

# ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity No: SC012233



## AUTUMN 2020

Bulletin No 347

# OUR CHURCH FAMILY

## THANKSGIVING AND BLESSING SERVICE

6 September      Keir Elijah Millar

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### FUNERALS

**"I am the resurrection and the life"**

10 July	Janette Rennie
20 July	Rena Weir
3 August	Marion Lillico
24 August	Constance McKibbin
1 September	Margaret Palmer

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### BACK TO SCHOOL







Manse of St Mary's  
September 2020

Dear Friends:

We are now in the seventh month of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United Kingdom and many things remain as uncertain and tentative as ever. Elsewhere in the world, countries like Brazil, Peru and India are facing even greater public health crises than ourselves. Without a doubt, we are living through worrying and frightening times. The hope and prayer of millions of people is that those involved in medical research will be able to find either more effective treatments, or even a vaccine, that will tackle COVID-19 and allow 'normal' life to resume.

As in my Summer Letter, I would remind us all of the ongoing promise of Jesus: **"Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."** [Matthew 28:20] May our faith and hope in God continue to uphold us in these difficult days and may the peace of God sustain and encourage us as we go forward.

Phase Three of the Scottish Government's Four Phase Plan for exiting lockdown now allows us, as a Church, to hold services - albeit with restrictions, including the wearing of face masks, no hymn singing, and appropriate social distancing and hygiene measures being in place at all times.

Short Weekday Services at St Mary's Parish Church have started on a trial basis [Tuesday Evenings 7.00 - 7.30 pm and Friday Mornings 10.30 - 11.00 am]. With the complex layout of St Mary's Parish Church, social distancing will restrict worshipper numbers to around 35 people - not far short of the government maximum of no more than 50 people.

Sunday Services continue online and the statistical evidence shows that around 360 people are regularly watching these services - most live on Sunday mornings and some on catch-up throughout the rest of the week. These numbers have remained consistent over the past 6 months and are very encouraging.

Currently, these services are filmed in the Manse. By October, though, the intention will be to film the services in St Mary's Parish Church. At present we are awaiting the installation of 2 small cameras [and a computer system] which facilitate this.

When the Sunday Services are filmed in the church this will allow us to have a small Sunday Congregation 'live' in the building - with the bulk of folks watching online at home. In the weeks ahead the Kirk Session and Congregational Board's Temporary Management Team will be working on a fair way to allow folks [who wish] to be part of the 'live' congregation in the church. This will almost certainly involve some sort of rotational booking system - as the church building is only allowed to seat a tenth of the current watching congregation. More details will follow when they are available.

If you want to read the Church of Scotland's Covid-19 Guidance to congregations wishing to hold services, you can find this on the Homepage of the Church of Scotland Website: [www.churchofscotland.org.uk](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk) The Church of Scotland is in constant dialogue with the Scottish Government and this advice is updated if, and when, necessary.

As Parish Minister, I would like to thank Colin Barr, and the generosity of his company 'Limelight Networks', who enable our weekly live services to be broadcast at 11.00 am every Sunday via our Church Website: [www.stmarysmotherwell.org.uk](http://www.stmarysmotherwell.org.uk)

I would remind folks that these services can also be watched, or listened to, throughout the week - either on the website or via telephone [01698 533200].

As I near the close of my Newsletter, I would like to pay tribute to all who have worked so hard, and so faithfully, to keep St Mary's Parish Church going strongly over the past months - including our wonderful staff, fantastic Elders, Junior Church Leaders and enthusiastic helpers and volunteers. Your dedication is appreciated by myself and by all in the Church Family.

I would also like to thank Rev John Thomson for covering both Services and Pastoral Work for me so well during my annual leave. It is a real blessing to have the support of 2 exceptional retired Ministers in our congregation. Many will know that Rev Arthur Barrie was in hospital for a planned operation recently. I am delighted to say that Arthur is on the road to recovery. We remember him, Elsie and the family in our prayers.

This academic year, I have been asked by the Church of Scotland Ministries Council to supervise a Ministry Student: Jillian Storrie. Jillian will become a part of our St Mary's Church Family from September until May next year. Jillian has already taken part in some of our morning online services and we look forward to getting to know her better in the months ahead. May God guide Jillian as she ministers among us.

As we go forward, if you, or anyone you know in the Church Family, needs any practical, or spiritual, help and support - please let me know. I can be contacted via telephone [Manse: 01698 328665/Mobile: 07401949831]. You can also contact me via E-Mail [BCalder@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:BCalder@churchofscotland.org.uk) Alternatively, you can contact your District Elder, or, our Church Secretary Margaret McCloy. Margaret is available via the Church Office Phone [01698 268554] or you can E-Mail her at: [margaret.mccloy@stmarysmotherwell.org.uk](mailto:margaret.mccloy@stmarysmotherwell.org.uk)

I will end with the note of encouragement that I began - with the words of Jesus: ***"Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*** [Matthew 28:20]

May these words give us hope, comfort and encouragement in the days ahead.

God Bless: Rev Bryce Calder





## Harvest

Our annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be held on **Sunday 4th October**.

The Congregational Harvest Gift this year will be donated to the local Basics Foodbank.

You can either create your own food parcel and drop it off at St Mary's at any of the designated times below, or, you can put a monetary donation in an envelope [which can again be handed into the church].

**Times for handing in Harvest donations are Tuesday 6th and Thursday 8th mornings from 10 am - 12 noon and Friday 9th evening from 6-8 pm.**

Currently the most needed items include:

- **UHT Long Life Milk**
- **Tinned Meats**
- **Tinned Potatoes**
- **Tinned Custard**
- **Long Grain Rice**
- **Small Jars of Coffee**

### **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.



## **An Introduction to Jillian Storrie, Ministry Student**

I'm Jillian Storrie. I've been an active member of St Ninian's Church Stonehouse since 1993. Over the years I've taught Sunday School, Bible Class and taken Youth Fellowship and helped lead lots of Holiday Clubs. Amongst other things, I was Clerk to the Congregational Board and Congregational Roll Keeper. I successfully completed the Presbytery led Word & Worship Course in January 2019. I was selected as a Candidate for Ministry within the Church of Scotland in June 2020 and I am delighted to be here at St Mary's for my first placement.

I am married to Bill and have one son, Stuart, 2 daughters Kirsten and Cara and a 3 yr old fur baby, Theo who is a working cocker spaniel and always up to mischief. My hobbies include listening to music, touring in our caravan and walks by the sea.

I will be with you all until May 2022 and I am looking forward to journeying with the folks of St Mary's Parish Church and hopefully getting to know you all during my time with you.

Yours in Him & for Him  
Jillian Storrie



A Prayer From Bryce [Taken From One of Our Summer Services]

**John**, in **His First Letter** to the **Churches**  
Writes this: **"GOD is LOVE"**  
[1 John 4:8]

And in the **Gospel** of **John** - **We** read these  
**words** of **JESUS**  
**"For GOD so loved the world**  
**that HE gave HIS only SON,**  
**JESUS..."**  
[John 3:16]

With **these thoughts** in **mind**, **let us pray**:

Love spoke,  
and Creation came into being.  
Love spoke,  
and everything came from nothing.  
Love speaks, saying:  
"Love Me, and you will know  
the Love at the heart of the Universe."  
**God of Love: We worship You.**

Love spoke,  
in parables and words of hope and  
healing.  
Love spoke,  
to those who were condemned and  
despised.  
Love speaks, saying:  
"Love Me, and you will know  
the saving Love that is real life."  
**God of Love: We worship You.**

Love spoke,  
in powerful words that all could  
understand.

Love spoke,  
Good News to the lost and loveless.

Love speaks, saying:  
"Love Me, and you will know  
that I live within your heart."

**God of Love: We worship You.**

Love spoke,  
words of comfort to the bereaved.

Love spoke,  
words of healing to the sick  
in body,  
mind and spirit.

Love speaks, saying:  
"Love Me, and you will know  
the Love that wipes away all tears."

**God of Love: We worship You.**

Love spoke,  
words of forgiveness from a Cross of  
Hate.

Love spoke,  
words of hope in an Easter Garden.

Love speaks, saying:  
"Love Me, and you will know  
the vastness of God's Love for you."

**God of Love: We worship You.**

**LORD, IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR THESE OUR  
PRAYERS  
IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHIRST OUR  
LORD: AMEN**





## FINANCIAL REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2020

The financial report to the end of August showed that our General Account was still showing a large reduction in comparison to the end of August 2019. However, our Congregation has been very active in handing in their donation envelopes and as a consequence the damage to our finances has not been as crippling as it could have been. In addition to that we have increased the number of members giving through Standing Order and this again has given us a steady income through the restrictions on Sunday morning meetings.

We are still showing, through the Treasurer's Financial Projection, that we may be faced with a deficit of £23,000 approx. We hope that with the ongoing support of our members this deficit may be reduced and will help minimize the amount of money requiring to be transferred from the Reserve Fund to balance this account.

We have also received a number of one-off donations from a number of members and these have been gratefully received.

Below I have listed some of the important figures in terms of income and expenditure. At present our offerings are down 4.7% in comparison to the same period last year, expenditure is on a par with last year. However, before the end of the financial year we have to pay our Ministry and Mission contribution which amounts to a sizeable figure of £42,000, paid in 4 instalments of £10,500. This expenditure will create great pressure on our budget.

I WOULD TO THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THIS DIFFICULT TIME. YOUR SUPPORT HAS BEEN ENCOURAGING AND SHOWS THAT WE HAVE A CONGREGATION THAT REALLY CARES ABOUT THE FUTURE WHETHER FINANCIAL OR OTHERWISE.

THE OUTLOOK A FEW MONTHS AGO WAS BLEAK BUT WITH YOUR DONATIONS THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHTER AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT, WITH GIVING CONTINUING AS IT HAS BEEN, WE WILL WEATHER THE STORM.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT AT 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2020

<u>OFFERINGS TO END OF AUGUST 2020</u>	<u>£77008</u>	
<u>OFFERINGS TO END OF AUGUST 2019</u>	<u>£80812</u>	
<u>DIFFERENCE</u>	<u>3804</u>	<u>-4.7%</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE TO END OF AUGUST 2020</u>	<u>£112,281</u>	
<u>EXPENDITURE TO END OF AUGUST 2019</u>	<u>£112,189</u>	
<u>DIFFERENCE</u>	<u>£92</u>	<u>+0.1%</u>

I would like to thank you all. Stay safe.

Kind regards

Leslie Innes

Finance and Stewardship Convenor

## DRAMA KIRK



### The Coming of the Messiah

**Drama Kirk's Online Bible Studies** continue with a new series this autumn; looking at the Messianic prophecies as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.

In the first study, we will focus on the prophecies of Isaiah, seeking to consider 3 questions together:

1. *Who was Isaiah?*
2. *What did he prophesy about the coming of the Messiah?*
3. *What hope did he leave for God's people, then and now?*

The evening will provide you with the opportunity to draw closer to bible characters through performed monologues and filmed scenes. You can see Isaiah being called to ministry by Almighty God himself; and how he responded. We will then look at his messianic prophecies from the perspective of a couple of New Testament characters, hearing their reflections on passages of Isaiah centuries later.

Included in the performances is a dramatization of the Suffering Servant passage, which we can explore from the perspective of modern-day people.

Finally, you will see a message of hope from our heavenly host, pictured.

You can join the study live on Tuesday 29 September at 7 pm on [www.youtube.com/HamiltonOld](http://www.youtube.com/HamiltonOld) where there will be opportunity to chat online and reflect on what we share together.

Further studies will follow as we journey with the prophets towards Christmas and the coming of Christ.

**For more information, contact Helen Calder [01698 328665]**





## GUILD

Our theme for this year is "The Extra Mile!, the third year of the Guild Strategy "One journey, many roads".

The new session is nearly here and it will be different from any experienced before. The Committee have had a Zoom planning meeting, with Marlene Thomson joining us on-line from Germany. Marlene was able to let us see her new grand-daughter. We truly give thanks for the wonders of modern technology in these strange times.

Jean Mitchell, our Secretary, has had a difficult task producing the syllabus as we are planning for our evenings prior to Christmas being via Zoom. We will Zoom on a fortnightly basis starting on Monday 5 October. We are lucky to have members of our congregation who are willing to join us in our virtual meetings. Our syllabus is shown below:

5 Oct	Bryce Calder	Opening Social
19 Oct	Isabel Johnstone	Virtual Annual Gathering
2 Nov	Paul Bradshaw	ScotGen
16 Nov	Helen Calder	Book Club
30 Nov	Bill Simpson	Scottish Night
14 Dec	Christmas Afternoon Tea	

Should any of the ladies in the congregation wish to join us just contact one of our members and we will send you log in details.

Our project this session will be supporting Crossreach - Join up the Dots project. This project tackles the problems of loneliness and social isolation in Scotland.

Join  
up the  
Dots

Through their work nationally in Scotland across all age ranges and segments of society, CrossReach comes across problems of loneliness and isolation and their effects on people's physical and mental wellbeing.

### Guild Week

During Guild week we have reached out to members of the Guild unable to attend in recent years by the sending of Guild cards.

We also have a challenge for the ladies of the Guild and any other knitters in the congregation. This is to knit Christmas Angels. The pattern is at the end of this magazine.

Information about this project can be found on Christmas angel.net. The aim is to share God's love and to bless the community in public and community spaces with a Christmas message. We will plan how to gather in and distribute our angels nearer Christmas.

Isabel Johnstone  
Guild President

**CROSSREACH**  
providing a caring future

The Guild normally supports Crossreach by purchasing calendars and Christmas cards.

This can still be done, but by logging on to the Crossreach website and ordering on-line. [shop.crossreach.org.uk](https://shop.crossreach.org.uk)

**Should anyone want a catalogue they should telephone 0131 454 4374. Orders can then be made by post or telephone.**

*There will be a postal charge which we normally avoid by ordering in bulk.*

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

As we head to what would have been the start of a New Session of the Fellowship, I hope and trust that you are all safe and well.

The COVID 19 situation and Guidance is changing on an almost daily basis, with no real possibility of our type of meeting taking place any time soon.

The Church of Scotland and Hamilton Presbytery have been very busy keeping us informed and up to date with all of the latest Guidance and its impact on church life, (we are now on version 6 of the Guidance which runs to 60 pages, a long and careful read).

As I was considering this article the First Minister announced further changes on the 10<sup>th</sup> September, which for all of our protection, further tightens and restricts our ability to meet with others, again moving the possibility of meeting even further away.

A number of organisations have been using the Zoom facility available on computers, smart phone and notebooks to hold "virtual meetings" and this is an option which we are exploring for the Fellowship.

I would thank you for your continued support and will keep you informed of our thoughts on the way ahead.

Allan Joyce  
President



## YOUR PROPERTY MATTERS

Hi folks hope you are all well and doing all you can to keep going. The church and the halls although not being used very much at the moment still require some work. We have been very lucky that our ever dedicated and endlessly talented Church Officer Ian Beattie is able to do most of it, to a very high standard and saving us a fortune. Thanks Ian.

Those of you who have been lucky enough to attend the brief services will have noticed the addition of hand rails to the Chancel steps. These hand rails will help ensure all users of the church can enter and leave the chancel much easier and safer than before. Howard Rennie, who managed the project, has been able to get hand rails fitted that look as if they have always been there and are very in keeping with the traditional look of our Sanctuary. I'd like to thank Howard for his dedication and perseverance in getting the hand rails fitted, at not just a challenging time for trades people and suppliers, but also a very challenging time for him personally, Howard, the Property Team thanks you on behalf of the congregation.

In the near future we will to have 2 cameras fitted in the Sanctuary that will allow the services to be streamed live on a Sunday morning, I won't say too much about this, as I'm sure Bryce will update everyone once they are fitted and operational. I'd like to thank Stewart Maxwell for his drive and determination in getting the cameras fitted.

As the nation heads towards a return to Organisations being able to meet, the property team and the Church Management Group are looking at ways to ensure users of the Halls and Church can return safely and legally, there will be updates soon.

I'd like to end with thanking everyone who assists the Property Team, especially my predecessor William McNair who continues to be on hand to give sound advice and assistance and I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Alan Joyce - Property Convenor

## *Virtual Summer Camp 2020*



No one could have predicted that after several weeks of the country being in lockdown in the midst of a global pandemic, we would be planning a Boys' Brigade camp where the boys weren't able to meet or take part in activities and games together...but that is exactly where we found ourselves as an officer team in June this year.

We discussed how a virtual camp might work and what activities might be possible but to be honest after around 3 months of home schooling by then we were not convinced that the boys would want to engage...it seemed inconceivable that they would want to take part in something that was undoubtedly the poor relation to the real thing!

But we like a challenge in 13<sup>th</sup> Motherwell and with an enthusiastic and committed officer team we put together a programme of events that would get us as close to a 'real' camp experience as we could get.

From Saturday 27 June till Wednesday 1 July we used all the technology and social media platforms available to us to engage the boys in activities and challenges that would get them out and active while still complying with all the governmental safety rules.

### **So how did it work?**

We normally follow a tried and tested programme at camp with one main/big activity each day so we copied this formula for our virtual camp - set up day, hillwalk day, and outdoor activities days.

We launched the 2020 Virtual Camp with a video from the Captain from the Avon Street door of the church and each day thereafter the officers took turns to post videos on Twitter of the challenges and activities for that day.

At 'real' camp we also have a whiteboard where we write up the plan for the day so the boys can see where they need to be,... ..when they need to be there and what they need to bring with them (it save loads of questions!) so for 'virtual' camp we did exactly the same - the whiteboard was written up at the start of each day with the instructions to compliment the video instruction, a photo was taken of it and posted on Twitter for the boys to see and follow.

The boys then rose to the challenges and as they were doing the activities took photos or videos and posted them on twitter for everyone to see (they are still there if you want to see: @captainmaxi).

### **What did we do?**

On the first day the challenge was to put up a tent in the garden or if you didn't have access to a tent to build a den inside - the idea was to sleep somewhere other than your normal bed so it felt like you were at camp. The boys were also asked to download an application on their phones (Strava) that would allow them to record their physical activity in the same place as everyone else at virtual camp...in anticipation of the activities coming later in the week...

On the Sunday we joined the online St Mary's service before heading off for a big walk to replicate our normal hill walk - some of the boys took their dog for a big walk, some walked round the Strathclyde park or

Barons Haugh - lots of exploring locally on foot...and even a summit of Tinto!

A big part of camp is tent inspection where we make sure the boys keep their tents and all their stuff tidy...so Mr Mitchell recorded a guide to room inspection for the parents who were then encouraged to conduct room inspection each day and award points!

We also provided the parents with a video recording of Mr Greenhorn conducting his famous wake up call...just so the boys had as authentic an experience as possible!!

Sunday evenings at camp are always our football tournament so this year Mr Boal set the boys some football drills to practice and show off their skills.

Day three would normally have been an outdoor activity day so we set the boys the challenge of getting on their bikes or scooters and clocking up some miles - we wanted to log the equivalent miles of travelling to Aviemore and back again over the course of the five days virtual camp. Mr Weir and Mr Brown launched the cycling challenge from the grounds of the church and Mr Weir even managed to make a mid-camp visit to Badaguish to post a motivational video to encourage the boys to keep going towards the total.

Mr Wedlock set the boys some fitness challenges to test their fitness on Monday which could be used again to help build strength and fitness.

On Tuesday the boys were challenged to keep clocking up miles either by walking, running or cycling and the boys (and officers, church elders and friends!) certainly rose to this challenge tackling routes all over the wider local area and even some trips into Glasgow!



The Day 4 sport of choice was rugby and Mr Joyce set the boys some rugby drills to try out - there were some impressive videos posted on Twitter in response to this!

The final challenge was set by camp chef Mr Beattie - he challenged the boys to prepare their own signature dish and share the results with us - the response to this was phenomenal with everyone throwing themselves into this. We had soups, curries, Mexican fajitas, chilli, cakes, all sorts of pastas, burgers, pie-and-beans and apple crumble - all looked brilliant and hopefully tasted as good!

For our last day we revisited some of the earlier activities and continued to clock up miles towards our total before all meeting up online via the zoom platform for Mr Reid's legendary camp quiz. Earlier in the day the boys had been delivered a 'tucky' goodie bag (courtesy of the coffee bar stock) to make up for no camp tuck shop!

We had over 40 of us (boys, officers, church elders and the minister!) on the zoom call enjoying sweets and fellowship, being as together as we could be in the circumstances...and yes the quiz was still as hard!

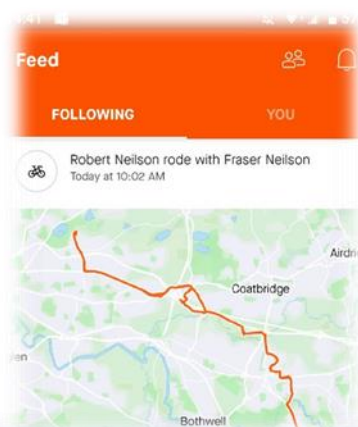
During the camp the boys had been asked to take a head and shoulders photograph of themselves in their BB hoodie and send it in...the photograph at the head of this article is the collation of these individual photographs set against the backdrop of our usual campsite at Badaguish in Aviemore...not quite our usual official camp photograph but a memorable one none the less!

So despite our uncertainty before launching a 'virtual' Boys' Brigade camp, the combination of innovative and enthusiastic officers ideas, a group of cracking boys and supportive parents and friends in the congregation our Camp 2020 surpassed all our expectations and actually worked out really well in the circumstances (and there was no midges!).

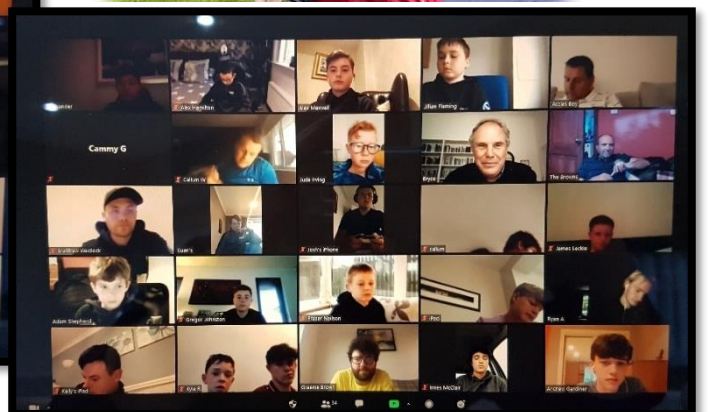
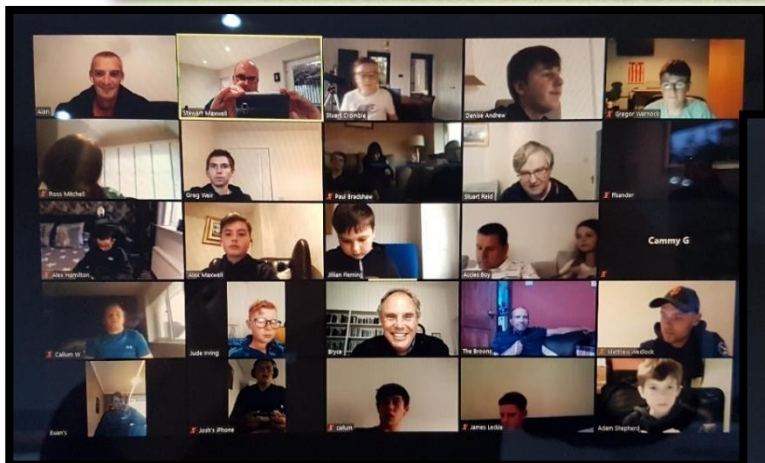
While we now have a formula for virtual camps I really hope that we never have to use it again and I know that we are all really looking forward to Camp 2021...midges included!

Captain Stewart Maxwell

13TH MOTHERWELL BB VIRTUAL CAMP 2020	
DAY 2 : THE 'HILLWALK'	
<u>TIMES:</u> <u>9 AM</u> BREAKFAST	<u>YOU WILL NEED:</u> WAKE UP CALL!
<u>11 AM</u> CHURCH SERVICE <a href="http://www.stmarysmotherwell.org.uk/live">www.stmarysmotherwell.org.uk/live</a>	DEVICE + INTERNET BEVERAGE OF CHOICE + HOME BAKING :)
<u>PM</u> GET OUT FOR A WALK & START CLOCKING UP MILES!	TRAINERS, WATERPROOF DEVICE WITH STRAVA DRINKS & SNACKS
<u>EVE</u> FOOTBALL WITH MR PAUL	WATCH THE VIDEOS ON TWITTER & DO THE DRILLS & FILM YOURSELF
#BOYSBRIGADE #13MBBvirtualcamp	



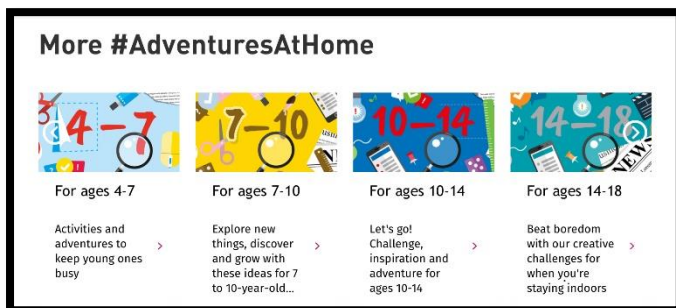




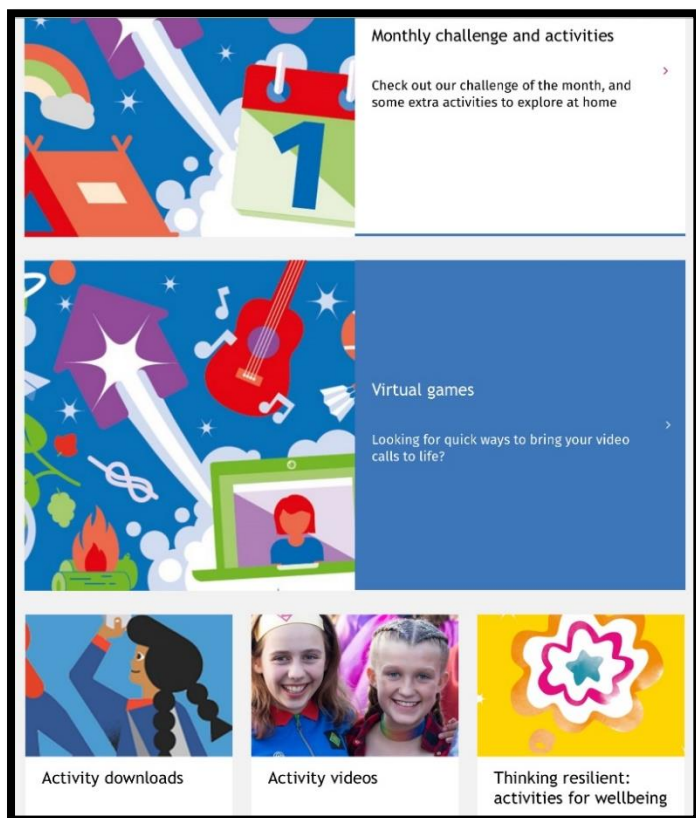




Girlguiding continues to provide materials on line for Guiding at Home until the girls can once again meet in our church halls. A selection shown below can be accessed via the Girlguiding website.



Monthly challenges are also available as shown below for all our age groups.



Recently we heard from Girlguiding Scotland that the Scottish Outdoor Activity Centre in the Scottish Borders will not be re-opening. Many of us have spent enjoyable times at Netherurd. We have stayed in the Garden House with Brownies, camped in the grounds at Unit, Division, County and International camps. We have used it as an overnight base on Duke of Edinburgh Award Expeditions. The Georgian House has also been visited by Guiders, past and present and our current Trefoil Guild ladies. It will be sorely missed.

On a more positive note our own Brownie House and campsite in the Clyde Valley is looking beautiful as can be seen from pictures taken in August. Currently plans are afoot to make alterations and redecorate while it is not being used. It will be ready to welcome us all back when residential weekends are allowed.



## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Hi everyone!

With all that's been happening over the past 6 months, I feel that now, more than ever, that the support the Prayer Shawl Ministry offers, can help to let someone know that you are thinking about them. The warmth each shawl or square brings, lets the recipient know that someone cares enough to give this gift, and in doing so, helps them feel connected and part of our Church family.



Over the past few months our members have used this lockdown time to knit beautiful shawls and squares in all the colours of the rainbow, and I would just like to take this opportunity to thank each and every person for their contribution.

I'm sure most of you will know of someone who might benefit from the warmth, love and best wishes a Prayer Shawl brings, so please contact me on (07826) 928656 and we can arrange collection.

Best wishes

*Clare x*

*You are not alone even when you feel lonely.*



# UPDATE

Christian Aid is responding to the coronavirus outbreak in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and is working together with partners and faith leaders to inform people about the risks, offer vital hygiene training, equip health facilities with supplies, and provide food packages to the most marginalised families. At this time of pandemic, any additional disasters are particularly difficult to deal with. As you will no doubt have read, the explosion in Beirut, Lebanon, devastated heavily populated areas, killing nearly 150 people and injuring more than 5,000. More than 750,000 people have been affected by this terrible disaster which has left families out on the streets with no food, shelter or emergency medical care. Christian Aid's local partners are reaching out to the most vulnerable to offer help.

If you can, please have a look at Christian Aid's website - [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk) - for more details on Christian Aid's work and how we can help.

Margaret MacGregor



# Junior Church News!

## Summer Club...

We had a super virtual week at the end of July. The children, Summer Club team and families in our church and organisations enjoyed taking part in "Still together while apart" The week, organised by Jennifer and Hazel was filled with crafts and activities for each day. Launched each morning on twitter, Bryce, Jennifer and Hazel introduced the daily theme and crafts. The week ended with a super slide show, showcasing over 145 entries! It was also great to see our yellow clad team enjoying a tea break.. and our children being creative making t-shirts, stained glass windows and friendship bracelets. We missed being together in the church, singing and laughing together, but all who took part had fun.. knowing that many others were busy too and thinking about God's people.. wherever we were taking part. (some.. including Bryce and Helen.. even managed to take part from their holiday !)

## Christian Aid...

As a Junior Church and as a congregation we have made an excellent contribution to the work of Christian Aid again this year. This will go towards the continuing work in third world countries. A **BIG** thank you to all who supported the children. This year our virtual challenges included making a red photo collage and taking part in a sponsored garden keep fit challenge. Christian Aid were so delighted with our efforts that they have included many of our pictures in their recent publication. Keep a look out for some very familiar families!

## Lock down...

Although we have not been at church for a few months now, we have all enjoyed sharing in worship online. A particular highlight of each service has been the Junior Church Challenges. Our families, and wider church family have all been very busy each week and our entries have been really creative. We have made pebbles and plants, birds in our garden, taken photographs in our gardens, completed quizzes..... the list goes on. Many of creations can be found on twitter or on our church web page. A display is also on the church gates for passers-by to admire on their daily walks. Our sincere thanks to all who have taken part, we really do appreciate it.

*The gallery of entries can be seen throughout the magazine.*

## Sunflowers....

We also sent each family in our Junior Church an envelope of sunflower seeds. Each week before the service we will keep you up to date on the progress of our flowers during the slide show. Some are very impressive in size already. All we need now is some sunshine.



*This is Molly Brown's entry.*

*I think the Newcastle sunshine has helped!*

# Junior Church Postcard Challenge 2020...



Postcards already received in the Church Office are shown below. Fife seems to be a popular destination for our staycations. Keep your cards coming.







We are living in unprecedented times when each week brings with it new rules of living, many of which we find hard to understand. I believe that God is touching hearts, opening doors and creating the right breaks and opportunities. We must stand firm in our faith and trust that God will make a way.

The Scottish Bible Society has produced an extra summer edition of *Transform* in order to bring encouraging stories of how God's Word is not chained during this pandemic, either in Scotland or around the world. We read that with physical contact limited, Bible Societies have been working quickly to make resources available online. Moldova in north-eastern Europe has delivered to remote communities 300 food baskets, each containing a copy of the Bible. In Syria 28,000 Bibles and Scripture storybooks have been distributed to children since Easter and it is estimated that 100,000 children will have been reached by the end of the year. Closer to home in Durness and Kinlochbervie, Rev Andrea Boyes and the Church of Scotland have been providing practical support to their community through a foodbank programme called 'Boxes of Blessing'. These boxes contain food supplies along with a copy of Mark's Gospel in an attractive magazine format. There are many stories being told of how countries, although in lockdown, are making a way to help their people who are so much in need.

Many people have downloaded Bible 2020 and hear the Word of God spoken each new day. Sam Harrell, Delaware, USA, tells what it means to him:

"I love the Bible 2020 app as it is such a demonstration of the move of God's Spirit to draw a world to himself through the Holy Word of God. It is wonderful to join the public wall and read together God's Word with brothers and sisters in so many countries. It is so wonderful to hear God's Word in so many languages.

Thank you for this wonderful ministry!"

**Scottish Bible Society**  
**Just Giving - St Mary's Motherwell**  
**Autumn Fund-raiser**

St Mary's Church has a long history of supporting the Scottish Bible Society and this year our Minister Bryce Calder has set up a Just Giving page to raise money. You can find it by entering <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/bryce-calder> or by looking up **Just Giving St Mary's Motherwell Autumn Fund Raiser**.

In lieu of our Annual Sponsored Walk round Strathclyde Country Park, Bryce, Helen and Amber (their dog) will set out to walk round the park at 2 pm on Saturday, 19 September. Should you wish to sponsor them and give a donation to Just Giving Page, please use the above details, or simply follow the link shown after the Online Sunday Morning Service over the next few weeks. Details will also be available on the St Mary's website. Members may also wish to take part in the walk and can do so in their own time during the month of September/October.

I would like to thank you for your continued valued prayers and support especially at this difficult time.  
Keep safe and God bless.

Margaret Carrol [Motherwell Action Group]

## FLOWER LIST

### SEPTEMBER

6th	Mrs N Smith	Imlach Place
13th	Mrs Loughridge	Merry Street
	Friends of Irene Nimmo	
20th	Mrs N Ross	Hillhead Drive
	Mrs N Thomson	John Murray Court
27th	Mrs J Turner	Skellyton Farm
	Mrs M Joyce	Shields Road
	Mrs J Findlay	Kerr Grieve Ct

### OCTOBER

4th	Mr A Joyce (Jnr)	Dunbar Drive
	Ms B Aitkenhead	Neilsland Drive
11th	Mrs S Forrest	Airbles Drive
18th	Mrs I Dougal	Thomson Drive
	Miss V Craig	Viewpark Road
25th	Mrs Currie	Alexander Gibson Way

### NOVEMBER

1st	Mrs M Graham	Avon Street
	Mrs L Huggins	Garrion
	Mrs J Weir	Overtown
8th	Mrs S Sinclair	Ailsa Avenue
	Mrs A Corbett	Heathfield
15th	Mrs M McCloy	Greenacres View
	Mrs D Livingstone	Manse Road
22nd	Miss J Graham	Broomside Crescent
	Mrs R Milligan	Lauder Court, Hamilton
29th	Mr S McCue-Dick	Glenhead Dr



Flowers are still being sent by June Graham, on our behalf, on special occasions in the lives of our members.

### Accessing our Church Service using the YouTube function on your Television -

Should your television allow you access to YouTube you should be able to catch up on our Sunday Service of Worship.

This *may* be possible with those using Virgin or Sky, without internet access.

Just search for St Mary's Motherwell and choose the most recent service.

### Useful Contacts

Minister: Bryce Calder	01698 328665
Church and Halls:	01698 268554
Telephone listening	
Church Service:	01698 533200



twitter@stmarysmwell  
twitter@bryce\_calder



St Marys Parish Church Motherwell

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





## GUILD CHALLENGE - CHRISTMAS ANGEL PATTERN



### What you will need:

Some wool (in any yarn or colour)  
Darning needle

Knitting needles (between size 10-8 (3.25 mm and 4 mm))  
Small amount of stuffing (cotton wool balls could be used)

### The Pattern - Angel Body

Cast on 48 sts

1. Knit row
2. Purl row
3. K2TOG, K10\*, repeat until end
4. Purl row
5. Knit row
6. P2TOG, P9\*, repeat until end
7. Knit row
8. Purl row
9. K2TOG, K8\*, repeat until end
10. Purl row
11. Knit row
12. P2TOG, P7\*, repeat until end
13. Knit Row
14. Purl Row
15. K2TOG, K6\*, repeat until end
16. Purl row
17. Knit row
18. P2TOG, P5\*, repeat until end
19. Knit row
20. Purl row
21. K2TOG, K4\*, repeat until end • 20 sts
22. Purl row
23. Knit row
24. Purl row
25. Knit row
26. Purl row
27. Knit row

At this point, you can change your colour to create the face if you want.

- 28 Purl row
- 29 Knit row
- 30 Purl row
- 31 Knit row
- 32 Purl row
- 33 Knit row
- 34 Purl row
- 35 K2TOG • repeat until end
- 36 Purl row
- 37 Knit row
- 38 P2TOG • repeat until end

Using a darning needle, thread the end of the yarn through the stitches and tighten to create the top of the head. Turn the angel inside out and sew up the head and the body. Around the neck, take a small amount of stuffing and place at the top of the head, then thread some yarn between stitches and pull loosely together.

### Angel Wings

#### Option 1

Cast on 27 sts

1. Knit row
2. Knit row
3. Decrease at each end (Knit)
4. Knit
5. Knit 12 rows, decrease at each end cast off



Sew wings to body.

### Angel Wings

#### Option 2 - more advanced

The wings are knitted in short rows, with the yarn wrapped around the last stitch in the middle of each ridge.

To complete this you need to bring your yarn forward, slip the stitch over purlwise, take the yarn back again, replace the slipped stitch, bring the yarn forward again and turn the work.

Cast on 9 sts (w&t = wrap and turn)

- 1 K8, w&t, K8
- 2 K6, w&t, K6
- 3 K4, w&t, K4,
- 4 K2, w&t, K2
- 5 K4, w&t, K4
- 6 K6, w&t, K6

Repeat these 6 rows, 4-5 times as necessary.