

ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity No: SC012233



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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BAPTISM

"Go therefore and baptise"

17 Mar 2019

Isabella Ivy Bolton

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MARRIAGES

"Whom God hath joined "

24 Mar 2019

George Grandison and Shiona Will

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FUNERALS

"I am the resurrection and the life"

20 Feb 2019 Mr George Caddow

Ayr

20 Mar 2019 Mrs Barbara Watson

Newarthill

20 Mar 2019 Mrs Maisie Jarvie

Hamilton Road

25 Mar 2019 Mrs Annie Thorburn

Merry Street





Manse of St Mary's

March 2019

Dear Friends:

Easter, in the Northern Hemisphere at least, is a time of renewal. As winter gives way to spring, so new life begins to blossom in gardens, fields and farmyards all around us. Whether it's the new-born Easter lamb in the countryside, or, daffodils in our gardens, signs of new life aren't hard to find at Eastertime.

One of Jesus' key images of the Christian life is taken from the language of gardening and horticulture and it involves the theme of renewal: *"Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit."* [John 12:24].

Here, in this simple agricultural truism, is a clear allusion to the path that Jesus was to take and the Path that we ought to follow. For Jesus, the path of death and resurrection. For us, the path of renewal - of dying to sin and being born anew in Jesus.

Without the death of Jesus there would be no resurrection. Without the cross there would be no forgiveness, freedom and fullness of life. Without Good Friday there can be no Easter Sunday.

Easter is not only about resurrection, it's about death followed by resurrection. And in the death and resurrection of Jesus we discover a new and better way of life; a way of life based on forgiveness and renewal. As we follow in Jesus' footsteps, the negative aspects of our lives are encouraged to wither and die only to be replaced with the fruit of the Holy Spirit - those positive qualities of "love, joy, peace, patience,

kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" [Galatians 5:22-23] that were such a central part of Jesus' life.

Through the cross we have been "*crucified with Christ*" [Galatians 2:20] and are "*dead to sin.*" [Romans 6:11]. Through the resurrection we are "*alive to God in Christ Jesus.*" [Romans 6:11]. The Christian Life isn't about striving to be good people in our own strength but dying to sin and rising with Jesus to renewed life, Easter Life, resurrection life - a life in which we are transformed in Christ's image. And as Jesus transforms us, as Easter people we go in His name to renew the world around us.

Throughout this Bulletin, you will find lots of exciting ways to celebrate Holy Week and Easter 2019. May this sacred season be a time of blessing for you and all those whom you love.

Your Friend & Pastor:

Rev Bryce Calder



This festival celebrates the life and work of the Church of Scotland with those who keep it strong and vibrant in communities everywhere - members, volunteers, ministers, and congregations alike!

It takes place on 19 May in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh.

Check out their web site to see what is planned. **This will include our own Inbetweeners.**

www.heartandsoul.org.uk/home

PRAYER BASED ON WORDS OF JESUS SPOKEN FROM THE CROSS



1 Lord Jesus, to Your killers You spoke a **Word of Forgiveness:**

"Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing."

[Luke 23:34]

*Help us to live our lives in the power of Your forgiveness.
And, in turn, to forgive those who hurt us in life.*

2 Lord Jesus, to a dying criminal You spoke a **Word of Hope:**

"I assure you, today You will be with me in paradise."

[Luke 23:43]

*Help us to reach out in love to those who need your hope this Easter:
especially those despised, alienated and rejected by the world.*

3 Lord Jesus, to Your grieving mother You spoke a **Word of Comfort:**

"Dear woman, here is your son."

[John 19:26]

*As you comfort us in our times of grief, sorrow and loss,
so help us to care for others who weep and sigh and have heavy hearts.*

4 Lord Jesus, as the weight of the evil of the world bore down upon your shoulders, You spoke a **Word of Abandonment:**

"My God, my God, why have You abandoned Me?"

[Mark 15:34]

*Help us in our times of trial & doubt & confusion, when all seems lost,
to know that You are with us - even in the Valley of deepest Darkness.*

5 Lord Jesus, as Your body was torn apart in agony on the cross,
You spoke a **Word of Human Need and vulnerability:**

"I am thirsty."

[John 19:28]

*In our times of hurt and pain,
help us to know that we have a Saviour and Friend
who knows what it is to suffer too.*

6 Lord Jesus, when the powers of evil had appeared to do their worst and put You to death, You spoke a **Word of Ultimate Victory:**

"It is finished!"

[John 19:30]

*Help us to know that true strength and real power are found
not in the Ways of the World,
but in following the Way of the Kingdom of God.*

7 Lord Jesus, as you died at Calvary, You spoke a **Word of Trust:**

"Father, I entrust my spirit into your hands!"

[Luke 24:46]

*Help us to realise that our lives, too, are in good hands.
For the God who made us, is the God who loves us.
And He is the God who has promised never to leave us or forsake us.*

AMEN



GUILD

As we come to the close of the session we can look back on a variety of interesting evenings. We had a talk from 2 former journalists from the Sunday Post who gave an interesting insight into the Central Station Hotel with stories from the past to the refurbishment in recent years.

We then had a presentation from the Rev Derek Gunn, Chaplain to BBScotland on Faith in Young People, our project for this year. We held a coffee evening to which we invited our own BB representatives: Stewart Maxwell, BB Captain; Alan Brown, Battalion President; Stuart Reid and Ian Carrol, Guild elders. We have raised £300 for this project. The organisation of our project night is in the capable hands of our Project Partner - Joyce Knox.

We had a relaxing evening when we welcomed Susan Mitchell who spoke to us on holistic therapy and demonstrated face, neck and shoulder massage. We were also able take part by doing hand massage which proved to be most relaxing.

The Rev Gavin Black visited us and gave a most thought-provoking talk. Dorothy Russell, chaplain at Shotts Prison spoke on her work with the prisoners and the challenges faced on their release. When one of our speakers was unable to attend we joined with the Men's Fellowship to hear of the challenges faced by David Gardiner as he took part in the West Highland Way Race and plans to take part in this challenge again this year.

At our AGM we disbursed funds to the Church, the Junior Church and the Summer Club and we appointed Isabel Johnstone as President, Marlene Thomson as Vice President and Jean Mitchell as Secretary for the new session.

On that evening we were able to acknowledge the contribution 24 of our ladies have given to the

Guild over many years by the presentation of certificates signed by the General Secretary of the National Guild, Iain Whyte.

Three ladies: Janette Munro, Grace Neill and Barbara Hamilton have served the Church of Scotland Guild for 51 years.

Forty years or more have been served by: Clare Mackenzie, Sheila Carswell, Helen Govan, Elizabeth Blackwood, Eleanor Simpson, Isobel Stewart, Anne Clark, Jean Hunter, Jenny Paterson.

Thirty years or more: Lyn Thain, Jean Mitchell, Helen McKenna, Sheila Brown, Margaret Joyce, Janette MacPherson, Sadie Knox

Twenty-five years or more: Margaret Carrol, Maureen Dick, Lillian Fullerton, Mary Maxwell, Beth Morrison

These ladies have not only attended the Guild but have served in a wide variety of roles - President, Vice-president, secretary, pianist, tea convenor, project partner, drivers, committee members, etc. When checking years of service the total contribution from all our members exceeds 1000 years!

We closed our session with a presentation on the Glasgow Mural Trail and wonderful singing from our Junior Choir who stepped in at the last minute to entertain us as we enjoyed a light supper. We now look forward to our outing in May to Dundee and the new V&A Museum.

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CLEANING TEAM



Our next cleaning dates -
15 April 9.30 am
20 May 9.30 am

We are very grateful to our team of willing helpers (and coffee time bakers!). A warm welcome and a pair of marigold gold gloves and a duster awaits all new friends!

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

This edition of the magazine brings us almost to the close of our session with the only outstanding meeting being the much-anticipated visit from the Junior Choir followed by our AGM on 25 March.

In January the Rev John Thomson told of his "Heroes", folks from sporting and other walks of life whom he thought of as having given of themselves and creating examples for others to follow.

In a change of programme Alan Joyce brought to the screen sporting moments from Scottish history, some of which had been attended by members.

Howard Rennie chaired the Joint Burns Supper with the Guild which was enjoyed by all. The Haggis was piped in by Ryley Allan and addressed by Maureen Dick, a hearty supper was followed with an excellent Immortal Memory proposed by the Rev John Thomson, Allan Joyce proposed the toast to "The Lassies" and Clare Mackenzie gave a suitable response, our minister Bryce gave an inspired and spirited reading of "Tam O' Shanter" while musical items were provided by a choir of Guild and Fellowship members and guest soloist Bob McCrum, Eleanor Mackenzie accompanied at the piano. The vote of thanks was proposed by Marlene Thomson.

February and friend of the fellowship Robert Nimmo spoke of his experiences as a VIP greeter at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

In another change to the programme Allan Joyce gave an illustrated talk on a charity cycle ride from "Lands' End to John O' Groats".

Stuart Reid enlightened us on the History of Pensions a surprisingly interesting subject.

Jim Percival told of his journeys through Africa some of them "In the Footsteps of Livingstone". March and Bill Taylor in his inimitable way with words examined the Scots Language its origins

and common usage, a night where no one was scunnered or fed-up.

Another joint meeting with the Guild where David Gardiner told of his experiences running the 95 miles of the "West Highland Way" explaining the rigours of training and the importance of proper nutrition.

18 March and Bob Conquor showed video and pictures of the tragedy that was "Pan-Am Flight 103, which was blown from the skies over Lockerbie. In his talk, Bob told of his experiences as a serving police officer involved in the search and recovery operations and commented on the theories regarding the bomb and the now suspected bombers.

The Fellowship has again been well attended throughout the year and I thank members for their loyal support.

Allan Joyce
President

WORK PARTY



The Work Party will resume their activities on Monday 29 April.

We meet each Monday around 9 am, finishing around 12 noon.

As well as the general tidying of the grounds around the church and halls, we are undertaking some redecoration, and joiner work.

If you would like to join us, you will be made most welcome. All you need is enthusiasm!! Even if you are not able to attend every week, your help when available, will still be valued.

Howard Rennie

THE CHOIRS on Spring Sunday

The Junior choir was in fine voice on Spring Sunday and enjoyed taking part in this special service. The girls love singing together and are now looking forward to taking part in the Christian Aid Concert.



The Senior choir performed 2 anthems at this special service. We are very fortunate to have such a strong church choir who lead us Sunday by Sunday in praise.

The Inbetweeners have had a busy start to 2019 performing at Overtown Guild, the Uddingston Guilds joint rally and at the Cameo fundraising concert in Airdrie. To date we have raised £790 for various chosen charities. We are looking forward to taking part at Heart and Soul on 19 May in Edinburgh. This will take place in Princes Street Gardens. More details to follow!





6thA Rainbows

The Rainbows have been very busy over the session. They have had a Burns themed night where they wore tartan, sang Scottish songs and danced. They had a special night where they learned about Chinese New Year and tasted some Chinese food. The girls have also been enjoying working towards badges as part of the new Rainbow Programme. The girls thoroughly enjoyed participating in the Thinking Day service at church. Recently we have been enjoying some spring themed crafts and are looking forward to a joint Easter party with all the Rainbows from St Mary's.



6thA Brownies

The Thursday Brownies organised their own World Thinking Day party with games and food from around the world. Three new Brownies made their promise. The girls enjoyed some winter crafts and World Book Day activities. On 21 March, 2 nurses will teach the Brownies basic First Aid. The Brownies are excited to be going on Pack Holiday at the beginning of May. Gowanpark is the destination for this adventure.



Gowanpark, the County Outdoor Centre, is also the destination for the Monday and Tuesday Brownies in the near future. This lovely cottage near to home provides a base for many outdoor activities. Motherwell Trefoil Guild will also be visiting for a BBQ in May.

6th Guides

The Tuesday Guides have been working on the new programme, baking, doing usual crafts and games. The girls can be seen making cupcakes in the kitchen.

The Skillbuilder section of the new programme is being used with Skills for the Future being developed. Using modern terminology, they are learning "Life Hacks". This has involved making air fresheners, and using natural materials to clean stainless steel which has resulted in the kitchen units being cleaned.

Team building and taking part in games for inclusion have also been enjoyed.

Preparations are also under way for Easter with the girls making decorations and crafts for their Easter party.



6thA Guides

A group of 8 Thursday guides recently spent an overnight at Gowanpark, the County Outdoor Centre, for the final challenge of the Baden Powell Challenge Award. Jenna Young, Charlotte Mackenzie, Carima Ali, Lily Ross, Niamh Phillips, Kara Scott, Charis Boyce-Phillips and Aileigh Flynn will be the last of the Guides to complete this Award as it has been replaced by a Gold Award in the new Guiding programme. The girls met guides from around the county and took part in a variety of activities one of which was to Escape from Camp after completing a series of challenges. There was also a Murder Mystery game and of course time to eat - mocktails and pizza. Two of the girls who are ambassadors for mental health at Dalziel High School introduced this issue to the Guides as part of their BP Challenge with the Guides raising £165 to date for the Scottish Mental Health Charity.

Anyone wishing to help in our Rainbow, Brownie or Guide units should approach any of our Guiders for information or leave their name and contact details in the office.

INFORMATION FROM CLERK TO CONGREGATIONAL BOARD

CARE OF EQUIPMENT:

Please ensure any equipment used is returned to its original storage area. Unfortunately, a few items seem to have been misplaced recently. The search continues to find them, which is an inconvenience to others who require these items.

If your group removes tables from the rack for your activities please ensure they are replaced properly. Do not leave them lying against or outside the rack as this can lead to accidents.

KITCHEN GUIDELINES:

Following a recent visit from the North Lanarkshire Council Environmental Department St Mary's Parish Church has been granted a Pass subject to a few new Rules and Guidelines being implemented. Each organisation may also be required to ask some members to attend training at a future date, possibly early Autumn 2019.

Ian Beattie

The New Year to Easter block of our BB session is always a busy one....this article will hopefully give you a flavour of this busy time...

BATTALION COMPETITIONS

Since the last article we have taken part in 5 Battalion competitions - the First Aid, Senior 5-a-side Football, Bible Knowledge, Physical Challenge and Junior 5-a-side Football. A great mix of competitions with something to cater for everyone in the company.

The First Aid is one of the core BB competitions and our thanks go to Paul Bradshaw who is our 1st Aid Consultant and provides an excellent training programme to prepare the boys not only for the competition but also with some critical life skills!

The physical challenge competition is a good test for the athletes in the company and a strong performance from our team will hopefully bring a good result at the Review.

This year's Bible Knowledge material was the story of Noah and provided the team with lots of names and numbers to remember! The team were supported in their preparations by our Minister and Bryce did a great job of not only making the story come alive but help the boys anticipate what they might be asked through his end of chapter quizzes - thank you Bryce! The team were firing on all cylinders on the night of the competition but we will have to wait until the Review to find out if we improved on last year's performance!

As a result of the large number of senior boys that we have we managed to enter 2 teams into the Battalion senior 5-a-side competition. Both did very well in the competition finishing 1st and 3rd overall. The team that finished 1st had us worried in their last match (which they had to win to win the competition)...they very quickly were losing 3-0 but managed to pull it back to win 3-5 and claim the 1st prize.

The Juniors then had their turn at 5-a-side and our young team (the junior age ranges from P7 to S3) put in a very strong performance to finish 2nd overall to a very big and very able team from 7/16th Motherwell (Motherwell South).

A great set of results but more importantly excellent participation from the boys all taking part to the best of their ability and in the spirit of the BB. A big thank you to the parents also for all your support and for chauffeuring the boys to and from the competitions!

The squad drill competition will take place before the school Easter holidays and the athletics will be the last competition later in April when the nights are a bit lighter!

QUEEN'S BADGE

This year we have 6 boys who are in the final stages of their work towards the Queen's Badge. The boys have been working across all the sections of the Company this session and have been out in the community fulfilling the volunteering section of the award. As part of this the boys served as stewards at the Ups and Downs show in early March as part of our ongoing link with the theatre group.

13th Motherwell Boys' Brigade Company

St Mary's Parish Church, Avon Street, Motherwell



The boys will then be heading off to Scottish Headquarters at Carronvale house in Larbert at the end of March to complete this work in time to be presented with the award at the Battalion Review in May.

BATTALION REVIEW

The Battalion Review will take place this year on Friday 10 May in the Kings Church so watch this space for more information. Parents and friends of the Battalion are welcome to come along.

ROYAL GARDEN PARTY

Every year the Boys' Brigade in Scotland has the opportunity to nominate those in or close to the organisation to be considered for one of the few places to represent the BB at the Royal Garden Party at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh in July.

In recognition for all his hard work in the kitchen at BB Camps for many, many years we nominated Bill Taylor and are delighted that he has been accepted to attend the Garden Party on Wednesday 3 July.

We hope Bill and Evelyn have a lovely afternoon with the Queen!

SUMMER CAMP

We are returning to our favourite campsite at Badaguish outside Aviemore for our summer camp and are looking forward to going away as soon as the schools break up - from Saturday 29 June to Wednesday 3 July.

We have an action-packed camp in the making with 26 boys signed up all we need is some of last year's sunshine and no midges!

Captain Stewart Maxwell

Dates for the Diary

Fri 29 March - BB on as normal
Fri 05 April - No BB (School Holidays)
Fri 12 April - No BB (School Holidays)
Fri 19 April - No BB (Good Friday)
Fri 26 April - BB Back
Fri 03 May - Sports & Awards Night
Fri 10 May - Battalion Review
(End of Session)

Twitter Reminder

As well as providing recorded services, St Mary's Parish Church now has a dedicated Twitter Address [@stmarysmwell](https://twitter.com/stmarysmwell) where details about services and Church events can be found.

Please follow us and encourage your friends and family to do so too. Through the medium of Twitter, we hope to further spread the news of all that is going on in our fantastic Church Family.

I also have a Twitter Address [[@bryce_calder](https://twitter.com/bryce_calder)] where I share some of my own personal thoughts about such diverse subjects as: church, theology, football, music, ethics, society and politics. You are also very welcome to follow me.

Junior Church News!

The Junior church has had a busy start to our session. In January we welcomed Lorna Laughland, The Youth Development Worker for Hamilton Presbytery. She enjoyed visiting the Junior Church along with Fiona Anderson and Arthur Barrie to see what we get up to! The visit allowed us to share what we do with our young folks here in St Mary's, and Lorna was delighted to hear about our Junior Church and weekly organisations.

February and March have seen the children sharing in stories in the Bible and looking at some of the less well-known characters. They have enjoyed working together as zones and had great fun building walls together as they heard all about Nehemiah.



On Easter Sunday the children and families are invited to join the Y Zone for an Easter message with Bryce and Easter Breakfast at 9.30 am and then to try some Easter crafts with the Junior Church. Following this families are invited to attend the Easter day service.



As we head towards the Spring school holidays we have a few changes to our plans. We will meet as a Junior church on 31 March and celebrate Mother's day and then informally meet as a joint Junior Church during the school holidays for Easter crafts.





UPDATE

As a member of the Disasters Emergency Committee, Christian Aid has been taking part in the emergency response to the catastrophic damage done by Cyclone Idai in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe.

A pulpit appeal from our minister resulted in a retiring offering of almost £600 which, together with a further £100 from our young Christian Aid Support Team, will allow our church treasurer to send £700 to help with immediate relief in the stricken area.

Plans for our usual fundraising continue. The recent Pancakes-a-Plenty coffee morning in Crosshill raised £638.

Our Christian Aid Week (12-18 May) events include a CAST Messy Day and Lunch, the House-to-house collection, and the Long March in Strathclyde Park. This year, a concert in St Mary's will also be held during Christian Aid Week, on Thursday 16 May. School choirs and all 3 of St Mary's choirs will take part.

Thank you for your continued support of Christian Aid's work. Please keep it going.

Margaret MacGregor



CrossReach@150

This year marks 150 years of the Church of Scotland providing social care in Scotland. Celebrations will be launched at Heart and Soul 2019 where the 150th anniversary exhibition will be debuted and on display at St Cuthbert's Church of Scotland.

Check out the Crossreach website:
<http://www.crossreach.org.uk/>

FEBRUARY COLLECTION FOR CALAIS

A huge thank you to the congregation of St Mary's for their support and generosity last month in donating items such as tea, coffee, winter gloves and hats for the people in the refugee camps in Calais. A special thanks to Stewart and Alex for helping Bryce to deliver the donated goods to Pollokshields.

Thanks to your donations, the van was filled to the brim, as you can see in the photo. Volunteers from the Eastwood Refugee Aid drove the van to Calais, where it was unloaded into the warehouse ready for distribution to refugees on the ground. Then the keys to the van were handed over to the organisation Care4Calais, so that they have a reliable vehicle with which to do their daily distributions.

Helen Calder



FLOWER LIST	
APRIL	
7th	Mrs E Calder Mrs Murray Mrs H Graham
14th	Mrs E Currie Mrs E Taylor & Mrs J Findlay
21st	Mrs E Simpson Mrs S Forrest Mrs L Kelly
28th	Mrs A Johnstone Mr & Mrs Malcolm Mrs J McPherson Mrs J Conquer
MAY	
5th	Mrs I Craig Mr A Miller
12th	Mrs S Brown Mrs E Ross
19th	Mrs A Pearce
26th	Mrs M Graham Mrs C Allan
JUNE	
2nd	Mrs W Burrell
9th	Mrs L Thain
16th	Mrs M Bimbi Mrs M Graham
23nd	Mrs F Hannah
30th	Mrs E Blackwood Mrs Kennedy

DRAMA KIRK - PASSION PLAY

Last year at Easter 2018, many members of St Mary's braved the cold to witness 'Resurrection', a full Passion Play performed outdoors in Hamilton. Despite the dreadful weather conditions, there was a lot of positive feedback from the audience. At this time the group was named "Passion Play Lanarkshire", however this has been updated to the new name "**Drama Kirk**" to encompass the use of drama at other times throughout the year. Leadership and support come from Hamilton Old Parish Church, but the group aims to involve as many people from the local churches and community as possible.

This Easter, during Holy week, Drama Kirk is performing "The People's Passion". Along with this Bulletin there is a leaflet detailing the dates, times and venues. The local Motherwell performance is being held in Dalziel St Andrews at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 16 April 2019. Once you have noted down the details from the [enclosed] leaflet in your diary/calendar, please feel free to pass this leaflet on to family, neighbours, friends or colleagues as an invite. Everyone is welcome!

Helen Calder



June Graham - Flower Convener



FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Sunday	14 April	11 am	Palm Sunday
HOLY WEEK SERVICES - 15-19 APRIL AT 7.30 pm			
Monday	15 April	St Mary's Parish Church	
Tuesday	16 April	Dalziel St Andrew's Parish Church Drama Kirk - "The People's Passion"	
Wednesday	17 April	Motherwell South Parish Church	
Thursday	18 April	St Margaret's Parish Church	
Friday	19 April	Craigneuk & Belhaven Parish Church	
Sunday	21 April	11 am	Easter Sunday - Sacrament of Holy Communion
Sunday	28 April	11 am	Dedication of Prayer Shawls
Sunday	12 May	11 am	Christian Aid Sunday



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

April	Sun 21	9.30 am	Easter Breakfast with the Y Zone
April	Mon 29	7 pm	Annual Quiz Night
May	12-18		Christian Aid Week
May	Thurs 16	7 pm	Christian Aid Concert - Tickets £5 for adults

The Prayer Meeting and Vestry Hour - Thursday	
7 pm	Prayer Meeting
7.30 pm	Vestry Hour