

ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity No: SC012233



SUMMER 2019

Bulletin No 341

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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FUNERAL

"I am the resurrection and the life"

23 May	Mrs Janet Kennedy
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VALUE THE PRESENT

Imagine there is bank that credits your account each morning with £86,400.

It carries over no balance from day to day.

Every evening it deletes whatever part of the balance you failed to use during the day.

What would you do?

Draw out every penny, of course!

Each of us has such a bank.

Its name is time.

Every morning, it credits you with 86,400 seconds.

Every night, it writes off, as lost, whatever of this you have failed to invest to good purpose.

It carries over no balance.

It allows no overdraft.

Each day it opens a new account for you.

Each night it burns the remains of the day.

If you fail to use the day's deposits, the loss is yours.

There is no going back.

There is no drawing against the 'tomorrow'.

You must live in the present day's deposits.

Invest it so as to get from it the utmost in health, happiness and success!

The clock is running.

Make the most of today.

To realise the value of ONE YEAR, ask the student who failed an exam.

To realise the value of ONE MONTH, ask the mother who gave birth to a premature baby.

To realise the value of ONE WEEK, ask the editor of a weekly newspaper.

To realise the value of ONE HOUR, ask the lovers who are waiting to meet.

To realise the value of ONE MINUTE, ask a person who missed the train.

To realise the value of ONE SECOND, ask the person who just avoided an accident.

To realise the value of ONE MILLISECOND, ask the person who won the silver medal in the Olympics.

Treasure every moment that you have!

And treasure it more because you have shared it with someone special, special enough to spend your time.

And remember, time waits for no-one.

Yesterday is history.

Tomorrow is a mystery.

Today is a gift.

That is why it is called the present!



Manse of St Mary's

May 2019

Dear Friends:

SUMMER

*"Summer suns are glowing
over land and sea;
happy light is flowing,
bountiful and free.
Everything rejoices
in the mellow rays;
all earth's thousand voices
swell the psalm of praise."*

[William Walsham How 1823-1897]

As I write for the Summer edition of the Church Magazine, I am reminded that it is almost 2 years since I was Inducted as Parish Minister of *St Mary's Parish Church*. It continues to be a delight to be a part of such a fabulous Church Family with so many excellent people of all ages.

During the summer months many of our regular Church organisations take a well-earned break. With our annual Summer Club, Prayer Walk, Sunday Morning Services and much needed building upgrades, however, life will continue to be busy at *St Mary's Parish Church*.

Like last year, our Sunday Summer Services [30th June, 7th July, 14th July, 21st July, 28th July, 4th August and 11th August] will be shorter [45 minutes]. If the "Summer Suns" are indeed "glowing", this will allow us all to make the most of the rest of the day! Although I've yet to finalise the theme for the Summer Services, "Summer in the Psalms" is a distinct possibility.

During our Sunday Services there will also be lots of exciting and enjoyable Summer Activities for our children and young people.

Last Summer we held a very successful Prayer Walk round different areas of our parish. A Prayer Walk is a very gentle but effective way

to demonstrate that we, as a Parish Church, are at the very heart of our community. This Summer we will hold a Prayer Walk on Wednesday 11th July. If you would like to take part, we will meet in the Avon Hall at 7.30 pm. Folks, in groups of twos or threes, will then take a short walk around a section of our parish - no more than a few streets. The idea is that, as you walk, you use your senses to lead you in prayer for the people and places you encounter. For example, if you are walking through the Duchess Park and see and hear children playing on the swings, this may lead you to pray [silently in your heart and mind] for the children and young people of our community. After our short walk, we will then meet back up again in the Avon Hall for some refreshments and a quick de-brief.

The Prayer Walk is open to folks of all ages and will be a fun, enjoyable and spiritually rewarding experience. Let's hope the weather is kind to us!

This Summer, Helen and I are looking forward to paying short visits to the beautiful Islands of Coll and Crete. Wherever you go this Summer, whether you stay at home or travel far abroad, may you know the peace and blessing of God.

BOYS' BRIGADE

*"We have an anchor that keeps the soul,
steadfast and sure while the billows roll;
fastened to the Rock which cannot move,
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!"*

[Priscilla Jane Owens 1829-1907]

At the 113th Battalion Annual Review on Friday 10th May, our BB Company [13th Motherwell] were announced winners of the Battalion Flag Championship. At the same event, our Junior Section were announced runners-up in the Walker Memorial Rose Bowl.

As Parish Minister of *St Mary's Parish Church*, I would like to say how proud I am of all our fantastic boys and their wonderful and dedicated Officers.

PENTECOST

*"Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.*

*Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.*

*Break me, melt me,
mould me, fill me.*

*Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.*

[Daniel Iverson 1890-1977]

This year Pentecost Sunday falls on Sunday 9th June - which is also our Summer Communion Service. At Pentecost we celebrate the power and presence of God's Holy Spirit in our lives and in our world.

As I close my Parish Letter, I leave you with a short prayer for Pentecost.

*In the beginning, O God,
Your Spirit swept over the chaos of the cosmos
like a wild wind,
and creation was born.
In the deep and unsettled waters of our lives
and our world today
let Your Spirit blow afresh -
bringing new life, new hope,
new opportunities for faith to grow,
for peace to be spread,
and love to be shared.*

*These things we pray
in the Name of Jesus, our Lord,
whose life, from birth to resurrection,
was infused by the Spirit: **Amen***

Your Friend & Pastor:

Rev Bryce Calder



DRAMA KIRK

Helen Calder would like to thank everyone who gave kind and positive feedback for the recent **Drama Kirk** performance of "The People's Passion".

If anyone felt inspired to get involved with **Drama Kirk**, please speak to Helen.

There are lots of further events being organised, all of which are open to anyone who is interested. Again, speak to Helen if you would like more details.

Here are a couple of the forthcoming events:

Tuesday 28th May [7.00 PM] @ Hamilton Old Parish Church.

"The Word In Action" - RUTH.

An opportunity to use drama techniques to unlock scripture, focused on the Book of Ruth.

Tuesday 11th June [7.00 PM] @ Hamilton Old Parish Church.

"The Word In Action" - MOSES.

An opportunity to use drama techniques to unlock scripture, focused on the story of Moses.

ST ANDREW'S HOSPICE

Go that Extra mile for **St Andrew's Hospice** Midnight Walk, Saturday 15 June, 2019. Starting at Ravenscraig Regional Sports Facility, 8, 10, 13 mile route options. Open to Men and Women. Register online at www.st-andrews-hospice.com or contact our Fundraising Department on 01236 766951.



GUILD

Saturday 11 May arrived along with 38 ladies and a McPhail's Coach at St Mary's. We left at 9.30 am prompt and made our way north, destination Dundee. A stop for morning coffee was made at Glendoick Garden Centre on the outskirts of Perth. This was a most pleasant break giving an opportunity to take part in some retail therapy. We moved on to the V&A at Dundee for a spot of culture. The weather was kind to us and some of the ladies sat on a balcony overlooking the River Tay as they enjoyed a coffee, tea and scones. High tea was on the agenda at The Royal George Hotel in Perth before we made our return journey to Motherwell. A most enjoyable day was had by all courtesy of the organisational skills of Lyn Thain and Jean Mitchell, the latter who was sadly indisposed and was unable to join us. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Over the summer months the syllabus will be drawn up for the new session, which hopefully will have lots to interest us and any new ladies who will be greatly welcomed to our meetings on a Monday evening.

We also hope to start off our new session with a Coffee Morning in the Avon Hall on Saturday 14 September. Look out for announcements in the church notices at the end of August.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The closing meeting of the year was held on Monday 25 March, when prior to our AGM the fellowship was entertained by the members of the Junior Choir led by Marie Maxwell accompanied by Karen Maxwell and helper Megan Graham. The excellent singing and other musical items by the very talented children were much appreciated by the Fellowship.

The singing by the choir was followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Fellowship. The meeting was well supported by a good attendance of the members, after reports from the Treasurer and President, the office bearers and committee were elected for 2019/2020.

President: Allan Joyce

Vice President: Bill Taylor

Secretary: Alan Joyce Treasurer: Tom Knox

Committee: Bill Hannah, John Crawford, Cameron Dick, Howard Rennie and Robert Colquhoun

At the close of another session we thank Secretary Alan Joyce for his efforts in booking speakers and ensuring they turned up on the correct night. Thanks also to Treasurer Tom Knox for looking after the financial aspects of the Fellowship. It is again of interest to note that at 16 of the 22 meetings held, the speakers or entertainment came from folks who were either members of St Mary's or had strong connections with the congregation. As we prepare for next year, we hope again to make use of the great wealth of talent found in this congregation. If you have something you could share with us Alan would be glad to hear from YOU.

Preparations are already well in hand for next year's syllabus, however if you have any suggestions for speakers or topics, we would be glad to hear from you.

Allan Joyce

President



As we come to the end of a session we can look back on lots of fun times in our various units - Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. We hope to continue to do this for many years to come but need adult volunteers to help us. If you can give some of your time to our girls we can assure you that you will have fun too. Maybe we can bring back happy memories of your time in Guiding. Speak to any of our Guiders for information or leave your name and contact details in the office.

6A Brownies

The Thursday Brownies have just had an overnight at our county Brownie House at Gowanpark in the Clyde Valley when their theme was The Wizard of Oz.



The girls had great fun making hot air balloons, a picture frame with Dorothy's Ruby slippers and Melting Witch Biscuits. As the weather was so nice and sunny the girls were able to spend time outdoors playing games and having a scavenger hunt.



6B Brownies

The Monday Brownies have been making use of the new programme materials and have completed 3 Interest Badges from the Expressing Myself section.

The girls had the opportunity to paint on canvas and create abstract drawings. They have baked creating Scottish flags on rice paper.

For Mother's Day the girls held an Alice in World Tea Party performing Dancing Queen from Mamma Mia.



They have had a busy session fitting in celebrating Chinese New Year and fund-raising for Children in Need.

Monday 13 May was a lovely warm, sunny day and gave the girls a chance to spend time outdoors where they ended their evening singing Brownie Bells.



6 Brownies

Since the start of the year:

- Brownie camp - this year's theme was "Around the World" activities included designing passports and making pizza,
- a couple of joint nights with the Guides - Easter night with an Easter egg hunt and a walk to see the cycling race in Motherwell including a well-earned trip to the ice-cream shop finishing off with play at the park.
- a night planting bulbs, all home with the girls to grow!; and
- a night making butterflies out of sweeties, not so sure they made it home!
- and of course our usual games nights, the parachute has been out a fair bit, which are always the most fun!!



EVENTS ACTION TEAM ANNUAL QUIZ

On Monday 29 April teams gathered to pit their wits against each other and Stuart Reid in the Annual St Mary's Quiz in the Avon Hall. Twenty-three teams entered, all vying for the title of "Brains of St Mary's".

Ten rounds of questions separated the teams out ranging from History, Geography, General Knowledge and the round which had everyone talking, Items of Clothing. A lot of discussion was had on the merits of a tie being an item of clothing or an accessory!

In the end 3 teams emerged as the front runners with the final winners narrowly taking the 2019 title.

In 3rd place was "The Clerics", a team made up of Ministers from our Church.

In 2nd place was last year's winners and going for 4 in a row, "2 plus 2".

And the winners were previous winners, some retired Police Officers, "50 Shades of Blue".

Our thanks go to Alan Joyce for his quizmaster skills on the night, Stuart Reid for those head scratching moments setting the questions, the scoreboard team tallying the marks, the runners, and to those who helped set up and serve the refreshments during the event.

A thank you as well to the teams who entered and made the evening an enjoyable social occasion in the hall.

Regards the Events
Action team



Championship Flag Winners!



END OF SESSION EVENTS

The Senior boys enjoyed the final night of their programme at Scotkart in Cambuslang while the Junior boys had a 'choose whatever you want to do' night at the church!

Our final parade night at church was the company sports night and presentation of awards where the boys are recognised for all their hard work throughout the session.

This year our Junior Sports Champion was Innes McClair and our Senior Sports Champion was Scott Rankin.

We also present 2 awards in recognition of boys who have made a particular contribution during the session or set an example to the other boys. This year the Officers' Endeavour award was presented to James Macintosh and the Captain Mathie Commendation was presented to Ryan Anderson.

BATTALION REVIEW & FLAG CHAMPIONSHIP

The 113th Annual Battalion Review took place on Friday 10 May in the Kings Centre and boys, officers, parents and friends of the Battalion enjoyed an evening of BB display items and presentations of individual awards and battalion competition trophies.

At 13th we have had a very successful year in the competitions - 6 first places (Bible Knowledge, First Aid, Athletics, Senior Football, Junior Football and Swimming) and three runners up places (Restricted Drill, Physical Challenge and Quiz) out of a total of 11 competitions!

This all resulted in us coming out top in the Battalion to win the Championship Flag.

We are all absolutely delighted with this result! While it is nice to have success as a Company it is particularly pleasing to see boys within the Company achieve special individual awards.

13th Motherwell Boys' Brigade Company

St Mary's Parish Church, Avon Street, Motherwell



PRESIDENT'S BADGES

We had 8 of our senior boys achieve their President's Badge this year: **Sam Bowes, Lewis Danskin, James Edwards, Cameron Fry, Josh Greenhorn, Cameron Gunn, Cameron Sanders and Gregor Warnock.**

This is the second highest award in the BB and involves completing the discovery badge programme in 5 key areas: Adventure, Community, Leadership, Interest and Physical.

QUEEN'S BADGES

The Queen's Badge is the highest award in the Boy's Brigade and requires the young men to make some demanding commitments during the course of the programme.

Ryan Anderson, Greg Clapperton, Finlay Holtz, Callum Smith, Andrew Tweedie and Callum Warnock are all Sergeants in the Company and are all worthy recipients of the Queen's Badge. All 6 young men have given a great deal of time both to the company in their leadership roles and also to the community over the course of the last year. They have all developed through the process and have had an impact in each of the areas where they have worked.

Completing the Queen's Badge programme is not just about getting the award (although it is a proud moment for us all!) and I am sure that these outstanding young men will see it as the foundation for even greater things.

The officers of 13th congratulate the 6 young men on their achievements and wish them all the best for the future!

COMING UP.....

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

26 boys are currently signed up to go supported by 10 staff and our new Head Chef Mr Beattie and it looks to be another great camp in the making!

We will have excellent facilities including our campsite, indoor catering, dining and living areas and even a floodlit 5-a-side football pitch! The programme will be the usual mix of activities, sports, challenges, midgies and not enough sleep!

THANK YOU!

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported the Company over the last session.

To the officers in each of the sections who put in a great effort every week to provide an exciting and fun programme of events, to the parents who support their son's involvement and to the congregation for its support collectively and as individuals - thank you!

Captain Stewart Maxwell

Dates for the Diary

29 June - 3 July - BB Summer Camp

Fri 4 October - First night back for Company Section.

junior section update

Parents' night

The 2018/19 session of the Junior section came to a close in May at our annual parent's night and prize giving. The night was well supported with an amazing turnout of 25 boys, 7 officers and so many parents/family members that more chairs were required!

During the night we reflected on some of the highlights from our session; the boys took part in a few challenges and were awarded their Junior Section Achievement badges. Our special recognition prizes and shields were also presented.

Inspection Results

Throughout the session the boys undergo a weekly inspection in which points are awarded for each individual aspect of their uniform, clean hands and face, attendance at Church/Sunday school and behaviour. The weekly scores were collated and the results were announced during the night. There was a best squad along with individual prizes for the 2 runners up positions and the boy with the highest score was awarded the coveted **BBig Cheese Award**. The results were:

Best Squad: Squad 2

Runners Up: Kyle Mossman & Charlie Davies

BBig Cheese: Euan Cargill

Euan was a very deserving recipient of the BBig Cheese as he has been runner up the last 2 years and his behaviour throughout the session has been flawless.

Special Recognition Awards

After the annual heated discussions and debates among the officers, decisions were eventually reached about which boys should receive the session's special recognition awards and are detailed below. These decisions seem to become tougher and more stressful every year - which is testimony to the incredibly dedicated and deserving group of boys we are fortunate to have in the Junior Section.

Best in Year

One of the ways we acknowledge individual merit is by selecting a 'Best in Year' for each of the 3 year groups. This year these prizes were awarded as follows:

1st Year - Andrew Hamilton

2nd Year - Nathan Cameron

3rd Year - Kyle Rankin/Jude Irving

These boys demonstrated excellent commitment and enthusiasm to various competitions and activities throughout the session and they were consistently polite and diligent in their approach to all Junior Section tasks.

Sportsman and Leading Boy

We also had an award for **Best Sportsman** which this year went to **Riley Lafferty**, for his excellent sportsmanship behaviour; his eagerness to include others in team activities and his commitment to fair play.

Our **Leading Boy trophy** is designed to acknowledge the important role our squad leading boys play within the Junior Section. Leading boys are 3rd years who have been selected by the officers to be responsible for 'leading' their squad. This means ensuring their squad is well behaved during

opening and closing services and supporting younger members of the section throughout the night. This year the officers chose to give **Cailean Doyle** this award because his good nature and friendly approach has enabled him to set an excellent example to boys in his squad and in the wider section.

Crawford Award of Effort and Enthusiasm

This award for the boy who has shown the most **effort and enthusiasm** is voted for by the boys in the section. All boys are eligible for the award and each boy casts an anonymous vote.

When the votes were counted the clear winner of the award was **Zack Fleming**. When the officers saw who the boys had voted for they were delighted, as he would have been the officer choice as well! Zack's kindness and willingness to help others is unprompted, genuine and something that has been on display every single session night this year. He always shows up, listens up and steps up. His effort and enthusiasm has been apparent and abundant.

Endeavour Shield

The individual award held in highest esteem within Junior Section is the **Endeavour Shield**. This is presented to the boy the officers think has made a significant contribution to the Junior Section and who has strived to exemplify the motto of the Boys' Brigade in all his endeavours. This year our deserving recipient of the Endeavour Shield was **Tyler Weir**.

Tyler has made significant contributions to several competitions over his years in junior section, but is always modest in acknowledging the part he has played. He is great at involving boys from all years in games and has a great sense of fun and sportsmanship. He is unfailingly polite,

dedicated, well liked and respected by boys and officers alike.

Vote of Thanks

The parent's night always ends with a vote of thanks and I'd like to end this article in the same way.

I especially want to give a special thanks to the officers of the Junior Section, (especially Greg McLaughlan) for all the extra leadership and service they have put in this session to compensate for the times I have not been there due to maternity leave. They have all stepped up and excelled at maintaining and nurturing the Junior Section ethos of fun, kindness and respect.

I would also like to give a very important thank you to the parents and families who so willingly support the section throughout the year at battalion competitions, BB events and at our weekly session meetings. So, parents/families - for being the constant finders of lost arm bands; the providers of the ever-valued tuck shop money and the pick-up and drop-off champions that you are - thank you.

And finally, my last and biggest thank you goes to the Junior Section boys themselves. They are the life blood of the organisation and the best bunch of good eggs you are ever likely to encounter. Thank you boys for the fun and friendship you bring to the Junior Section, your contributions are all so valued and appreciated.

Dates for the diary

Junior Section 2019 Holiday Camp: Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd June.

Stephanie Laing - Officer in charge

WORK PARTY



The Work Party meet each Monday around 9 am, finishing around 12 noon.

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

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

Howard Rennie



CrossReach@150

As we celebrate 150 years – help us knit 150 Wellbeing Octopuses!



150 years ago, the Church of Scotland started sowing the seeds of 'care in Christ's name.' To join in the celebrations CrossReach invites you to take part in knitting one or some of 150 knitted CALAMARI SHANARRI octopuses for children throughout Scotland to enjoy.

Wellbeing is at the heart of the work of CrossReach with children, young people and their families. Are you ready to start sewing some wellbeing messages?

To learn more and download your pattern visit:

http://bit.ly/CR_meet_CAL or

email: tanya.anderson@crossreach.org.uk

CLEANING TEAM

Our next cleaning date before the summer is June at 9.30 am



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

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

CROSS SQUARE PATTERN

Use 4.5 mm needles
Double knitting wool (300g) or Baby DK wool (200g)
Cast on 17 stitches
Row 1-4: knit across
Row 5: knit 2, purl 13, knit 2
Row 6: (All remaining even rows, KNIT across)
Rows 7, 9, 11, 13, 15: knit 2, purl 5, knit 3, purl 5, knit 2
Rows 17, 19, 21: knit 2, purl 2 knit 9, purl 2 knit 2
Rows 23, 25: Repeat row 7
Row 27: Repeat row 5
Rows 29-31: knit across
Row 32: Bind off

SHAWL PATTERN

Use 6.5 mm (old 3) needles
Double knitting wool (300g) or Baby DK wool (200g)
Cast on 63 stitches or any multiple of 3 such as 54, 57 or 60
First row: knit 3, purl to the end of the row
Repeated row: turn and knit the purl stitches and purl the knit stitches
The suggested size is 24" wide x 60" in length
Use any remaining wool for a fringe that can be 3" to 9" long.

Junior Church

Easter fun...

The children in the Junior church enjoyed joining together as Zones during the school holiday period. Staffed by parents and friends the children made many crafts and worked together to complete Easter puzzles. On Easter Sunday following breakfast, provided and served by the events team and the Y Zone, the children were able to make eggs in baskets and chick crafts before all receiving an egg from the Y Zone to take home.

Sincere thanks to the Y Zone and their leaders for preparing the breakfast and serving it. This was enjoyed by a number of friends in the congregation.



Christian Aid Sunday...

On Sunday 12 May all our Zones took part in our Christian Aid Service. Our Junior Church entered church wearing red and carrying Christian Aid flags as they paraded into church to raise an awareness of this very worthy charity. The children then headed to the halls to take part in many Christian Aid Activities at their messy Morning. This was organised by CAST.

Following the morning service the congregation joined together for lunch.



End of Session ...

On Sunday 16 June our Junior Church Zones will be taking part in our worship. A number of our children will be promoted from the Kids Zone and Mini Zone. The Guild have given the Junior Church a very kind donation following their AGM. We are very grateful for their ongoing support of our young people. This will allow us to purchase our promotion books and Bibles.

Every Junior Church member will also receive a certificate in church. We look forward to this special family service to mark the end of another busy Junior Church session.

Our Junior Church team

At the end of another busy session the leaders and helpers are ready to enjoy a summer break. We are very fortunate to have a large team of willing, energetic and enthusiastic folks who week by week, prepare, organise and deliver exciting and creative lessons to our children. Our thanks to them all for their work each week. Our thanks also to Lynn Kelly and Lisa Mossman, our treasurer and secretary, who week by week support the Junior Church behind the scenes.

Summer Sundays..

During the school summer holidays our children are invited to attend church with their families. The children will have an opportunity to meet informally for Summer Sundays. We will arrange for the children to meet in the Avon hall. Weather permitting the children will head to the park, or have a dvd, games or craft morning. This will be supervised by the parents.

Enjoy the holidays..... let's hope we get some sunshine! A postcard will arrive early August with our new session details.

We hope that you keep our young folk in your thoughts and prayers during the Summer months.



St Mary's Summer Club is back!



The ever-popular Summer Club will be held every morning from

Monday 29 July until Friday 2 August.

The usual mix of games, crafts, music and drama will entertain children of 3 years and upwards.

We are looking for adult and teenage helpers to help and share in the fun. If you are available to come along on any of these dates please contact:

Hazel Graham

or

Jennifer Bradshaw



Junior Church Postcard Challenge 2019...



Over the next few Sundays our friends in the congregation - YOU - may be away on a Summer break and we want to find out where you have been.

The Junior Church invites you to take part in our **Postcard Challenge**. The address is -

Junior Church,
St Mary's Parish Church,
Avon Street,
Motherwell, ML1 3AB, UK.

What we challenge you to do is **tell us where you've been!**

Maybe a day trip to Oban

Visiting family in Kent

Enjoying a weekend in London

Or somewhere exotic like the med! please let us know.

The Y Zone will display them to show where our friends have travelled to.

We hope that this will help you to **keep our Junior Church in mind** and in your prayers as you travel near and far over the next month.

Who knows we may even have a prize for the most interesting or farthest travelled card.

So please get posting - and take part in our Postcard Challenge!





The sun is streaming through the window. It's a bright start to the Bank Holiday weekend when we might be lucky enough to enjoy a short break or do something a bit different from our usual weekend pattern. We live in a country where we have freedom of speech and movement - a blessing we take so much for granted. However, we should always take time to remember those, far less fortunate than ourselves, who live in fear and whose lives are traumatised by the actions of their governments. We give thanks to those who reach out with helping hands and for all the agencies and charities who try to make life more bearable for these people.

Last year, 2018, donations from churches in Motherwell raised a total of £1,367 (£667.37 of which was raised from St Mary's retiral offering in December). The Sponsored Walk in September raised £1,640 for 'Work in Iraq'. 'Cantabile' treated us to a wonderful concert in March and the proceeds of £1,000 was given to 'Vital Funds to support Trauma Healing in Syria'. £1,540 was remitted to SBS's HQ's General Funds.

At the end of May we have a meeting to discuss what projects we would like to support during the year. Our Sponsored Walk round Strathclyde Country Park will take place on Sunday, 8th September. If you wish to take part, please get in touch with me.

It's my pleasure to welcome Valerie Craig onto the Motherwell Action Group. That gives us 3 members from St Mary's - Christine Brown, Valerie Craig and myself. In total we now have nine members in our Action Group and I look forward to working with them all.

I'd like to share with you a verse I recently read.

Being Thankful for each new Challenge

"Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire.

If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times, during those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitations because they give you the opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes, they will teach you lessons.

Be thankful when you are tired and weary because it means YOU have made a difference.

It is easy to be thankful for the good things.

A life of rich fulfilment comes to those who are also thankful for setbacks.

Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.

Find a way to be thankful for your troubles and they can also become your BLESSING".

Anonymous

Please keep on handing in used stamps. They can be left in the office.

Once more, on behalf of our team, many thanks for your prayers and support.

With Christian Love and blessings,

Margaret Carrol
Motherwell Action Group

FLOWER LIST	
JUNE	
2nd	Mrs W Burrell
9th	Mrs L Thain
16th	Mrs M Bimbi Mrs M Graham
23nd	Mrs F Hannah
30th	Mrs E Blackwood
JULY	
7th	Mrs F Shearer
14th	Miss L Clarkson Mrs Galloway Mrs Pritchard
21st	Miss J Moffat
28th	Mrs A Ford Mrs M Graham
AUGUST	
4th	Mrs M Dick Mrs J Paterson
11th	Miss J Pettigrew Mrs G Neil
18th	Mrs M Crawford Mrs L O'Neil Mrs M Roberts
25th	Mrs B Hamilton Mrs J Crawford



FORTHCOMING SERVICES

9	June	11.00 am	Sacrament of Communion
16	June	11.00 am	Junior Church Promotion Service
15	September	11.00 am	Sacrament of Communion

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday - Friday 10-12 noon SUMMER CLUB
29 July - 2 August

DRAMA KIRK See page 4 for details

Vestry Hour - Thursday

Please telephone the minister to make an appointment.

June Graham - Flower Convenor

