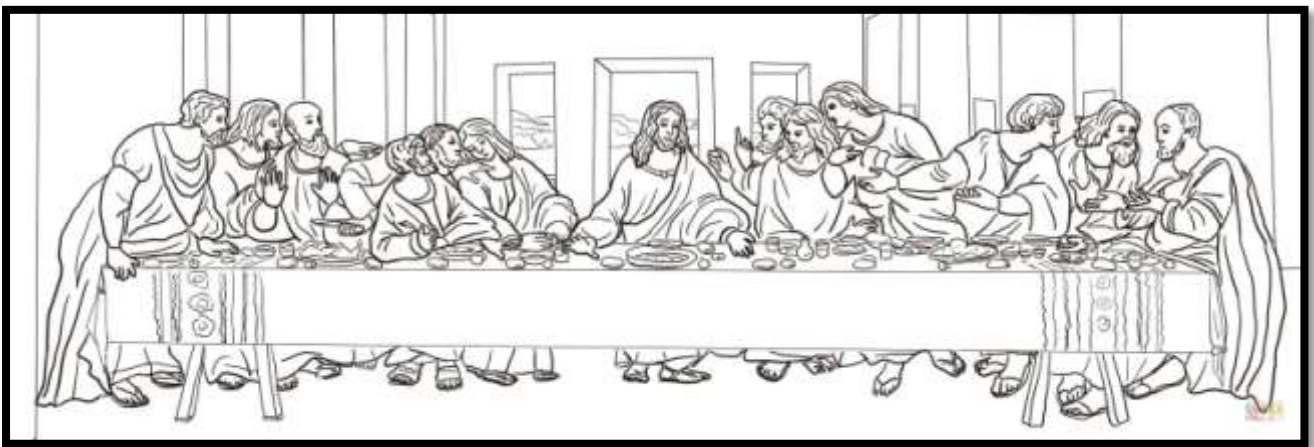


ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity No: SC012233



EASTER 2016

Bulletin No 325

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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FUNERALS

"I am the resurrection and the life"

Dec	Mary McKie
18 Jan	May Paterson
20 Jan	Jean Maxwell
22 Jan	Leah Connelly
23 Jan	Helen Brown
30 Jan	Agnes Warnock
20 Feb	William Skimming
23 Feb	Martha Buchanan

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FOR INFORMATION DURING VACANCY

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES AND FUNERALS

During the period before a new minister is appointed please contact the
Rev Arthur Barrie Tel: 01698 261147 for baptisms and marriages and
Rev John Stevenson Tel: 01698 817582 for funerals and hospital visits.

ILLNESS OR HOSPITALISATION

It is vitally important over the next few months to use the Yellow Cards at the end of the pews if you know of anyone who requires a pastoral visit due to illness or hospitalisation. These cards can be left in the church office.

An Easter prayer from the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Rt Rev Dr Angus Morrison



Lord of our God

In the fellowship of all your people across the ages and around the world, we rejoice to bring our Easter praise and worship. In difficult times, when many look out in fear and forward with foreboding, we thank you for the sure and solid hope which the good news of Jesus' resurrection brings us and our broken world.

We praise you, eternal Father, that for love of us you gave your Son to death on a cross and raised him from the dead in power and glory.

We praise you, Lord Jesus Christ, that by your life, death and resurrection you have secured victory over sin and death, hatred and evil.

We praise you, Holy Spirit of God, that your power gives us new birth into newness of life and makes the peace and presence of the living Jesus a reality in our lives.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we worship and praise you for your eternal purpose to make all things new and for the assurance brought to us, as to the early disciples, by the Easter message that new creation is under way, that ultimate victory in our world lies with love, and that one day every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Merciful God, in a world of pain and sorrow, we pray for all who struggle to find meaning and purpose in their lives. Let the victory of Easter penetrate every dark place, bringing love in place of hate, reconciliation instead of conflict and sure hope where there has been despair.

God of generous grace, forgive us for choosing darkness rather than light. Make us all a new creation in Christ, and may our lives and witness show forth the living Christ, as we anticipate with joy the ultimate renewal of all things by working together for renewal in this present need-filled world.

Lord our God, we give thanks for this day of resurrection, and for the sure hope that your love will not be overcome, in the name of the living and risen Christ.

Amen



DONATIONS TO CHARITIES

At the recent Annual Business Meeting of the Congregation the accounts presented included a list of donations made to charities, a result of Special Collections and Fundraising Events for Special Purposes.

The donations are listed below:

Christian Aid	£2,555
The Scottish Bible Society	£739
Erskine Hospital	£439
Leprosy Mission	£396
McCabe Education Trust	£252
(Al Sharooq School for the Blind)	
The Basic Food Bank	£233
Loaves and Fishes	£130
St Andrew's Hospice	£100
Wishaw & District	£50
Talking Newspaper	

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The first meeting of the New Year saw a good attendance, and the Rev Bob Kent told us his life story in words and music based on the song My Favourite Things, those present enjoyed both his music and many humorous anecdotes.

Cameron Dick told of the life and times of author and aviator Ernest K Gann, giving an informative and exciting look at his exploits and adventures, some of which had been made into Hollywood films.

The birthday of our National Bard was celebrated in a joint Scottish Night with the Guild when a pleasant evening was rounded off with a light supper of Haggis Pies and other delicacies. Members of Guild and Fellowship took part in the proceedings and musical items were provided by Fraser Joyce.

The first meeting in February was addressed by retired police officer Ian McGowan, telling of his Life as a Policeman, an arresting tale of his involvement in keeping the peace and dispensing justice.

Mr Gordon Hunter gave us an evening at the pictures with interesting early films depicting construction of Hydro Electric Dams and Rural Life an experience made all the more memorable by the distribution of POPCORN organised by Howard Rennie and produced by Mr Ian Graham and Family.

The history and regeneration of the Forth and Clyde Canal was the subject of Mr Tom Lawton, whose illustrated talk showed the canal in all aspects of its history.

The following week saw a change to the program when the speaker from Woman's Aid was unable to attend and the President gave an illustrated talk entitled A Wee Trip to Belfast which included a visit to the Titanic Exhibition.

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

Allan Joyce
President



BASICS FOOD BANK (LANARKSHIRE)

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

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



THE GUILD

January meetings were well attended despite the poor weather. Ian Carrol gave a most interesting insight into the Rotary Youth Leadership Award. His presentation showed the young people participating in exciting outdoor activities eg rock climbing, canoeing and raft building. Enjoyment was easy to spot on the young people's faces. This was all part of developing leaderships skills through team-building, communication, problem solving and decision-making. It was obvious that much work goes on by Rotary members in providing this great experience in Perthshire.

The Guild joined with the Men's Fellowship on 25 January for a taste of Burns on our Scottish Night. Entertainment was provided via a Tam O'Shanter DVD, the entertaining singing of Fraser Joyce and address to the Haggis and ladies by Allan Joyce in his usual humorous style. A reply from the ladies was most eloquently delivered by Maureen Dick. The evening concluded with Scottish fare - a Chapman's haggis pie, potato scones and shortbread.

February began with our Project Night, which this year is "Care for the Family". A most interesting presentation was made by Hannah Rankin from the Charity.



Care for the Family is a national charity which aims to promote strong family relationships and to help those who face family difficulties. The work is motivated by Christian compassion, with resources and support available to everyone, of any faith or none.

The cost of family breakdown is estimated at £42bn per year and mainly occurs during the early years of parenthood.

'Let's Stick Together' sessions, are specifically aimed at new mums and dads. The sessions introduce simple principles to highlight the skills which help facilitate a happy, healthy and lasting relationship, including bad habits to avoid, good habits to build, and the involvement of dads. The presentation was followed by a bring and buy sale. This along with the sale of books over the session and donations raised around £280 for the charity.

A small number of our Guild attended a National Guild Action Plan Roadshow held in Dalziel St Andrew's Church on Wednesday 3 February where we were able to give an input to the future of the Guild.

On 8 February the Guild were given an insight into the Society of Friends - the Quakers, via slides of the Quaker Tapestry. A most interesting talk was delivered by Alison Burnley who travelled from Edinburgh to talk to us. The following week the Rev Derek Pope was our speaker giving a talk on our theme. On 22 February members of Clincarthill Parish Church, beside Hampden Park, introduced us to the work of their Puppet Ministry. This was a most enjoyable and entertaining evening as they expressed faith and bible stories in an innovative way.

On Monday 29 February the ladies were entertained by Ladywell Primary School Choir, led and accompanied by Mr Stuart Colquhoun. This was a most enjoyable evening with a variety of hymns, Scottish songs and music provided by the brass ensemble. Following on our AGM was held, office bearers remain the same for the new session with a number of changes to the committee. Funds were also disbursed to our charity, the Tuesday Club, the Summer Club and the Junior Choir this year.

The Guild are looking forward to their outing this year which will take place to the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh followed by a high tea in Haddington on Saturday 14 May.

Myra Philip
President

TUESDAY CLUB

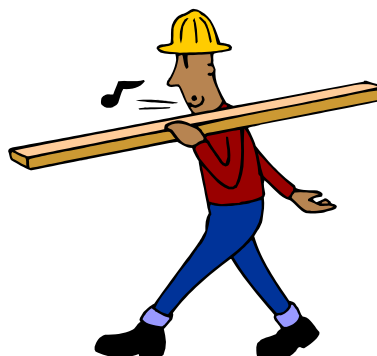
The Tuesday Club has invited a number of guest speakers, all of whom have delivered their talks with humour and when necessary, with compassion. You will see from the syllabus below, we have a wide variety of guest speakers booked to attend the club until the end of the session.

As you are aware, we must try to raise funds for our weekly transport without which the club wouldn't exist. As a result, we are applying for various grants and holding an Afternoon Tea with Gift Stall, on Tuesday 26th April in the Avon Hall, from 1 pm until 3 pm. We look forward to your support and ask if you could donate any unwanted Gifts for our Stall.

Updates of when the tickets are for sale and when we will be prepared to accept any donations of gifts will be printed in the weekly bulletin.

Feb 16th	New Lanark Village
Feb 23rd	Malawi update
Mar 1st	NSPCC
Mar 8th	RSPB Baron's Haugh
Mar 15th	Meditation
Mar 22nd	HOLY WEEK
Mar 29th	Keep Fit
April 5th	Poetry Womens' Institute
April 12th	Citizens Advice Bureau
April 19th	Christine Jones' Jewellery
April 26th	Afternoon Tea Fund Raising Event
May 3rd	Lunch at the Bentley

Valerie T Craig



MONDAY MORNING WORK PARTY

The Work Party will resume their activities on **Monday 18th April**.

This year, as well as undertaking works both in and around the church property, we will also be undertaking maintenance of the manse garden, as well as the garden at the Church Officer's house.

Feel free to join us as and when you are able. You do not require to have any special skills, simply the enthusiasm to assist with relatively simple, but useful tasks, in and around the church properties.

Howard Rennie



It was good to see a large number of Rainbows, Brownies and Guides attending and taking part in this year's Thinking Day Service. The Theme from WAGGGS was Connect - Connect with me; Connect with friends; Connect with WAGGGS and Connect with the world. The contributions to the service by the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides were much appreciated.

The Connect theme was continued after the service with tea, coffee and home-baking in the Avon Hall shared with congregation, friends and family.

After the service in the church many of the St Mary's leaders joined other Guiders from Motherwell Division for Afternoon Tea at the Alona Hotel in Strathclyde Park. Our AGM followed and this year one of our leaders was presented with a long service award. Congratulations to Heather Connacher, Brown Owl of 6th Brownies who has achieved 30 years service.

6th Brownies

Since Christmas the Tuesday girls have been working on the Road Safety Badge designing cycle helmets and reflective jackets. They learned about the green cross code and made traffic light biscuits. They played a road sign memory game. Safety is being kept in mind for the next badge when the girls are going to tackle the Home Safety Badge. The first weekend of March sees Brownies and Guiders head off to Gowanpark for their annual pack holiday.

The theme this year is the orient. Chinese dragons, fans and lots of other goodies will be made.

6thA Brownies

The Thursday Brownies have had a Thinking Day party with food and games from the USA, Jamaica, Italy and France. The girls planned the party in their sixes and adapted games to teach each other. Three Brownies made their promise. The girls are working on the Adventure badges in their groups this session.

6thB Brownies

The Monday Brownies are working on their Healthy Heart badge at the moment; the syllabus covers Eating a healthy diet; Being active and Looking after your body. In addition they have been taking part in special evenings to celebrate Burns Night and Thinking Day. This year their Thinking Day celebration was a bit different as they had a Pyjama Party. They learned about the different time zones in overseas countries and how to say "good night" in a foreign language. They also ate hot toast with chocolate spread or jam along with a drink of juice, although the "hot chocolate" that was on the menu was an item forgotten in someone's shopping list!

Four girls were also welcomed into the Pack following their Promise Ceremony on 22nd February and they hope Emma, Jenny, Amy and Maisie will enjoy their time with the Monday night Pack.

The month of March will see everyone busy with Mother's Day, Sports Relief and Easter activities prior to our Easter holidays from 28th March until starting back on 18th April.

13th Motherwell Boys' Brigade Company

St Mary's Parish Church, Avon Street, Motherwell



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

BATTALION COMPETITIONS

Since the last article we have taken part in 3 Battalion competitions - the Quiz, Bible Knowledge and Physical Challenge. A great mix of competitions with something to cater for everyone in the company.

The battalion quiz is always a fun but closely fought night and this year was no different and our team finished runners up behind the awesome team from 20th (North Motherwell).

We used the Penny Bible for our Bible Knowledge materials this year and the stories of Luke provided some great material for the team to learn about Jesus life. We will have to wait until the Review to find out if we improved on last year's performance!

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

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

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

QUEENS BADGE

This year we have 7 boys who are in the final stages of their work towards the Queens Badge and will be heading off to Scottish Headquarters at Carronvale House in Larbert at the end of April to complete this work in time to be presented with their award at the Battalion Review in May.

These 7 remarkable young men have all been out in the community for their volunteering section. They have been working in the community garden at Ailsa Nursery on The Loaning and will be acting as front of house staff at the Ups and Downs show in March to complete their 30 hours of volunteering.

This is in addition to their service within the church where some are working in the other BB sections and some are serving in the Junior Church and Christian Aid Support Team.

OFFICER TRAINING

We are delighted that 2 of our Anchor Section officers have just recently completed their Youth Leader Training.

Lisa Mossman and Elaine Neilson both joined the Anchor Boys back in August and have been valuable additions to our team.

13th Motherwell Boys' Brigade Company

St Mary's Parish Church, Avon Street, Motherwell



CENTENARY EVENTS

The final Centenary event before the summer camps is the Centenary Fun Day.

The organising team had a vision of taking the whole Company to Carronvale House, the Scottish Headquarters of the Boys' Brigade - so that is exactly what we are going to do!!

The facilities at Carronvale House are superb with large games hall, outdoor all weather football pitches, huge grounds, indoor conference spaces - everything we could possibly want to host an exciting fun day for 100 boys and officers.

This has been arranged for Monday 2nd May and all the boys have now received a 'Save the date' card to make sure it is in everyone's diary.

The boys and officers will be transported from the Church to Carronvale House in Larbert by coach and will spend the day undertaking a range of exciting activities similar to the Launch Night but on a much BIGGER scale!

They will then be transported back to the church to meet up with their parents for a barbeque and a film/photo show of all the highlights of the day.

CENTENARY FUNDRAISING

A big thank you to everyone in the congregation for supporting us in the ASDA green tokens scheme during January and February - we were successful in collecting the most tokens and will be presented with £200 from ASDA in due course.

This in addition to the £510 raised from the Music Magpie scheme before Christmas has brought our fundraising total to a fantastic £710.

We are hoping to provide all the boys with a commemorative Centenary sweatshirt to wear at the Centenary Fun Day in May and we estimate this will cost around £1500 so we are half way there!

Our final fundraiser will be bag packing in ASDA in Motherwell. This has been provisionally arranged for Saturday 12th March between 10 and 2 so if you would like some help packing your shopping please come along at this time!

BATTALION REVIEW

The Battalion Review will take place this year in on Friday 6 May in the King's Centre on Airbles Road. Parents and friends of the Battalion are more than welcome to come along.

CENTENARY SUMMER CAMP

We are returning to our favourite campsite at Badaguish outside Aviemore for our Centenary Camp and are looking forward to going away as soon as the schools break up from Sat 2nd - Wed 6th of July. We have an action packed camp being planned at the moment with exciting activities to make it particularly special for the Centenary.

Captain Stewart Maxwell

Dates for the Diary

Fri 25 March - No BB (Good Friday)
Fri 1 April - BB on as normal
Fri 8 April - No BB (School Holidays)
Fri 15 April - No BB (school holidays)
Fri 22 April - BB BACK!

Mon 2 May - Centenary Fun Day

Friday 6 May - Battalion Review

2 - 6 July - BB Summer Camp



UPDATE

Christian Aid was founded 70 years ago to assist refugees and the displaced in Europe following the Second World War. Today, the organization is supporting those affected by war and violence in numerous countries, including Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Colombia, providing practical assistance through local organizations embedded in their communities.

Act Alliance partners working on the refugee crisis in Europe include, in Greece, the organization International Orthodox Christian Charities which is providing food and non-food items, and improving conditions at reception centres, as well as undertaking water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities on the islands of Chios, Samos, and Kos. The total number of refugees in Greece is now more than 160,000.

In Hungary, Hungarian Interchurch Aid is providing refugees on the border with non-food items, and has to date helped more than 5,500 people.

In Serbia, Philanthropy, the charitable foundation of the Serbian Orthodox Church, is providing food, hygiene and baby kits, shelter and sanitary containers, plus 'winterisation' supplies (firewood, clothes and boots), and psychosocial support. It is helping an estimated 1,000 refugees a day.

During Christian Aid Week this year (15-21 May) we will be hoping for the same strong support for the House-to-House collection that we've had recently. If you can spare one evening during the week, please join our team of collectors.

Margaret MacGregor

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Our young **CAST** members will be hosting a lunch in the church hall after morning service on Christian Aid Sunday (15 May).

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Octave will be giving a concert for Christian Aid in Dalziel St. Andrew's on Saturday, 21 May.

Junior Church News!



Morning Worship

Mothering Sunday was a special day for the children in our Junior Church Zones. The children were joined by - mum, granny or a special auntie to help celebrate Mothering Sunday. The ladies joined with the children of the Junior church for the morning service. The zones had been busy practising their singing! The special ladies were treated to some more super singing in the hall before enjoying tea and treats whilst the children were busy making a surprise gift. As the ladies of the church left, there was a special hand-made gift to take home! All were invited to join for tea. It was lovely to share this special morning with our families.



Easter Celebrations

The children are already preparing for the Junior Church celebrations at Easter. All children are invited to attend a morning of readings and music for Easter led by our 3 church choirs on Palm Sunday.

On Easter Sunday the zones will be hosting an Easter picnic. The Junior Church will meet as usual during the April school holidays for crafts and games.

Karen Maxwell
Junior Church Co-ordinator

You are invited to join the Y zone for breakfast following the Dawn Service on Easter Sunday, 27 March.



Please remember the clocks go forward on Sunday 27 March!



FLOWER LIST

MARCH

6th	Mrs M Graham Mrs M Skimming Mrs M Carrol
13th	Mrs M Watson Mrs E Fraser
20 th	Mrs M Stewart Mrs M Johnstone
27th	Mr A Craig

APRIL

3rd	Mrs H Wilson Mrs B Neilson Mrs J Findlay
10th	Mrs A Anderson Mrs Murray Mrs H Graham
17th	Mrs E Currie Mrs E Taylor & Mrs J Findlay
24th	Mrs E Simpson

MAY

1st	Mrs A Johnstone Mrs & Mrs Malcolm Mrs J McPherson
8th	Mrs I Craig
15th	Mrs S Brown Mrs E Ross
22nd	Mrs A Pearce
29th	Mrs M Graham



June Graham - Flower Convener

FORTHCOMING SERVICES



March	6	11.00 am	Morning Worship Sacrament of Baptism - Rev Arthur Barrie
	13	11.00 am	Morning Worship - Rev Robert Kent
	20	11.00 am	Palm Sunday Lessons and Carols for Easter Rev Alastair Jessamine
	27	7.00 am	Dawn Service - Rev Arthur Barrie
	27	11.00 am	Sacrament of Holy Communion Rev Arthur Barrie
May	15	11.00 am	Christian Aid Sunday

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

March	21-25	Mon - Fri at 7.00 pm	United Holy Week Services: Motherwell South Parish Church
April	25	Monday 7.30 pm	Team Quiz 102 Special Offer this year - £5 per team
May	15-21		Christian Aid Week