



The **Parishioner**

Saint Mary's parish church kirkintilloch

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Pastoral Letter

November 2014

Dear Friends,

'Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you.....' Matthew 28:18-20.

It seems no time at all since I was telling you of my trip to the island of Coll. What a great trip. It was wet, windy and there were days of glorious sunshine.

I took the opportunity to explore the island and visit some of the spots we had visited as a family some 20 years previous. Not a lot had changed. The church still dominates the sky line as you draw up to the pier and continues to dominate the skyline as you enter the village of Arnnigour.

The characters in the village have not changed much either. One element of island life that seems to have gone from strength to strength is the youth work carried out by **Project Trust**. This is a project that has been running

Continued overleaf

for 40 years. It was started by Nicolas McLean Bristol. His family has ancient connections with the island. Project Trust takes young people on their gap year and trains them to work abroad. There will be over 300 young people go to Coll this summer in preparation for working abroad in Africa, the Americas and India. The level of preparation and support offered is incredible and the project is to be commended. Each candidate must raise money in order to participate. The fundraising is seen as a sign of the commitment the young people have made.

From this small island of at most 200 people great things are done. It is inspiring and encouraging to see so few folks make a difference that goes far beyond the Hebridean island of Coll and even beyond Scotland.

How do we make a difference in our community? In the coming months we will focus on the work we need to do locally within our church. This work can only be seen as worthwhile in so far as it serves the wider community. The work of maintaining and developing the church at St Mary's will only be supported by others who catch a vision for what we are trying to do. I have been thinking of how our vision is larger than our physical location on Cowgate.

The vision of **Project Trust** is education in preparation to serve abroad. It says nothing of 'how' just 'what' they will do.

How about St Mary's.

"St Mary's Parish Church, at the heart of Kirkintilloch, meeting the spiritual and social needs of the community" – how we continue to do this needs to be worked through, but this is an initial attempt at articulating our vision. It is as large or as small as we allow it to be. May God give us a vision that embraces the whole community and sees the true nature of Church in society today.

Kindest regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark'.

Parish Register

Special Anniversaries – Golden Wedding

Robert and Margaret Garry celebrate 50 years of marriage on 07 November. They were married in St Andrews Church, Kirkintilloch which was in the Townhead district of the town right opposite Freeland Place. Robert and Margaret have been worshipping in St Mary's for a good number of years and congratulations and best wishes are sent from all the congregation.



Church Flowers

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

November 09 Mrs D. Stewart, Mrs I Hay, Mrs M Maule
16 Mrs J McCann, The Fisher Family, Mr Mrs J McIsaac,
Mrs I Shanks
23 Mrs G Young, Mrs R Smith Mrs I McCrae
30 Mrs J Garrity, Mr Mrs G Day
December 07 Mrs I Livingston, Mrs S Gow

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

November 02) Mrs M Malcolm
 09) Mrs J Kempsell
 16) Mrs C Devine
 23) Mrs S Nicol
 30) Mrs B Walker
December 07) Mrs A McPhee

Thank You . . .

Thank you acknowledgements have been received from the following people who received Chancel Flowers during the month of October.

Mrs E Philip, Mrs N Fleming, The Differ Family, Mr Mrs A. Smith, Miss J. Provan, Mrs B. Davidson, Mrs N. Doran, Mrs E. Goodwin, Mrs L. Black, Mrs N. Rees, Mr Mrs A. Bulloch, Mr A. Henderson, Mrs M. Cooper, Mr Mrs C. Cruickshanks, Fiona Cruickshanks, Mrs B. McEwen, Mrs R. Poynton, Mrs F. Leishman, Mrs C. Wilson, Mrs A. Scott, Mrs K. Pollock, Mrs R. Fitzpatrick, Mrs C. Clingan, Mrs M. Mathieson, Mrs A. Clelland, Mrs M. Fyfe, Mrs L. Morrison, Mr Mrs R. Dewar, Mr J. McKinney, Mr Mrs J. Lang, Mrs N Middleton on behalf of Mrs M Middleton, Mrs J McKean, Mr Mrs G. Struthers

Thank you to Mrs Margaret Johnstone for a donation in memory of her late husband Bill and also to all those who gave donations over the past month for the Chancel flowers.

Janice Reid

The Bells of St Mary's



November	09	Mary Stirling and Jen Biggans
	16	Linda Brown and Jean Ralph
	23	Angela Montgomerie and Karen Morrison
	30	Lisa and Daniel Malloy-Gibson
December	07	Dorothy Stewart and Paul Malcolm

In reply to John Greig's letter in The Parishioner

How great it was to read John Greig's letter in the Parishioner. It brought back so many pleasant memories of St Mary's Bible Class of the 1940s, which numbered about eighty people. I remember us organising our own programme, Mr Brodie remaining unobtrusively in the background. John's father was the man who trod uncharted waters by introducing Christmas presents for the children of St Mary's in the form of much appreciated books.

Saturday evenings also featured in the programme. Concerts and dances were popular, but it was the fortnightly themed evenings which created the greatest interest and fun. Many and varied were the topics;

"Doon the Watter", "Spring", "January Sales", "Hallowe'en", "A French Cafe" and so on. All were enhanced by costumes from a dressing-up box which had come from Solsgirth and which, wonder of wonders, included elastic-sided boots! These were used, fought over and paraded extensively in all suitable and unsuitable circumstances! On one memorable evening – and absolutely nothing to do with elastic-sided boots – the addresser of the haggis smote the unoffensive "beastie" so hard that he split it down the middle and also the platter on which it had so proudly sat! Mayhem!

Not to be forgotten were the midweek entertainments held in a packed Church when local talent, of which there was plenty, came to the fore. Members of the armed forces billeted in the town were invited. They mingled happily with the local audience, being warmly welcomed, fed and entertained.

Thank you so much for stirring up these pleasant thoughts of our youth. Seems like yesterday!

MOLLY FISHER

Cycling

The number of bicycles travelling through our town has greatly increased over the past year or so; but you do not have to be a teenager to become involved! Have you considered RE-CYCLING; anyone, at any age can participate. In fact it is quite easy and you will not fall off!

The ECO Committee asks you to consider what can be **RECYCLED** and **WHERE**.

Ink cartridges, **SPECTACLES!**, batteries, mobile phones, bras, plastic bottle tops, all can be placed in the green ECO box in the vestibule of the Church and the Committee will pass these items on to the

appropriate charity. Time for a clear-out? Go on have a go! Try a wee cycle!

The Church's ECO Committee

The Guild

The Guild meets on Friday evenings in the Mid Hall at 7.30pm and the programme for November / December is as under. All are welcome, including gentlemen, to come along and enjoy the fellowship and listen to a varied selection of topics.

November	07	Ronnie Fitzcharles – Life and Times of a Coach Operator
	14	Stewart McKee – Climbing Everest Experience
	21	Neil Cunningham and Friends

On 28 November The Guild welcomes Airdrie and Coatbridge Amateur Operatic Society and this is an Open Evening for anyone who wishes to go along. Please give the Guild your support.

The Flower Circle

The Flower Circle is holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday 06 December from 10.00 a.m. - 12 noon. Home baking, tombola and there will be flowers for sale. Tickets £1.50 can be had from Elizabeth Walker and members of the Flower Circle.

The Parishioner

Copy for the December/January Parishioner should be handed to Sandra Burns, left in the Publications pigeon hole in the Hall vestibule or sent by e-mail to sandraburns@ntlworld.com no later than Sunday 30 November. **If any of the organisations have significant dates coming up in early February please take the opportunity to include them in this edition.**

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 a.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

Lest We Forget

One of the most amazing sights in London this year has been the art installation 'Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red' at the Tower of London. The dry moat has been filled with 888,246 ceramic poppies, each representing a British or Colonial soldier killed in the First World War and commemorated in this centenary year.

'In Flanders fields, the poppies grow between the crosses, row on row, that mark our places; and in the sky the larks, still bravely singing, fly scarce heard amongst the guns below.'

This is the first stanza of John McCrae's poem, first published in Punch magazine in 1915. Within months, it came to symbolise the sacrifices of all who were fighting in the First World War. Today, the poppy remains a tangible symbol of all those who have sacrificed their lives in war. But why do we remember?

'They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.' (Micah 4:3). Writing about 700 years before Christ, Micah's words have to be seen against a background of violence with the fall of Samaria and the instability created by the aggression of Assyria. However, he prophesied a future of hope, a world where nations come together in peace instead of war. His vision saw a time when the arms of war would be turned into farming tools and people would live in peaceful community.

Our understanding of peace is more than the avoidance of war or the absence of conflict. It's about building relationships between people, communities and nations, which positively creates a love and care for others founded on justice for all. As we remember the sacrifice of those who died in the First World War, our response must be to look practically at how we can build relationships of peace and justice in our world, starting with our own families, colleagues and neighbourhoods. As Micah says, 'we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.' (4:5). We always need God's presence and power to change us into the people who have a passion for peace and justice, and compassion for everyone.

'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'

Dates for your Diary ...

Hi Everyone

On Saturday 08 November from 12 noon – 4.00 p.m. Young Church are holding their annual fundraising “Christmas Craft Fair” event. This year again the profit will be going to the Church Roof Fund so your help would be greatly appreciated.

We really need some helpers on the day to man the tombola and the tearoom, so if you can spare an hour or so please let us know. We are also looking for tombola prizes, so if you have any unwanted gifts or other small items – including bottles of sauce, juice etc. then please hand them in.

Finally, if you are able to provide a box of mince pies or a packet of shortbread for the tearoom this would also be very helpful.

We have over 25 craft stalls already booked to attend so please tell all your friends and family to come along – there are lots of great Christmas ideas. The entry price also includes a free entry into a prize draw for a Christmas Hamper.

Many thanks.

**Louise Barry and Elaine Stevens
Young Church Team Leaders**

Listeners Circle



The next meeting of the Listeners Circle will be on Friday 21 November at 2pm in the Session House.

Everyone is welcome to come along and listen to the programme of music which has been compiled this month by Edith Dewar.

Christmas Cards

The Church will once again be collecting Christmas cards for delivery in Lenzie, Kirkintilloch, Auchinloch and Waterside. Collecting dates are Sundays 30 November and 07 December and the price this year is again 20p per card. If you think you can help, please contact Ruth Poynton on 775 2159 by 30 November. **Please remember to include a house number when addressing the envelopes, thus making it less difficult for those delivering.**

World War One soldier saved by Bible

The Bible Society relates how, in 1917, two bullets destined for Private Bush's chest were stopped by a Bible he kept in his breast pocket. He was knocked off his feet and into a shell hole at Ypres, Belgium, and although he was injured, he survived and lived to the ripe old age of 76.

Gift Service

This year our Gift Service will take place on Sunday 30 November. Labels for the organisations your gifts will be donated to will be available to pick up from Sunday 16 and Sunday 23 November. We will again be working with Action for Children, St. Rollox, EDC Homelessness Unit and others.

We ask that you return your gift **UNWRAPPED** in a recyclable bag with the label clearly visible to help with the sorting and distribution process.

The charities nominated by the congregation to receive monetary donations this year are Deafblind Scotland and CHAS Rachel House Hospice.

Again, envelopes will be available from Sunday 16 November. All the organisations appreciate your generosity as they work to ensure your gift makes a difference to someone over the Festive period and beyond. Thank you.



Leaf some green stuff in the garden

The clocks have gone back, and we are putting our gardens to sleep for the winter. But this autumn, when you tidy up, do not tidy away too much. Many insects and wild creatures will be relying on some ground cover or hideaway to call 'home' for the winter. Several piles of twigs or prunings, left around your garden in discreet places, will provide great winter 'snugs' for toads, grass snakes and other small garden inhabitants. 'Spent' seed heads provide cover and food for birds over the winter. Above all, before you light any bonfires on 5th November, take care there are no hibernating hedgehogs inside!

Helicopter

Sometimes people think of church as being like a giant helicopter. They don't want to get too close in case they get sucked into the rotas. - Milton Jones

50,000,000 downloads for online Bible You Version

50 million downloads have made YouVersion the most widely used Bible app in the world. Bible Society has helped achieve this through uploading many Bible translations into the Digital Bible Library which then go onto YouVersion. Welsh, Irish, Cornish, Romany and most recently Manx are just some of the languages which have been translated. Download the app here: youversion.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

September Offering

DATE	FREEWILL OFFERING	GIFT AID	OPEN PLATE	STANDING ORDERS
07.09.14	485.95	460.00	85.50	
14.04.14	549.02	740.00	698.61	
21.04.14	305.20	359.50	117.49	
28.04.14	428.50	582.20	58.50	
Standing orders				3879.00
TOTAL	1768.67	2141.70	960.10	3879.00
Total for the Month		8749.47		

RECEIPTS AND DONATIONS DURING SEPTEMBER

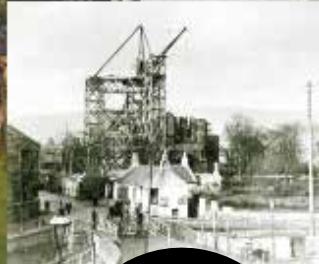
Received with thanks and gratitude for your consideration of our Church

Donation to Parishioner	30.00
We continue to receive generous donations for the roof fund the majority of the donors wishing to remain anonymous so my apologies if I do not itemise them separately	1637.51
Collection for Christian Aid	198.40
Donation following recent Wedding	125.00
Donation following recent Wedding to Special Projects Fund	125.00
Donation from Friends of Music in East Dunbartonshire	50.00

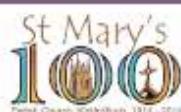
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TO INHERITORS

CENTENARY OF
ST MARY'S
PARISH
CHURCH
KIRKINTILLOCH
1914 TO 2014

FROM HERITORS TO INHERITORS



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Wordsearch



Wordsearch solution on next page



An epic struggle between good and evil took place in the Vicarage kitchen



"Goodness! is it time for Christmas Fair organising, carol service planning and nativity play rehearsals already?!"

Wordsearch Solution



Mouse Makes

Countdown to Christmas by
colouring in one candle
each Sunday in
ADVENT

Jesus is coming! Christmas is near!
ADVENT is the time before
Christmas when we celebrate the
arrival of JESUS, God's son, our Saviour.

We remember God's promise to
the world, God's message to Mary,
God's love for us and God's promise
come true.





COVENTRY'S CROSS

The people of Coventry will always remember the dreadfully long night of 14th November 1940. It was the longest air raid of the World War II and when the light dawned the next morning, Coventry was in ruins. So many people were dead, injured or homeless; there wasn't a person who had not suffered during that night.

The medieval cathedral was a burnt out shell. Two of the burnt roof beams were tied together to make a cross and this makeshift symbol was set up where the altar had been. A cross was also made from the 14th century iron nails that had held the roof together and this Cross of Nails still remains today as a symbol of sympathy, forgiveness and reconciliation. Copies of the Cross of Nails have been presented to countries round the globe as a reminder that love and understanding bind us together and that we need to remember the horrors that happen when people forget that.



CROSS PURPOSES

There are many different types of cross in pictures. Do you know what these are called?



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.

What's green and hairy and drinks from the wrong side of the glass?

A gooseberry with hiccups.

What's the most common owl in this country?

The Tea Towl (ouch!)

Answers: 1.St Peter's 2.Celtic 3.Papal
4.St Andrew's 5.Jerusalem 6.Russian
Orthodox 7.St Anthony's 8.Greek

The Rectory . . .

St James the Least My dear Nephew Darren

I suppose it had to come, but combining parishes is now firmly on the agenda for our villages. I had always wondered what the first Earl of Stowe was trying to prove, building a church here in 1347 to accommodate 800 people when the total population has never exceeded 250. In the short term – which in this village is measured in centuries - it seems to have been to house the tombs of his 13 successors. I now realise it was to make uniting with adjoining parishes in the twenty-first century more difficult. Clearly the first Earl had formidable foresight. None of our neighbouring churches seem too keen to share their reserves to help maintain our cathedral-sized building.

The threat of the closure of St. Herve the Bard has, inevitably, caused outrage – not so much from its regular congregation of three, but from all those in the village who would never think of attending. People do so like to have a church not to go to.

St. Bregowine, built by a wealthy parishioner in the 19th century because she did not like the high church practices of the parish church of St. Iwig, is refusing to re-unite, even though the two churches stand only 100 yards apart, in a village with a diameter of 300 yards. If only they could get over the trauma of seeing the incumbent putting water in the wine on Easter Day in 1894. Although it must be conceded that the Bregowinians were equally

affronted that when the daughter church opened in 1895, they found that the Iwigers had provided no brass troughs at the end of the pews for umbrellas. That they have subsequently refused to install them has only compounded the offence.

Meanwhile St. Plegmund is in discussions with the Church of South India as a way of avoiding uniting with anyone. Should it happen, I will be interested to see what travelling expenses the new incumbent claims. It will be difficult to tell when the present incumbent resigns, as he has not been seen at a clerical meeting for the last 30 years. Some of my colleagues suspect he is mythical, that a bloodless coup took place in the 1980s and that the church is now entirely run by the Mother's Union.

The church of St. Maximus of Constantinople in our nearest town has rather grandly offered to take all of our churches under its wing, but as a parishioner has pointed out: how could we possibly consider joining with a parish that fought on the other side at the Battle of Bosworth.

In the meantime, we will serenely carry on, as we seem to have done for the past six centuries; parish mergers and reductions in numbers of clergy seem to be of less interest than debating the suggestion that we change the brand of coffee served after Services.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

Across

1 and 20 Down 'Lord of all — ,
Lord of all — , whose trust, ever
child-like, no cares could destroy'
(11,3)

9 Moses' question to a fighting
Hebrew labourer: 'Why are
you —
your fellow Hebrew?' (Exodus
2:13) (7)

10 Acclaimed cellist who contracted
multiple sclerosis at the height of
her fame, Jacqueline — (2,3)

11 'At even — the sun was set, the
sick, O Lord, around thee lay'
(3)

13 A descendant of Gad (Numbers
26:16) (4)

16 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but —
for the gift my Father promised'
(Acts 1:4) (4)

17 Clammers (Jeremiah 48:44) (6)

18 Peter's response to questioning
by the Sanhedrin: 'We must —
God rather than men!' (Acts 5:29)
(4)

20 Christian paraplegic author, artist
and campaigner, — Eareckson
Tada (4)

21 Bird partial to the nests of other birds (6)

22 'Such large crowds gathered round him
that he got into a boat and
sat — —' (Matthew 13:2) (2,2)

23 Infectious tropical disease (4)

25 Tree (3)

28 'No fear of me should — you, nor should
my hand be heavy upon
you' (Job 33:7) (5)

29 For example, to Titus, Timothy or Philemon
(7)

30 Week beginning with Pentecost Sunday,
according to the Church's
calendar (11)

Down

2 'O Jerusalem... how — I have longed to
gather your children
together' (Matthew 23:37) (5)

3 Way out (4)

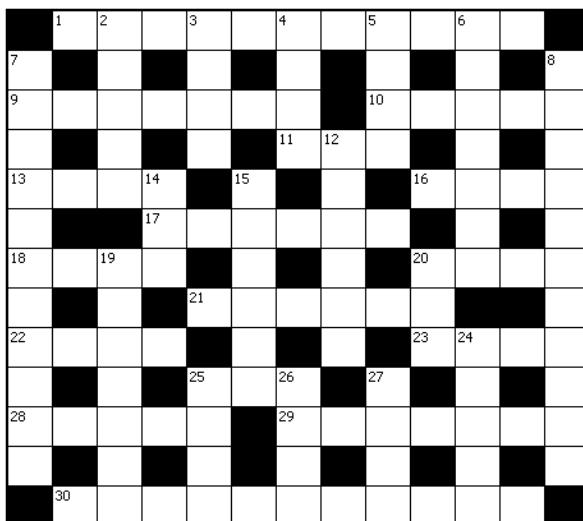
4 Exhort (Romans 12:1) (4)

5 Done (anag.) (4)

6 Highest of the four voice-parts in a choir
(7)

7 Concerning the study of God (11)

Crossword



ANSWERS AT FOOT OF PAGE

8 Uniquely, it has Abbey, Cathedral and
Chapel (11)

12 Admonish (Matthew 16:22) (6)

14 Frozen (3)

15 Established form of religious ceremony (6)

19 Inscription often found on gravestones (7)

20 See 1 Across

24 Behaved (Joshua 7:1) (5)

25 Time (anag.) (4)

26 Lists choice of meals (4)

27 'For the wages of sin is death, but the —
of God is eternal life in
Christ Jesus our Lord' (Romans 6:23) (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
	Seekers	ditto	ditto	Barry
	Crèche	ditto	ditto	Elaine Stevens / Louise
	Fairtrade	Main Hall	12 noon – 12.30 p.m.	Fiona Leishman/Leslie
	Badminton			Baird
	Beginners	ditto	4.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	Trevor Patterson
	Junior	ditto	5.30 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.	Susan Wilson
	Senior	ditto	7.30 p.m. – 10.30p.m.	Trevor Patterson
	Youth Fellowship	Mid Hall	7.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.	Lorna McCallum
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 Archie Smith
	Men's Club	Main Hall	7.30 p.m. – 10.00p.m.	
Tuesday	Running/Walking Group	Hall Vestibule	7.00 p.m.	Bob Brown/Jean Ralph
	Ladies Badminton	ditto	1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	Doreen More
	Junior Badminton	ditto	6.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.	Trevor Patterson
	Senior Badminton	ditto	8.00 p.m. – 10.30p.m.	Susan Wilson
	Prayer Time	Meeting Place	7.00 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.	Rev Katy Owen
Wednesday	Country Dancing	Mid Hall	7.45 p.m. – 10.00 pm.	Moira MacNeill
	Wednesday Welcome	Session House	10.00a.m. – 11.20am.	Mary Stirling
	Wednesday Worship		11.30 a.m. – 12 noon	Rev Mark Johnstone
	Over 50s Badminton	Main Hall	1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	Anne Allan
	Brownies	ditto	6.30 p.m. – 7.45 p.m.	Elizabeth Cousin
	Rainbows	ditto	6.30 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.	Agnes Marran
	Vestry Hour	Vestry	7.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.	Rev Mark Johnstone <i>Telephone Church Office</i> Bob Brown/Jean Ralph
Thursday	Running/Walking Group	Hall Vestibule	7.00 p.m.	
	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



Designed by St Mary's Parish Church Publications Committee