

AUTUMN 2019

Bulletin No 342

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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BAPTISM "Go therefore and baptise"

23 June

Jack Lynch

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MARRIAGES "Whom God hath joined "

26 May	Colin Barr and Stephanie McMurray
1 June	Fraser Joyce and Claire Pearson
12 July	Laura Westwood and Mark Forbes
20 July	William Robert Ferrie and
	Heather Margaret Boyle
23 August	Laura Brownlie and
	Blake Baljit Singh Brad

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FUNERALS

"I am the resurrection and the life"

7 June	Rev Ian B Doyle
26 June	Sophie Laughlin
17 July	Alastair Duncan
24 July	George Paterson Alves
2 August	James (Jim) Anderson
12 August	Barbara Hamilton
15 August	Christina McAllister
20 August	Jenny Paterson
22 August	Martha Johnstone
27 August	Alan Arnott





Manse of St Mary's August 2019

Dear Friends:

Summer Club

Weather-wise, this Summer has been something of a mixed bag. Whilst 25 July saw Scotland's hottest day on record, most days have been blighted with spells of heavy rain. More than a few times I found myself soaked whilst walking Amber. A real highlight of the Summer for me was my week in Crete - where there was no cloud for a whole week!

Another Summer highlight was St Mary's Annual Summer Club: "Comic And Cartoon Capers!". Over the week, 137 children attended - with a daily average of about 110. One of my heroes, 'Oor Wullie', paid a special visit on the opening day. It was a brilliant week, expertly led and organised by our dedicated team of leaders and helpers. As Parish Minister, I would like to express my thanks to all involved in such an excellent enterprise. Along with the children of our Parish, I am already looking forward to next year's Summer Club! There are lots of pictures of the Summer Club on our Church Web-Site.

Harvest

As I write, the late-Summer sun is shining and the Manse roses are still looking resplendent in the front garden. The bulging apple trees in the back garden, though, are an indication that Autumn is not far away.

Soon it will be Harvest time. Our Annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service this year will be held on Sunday 6 October at 11.00 am. As normal, our food gifts will be donated to the work of Loaves and Fishes. Any monetary gifts received, will be given equally to the work of Loaves and Fishes and Reach Out, based and North Motherwell Parish Church - both excellent charities.

At this year's Harvest Thanksgiving Service, our 3 wonderful Choirs [Junior/Inbetweeners/Church] will all take part in our celebrations.

Songs Of Praise

After Harvest, on Sunday 27 October, we will be holding a special 'Songs of Praise' Service. At this service, we will sing some well-known Hymns but also learn some brand new ones. Ronald and Karen are already hard at work in the planning process.

For a second 'Songs of Praise' Service, in the New Year, we will take a ballot of the Congregation's favourite Hymns. Watch this space for more information!

Vision 20:20+

Earlier in the year, our Church Elders began the process of designing a Five-Year Plan for the Ministry and Mission of *St Mary's Parish Church: Vision 20:20* +.

The 4 Working Groups looking at Elder's Development, Outreach and Pastoral Care, Worship and Spiritual Development, and Congregational Communication are all still busy meeting and will soon be ready to report to the Kirk Session. By the end of the year, our Mission Plan should firmly be in place. As Minister, I am very excited by all that lies ahead!

<u>Buildings Work</u>

At the General Assembly in May, the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland initiated a programme called: *Well Equipped Spaces In The Right Places*. The idea is that, in this age of financial challenge, the Church of Scotland should only maintain the very best Church Buildings for our future Ministry and Mission to the Nation.

I am delighted to say that our Congregational Board are fully committed to ensuring that St Mary's Parish Church will be ready to meet the criteria to be a: Well Equipped Space In The Right Place.

During the Summer, the upstairs toilets were completely modernised and the rewiring of the halls was started. In the weeks ahead, the rewiring will be completed, a new flat roof will be fitted over the kitchen and all of the downstairs toilets will be modernised. We are also looking to improve disabled access to both the front door of the Church and the Chancel. Again, these are exciting times for us as a Congregation.

Closing Thoughts

As I close my letter, just a wee reminder that St Mary's Parish Church now has a dedicated Twitter Address **@stmarysmwell** where details about services and Church events can be found. I also have my own personal Twitter Address **@bryce_calder**.

We also audio record our Sunday Services and they can be accessed via our Church Web-Site: at:

https://www.stmarysmotherwell.org.uk

I will leave you with a famous prayer written by St Patrick.

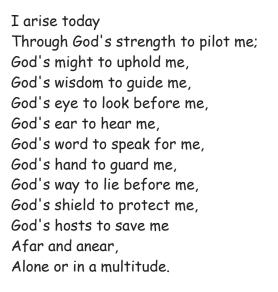
Your Friend & Pastor:

Rev Bryce Calder



<u>A Prayer Of St Patrick</u>

I arise today Through the strength of heaven; Light of the sun, Splendour of fire, Speed of lightning, Swiftness of the wind, Depth of the sea, Stability of the earth, Firmness of the rock.



Christ shield me today Against wounding Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in the eye that sees me, Christ in the ear that hears me.

I arise today Through the mighty strength Of the Lord of creation.

[St Patrick, 387-461]



Pastoral Words

Due to being on holiday in Crete, I was sadly unable to share in the Funeral Service of a very fine lady and one of the oldest Members of *St Mary's Parish Church*: Mrs Barbara Hamilton. Rev John Thomson was able to conduct Barbara's Funeral Service on my behalf and I am very grateful to John. As Minister, I would like to pay tribute to Barbara's life of love and faith. Her husband, Jimmy, and the family continue to be in our thoughts and prayers.

Vestry Hour

Having held open Vestry Hours on Thursday Evenings over the past 2 years, I have found that on many evenings there is no one needing to see me. Other evenings are very busy [lasting over an hour] and folks have to wait for a long time to see me.

As an experiment, over the next year I intend to make Vestry Hours on Thursday Evenings by appointment only. If you would like to see me, just contact in advance and we can arrange an appropriate date and time. My contact is: 01698 328665 or BCalder@churchofscotland.org.uk





GUILD

The new session is nearly here and Jean Mitchell, our Secretary, has been working hard over the holidays producing the syllabus for 2019/20. At our Opening Social we will be entertained by the Ariatta singers followed by a light supper.

Our theme for this year is "Companions on the Road", the second year of the Guild Strategy "One journey, many roads". Two of our speakers at the beginning of the session will take us on a journey. Jane Fucella from Biggar will tell us of her work in Thailand and our Minister, Rev Bryce Calder will tell of his visit to Peru. We will also have speakers on the themes of Hummel and "Weans and Me", which should provide us with entertaining and interesting evenings.

Our project this session will be supporting teenage mothers and their children in Kanyama in Zambia. Working with the Church of Scotland World Mission Council and the United Church of Zambia the Guild hope to support the young women to achieve their potential and challenge gender inequality.

Guild Week has been changed to the beginning of September this year and to mark this the Guild are hosting a Coffee Morning on Saturday 14 September from 10 am to 12 noon. Please come and join us for coffee, cake and a natter. No tickets are being sold, just come with friends and pay at the door - £3.

We hope that as we announce our speakers via the Sunday Church notices you may find something of interest which will entice many ladies of the congregation to come and join us on a Monday evening at 7.30 pm in the Avon Hall.

Isabel Johnstone Guild President

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship resumes the new session at 7.30 pm on Monday 7 October.

As ever the committee have prepared what we hope will be an interesting, informative and entertaining programme, and our thanks are due to the committee for their hard work and to the Secretary Alan Joyce for contacting prospective speakers and coordinating the committee's efforts.

I would take this opportunity to extend an open invitation to all men in the congregation to join this very lively group in the Conference Room any Monday evening they are free, or where there is a subject that may be of special interest and they will be assured of a warm welcome.

Programme for 2019

DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC
07/10	BRYCE CALDER	ТВС
14/10	JILL SCOTT	GLASGOW
	AND BILL	CENTRAL
		HOTEL
21/10	ALAN	ORGANISED
	CUNNINGHAM	CRIME
28/10	KRISTEN	GLASGOW
	SINCLAIR	CHILDREN'S
		HOSPITAL
04/11	TO BE	ТВС
04/11	TO BE CONFIRMED	ТВС
04/11		TBC HEARTS AT
	CONFIRMED	
	CONFIRMED	HEARTS AT
11/11	CONFIRMED TOM PURDIE	HEARTS AT WAR
11/11	CONFIRMED TOM PURDIE FIONA MOORE	HEARTS AT WAR SCOTLAND
11/11 18/11	CONFIRMED TOM PURDIE FIONA MOORE MCGRATH	HEARTS AT WAR SCOTLAND NETBALL
11/11 18/11 26/11	CONFIRMED TOM PURDIE FIONA MOORE MCGRATH JOE MCGRATH	HEARTS AT WAR SCOTLAND NETBALL SUBMARINES

Allan Joyce President

YOUR PROPERTY MATTERS

17/08/2019

It has been a very busy summer in the church for the Property Committee.

At the time of writing this report, the upstairs toilets have been fully renovated and the WC beside the Vestry is about to start. Huge thanks to the Property Committee but in particular to Stuart and Heather Greenhorn for coordinating the toilet upgrades, and to Martin Kelly and his team who are carrying out this excellent work.

The upgrade of the downstairs toilets should start early October.

We have finally had the go ahead from North Lanarkshire Council to start work on the flat roof above the kitchen etc. Findlay Cornelius has been working tirelessly gaining quotes, specifications and plans, but especially committed in contacting and working with North Lanarkshire Council to gain the proper permission to commence the work. The well-known phrase, "Patience of a Saint" should now be changed to, "Patience of a Findlay". Work should start on the flat roof in the next 2 to 3 weeks, so huge thanks to Findlay for his ongoing work.

For the last week, electricians have been working in the church, carrying out upgrades and repairs to the church wiring and fitting emergency lighting. Their work should be completed by the time you read this.

The Monday Work Party under the direction of Foreman "General" Howard Rennie have been doing great work, both inside and out, especially the perimeter fence and the upstairs hall, all the work they have done would take too long to list here. Thanks to the work party for their dedication and ongoing commitment.

Thanks to Church Officer Ian Beattie for all his help, both in the practical work he completes in the church, bit also meeting the various contractors and allowing them access to the church.

Also thanks to Les Innes and the finance committee for their continued financial support and guidance.

The property committee will meet again in October, usually the week before the Board meeting, if anyone would like to join the committee please contact me or any of the committee.

Thanks again to everyone who helps with the upkeep of our Beautiful Buildings.

Alan Joyce Property Convenor



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.

13th Motherwell Boys' Brigade Company

St Mary's Parish Church, Avon Street, Motherwell



Summer Camp 2019



Camp 2018 was always going to be a hard camp to follow...but Camp 2019 was equally memorable for different reasons...same great facilities, similar programme, weather not quite so good but awesome activies and an outstanding group of boys and officers...more on this later!

Getting there....Day 1

With 25 boys and 11 officers, the convoy of 2 minibuses, the Witzenmann hire van, the Chapman's Landover and trailer and a couple of officers' cars managed to load up and ship out all our camping stuff and luggage for 5 days of adventure as we headed for Badaguish just outside Aviemore in the Cairngorms for our 2019 Summer Camp.

After a lunch stop in Aviemore we descended on Badaguish and began the process of making ourselves at home - 10 tents had to go up, the kitchen had to be organised, 12 months of dust washed from our travelling crockery and utensils, the and the tuck shop retail outlet needed stocked and organised.

At Badaguish we have a great set-up that gives us best of both worlds - plenty of flat dry camping ground complemented by indoor cooking and dining facilities and a modern toilet/shower block.

The boys made an excellent job of setting up the tents so after an afternoon of settling in we enjoyed our first meal together and then set off for a stroll down to Loch Morlich. This is always the point at camp when we are reminded just how vicious the Aviemore midges are (and they were particularly carnivorous this year)!!

The (Dreaded) Hillwalk.... Day 2

Sunday is the traditional camp hillwalk and is often 'dreaded' by the boys but by the end they usually concede that they have actually enjoyed it (well most do!). We now have a number of possible routes for our hillwalk - the Meall a' Bhuachaille loop behind the campsite or the Chalamain Gap and Lairig Ghru route and in 2018 given the stunning weather we conquered Cairn Gorm and the northern corries so with typical 13th optimism and enthusiasm we had hoped to tackle another monster Munro route in 2019 but the weather forecast on the Sunday was horrible so we had to go for plan B and set out to do the Burma Road route to the east of Aviemore (so called because it was created by prisoners of war).

I should say at this point that irrespective of the route, this wasn't going to be any normal hillwalk but was going to be a pioneering adventure for us all and prove to be a fantastic example of teamwork, inclusion and the spirit of what the Boys' Brigade is all about...

One of our members, Charlie has cerebral palsy and doesn't have the same mobility as most of us but he doesn't let it stop him and was keen to come to camp. So, in our planning for camp we had 2 guiding principles - we were determined that Charlie would have the same experience as everyone else but we were also determined that the challenge of camp would not be any less for the others.

Enter the Paratreker... earlier in the year Mr Greenhorn found someone who was developing an off-road wheelchair that was capable of getting people with mobility challenges pretty much anywhere...but the Paratreker isn't a motorised device - it is pushed and pulled by others so that is exactly what we did!

The photo at the top of this article is us at the top of Geal Charn Mor (824 metres/ 2703 feet) having fulfilled our ambition of getting our friend Charlie to the top of a mountain at BB Camp through a truly amazing display of teamwork from our boys and officers. It was one of the most rewarding days in my 25 years as an officer!

Activity Days.... Day 3 & 4

Monday and Tuesday were both days of organised activities where the main event of the day was provided by an outdoor activity company.

Last year we had some comedy capers on the mountain biking so it was dropped for this year and another water-based activity was introduced. On the first day we had a river adventure taking 4 rafts down the rough waters of the River Spey from Grantown to Tamdhu distillery.

On the second day we repeated the favourite activity in recent years - White Water Tubing down the River Feshie to Feshie Bridge - essentially throwing yourself down a fast-flowing river on a rubber donut - the boys all raved about the experience and the video footage looks great so we are looking forward to seeing the camp film!

What else....?

In between all the planned activities the boys were kept entertained/busy by our staff team in football competitions, a quiz night and a big game of baseball on Loch Morlich beach.

Throughout the camp I provided a live (the 4G internet signal was better this year!) twitter feed from my twitter account @captainmaxi to keep parents and friends up to date with our activities. The photos are still online if you would like to see them and there will be some more posted on the church website and on our noticeboard outside the Avon Hall. The camp film is currently in the editing suite and will be ready for the early in the new session.....

Thank You

A big thank you to all the parents for the privilege of taking their boys to camp (and for providing us with cakes and biscuits for our suppers!).

Thanks to Mr Ian Beattie our (new) camp chef for providing wonderful meals, doing all the dishes and putting up with all the banter!

This year we also enlisted the support of another past Captain and Battalion President and my thanks go to Alan Brown for his support in the planning and leading of our memorable hillwalk.

Thanks are due to our partners - Chapman's "The Butchers" for their continued support and to Witzenmann UK our new supporters for kindly hiring a van to help us with our logistics. Summer Camp 2019 was another great camp in the perfect (if you forget the midges) location, awesome activities with a wonderful group of boys who have all come home with memories that will last a lifetime.

Camp 2020 is already booked for Sat 27 June to Wed 1 July 2020 and we already have ideas for creating another memorable camp for everyone.....

Captain Stewart Maxwell







All of our units are getting ready for a new session with a new programme.



5-7 years

Rainbows, 6th and 6thA units meet on a Wednesday evening.



Our 3 Brownie packs meet as follows:

6th Brownies on a Tuesday evening 6thA Brownies on a Thursday evening 6thB Brownies on a Monday evening



10-14 years

6th Guides meet on a Tuesday evening 6thA Guides meet on a Thursday evening

You can register your daughter's interest online.

https://go.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us/joinas-member/

Via this link you can select which unit you wish your daughter to join.

DRAMA KIRK

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 17 September (7.00 pm) @ Hamilton Old Parish Church

"The Word in Action" - JOSHUA An opportunity to use drama techniques to unlock scripture, focused on the story of Joshua.

Friday 1 November (7.00 pm) @ Hamilton Old Parish Church

"Whose Word is it Anyway?" An evening of Bible-inspired improvisational

Saturday 7 December (12.30 pm) @ Hamilton's Reindeer Parade, starting from Castle Street

Nativity Play

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PART OF A PASSION PLAY?

Next Easter on Good Friday, a Passion Play will be performed by Drama Kirk outdoors in Castle Street, Hamilton. Drama Kirk would love to welcome new members for the cast and for the technical support team. The date will be:

Friday 10 April 2020

If you have any questions please contact Helen Calder (01698 328665)



CrossReach and Social Care Sunday



SUMMER CLUB - 2019

We enjoyed a wonderful week of Comic and Cartoon Capers at our annual summer club.

Monday

On Monday we were excited to welcome over 100 children and over 30 teenage and adult helpers into the church. Our teams were introduced at this point: the 'Beano' team was led by Hazel Graham and included the oldest of our children. The younger 'Dandy' team was led by Jennifer Bradshaw and Joanne Morrison. We were lucky to have plenty of teenage and adult helpers wearing, as always, the bright, yellow T-shirts. We were hoping for a week of dry weather for the sports in the park led by Des Bradshaw and Stuart Davies. Monday's theme was Oor Wullie and we were particularly pleased to meet the real Oor Wullie who visited us and took part in all of our activities, including designing masks, making models of Oor Wullie on his bucket, playing football, pool and table tennis, creating big art and dancing to 'Baby Shark'. By lunchtime Oor Wullie was completely puggled! We are very grateful to Margaret Watson who organised this visit and the gifts for all of our youngsters through her connection with the Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity.

Bryce told us today that sometimes Oor Wullie can be naughty and mischievous and he spoke to us about always trying to do the right thing. The children were all delighted to receive a gift of an Oor Wullie annual as they left with their parents. Our week was off to a wonderful start!

Tuesday

Tuesday's theme was Toy Story and we made lots of characters from the films including 'Slinky Dog', 'Forky' and the 'Alien'. We learned about being a good friend and sang along to 'You've Got A Friend In Me'. Bryce spoke to us about friendship and reminded us that Jesus is our friend. Lots of our big art displays were created today and we really enjoyed creating these with the help of Sarah Reilly.

Wednesday

On Wednesday our focus was Spongebob Squarepants, a strange and comic sea creature and again we were able to sing along to the theme song! We made our own Spongebobs out of big yellow sponges, created bright orange squid models and much to the delight of the craft ladies, starfishes made out of glue, Rice Krispies and lots and lots of glitter! The clearing up from this craft took longer than the craft itself!

We thought about God's love today and Bryce helped us to understand that we should soak up God's love like a sponge. Our staff lunch also took place today and we were treated to delicious food and the chance to chat with all members of the team. This is a very valued opportunity and we are grateful to June Graham and her team for providing such a lovely treat.

Thursday

Our theme for Thursday was Lego Movie and we focussed on teamwork as the animated film tells us that 'Everything is awesome when you're part of a team'. We made Lego masks, designed our own Lego character costumes and created Lego friendship bracelets - an annual favourite with all of the youngsters and most of the helpers too!

Our oldest children took part in team building tasks today and the youngest children enjoyed playing piles and piles of Lego - which was the quietest half hour of the whole week! We were very lucky to have dry weather this year which meant that the older children were in the Duchess Park every morning for sports.

Friday

On our final day of the week we welcomed the families of our children to join us to hear about all about our activities and sing some choruses. We were also able to share information about our numerous organisations with those visiting. As leaders we are thankful for another busy and exciting week which is so successful because of the hard work of so many and because of the enthusiastic support which we have from the congregation. Thank you to you all.

The Summer Club Team





St. Mary's Parish Church Avon Street, Motherwell





Starts Back - Sunday 18th August 2019 at 11am.

Our Junior Church Zones

Tots	Babies-	Coffee Bar
Zone	3 years	
		Jillian/Lorraine
Mini	Age 3-	Avon Hall
Zone	Primary	
	2	Christine Brown
Kids	Primary	Cameron Hall
Zone	3-7	
		Hazel Graham
У	S1+	Cameron Hall
Zone		
		Ian Graham



Promotion Sunday

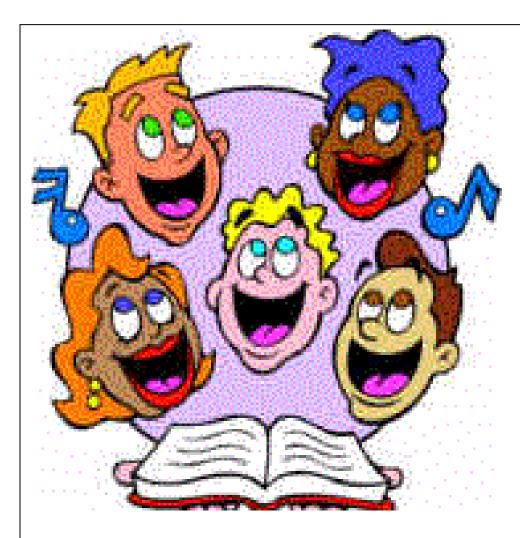
The children of the Junior Church zones celebrated the end of the session in June by contributing to the morning worship at our Promotion Service.

A number of children were promoted into new zones and all children received a certificate to mark the end of another busy Junior Church year.

Our new session has begun and the children can be seen back in the front pews at the start of the Service each Sunday.

We are always delighted to welcome new families to our Junior Church....so come and join the fun!

Karen Maxwell Junior Church Co-ordinator



THE JUNIOR CHOIR Starts back on Friday 23 August

Our Junior Choir leader, Marie Maxwell looks forward to meeting you all.

If you love singing, then you will love the Junior Choir!

All Children Primary 2 and upwards...

6.15-7.15 pm on a Friday night

Lots of fun with friends and lots of singing too!

Please bring an A 4 folder for your music and a water bottle!

Parents to drop off/sign in and collect in the Conference room.



As we come to the start of a new session, it is hoped that this report finds you well and feeling the benefit of what has been our 'summertime'.

In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus commanded His disciples to "Go throughout the whole world and preach the gospel to all mankind". It is a privilege to be a part, small as it is, of the Scottish Bible Society who like worldwide Bible Societies are carrying out this command of our Lord.

The Motherwell Action Group are supporting the project 'Cambodia/Laos - Supporting Christians under Persecution' by holding a sponsored walk on Sunday, 8th September. During a recent visit to East Asia, SBS staff witnessed at first-hand, the extreme persecution that many of our brothers and sisters in Christ face. It seems that hostility comes from all sides - from the government, society and community members. Christians are prevented from getting jobs in government. House churches are illegal and the few registered churches are monitored by the state - quite literally, a spy in every church reports back on what is being preached. In the face of persecution, believers in Laos desperately need the Word of God to strengthen their faith. With limited income from farming and fishing and few job opportunities due to government persecution, Christians in Laos quite simply cannot afford to buy a Bible and access the life-changing Word of God.

Deacon Bounnoy tells us his story. He explains: "I was living in a bad way, taking drugs and drinking. I wanted to leave those things behind. My wife had been praying for me. She encouraged me to come to church. I was listening to the preaching and hearing the Word of God. I accepted Jesus and prayed every day for two months - from that moment on, I did not go back to my old way of life. I just wanted to serve the Lord. I am changed by reading many passages from the Bible and I find encouragement in the Word. It gives me life and has changed my life."

Grateful thanks for your prayers and support of the Scottish Bible Society. Also many thanks for used stamps – every small amount raised adds up.

Margaret Carrol With Christian Love and blessings,

Motherwell Action Group

A date for your diary: Saturday, 1st February, 2020 - Concert: Studio 32 Theatre Company

FLOWER LIST					
	SEPTEMBER				
1st	Miss A Smith				
8th	Mrs Loughridge				
	Friends of Irene Nimmo				
	Mrs N Smith				
15th	Mrs Ross				
	Mrs Thomson				
22rd	Mrs J Turner				
	Mrs M Joyce				
	Mrs M Bimbi				
29th	-				
	OCTOBER				
6th	Mr A Joyce (Jnr)				
	Ms B Aitkenhead				
13th	Mrs S Forrest				
20th	Mrs I Dougal				
	Mrs J Findlay				
	Miss V Craig				
27th	Mrs Currie				
NOVEMBER					
3rd	Mrs M Graham				
	Mrs L Huggins				
	Mrs J Weir				
10th	Mrs 5 Sinclair				
	Mrs A Corbett				
17th	Mrs M McCloy				
	Mrs D Livingstone				
24th	Miss J Graham				
	Mrs R Milligan				

June Graham, Flower Convenor



FORTHCOMING SERVICES

15	September	11.00	Sacrament of
		am	Communion
6	October	11.00	Harvest
		am	Thanksgiving
13	October	11.00	Guild
		am	Dedication
			Service
27	October	11.00	Songs of Praise
		am	
10	November	10.45	Remembrance
		am	Service

