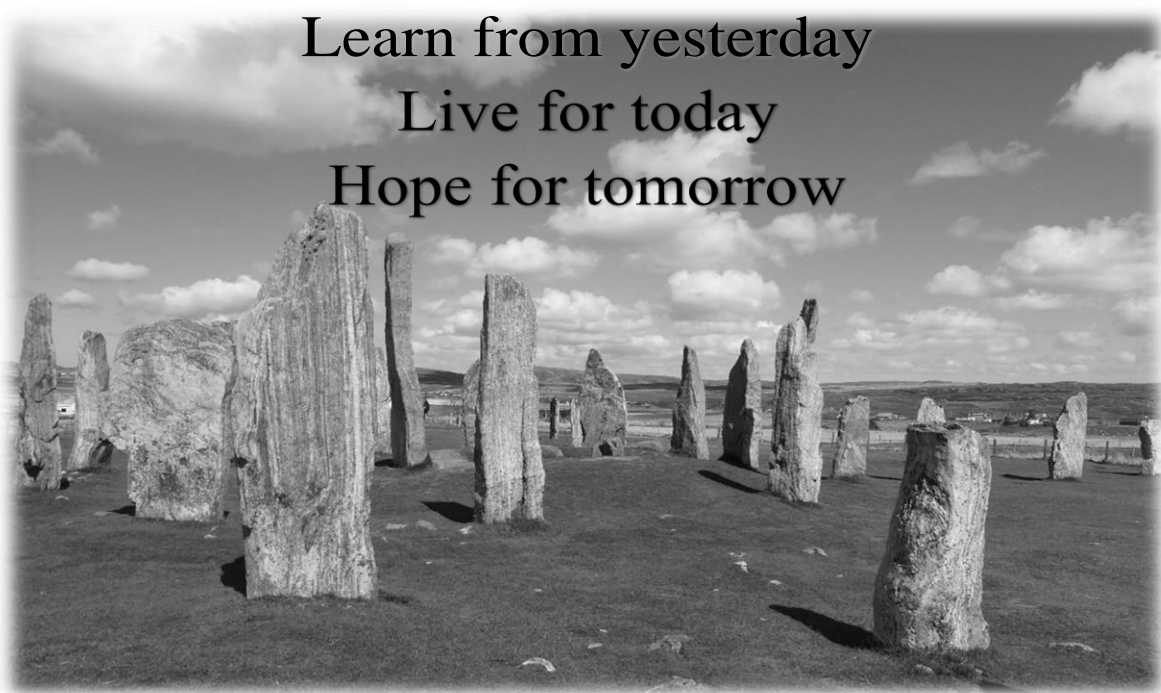


ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity No: SC012233



Learn from yesterday
Live for today
Hope for tomorrow



SUMMER 2018

Bulletin No 336

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

BAPTISM

"Go therefore and baptise"

11 March	Ellie Alison Miller
29 April	Jamie Fraser Murray
	Katie Olivia Murray

-----oOo-----

MARRIAGES

"Whom God hath joined"

21 April	Jenny Collins
	Steven Calder

-----oOo-----

FUNERALS

"I am the resurrection and the life"

13 March	Mrs Charlotte Hamilton
30 March	Robert Liddell
11 April	James Craig
12 April	Mrs Myra Hunter
25 April	Mrs Irene Colquhoun
25 April	Stephen Thomson
8 May	Andrew Dempsey
15 May	John Renwick





Manse of St Mary's

Dear Friends:

First Year

As I write as Parish Minister, for the Summer edition of the Church Magazine, I realise that I am almost a year now at *St Mary's Parish Church*. I can't believe how time flies!

On behalf of myself, my wife and our whole family, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all very much for making us feel so welcome and at home in Motherwell. It is a delight to be a part of such a fabulous church with so many excellent people of all ages.

Amongst the highlights of my first year have been the opportunities to share in the great festivals of the Christian Calendar: Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Pentecost. I have also enjoyed several Communions, Baptisms and Weddings, Church Social Events, School Assemblies and the annual Summer Holiday Club.

On a different, sadder note, it has also been my privilege to take part in the Funeral Services of some very fine Members of the Church and local community. Funerals are never easiest part of Parish Ministry, but it is always an honour to be asked by a family to share in the celebration of the life of their loved one.

My very first task as Parish Minister, the day after my Induction last June, was to take part in the *Dalziel High School* Prizegiving 2017. This year's Prizegiving is fast approaching on Thursday 21 June - a reminder that I have a whole host of services and events to look forward to again in the coming year! One of the first will be the Summer Club - which will take place from Monday 23 to Friday 27 July.

Prayer Walk

During the Summer months, as folks go on holiday, many Church events and activities take a well-earned break. Summer can also be an opportunity, though, to try something new. This Summer, on the evening of Wednesday 11 July, the Kirk Session have decided to hold a Prayer Walk round different areas of our parish.

A Prayer Walk is a very gentle but effective way to demonstrate that we, as a Parish Church, are at the very heart of our community.

If you would like to take part, we will meet in the Avon Hall at 7.30 pm. Folks, in groups of twos or threes, will then take a short walk around a section of our parish - no more than a few streets. The idea is that, as you walk, you use your senses to lead you in prayer for the people and places you encounter. For example, if you are walking through the Duchess Park and see and hear children playing on the swings, this may lead you to pray [silently in your heart and mind]

for the children and young people of our community.

After our short walk, we will then meet back up again in the Avon Hall for some refreshments and a quick de-brief.

The Prayer Walk is open to folks of all ages and will be a fun, enjoyable and spiritually rewarding experience. Let's hope the weather is kind to us!

Parish Visitation

Two new housing estates are currently being built in our parish: Hermitage Gate and Springfield. In early July, just before the schools start back, volunteers from the Kirk Session will take out a warm welcome on behalf of *St Mary's Parish Church* to the first of the new residents who have started to move in to these estates. This welcome will include an updated Parish Leaflet detailing some of the many services and activities which are open, at *St Mary's*, to folks of all ages in our community.

Pastoral Words

Earlier in this letter, I mentioned the privilege that it is to take part in the Funeral Services of very fine Members of the Church and local community. Occasionally, as a Parish Minister, holidays and illness can prevent a Minister from being able to do this. Sadly, I was unable to share in the Funeral Service of a very fine lady: Mrs Irene Colquhoun. Due to failing health, Irene spent her latter days in Douglas View Care Home in Hamilton. Irene was a well loved and greatly respected Member

of *St Mary's Parish Church* and I would like, as Minister, to pay tribute to her life of love and faith. Her husband, David, and the family continue to be in our thoughts and prayers.

Closing Thoughts

During the School Summer Holidays, our Sunday Services will be shorter [45 minutes]. If the weather is kind, this will allow you to make the most of the rest of the day!

There will also be Summer Activities in the Church Halls for our children and young people.

Wherever you go this Summer, whether you stay at home or travel far abroad, may you know the peace and blessing of God.

Your Friend & Pastor: ***Rev Bryce Calder***

BASICS FOOD BANK (LANARKSHIRE)

Please continue to donate to this Christian Project which offers support to those who are at a crisis point in their life. It provides family and single packs of food items, non-perishables and a hygiene pack over a two-week period. All packs are given out on a referral basis to people living in our local area.

Donations can be left in the box in the vestibule of the church or in the cupboard in the church kitchen.





THE GUILD

It seems no time since the previous magazine was printed and we're now in early May and preparing for the Summer edition. By the time you read this report the Guild annual trip to Peebles and Traquair House will be in the somewhat distant past, but I'm sure all who were in attendance, will have some very fond memories of the day's events.

At the end of the session we welcomed 2 new members to the committee, Sheila Brown and Elizabeth Blackwood who replace Beth Brown and Jean McNair who we thank for all their hard work and contributions over the past few years. At the Guild AGM we disbursed various sums of money to the Church, Junior Church, Summer Club and our Year of Young People. We were also able to send £300 to the Guild Project: Ascension Trust - Street Pastors.

Happy memories should be cherished and in a manner of speaking, we capture a little bit of time, like the recording of a film. We must look forward and it is only by looking to the future and being organised that we can begin to make memories. This now leads me on to our opening social, which is on Monday 1 October and our guest entertainers will be none other than our very own Inbetweeners, conducted by Karen Maxwell. I'm sure as a result of this evening social, many more memories will be made.

Valerie T Craig
President

STREAMING OF THE GUILD ANNUAL GATHERING FROM DUNDEE

The Guild Annual Gathering will be streamed in the Avon Hall on Saturday 1 September from 10.30 am until 3.30 pm. This is a day of worship, celebration, friendship and fun.

The new strategy for the next 3 years will be launched:

"One journey, many roads".

The Theme for 2018-19 is **"Seeking the Way"**.

You are invited to join us at any time during the day. (A packed lunch can be brought by anyone staying over lunchtime. Tea and Coffee will be provided.)

NATIONAL GUILD PROJECTS 2015-2018

The payments to the projects during the 3 year period were as follows:

Ascension Trust	£124,836
Care for the Family	£105,255
Christian Aid	£105,373
Feed the Minds	£139,234
Mission International	£109,987
Prospects	£104,890
Overall Total at April 2018	£689,577

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The closing meeting of the year was held on Monday 19 March, when prior to our AGM the fellowship was entertained by the members of the Junior Choir led by Marie Maxwell accompanied by Karen Maxwell and helper Megan Graham. The excellent singing and other musical items by the very talented children was much appreciated by the Fellowship.

The singing by the choir was followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Fellowship. The meeting was well supported by a good attendance of the members, after reports from the Treasurer and President, the office bearers and committee were elected for 2018/2019.

In his remarks the president paid tribute to the work of Treasurer Robert Colquhoun who was retiring from the post after 15 years' service, Robert would continue to serve on the committee.

President: Allan Joyce
Vice President: Bill Taylor
Secretary: Alan Joyce
Treasurer: Tom Knox
Committee: Alex Millar, Bill Hannah, John Crawford, Peter Ferguson, Cameron Dick, Howard Rennie, Robert Colquhoun

At the close of another session we thank Secretary Alan Joyce for his efforts in booking speakers and ensuring they turned up on the correct night. Thanks also to Treasurer Robert Colquhoun for once again looking after the financial aspects of the Fellowship. It is again of interest to note that, 13 of the 22 meetings held, the speakers or entertainment came from

folks who were either members of St Mary's or had strong connections with the congregation. As we prepare for next year we hope again to make use of the great wealth of talent found in this congregation. If you have something you could share with us Alan would be glad to hear from YOU.

Preparations are already well in hand for next year's syllabus, however if you have any suggestions for speakers or topics we would be glad to hear from you.

Allan Joyce
President

An Anonymous Summer Prayer

Creator of all, thank You for summer!

Thank You for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight.

Thank You for the beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation.

Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season.

Draw me closer to You this summer.

Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing.

Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence, and light my path with Your Word and Counsel.

As I enjoy Your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.

Amen



6th Rainbows

The Rainbows have had a mixed few Rainbow meetings for the past couple of months. Some weeks we have had separate meetings and others have been joint meetings with 6thA Rainbows.

We had an Easter hunt throughout the church halls and most of the paper eggs were found. All of the girls received an Easter egg when the evening ended. We have had a meeting playing different types of games including parachute games. This was most enjoyable but the girls were very tired by the end due to the amount of running about. We have had a meeting about Rainbows and the girls made Rainbow crafts and decorated cakes. There has also been a meeting where we decorated unicorns. The girls really enjoyed this craft and spent a long time creating beautiful unicorns. This was a very quiet meeting!

Over the coming weeks we are having our royal wedding party and our jump the rainbow party. There will be 8 Rainbows leaving to join Brownies but we have a long waiting list so these girls will be replaced after the holidays.

Our annual trip is on Wednesday 30 May and once again we will be going to rainforest soft play area. The girls have a great time running around and then get a chance to have something to eat and a much needed drink of juice.

The leaders enjoy a cup of coffee and a cake.

Rainbows will return again on 5 September but at the moment we think the 2 units will need to combine to make one larger unit consisting of 22 girls. This is dependent on the amount of leaders that we have.

6th Brownies

This Brownie session has been a busy one, as normal:

- Feb: Girls and leaders took part in the overnight in the hall for Thinking Day;
- March: Brownie Pack Holiday to Gowanpark from Friday night to Sunday afternoon. The theme this year was "Sun, Sea, Sand", although not sure there was much sun!! Loads of seaside activities!



We also had an activity with Equitots, who came along and taught the girls on 'all things outdoors', eg making make-shift tents/covers, making wind catchers from twigs/leaves etc, learning to start a fire, boiling our water for hot chocolate and toasting marshmallows, making and having a go on a rope swing.



- April: Easter activities: making Easter cakes



- May: Pamper Evening in their onesies with the guides.



We have also completed the World Guiding Badge and Brownie Pack Holiday Badges.

Trefoil Guild

Thirty-three ladies and friends of Motherwell Trefoil Guild had an exceptional break from 11-14 May in Stornoway in the Western Isles. Eight of these were St Mary's ladies. This was in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Trefoil Guild. The group were blessed with beautiful weather which ensured calm crossings between Ullapool and Stornoway.

On Saturday a tour of Lewis took in the Callanish Stones, (see front page of bulletin), a black house village and a joint evening meal with the Western Isles Trefoil Guild. This allowed us to meet up with a former St Mary's Guider, Marilyn Graham (Ferguson) and do a bit of reminiscing. We were entertained by a piper and his highland dancing daughters, and a young woman singing beautiful songs in Gaelic.

Sunday was an exceptionally quiet day in Stornoway and we ventured out to Harris to take in the most beautiful scenery and even managed a paddle in the Atlantic Ocean.



Anyone wishing to help in our Guiding units next session should approach any of our Guiders for information or leave their name and contact details in the office.

As you can see all ages manage to have fun in Guiding.

13th Motherwell Boys' Brigade Company

St. Mary's Parish Church, Avon Street, Motherwell



Company section update

ATHLETICS COMPETITION

The last competition of the session was the sports and athletics and this was held at the end of April at Wishaw sports centre athletics track. The competition was expertly run by Mr David Gardiner and in a lovely evening of sunshine our team of athletes ran and threw their way to an excellent 1st place.



The Top Athletics Team

SPORTS & PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Our last parade night prior to the Battalion Review is also our company sports in the Duchess Park where we seek out our junior and senior sports champions. This year the weather was a bit too wet to do the full sports programme so we had to improvise with indoor activities and watch for a break in the showers to fit the long run in when it was dry (ish!). At the end of the night we held our presentation of badges and awards to the boys.

Our special awards - the Officers' Endeavour and the Captain Mathie Commendation - to recognise the extra special efforts of 2 boys within the Company were presented to

Cameron Fry (Officers' Endeavour) and **Scott Clark** (Captain Mathie Commendation).

BATTALION REVIEW & FLAG CHAMPIONSHIP

The annual Battalion Review took place on Friday 4 May in The Kings Church and boys, officers, parents and friends of the Battalion enjoyed an evening recognising the Year of Young People (#YOYP) and the contribution the young men of the Boys' Brigade make every year. The guest of honour was Mr John Sharp, the Director for Scotland of The Boys' Brigade.

During the presentation of awards ceremony, we were particularly proud to have 10 of our young men receiving individual awards - more details further on.....

In the Battalion Flag Championship the boys won the Battalion Swimming Gala, Senior Football and Athletics and were runners up in 4 other competitions - Restricted Drill, First Aid, Quiz and Physical Challenge.

All in all this resulted in us achieving second place in the Flag Championship to collect the runners up cup - a lovely way to round off another great Session.

Congratulations to 20th Motherwell Company (North Motherwell) on winning the Battalion Flag Championship for the third year in a row!

PRESIDENT'S BADGES

Three of our senior boys received their President's Badge at the Review: **Adam Blair**, **James Macintosh** and **Scott Rankin**. This is the second highest award in the BB and involves completing the badge programme in 5

key areas: Adventure, Community, Leadership, Interest and Physical.

QUEEN'S BADGE

The Queen's Badge is the highest award in the Boy's Brigade and requires the young men to make some demanding commitments during the course of the programme.

Scott Clark, Greg Friel, Joshua Milne, Tom Percy, Calum Shaw, Craig Shaw and Calum Stockman are all Sergeants in the Company and are very worthy recipients of the Queen's Badge. These young men have given a great deal of time both to the company in their leadership roles and also to the community over the course of the last 2 years. They have developed through the process and have had an impact in each of the areas where they have worked.

Completing the Queen's Badge programme is not just about getting the award (although it is a proud moment for us all!) and I am sure that these outstanding young men will see it as the foundation for even greater things.

The officers of 13th congratulate on their achievements and wish them all the best for the future!

YEAR OF YOUNG PEOPLE 2018 - SPECIAL AWARDS

As 2018 is the Year of Young People the Battalion had introduced special awards and 4 of our boys received these awards in recognition of their personal achievements:

Callum Warnock for his significant achievements at national level in swimming; **Sam Bowes** for his talented musical abilities; **Cameron Gunn** for his entrepreneurial spirit as part of a school team and **Charlie Fleck** for his outstanding spirit and determination in overcoming adversity.

Jack Wilson from the Y-Zone of the church also received a YOYP award in recognition for his musical abilities (he is a member of 7/16th Motherwell BB!)

KGVI OFFICER LEADERSHIP TRAINING AWARD

In addition to introducing the YOYP awards at the Review, one of our young officers, Gavin McLauchlan was also presented with his certificate for completing 2 years of officer leadership training - the famous King George VI certificate.

COMING UP.....

We have the Company Section Camp as soon as the schools break for the summer and we are returning to our favourite campsite for the occasion - Badaguish in Aviemore.

We have 26 boys signed up to go supported by 10 staff, Mr Taylor our trusty head chef and new for this year Mr Beattie as commis chef! We have some exciting activities planned so it looks to be another great camp in the making!

THANK YOU!

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported the Company over the 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 sons' involvement and to the congregation for its support collectively and as individuals - thank you!

Captain Stewart Maxwell

13th Motherwell Boys' Brigade Company

St. Mary's Parish Church, Avon Street, Motherwell

junior section update



Jings and crivvens! What a 2018 the Junior Section have had so far.

We have enjoyed success at a battalion competition and review level; had a visit from the Anchor boys and our third years have been to visit the Company section ahead of their upcoming promotion.

Battalion Competitions

From January till March, our marching team and their officers Mr (Marching) McLaughlan and Mr Barr worked tirelessly every Wednesday night to learn and perfect the battalion marching paper.

As a result of all their preparation, on the day of the competition the boys worked in perfect sync to deliver a close to flawless team performance. It was a very close competition with only half a point between first and second place; however 13th managed to inch ahead and win the competition.

When the results of the marching competition were taken into account alongside the other battalion competitions, 13th Motherwell Junior Section wound up the overall winners of the Walker Memorial Rosebowl - for the second year in a row! A great result for the boys and a demonstration of their hard work throughout the year.

As well as the marching competition 13th also won the General Knowledge, Football and Bible Knowledge competitions and came in 2nd for the Safety competition.

Battalion Review

At the Motherwell and Bellshill District Battalion review on 4th May, part of the evening involved the presentation of Year of the Young Person 2018 special recognition certificates. 13th Motherwell Junior Section boys and officers alike were truly delighted and proud when our very own Charlie Fleck received the Overcoming Adversity certificate. A wonderful recognition of Charlie's fantastic and valued contributions in Junior Section - Well Done Charlie!

We were also pleased as punch at the review when our youngest officer Mr Gavin McLaughlan was presented with his KGVII certificate.

The KGVII training course is an intensive training course run by the Boys Brigade for young leaders. Myself and the other officers look forward to Mr McLaughlan sharing his learning from the course with us as we look to plan our 2018-2019 session over the summer months.

Anchor and Company Section Visits

The Anchor Boys who are due to join the Junior Section after the summer break visited us for a taster evening, during which they got to take part in our opening/closing services; try some of our favourite Junior Section games and get to know some of the Junior Section boys a bit better.

Our own third years who are due to be moving up to Company section after summer also recently enjoyed a similar taster visit to the Company Section which they are still raving about - clearly they will be moving onwards and upwards and not missing Junior Section come October - which is exactly as it should be!

And Finally

Our 2017-2018 session draws to a close in a few weeks with our annual parent's night. The boys will then have our annual holiday camp to look forward to over the summer months as it is due to take place in September this year. The theme for camp is going to be Science and the officers will be spending the summer months cooking up some hopefully fun experiments for the boys.

Stephanie Laing - Officer in charge



Football Team (Back row (l-r): James, Finlay, Ethan, Jude, Zack, Luca, Tyler. Front row: Alex, Gregor, Charlie)

13th Motherwell Boys' Brigade Company

St. Mary's Parish Church, Avon Street, Motherwell



anchor section update



Our Anchor section awards night was held on 11 May in the Avon Hall. Family and friends joined us as 36 boys received their well-deserved service and activity badges. Our P3 boys took turns to recount the activities which have taken place throughout the session and also described how a typical night runs.

This year our squads were all named after Pokemon characters and each week they earned points for sports, teamwork and behaviour. Our Best Squad award was won by Pikachu.

Regular attendance awards were given to 7 boys who had close to 100% attendance.

The Crawford Trophy, kindly donated by Sean Crawford, was awarded to Iain Robertson. Throughout the session Iain consistently demonstrated the true qualities of an Anchor Boy. Well done Iain!



We wish our 12 P3s good luck for September when they join the Junior Section and look forward to welcoming our returning boys back to the Anchor Section. If you know of any boys who would like to join the Anchor section and who will be P1-3 this August please do get in touch.

Junior Church News!

Easter fun...

The Children in our Junior Church enjoyed many Easter activities over the past few weeks. On Palm Sunday the children entered the church waving palm branches. The church was beautifully decorated and the pillars were dressed to represent the palm trees. The large cross was a wonderful centre piece and was admired by all. At the end of the service the children handed out crosses to the congregation. Easter Sunday was also a special day for Junior Church. Many families joined the early breakfast and enjoyed taking part in the worship with Bryce before making Easter baskets at the craft tables.



Christian Aid Sunday...

On Sunday 13 May all our Junior Church members entered church wearing red and carrying Christian Aid flags as they paraded into church. The children then headed to the halls to take part in many Christian Aid Activities. Following the morning service the congregation joined together for a coffee, organised by CAST.



Sunday 17th May...

On Sunday 20 May our zones will take part in a very messy and very busy morning organised by CAST. The children will have a chance to experiment with water filters, design their own fair trade chocolate wrapper, make a healthy snack, make milk shakes and learn of the difference a cow can make to a village, design their own houses not to mention meeting the hens!

Each child will hopefully leave the hall with a bag full of treats and crafts. This special morning will **raise awareness** of Christian Aid. It will also help to raise money for this very worthy cause.

End of Session ...

On Sunday 24 June our Junior Church Zones will be taking part in our worship. A number of our children will be promoted from the Kids Zone and Mini Zone. **Every** Junior Church member will also receive a certificate in church. We look forward to the Junior choir sharing in the special family service to mark the end of another busy Junior Church session.

Our Junior Church team

At the end of another busy and fun filled session the teachers and helpers are ready to enjoy a summer break. We are very fortunate to have a large team of willing, energetic and enthusiastic teachers who week by week, prepare, organise and deliver exciting and creative lessons to our children. Our thanks to them all for their work each week.

Summer Sundays..

During the school summer holidays our children are invited to attend church with their families. The children will have an opportunity to meet informally for Summer Sundays. We will arrange for the children to meet in the Avon Hall. Weather permitting the children will head to the park, or have a dvd, games or craft morning. This will be supervised by the parents.

Enjoy the holidays..... let's hope we get some sunshine! A postcard will arrive early August with our new session details.

Karen Maxwell
Junior Church Co-ordinator



Junior Church Postcard Challenge 2018...



Over the next few Sundays our friends in the congregation - YOU - may be away on a Summer break and we want to find out where you have been.

The Junior Church invites you to take part in our **Postcard Challenge**. The address is -

Junior Church,
St Mary's Parish Church,
Avon Street,
Motherwell, ML1 3AB, UK.

What we challenge you to do is **tell us where you've been!**

Maybe a day trip to Oban

Visiting family in Kent

Enjoying a weekend in London

Or somewhere exotic like the med! please let us know.

The Y Zone will display them to show where our friends have travelled to.

We hope that this will help you to **keep our Junior Church in mind** and in your prayers as you travel near and far over the next month.

Who knows we may even have a prize for the most interesting or farthest travelled card.

So please get posting - and take part in our Postcard Challenge!



EVENTS ACTION TEAM

ST MARY'S ANNUAL QUIZ NIGHT

A great night was had by all at this year's Quiz night on Monday the 23 April, where we had 25 teams challenge for the trophy and title of "The Brains of St Mary's".

Quiz master, Alan Joyce Jnr encouraged and assisted the teams to reach their potential and Stuart Reid provided the questions ranging from music, history and the ever popular, sport!

After an epic battle of wits, the winners were "3 plus 1" who retained the trophy followed by "The Inbetweeners" and "The Marigolds" in joint 2nd place.

Our thanks to all the teams who came along and supported the event.



SHINE YOUTH MUSIC THEATRE GROUP

We are delighted to be hosting "SHINE" on Friday 1 June at 7.30 pm within the Church. A very popular local theatre group based in Carlisle who this year are celebrating their 15th year anniversary. Having performed at the King's Theatre Glasgow, London's West End and the Civic they now bring their fantastic show to the stage of St Mary's. Tickets are selling fast and are priced at £8 Adults/£5 Children, and can be purchased after each Sunday service in the Avon Hall or by contacting:

Tel: 07753838628/07783336846

email: alanj220@hotmail.com

Robert Neilson



St Mary's Summer Club is back!



The ever popular Summer Club will be held every morning from

Monday 23rd until Friday 27th July.

The usual mix of games, crafts, music and drama will entertain children of 3 years and upwards.

We are looking for adult and teenage helpers to help and share in the fun. If you are available to come along on any of these dates please contact:

Hazel Graham

or

Jennifer Bradshaw





YEAR OF YOUNG PEOPLE 2018

JUL	AUG	SEP
Culture	Education	Global Justice

At the recent Motherwell, Bellshill and District Boys' Brigade Battalion Annual Review the BB celebrated the Year of Young People by recognising the outstanding achievements of a number of our members for their work in the BB, their schools, communities and beyond.

The boys are pictured receiving their awards from John Sharp the BB Director for Scotland.



Sam Bowes for musical achievements



Callum Warnock for national swimming achievements



Charlie Fleck for his outstanding spirit and determination in overcoming adversity.



Cameron Gunn for his entrepreneurial spirit as part of a school team



Jack Wilson in recognition of his musical abilities

OUR CAST TEAM IN ACTION ON CHRISTIAN AID SUNDAY





UPDATE

Christian Aid continues to work in many countries, with some of the most deprived people in our world.

For example, the charity is working with its partners in Syria, Lebanon and Iraq, to provide support to some of the most vulnerable Syrian refugees.

In Lebanon, its partner Association Najdeh provides aid to Palestinian refugees from Syria, while Mouvement Social ensures that refugee children can continue their education and also access psychological support to come to terms with their experiences. Lebanese organisation Kafa, which supports women who have experienced exploitation and domestic violence, now opens its doors for the most vulnerable female refugees in the Bekka Valley. In Iraq, Asuda has been giving refugee women legal, social and psychological support. Rehabilitation, Education and Community Health (REACH) has also provided vocational training to some of the most vulnerable refugee communities living in the Kurdish region of northern Iraq, to help them find a way to make a living.

Within Syria itself, Christian Aid is supporting partners providing hot meals to people recently displaced by the bombing of towns north east of Damascus.

While the flow of people crossing through Greece and the Balkans to find sanctuary in Europe has slowed, thousands of families, children and vulnerable adults remain stranded for long periods of time in informal settlements, camps or temporary shelters.

Christian Aid's partners in Serbia and Greece continue to provide direct support to these refugees.

Your support helps Christian Aid to continue its work in these situations and many others. Our concert in Motherwell South Parish Church in April, in which all 3 of St Mary's choirs took part, raised £1400. Christian Aid Week began with our young people, all wearing something red, coming into church to hear Wendy Young of Christian Aid telling them about Zaza (the little girl in Haiti who is the focus of Christian Aid's publicity this year) who had to live for 5 months in a house with no roof. Christian Aid's response is 'Together we're stronger than storms.'

Thank you for your support. Please keep giving it.

Margaret MacGregor



Our Junior Church on Christian Aid Sunday



FLOWER LIST	
JUNE	
3rd	Mrs E M Barr Mrs W Burrell
10 th	Mrs L Thain
17 th	Mrs M Bimbi Mrs Graham
24 th	Mrs M Jarvie Mrs F Hannah
JULY	
1st	Mrs E Blackwood Mrs Kennedy
8 th	Mrs F Shearer
15 th	Miss L Clarkson Mrs Galloway Mrs Pritchard
22nd	Miss J Moffat
29th	Mrs A Ford Mrs M Graham
AUGUST	
5th	Mrs M Dick Mrs J Paterson
12th	Miss J Pettigrew Mrs G Neil
19th	Mrs M Crawford Mrs L O'Neil Mrs M Roberts
26 th	Mrs B Hamilton Mrs J Crawford



FORTHCOMING SERVICES

10	June	11.00 am	Sacrament of Communion
17	June	11.00 am	Admission of New Communicants
24	June	11.00 am	Junior Church Promotion Service
16	Sept	11.00 am	Sacrament of Communion

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday 1 June	7.30 pm	SHINE MUSIC THEATRE GREATEST HITS
Monday - Friday 23-27 July	10-12 noon	SUMMER CLUB

June Graham - Flower Convener

