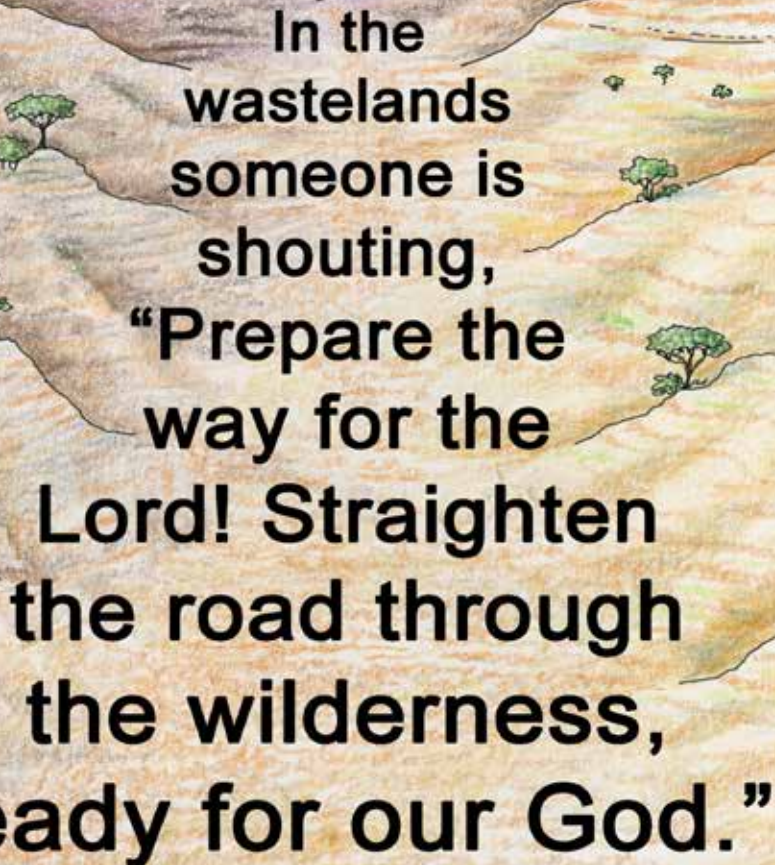


FEBRUARY and MARCH 2025



**In the
wastelands
someone is
shouting,
“Prepare the
way for the
Lord! Straighten
the road through
the wilderness,
ready for our God.”**

Is 40:2, Mt 3:3, Mk 1:3 Lk 3:4, Jn 1:23



St Mary's Parish Church

Cowgate Kirkintilloch G66 1JT

Minister:

Rev Dr Ruth Morrison, MA, BD, PhD

0141 737 4896

Treasurer:

John M. Thomson

0141 239 2611

Church Officer:

Paul Malcolm

0141 578 1520

Editor:

Sandra Burns

0141 776 6322

Secretary:

Denise Japp

0141 775 1166

Church Organist:

David Burns

0141 776 5484

Session Clerk:

Gordon Morrison

0141 578 5887



Church Website:

www.stmaryskirkintilloch.org.uk



Find us on:



st mary's kirkintilloch



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Pastoral Letter ...

Dear friends,

January can sometimes be a slow month and by the time you read this, it will be well and truly over. Yet, before we look towards the promise of spring and turn our thoughts to Lent and Easter (and next Christmas!), I want to take a moment to think about what has already happened; in particular, the 'Big Knit-In' that took place in St Mary's on 22nd January. Some 70 people came into the sanctuary, from within the church and beyond the walls, to knit or sew squares, as part of Glasgow Presbytery's Big Knit project in connection with Lodging House Mission to celebrate Glasgow 850, showing care and compassion by making blankets for homeless people in the city. It was a fruitful day, with plenty of knitting and chatting, tea and coffee and even some lovely soup; with the bonus of some background music played on the piano. There was a real buzz about the place and was enjoyed by all who came along. It led me to find out if the word 'knit' appeared in the bible. To my delight, it does, a few times, mostly in Leviticus in relation to fabric. It also appears though, in some translations of Paul's letter to the people in Colossae. In the New Living Translation, at chapter 2, verse 2 it says this: "I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love," before Paul goes on to remind the people that Jesus is the centre of it all.

At the start of a new year, it does us no harm to think about our purpose and calling as a church, and Paul's words are both a comfort and a call to remember that in faith we are tied, bound, knit together by love. What a joy it is to know God's love for us, and for that love to bind us together, and then overflow into our love for each other and our neighbour. The 'Big Knit-In' was a wonderful example of people connecting and coming together, serving and offering their gifts, for a bigger purpose. It was great!

This year, I want to encourage us as a church to take opportunities and make opportunities to deepen our connections. Might it be time to stay for a coffee after the service or come along to the Lent Cluster study that will be starting on Wednesday 5th March? Maybe it's been a while since you worshipped in the sanctuary on a Sunday – what would help bring you back? Why not come along to Wednesday Welcome for a cuppa and blether first? Are you looking for a new hobby, or some company? Then remember there's the Craft Group that meet on a Monday afternoon. Perhaps you want to get a bit fitter, then there's badminton, Scottish Country Dancing and the Running Club. Maybe you can't get to church anymore and though you watch on YouTube, you would like a conversation – maybe it's time to give me a call and arrange a visit and home Communion? Or possibly you are reading this and have an idea for how we can be deepening our connections with one another, with our community, with our fellow Christians, and yes, with our God. If that's you – then please speak up. I would be happy to hear from you because connections are so important, and I want us to be a place where names, as well as faces are known. Where stories are heard and treasured. Where faith is grown and nurtured, and lives changed for the better through our love for one another and knowing God's love for us.

I want us to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love like never before ... what opportunities will you take to make that so?

Your Minister, *Ruth*

The Parishioner Online



www.stmaryskirkintilloch.org.uk

Missed or lost your copy of the Parishioner ... why not go to www.stmaryskirkintilloch.org.uk and see this month's copy. Stephen McKean, Webmaster, has built up previous issues online so you can look back on past copies. Also, if you wish any news or information to be put on the website, please e-mail webmaster@stmaryskirkintilloch.org.uk and we will put these on the News page of the Website.

Parish Register

Funerals

January	23	Mrs Jean Montgomery, 12 Broom Gardens, Lenzie
	30	Lorraine Bell, Friarscroft, Kirkintilloch

Our thoughts and prayers are with all the families at this sad time.

Church Office

The secretary, Mrs Denise Japp is available in the office Monday to Thursday 8.00 a.m. – 2.15 p.m., Friday 8.00 a.m. – 2.00 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@stmarysnursery.uk

Session Report

You will read elsewhere in the magazine about the monies raised for the various charities we have been supporting over the festive period. I wanted to add my thanks for your generous support of all these good causes. Your donations will make a real difference to peoples' lives, both here in our own community, across Glasgow and, through the Moderator's Appeal, as far away as Malawi. My sincere thanks to you all. I would also like to thank our Treasurer, John Thomson, for dealing with all of the donations as they came in, as well as ensuring they reach the appropriate destination.

As you are probably aware, our Church Officer, Paul Malcolm, is off at the moment. My thanks to all of the volunteers who have stepped in to pick up the reins in Paul's absence. And we wish Paul a speedy recovery, following his knee surgery.

I have very little to report in regard to the Basis of Union, but as we approach the end of January (when the magazine was going to print) our meetings are being arranged. The Mission Group are preparing a Mission Statement for Trinity Parish Church and hope to identify our priorities for Mission and Outreach for the next few years. This information will assist the Basis of Union Group to make recommendations regarding the resources required to support the ongoing needs of the new parish. As always, if there is anything you would like to discuss, or if you would like any additional information, then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards

Gordon Morrison, Session Clerk
Telephone: 07306 205303
email: morrisgo@sky.com



Church Flowers

The church is decorated each Sunday with flowers. Each arrangement is delivered to someone who is unwell, bereaved or having an over 80 Birthday! To continue this ministry of flowers we depend on donations from members and recently donations have lessened, so we need your help. If you would like to donate to church flowers either on a regular basis or a one-off donation, then please let one of us know. Grateful thanks to all who have donated over the past months.

***Fiona Leishman, Sandra Burns,
Ruth Poynton, Elizabeth Walker
The Flower Committee***

Nursery Update

The Nursery has been given notice of an inspection by Education Scotland starting on 3rd February. The inspection will take place over three days with the inspectors concentrating on learning and teaching, assessment and monitoring progress.



Two very successful Open Days were held during January. Visiting families were very impressed and we hope they will choose to start with us in August.

We currently have fifty-six 3-5 year olds with another nine starting over the next few months. As our numbers have increased, we welcome Martine Dingwall to our nursery team. We hope Martine will enjoy her time with us.

The nursery children were taking part in Big Bird Week. This was especially exciting as they were able to observe our pair of nesting peregrine falcons!

Registration for August funding closes as the end of February. Please encourage family members to register if they need an August start.

**Fiona Leishman,
Nursery Convener**

Treasurer's Report

Some recent receipts over the last Month (Most of these donors wishing to remain anonymous)

A couple of donations of £50 x 2 towards the cost of screens.
We continue to receive donations towards various funds and projects, General, Special Projects, Fabric Fund, Parishioner, to name just a few.

A Legacy in Memory of Alan Henderson, Braes O' Yetts, £1,000.
Badminton Club £600

Running and Walking Group to Special Projects Fund £370
Christmas Card Project to Special Projects Fund £900 (Thanks to Ruth and team for work)

Some anonymous donations to General and Special Projects totaling £800
Recent Craft Group to Special Projects £673.97 (Approx £398 already received in November on Christmas Community day, so that means a total of well over a £1,000 received over the festive period. Well done Ladies.

Charities and Gift Service Monetary receipts a total of £1,763.06, what a fantastic effort, thank you St Mary's.

Watchnight Service Offering Receipts £216.50 to be distributed to Moderator's Appeal. Thank you to everyone who continues to support our Church, your consideration, thoughtfulness, and generosity are very much appreciated.

Correspondence from The Church of Scotland and The Presbytery of Glasgow detailing Giving to Grow and Presbytery Dues for 2025

Giving to Grow contributions for 2025: net £75,970

£75,970 Payable over 10 or 12 equal monthly payments, so we will pay £7,597 monthly over 10 months February to November inclusive.

Presbytery Dues for 2025: £4,426 payable over 3 instalments 31st March, 30th June, and 30th September.

John M Thomson
Treasurer

LIFE & WORK

The annual subscription this year is £42.00 for 12 issues and is now due. If you do not already take Life & Work and are interested in doing so, please contact Sandra Burns. The content of this Church of Scotland Magazine is very varied, including a letters page, feature articles by various people and church news from around the country, to name but a few.

The magazine is central to the communication strategy of the Church of Scotland and so is key to staying connected. The pages carry official updates from different areas of the central church, including monthly updates from those tasked with delivering the Faith action Plan. It also incorporates an easy to reference contacts directory. It will continue to be packed with news, features and opinion on Christian life in Scotland and further afield.

Craft Group

Our Craft Group has started back after the break and are busy knitting squares. We will shortly be moving on to other projects including knitting more poppies and preparing knitted gifts to put on the trees at Christmas (there's nothing like forward planning!).

We were delighted to hear at our first meeting that we had raised just over £1000 from the sale of our knitted goods at Christmas. This money has now been passed to the Treasurer. Many thanks to all the ladies, including Heather Morley (Bobby Brown's sister who sends boxes of knitted goods for us to sell) for all of your knitting, crocheting and sewing. Well done everyone!

As part of our planning for next Christmas we are looking for any tailor's dummies which no-one uses anymore. We are also looking for a few brocade curtains to use as cloaks for the wise men, and some furry fabric to use for animals. If anyone has any of the above lurking in their attic and would like rid of them please let Fiona Leishman know.

Finally, if you would like to join our group, please feel free to come along at 2pm on a Monday. You'll find us in the Session house!

The Big Knit In

As part of Glasgow Presbytery's Close Knit initiative, we held a Knit In in church on 22nd January. This was a really successful day with over sixty ladies from around the area dropping in to knit squares, have a cuppa and enjoy fellowship with each other. We think we have enough squares for four blankets already! If you would like to help, then please hand in your squares (size 4mm needles with 30 stitches and knit until it forms a square) up until the end of February. We hope to finish sewing up the blankets to forward to Glasgow Presbytery by the end of March. Each of our blankets uses ninety-six squares and has a heart knitted into each one. Blankets from around the churches are going to be displayed before being passed to Lodging House Mission. Thanks to everyone who helped on the day by stewarding, baking, making soup and providing hospitality to our guests. Thanks also to everyone who came along on the day to knit, eat and chat!



The 2nd Kirkintilloch Brownies

Have you been a member of Girlguiding? Have a relative that was a Brownie? Because we have a huge milestone coming up at St Mary's. The 2nd Kirkintilloch Brownies will be celebrating its 70th anniversary this September! Whilst it's a long while away, we want to plan a big celebration for the wider community as well as our girls and would appreciate your help. We were wondering if anyone had old photos, badges, books, uniforms, anything from their time in Girlguiding we could take a copy of or borrow to showcase in our celebrations. If you have anything helpful, please contact Unit Leader Laura Friel by email at not-lauren@live.co.uk



The Churches Walk and Talk Group

The Walk and Talk group has combined friendly conversation with gentle walks around Kirkintilloch, Lenzie and Waterside since 2022. The pace is suitable for all ages, most fitness levels and all are welcome. There is no membership involved in Walk and Talk and all are welcome for occasional or regular walks. If you would like to join us then please turn up at any of the locations below on the dates and we will be delighted to see you. Unless stated otherwise, the walks start at 1:30 on Thursday afternoons, last approximately one hour and the start

points and routes vary, as shown below. The walks on the 6th March and the 3rd April will be outside of the local areas. On these dates the meeting point shall be St Columba's Hillhead Church at 1:15, please note the earlier time, and a car sharing operation will take place. Please be aware that normally at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of our walkers arrive by car and are happy to provide transport for non-car users where required.

Trevor Patterson
trevor_patterson@outlook.com

6th February
13th February
20th February
27th February
6th March
13th March
20th March
27th March
3rd April

Kilsyth Road, Strathkelvin Railway Path.
Donaldson Street, including coffee break at The Stables.
Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre.
Lenzie Co-Op.
St Columba's Hillhead Church. 1:15 for transport to Lennoxtown.
Hillhead Basin.
Ellisland Drive, 88 and X87 bus turning circle.
Merkland Nature Park.
St Columba's Hillhead Church. 1:15 for transport to Milton of Campsie.

Dates for your Diary



Bored? – Don't Be! Come Along to our All Age Board Games Day



We are holding our first Board Games Day on Saturday 22nd February and you are all invited! Come along with your children, grandchildren, with a friend or on your own! Enjoy playing various board games and fellowship together. Rolls with bacon/sausage will be available at lunchtime and refreshments will be available throughout the day. The fun starts at 11am and finishes at 1pm. Stay for the whole time or simply drop in for a quick game. Either way, you will be most welcome – hope to see you there!

ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH - OPEN DOORS DAYS and LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH - OPEN DOORS DAYS and LUNCHTIME CONCERTS ON WEDNESDAY 5th February and WEDNESDAY 5TH MARCH 2025

Our next Open Doors event will be on Wednesday 5th February at which we will be entertained by Sally McLellan on the piano and John Thomson singing.

The Open Doors Day after that is Wednesday 5th March when we very much look forward to welcoming Kirkintilloch Ladies Choir to entertain us as they perform in our sanctuary at our lunchtime concert.

We do hope that you will feel able to join us on both dates and would encourage you to bring any of your friends who enjoy musical entertainment.

Coffee, tea and biscuits will be available in the sanctuary from 12.00 until 14.00.

We invite you all to come and, as always, everyone will be made most welcome.

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

John Pears

Advanced Notice for Pancake Sunday

This will take place on **Sunday 9th March** after the service. A savoury first course and a sweet second course which will include pancakes with a variety of fillings.

Tickets will be available from a Sunday 16th February costing £1 to secure your place plus a donation on the day.

This is usually a very happy occasion as it often signals that spring has definitely arrived.

Prayer for February 2025

Dear Lord,

February can be a trying month, but there are special associations too and we thank you for the hope they bring.

In February we remember how Jesus was taken, as a baby, to the Temple. Simeon took Him in his arms and by the power of the Holy Spirit, recognised Him as the Saviour you had sent as a light, to bring revelation to the whole world. And how this world needs your light and revelation in this new year, 2025.

Lord – as we notice more light in the lengthening days of this month, as we see the promise of the Spring in the bobbing heads of the beautiful snowdrops – help us most of all to recognise Jesus as our Light and to trust in Him as our Lord and Saviour. Thank you, Lord, for the gift of each new day. In Jesus' name.

Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Reflecting Faith: Church Buildings

We have been thinking about different aspects of church buildings. But what about 'the whole thing'? - the impression you have when you first see a church building?

Most of us have visited many church buildings, either to worship or as a tourist: to enjoy the splendour, the colours, the style and the architecture, with or without necessarily a time of prayer or worship.

There are some amazingly staggering designs around the world – one only has to think of the complex and intricate stone carving of Gaudi's catholic basilica in Barcelona, Spain (due to be completed next year!) and then compare that to the sleekness of the Lutheran (Church of Iceland) parish church in Reykjavik, Iceland.

How about the grandeur of St Peter's in Rome, full of baroque gold and rich colours? Or what about St Basil's Cathedral in Red Square, Moscow – now a museum, but topped with amazingly coloured onion domes?

Just looking at the outside of a building tells you a lot about what it is likely to be like inside, the purpose of the building and the style of worship to expect there.

It's not just about the condition of the fabric, or the tidiness of the grounds but rather the architecture itself.

When we see a contemporary modern building, we will expect the worship to match it: whether that is Protestant, Catholic or any other denomination.

The very first Valentine card, a legend

The Roman Emperor Claudius II needed soldiers. He suspected that marriage made men want to stay at home with their wives, instead of fighting wars, so he outlawed marriage.

A kind-hearted young priest named Valentine felt sorry for all the couples who wanted to marry, but who couldn't. So secretly he married as many couples as he could - until the Emperor found out and condemned him to death. While he was in prison awaiting execution, Valentine showed love and compassion to everyone around him, including his jailer. The jailer had a young daughter who was blind, but through Valentine's prayers, she was healed. Just before his death in Rome on 14th February, he wrote her a farewell message signed 'From your Valentine.'

So, the very first Valentine card was not between lovers, but between a priest about to die, and a little girl, healed through his prayers



...are you late with your 'Vicar's Letter' again, dear?



Christmas Card Delivery

This year the sum raised was £900.00 which is going to Church funds. With sincere thanks to Ruth Poynton for all the hard work she put in; collecting, sorting and delivering the cards to all those, who in turn, delivered them around the various districts. Thank you also to Stewart Walker Newsagent for accepting cards this year.

Tearfund in action in the Middle East

As conflict in the Middle East continues, millions of people across Gaza, Lebanon and the wider region are still in urgent need of food, shelter and medical care.

One British Christian charity in the region is Tearfund, working through a variety of local churches and partners.

In Gaza, Tearfund International Health Partners provide medicine and healthcare. In Lebanon, Tearfund provides food, mattresses and other essentials through local churches. In the West Bank, Tearfund works with the Diocese of Jerusalem in healthcare and education.

But Tearfund says: "This is only possible with your support. Please, join us in prayer and give if you can, to help us respond to the growing need."
<https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/middle-east-emergency-appeal>

You can count on me

"Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18:19-21)

I cannot count in church. I do not know why, but I cannot.

I mean that, when I am at the front and leading a service, I try to add up how many people there are in the congregation. We are supposed to do this and enter the figures in the church register, but I find it difficult. I usually give up and hope a warden has counted them. Do you include the leader and the organist? Well, yes, to increase the figures!

I am not sure why counting in church is a problem, as people do not move around. Yes, it is sometimes difficult to see heads in pews, but it should be easy. I start on one side and go to the back and then up the other side but then I get lost and have to start again. Sometimes the congregation see me looking from one to another and nodding gently to myself.

Numbers are important of course, but I am in two minds. Sometimes there are only a few and I think the pressure is off me, but it is disappointing, working hard to prepare a service and then not have many there. Often it seems that the congregation try a trick on me - and wait until the very last minute to rush in!

Numbers are important, but the most important figures are two and three. The most important relationships are between partners or a child and their parents. There is the same idea in the Bible.

I always like to pause between saying out loud the words two and three, which is good because I can just about count up to three!

Young Church ...

We meet every Sunday at 11am and welcome children of all ages. They have fun enjoying games, stories, songs and crafts each week.
For the next couple of weeks, we will be following the lectionary.

What is the lectionary?

It is a set of readings from Scripture. The association of texts with specific days began in the 4th century. It is a set of readings for every day, and in particular for every Sunday, running over a three-year cycle (A, B and C). Each yearly cycle begins on the first Sunday of Advent. Year A follows year B, year C follows year B, then back again to A. The year which begins with Advent 2024 and ends at Advent 2025 is Year C

The lectionary sets out four readings for each Sunday: An Old Testament passage; a Psalm (or other Bible song); a New Testament reading; and a Gospel reading (Matthew, Mark or Luke - John is spread over all the years).

The year which begins with Advent 2024 and ends at Advent 2025 is Year C.

We are currently on Year C – Epiphany – Revised Common Lectionary. More information can be found here:

<https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/calendar/2024-25>



The parable of the Shrewd Manager



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS TOLD A STORY ABOUT A RICH MAN...

...AND HIS SERVANT, WHO MANAGED THE RICH MAN'S PROPERTY.

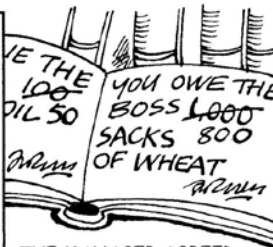


THE RICH MAN HAD HEARD THAT THE MANAGER HAS BEEN WASTING MONEY.

SO HE CALLED THE MANAGER TO ACCOUNT FOR HIMSELF!



OH NO! I AM GOING TO GET THE SACK!!

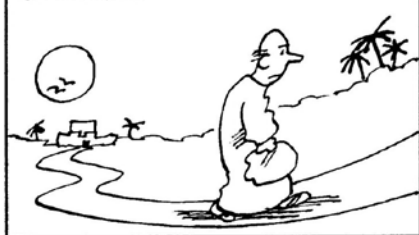


THE MANAGER AGREED TO LET THE RICH MAN'S TRADERS FIDDLE THEIR BOOKS!

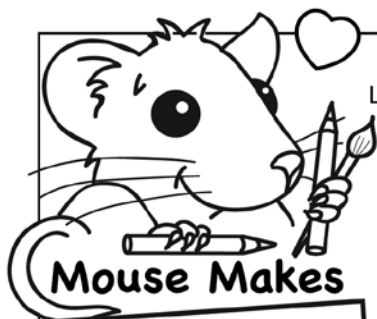


SO THEY ALTERED THEIR DEBTS - AND STAYED FRIENDS WITH THE MANAGER.

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT THE MANAGER HAD BEEN WISE IN MANAGING HIS FUTURE... EVEN THOUGH HE WAS BEING DISHONEST.



JESUS WAS TRYING TO ENCOURAGE THE PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURES TOO. BUT IT'S A HARD PARABLE TO UNDERSTAND!



Mouse Makes

"Love is

love is _____
It does not, _____
it does not _____
it is not _____
it does not _____

others, it is not self-
it is not easily

it keeps no record of

Love delights in

it always

from 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

The steadfast **love** of the Lord never _____;

His _____
never come to an end;
they are new every

Lamentations 3:20-23



I pray... you will understand...
the greatness of Christ's **love**,

how _____
and how _____
and how _____
that **love** is.
Ephesians 3:18-19

God is **love**.
whoever _____
in **love** _____
in God, and God _____
in them.
1 John 4:16



Give _____
to the Lord, for He is

his steadfast **love**
endures

Psalms 136:1

HOW DOES
GOD LOVE ME?

God sent me a saviour:

He sent His one and only
Son into the world so
that we might have
eternal life through Him.

1 John 4:9

God gave me His spirit:

He has given you the
Holy Spirit to fill our hearts
with His **love**.

Romans 5:5

God called me His child:

See what great **love** the
Father has for us that He
would call us His children.

1 John 1:3

DID YOU KNOW?

Jesus told us to:

LOVE the Lord your God with
all your **heart**, all your **soul**
and with all your **mind**.

Matthew 22:37

LOVE your neighbour the
same as you **love** yourself.

Matthew 22:39

GOD • LOVE
PATIENT • KIND
GRACIOUS • PEACE
JUST • TRUTHFUL
TRUSTING • LOYAL
HOPEFUL
PERSEVERES
ENDURES
HUMBLE
SELFLESS
PROTECTS • DEFENDS



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

The Rectory

St James the Least

On the peculiarities of ordination candidates

My dear Nephew Darren

I was quite happy to see the young person from your church whom you are encouraging to get ordained – even though we did not entirely see eye to eye.

When I answered the door to someone dressed in T-shirt, jeans and trainers, I naturally assumed he was the gardener; it was only after I had given him the wheelbarrow and shown him where the spades were, that I found out who he really was. His assurance that this is how Jesus would dress, were He to visit in person again, jarred somewhat. I think that a three-piece suit and stout pair of brogues would be far more likely. We agreed to differ.

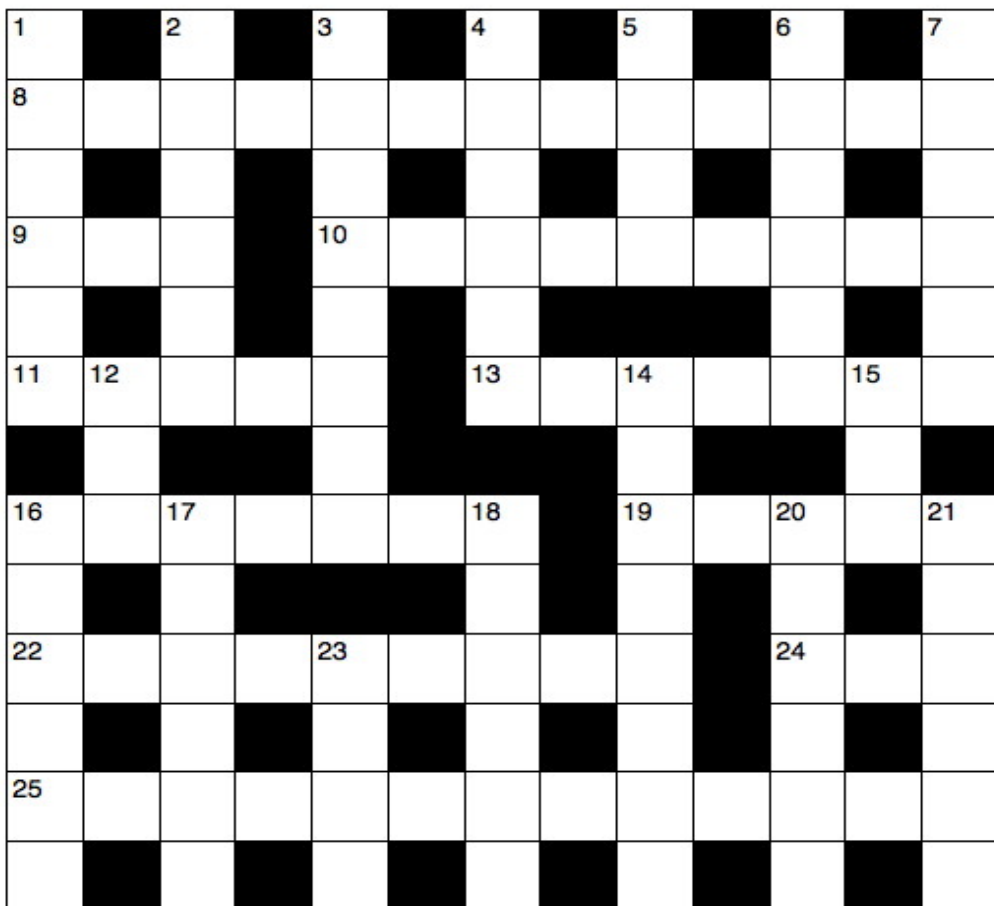
I was interested to hear that he was a church musician. Wanting to know if he sang tenor or bass, or even played the organ, he told me that he was the drummer in the worship band and provided backing vocals. I felt obliged to comment that I was not sure how that would fit in with Mattins, but he told me that he had never heard of that Service, and only attended Mega Rock Praise. Since I suspected it would not

have been written by Cranmer, we moved on.

I had hoped we may have been on safer ground when I asked him whether he preferred early perpendicular or Victorian gothic, but as he had apparently only ever worshipped in your converted cinema, he was unable to offer any opinion. His reaction to my offer to show him round our late Norman church, prompted him to tell me that he believed all churches should be closed and people should gather in each other's homes, like the early Christians.

In a last despairing attempt to find common ground I asked him if he had ever preached. He was slightly apologetic to admit that he had done so very rarely, as he found it took such a long time to write an hour-long sermon. When I mentioned that I did not think I had ever exceeded eight minutes in my entire life, he gave me such a look of withering astonishment that with heroic Christian charity, I did not beat him over the head with the Bible he was carrying.

Your loving uncle, Eustace



Across

8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)

9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)

10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)

11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)

13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)

16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)

19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to —

your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)

22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)

24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1) 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

Down

- 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)
- 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)
- 3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)
- 4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)
- 5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)
- 6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)
- 7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)
- 12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)
- 14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me'

(Psalm 56:5) (8)

- 15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)
- 16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)
- 17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)
- 18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)
- 20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)
- 21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)
- 23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)

ACROSS:
8. Cross-examined. 9. Ash. 10. Apocrypha. 11. Sci-fi. 13. Typical. 16. Visited. 19. Offer. 22. No account. 24. RAC. 25. Sovereign Lord.
DOWN:
1. Oceans. 2. Hopini. 3. Islamist. 4. Exhort. 5. Omar. 6. On spec. 7. Add all. 12. CBI. 14. Plotting. 15. Awe. 16. Vanish. 17. Starve. 18. Daub it. 20. Furrow. 21. Recede. 23. Cure.



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