

ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity No: SC012233



SUMMER 2022

Bulletin No 355



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

BAPTISM

"Go therefore and baptise"

15 May Mila Diane Percy Franklin Drive



-----oOo-----

MARRIAGES

"Whom God hath joined "

25 May Stephanie Petropoulos and Darren Hamilton New Stevenston

-----oOo-----

FUNERALS

"I am the resurrection and the life"

30 March
26 April

James Douglas McCloy
Mary Hardie

Greenacres View
Airbles Drive





Manse of St Mary's

June 2022

Dear Friends:

PLATINUM JUBILEE

On 6th February this year Her Majesty the Queen became the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom, the Realms and the Commonwealth.

To celebrate this remarkable achievement a long weekend of special Jubilee events has been planned from Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 5th June. Here, at St Mary's Parish Church, the Platinum Jubilee is being marked by a Jubilee Afternoon Tea on Saturday 4th and a Celebratory Service on Sunday 5th. At some stage over the summer, we are also going to plant a new tree in the Church garden to mark this special occasion.

From all of us at St Mary's Parish Church, we wish Her Majesty the Queen every blessing on her Platinum Jubilee and thank her for her faithful and dedicated service to our country.

SUMMER

On their Abbey Road album [1969] the Beatles sung, "*Here Comes The Sun.*" As Summer 2022 approaches, let's hope that we see some sun soon!

At St Mary's Parish Church, our Summer Services, from 3rd July to 14th August, will be 45 minutes long - with our children and young people going directly to Summer Activities in the halls. The Summer

Theme is yet to be decided but may possibly be the "*I Am Statements of Jesus*".

Summer 2022 will also see the resumption of our annual week-long Summer Club for children of Primary School age.

We have lots to look forward to this Summer as a congregation.

CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY

In recent years, we have been very blessed to have some wonderful Candidates for the Ministry doing their practical training with us at St Mary's Parish Church.

Sunday 5th June will be our final service with Hazel Shaw. Hazel has been a joy to work with and has made a real impact upon the congregation. We wish Hazel all God's blessings as she moves on to her Probationary Placement at East Kilbride Old Parish Church.

The following Sunday, 12th June, we have a new Candidate for the Ministry, Dawn Westwood, joining us for the Summer. Dawn's ten-week placement will be a full-time one and we look forward to getting to know her and enjoying her ministry among us.

Alongside practical training, Candidates for the Ministry also undertake degree studies and I am delighted to let you know that all 3 of our students of recent years, Fiona Anderson, Jillian Storrie, and Hazel Shaw have all completed their degrees and will be graduating at the beginning of July. Congratulations to each and all of them!

MOVE FORWARD IN FAITH

In the New Year Edition of the Church Bulletin, I intimated that *St Mary's Parish Church* Kirk Session would be reviewing our Five-Year Mission Plan - much of which was put on hold during the various Covid lockdowns. This new plan "Move Forward In Faith" is almost completed and ready to go.

Concurrently, the new *Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale*, of which the former *Hamilton Presbytery* is now a part, is working with congregations to establish a new Presbytery Plan. All Presbyteries in Scotland are undergoing this process as a direct instruction from last year's General Assembly. The Presbytery Plan must take account of the fact that there will be a 40% reduction in Ministry Personnel by 2025. This reduction is due to more Ministers retiring than starting training, and a lack of funding for Ministers and Church Buildings at the national and local level.

During the initial consultation process period, which took place in the lead up to Easter, the Kirk Session of *St Mary's Parish Church* gave a very strong account of our congregation and its strategic importance within the Motherwell Community. Like all congregations in the new *Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale* we are now awaiting the publication of the Presbytery's Draft Plan.

As I said in the last Church Bulletin, every single one of us needs to play our part if we want to assure the future of our congregation. A bustling Sunday Congregation, a vibrant Junior Church, and busy and active Church Organisations,

for all ages, are the foundations on which we must build as we seek to reach out into our Parish and Community in the days ahead.

CHURCH PRAYER CHAIN

I am delighted to say that our new Church Prayer Chain, which was launched by Hazel, earlier this year, is already proving a real blessing to the congregation.

If you wish to be a part of the Prayer Chain all you need to do is to contact me and pass on your e-mail address.

Each Wednesday evening a list of prayer points is e-mailed out to all those on the chain. You can then pray through these points at your leisure. The prayer points are a mixture of requests from the congregation as well as more general items.

If you wish to submit a prayer request, you can write that request on a Prayer Card and place it in one of the secure Prayer Boxes at the Church Vestibule and Hall Entrance. Alternatively, you can e-mail or call myself and I will be happy to add your request.

As Hazel leaves, my wife Helen, and Margaret Carrol, will be supporting me with the Prayer Chain Ministry in the days and months ahead.

CLOSING WORDS

As your Minister and Pastor, I would like to wish you all a very blessed Summer. I look forward to seeing you on Sunday Mornings - when you are not on holiday!

Rev Bryce Calder

REFLECTIONS

To all at St Mary's with love

Well how time flies when you're having fun; it seems no time since I wrote my first reflection introducing myself to you all and now after a wonderful 8 months on placement here at St Mary's I share some farewell thoughts - this is certainly harder to write than the first one.

What can I say? A **great big** thank you one and all but even that seems so inadequate. Thank you so much for welcoming me into your Church family I really do appreciate it. Thank you for accepting me just as I am and for including me in all you do - whether in worship services, at the coffee mornings, in the outreach team, at social events, in Junior church, at the board and session meetings and for allowing me the privilege of getting to know some of you better in pastoral visits, on telephone calls, or chatting before or after church.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my placement and am thankful to God for placing me here. I will miss you all, my brothers and sisters in Christ, and please know that you will always have a special place in my heart. I have learned from and loved each placement experience and am truly thankful for every person and every opportunity - all new, exciting and challenging. Here I took my first funeral, shared in infant baptisms and assisted at weddings. This had been a gap in my first placement (because of Covid) and I am delighted that there have been many opportunities to learn from Bryce's vast experience. It has been my great privilege to be part of the support offered to those in their times of grief and wonderful to encourage and share in people's times of joy.

The church (that is you and me) has a wonderful privilege and responsibility to show God's love to everyone, inside and outside our church family and I have been greatly encouraged seeing how St Mary's responds to God's call in this way. Writing this I'm reminded of the hymn 'The Church is wherever God's people are praising'.

The congregation of Motherwell St Mary's Parish Church are indeed God's people and I am so thankful that you:

Are **praising** - you have an amazing talent of musicians and singers of all ages and it has been a joy to join with you making a joyful noise to our Lord.

Are **sharing the Gospel** - the teaching from Bryce, John and Arthur in worship and the storytelling and activities in Junior Church, Y-Zone and work with the Boys Brigade and Guiding movement are just some examples.

Are **accepting** - the support offered to those in need - our outreach initiative, the refugee appeal, foodbank support, bible society fundraisers and the care for those affected by the war in Ukraine - all of this speaks volumes.

Are **loving** one another in Jesus' name - the pastoral care and the devoted prayer warriors that I have seen warms my heart and I encourage you to continue in this mission.

It has been a real joy to worship with you, to pray with and for you, it has been a joy to chat over coffee and cake and it was even a joy to learn all that I don't know at the annual quiz!! Perhaps next year I can return and maybe by then I will know a little more.

As I move into my probation year I will take with me much learning and more importantly I will take very many fond memories and lasting friendships. In return I leave you my promise that all at St Mary's will hold a special place in my heart and that you will remain in my prayers. I would be delighted to keep in touch with any and all that may wish to and if so my email is hshaw@thechurchofscotland.org.uk, my mobile is 07988503723 or I am on Facebook - easy to find. Thank you for everything and I wish you all every blessing for the future.

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO IN THE
NAME OF JESUS**

Yours in Christ,
Hazel

FINANCE REPORT

The report to the 25th May 2022 makes interesting reading.

The amount of giving through plate and through Standing Order has increased by 8.1%. However total income from all sources has dropped.

Expenditure, compared to the same period last year, has increased, mainly due to the increase in our payments to the Church of Scotland. These payments for Ministry and Mission have been reinstated to the pre-pandemic level of £91,500 for the year. We pay this amount in 9 instalments beginning in April 2022 through to December 2022. We also paid in January an increased Presbytery charge of £3248 which is an increase from last year of £1,808. Another area of increased expenditure is in our gas bills. Obviously over the pandemic time the Church was closed and fuel was only used to ensure the pipes did not freeze, over the winter period. Our first quarterly bill was larger than expected and this would appear to be the norm for the future.

As always I try to be positive about our financial situation and at a time of great hardship for many, your financial support has been exceptional. Your support is greatly appreciated and will be extremely important over the next few months and years to stave off the effects of inflation.

Stuart Reid our Treasurer has estimated that once all our bills are paid we might have a deficit of over £12,000 at the end of the financial year. We have Reserves and a surplus over the years in our Congregational Account, so, in the short term there is no need to panic. However, if we continue to have deficits on a yearly basis our reserves will not last long.

The Finance Committee will continue to monitor income and expenditure and as always I will keep you informed as to our Financial position.

Kind regards

Leslie Innes

Finance and Stewardship Convenor

St Mary's Parish Church Wednesday 25 May 2022 Finance Committee Report at 30 April 2022				
1 INCOME		General Fund	Other Funds	Total
a) Offerings	£	40,725	£ -	£ 40,725
b) Tax Recovered	£	-	£ -	£ -
c) Donations to General Fund	£	50	£ -	£ 50
d) Donations to Reserve Fund	£	-	£ -	£ -
e) Donations to Fabric Fund	£	-	£ -	£ -
f) Miscellaneous Income	£	-	£ -	£ -
g) Use of Premises / Interest	£	934	£ 12	£ 946
h) Life & Work	£	342	£ -	£ 342
		<u>£ 42,051</u>	<u>£ 12</u>	<u>£ 42,063</u>
2 EXPENDITURE	£	34,764	£ 785	£ 35,549
3 STATEMENT OF FUNDS				
Congregation	£	34,890		
Fabric	£	8,355		
Reserve	£	87,586		
Total		<u>£ 130,831</u>		
Consolidated Fabric Fund	£	5,767		
4 ANNUAL COMPARISONS				
Offerings to End April 2022	£	40,725		
Offerings to End April 2021	£	37,689		
Difference		<u>£ 3,036</u>	8.1%	
		General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Income to End April 2022	£	42,051	£ 12	£ 42,063
Income to End April 2021	£	50,139	£ 2,012	£ 52,151
Difference		<u>-£ 8,088</u>	-16.1%	<u>-£ 2,000</u> -99.4%
		General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Expenditure to End April 2022	£	34,764	£ 785	£ 35,549
Expenditure to End April 2021	£	29,037	£ 2,583	£ 31,620
Difference		<u>£ 5,727</u>	19.7%	<u>-£ 1,798</u> -69.6%
				<u>£ 3,929</u> 12.4%

PRAYER CHAIN - PRAYER BOX



My inspiration for the decoration of the prayer box was familiar Bible stories, verses from the Bible and also to include a verse about 'prayer'. The front side of the box shows Noah's Ark and the rainbow and the dove. As you move around the box you will see: Baby Moses in the bulrushes, the tree in the garden of Eden, the hill with the flock of sheep, and the lost sheep, Jacobs Ladder, the Footprints in the sand and the three crosses at the top of the mound.

My chosen Bible verse came from Mark 11:24

Therefore, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received and it will be yours.

I enjoyed painting the box and hope that it will be well used by the Prayer Chain Group.

Ellie Maxwell



Wednesday Coffee Mornings



Coffee, tea, treat and chat
from 10 - 12 noon.

Due to the generosity of all who come for a chat and a treat on Wednesday mornings we are able to donate money to a number of charities. We have been able to add our own young people to the list. The Girlguiding units were given a donation to support their Platinum Jubilee Street Party and the Boys' Brigade a donation for a possible treat at BB Camp.

We are grateful to the 25+ volunteers who have staffed the Coffee Morning since September last year and hope they will continue to do so in the new session. If anybody would like to assist just give your name to Margaret Watson, Christine Clark, or Isabel Johnstone.

We are having a short break over the summer, serving our last coffee on **29 June** and restarting on **17 August**.

We welcome around 30 people to the Avon Hall on Wednesday mornings. In total we have had around 80 different members of the congregation and their friends creating a friendly and chatty atmosphere each Wednesday morning.

On Wednesday 1 June we welcomed a group of children from Glencairn Primary School who dropped in for toilets, a drink and treat after visiting the Duchess Park.



Tuesday 24 May saw over 80 Rainbows, Brownies and Guides along with their leaders gather to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.



It was so good to see the girls mixing and enjoying themselves. They had the chance to play parachute games, make a crown, face paint, take part in an assault course, jump around in a bouncy castle, follow a trail of Royal London Landmarks and decorate a cake with sprinkles and add a jubilee topper.



The last activity was to gather in the Avon Hall to enjoy hot dogs, juice and cake. We thank Florence Shearer, Anne Gibson and Annabelle Maclean, 3 members of the Trefoil Guild, who manned the kitchen to ensure we were fed.

We recreated our own Street Party to celebrate as the Queen has been our patron since 1952 and was also a member of the Buckingham Palace Guide Company.



Before leaving to go home a presentation was made to Doreen Barclay, Brown Owl of Monday Brownies who is leaving to live in Inverness. Doreen has been a leader (in Brownies and Rangers) for 47 years, but no doubt will pop back to Motherwell to take part in our various Guiding events.



6th B Brownies (Monday)

The Brownies have been busy working towards some badges over the past few weeks. We have been planting and caring for sun flowers and designing our own t-shirts to wear for a singing performance which you can see in the attached photo.

These activities are part of the "Grow Your Own" & "Performance" Badges.



We made some Bunnies for Easter and the Easter Bunny brought us all an egg.



Well done to our new Brownies who have completed their Mission books, they have all made their promise and got some cake to celebrate.



We are looking forward to a Glow party to end the season.

6th Brownies (Tuesday)

Numbers this session have been high with between 26-28 girls attending. Eleven new girls enrolled and are loving being Brownies. On World Thinking Day the girls dressed in the colours of a country or flag and made a 22-2-22 Banner along with eating some food from different countries.



Badges: this session saw the girls working on the "Grow Your Own" and "First Aid Stage 2", along with 4 hours of 'be well' unit activities, leading to the "Brownies Be Well" Theme Award! Amongst other things the girls planted seeds to grow some plants. They learned how to put someone in the recovery position and learned how to put on some different bandages!



The girls continued to enjoy some 'outside time', treasure hunts and 'elephant football' being firm favourites. They also had great fun at the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee Fun Night**.

6th A Guides (Thursday)

The Guides had a recycle fashion week in which a couple of parents joined as well. They have been working on a programme in which the girls will be a dementia friend. This is through the Alzheimer's Society and the girls will receive a certificate and friend badge.

6th Guides (Tuesday)

Certificates and badges received after some enjoyable programme activities.



2021 -22 End of Session

Since my last article we have fortunately seen the removal of the last of the covid restrictions and no longer need to wear a mask to BBs!

We have enjoyed our amended programme of activities and even managed a few nights in the Duchess Park before our final night of the session.

PRESENTATION NIGHT

We held our presentation night on the evening that should have been the Battalion Review and presented all the boys with the badges that they had earned across the session. The officers and I decided not to present our special awards this year as they are recognition of special efforts and there hadn't really been an opportunity for the boys to do this during the session.

BATTALION REVIEW

The Battalion Review was postponed from its usual slot in May - due to the proximity to the school exams it was considered an unnecessary risk to bring all the boys together, especially when it had been an unusual BB session with no competitions or Battalion events. It is hoped to perhaps organise a celebration of the BB at the start of next session.

PRESIDENTS BADGES

This year we have 2 boys who were awarded their President's Badge - **Euan Blackwood** and **Ewan Bowman**. This is the culmination of 4 years in the Company Section having worked through the Discovery Awards scheme, a period of Christian faith development, carried out service to the company or community, been to a camp or other overnight event and then finally participated in a Brigade leadership development course. Congratulation to Euan and Ewan and we look forward to working with them on their Queen's Badge journey.

QUEENS BADGES

This year for the first time in as long as I can remember we don't have any boys in S6 and consequently no Queen's Badge recipients. This is a quirk of demographics in that we have some year groups where we don't have many boys - it just so happens that this year we have no S6 boys!

Fortunately, we do have a very strong S5 group of 7 boys who are the backbone of our NCO group. These lads are at the early stage of their Queen's Badge programme and will complete it next session in their S6 year.

COMING UP.....

We are returning to our favourite campsite at Badaguish outside Aviemore and are looking forward to going away as soon as the schools break up from Sat 2nd - Wed 6th July.

22 boys are currently signed up to go supported by 10 staff and our Head Chef Mr Beattie and it looks to be another great camp in the making!

We will have excellent facilities including our campsite, indoor catering, dining and living areas and a floodlit games area! The programme will be the usual mix of activities, sports, challenges, midgies and not enough sleep!

THANK YOU!

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported the Company over the last session.

To the officers in each of the sections who put in a great effort every week to provide an exciting and fun programme of events, to the parents who support their son's involvement and to the congregation for its support collectively and as individuals - thank you!

Take care and stay safe, from your friends in the Boys' Brigade.

Captain Stewart Maxwell

THE CHOIRS AT THE PRAISE SERVICE

Faith Notes, the Inbetweeners
and the Church Choir



QUIZ PRIZEWINNERS

- 1 The Bad Girls
- 2 New Avengers
- 3 The Happy Hats

BB FOOTBALL MATCH IN EAST KILBRIDE

13TH Motherwell Junior Section team



Junior Church News!



Once again the families from Junior Church and the friends in the congregation have supported the work of Christian Aid.

During the morning service on Sunday 22 May we all enjoyed entering the church, resplendent in red and waving our Christian Aid flags to help raise awareness for this very important charity. Following the all age talk the children headed to the halls to take part in a creative morning led by CAST. With activities including milk making, a cleaning water experiment and designing our own chocolate bar wrappers we all had great fun!

CAST also provided the tea and cakes after the service. The monies raised along with our Junior Church donations, the open plate donation and Just Giving page will all be sent directly to Christian Aid via Mrs McGregor and CAST.



Sunday Worship...

Our families continue to be involved in our worship services and we thank all our children who have led the call to worship during the Spring months.

Our monthly Challenges continue to be extremely well supported by all in the church family.... Keep a look out for the progress of our sunflowers. Each child received a packet of seeds and instructions. All we need now is some sunshine. Our sincere thanks to Lorraine Gibson for organising and distributing the seeds.



Summer is on the way

As we bring the 2021-2022 session to a close we look forward to sharing in a special end of session Sunday in June. Once again our team have been busy preparing for the end of session and this year we are hosting a Summer Fun Day on Sunday 19 June. More details to follow via our WhatsApp group for Junior Church. Our final official Sunday is 26 June and we all will be taking part in a family service.

Summer Sundays....

During July, we hope to meet informally for park, play and pray Sundays..... more details to follow via the Junior Church WhatsApp. Children/families wishing to join us should meet in the Avon Hall at 10.50 am.



Thanks.....

We are very fortunate to have a large team of willing, energetic and enthusiastic folks who week by week have shared ideas for the challenges, helped with our displays, entered our challenges and prepared the resource packs for our children. Our thanks to them all for their work each week. Our thanks also to Lynn Kelly and Lisa Mossman, our treasurer and secretary, who week by week support the Junior church behind the scenes.

Easter crosses knitted by the Guild and friends which were given to our Junior Church.



Fun in the church grounds at Easter



Work Party 2022



One of our Easter crosses being admired by Sean Crawford at the entrance to the Church grounds.



Work Party in action!



This year our Summer Challenge
is for you to send a
Summer Selfie!

Maybe you'll be on a day trip
with a friend, a weekend away,
or away for your summer
holiday.... we'd love to see your
photographs!

Please send your entries to our
Junior

Church WhatsApp or to Bryce
BCalder@churchofscotland.org.uk

or to the church office
office@stmarysmotherwell.org.uk



FLOWER LIST

JUNE

5th Mrs W Burrell
12th
19th
26th Mrs F Hannah

JULY

3rd Mrs E Blackwood
10th Mrs F Shearer
17th Miss L Clarkson
Mrs Galloway
24th Miss J Moffat
Miss A Ford
31st Mrs M Dick

AUGUST

7th Miss J Pettigrew
Mrs G Neill
14th Mrs L O'Neill
21st Mrs J Crawford
29th

Useful Contacts

Minister: Bryce Calder 01698 328665
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Church Service: 01698 533200



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St Marys Parish Church Motherwell

Website: <https://www.stmarysmotherwell.org.uk>

June Graham - Flower Convener

A PRAYER FOR THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

Gracious Father,
in Christ Jesus You have granted Your people every spiritual blessing,
and have anointed us with Your Holy Spirit
to bear fruit in love and joy and peace,
We give You thanks for the strengthening power of Your Spirit
seen in faithful and dedicated service of Elizabeth our Queen
over these past 70 years.
Grant that the same Spirit may inspire us
to live and proclaim the faith which she cherishes,
to look with her in hope for the outworking of Your gracious purposes
and to serve Your people in love - today, tomorrow, and always.
This we ask in the name of Jesus, the King of kings and Lord of lords:

AMEN