

# ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity No: SC012233



# EASTER 2021

Bulletin No 349



# OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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## *FUNERALS*

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

<u>2020</u>	
11 Dec	Stephen Hinson
11 Dec	Charlotte McGinn
16 Dec	Casandra (Sandra) Martin
21 Dec	Hugh McDonald
<u>2021</u>	
23 Jan	Mary Miller
29 Jan	Mary Anderson
29 Jan	Jean Kellow
23 Feb	William Weir
24 Feb	Thomas Reid
5 Mar	Gavin Laird
8 Mar	Jean Pritchard

### **AN EASTER PRAYER**

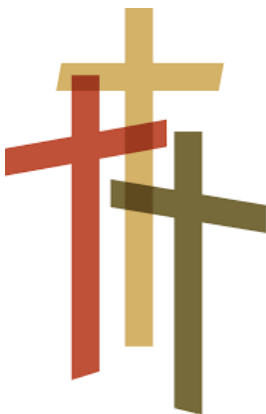
Glory be to You,  
God our Strength and our Redeemer.

The vacant cross and the empty tomb  
vindicate Your claim  
that the love which suffers  
is the love which saves.

So fill Your people with joy,  
and Your Church with celebration,  
that the world may know  
that Your Son Jesus  
is not a dead hero we commemorate,  
but the Living Lord whom we worship forever.

In His blessed name we pray these words:

***Amen***





Manse of St Mary's

March 2021

Dear Friends:

### COVID-19 AND CHURCH SERVICES

Exactly one year ago the world was starting to face up to the threat of the new Covid-19 Pandemic.

Initial stories, in January 2020, of a novel SARS like virus in the Chinese city of Wuhan seemed remote and far off. By early March, though, Covid-19 had led to lockdowns in parts of Italy and rising cases were being reported in the UK. Scotland's first Covid-19 death was recorded on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

Speaking to a committee of MPs on 17<sup>th</sup> March, the UK Government's Chief Scientific Officer, Sir Patrick Vallance, said that keeping the national death toll to under 20,000 would be a 'good result' from the Covid-19 Pandemic. Then, on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, during a live broadcast, PM Boris Johnston announced a national lockdown for the whole of the UK.

At the time, few of us believed that we would still be in a state of lockdown a year later, nor that over 120,000 UK citizens would lose their lives to this new and highly infectious disease.

The past year has been a traumatic one in so many ways: life as we know it has changed dramatically. With the vaccine rollout, though, there is now a glimmer of hope for a better and safer future.

Throughout the last year of the Covid-19 Pandemic, our Sunday Services have been held live online via the Church Website.

Huge thanks are due to Colin Barr and his company 'Limelight Networks' for broadcasting these services for us. For those without Internet access, we have also been able to share the services using a dedicated local telephone line. Statistical evidence shows that several hundred people are regularly participating in our worship 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 year and this has been very encouraging.

Following the First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon's, recent announcements concerning services of worship, I am glad to announce that *St Mary's Parish Church* will be able to resume services with an 'in-person' congregation from Easter Sunday onwards. According to Scottish Government regulations, numbers will initially be limited to no more than 50 people - all of whom must provide track and trace details. The 'in-person' congregation will be required to wear face masks when in Church and will not be permitted to sing. The services will, of course, continue to be broadcast live on-line and via the dedicated telephone line as normal.

If you would like to be a part of the in-person congregation, you must book a place each week. **Places can be booked by calling the Church Office [01698 268554] between 10.00 and 11.00 am on the Monday preceding each service.** It is at this stage that your track and trace details will be taken. If, when you call, the limit for the coming week's service has already been exceeded you will be offered a place at the following week's service. Booking places for a Church Service is far from ideal but it is the only straightforward way that we can proceed in the weeks and months ahead.

## HOLY WEEK

Like last year, Holy Week Services will be held on-line. The services will be available to watch from 7.00 pm onwards each night [via the Church Website] and will continue to be available thereafter for catch-up purposes.

This year the Holy Week Services will follow the chronology of Jesus' journey to the Cross as told in Mark's Gospel. As well as myself, the services will feature a number of Guest Preachers. The Maundy Thursday Service will incorporate a celebration of Holy Communion.

## DRAMA KIRK PASSION PLAY

This year's Passion Play by Drama Kirk [our local inter-church drama group] is called "*With Arms Wide Open*". It is a half hour play based on a fresh exploration of the Passion, from Luke's perspective, as he hears first-hand accounts from those changed by Jesus.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, and ongoing restrictions on public gatherings, "*With Arms Wide Open*" will not be performed live but, rather, will be broadcast online. It will be available to watch from Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2.00 pm onwards on the YouTube channel of Hamilton Old Parish Church: [youtube.com/HamiltonOld](https://www.youtube.com/HamiltonOld)

If you look closely you may recognise the lovely angel at the end of the play!

## EASTER

Alongside Christmas and Pentecost, Easter is one of the 3 main Christian Festivals of the Church Year; for many it is the key Christian Festival.

The Easter Message is one of hope and redemption as we remember Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross at Calvary, for us and all humanity, and as we celebrate His subsequent Resurrection.

The ancient Easter proclamation '*Christ is Risen: He is Risen indeed!*' is something that continually sustains us in our Christian life - not least over the past year.

May the Risen Lord Jesus continue to be with each and all of us this Easter and beyond as we journey forward into what we hope will be brighter days ahead. And may we always remember Jesus' last great promise to His disciples: "***Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.***" [Matthew 28:20]

I wish each and all of you a very happy, peaceful and blessed Easter.

Your Friend & Pastor:

**Rev Bryce Calder**



The Rev Bryce Calder has been re-appointed Interim Moderator of Cambusnethan North Parish Church following the retirement of Rev Mhorag MacDonald on 14 February 2021.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Unfortunately, because of Government restrictions and Virus control we have been unable to convene an Annual Business Meeting, normally held in February, to discuss particularly our financial position as at the end of 2020. This meeting will be held in time when it is safe to do so.

From March 2020 onward we were unable to meet together for worship in the Church building and this led us to presume that our financial resources would be stretched to the limit. A projected deficit of anything between £20,000 and £40,000 was feared and in the early part of the lockdown it seemed that our projection might have been correct. However, during the year, we had many more members begin to sign up for giving by Standing Order and for the Gift Aid Scheme. Giving per month through Standing Order payments, increased from pre pandemic levels of £4,000 to an extra-ordinary level of over £7,000. Allied to that the effort made by our members to return their Free Will Offering envelopes to the Church, while out taking exercise, the financial result at the end of 2020 was a whole lot better than anticipated.

Our Congregational Account, the account that is used on a day-by-day basis, to pay our bills and honour our financial commitments, showed a small deficit of £1,495. This, compared to our initial projection, was a good result.

We have, at present, adequate funds in our Reserve Fund and in our Fabric Fund. However, these may be put under pressure if full restrictions are not lifted in the near future.

Having looked at our end of year report it would appear that this year we have given less to Special Collections and to other Charities and this will become apparent when you have sight of the end of year report. The explanation for this is that we have continued to give generously to other organisations through 'Just Giving' pages on the internet. When giving is done in this way it will not appear in our Accounts.

As usual we have the Financial Statistics concerning Weekly Freewill Offerings produced by Myra McArdle and the Statistics regarding Church membership by Margaret McCloy.

It is important to note that Church membership in 2020 declined as undernoted:

### **Year ended December 2020**

Opening No on Roll	Removal from Roll			Admitted By Profession	Closing No on Roll
	Death	Certificate	Other-wise		
636	20	1	9	5	611



## Financial Report to February 2021

I reported at our last Management Meeting as follows:

### ANNUAL COMPARISONS

Offerings to end of February 2021	£16,848
Offerings to end of February 2020	£20,000
Difference	£3,152 (-15.8%)

### PROJECTED DEFICIT FOR 2021 - £4,017

All of the above figures are produced by Stuart Reid, our Treasurer. I would like to thank him for his very hard work throughout the year. I would also thank Myra McArdle and Margaret McCloy for their work and statistical analysis.

In conclusion I would thank you all for your support. We have many challenges to face in 2021 and I am sure that we can meet them all, both financially and otherwise. Please continue your support, it is greatly appreciated.

Leslie Innes  
Finance Convenor



Rosaline's floral delights at the Guild Zoom meeting.

## YOUR PROPERTY MATTERS

As we now head towards spring, summer and the return of services from church, the property team have been busy maintaining our wonderful buildings over the winter months. Sadly, the big ash tree in the grounds has now been fully removed before it became dangerous due to being infected with Ash Dieback. This has changed the look of our grounds, we will look at various options to replace the tree in due course.

The Church and Manse have had the yearly gutter cleaning.

We have had a couple of issues with water, from burst pipes due to frost, radiators leaking and minor roof leaks due to wind and storms, thankfully there has been no significant (expensive) damage to our buildings. Some flooring has been replaced in the conference room due to water damage, but it now looks as good as new.

The Monday Maintenance Team are already planning their return to duties, I thank Howard and the team in advance for all they will achieve.

I'm sure, like me, everyone is looking forward to the services again being delivered from our beautiful church building and the return of congregations to enjoy the church, the church building is expertly maintained all year but particularly during a challenging winter by our Church Officer Ian Beattie, on behalf of the committee I'd again like to thank him for all he does for the church and the buildings.

If anyone has any questions regarding any property matters please contact me or any of the Property Committee.

All the best  
Alan Joyce



## GUILD

The Guild programme to the end of the year continued via Zoom. In November we had a fabulous evening organised by Bill Simpson who co-ordinated a number of our church members to entertain us. A video was produced with a Scottish Theme. The ladies, joined by the Men's Fellowship had a most enjoyable evening.

In December our Christmas evening began with a poem from Maureen Dick followed by entertainment provided by the children of our congregation. We had singing, dancing, poetry, and magic. A wide selection of talent appeared before us via a video giving us a most enjoyable evening. We are very appreciative of the work put in by parents and children to produce the video.

The evening concluded with a visit from Santa who hoped that we would all get a present of the Covid-19 vaccination in the New Year.

We started off our New Year with a visit from David Shaw of the Basics Food Bank updating us on their plans for the future and the ever-increasing demands on their supplies.

This was followed by Chris Mitchell who gave us an insight into the Whisky Industry and also entertained us in song.

On 6 February we had our Project Night led by Joyce Knox when we heard from Euan McIntyre from CrossReach. Euan brought us up to date with the work of CrossReach and our Join the Dots Project.

On 22 February we had a visit from Jillian Storrie who shared her journey to the Ministry with us. It was good to welcome Jillian and gave her a chance to talk to many of us.

Each evening we end in Breakout rooms for a chat with friends which has enabled us to talk to a variety of our members. We are lucky to have around 30 ladies meeting every 2 weeks. Those who are unable to join us are always in our thoughts and prayers.

The Guild continue to interact with our young people and have been producing chickens with eggs to add to the Easter packs going to the Junior Church. Once again, we had lots of knitting and were able to give to more of the young people in our other organisations too.



We completed our official session with a visit from the Rev Fiona Nicholson who spoke on our theme. At our AGM we had a visit from Rosaline Ward who shared her flower arranging talents with us.

We hope to continue to have zoom meetings and keep in touch as we move towards the summer when hopefully we will be able to meet friends and family and worship once more in our church building.

Isabel Johnstone  
Guild President

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Since the last edition of the Magazine the Fellowship has joined the digital age and we have been meeting through the medium of the ZOOM facility and over this time we have had 7 meetings where those able to attend have enjoyed the limited fellowship afforded by the constraints of the facility. We also enjoyed and appreciated being invited to join with the Guild in a celebration of things Scottish event on St Andrews Night, an excellent presentation in word, music, and song.

It was good to be able to welcome to our meetings John Patfield, who has been unable to attend meetings at the church but was able to join us online and Willie McNair who joined us from his new home in South Shields.

Secretary Alan gave us an update on all the things that had been going on in and around the church property during lockdown, with before and after pictures for the works.

In our last meeting before the Christmas break, he introduced a light-hearted quiz, relying on the honesty of the participants to mark their own answers.

We would also thank Alan for his amusing and informative Newsletters.

January 2021 and our minister Bryce gave an interesting look over the past year and using the Reading from Isaiah 43; 18 - 21 reminded us "Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old." But to consider the new things the way forward into the future.

Bryce was involved at our next meeting which Alan titled "A Bit of Burns" where as part of the night he gave his excellent rendering of Tam O' Shanter while the President gave a tortured version of the "Address to the Toothache". Musical items featuring views of Glasgow and the Scottish countryside were presented by Callum Grier and Fraser Joyce.

On 15<sup>th</sup> February it was again the turn of our Secretary Alan, where mounted and cycling on his "turbo training bike" told of his part in the "Doddie Weir Gump Challenge" where he had cycled on the training bike 240 miles in one day. He had a power point presentation about Doddie and Doddie Weir Aid, which also showed an online zoom call he had with Ally McCoist, Ally was one of the many celebrities taking part in the challenge and sharing his experiences with the other participants.

On Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March we had a Lenten Theme when I presented a reflection on the Life and Passion of Jesus in the form of a presentation using photographs taken during a visit to The Holy Land and material from the 2010 presentation of the Oberammergau Passion Play.

Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> March and it was with a great deal of sadness that we paid tribute to Bobby Liddell whose sudden death had been announced. Bobby had been instrumental in reviving the fortunes of the Fellowship when he had taken over as President in 1999 a position he held until moving to Doune in 2005. His was a presence which moulded and guided all that he touched in both church and community, a presence which will be revered and remembered by all who knew him.

The session was ended with a brain teasing Quiz compiled by a new quizmaster in the person of Bryce, whose choice of well-presented questions was much appreciated. Looking forward we hope and trust that we may soon be back in our usual meeting place in the church and in the meantime Alan and I will try and call other Zoom Meetings over the summer months.

Allan Joyce  
President



## ***Lockdown Session Update...***

While we have not been able to run our BB session 'normally' since March 2020, we have been keeping in touch with the boys and their parents and have been able to offer some one-off virtual events in addition to promoting the National BB organised #BBatHome materials.

Even when lockdown restrictions were eased at the end of 2020 (and hopefully will be again soon) it was very difficult as a large BB Company to operate within the Boys Brigade/Youth Link Scotland/Church of Scotland and Scottish Government guidelines that all place (rightly) onerous requirements on our team of volunteer leaders and significantly restrict what we are able to do as a BB company. As a team of officers and based on some feedback from the boys we decided that small group (maximum 15 boys and officers) meetings outside in the church grounds on a dark December night were not viable and that we would wait until we could meet in a more 'normal' BB environment.

While it doesn't look like we will be back in the church hall for a while, I am attending an online BB workshop on 'Moving your company outside' in the hope that we might be able to organise something after the school Easter holidays...at least it is lighter and hopefully dryer in April!!

### **VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING**

The virtual coffee morning was an idea that we came up with to replace our famous Christmas Coffee Morning and bring a little

festive cheer to everyone. The response was overwhelming - all of our boys, parents, wider families, friends in the congregation and friends further afield joined in.

We shared virtual coffees and cakes together on the morning of Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December and posted photos on Twitter. The coffee morning is normally our one big fundraiser of the year and people had intimated that they would still like to support us financially so we set up a JustGiving online appeal and also thanks to Heather Greenhorn, Stephanie Barr, Anne Corbett, Elizabeth Blackwood and Paul Bradshaw also managed to offer some of the treats you would normally buy on the morning.

Our JustGiving appeal raised £2003 and along with our virtual coffee packs, Christmas crafts, exclusive bottling of Ginger Wine and some generous donations this all helped to raise a **fantastic total of £2600** for company funds.

This has allowed us to cover our national BB subscriptions for this year so that we can remain as a company, with a little left over to have some special events once we do get back together.

A big thank you to everyone who supported the BB in any way for our first and hopefully last virtual coffee morning.

## PRESIDENTS BADGES

This year we have 6 boys who will gain their President's Badge. This is the culmination of 4 years in the Company Section having worked through the Discovery Awards scheme, a period of Christian faith development, carried out service to the company or community and been to a camp or other overnight event. The final part is participation in a leadership development course known as Building Your Skills which is normally run by the Battalion but in the current situation the boys joined a virtual course with boys from all over the country that was being run by the National BB.

## QUEENS BADGES

This year we have 8 boys who are in the final stages of their work towards the Queen's Badge. It is obviously proving a bit trickier this year than normal! Fortunately, many of the boys had started work on their QB programme during S5 so had lots already done before restrictions came in...the boys supported Ups and Downs Theatre Group during their show week in March 2020 just literally days before the national lockdown!

Since then many of the boys have also helped in the church response to the first lockdown and supported members of the congregation and wider community by organising groceries, running errands and undertaking gardening for those who were unable to get out. In doing so they brought peace of mind and a cheery face into people's lives during a very worrying time...I couldn't be prouder as a Captain for the initiative shown by these boys and I know that this service was hugely appreciated.

Like the President's Badge boys, the Queen's Badge leadership training that would normally take place over a weekend at Carronvale House moved to an online version

and our boys joined boys from all over the UK on a nationally organised version of the 'Skills for Queen's Badge' course.

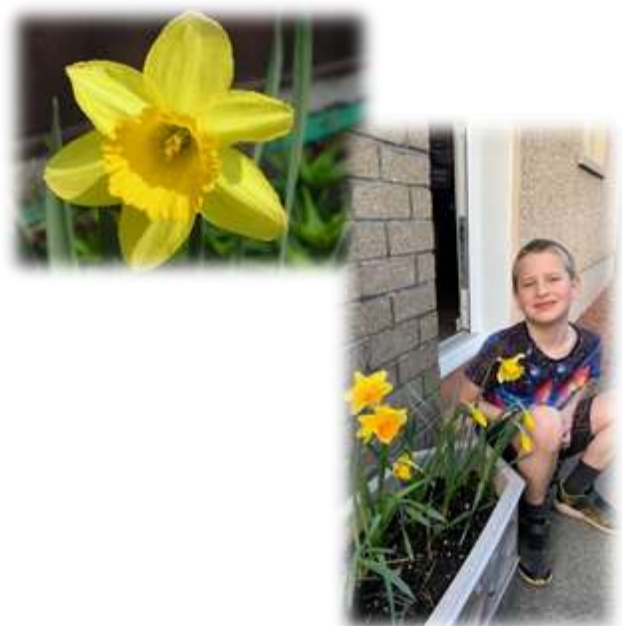
The boys are now in the final stages of writing up their Queen's Badge exploits and while they won't be heading to Carronvale house this year they will hopefully experience some form of virtual completion course in May to round off what will be an extraordinary Queen's Badge journey and a thoroughly deserved Queen's Badge Award.

## BATTALION CHALLENGE

At the time of writing we are just launching into a challenge set by the Battalion to get boys working together (virtually!) to compete as a Company for different levels of award for undertaking a variety of physical challenges. We have a number of our boys and officers from across the sections taking part in the 30 day challenge from 21<sup>st</sup> March...we will share our results in our next update!

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

Captain Stewart Maxwell





The Thinking Day theme this year was Peace and we were pleased to share that with the congregation via the

on-line service on Sunday 21 February. This year there was no checking the weather to see if it would be warm enough for the girls to walk round the outside of the church to parade down the aisle. For a few weeks prior to the service Guiders were asking some of their girls and parents to video input to the service. Through this we were able to share our Candle Ceremony.

We were grateful to Stacey Nisbet, her daughter and Alison Stewart for leading us in renewing our promise on-line.

We are lucky in North Lanarkshire that the Provost has close links with Girlguiding and on Monday 22 February the Tower at the Civic Centre was one of the Lanarkshire buildings to be lit up in blue as part of the #LightAndUnite Campaign.



She also posted a video message on the North Lanarkshire FaceBook page encouraging girls to take part in online Thinking Day celebrations.



Girlguiding is excited to announce the line-up for Adventures at home: Spring social on Monday 5 April from 4-5 pm. Girl Talk magazine are sponsoring the event and there's something for everyone with adventurous, creative and wellbeing activities.

We've teamed up with our partners Rolls Royce, GO Outdoors and the British Army with activities for all our girls. There are also special sessions led by experts in photography, yoga, exploration and storytelling. The event is for everyone, so please tell friends and family as well. We've all missed going on trips and camps over the last year, so we hope you can join us for this special event.

The event will finish with a virtual campfire and sing-along led by leaders.

Check out the Girlguiding website for 10 Egg-cellent activities to do during the Easter holidays with your families.





## UPDATE

This year, Christian Aid is celebrating 75 years of helping people to 'triumph in the face of the impossible'. But this year, the challenge of helping people on the edge of survival has been made so much more difficult by many of the usual methods of fundraising being cut off by the pandemic.

Christian Aid, as usual, refuses to give in, whatever it takes. The charity is responding to the coronavirus outbreak in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, working together with partners and faith leaders to inform people about the risks, offering vital hygiene training, equipping health facilities with supplies, and providing food packages to the most marginalised families.

The great challenge of our time, beyond even the pandemic, is climate change. Communities already under pressure to support themselves are vulnerable to increased droughts and other weather changes and many are struggling to get enough food and water.

If the pandemic has shown us anything positive, it is surely that we are one world. Climate change affects us all but it is most damaging to the countries that have done the least to cause it. Christian Aid asks for our help in the present crisis, confident that we will continue to give it.

Please have a look at the website [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk) if you haven't recently done so.

Margaret MacGregor

## DRAMA KIRK PRESENTS

### "WITH ARMS WIDE OPEN"



Available to watch online from Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2.00 pm onwards via the YouTube channel of *Hamilton Old Parish Church*: [youtube.com/HamiltonOld](https://youtube.com/HamiltonOld)

"WITH ARMS WIDE OPEN" is a fresh exploration of the Easter Story, from Luke's perspective, as he hears first hand accounts from those changed by Jesus' life, death and resurrection.



## DRAMA KIRK INTERACTIVE BIBLE STUDIES: PAUL

Due to Covid-19 restrictions Drama Kirk's Interactive Bible Study series is continuing online.

### Paul - A Man Changed Forever

Drama Kirk's lockdown Bible Studies continue in 2021 with a closer look at the man who did so much to shape the Christian Church - the Apostle Paul.

A series of 7 studies will take us from Paul's childhood, through his conversion and into the missionary trips and letters that comprised his ministry.

The first 2 studies were in January and February. Details of the next 3 [leading up to Summer] are as below.

The Studies can be accessed via: [www.youtube.com/HamiltonOld](https://www.youtube.com/HamiltonOld)

They are broadcast live at 7.00 pm on each of the nights. They will continue to be available thereafter for download at any time.

**Study Three** - Acts 13 & 14 - Tuesday April 27<sup>th</sup> 7.00 pm

*"Paul - The First Journey"*

**Study Four** - Acts 16 & 17 - Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 7.00 pm

*"Paul - The Second Journey"*

**CROSS REACH**  
providing a caring future

Please sign up - [www.thekiltwalk.co.uk](http://www.thekiltwalk.co.uk) and choose CrossReach as your charity!  
More details on Crossreach website.



With the event being virtual, this means that you plan your route, your length of walk and how long it will take you to complete. In fact you don't even have to walk, you can cycle, bounce on a trampoline or go for a run, it really is all about having fun, setting a challenge and raising funds. As long as your event/challenge takes place over the weekend of April 23 - 25th.

# Junior Church News!

Our Junior Church families have continued to play an active part in our on-line worship over the past weeks and months.

Each week Bryce launches our Junior Church Challenge. These have been well supported by our Junior Church families and our friends of all ages in the congregation. Our most recent entries have included; photographs of mums and children, friends and friendship bracelets, candles, wedding cakes, picnics and NHS Thank you cards to name a few. Thank you to all who take part. The pre-service slide show is always much anticipated and it's wonderful to see the entries and creations each week.

To see all our entries please take time to look on our twitter page [@stmarysmwell](#) or on our recorded services on our web page.

A favourite challenge in February was linked to the theme 'Jesus love is very wonderful'. Our church gates were resplendent with coloured love hearts. Thank you to Hazel and Megan Graham for co ordinating the display.

Our Junior Church team have also been busy preparing a little gift for our children. Keep a look out on your doorstep for an Easter delivery.



Sincere thanks to the ladies and friends of the Guild who have been busy knitting Easter chicks and filling them with chocolate eggs...one for every child!



We are also busy planning our Easter themed Sunday Challenges. We hope to have a display in the church grounds. If you are passing on a daily walk, during Holy Week please take time to add a spring flower (real or artificial) to our crosses in the grounds.





Prayer Shawls are my passion and I would like to share it with you.

I was introduced to this ministry by Linda Young of Buckhaven Church in Fife, at a weekend conference that took place in Carberry Tower around 6 years ago. It was just one of 'those moments,' when I knew this was something I wanted to share with others.

I had always been looking for something that I could do to help others, and the Prayer Shawl Ministry just seemed to strike a chord with me.

The Prayer Shawl ministry brings together people who share a similar interest in knitting or crocheting. They put to use this talent to create prayer shawls and squares that are then given away to anyone who is in need of comfort, thus helping to spread the message of God's mercy, love and compassion.

### *The Prayer Shawl*

With love and care each stitch is made  
As within my heart the words are prayed  
On bended knee each night the prayers are said  
For each one covered by my yarn and thread

The tiny baby will feel it's warmth  
The aged woman so frail and worn  
The broken heart that no one sees  
Those ill and sick we aim to please.

May the warmth of Christ's love fill each heart  
As they snuggle close, next to his heart  
May the blanket or shawl made with such loving care  
Remind them that God is always there.

For that is what this prayer shawl is meant to be  
A gift of love for all to see  
Sent straight to you from God's open heart  
That's my prayer for you from the very start.

*Robyn Ayscue, 2009*



Before this pandemic, I was invited by a number of Guilds all over the west of Scotland to speak about the Prayer Shawls and this was a really good way of spreading this ministry. However, with all the restrictions Covid-19 has brought to our daily lives, more and more of us can benefit from the comfort the prayer shawls and squares bring. Before lockdown, it was far easier to find out who needed a shawl or a square, but as I can no longer visit Guilds or even attend Church services, it's really difficult to identify those in need, and so I was asked to write this article to let you know that the shawls and squares are still available. So, if you feel that you, or someone close might benefit from a shawl, you can contact myself, Clare MacKenzie on 01698 265628/07826 928656. Alternatively, your elder or the minister, Rev Bryce Calder, can also arrange for a shawl or square to be delivered.

Yours, in God's love, Clare x

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have given so generously of their time and talents in creating these shawls and squares.*

*And finally, I would like to thank Alison Doyle who accompanies me and acts as my navigator when visiting other Guilds.*



## FORTHCOMING SERVICES



Sunday	28 March	11 am	Palm Sunday - on-line
<b>HOLY WEEK SERVICES - 29 March - 2 April at 7.00 pm - online via the church website (available later via YouTube).</b>			
Sunday	4 April	11 am	Easter Sunday

FLOWER LIST	
<b>APRIL</b>	
4th	Mrs B Neilson Mrs E Calder
11th	Mrs H Graham Mrs E Currie
18th	Mrs E Taylor/ Mrs J Findlay Mrs E Simpson
25th	Mrs E Scott Mrs S Forrest/ Mrs L Kelly Mrs A Johnstone
<b>MAY</b>	
2nd	Mr & Mrs Malcolm Mrs J McPherson Mrs J Conquer
9th	Mrs I Craig
16th	Mrs S Brown Mrs J Westwood
23rd	Mrs A Pearce
30th	Mrs M Graham Mrs C Allan Mrs J Findlay
<b>JUNE</b>	
6th	Mrs W Burrell
13th	Mrs L Thain
20th	Mrs M Graham
27th	Mrs F Hannah



### BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHURCH SERVICES

If you would like to be a part of the in-person congregation, you must book a place each week.

**Places can be booked by calling the Church Office [01698 268554] between 10.00 and 11.00 am on the Monday preceding each service.**

It is at this stage that your track and trace details will be taken. If, when you call, the limit for the coming week's service has already been exceeded you will be offered a place at the following week's 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>

June Graham - Flower Convener