



*"Let anyone who is without sin
cast the first stone . . ."*

John 8: 7

The Parishioner

April 2018



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Registered Charity No. SC007260

Pastoral Letter

Dear Friends,

In the book of Ecclesiastes in the Old Testament it says with some sense of cynicism 'There is nothing new under the sun'.

In some way this can be a negative verse reinforcing on a wet spring day — 'There is nothing new so just get on with it!'

In another way this verse can be an encouragement. — 'There is nothing you need fear, someone has been here before you!'

It may depend on what day of the week it is or how your mood takes you as to the

If you go to the book of Lamentations you will find a verse that reminds us God's way is 'New every morning!'



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interpretation you place on this verse.

During the season of Easter I was aware that for 35 years I have taken services during Holy Week. My first service was at the age of 15. The Minister was unwell and I read the Bible passage and read some prayers. For 35 years I have read the same Bible passages and relayed the same stories to congregations as far apart as Drumchapel, Toronto and Kirkintilloch. 'There is nothing new under the sun!'

What sparks me is that although the stories are the same, the message is different. I may write my talks, prayer and sermons on the computer, they are for a single event. There may be stories from my own experience that can suffer being told a few

times but the general message for each sermon or talk is different. How can that be?

If you go to the book of Lamentations you will find a verse that reminds us God's way is 'New every morning!'

If you feel stuck in a rut hearing the same old thing over and over; if you feel every day is the same; then consider the promise God makes to be bold faithful — there is nothing new under the sun. But also remember the inspirational thought that the way of God is 'New every morning'. There can be a fresh message and experience waiting for us.

Kindest regards

Mark.



Find us on:



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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.'

March 25 **Sophia Elizabeth Lynn McFarlane**,
daughter of George and Shona

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'.

March	08	James Millar, 66 Monkland Avenue, Kirkintilloch
	08	William Dick, 57 Third Avenue, Auchinloch
	09	John Jerrett, 4 Strathallan Gardens, Kirkintilloch
	16	Ian Wishart, 33 Kingsway, Kirkintilloch
	20	Mary Hardy, Carrickstone Care Home, Cumbernauld
	22	Mrs Margaret Baxter, 53 Birdston Road, Milton of Campsie
	23	Maud Gray, Campsie View Nursing Home, Kirkintilloch
	26	Mrs Janice Smith, 53 Market Road, Kirkintilloch
	30	Richard Morrison, 3 Carnoustie Way, Cumbernauld
April	04	Jason Marshall, Ivanhoe Drive, Kirkintilloch

Change of Address

Ruth Patterson formerly 33 Muirside Avenue, now resides at Flat 2/2, 40 Kerr Street, Kirkintilloch.

Mrs Mary Given formerly 82 Waverley Crescent, now resident in Campsie View Care Home, Kirkintilloch.



Church Flowers

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

April 08	Mrs A Brownlie, Mrs L Sinclair, Mrs E Cowie, Mrs W Steele
15	Mrs M. Darroch, Mrs I. Whyte, Mrs C. Cuthbertson, Mrs G Mitchell
22	Mrs J. Robertson, Mrs P. Malcolm, Mr Mrs J. Marran
29	Mrs L. Pitcairn, Mrs H. Brown, Mrs J. Finney
May 06	Mrs A. Scott, Mrs A Differ, Miss J. Campbell, Mrs D. Halliday, Mrs J. Lang
11	Miss A Tassie (Preparatory)
13	Mrs M McCaffer, Mrs D Stewart, Mrs E Walker (Communion)

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

April 15/22	Mrs R. Poynton, Mrs E Walker
May 29/06	Mrs B. McMillan, Mrs M Hannah

Thank you acknowledgements have been received from the following people:

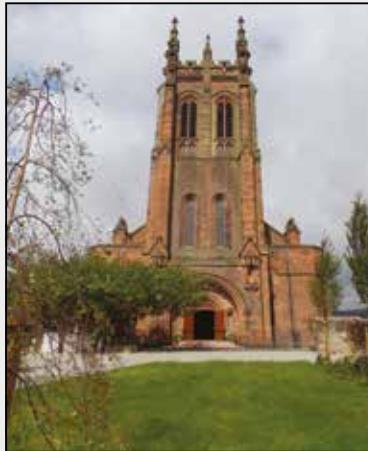
Mrs J. Smith, Mrs L. Neill, Mrs G. McCall, Mrs N. Rees, Mr H. Miller, Mr Mrs R. Barr, Mrs R. Garrity, Mr Mrs R. Smart, Mrs S. Tolmie, Mrs C. Clingan, Mr J. McKean, Mrs P. Moffat, Mr Mrs J. Bett, Mrs M. McMurrough, Mr J McKean, Mrs K Pollock, Mrs M Bett, Mrs N Cowan.

Thank you to all who have given donations towards the Chancel flowers for the month of March.

Once again Kathleen Storey has gifted money towards the church flowers in Memory of her Mum and sisters Ray and Nora.

I would like to be informed of anyone reaching the ripe old age of 80, in order that they can receive Church flowers.

Janice Reid



The Bells of St Mary's

April / May 2018

- April 08 Lisa and Daniel Malloy-Gibson
- 15 Mary Stirling and Lesley Bevens
- 22 Dorothy Stewart and Cara Bevens
- 29 Mary Stirling and Jen Biggans
- May 06 Paul Malcolm and Cerys McCormack
- 13 Linda Brown and Olivia Fotheringham

Thank You

Thank you letters have been received from worshippers who received acts of kindness from others in Church during our bad spell of weather.

The Editor



Listeners Circle

The next meeting will be on Friday 20 April. The choice of music this month is that of William Walker. Everyone is welcome at 2.00pm in the Session House.

Church Open Days

Following our 'open day rehearsal' on Good Friday, we are now ready for opening on the first Wednesday in May. Subsequent opening days, all on Wednesdays until the end of the year, are:

**2nd May, 6th June, 4th July,
1st August, 5th September, 3rd October,
7th November, 5th December**

The sessions are 10.00am to 12.35pm and 12.25pm to 3.00pm. (This allows for an overlap in order that information can be passed on from one group of volunteers to the next).

The sheet for volunteer booking will be available from Sunday 8th April and every Sunday thereafter. Each open day will need a total of 8 people; 4 in the morning and 4 in the afternoon. For each opening 3 people are responsible for doors and guiding and one is responsible for teas and souvenirs.

Further information about what is expected during open days will become available from Sunday 8th April and will continue as we gain more experience.

Useful Information

If you are moving home please let your Church Elder or Congregational Helper know your change of address in order that the Church Roll can be kept up-to-date. Please also inform them if you know of anyone who is ill or in hospital so that contact or a visit can be arranged. If we are not kept informed of these important aspects of Church life it is so easy to 'get lost in the loop'. If you read the magazine on line, you can contact the Church office on 0141 775 1166.

Summer Celebration Weekend

After a year when much has been achieved within the church; roof repairs, organisation of open days, writing of storyboards and the new church web site, June will begin with a small celebration. A coffee morning is on Saturday 9th June and a Strawberry Lunch will be held after the service on Sunday 10th June.

More details about both will be provided in the next Parishioner.

Christian Aid

The Annual Fair which was cancelled due to the snow has now been re-arranged for Saturday 21 April in the Church Hall, 10.00am - 1.00pm, with the usual stalls. Donations of paper, home baking and household items will be gratefully received. Tickets priced £2 (including tea/coffee), can be obtained from Paul Malcolm. Please contact Paul on 578 1520 if you are willing to help in any way.

Christian Aid Week this year is from 13 - 19 May. Anyone willing to assist with the house-to-house collection, again please contact Paul on the above number.

The annual Soup Lunch will be after the service on Sunday 20 May.

Calming the storm

I was telling my children the story of when Jesus and the disciples were in a boat, crossing the Sea of Galilee, and a storm came up and threatened to sink them. I went on: 'Meanwhile, Jesus had fallen asleep in the stern. So, the disciples, scared of drowning, went back and woke Jesus, hoping He could save them. Then Jesus woke up and said, "Be quiet..."'

To which my son interjected, 'because I'M TRYING TO SLEEP!'

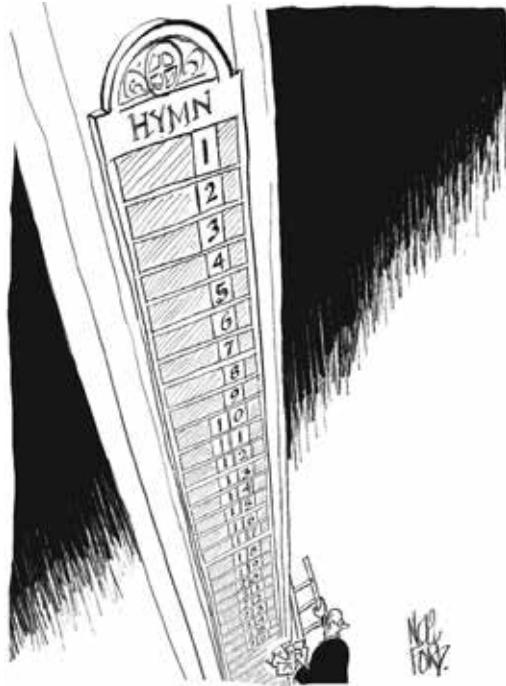
Treasurer's Report

FEBRUARY OFFERING

DATE	FREEWILL OFFERING	GIFT AID	OPEN PLATE	STANDING ORDERS
04.02.18	521.50	695.00	186.60	
11.02.18	507.70	392.90	207.00	
18.02.18	403.50	413.00	205.50	
25.02.18	348.00	245.00	102.00	
Standing orders				3794.00
TOTAL	1780.70	1745.90	701.10	3794.00
Total for the Month		8021.70		

RECEIPTS AND DONATIONS Received during February
with thanks and gratitude for your consideration of our Church
Donations to Parishioner and Life & Work

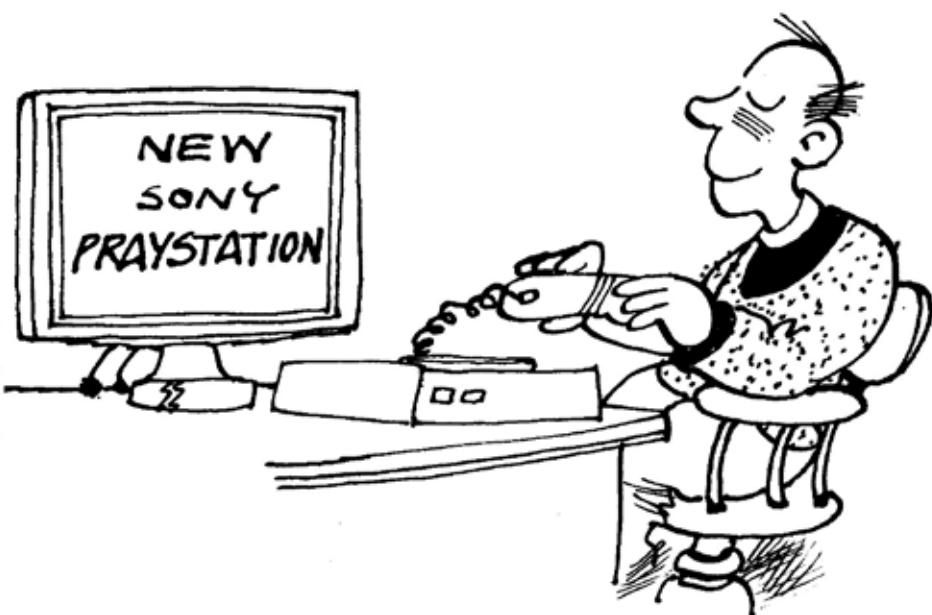
297.72



"Are you sure the Guinness Book Of Records people will turn up, Vicar?"



The open baptism policy worked, up to a point...



When you mix children and religion...

You get some unexpected gems. The following are extracts from religious exam papers . . .

In the first book of the Bible, Guinness, God got tired of creating the world, so he took the Sabbath off.

Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was Joan of Ark, because Noah built an ark. The animals came on in pears.

The Jews are God's chosen people, but throughout history they've had trouble with unsympathetic Genitals.

Moses led the Jews to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.

The Seventh Commandment is: Thou shalt not admit adultery.

Moses died before he ever reached Canada.

Solomon, one of David's sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.

Jesus enunciated the golden rule, which says do unto others before they do one to you. He also explained a man doth not live by sweat alone.

The people who followed the Lord were called the twelve decibels.

St Paul cavorted to Christianity down the Damascus Road. There he preached holy acrimony, which is another name for marriage.

The Parishioner

Copy for the May 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 29 April.**

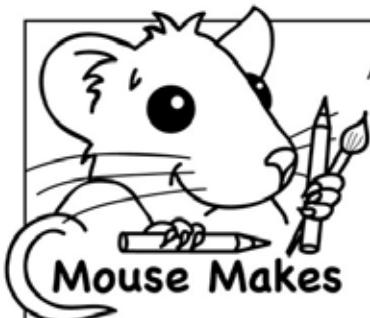
Visitors are welcome

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 Thursday 8.00 a.m. – 1.00 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

Church Office hours

Please note the Church Office hours are now: Monday – Thursday, 8.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

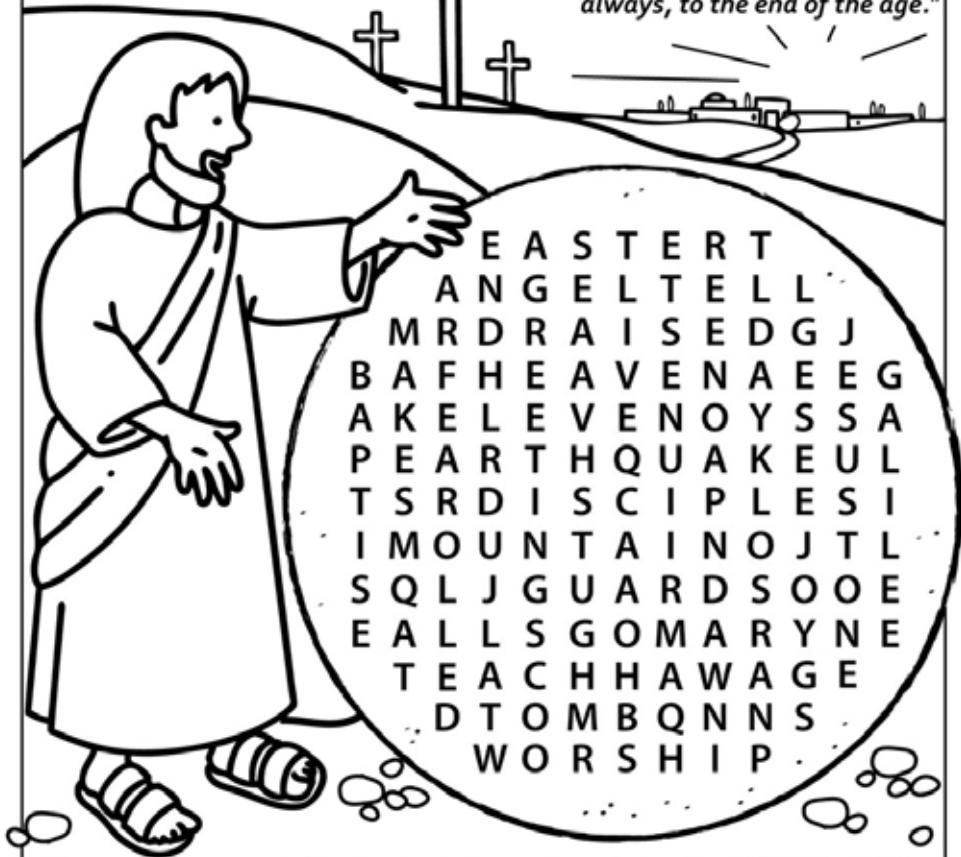


Read the account of Jesus' resurrection in Matthew 28:1-20

JESUS IS ALIVE!

After Jesus had been raised from the dead He met Mary and Mary Magdalene "Greetings," He said, "Do not be afraid. Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee. They will see me there."

When the disciples met Jesus in Galilee He said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember I am with you always, to the end of the age."



Can you find these words from the story in the word search above? EASTER • DAWN
DAY • MARY • TOMB • EARTHQUAKE • ANGEL • HEAVEN • ROLLED • STONE • GUARDS
JESUS • RAISED • FEAR • JOY • RAN • GREETINGS • TELL • DISCIPLES • SEE • ELEVEN
GALILEE • MOUNTAIN • WORSHIP • ALL • GO • MAKE • BAPTISE • TEACH • END • AGE



MOVIE MOMENTS

Nick and Carol Pollard from EthosMedia.org share thought-provoking reflections on the latest films.

This is me

'No-one ever made a difference by being like everyone else.' This is a great line in the powerful film *The Greatest Showman*, which calls us to reconsider our attitudes to difference.

It tells something of the real story of Phineas T Barnum, who never actually said the phrase infamously attributed to him: 'there's a sucker born every minute'. But he did say (in a speech to the Connecticut State Legislature in 1865): 'A human soul, that God has created and Christ died for, is not to be trifled with... amid all assumptions of caste, it will in due time vindicate the great fact that, without regard to colour or condition, all men are equally children of the common Father.'

This vision is conveyed in *This is Me*, one of the most powerful songs in the film (amazingly written during an overnight flight on the way to pitch the movie to a studio). The lyrics describe someone previously hiding in the dark: 'I've learned to be ashamed of all my scars. Run away, they say. No one will love you as you are.', but now emerging into the light: 'I am brave, I am bruised, I am who I'm meant to be... I'm not scared to be seen, I make no apologies, this is me.'



These are inspirational words. And they inevitably raise the question why all people should have worth. Does our significance derive from being valued subjectively by the society in which we live? Or is there an objective basis for the value of all people? As we seek to answer those questions, perhaps we should consider the real Barnum's statement that all of us are equally children of the common Father.



**ETHOS
MEDIA**.org

EthosMedia.org provides free resources to help people explore spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues through the latest feature films.

The Rectory . . .

St James the Least - On the perils of ladies cleaning the church

My dear Nephew Darren

It was kind of you to send your music group to us last Sunday morning while our choir had a Sunday off for its celebratory lunch. Miss Timmins' ninety-fourth birthday brought the combined choir's age to 1,000; which is quite a distinction for twelve people. Clearly, a Sunday commitment to 'Hymns Ancient & Modern', consumption of industrial quantities of peppermints and pleasant naps during sermons has a positive effect on longevity.

I had rather looked forward to hearing some Bach motets from your group, but now have learned that guitars, drums and choral Matins is not a marriage made in heaven. All your group lacked was a drum majorette leading the procession up the aisle.

It was quite obvious the music was going to be a little different when I arrived to see that the lectern, Lady Tadcaster's flower arrangement and the verger had all disappeared behind an amplifier. The only person not disconcerted by this was the verger, who realised it presented an excellent opportunity to do the crossword unobserved during Divine Worship.

Your display of the hymns on a screen was well intended, but did

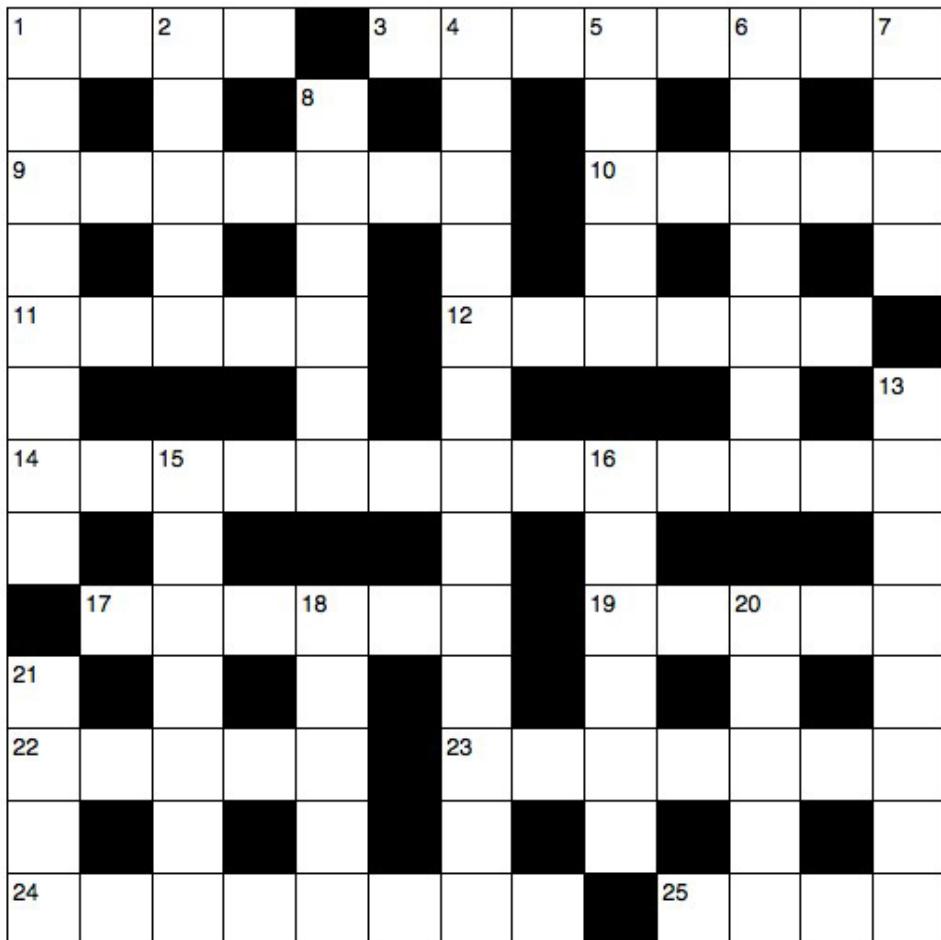
the screen have to be in front of the pulpit? I had to balance on several kneelers to be seen over it, and throughout the sermon could only think of how to look dignified should the whole pile collapse mid-sentence. The lack of hymn books also terrified the congregation - they had nothing to hold, and so resorted to clutching Kleenex or the pew in front of them.

But the worst moment was when the group gave its 'solo number'. (Couldn't it have been called an 'anthem'?) Half way through, dear Mrs Fitch, who has always been somewhat excitable, felt called to do a spontaneous religious dance down the aisle. The congregation froze in horror. We all avoided catching her eye after the Service, but what do we say when we see her in the village tomorrow morning? Best to simply stay indoors for a few days.

Perhaps your music group could visit us again for our choir's 2000th anniversary - which I suspect will consist of the same people, as they are all tenacious of note, opinion and age.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

Crossword



Across

- 1 'The baby in my — leaped for joy' (Luke 1:44) (4)
- 3 A 'don't know' in matters of faith (8)
- 9 In the distant past (Jeremiah 2:20) (4,3)
- 10 Armada (1 Kings 10:22) (5)
- 11 Where Moses was

confronted with the burning bush (Exodus 3:1) (5)

- 12 Hair colour indicative of skin infection (Leviticus 13:30) (6)
- 14 'The worries of this life and the — of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful'

Continued overleaf

- (Matthew 13:22) (13)
- 17 Expel (2 Kings 13:23) (6)
- 19 What Jesus wrapped round his waist when he washed his disciples' feet (John 13:4) (5)
- 22 The sixth plague to afflict the Egyptians (Exodus 9:9) (5)
- 23 For nine (anag.) (7)
- 24 Where there is no time (Psalm 93:2) (8)
- 25 Goliath's challenge to the Israelite army in the Valley of Elah: 'This day I — the ranks of Israel!' (1 Samuel 17:10) (4)

Down

- 1 'I will become angry with them and forsake them; I — — my face from them' (Deuteronomy 31:17) (4,4)
- 2 Usual description of prophets such as Amos, Hosea, Micah, and so on (5)
- 4 'They cannot see the light of the gospel of the — — — , who is the image of God' (2 Corinthians 4:4) (5,2,6)
- 5 An animal's internal edible parts (Leviticus 4:11) (5)
- 6 Popular 20th-century religious novel by Lloyd C. Douglas, which became a

1953 film starring Richard Burton (3,4)

7 'A — on a hill cannot be hidden' (Matthew 5:14) (4)

8 One of the exiles, a descendant of Bebai, who married a foreign woman (Ezra 10:28) (6)

13 Old Testament hymn-singing (8)

15 'And O what transport of delight from thy pure — floweth' (7)

16 Of felt (anag.) (3,3)

18 'So — the — sets you free, you will be free indeed' (John 8:36) (2,3)

20 Comes between 'bad' and 'worst' (John 5:14) (5)

21 'Neither height nor depth... will be — to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (4)



ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH *Organisations*

Contact list 2017.18	Organisation	Location	Time	Contact
Sunday	Sunday Worship	Church	11am	Rev Mark Johnstone
	Young Church	Church Halls	11am	Elaine Stevens
	Fairtrade Stall	Main Hall	12 noon	Leslie Baird/Fiona Leishman
	Badminton - Senior	Main Hall	7.30-10pm	Liz Barrie
Monday	Nursery	Church Halls	8.30-11.45am	Joanne MacDonald
	Ladies Bowling	Main Hall	1.30-3.30pm	Cathie Devine
	BB Shipmates	Main Hall	6-7pm	TBC
	Running/Walking Club	Session House	7pm	Bob Brown
Tuesday	Nursery	Church Halls	8.30-11.45am	Joanne MacDonald
	Ladies Badminton	Main Hall	1.30-3.30pm	Doreen More
	Badminton - Senior	Main Hall	8-10.30pm	Liz Barrie
	Prayer Time	Meeting Place	7-7.30pm	Rev Katy Owen
	Country Dancing	Mid Hall	7.45-10pm	Moira MacNeill
Wednesday	Nursery	Church Halls	8.30-11.45am	Joanne MacDonald
	Wednesday Welcome	Session House	10-11.20am	Mary Stirling
	Wednesday Service	Church	11.30-12noon	Rev Mark Johnstone
	Over 50's Badminton	Main Hall	1.30-3.30pm	Anne Allan
	Rainbows	Mid Hall	6.30-7.30pm	Janet Millin
	Brownies	Main Hall	6.30-7.45pm	Alisha McGowan
	Vestry	Church Vestry	7-9pm	Church Office
	Running/Walking Club	Session House	7pm	Bob Brown
	Guides	Main Hall	7.30-9.30pm	Cara Daniels
	Trefoil Guild (monthly)	Mid Hall	7.45-10pm	Edith Dunn
Thursday	Nursery	Church Halls	8.30-11.45am	Joanne MacDonald
	Flower Circle (Alternate Weeks)	Mid Hall	7.30-9pm	Elizabeth Walker
Friday	Nursery	Church Halls	8.30-11.45am	Joanne MacDonald
	Listener's Circle (Monthly)	Session House (church)	2-4pm	Edith Dunn
	Guild (Alternate Weeks)	Mid Hall	7.30-9pm	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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