

The Parishioner





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Registered Charity No. SC007260

From the Interim Moderator

**Reasons to be
cheerful....part one.**



Since the translation of Rev. Mark E. Johnstone last year, and my appointment as your Interim Moderator, the time, at least for me, seems to have flown by.

The intervening months have been busy ones with much progress having been made in our Vacancy. I write to give you an overview of what has happened since last April.

1. Locum

Rev Morris Dutch has settled back into St. Mary's as our Locum, providing consistency in the Pulpit and offering pastoral support to the congregation and parish. In April & May, Morris will be taking some planned holidays and will be absent from the Pulpit for 4

Continued overleaf



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through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Sundays. He had hoped to be in China, but the outbreak of the Coronavirus has prohibited that trip. Instead he will be absent from the Pulpit, as I had already arranged Pulpit Supply for his absence, but he will continue to do some pastoral work, help with Young Church and take our mid-week Services during this time. In May he will also be attending the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh, before taking a well deserved 3 month break (last Sunday Pentecost 31/5/20), before returning to St. Mary's on 31/08/20 for another stint of service with us. During his three month absence, pastoral cover will be provided by me and Rev. Adam Dillon of St. David's Memorial Park Parish Church. This will provide a cost saving to the congregation on Locum costs which we hope will be of benefit. I have attached a schedule of our coming Pulpit Supply arrangements at the end of this article for your information.

2. Tenure

In December 2019, the Presbytery of Glasgow and '121' in Edinburgh agreed to our proposals to repay a large portion of our Ministries & Mission Deficit and allow us to call a Minister on the Basis of Reviewable Tenure. Since then, thanks to the overwhelming and incredible generosity of the congregation to our Advent Appeal, the outstanding balance of £60,000 has now been repaid in full. This has prompted an earlier Review of our Tenure and we hope that in March, the Presbytery of Glasgow, and then '121,' will change the Basis to Full Tenure. This will allow us to advertise the Vacancy as an Unrestricted Charge.

3 Manse

The old Manse is currently being sold and we hope to complete the sale in early April. Once that is done, we will buy a new Manse in accordance with the Guidelines laid down by the Church of Scotland. We hope

to purchase a new build home (or a newer property) to reduce future maintenance and running costs.

4 Nominating Committee

The Presbytery Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet with the Kirk session on March 11th and then we will initiate the process to form a Nominating Committee. Their task will be to prepare a Parish Profile, advertise and hopefully bring a recommendation to you for the appointment of a Sole Nominee.

5 Annual Accounts

These records of our 2019 financial activities are well in hand for inspection by the Independent Examiner prior to their presentation for approval by the Trustees (the Kirk Session).

6 Stated Annual Meeting

After the Trustees have approved the 2019 Annual Accounts we will hold this annual meeting to receive reports and the Annual

Accounts as a congregation after Morning Worship on 29th March, 2020.

7 Stewardship

A dedicated Stewardship Committee was formed to specifically engage the Congregation in all aspects of Church life which through time will lead us through the appropriate and essentials modules of the new Church of Scotland Stewardship programme named "The Narrative of Generosity". The Committee has met with Ashley Johnston, National Stewardship Consultant with the Church of Scotland for this area and we invited her to launch the campaign at our Church Service on 8th December 2019. On Monday 2nd March & Thursday 5th March we will be holding a Stewardship Evening in the Main Hall (7.30pm – 9pm). On Sunday 8th March, I will join you for Morning Worship when our focus will be on Stewardship themes.

8 What next?

I realise that for many of you it may seem that progress has been slow. In my experience of the Kirk, though, the progress we have made has been remarkably fast given the complexity of the challenges we have faced and overcome. I would like to record my gratitude to all the Office-Bearers and members of St. Mary's for their extraordinary generosity and commitment in enabling us to get to this point. I am deeply grateful to God for your faith and dedication,

which is one of my eight reasons for being cheerful just now.

I expect over the coming months to see more of you in person on a Sunday morning as I join you in navigating the legal processes around the Nomination of your next Minister.

Rev. Ian Taylor

Minister, Springfield
Cambridge Parish Church,
Bishopbriggs
0141 772 1540
ITaylor@churchofscotland.org.uk

Date	Preacher	Event
26/04/20	Rev. Martin Forrest	
03/05/20	Rev. Martin Forrest	
10/05/20	Rev. Martin Forrest	Holy Communion
17/05/20	Rev. Martin Forrest	General Assembly
07/06/20	Mr. James Gemmell	
14/06/20	Rev. Martin Forrest	
21/06/20	Rev. Dr. Sandy Forsyth	Young Church Recognition Service
28/06/20	Rev. Douglas Clark	
05/07/20	Rev. Douglas Clark	
12/07/20	Rev. Douglas Clark	
19/07/20	Rev. Douglas Clark	
26/07/20	Rev. Douglas Clark	
02/08/20	Rev. Alastair McLachlan	
09/08/20	Rev. Martin Forrest	
16/08/20	Rev. Alastair McLachlan	
23/08/20	Rev. Martin Forrest	
30/08/20	Rev. Martin Forrest	

Parish Register

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 21 John Campbell Renshaw, 22 Gray Street, Waterside

It is also with sadness we record the deaths of Mrs Dorothy Halliday, Mr Duncan McFarlane and Mrs Margaret Anderson. Their funerals have taken place.



Listeners Circle

The next meeting will be on Friday 20 March. The choice of music this month is that of William and Barbara Walker. Everyone is welcome at 2.00 p.m. in the Session House.

Kirkintilloch Male Voice Choir 99th Annual Concert will be held in St Mary's Church on Saturday 04 April 2020 at 7.30pm. Tickets priced £8 available from any choir member, Business Manager on 0141 775 2437, e-mail tickets_kmvc@hotmail.co.uk Tickets can also be purchased from Flowers by Linsey Catherine Street, Kirkintilloch.

CALLING ALL QUIZZERS – (and anyone else who would like a fun evening). A quiz night is intended for Friday 24th April at 7pm. Teams of 6 will endeavour to answer very easy questions as well as having fun in a quest to win the prize. A light supper will be provided to help you keep up your strength and feed your 'little grey cells'. Where else can you have an evening of entertainment together with tea, coffee and food for the grand sum of £5? Come as a readymade team of 6 or form one on the night. Which church organisation has the cleverest members? Organise your colleagues from your organisation into a team and find out.

Tickets will be on sale from Sunday 4th April.



Church Flowers

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

March	08 Mrs K Pollock, Mrs E Morrow, Mr Mrs A Beveridge
	15 Mrs A Scott, Mrs N McMillan
	22 Mrs C Hickey, Mrs J Paterson
	29 Mrs E Gillespie, Mrs J Whyte, Mrs E Walker
April	07 Mrs C Keellings Mrs A Brownlie, Mrs W Steele

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

March	01/08 Miss E Cousin, Mr G Burns
	15/22 Mrs S Burns, Mrs B McEwen
Mar/April	29/05 Mrs R Poynton, Mrs E Walker

Sincere thanks go to our team of flower arrangers who beautify our sanctuary every Sunday and our willing helpers who deliver them to our members, a wonderful job done by all.

Thank you to all who have donated to the Church flowers during the last month.

Ruth and Billy Poynton thank the church for flowers received on their Golden Wedding and when Ruth broke her arm.



Find us on:



@minsmpc



st mary's kirkintilloch



The Bells of St Mary's

March / April 2020

March	08	Lesley and Cara Bevens
	15	Mary Stirling and Jen Biggans
	22	Cara Bevens and Mhairi Green
	29	Fiona and Mhairi Green
April	05	Lesley and Cara Bevens
	12	Lesley and Cara Bevens

Young Church Update . . .

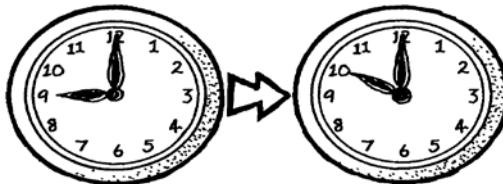
Kids Zone – After a wonderful nativity by our very talented young church, kids zone has been following the life of Jesus and has started learning about the miracles he performed. This will lead us up to Easter. The children tried to turn water into wine, unfortunately this was unsuccessful.

Seekers – The seekers have been working on the story of Paul and his missionary journeys. They have been using a map to help them visualise the distance he travelled and the difficulties he would have encountered as he travelled through the various countries, such as language, culture etc

The young people are creating a poster of this topic to display at the Recognition Service in June.

The Seekers have also been doing readings in church each month. This is a new experience for some of them and the congregation have been very supportive of this. We would like to thank everyone for their lovely comments and positive feedback given directly to the young people.

If any young person would like to join us, we would love to have you come along and join in the activities. We meet in the hall at 10.45am every Sunday.



Forward One Hour!!

British Summer Time begins at 1.00 a.m. on

Sunday 29 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!

The Parishioner

Copy for the April 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 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 Denise Japp, is available in the office Monday to Friday 8.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. and may be the first point of contact for general enquiries. Denise 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

Nursery News

We have had another busy month in nursery with more new children joining us.

Our tender was submitted and we await approval of our plan to offer 1140 hours. Registration for next session is now closed and we look forward to confirmation from EDC of our numbers for this.

Fairtrade fortnight was busy in the nursery with some children making 'stained glass' logos, which are currently displayed in the Regent Centre. A group of children visited the Centre and took part in Fairtrade games and activities – as well as enjoying Fairtrade hot chocolate and bananas!

Children have been on walks to Boghead Woods and will visit the Children's Hospital in Glasgow this month as part of the work they have been involved in at nursery.

They will also take part in a treasure hunt in church as part of our March Open Doors event and will each receive a small gift to remind them of their visit.

To recover from all this activity, the children enjoyed a yoga session run by Relax Kids!

Fiona Leishman, Nursery Convenor

The Lord is my Shepherd

The Lord is my Shepherd – THAT'S RELATIONSHIP!

I shall not want – THAT'S SUPPLY!

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures – THAT'S REST!

He leadeth me beside still waters – THAT'S REFRESHMENT!

He restoreth my soul – THAT'S HEALING!

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness – THAT'S GUIDANCE!

For his name sake – THAT'S PURPOSE!

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death – THAT'S TESTING!

I will fear no evil – THAT'S PROTECTION!

For thou art with me – THAT'S FAITHFULNESS!

Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me – THAT'S DISCIPLINE!

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies – THAT'S HOPE!

Thou anointest my head with oil – THAT'S CONSECRATION!

My cup runneth over – THAT'S ABUNDANCE!

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life – THAT'S BLESSING!

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord – THAT'S SECURITY!

Forever – THAT'S ETERNITY!

Mothering Sunday 22nd March

There is an old Jewish saying: God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers.

Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods – our human mothers – all of them have been part of the celebration of 'Mothering Sunday' – as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known. It has been celebrated in the UK since at least the 16th century.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church.

During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as 'live-in' servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families – which is how 'Mothering Sunday' got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

In recent years the holiday has changed and in many ways now resembles the American Mother's Day, with families going out to Sunday lunch and generally making a fuss of their mother on the day.

Prayer for help and healing

Father,

You are always loving, always generous and kind to your children. Please have mercy on us in these times of turmoil and division.

Help us to be tolerant and understanding of those who have different, sincerely-held opinions.

And guide our leaders so that your will be done in our country and in our relationships with each other and with Europe and the rest of the world.

Lord, have mercy on us, forgive us and heal us.

In Jesus name, Amen.

Ministries and Mission –

What is it?

As you will be aware, we launched an Advent Appeal in early December to raise funds to pay off our remaining shortfall in Ministries and Mission Allocation which had built up over a five-year period.

We are very grateful for the tremendous response from the congregation.

Many of you are however wondering what exactly Ministries and Mission is, therefore, I will try to explain how it works based on a leaflet from the Church of Scotland.

The figures quoted are now somewhat out of date as no new leaflet has been produced for the last two years as a review of the system is under way. This resulted from many complaints about its operation which came to a head at last year's General Assembly when a motion was passed to freeze the total amount payable by a Church for next year and an instruction given that a revised plan be brought to the General Assembly in 2020.

In essence, the Ministries and Mission Allocation pays for the cost of employing all ministers in the Church of Scotland and supports mission throughout the Church.

In 2017 the total cost of employing a minister at the top of the scale which is reached after five years' service was £49,864, (this includes Employers National Insurance and Pension Contributions), our allocation was £72,001 based on the average of the previous three years assessable income. Assessable income is our regular weekly offering, plus donations, gift aid tax recovered on these, investment income, endowment income and any letting income in excess of £20,000. As you can see, we were being asked to pay for approx. 1.44 ministers.

In 2017 for each £10 which was put in the plate or paid by standing order in theory £4.88 paid for our minister, 92p was used for mission and we were left with £4.20 to meet all other operating costs.

The 92p was broken down into:

8p Mission and Discipleship

5p Church and Society

9p Social Care (Crossreach)

12p World Mission

45p Support Services (legal advice, accounting and safeguarding)

6p General Assembly and Moderator

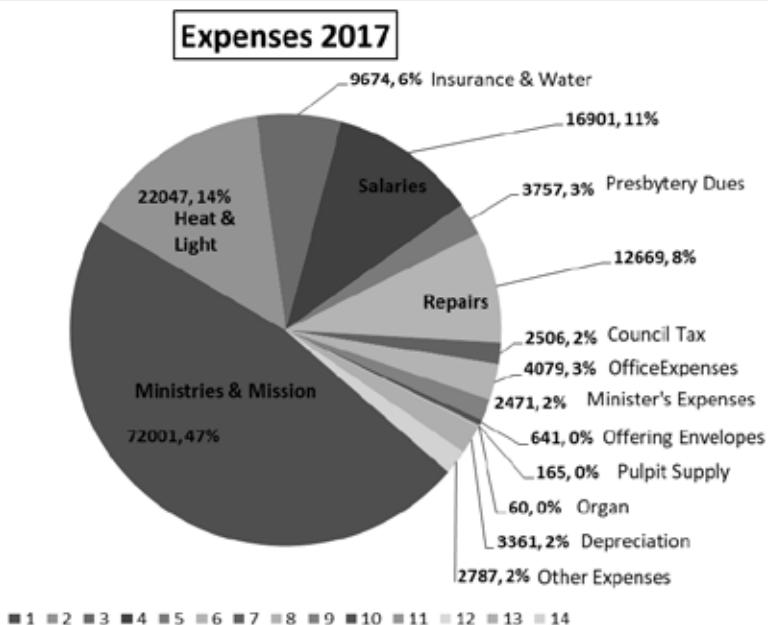
7p Special Contributions

As the calculation of Ministries and Mission is done on a sliding scale we finished up with an above average figure being requested equivalent to £5.94 per £10 received leaving us with £4.06 to meet all running costs.

The calculation does not take into account the size or age of the building we operate from, which means that other more modern churches with similar income but much lower overheads pay the same amount as we do, which seems extremely unfair.

If we look at our 2017 accounts our total general fund income was £122,747 from which we were due to pay £72,001 for Ministries and Mission leaving us with £50,746 to meet our overheads which is less than £1,000 per week. The cost of our Heat and Light, Insurance and water rates and salaries alone total £48,622 leaving just over £2,000 to meet all other expenses which include Presbytery Dues of £3,757 not to mention repairs, office expenses, minister's expenses etc. This clearly shows that the system is not sustainable as churches are eating into their reserves at an alarming rate.

Ministries and Mission
Heat and Light
Insurance and Water
Salaries
Presbytery Dues
Repairs
Council Tax
Office Expenses
Minister's Expenses
Offering Envelopes
Pulpit Supply
Organ
Depreciation
Other Expenses

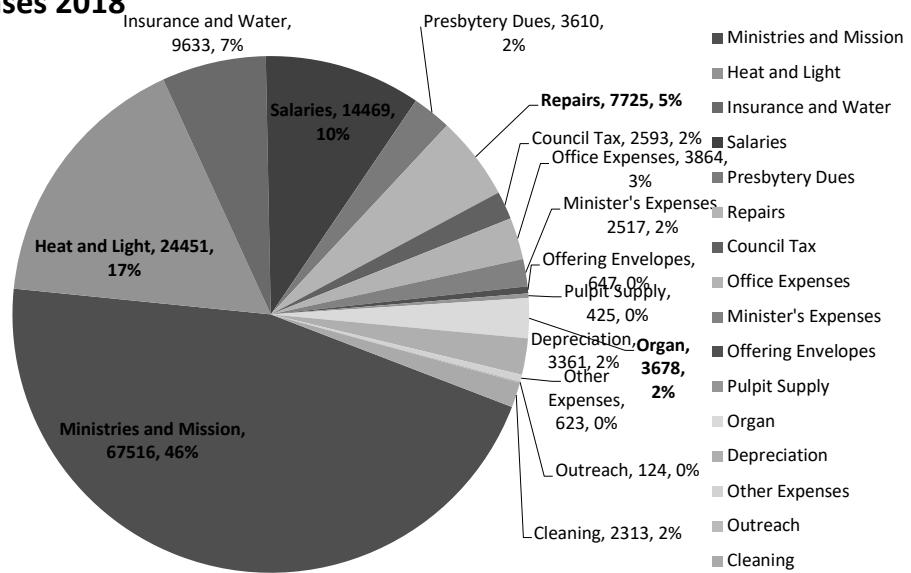


The above pie chart shows the proportion of our expenditure related to each cost centre for the year to 31 December 2017 with the numbers beside each colour relating to the expenses listed on the left in order.

If we look at this chart it can clearly be seen that if we add items 1 and 5 half of our expenditure is taken up by Ministries and Mission and Presbytery Dues which leaves us very limited scope to reduce our running costs.

A similar picture can be seen from the illustrative chart below based on our 2018 expenses.

Expenses 2018



We will update the pie chart for 2019 once our accounts for that year and budget for 2020 are approved.

Like many congregations, we await with interest the outcome of the review of the system when it is hopefully presented to the General Assembly later this year.

Hugh Biggans
Finance Convenor

John Thomson
Treasurer

Treasurer's Report

JANUARY OFFERING

DATE	FREEWILL OFFERING	GIFT AID	OPEN PLATE	STANDING ORDERS
05.01.20	138.00	492.00	78.95	
12.01.20	316.00	474.00	50.00	
19.01.20	309.00	479.50	69.50	
26.01.20	263.00	366.00	146.00	
Standing orders				4342.00
TOTAL	1026.00	1811.50	344.45	4342.00
Total for the Month		7523.95		

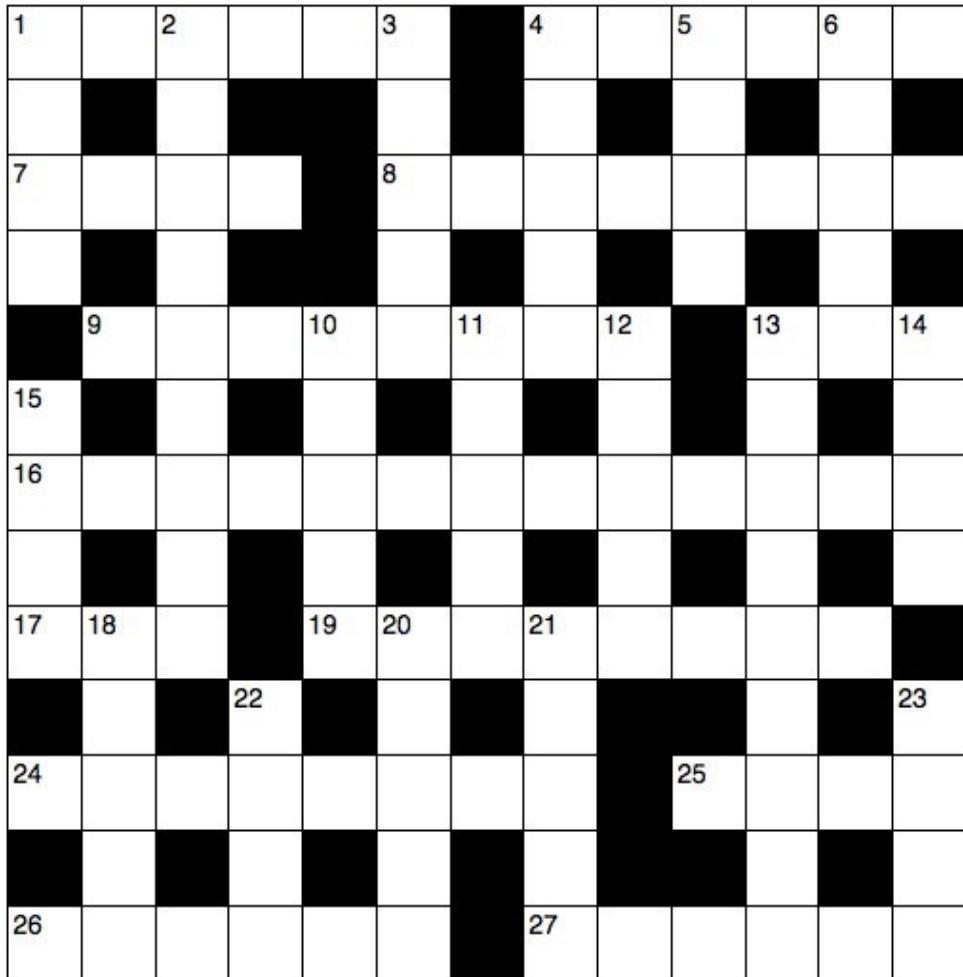
RECEIPTS AND DONATIONS Received During January
with thanks and gratitude for your consideration of our Church

Life and Work and Parishioner Donations 50.00
Rev. Arthur Main Donation to Parishioner 12.00



*They had been asked to prepare posies
for Mothering Sunday*

Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 The earth is one (6)
- 4 'On a hill far away stood an old — cross' (6)
- 7 'I am the — vine and my Father is the gardener'
(John 15:1) (4)
- 8 The Caesar who was Roman Emperor at the time

- of Jesus' birth(Luke 2:1) (8)
- 9 'Your — should be the same as that of Christ Jesus'(Philippians 2:5) (8)
- 13 Jesus said that no one would put a lighted lamp under this(Luke 8:16) (3)
- 16 Involvement (1 Corinthians 10:16) (13)

17 Armed conflict (2
Chronicles 15:19) (3)

19 Where the Gaderene pigs
were feeding (Mark 5:11) (8)

24 What jeering youths called
Elisha on the road to Bethel
(2 Kings 2:23) (8)

25 The Venerable — ,
eighth-century Jarrow
ecclesiastical scholar (4)

26 8 Across issued a decree
that this should take place
(Luke 2:1) (6)

27 Come into prominence
(Deuteronomy 13:13) (6)

Down

1 Where some of the seed
scattered by the sower fell
(Matthew 13:4) (4)

2 Sexually immoral person
whom God will judge
(Hebrews 13:4) (9)

3 Gospel leaflet (5)

4 Physical state of the
boy brought to Jesus for
healing (Mark 9:18)

5 Tugs (anag.) (4)

6 To put forth (5)

10 Nationality associated with
St Patrick (5)

11 Leader of the descendants
of Kohath (1 Chronicles 15:5)
(5)

12 'After this, his brother came
out, with his hand grasping
— heel' (Genesis 25:26) (5)

13 At Dothan the Lord struck
the Arameans with — at
Elisha's request (2 Kings
6:18) (9)

14 'Peter, before the cock
crows today, you will —
three times that you know
me' (Luke 22:34) (4)

15 Spit out (Psalm 59:7) (4)

18 'When I — , I am still with
you' (Psalm 139:18) (5)

20 Concepts (Acts 17:20) (5)

21 Thyatira's dealer in purple
cloth (Acts 16:14) (5)

22 Does (anag.) (4)

23 The second set of seven
cows in Pharaoh's dream
were this (Genesis 41:19) (4)



The Rectory . . .

St James the Least

The perils of eating with members of your church

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 of All.

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 form to devise a commissioning Service for the person who will be in charge of its maintenance. I can already foresee Lady Bartlett proposing

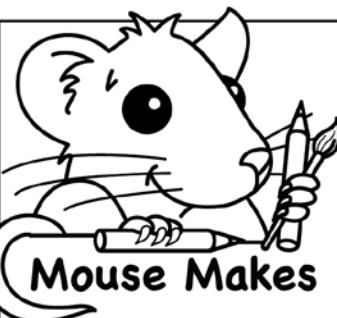
an appropriate set of robes for the office holder – although it will need some tact to select suitable insignia on the sleeves.

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. 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.

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 in the service. But we are made of sterner stuff, and I maintain that our congregation should be grateful that they now a lavatory at all. And to think that someone suggested it should even have heating!

**Your loving uncle,
Eustace**



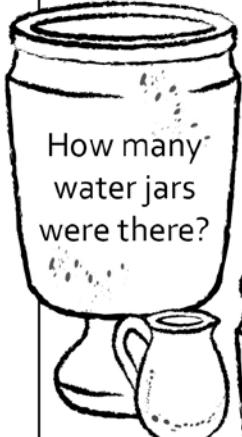
Mouse Makes

Jesus, his disciples and his mother Mary had been invited to a wedding. The wedding was to last a week, but too soon the wine had all been drunk.

READ John 2:1-11 to find out what happened.



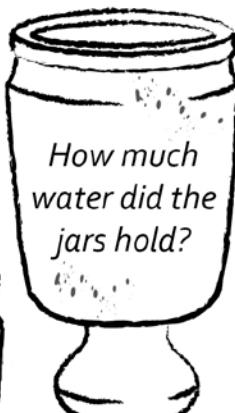
Where was the wedding?



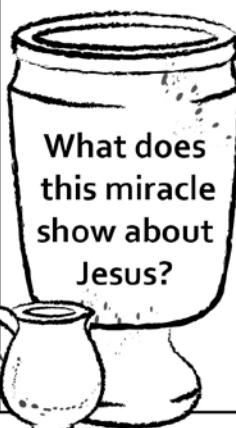
How many water jars were there?



What were the water jars made of?



How much water did the jars hold?



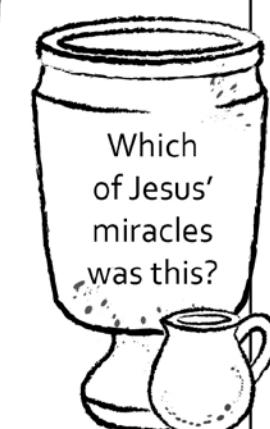
What did the steward tell the bridegroom?



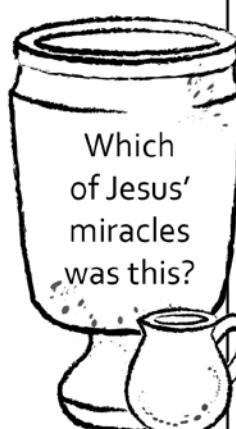
What did the disciples do?



What had happened to the water when it was taken out?



What were the water jars for?



Which of Jesus' miracles was this?

What does this miracle show about Jesus?

J G A L I L E E W A W
J A D I S C I P L E S A
W S E R V A N T S O O D T T
I T S S C A N A X U M D O E
M O U I F I R S T T A I N R
E P S X I T A T T U R N E D
F I L L W I N E X T Y G E T

WEDDING • CANA • GALILEE • JESUS • MARY • DISCIPLES
SERVANTS • RAN • OUT • SIX • STONE • WATER • JARS
FILL • TOP • TASTE • TURNED • WINE • FIRST

Bible Bite

It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew 25: 14-30

A short story from the Bible

Jesus told a story to help his disciples to be ready for the end of time. 'A rich man was about to go on a journey...



When the master came back, he called his servants to him...



Contact list 2019.20	Organisation	Location	Time	Contact
Sunday	Sunday Worship	Church	11am	Rev Morris Dutch
	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 McDonald
	Ladies Bowling	Main Hall	1.30-3.30pm	Cathie Devine
	Running/Walking Club	Session House	7pm	Bob Brown
Tuesday	Nursery	Church Halls	8.30-11.45am	Joanne McDonald
	Ladies Badminton	Main Hall	1.15-3.15pm	Ann Selbie
	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 McDonald
	Wednesday Welcome	Session House	10-11.20am	Mary Stirling
	Wednesday Service	Church	11.30-12noon	Rev Morris Dutch
	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	Cara Daniels
	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 McDonald
	Flower Circle (Alternate Weeks)	Mid Hall	7.30-9pm	Elizabeth Walker
Friday	Nursery	Church Halls	8.30-11.45am	Joanne McDonald
	Listener's Circle (Monthly)	Session House (church)	2-4pm	Edith Dunn
	Friday Fellowship (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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through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Find us on:



@minsmpc



st mary's kirkintilloch

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