

**From:** Pres. Argyll <Argyll@churchofscotland.org.uk>  
**Date:** May 1, 2020 10:18:59 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Presbytery Prayer Rota and Intimations

**From:** Pres. Argyll  
**Sent:** 01 May 2020 10:15  
**To:** Pres. Argyll <Argyll@churchofscotland.org.uk>  
**Subject:** Presbytery Prayer Rota and Intimations

## Presbytery Prayer Rota

**Sunday 3 May 2020**

**Kyles:** Minister – Rev David Mitchell

In the midst of the strangeness of lockdown give thanks for the community support for Church that rises up. For the Church lunch club that is now meals on wheels and has been fully funded by donations and has a community group of volunteer drivers. For the generous support to fund on-line ministry and resources and for the comfort it brings to the locked down at home and, to our surprise, all over the world. Give thanks that amidst the tragedy of suffering and death a new world is dawning and a new way of being Church.

**North and West Islay:** Interim Moderator – Mrs Alison Hay

Could you ask that we pray for all our people that they will be kept safe and well. Also give thanks and appreciation to all the Argyll charges for enabling us to join in Sunday worship.

**Business Committee:** Please pray for the Business Committee and its Convener, Rev David Carruthers as it meets online this week.

**Schools and Colleges:** Please pray for all teachers and lecturers and staff of our schools and colleges and for the work they continue to produce during lockdown. Pray for pupils and students as they access their learning from a distance. Particularly pray for those who do not have the technology to access online working that they are motivated to use the work sent out to them by post.

## Intimations

- **Douglas Allan, Moderator of Presbytery calls presbyters to weekly prayer together on Wednesdays at Noon. Prayer is on the Presbytery Website and will be circulated to Presbyters and Session Clerks.**
- **A Message from Rev Ken Ross** (Sent to Jessie MacKenzie, Appin and published with her permission)

Dear Jessie,

Hope this finds you well. Clearly you have been passing through truly extraordinary times. It is hard to believe that life could become so different in such a short time. I am struggling to imagine what life is like in Netherlorn - I can join the online services which at least gives me a little sense of how life is.

You will not be surprised to hear that we have had to call off the deputation visits planned for May/June. Malawi's borders are closed for now and there are no planes flying. Even if I could reach Scotland it looks as if the lockdown will extend into May and even when it eases there may still be considerable restrictions on what is possible in terms of people gathering etc. So I fear we will have to accept defeat this time but I hope we can look on it as a postponement rather than a cancellation and the happy day will come when I can be heading for the west coast once again.

Meanwhile I am grateful for your concern and prayers for Malawi. Like every country we are struggling to know best to handle the pandemic and there is much politics at play. So far we only have a few dozen confirmed cases but testing facilities are few and far between so there could be many more. For now we are rather in suspense, fearing the worst, hoping for the best and waiting to see what happens.

Everyday life is very different for me with almost everything I expected to be doing being cancelled. I am trying to turn crisis into opportunity by having a kind of literary retreat. Several writing projects that have been on the back burner are now sitting on my desk and it is a rare chance to get undisturbed time to sit and write.

Hope you are able to get my blog ok ([www.thinkingmission.org](http://www.thinkingmission.org)) and I have just sent off another PP letter. All the more important to keep in touch when our normal interaction is so much curtailed. Very best wishes to the Mission Committee and any of our friends in Argyll whom you can reach by remote means.

Take care,  
Ken

**Stay Safe Online: It has been reported that in one of our congregations that church office-bearers received spam emails purporting to come from their minister.**

The first asked the office-bearers to send an Amazon Gift card for £200 to her niece for her birthday as she couldn't get in to her account to do it. The minister's computer has not been hacked, nor are any other members of the congregation or her friends been contacted. It's therefore reasonable to assume that they are trawling Church websites for contact details.

**Online services available from Argyll**

The following services are being provided online for local congregations and those who wish to log in from places further afield:

West Kintyre and Gigha – Rev Scott Burton -<https://www.westkintyreandgighachurchofscotland.org/> Worship

The United Church of Bute – Rev Owain Jones - <https://www.unitedchurchofbute.org.uk/>

The Shore Kirk – Rev Janet MacKellar –

or <https://sites.google.com/view/theshorekirk/home>  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/345399762209092/>

Ardchattan Iw Coll Iw Connel – Rev Willem Bezuidenhout <https://www.ardchattanchurch.org.uk/>

West Cowal – Rev David Mitchell  
<https://www.westcowalchurches.org.uk>

South Kintyre – Rev Steve Fulcher  
[www.kintyreparishes.org.uk](http://www.kintyreparishes.org.uk)