

The Parishioner

March 2016



Saint Mary's
parishchurchkirkintilloch



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March 2016

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Registered Charity No. SC007260



Pastoral Letter

March 2016

Dear Friends,

This week Audrey and I have gone for a city break to Venice. We have been celebrating a significant birthday and to be in such an interesting place has been enjoyable.

During our time here we have taken some time to visit Florence. A young woman from the congregation I grew up in now lives in Florence. We may manage to catch up.

The different cities bring such a different way of life. Venice is really interesting how they cope with the Canals, and narrow alleys are fascinating. No cars, few green spaces and a constant flow of visitors. The Churches in the city are Byzantine in style and show something of eastern

Continued overleaf

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culture meeting western culture, the architecture, the art work and the gold mosaic all speak of a mix of cultures.

The artist Turner caught Venice beautifully he shows it at its best. The light, the colours and the atmospheric nature of his landscapes reveal a place of romantic importance.

The culture of a place clearly shapes how people express their faith. Consider the early Christians under Roman occupation, in a Jewish culture shaped by occupation and tension.

Jesus calls people to freedom. You can see the value of freedom when people feel confined.

The apostle Paul recognises the division of Jew and gentile, he constantly calls for unity in Christ. He speaks again and again of being one in the body.

As we look around our community what does the good news of Jesus have to say our context. What do people need to hear? They are welcome? They are accepted? They belong? They are of value? Their opinion does matter?

I'm not sure what it can be for the individual but if the gospel is to be relevant it must speak as loudly to our culture as it did to the Jews, the Romans and the Venetians.

We have almost arrived in Florence.

See you all soon and kindest regards from Venice.

Mark & Audrey Johnstone.

Find us on:



@minsmc



**st mary's
kirkintilloch**

Parish Register

Baptisms

Jesus said 'Let the children come to me, for as such is the Kingdom of heaven' . . . he placed his hand upon them and blessed them.'

February 07 Harper Rose Larwood, daughter of Kimberley and Steven
21 Ada Mary Catherine Wilson,
daughter of Heather and David
Daniel Scott Mills, son of Lynn and Graham

The Lord bless you, and keep you: the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you: the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace

Funerals

*Jesus said 'I am the resurrection and the life ...'
'Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted'
Jesus said 'The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God'.*

February 05 Mrs Maureen Tinning, 3 Keir Hardie Court,
Bishopbriggs
08 Mrs Rhona Bruce, Campsie View Care Home,
Kirkintilloch
10 Kenneth Werrett, 2 Waterloo Gardens, Kirkintilloch
15 James Allan, 24 Adamslie Drive, Kirkintilloch
16 Donald Livingstone, 58 Ellisland Drive, Kirkintilloch
17 Margaret McNiff, 21 Braes O'Yetts, Kirkintilloch
25 William Wallace, 23 Adamslie Drive, Kirkintilloch

The Bells of St Mary's

March 13 Mary Stirling and Jen Biggans
20 Linda Brown and Olivia Fotheringham
27 Mary Stirling and Nikita Rayner
April 03 Lisa and Daniel Malloy-Gibson
10 Dorothy Stewart and Cara Bevens





Church Flowers

We wish to thank the following members who will donate the flowers for the Chancel of our Church during March.

March	13	Mrs K Pollock, Mrs D McMillan, Mrs A Scott
	20	Mrs C Hickey, Mrs J Paterson, Mr D Houston
	27	Mrs J Whyte, Mrs P Sinclair, Mrs E Gillespie
April	03	Mrs J Stewart, Mrs C Keellings, Mrs E Cowie, Mrs W Steele

The following members, whom we wish to thank for their assistance, will be responsible for the distribution.

March	06/13	Mrs D More, Mrs I Kennedy
	20/27	Miss E Cousin, Mr G Burns
April	03/10	Mrs B McEwen, Mrs S Burns

Thank You

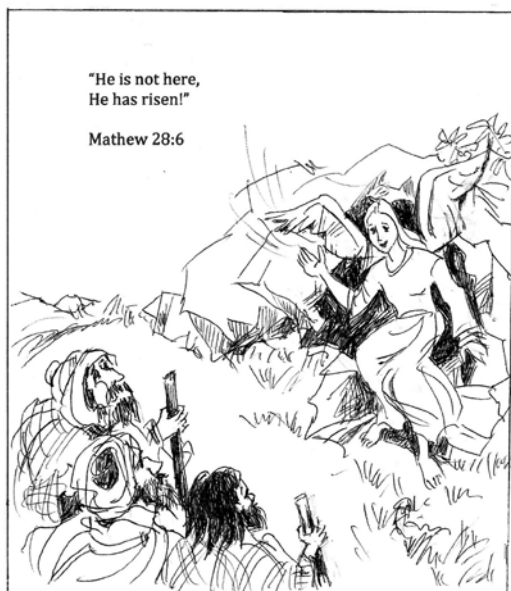
Our thanks go to the ladies and gentlemen who gave so generously towards the Chancel flowers for the month of February.

Thank you acknowledgements have been received from the following people: Mrs E Philips, Mrs J. Sinclair, Mrs B. Cowie, Mrs E. Dunn, Mrs C. Clingan, Mrs B. Wallace, Mrs M. Devine, Mrs J. Morrison, Mr Mrs R. Tinning, Mrs A. Pearson, Mrs C. Devine, Mrs J. Jennings, Mrs M. Henderson, E. & F. Devine, Mrs A. Abercrombie, Mr G. Kennedy, Mr N McKinnon, Mrs B. MacArthur, Mrs M. Cooper, Mr Mrs A. MacNeill, Mrs V. Steele, Mrs N. Doran, Mrs M. Primrose, Mrs J. Corr on behalf of her Mum Mrs R. Stirling, Mrs A. Rodger, Miss A. Tassie, Mr Mrs J. Wilson, Mrs B. Young on behalf of Mrs G. Young, Mr Mrs R. Smart, Mrs Y Dolan

Thank you for the flowers I received at the end of the year after my stay in hospital. I not only appreciated receiving them, but also the pot plant at Christmas! It was a pleasant surprise to get them and I am thankful for the thoughtfulness. Also thanks to Dorothy for delivering them.

Muriel Hopkins

Holy Week Services



Holy Week Services this year are as follows. Starting time has normally been 7.30pm, **but please check Weekly Sheet for confirmation.**

Monday 21 March

St Mary's Parish Church

Tuesday 22 March

St Columba's Parish Church

Wednesday 23 March

Hillhead Parish Church

Thursday 24 March

St David's Parish Church

Friday 25 March

St Mary's Parish Church

St. Mary's Nursery School are again participating in the Sainsbury's voucher scheme. We would be most grateful to receive any voucher donations you may have. Please put your vouchers into the Nursery pigeon hole in the corridor of the church halls or hand in to Lynn Hay. Thank you.



The Guild

The Guild meets on Friday evenings in the Mid Hall at 7.30pm and the programme for March is as under.

March 18 Isobel Allan – Legal Eagle
 25 A.G.M.

The Parishioner

Copy for the March Parishioner should be handed to Sandra Burns, left in the Publications pigeon hole in the Hall vestibule, or sent by e-mail to sandraburns.me@gmail.com
no later than Sunday 27 March.

Visitors are welcome

St Mary's is a sit anywhere Church and visitors are always welcome. If you feel there should be more to life than retail therapy and Friday night clubbing, try coming along to the 11 o'clock service on Sunday morning. You may hear something to change how you value your life and your relationships with those around you. You don't have to join up to join in.

The Church office is located on the right as you enter the Church Halls. The secretary, Mrs Lynn Hay, is available in the office Monday to Friday 9.15 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. and may be the first point of contact for general enquiries. Lynn will be able to refer you to the person best suited to respond. Church office telephone 0141 775 1166 or e-mail: office.stmarys@btconnect.com

Dates for your Diary

FUND RAISING . . .

Our next fund raising event for the roof fund is on Sunday 13 March when there will be a Baked Potato Lunch after the Church service. Come and enjoy lunch and fellowship after the service.

Listeners Circle



The next meeting will be on Friday 18 March. The choice of music this month is that of Jim Walker. Everyone is welcome at 2.00 p.m. in the Session House.



FUND RAISING GARDENING TIME

Another fund raising event for the roof fund is on Friday 1st April. Gardening time is almost here and Colin from Caulder's Garden Centre is coming along to help with your gardening problems. A light supper will be provided. Tickets will be on sale from Sunday 13 March at a cost of £5. So don't be an April Fool, come along.

Kirkintilloch Male Voice Choir Concert

Kirkintilloch Male Voice Choir is holding their 95th Annual Concert in the church on Saturday 2nd April, 2016 at 7.30pm. Their special guest will be Christopher Nairne of The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Tickets are priced at £8 and can be obtained from Sally McLellan or David Burns at the church or by phoning 0141 775 2437. There will be a donation from the proceeds of the concert to the Seagull Trust.

BRITISH SUMMER TIME

British Summer Time begins at 1.00am on Sunday 27 March. Please remember to put your clocks and watches FORWARD ONE HOUR before you retire on the Saturday night or you could be late for Church!



TREASURER'S REPORT January Offering

DATE	FREEWILL OFFERING	GIFT AID	OPEN PLATE	STANDING ORDERS
03.01.16	227.89	199.00	111.00	
10.01.16	567.00	464.00	104.61	
17.01.16	237.00	259.00	227.35	
24.01.16	389.00	717.00	88.28	
31.01.16	255.50	364.00	97.42	
Standing orders				3643.00
TOTAL	1676.39	2003.00	628.66	3643.00

Total for the Month 7951.05

RECEIPTS AND DONATIONS Received January

with thanks and gratitude for your consideration of our Church

Mr Arthur Main donation to Parishioner	10.00
Donation to cover the fees for Eco Congregation Membership for 2016	100.00
Parishioner Donations	15.00
Anonymous Donation to Roof Fund	1000.00



FEBRUARY 2016 REPORT

Inspection Report

In our last newsletter we had just received our Care Inspectorate Report from the unannounced inspection in August 2015. We can now share our overall grades and a selection of comments from the report.

Quality of Care and Support 6 - Excellent

Quality of Environment 5 - Very Good

Quality of Staffing 5 - Very Good

Quality of Management and Leadership 5 - Very Good

Excerpts from report:

“St. Mary’s Nursery delivers high quality early learning and childcare for children. Management and staff are very knowledgeable and professional in working with children, families and other agencies. They are clearly dedicated to the care and development of children. The manager is enthusiastic and committed to further developing the service and continuing to work with staff, parents and children to achieve this”

“During the inspection we observed excellent interactions between children and staff. Children enjoyed challenging activities supported by staff that were skilled and knowledgeable about individual children’s needs and interests”

“Management and staff deliver high quality learning and childcare, creating caring and nurturing environments that promote wellbeing, communication, curiosity, inquiry and creativity. There is a very strong team work ethos”

“Overall it was clear that staff built upon learning that had taken place at home and provided children with a rich variety of challenging play activities and other experiences in a stimulating environment.”

Continued overleaf

Our Learning Focus

Our new learning focus is “friendship”. Through observing the children in the playrooms, friendship is something the children are developing during their play.

Children have been asked ‘What is a friend?’ Our aim for this topic is that children will learn to develop social skills, develop an awareness of the difference and similarities of people, take turns through play and develop their ability to describe their feelings.

The Friendship Code will be reinforced and we will encourage sharing and developing the skill of conversation.

Sharing in our learning focus will be our volunteer Kirsty Soutar. Kirsty was previously a student with us during her NC in Early Years and has come back to volunteer on a fortnightly basis.

Curriculum Mornings

Curriculum mornings took place on Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th February at 9.15am. These meetings are for parent/carers who did not have the opportunity to attend one last term. This is an informal meeting to go over children’s learning in relation to the Curriculum for Excellence and inform parents/carers of the learning that takes place in nursery. Parents/Carers also have the opportunity to ask any questions they may have.

Children’s Learning Journeys are discussed, highlighting how we track and evidence learning and explaining the involvement of Key Workers, parents/carers and children.

Kilt Walk with St. Mary’s!

We invite parents/carers to join us on this year’s Kilt Walk. This is a 26 mile walk for charity (the charity this year is still to be decided-suggestions welcome). The walk is taking place on Sunday 24th April 2016.

Nursery staff are taking part so if you would like to support them with a donation please contact Lynn Hay at the Church Office.

Great fun was had by all last year, along with a donation of £2,500 to EDC Women’s Aid.

Resurrection Prayer

Loving Father,

Thank you for Jesus; for his life and death, but most of all for His resurrection, which makes all things new and possible.

Thank you for the reality that He defeated death by his work on the Cross and offers life forever with Him to all who believe in Him and receive Him into their lives as Lord and Saviour. Thank you for that incomprehensible but very real resurrection peace that we can know even in our darkest times by the presence of your Holy Spirit in us.

In joy and thankfulness we praise and honour you this Easter-time.
In Jesus' name. Amen.

Easter

The miracle of Easter, so old yet ever new,
brings its special blessing of happiness to you.
And as the coming Springtime
adds new beauty to each day,
May God look down and bless you
in a very special way.

Lot's Wife

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, "My Mommy looked back once while she was driving," he announced triumphantly, "And she turned into a telephone pole!"

Good Samaritan

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?" A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, "I think I'd throw up."

Did Noah Fish?

A Sunday school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?"
"No," replied Johnny. "How could he, with just two worms."

The Rectory . . .

St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

This year, the rigours of Lent have taken second place to a far more pressing matter: the installation of a lavatory at St. James the Least. Personally, I entirely disapprove of this additional sign of decadence in our moral fibre; we have survived perfectly happily for the last 800 years without one, so why is there such an urgent need now? And being surrounded by acres of fields, there seems to be a completely acceptable alternative.

It also spoils the pleasure I used to take, informing ushers at weddings, having liberally refreshed themselves at our local pub before the Service, that we have no facilities and that they would just have to wait. Their look of pained resignation, developing to clear signs of repentance as the Service progressed, was most cheering. It also meant that wedding parties did not linger after the Service but disappeared with commendable speed to safe havens.

I anticipate that now we have the thing, a sub-committee will inevitably form to devise a commissioning Service for the person who will be in charge of its maintenance. I can already foresee Lady Bartlett proposing an appropriate set of robes for the office holder – although it will need some tact to select suitable insignia on the sleeves.

In fact, the project has not been

entirely successful; we still need to have a lock fitted and so at present, occupants have been advised to sing hymns loudly, preferably something rousing; “Onward Christian soldiers” would be ideal. A hymn book has been installed as an aide memoire.

The greater difficulty arises from our antiquated plumbing system. A member of the congregation can leave a Service perfectly discreetly; they can enter the lavatory unseen by anyone, but on flushing, water is drawn through pipes running the length of the inside of the building with a thunderous roar that obliges me to stop preaching until the cataract has subsided. By the time the customer returns quietly into church, all noise has ceased and they remain oblivious of the chaos they caused and the stoic politeness of the congregation.

I am sure that in your worship centre you will have lavish cloakrooms furnished with colour co-ordinated walls and towels, baby changing facilities and video monitors relaying everything going on, so that users will not be denied a single second of your hour-long sermons. .

Our congregation should be grateful for what they now have. And to think that someone even suggested it should have heating!

Your loving uncle, Eustace



HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is the week before Easter Day; it starts with Palm Sunday which is on 20th March this year. Palm Sunday is when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.



The Thursday of Holy Week is called Maundy Thursday which is named for the words that Jesus used at his last meal with the disciples, what we now call the Last Supper. The Latin words are 'Madatum novum da vobis' – a new commandment I give you'. Do you know what that commandment is? You can read the whole account in St John's Gospel, chapter 13.

Then comes Good Friday - a lot of people can't see why a day that commemorates the trial and crucifixion of Jesus could be called 'good'. It was a black day but Christians know that without what happened that Friday there would be no Easter. Without the death of our Lord there would have been no empty tomb on Easter Day, no glorious Resurrection.

HOT CROSS BUNS

One of the pleasures of Easter is eating hot cross buns. Like most things they cost more now than they did in this old rhyme...

Hot Cross Buns,
Hot Cross Buns,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot Cross Buns.

If you have no daughters,
Give them to your sons,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot Cross Buns.

If you have some time to spare,
see how many words you can make from the letters in the words HOT CROSS BUNS. Words of at least 3 letters, no plurals, proper names or foreign words.

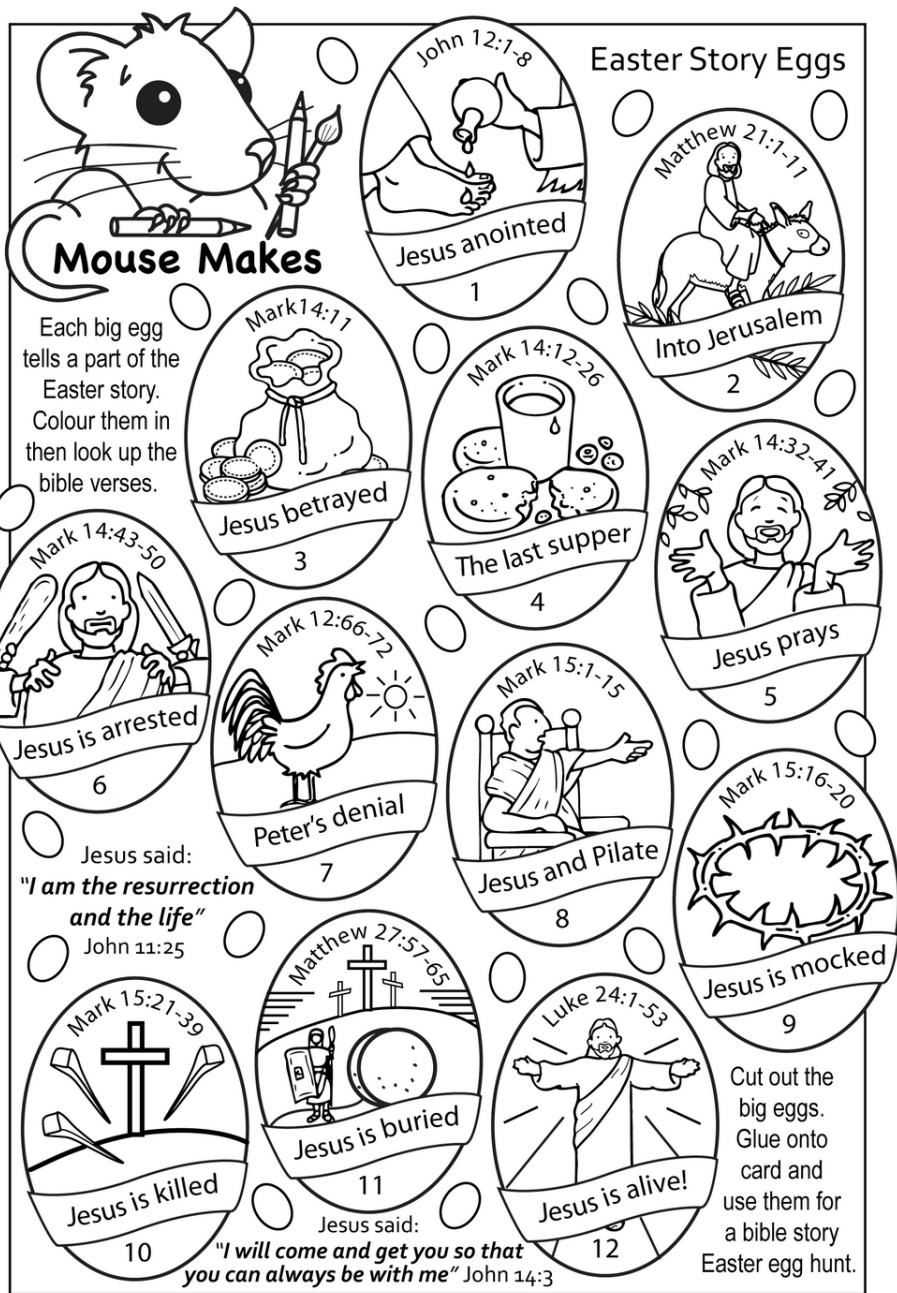


What do you get when you pour boiling water down a rabbit hole?

A hot cross bunny.

Why couldn't the rabbit fly home for Easter?

He didn't have the hare fare.



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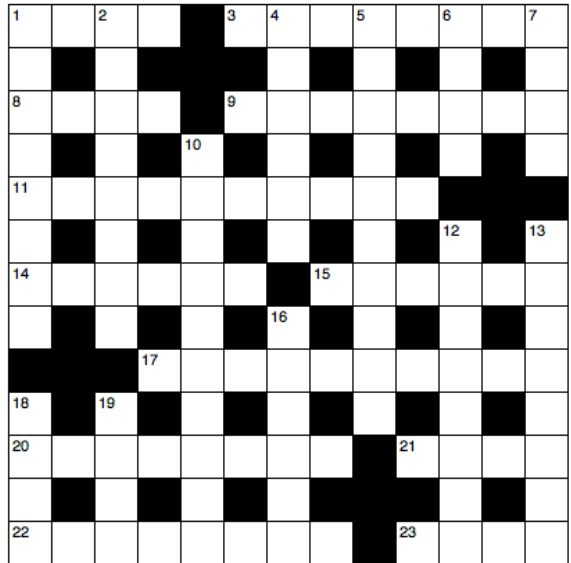
Across

- 1 Made from the fruit of the vine, symbol of the blood of Christ (4)
- 3 'You are to set an ambush behind the city. Don't go very far from it. All of you be on — — ' (Joshua 8:4) (3,5)
- 8 Seep (4)
- 9 Celebrated by Jesus on the night of his betrayal (Luke 22:15) (8)
- 11 One of the supposed sites of Christ's burial place in Jerusalem (6,4)
- 14 'A city on a hill — be hidden' (Matthew 5:14) (6)
- 15 He inherited Elijah's mantle (2 Kings 2:12-13) (6)
- 17 Where Jesus prayed 'Not as I will, but as you will' (Matthew 26:36, 39) (10)
- 20 'Only in his home town and in his — — is a prophet without honour' (Matthew 13:57) (3,5)
- 21 Sail (anag.) (4)
- 22 How Jesus was punished before his crucifixion (Matthew 27:26) (8)
- 23 Eye sore (4)

Down

- 1 Can't grow (anag.) (5,3)
- 2 A servant girl to Peter, 'You also were with that — , Jesus' (Mark 14:67) (8)
- 4 Well-being (Proverbs 3:8) (6)
- 5 Pentecostal denomination, — of God (10)
- 6 One of the 'obvious' acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19, 21) (4)
- 7 'I preached that they should repent and — to God' (Acts 26:20) (4)
- 10 ' — — , the world will not see me any more, but you will see me' (John 14:19) (6,4)

Crossword



ANSWERS AT FOOT OF PAGE

- 12 He betrayed Jesus: Judas — (Luke 6:16) (8)
- 13 Jesus to Peter: ' — — of my sheep' (John 21:16) (4,4)
- 16 The centurion said, 'Surely this man was — — of God' (Mark 15:39) (3,3)
- 18 Baked bread (Mark 8:14) (4)
- 19 'Blessing and honour, glory and power, be — Him' (Handel's Messiah) (4)



ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

DAY	ORGANISATION	LOCATION	TIME	CONTACT
Sunday	Sunday Worship	Church	11.00 a.m. – 12 noon	Rev Mark Johnstone
	Sunday School	Church Halls	ditto	Elaine Stevens / Louise Barry
	Seekers	ditto	ditto	Barry
	Crèche	ditto	ditto	Elaine Stevens / Louise Barry
	Fairtrade	Main Hall	12 noon – 12.30 p.m.	Fiona Leishman/Leslie Baird
	Badminton			
	Beginners	ditto	4.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	Ruth Patterson
	Junior	ditto	6.00 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.	Ruth Patterson
	Senior	ditto	7.30 p.m. – 10.30p.m.	Liz Barrie
Monday	Ladies Bowling	Main Hall	1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	Cathie Devine
	Shipmates	ditto	5.45 p.m. – 6.45 p.m.	Lindsey Campbell
	Junior & Company			
	Section Boys' Brigade	ditto	6.45p.m. – 8.30 p.m.	Iain Hill
	Running/Walking Group	Hall Vestibule	7.00 p.m.	Bob Brown/Sheena Nicol
Tuesday	Ladies Badminton	Main Hall	1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	Doreen More
	Junior Badminton	ditto	6.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.	Ruth Patterson
	Senior Badminton	ditto	8.00 p.m. – 10.30p.m.	Liz Barrie
	Prayer Time	Meeting Place	7.00 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.	Rev Katy Owen
	Country Dancing	Mid Hall	7.45 p.m. – 10.00 pm.	Moira MacNeill
Wednesday	Wednesday Welcome	Session	10.00a.m. – 11.20am.	Mary Stirling
	Wednesday Worship	House	11.30 a.m. – 12 noon	Rev Mark Johnstone
	Over 50's Badminton	Main Hall	1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	Ann Allan
	Brownies	ditto	6.30 p.m. – 7.45 p.m.	Emma Harte
	Rainbows	ditto	6.30 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.	Agnes Marran
	Guides	ditto	7.45 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.	Lucy McCallum
	Vestry Hour	Vestry	7.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.	Rev Mark Johnstone
				<i>Telephone Church Office</i>
	Running/Walking Group	Hall Vestibule	7.00 p.m.	Bob Brown/Sheena Nicol
Thursday	Flower Circle (alternate weeks)	Mid Hall	7.30 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.	Elizabeth Walker
Friday	Listeners' Circle (monthly)	ditto	2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.	
	Guild	Mid Hall	7.30 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.	Moira MacNeill

For further information on any of the above –

Please contact the Church Office on

0141 775 1166 or email: office.stmarys@btconnect.com



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