

THE SCOTS KIRK PARIS



Christmas at the SKP



Sunday 11th December

11 am

Service of Bible readings and favourite Christmas carols. We look forward to welcoming members of *Les Maîtres Chanteurs* (a choir which practises in our church every week) and to having them lead us in song.



Sunday 18th December

11 am

Family Christmas service when you are asked to bring a wrapped present for the homeless men in the care of the Missionnaires de la Charité.

Saturday 24th December

7 pm

All are welcome to our Christmas Eve service as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Come and enjoy a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie after the service.



Sunday 25th December

11 am

You are warmly invited to our Christmas Day service when we will join Christians around the world in giving thanks for the little baby born in Bethlehem.

The Hush of Christmas

Have you observed this Christmas thing?
How shoppers shop and sleigh bells ring,
And children wrapped in muffs and cuffs
Are trying out their newfound stuff.

Have you observed how fast it comes,
Overtakes, invades our homes?
How life takes on that quickened pace
That makes each day another race.

But have you noticed how the rush
Is stayed with times of holy hush?
And no one ever seems to know
From where they come or where they go.

A pause upon a Christmas stage,
A costumed, bearded ancient sage,
Points to a distant tinsel sky,
And all at once the Christ is nigh.

Or at a time when by the tree
The children watch so eagerly,
As shining bells are put in place
And wonder fills each tiny face.

Or by the fire when children sleep
And parents whisper so to keep,
The stillness of the fading day
As treasures in their hearts to stay.

Or when amidst the candlelight
The choir begins, "Oh, Holy Night,"
And lives so filled with busyness
Are wafted to a quiet bliss.

So as the season comes your way
For you and yours, we humbly pray
That in this time of Christmas rush
You will find that holy hush.

Carl F. Verge, president of a theological college

A personal message from Louise Anderson

Reflecting on the year 2022 where we have seen so many changes of faces in the pulpit at the SKP, I wanted to give some feedback and also make some encouraging comments.



As a retiree, fortunate enough to take full advantage of the SKP Sunday services, on a very regular basis, I would like to draw attention to what some people might consider as an unfortunate situation, "having no fixed minister," and one I have found to be the contrary. I have loved having locums and will now say why.

Laurence Twaddle, our Interim Moderator, with his own congregation in Geneva, put together a remarkable team of visiting ministers for us in the SKP.

Totally dedicated to their task, in a new environment, with obstacles to surmount, they have blessed us with excellent Sunday services, week in week out. We have benefitted from a huge pool of experience, variety of styles and accents (!) and inspiring services which to my regret, too few people from our congregation heard. You would have been really pleased to have heard more of these preachers. As we say in Scotland, "You fair missed yourself!"

As things stand just now, I understand we will continue with temporary ministers into 2023. It seems that Covid took the edge off a lot of people's natural enthusiasm and made us reluctant to get moving again. Maybe it requires a bit more effort on our part, but as far as Sunday at the Kirk is concerned it is really worthwhile and a rewarding experience. I would urge you to come along and meet these inspiring preachers.

Thanks to the Elders of our Church without whose efforts we would not have functioned as we did on Sunday mornings.

Enjoy the Festive Season services.

Louise Anderson