



Parish Profile: Inverness Inshes East Church of Scotland

Scottish Charity No. SC005553

Welcome to Inverness Inshes East

Inshes East Church of Scotland is an active, Bible-centred congregation on the east side of Inverness, serving a diverse and expanding suburban community in the capital of the Highlands. Formed in March 2023 through the union of Inshes Church and the East Church, with a shared heritage of teaching the Bible and praying together, we are intentionally outward-looking - seeking to live and proclaim the good news of Jesus in a changing city and a rapidly growing region.

Following the retirement of Rev. David Scott in June 2026, and as we look to the future, we are prayerfully seeking a minister who will walk with us, preach God's Word faithfully, and help us grow deeper in discipleship and wider in mission.

Who We Are

The story of Inverness Inshes East is one of continuity and change.

- Inshes Church opened in 2003, when the West Church congregation relocated from Huntly Street to serve a growing suburban area.
- The East Church of Inverness, founded in 1798, served the city centre faithfully for over two centuries.
- In March 2023, these congregations united to form Inverness Inshes East Church.

We are a congregation that believes deeply in the authority of Scripture and the power of the gospel. Our life together is shaped by worship, prayer, teaching, and fellowship, with a shared desire to see lives transformed by faith in Jesus Christ.

We are blessed with a wide age range, committed leadership, and a variety of gifts across the congregation. Many members are actively involved in pastoral care, children's and youth work, leading worship, prayer, and hospitality.

We also carry a strong sense of calling to reach those beyond our existing congregation, including a church-planting vision in Milton of Leys, one of Inverness's fastest-growing residential areas.

The Kirk Session is committed to upholding the Church of Scotland's traditional position on the ordination, induction, and appointment of ministers and deacons.

What We Offer

- Weekly Sunday gatherings at 10:30am and 6:30pm
- Bible-centred preaching with a blend of traditional hymns and contemporary worship songs
- Livestreamed and recorded services, extending our reach beyond the building
- A strong commitment to prayer and bible study, including congregational prayer gatherings and home groups
- A wide range of active mid-week groups fostering faith, fellowship, and pastoral support
- Established and growing children's, youth, and family ministries

A congregation of circa 300 (morning) and 150 (evening) attending Sunday gatherings from 360 members and 150 others associated with the congregation.

- A motivated and engaged Kirk Session of 18 elders operating under the Unitary Constitution
- Experienced and gifted staff supporting ministry across generations
- A clear and developing mission focus, including the Milton of Leys church plant
- Strong pastoral awareness and care within the congregation and parish

Worship and Spiritual Life

We want our gatherings to be welcoming, accessible, and rooted in systematic biblical teaching. We value worship that is Spirit-empowered, speaking to both heart and mind, and helping people encounter God and apply faith to everyday life.

Communion is celebrated regularly throughout the year, and we seek to include children and families meaningfully in worship wherever possible, including through all-age services.

Music reflects a blend of traditions, using both hymns and modern worship songs, supported by musicians and digital projection.

Prayer is central to our life as a church – before and during Sunday gatherings, and across the week. We believe prayer sustains the church, shapes discernment, and empowers mission.

Children, Youth, and Families

We are convinced about the importance of teaching the Bible and nurturing faith from the earliest years and supporting families in their discipleship journey. Our ministries include:

- Truth Trackers for nursery and primary-aged children, and crèche provision during Sunday gatherings
- Inshes East Teens
- FAB (Families & Bairns)
- Messy Church events, offering creative, family-friendly engagement with faith

These ministries are supported by dedicated volunteers and a Youth and Families Worker (currently part-time), and are a vital part of our church's present life and future vision.

Community and Context

Inshes East serves a suburban parish within one of Scotland's fastest-growing cities. The area includes young families, professionals, older residents, and people new to the Highlands, offering both opportunity and challenge for mission.

We have strong links with all three primary schools in the parish, as well as the catchment secondary school. Raigmore, the major hospital serving the Highlands, and the Inverness Campus of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) are both within easy walking distance of the church.

Our church building is a modern, flexible space in a prominent position adjacent to Inshes Retail Park, and is used on most days of every week by our own groups and community groups involved in care and support work.

We enjoy positive relationships with other Christian churches in Inverness, and value opportunities for shared worship, prayer and cooperation where appropriate.

Leadership, Staffing, and Shared Ministry

Alongside the minister, the church benefits from:

- A committed and prayerful Kirk Session
- A full-time locally funded Ministry Associate leading the church plant in Milton of Leys
- A part-time locally funded Youth and Families Worker
- A full-time experienced Church Administrator
- A part-time (1 day per week) locally funded Pastoral Assistant
- Elders and members actively involved in worship and pastoral care

We are keen to continue identifying and developing leaders from within the congregation, recognising the gifts and resources God has given us.

Buildings and Finance

The church building is purpose built, with a gathering hall, sanctuary (with moveable chairs, recently upgraded sound system and digital screens), Truth Trackers room, chapel room, crèche room, vestry, kitchen and portacabin.

The manse is a modern, five bedroom home in Milton of Leys, 5 minutes drive from the church building and with spectacular views over the Moray Firth.

God's people have generously supported the work of Inshes East, and we have been able, in addition to meeting our commitments to Giving to Grow, to make regular contributions to a number of Christian organisations, ministries and missions, as well as purchasing a four bedroom home in Milton of Leys (held by the General Trustees) which is leased to our Ministry Associate. A 2 bedroom flat adjacent to the old East Church building is locally owned and let.

The Kirk Session has appointed a Finance and Fabric Committee to oversee our resources. We are on a sound financial footing, and our accounts for year ended 31 December 2025 can be viewed [here](#)

Who we are looking for

We are praying for a minister who has:

- A deep and evident love for Jesus Christ expressed in life, character and ministry
- A firm belief in the Bible as the divinely inspired Word of God, and our supreme authority
- A conviction of the centrality of preaching the Good News, and a proven ability in systematic expository Bible teaching
- A deep and evident love for God's people with a heart to know, care for and shepherd them, and a commitment to equipping and encouraging them to recognise, develop and use their gifts in the service of Christ
- A passion to see people coming to faith in Christ, and all believers grow as witnessing disciples
- The spiritual and emotional maturity and wisdom to handle sensitive pastoral issues
- An appreciation of the value and importance of youth and family work and church planting, and the ability to facilitate and encourage the development of these as the leader of a team ministry.

Photographs

Church



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Web Links

Inverness Inshes East Parish Statistics: see [here](#)

Property Schedules: can be viewed on these links [Church](#) and [Manse](#)

Church website: <https://insheseastchurch.org/>

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/insheschurchofscotland/?locale=en_GB

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@insheschurch7113/streams>

If you feel called to serve with us at Inshes East Church, we warmly invite you to apply. Please submit your CV, together with a covering letter that includes a brief personal statement explaining why you feel called to this charge and how you believe you fit the Parish Profile. Please also provide the names and contact details of two referees. Referees will only be contacted if your application is being taken further. Applications should be sent to the clerk to the nominating committee, Alan Buist, by email: alanbuist5@gmail.com.

LET US RUN WITH ENDURANCE THE RACE THAT IS SET BEFORE US, LOOKING TO JESUS, THE FOUNDER AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH, WHO FOR THE JOY THAT WAS SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED THE CROSS, DESPISING THE SHAME, AND IS SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD. (Hebrews 12:1-2)