

## St Nicholas Church Monthly Prayer - May 2024

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father as we journey towards Pentecost and the General Assembly, may we live and act together as a Church and community - building God's kingdom, together.

**Week 1** - Remember the work within the Church of Scotland, the Faith Action Programme Leadership Team as they deliver Worship in today's society encouraging reflection on the changing patterns of worship and spiritual practice that are emerging from disruption. We may not all be gathered in the same building, but at this time, when we need each other so much, we are invited to worship together, from where we are - knowing that God can hear us all and can blend even distant voices into one song of worship.

**Prayer:** Throw open every window and every door by which Your word might reach us. Open our hearts and our minds and our spirits to whatever You might have to say to us today.' Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton.

**Week 2** - Christian Aid Week - "With your help, we can work towards a world where families can escape the trap of poverty and fulfil their ambitions. Seven days, so many ways to fund lasting change".



### Week 3

#### Day of Pentecost

They had heard the crowds shout, "Crucify him!", they had watched Jesus suffer. The day of ascension must have been wondrous and sad. Seeing Christ disappear from sight and in His place there's another promise - God's Spirit will come. And they waited. For ten days they waited and all of a sudden God's Spirit not only came upon them but moved from within them. *John 20:22 Jesus "... breathed on them and said 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'*

In Acts, the Spirit descends upon the disciples on the day of Pentecost. However, both accounts follow the resurrection and refer to the disciples as having a new inward power that quite literally transformed them. No longer were they the disciples hiding in an upper room, now they become bold, they speak out with a new authority. Now they are ready to fulfil the great Commission:- *Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

We pray for the leaders and participants in **The General Assembly** guiding them through their decisions. - this will take place from 18-23 May 2024.

**Week 4 - Trinity Sunday** - So let's look forward in faith to the exciting week of worship ahead of us as we celebrate the fact that this is Trinity Sunday.

#### ***In memory of our dear friend Winifred Kisitu***

*Don't cry for me, I'm not gone. My soul is at rest, my heart lives on.*

*Light a candle for me to see and hold on to my memory,*

*but save your tears for I'm still here, by your side through the years.*

*By Christy Ann Martine*

