBLY (MAY 17-22)

This year's General Assembly took place in Edinburgh. Our minister, Rev Justin Taylor, attended in person, while I attended as our online commissioner.

A week filled with ceremony, historic echoes, and heartfelt worship began with the appointment of the new Moderator, the Rt Rev Rosie Frew, whose theme was *Extravagant Love*.

#### Highlights included:

- A renewed call for unity and compassion in a divided world, echoing early Church councils and the Nicene Creed.
- Honest discussion of serious financial challenges: with falling membership and income, a revised model of ministry and funding is being developed.
- The closure of *Life and Work* magazine after 146 years due to financial losses, with a promise to preserve its archives.
- A powerful Bible Society report reminding us that over half of the world's languages still have no Bible translation—yet signs of faith are growing, especially among younger generations. The Church reaffirmed its opposition to Assisted Dying, while recognising diverse theological views within its broad fellowship.
- A renewed call for unity and compassion in a divided world, echoing early Church councils and the Nicene Creed.
- Christian Aid celebrates its 80th anniversary, encouraging churches to plant trees of hope.

Though decisions made were often difficult, they reflect a Church seeking to follow the Spirit's leading with honesty and hope. The week closed with gratitude and a vision for the future captured in the *Vivid Vision* film, which all congregations are invited to explore and adapt locally, perhaps even in a future café-style service here in Guernsey.

Read the full reflection by Hilary Boyle, on our website.