



Dornoch, Lairg, Brora, Tain and Tongue News

SEPTEMBER 2025

'All things of creation are children of the Father'

-St Francis of Assisi

This month we enter the *Season of Creation*. If we truly believe in a God who is creator and sustainer of all that is, we also have to reconcile everything we do, each little action that may cause some harm, with the understanding that we are affecting the created order in some way.

It is a hard job being a person of faith.

Perhaps we feel this all the more when we compare our lives with those of the saints, like Gregory the Great whose feast day falls early this month – how can we possibly live up the Christian ideal – especially in our day to day lives, where it seems that the things we do to meet our basic needs contribute to chaos for the planet?

Perhaps, we think, that even today there are special people who just seem to find the Christian Life a natural fit. They get excited about church, and even sermons! They attend Bible study and spirituality groups, they work in the kitchen when the poor are fed, they subscribe to worthy causes and they already know the fine detail of the Provincial Environment Group's action plans for meeting Net Zero targets for carbon emissions.

Such an understanding (or rather, misunderstanding) actually falls short of our individual capacity to serve God. It limits our view of what **we** can do.

We are not meant to attempt the life of faith alone. Faith becomes possible when we trust God and trust each other enough to be the church. God wants to do great things through the church that

bears the cross. God wants us to see that being holy is about letting go of the worries about being judged by others and letting go of the feeling that your contribution to the church can only be so small and so it's irrelevant. Let go and hold on fast to the God who is Creator and Sustainer of all things.

- Fr Simon (aka Br Nicholas) OSB



St Columba's Episcopal Church, Brora
(The Tin Tabernacle)

Art Exhibition

Saturday 6th September 1-4pm
Sunday 7th September 1-4pm
(Light refreshments available)

An exhibition celebrating the Season of Creation – displays by local artists –
FREE ENTRY!

Season of Creation
SONGS OF PRAISE
at 4pm on Sunday 7th!

St Finnbarr's Vestry Meeting

A reminder to all members, that St Finnbarr's vestry meets on Thursday 11th September at 7pm in St Finnbarr's Church – thank you!

Season of Creation Study Group

Rev James Currall will be leading our Study Group for the Season of Creation (the month of September) this year it will be based around material adapted from the Season of Creation Project.

There will be four sessions each lasting a little over an hour, at Anna and James' house at 11 Ferry Road, Golspie on Wednesday afternoons at 2pm on the following dates:

- 10th Sept - Ocean Depths and Delights (Job 38:1-18; Luke 5:1-11)
- 17th Sept - Wisdom in the Creatures of the Earth (Job 39:1-8, 26-30; Luke 12:22-31)
- 24th Sept - Good News from the Sky (Jeremiah 4:23-28; Psalm 19:1-6; Mark 15:33-39)
- 1st Oct - The Wisdom Behind the World (Proverbs 8:22-31; Colossians 1:15-20)

The sessions revolve around a study of a two or three Bible passages on each occasion from the Wisdom literature in the Hebrew Bible and from the Gospels and will be semi-independent, so all are welcome even if you can't manage all of them.

If you wish any more information, speak to or contact
Canon James (RevJCurrall@mail.scot, 07989 383439).

Our thanks to James for organising this and to both James and Anna for hosting!

St Finn barr's Patronal Festival

On Sunday 28th September, St Finn barr's Dornoch will celebrate their patronal festival (translated from 25th) at their usual Sunday morning Eucharist – 11am.

CHORAL EVENSONG CHOIR

Thanks to those who came to the first meeting of our new Choral Evensong Choir a couple of weeks ago. We had about twelve who gathered, with a number of other people interested in joining. We sang through a few hymns and snippets of music that might appear at evensong.

Our next two rehearsals are –

Saturday 6th September (4.30pm-6pm) at ST COLUMBA BRORA

Wednesday 10th September (6.30pm-7.45pm) at ST FINNBARR DORNOCH

We are hoping that our first service of Choral Evensong will be for St Ninian on Tuesday 16th September at 7pm in St Finn barr's Dornoch – please do join us and encourage our new choir!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 6/7th September – Art Exhibition at St Columba's Brora.

Thursday 11th September 7pm – St Finn barr's vestry meeting at St Finn barr's, Dornoch.

Tuesday 16th September 7pm – Choral evensong (St Ninian) at St Finn barr's, Dornoch.

Friday 3rd October Evening – Autumn Concert at St Columba's Brora – more details to follow.

Friday 7th November 7.30pm – Strathfleet Buttons and Bows annual concert at St Finn barr's, Dornoch.

Services this month

Sunday 7th September

8.30am – St Maelrubha, Lairg – Holy Eucharist

11am – St Finnbarr, Dornoch – Holy Eucharist

11am – St Andrew, Tain – Holy Eucharist

4pm – St Columba, Brora – Songs of Praise

Sunday 14th September

11am – St Finnbarr, Dornoch – Holy Eucharist

11am – St Andrew, Tain – Holy Eucharist

4pm – St Columba, Brora – Healing and Renewal

Tuesday 16th September

7pm – St Finnbarr, Dornoch – Choral Evensong (St Ninian)

Thursday 18th September

12 noon – St Trolla, The Crask – Holy Eucharist

Sunday 21st September

8.30am – St Maelrubha, Lairg – Communion from Reserved Sacrament

11am – St Finnbarr, Dornoch – Holy Eucharist

11am – St Andrew, Tain – Holy Eucharist

Tuesday 23rd September

10.30am – Holy Eucharist – Hollybank, Ardgay

Sunday 28th September

11am - St Finnbarr, Dornoch – Holy Eucharist (Patronal Festival)

11am - St Andrew, Tain – Holy Eucharist

4pm – St Columba, Brora – Communion from Reserved Sacrament

A regular service of either Holy Eucharist or Communion from Reserved Sacrament happens at St Andrew's in Tain on Thursdays at 6pm.

READINGS THIS MONTH

Sunday 7th September

Dt 30.15-20 Psalm 1 Philem 1-21 Luke 14.25-33

Sunday 14th September

Ex 32.7-14 Psalm 51.1-11 1 T 1.12-17 Luke 15.1-10

Sunday 21st September

Am 8.4-7 Psalm 113 1 T 2.1-7 Luke 16.1-13

Sunday 28th September

Am 6.1a-, 4-7 Psalm 146 1 T 6.6-19 Luke 16.19-31

CONTACTS

Priest for St Finnbarr, Dornoch and St Columba, Brora

The Reverend Canon Fr Simon Scott OSB

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Interim priest for St Maelrubha, Lairg and St Trolla, The Crask

The Reverend Don Grant

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Eucharistic Ministers

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Web Site: <https://episcopaldornochtain.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/episcopaldornochtain/>

Scottish Charity Numbers: Missions: SC023271, Dornoch: SC009639, Tain: SC009500