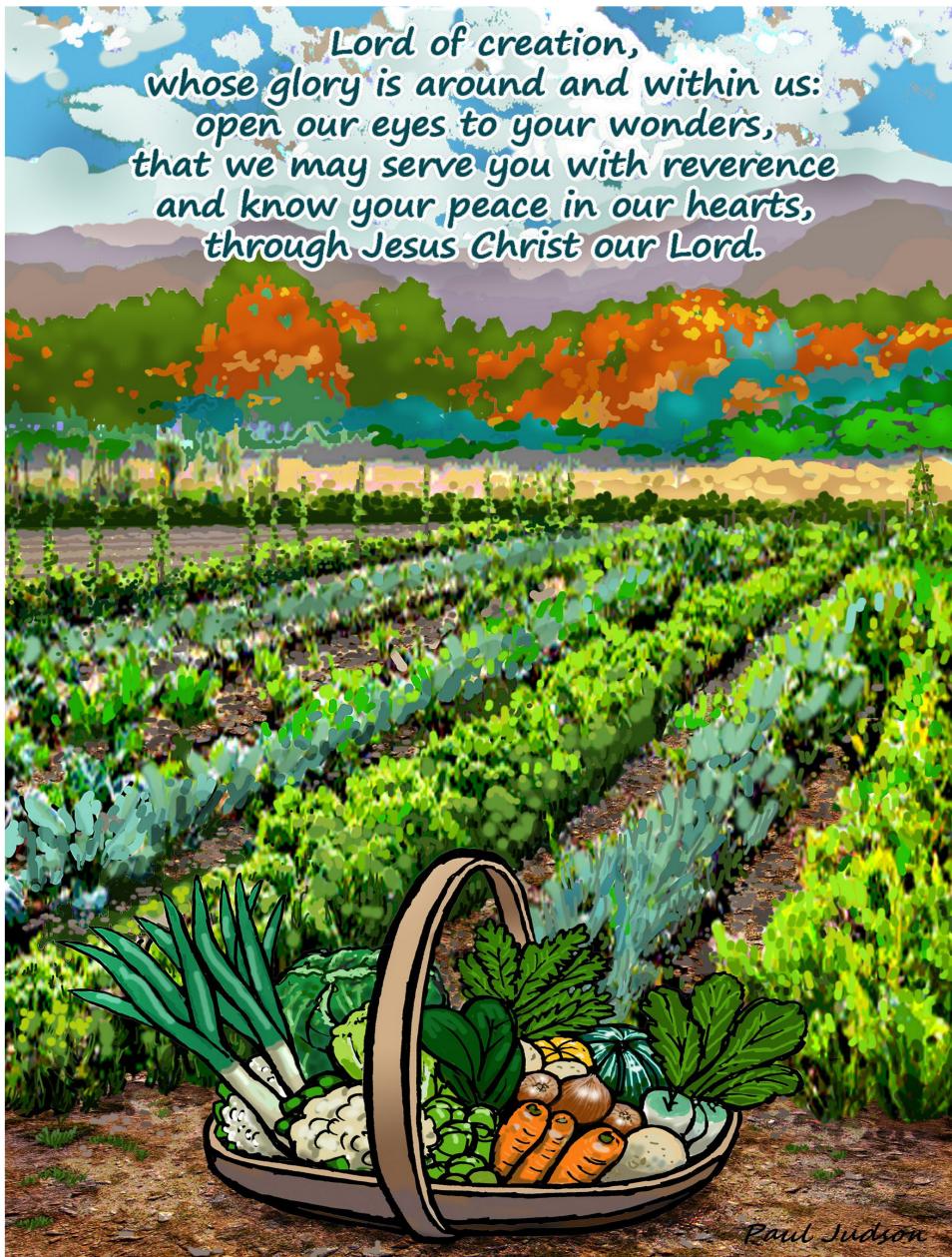


# SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2025



St Mary's Parish Church Kirkintilloch  
SEPT/OCT 2025

**THE  
PARISHIONER**



# 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:*

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0141 775 1166

*Church Organist:*

**David Burns**  
0141 776 5484

*Session Clerk:*

**Gordon Morrison**  
0141 578 5887



*Church Website:*  
[www.stmaryskirkintilloch.org.uk](http://www.stmaryskirkintilloch.org.uk)



Find us on:



st mary's kirkintilloch



Supported by  
**The National Lottery**  
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Registered Charity No. SC007260

# Pastoral Letter...

*Dear Friends,*

Although summer tends to be a quieter time, as I sit down to write this letter and think ahead to the coming months, I'm conscious of just how busy it has been for so many in our church! There was the Deep-Sea Divers cluster holiday club in Kirkintilloch and Lenzie where 30-40 children were welcomed over 4 days to hear stories about Jesus and enjoy crafts and games. There was the wonderful Big Kirkintilloch Weekend, where we welcomed many through the doors of St Mary's sanctuary. People enjoyed looking around and appreciated a moment of quiet amidst the noise of the Cowgate. Many families were also welcomed through the gates and thoroughly enjoyed potted sports and refreshments on the Saturday and Sunday afternoon brought the return of teddy bears in parachutes and crafts – what a joy! There was the knitting of lots and lots of beautiful flowers over many weeks and the time-consuming job of stitching them all on to a banner. This resulted in a stunning display on our railings, that brought colour and a timely message about the everlasting nature of God's Word to our high street: The grass withers and the flowers fall but the word of our God endures forever (Isaiah 40:8). Then, just last week, there was a delicious afternoon tea organised for the parents and carers of our nursery children, an opportunity for them to enjoy a blether and a warm cup of tea. All in all, it's been a very busy and good summer in St Mary's,

with opportunities to connect with our parish, share God's love, show something of His grace, and work with other congregations and one another. What a lot of work! What a committed and faithful bunch! What a team! Well done!

The work, as ever, continues, and the opportunities to participate and be part of the life of St Mary's is open to all. In the coming weeks there will be the resumption of lots of activities, including our regular monthly Open Doors, Wednesday Welcome with a short act of worship (10-12pm starting on 9th September), the Monday Craft Group (2-4pm) and the beginning of a new type of service called Soul Sanctuary. This will begin on Wednesday 3rd September, 7-8.30pm and will begin with some refreshments, followed by a short 30-40 minute service that will include times of silence, music, word and action. This will vary from week to week, drawing on the likes of the Iona Community Quiet Service, the practice of Lectio Divina and Ignatian Spirituality and will offer an opportunity to pause, breathe and be with the tag line: no pressure, just presence. All are welcome to come along. We are also exploring the possibility of starting house groups and having received a couple of requests for adult baptism in recent days, anyone who is not baptised or a member and is interested in exploring faith and what it means to follow Jesus and be part of the church, is welcome to join that conversation and see where it leads. Last, but by no means least, the work of the Trinity Mission Group has continued over the summer as we look towards our union, and we have been thinking about wellbeing and how that might be renewed in our parish. All in all, as we head into the autumn, there is much going on and I hope that you will be part of it. Either by continuing in your faithfulness and prayers, returning to us if you've been away (I can assure you of a warm welcome), or maybe coming along for the first time.

Come and be part of what God is doing in this time and this place – there is much to be involved in, there is much to look forward to.

With love and blessings,

*Ruth*

## ***The Parishioner Online***



**[www.stmaryskirkintilloch.org.uk](http://www.stmaryskirkintilloch.org.uk)**

Missed or lost your copy of the Parishioner ... why not go to [www.stmaryskirkintilloch.org.uk](http://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](mailto:webmaster@stmaryskirkintilloch.org.uk) and we will put these on the News page of the Website.



Copy for the November Parishioner should be e-mailed to [sandraburns.me@gmail.com](mailto:sandraburns.me@gmail.com) no later than Thursday 16th October.

# Parish Register

## Baptism

July 06 Grace Brennan

## Funerals

June 06	Mrs R Maxwell, 58 Iona Way, Kirkintilloch
24	Mrs Isobel McCrae, 24 Poplar Drive, Lenzie
July 04	Alexander Hunter, 58 Sycamore Avenue, Lenzie
15	John McGill, Barrhill Court, Kirkintilloch
August 06	James Malcolm, Westergreens Avenue, Kirkintilloch

## Death

Henry (Harry) Gunning. Iona Way, Kirkintilloch

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

## Special Anniversaries

### **Pearl Wedding**

Paul and Linda Malcolm celebrated 30 years of marriage on 18 August.

### **Golden Wedding**

John and Agnes Marran celebrate 50 years of marriage on 02 October.

### **Diamond Wedding**

Lewis and Frieda Wilson celebrate 60 years of marriage on 17 September  
Congratulations and Best Wishes are sent from the congregation to everyone  
celebrating an anniversary.

Eleanor and Ronnie McGowan would like to thank St Marys for the flowers  
received for their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

## Thank you

John and I would like to thank our Church family for their love and support  
earlier in the year during my stay in hospital and recovery at home. Your cards  
and visits meant so much to us. Thank you for the beautiful Church flowers; the  
flower committee do a wonderful service providing wonderful displays for our  
sanctuary.

**Gillian Thomson**

## 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](mailto:office@stmarysnursery.uk)



# 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 started the new session with staff undertaking training by Alison Sharp called 'Igniting Curiosity' This was a thought-provoking day that was enjoyed by all.

Some staff are currently working through Education Scotland online training. These five modules are based on the theme 'Keeping Trauma in Mind'.

The nursery currently has forty-five 3-5 year olds and sixteen 2 year olds; very healthy numbers for this time in the session. Those children returning to the nursery quickly settled back into the routine and our new starts have also settled in well.

There have been some visits from our recent nursery leavers who came to show staff how smart they are in their school uniforms! They too have settled well into the routine of school.

This year we held an Afternoon Tea for the parent/carers of our nursery children. This was held in the sanctuary and was enjoyed by all who attended. My thanks to everyone who helped make this a success.

Due to the spell of good weather our children have enjoyed visits to the local park. As well as enjoying time together on a grassy surface, these visits also provide opportunities to see changes in nature.

Ruth continues to visit the nursery each Wednesday getting to know the children and spending time with staff.



Fiona Leishman,  
Nursery Convener

## Session Report

I hope you have all enjoyed a restful period over the summer months- and this year it has certainly felt like summer, with plenty of sunshine!

At the time of writing this report, September is fast approaching, which is when lots of activity starts for the new Session (including our Session Meetings). However, this summer has been a particularly busy time for many folks in and around the Church. A couple of things in particular to note:

**The Fabric Team** always take the opportunity over the summer, when the nursery is on holiday, to carry out maintenance activities in the hall and the sanctuary. This year has been particularly productive and my thanks go to David Tinto and his team of willing volunteers for all their hard work. Some of the highlights:

- Enough "clearing out" to fill a large skip (& more!)
- Painting in the back corridor of the Church
- New door & windows on the Catherine Street side of the halls
- Electrical upgrades & improvements in the Sanctuary

**Holiday Club.** This year, the Cluster Holiday Club (Deep Sea Divers) ran in our halls for the first two days and moved to Lenzie Old for the last two. Considerable effort is dedicated to the planning and coordination of this event, in addition to the work required to effectively manage each of the four days. My thanks for the time and talents of everyone involved - I know the Holiday Club was thoroughly enjoyed by all the children who came along.

**Kirkintilloch Big Weekend.** Instead of the canal festival this year, Kirkintilloch Bid organised the "Kirkintilloch Big Weekend". It was wonderful to see the Church involved in this significant community event:

- Church open all day on the Saturday, with teas and coffee being served;
- Back to School Potted Sports on the Saturday afternoon – over 130 children taking part;
- Church open on the Sunday afternoon, crafts, tea room & more.

One of the highlights must be the spectacle of teddy bears & other assorted soft toys parachuting from the Church tower – a real crowd pleaser!

Again, my thanks to everyone involved in making this such a successful weekend.

Just a quick update on a couple of topics:

### **Basis of Union**

As anticipated, Glasgow Presbytery have appointed a "Scheme of Delegation" to undertake a review of the buildings currently used by St Mary's and St. David's Memorial Park. This review has started, although there has not been significant progress over the summer months. We have provided the committee with some initial information in regard to St Mary's and it is anticipated that in the coming weeks, further meetings and site visits will be arranged. This process is likely to take several months to complete – we will keep you updated as the work proceeds.

### **Contact Details**

Thank you to everyone who has already sent me their contact details. This is helping us to build our register of members and adherents and for the first time, collate a more comprehensive list of telephone numbers and email addresses. The intimation regarding contact details has been included in the magazine this month, so if you have not had the opportunity to do it already, I would encourage you to take the time to share your details with me. Thank you.

### **Harvest**

Our harvest celebrations will be taking place next month and, as always, your harvest donations will support Lodging House Mission, East Dunbartonshire Foodbank and St Rollox Community Outreach Project. Lodging House Mission has provided an updated list of their most needed items, noting that several essential supplies are currently out of stock. Their list appears in this month's magazine to maximise the effectiveness of our harvest donations.

Finally, if there is anything you would like to discuss, or if you would like any additional information, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards  
**Gordon Morrison, Session Clerk**  
07306 205303  
[morrisgo@sky.com](mailto:morrisgo@sky.com)

# Treasurer's Report

Some recent receipts over the past couple of months  
(Most of these donors wishing to remain anonymous)

Donation to Special Projects Fund £300

Donation to Special Projects Fund from The Running and Walking Group £370

Various Donations to Parishioner Production £68

Donations to General Account £180

From The McCrae Family in gratitude and in memory of Joe and Isobel McCrae £1,000

Donation to Special Projects Fund £250

St Mary's Parish Church Country Dance Class donation to Special Projects Fund £800

**John M Thomson  
Treasurer**

## Contact Details

**Do we have your up to date contact details?**

We want to ensure that we can stay in touch with you.

At the moment, we only hold your contact details if you are a member and your name is included in our Church roll. We would ideally like to be able to keep in touch with everyone, whether you are a member or not. So ...

If you are already on the Roll, please make sure we have your up to date contact details:

If you are not a member, but wish to be included in our adherent register, please share your contact details with me.

**We will record your**

**Name and Address;  
Telephone numbers, (optional);  
An email address (optional); and  
Date of birth (optional).**

You can provide your details

in one of the following ways:

**A short form, available in the Church vestibule;**

**By emailing me at [morrisgo@sky.com](mailto:morrisgo@sky.com); or**

**Call or message me on 07306 205303**

**Please note: We will only use your data to maintain a directory of contact details and provide the services of a parish church to the local community.**

**Your data will not be shared with any third party out with the Church of Scotland without your consent.**

With my thanks, Gordon Morrison, Session Clerk

# Dates for your Diary

ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH - OPEN DOORS DAY - 6th September 2025



Just to inform everyone that the date of our next Doors Open Day in September has been changed to Saturday 6th September to coincide with the National Open Doors Event.

As always, tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided throughout the day, along with an opportunity for you to 'chill out', chat with friends or simply enjoy some quiet contemplation in our sanctuary, or indeed for you and your children to play all age board games which will also be available in the sanctuary.

We do hope that you will feel able to join us on **Saturday 6th September** and we would encourage you to bring your friends too, as everyone will be made most welcome.

John Pears

## All-Age Games Event

Our All-Age Games Event starts back on **Saturday 6th September**.

These events will run on the first Saturday of the month from 11am – 1pm throughout the year. Lunch will be provided.

Why not spend an hour or two playing games in the church hall?

**All are welcome!**



## St Mary's Scottish Country Dance Class

Classes will restart in St Mary's church hall on **Tuesday 16th September**

7.30 – 9.30pm. This class is open to all and we look forward to welcoming everyone back. We are a very happy group and ask anyone who thinks they might be interested to come along and give it a try – you will be shown the ropes – so to speak !!

## Annual Harvest Lunch

The lunch will take place after the service on **Sunday 5th October**. It will follow the pattern of previous years and consist of baked potatoes with a selection of fillings followed by apple pie and cream. Tickets costing £1 (plus a donation on the day) will be on sale after the service from Sunday 14th September.

Come and celebrate with us at the beginning of the new session in church as activities start again and we begin the slow climb towards Christmas. A good time and good company are guaranteed.

## The Craft Fair

The Craft Fair will be on **Saturday 15th November**. We are looking for donations for tombola, Christmas hamper raffle and people to help on the evening of 14th to set up, and Saturday for Crafty Kitchen, and clearing up. Your help is always much appreciated. If you know any crafters who would like to participate, table spaces are available and can be booked via email @ [stallinthehall@live.co.uk](mailto:stallinthehall@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 on the following 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 11th September and 16th October 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

4th September

Merkland Nature Park

11th September

St Columba's Hillhead Church. 1:15 for transport to Lennoxtown

18th September

Kilsyth Road

25th September

Donaldson Street. Including coffee stop at the Stables

2nd October

Hillhead Basin, Kelvin flood barrier

9th October

Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre. Woodilee

16th October

St Columba's Hillhead Church. 1:15 for transport to Broadwood Loch

23rd October

Lenzie Coop

30th October

Donaldson Street, Christines Way

6th November

Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre. Kirkintilloch loop including coffee stop

## Autumn Charity Concert

The Stepps songsters are holding a concert in Lenzie Old Parish Church on **Monday 15th September** 2025 at 7.00pm. Tickets can be obtained from Dorothy Finnie or Paul Malcolm. The proceeds will be divided between Christian Aid and the Scottish Bible Society.

## Community Events

### The Big Weekend

What a great time we had during Kirkintilloch's Big weekend! We had lots of visitors to the church both days and had over 130 families join in our Back to School Potted Sports event on the Saturday. On the Sunday we provided crafts for children in the sanctuary and over 160 cuddly toys were parachuted from the tower. A fun day for all involved – families and our church volunteers! Thanks to everyone who made this a success.

### The Big Knit In

Our Knit Ins continue to be successful and are well attended. We are very grateful to everyone who came along to knit flowers for our banner. Thanks also to everyone who handed in flowers and to those who stitched the flowers to the banner. The banner has been much admired and was a colourful addition to the Cowgate during the Big Weekend.

We are planning our next Knit In which will take place in the autumn. We will be preparing for Christmas at this Knit In so look out for the date, come along and help create our nativity and enjoy tea and cake! Hope to see you then!

## Church Foodbank

Continued thanks to those who regularly donate items to the Church Foodbank. These are delivered to East Dunbartonshire Foodbank which works in partnership with the Trussell Trust. 7000 three-day emergency parcels were handed out in the last year.

**Paul Malcolm**

## Fabric Report

Big thank you to those people who assisted in the various jobs completed during the summer.

**David Tinto Fabric Convenor**

## Mary's Meals. "Spring cleaning"

Thank you to everyone who left their foreign and out of date currency (whether in coin or note) in the Mary's Meals box during the summer. Your donation helped in the International appeal from Inner Wheel (District 2) and resulted in an amazing £891.41p—this means that 8,914 children will be fed.

**Dorothy Stewart (Kirkintilloch Inner Wheel)**

## Batteries

It is now possible to put used batteries in containers within outlets locally, so our church will no longer be collecting and dispersing any used batteries.

## Church Gardens

Thank you to everyone who has helped keep the church ground and gardens in a very tidy condition.

**Garry Burns**

## Christmas Cards

Providing Ruth Poynton can get a few more volunteers to deliver in the Lenzie area, the Church will once again be collecting Christmas cards for delivery in Lenzie, Kirkintilloch, Auchinloch and Waterside. As well as Sundays 4th and 11th December for bringing cards to Church, you can also hand them in any day to Stewart Walker Newsagent until 1.00p.m. on Sunday 11 December.

The price this year is again 30p per card, with all money being donated to the Church. Cards along with money must be put in a plastic bag. It is important to include a house number when addressing the envelopes, thus making it less difficult for those delivering and to avoid cards having to be posted. Our sincere thanks to Ruth for organising all of this.

ACROSS: 1, Also. 3, Offering. 9, The Magi. 10, Rules. 11, Sooper. 12, Help me. 14, Isaac and Jacob. 17, Scooch. 19, In man. 22, Loads. 23, Inertia. 24, Vicinity. 25, Belts.  
DOWN: 1, Artistic. 2, Sleep. 4, Faith in Christ. 5, Enrol. 6, Islamic. 7, Gasp. 8, Fabric. 13, Abundant. 15, Archaeic. 16, jailer. 18, Resin. 20, Mire. 21, Slave.

## Organ Recital

St Mary's Scottish Episcopal Church, Main Street, Aberfoyle, has asked our Church Organist, David Burns, to give an organ recital in their church on Sunday 19th October at 3p.m. This is part of a series of concerts held in the church at 3p.m. on the 3rd Sunday of the month from August to May. Selection of music - something for everyone.

## Young Church ...

Young Church welcome children and young people of all ages. We meet in the Church at 11am then go to the halls for age related fun and games. Whether a regular or occasional visitor you can be assured of a warm welcome.



**ST MARY'S**  
**YOUNG**  
**CHURCH**  
MEET EVERY SUNDAY  
**10:45 TO 12:15**

We have lots of fun learning  
more about Jesus using games,  
crafts, stories, videos and baking.

**ALL CHILDREN  
ARE WELCOME**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ANY TIME**

The poster features a yellow background with a smiling sun, a rainbow, a kite, and illustrations of a boy and a girl. It is designed to be welcoming and informative for children.

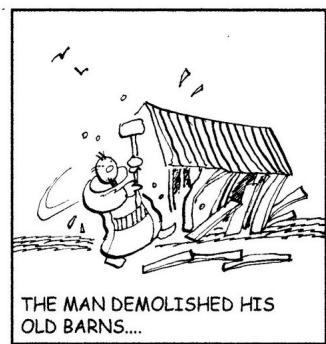
# The tale of the RICH FOOL



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



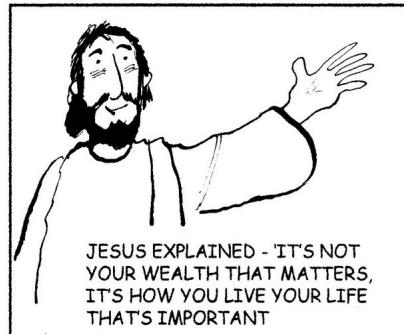
ONE STORY WAS ABOUT A MAN WHO HAD LOTS OF LAND WHICH GREW WONDERFUL WHEAT.



THE MAN DEMOLISHED HIS OLD BARNs....



I'M SO LUCKY - I CAN EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY!



JESUS EXPLAINED - IT'S NOT YOUR WEALTH THAT MATTERS, IT'S HOW YOU LIVE YOUR LIFE THAT'S IMPORTANT

## Mouse Makes

"Let us fear and respect the Lord our God.

He gives **autumn** and **spring** rains  
at the right time. He makes sure that we  
have the harvest at just the right **time**."

- from Jeremiah 5:24

"God... gives you **rain** from  
heaven and good harvests  
at the right times. He gives  
you plenty of **food** and  
fills your hearts with **joy**."

- Acts 14:16-17

"May the people **praise** you **God**...  
The **land** **yields** its harvest, God,  
our God **blesses** us."

- from Psalm 67:5-6

"Honour the  
Lord with your  
wealth and the  
first part of  
your **harvest**."

- Proverbs 3:9

"So the one who **plants** is not  
important, and the one who **waters**  
is not important. Only **GOD** is  
important because He is the one  
who makes things **grow**."

- 1 Corinthians 3:7

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

Find the words in **bold** type in the bible quotes in the  
wordsearch then look for the words below too!

PLough • FIELD • SOIL • SCATTER • SOW • SEEDS • SUN  
REAP • PICK • CROPS • GRAIN • CORN • BARN • BREAD • THANKSGIVING

# Lodging House Mission - Harvest Donation Requests 2025

We are so grateful to you for supporting LHM year after year, it means a lot to us. We've put together a short list of the things we need most. If you're able, please pick from these - we've thought it through so it reflects what we actually use. We've also included a few everyday essentials we usually have to buy; donating these would save us money that we can redirect to other areas of our work. Your help allows us cook hot, nutritious lunches and put together food parcels for clients who are struggling. If a cash donation is easier, we'll use it to buy fresh fruit, veg and other perishables we need, keeping meals healthy and cutting waste. Thank you from The LHM Team

Cereal	Tinned Fruit	Tinned Meat / Fish
Corn Flakes/Crunchy Nut	*Peaches	Tuna/Salmon
Weetabix	*Pears	Corned beef
Rice Crispies	*Pineapples	Ham
Sugar Puffs	*Mandarins	Tinned mince, stew etc
Frosties	*Fruit Cocktail	<b>Other Tinned Food</b>
Coco Pops	*Rice Pudding	*Baked Beans
Cheerios	*Custard	Spaghetti in sauce
Muesli		*Tinned Soups – tomato, vegetable, chicken, lentil, scotch broth, minestrone, pea & ham, chicken noodle
Jars/Pastes	Other	
Pasta bake sauces	Full Fat UHT milk	
Curry Sauce/paste	Coconut Milk	
Tomato paste	Small juice cartons	
	Diluting/fresh juice	<b>Other</b>
Dried Goods	*Coffee	Brown Sauce
Mixed herbs	Biscuits	Tomato Sauce
Garlic powder	Crisps	Vinegar
Ground turmeric	Tea Bags	Porridge oats
Chilli powder	Kettle Foods	Dried peas
Crushed chillies	Pot Noodles	Lentils / Broth mix
Ground coriander	Cuppa Soups	Olive oil
Black pepper	Tinned Potatoes	*Vegetable oil
Salt	Sachets dried mash potato	*Bisto
Pasta	Ring Pull Ham tins	*Veg Stock cubes/ bullion
Long grain rice	Breakfast bars	*Jelly
Toiletries (all types)	Individual packets sweets	Jam
Washing up liquid, Toilet Rolls, Washing Powder		
*OUT OF STOCK – URGENTLY NEEDED		

## Not Required List

Salad Cream/Mayonnaise	Shredded Wheat Cereal	Red Kidney Beans
Pearl Barley	Prunes	Chickpeas
Marmalade	Alpen	Grapefruit
Clothing	Bedding/duvet	towels

# LHM360 ANNUAL HOMELESSNESS SERVICE

With Guest Speaker  
**Rt Rev Rosie Frew**

Moderator of the General Assembly of  
the Church of Scotland

**9th October 2025 at 7pm  
at**

**35 East Campbell Street,  
Glasgow, G1 5DT**

**All Welcome  
Please join us for refreshments  
following the service**



***Light the Way Home***

A Charitable Company Limited By Guarantee  
Registered in Scotland No. SC225199   Registered Scottish Charity No. SC017283

## Ninian, Bishop of Galloway - Apostle of the Picts (Scotland)

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Ninian was a Celt who was born about 360, in southern Scotland. He was remarkable for two things: he was almost certainly the first man in Scotland to live in a little white stone house, and also the first to preach the gospel to the Scots. Just as remarkable: becoming the apostle to the Picts was intimately connected to him even having a white-washed stone house, instead of the usual wooden hovel.

For Ninian had not always stayed in Scotland, but had travelled to Rome to study, and then on to Gaul, where he had spent time with St Martin of Tours. Martin's monastery was called Loco Teiac (little white house), and it seems that when Ninian returned to Scotland to preach the gospel, he wanted something similar. And so it was that Ninian built his little white house, called Ad Candidam Casam, and began sharing the Gospel with the Picts who lived in Whithorn and Galloway. This was the region north of the old Roman wall – where Roman rule had never been established.

Ninian seems to have been very effective, for it is said that, like Patrick (a generation later) and Columba (a century and a half later), he helped form the character of Celtic Christianity. And throughout southern Scotland, there are still many churches who bear his name.

## No men

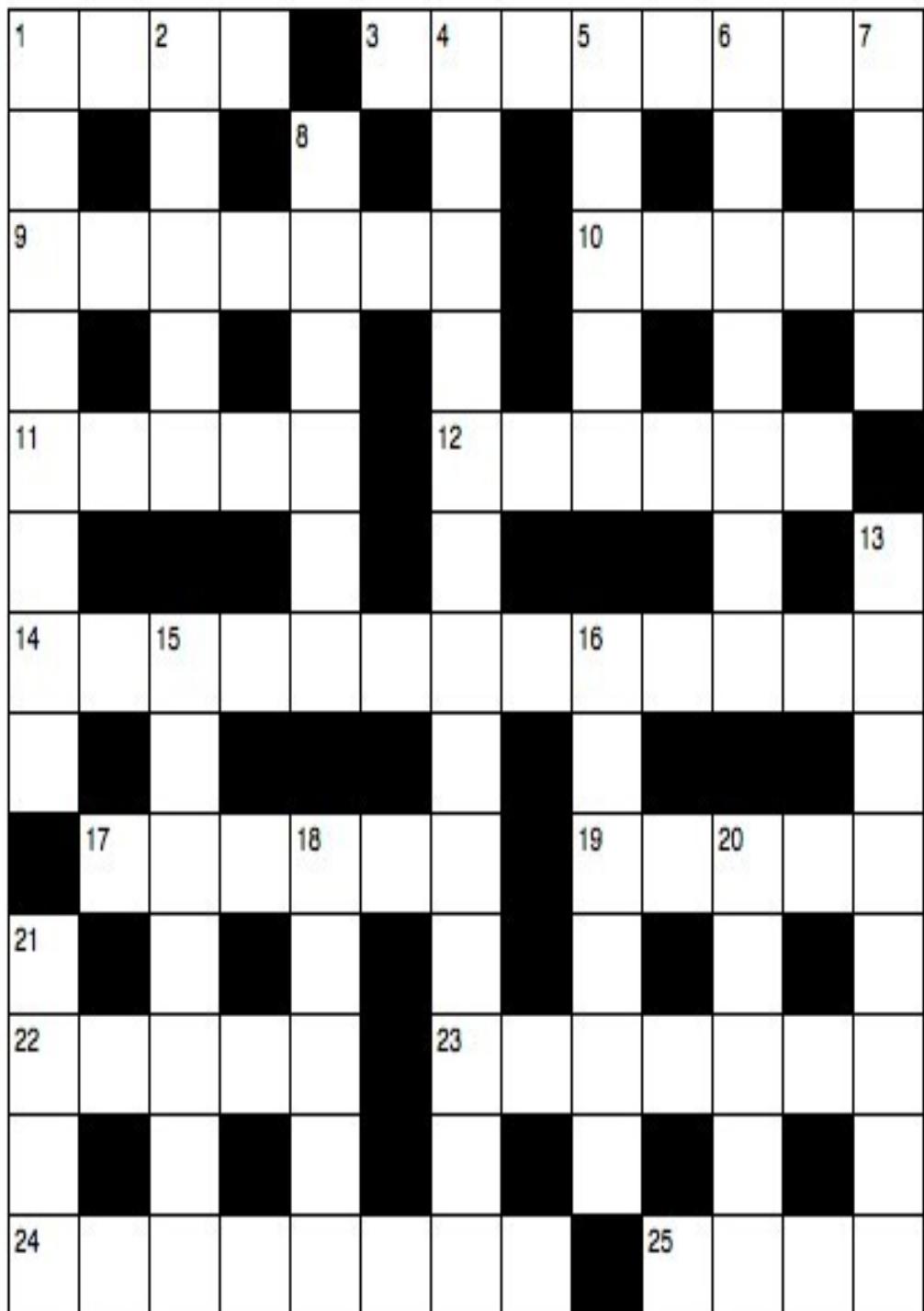
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An elderly woman died last month. Having never married, she requested no male pallbearers. In her handwritten instructions for her memorial service, she wrote, “They wouldn’t take me out while I was alive, so I don’t want them to take me out when I’m dead.”

## Get something out of it

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Coming out of church, the wife asked her husband, “Do you think that Johnson girl is tinting her hair?” Her husband looked vague. “And that dress Mrs Hansen was wearing,” she continued, “Really, don’t tell me you think that’s the proper costume for a mother of two.” Her husband looked blank. “Oh, for heaven’s sake,” snapped his wife. “A lot of good it does you to go to church!”



**Across**

- 1 'A little later someone else saw Peter and said, "You — are one of them" (Luke 22:58) (4)
- 3 Giving (1 Peter 2:5) (8)
- 9 They came to Jerusalem seeking an infant king (Matthew 2:7) (3,4)
- 10 'An athlete... does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the — ' (2 Timothy 2:5) (5)
- 11 Pacifist, temperance advocate, open-air preacher, leading 20th-century Methodist, Donald — (5)
- 12 'Come quickly to — — , O Lord my Saviour' (Psalm 38:22) (4,2)
- 14 'The God of Abraham, — — — , the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus' (Acts 3:13) (5,3,5)
- 17 Sear by intense heat (Revelation 16:8) (6)
- 19 'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust — — ' (Psalm 118:8) (2,3)
- 22 Goods (Nehemiah 13:15) (5)
- 23 i.e. train (anag.) (7)
- 24 Surrounding area (Luke 24:50) (8)
- 25 'Righteousness will be his — and faithfulness the sash round his waist' (Isaiah 11:5) (4)

**Down**

- 1 Elegant and creative (Exodus 31:4) (8)
- 2 'Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all — , but we will all be changed' (1 Corinthians 15:51) (5)
- 4 '... delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your — — — is' (Colossians 2:5) (5,2,6)
- 5 Enlist (2 Samuel 24:2) (5)
- 6 Of the Muslim faith (7)
- 7 Sharp intake of breath (Job 11:20) (4)
- 8 Woven cloth (Ezekiel 16:13) (6)
- 13 Plentiful (Romans 5:17) (8)
- 15 CIA char (anag.) (7)
- 16 Paul and Silas stopped him committing suicide after an earthquake in Philippi (Acts 16:27-28) (6)
- 18 One of the ingredients in the making of incense for the Lord (Exodus 30:34) (5)
- 20 Episcopal headwear (5)
- 21 Inhabitant of, say, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia or Bulgaria (4)

## Prayer for September 2025

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Heavenly Father, September is the month of new starts for so many. New starts can be exciting, but they can also be daunting. We don't always know what to expect and sometimes we feel as if we are on our own in a strange new place, or situation.

Help us to know that, as your people, we are never alone. You promised, through Jesus, to be with us always and You gave us Your Holy Spirit to empower us.

In some ways every day is a new start – a new gift from You. As we unwrap the gift of each new day, this September, encourage us to receive it confidently and expectantly. Help us to know that we can do all things, through Christ Jesus, who strengthens us. We can! In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching



St Mary's Parish Church Kirkintilloch



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