

ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity No: SC012233



AUTUMN 2024

Bulletin No 364



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

BAPTISM

"Go therefore and baptise"

26 May	Graeme Thomson-Gold	Carfin
18 March	Matthew Barr	Motherwell

New member

By Profession of Faith

Graeme Thomson-Gold





St Mary's Manse

May 2024

Dear Friends:

During the Summer months, our Sunday Service Theme was "Old Testament Characters". I was delighted that the services were so well received and enjoyed. One character we missed, but in hindsight should have included, was Noah. This Summer has felt a bit like forty days and nights of rain! Let's hope we have a drier Autumn.

Following on from the success of the Summer Services, during the Autumn, I have decided to run a series on "New Testament Characters". There will, of course, be a few exceptions: Harvest, Remembrance and our Autumn Songs of Praise. The Autumn Services will be as follows:

SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST:
JOHN THE BAPTIST

SUNDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER: LUKE

SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER: NATHANIEL

SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER:
JAMES & JOHN [COMMUNION SERVICE]

SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER:
Service led by REV JOHN THOMSON

SUNDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER: MATTHEW

SUNDAY 6TH OCTOBER:
HARVEST SUNDAY [ALL-AGE SERVICE]

SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER: PETER

SUNDAY 20TH OCTOBER:
THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY

SUNDAY 27TH OCTOBER:
GUILD DEDICATION

SUNDAY 3RD NOVEMBER:
AUTUMN SONGS OF PRAISE [ALL-AGE SERVICE]

SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER:
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY [ALL-AGE SERVICE]

SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER: PAUL

SUNDAY 24TH NOVEMBER: JESUS
[CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE]

SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER ANDREW
[ADVENT COMMUNION SERVICE]

In 2019 and in the early months of 2020, our Kirk Session and Congregational Board worked very hard on a Mission Plan for the first 5 years of the new decade. The plan was visionary, far reaching and exciting. It was eventually adopted by the whole congregation in February 2020 and called: "Vision 2020+". Sadly, due to several factors, including Covid, Presbytery Planning and my ill health leave, this plan [as a whole] has never been fully realised. Many of its aims have been achieved but others remain to be explored.

As a congregation we need a new Mission Plan, and the Kirk Session and Board will start this process in the Autumn. It is hoped that it will be ready for the start of 2025 and will take our congregation forward in faith, hope and love in the 5 years ahead.

It will be a practical but ambitious plan, and I look forward to sharing more with you in the weeks and months ahead.

Currently, we are undergoing a Finance Campaign to raise £200,000 for a greatly needed new heating system for our Sanctuary. This campaign involves a three-pronged approach: direct giving, congregational fundraising events and seeking grant funding. I commend this Finance Campaign to the whole congregation and thank you for your participation so far.

As Parish Minister, I wish you all well in the weeks and months ahead as we journey though Autumn towards the start of a new Christian Year in Advent.

If you need my help and support at any time, please remember to call me or send an e-mail. [Phone: 07401949831] [E-Mail: bcalder@churchofscotland.org.uk].

God Bless: Bryce



Summer Fun Days Pictures



An Autumn Prayer

As we welcome the Autumn months, may the earlier setting of the sun remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colours of the leaves remind us of the wonder of Your creation.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air remind us that it is You who give us the breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us of the abundance we have been given and opportunities before us to share with others.

May the ending of Summer's spirit, the falling of Autumn leaves, the cold of coming winter and the hope of a new Spring to come all remind us that the circle of life is eternal and that You are the God of all seasons, all times, all places - ever present and always loving.

We praise you for your goodness and blessing forever and ever.

AMEN.



FINANCE REPORT (to 31st July 2024)

We are now more than halfway through this year's budget and signs are that we have anticipated where our difficulties would arise. Expenditure has greatly increased due to large increases on our gas and electricity bills.

I am pleased to let you know that we have had a small increase in the level of giving on a monthly basis. It is a small increase of 1.5% (an increase of £770 on the 2023 figure). This is an encouraging development.

St Mary's Parish Church Monday 26 August 2024 Finance Committee Report at 31 July 2024

1 INCOME		General Fund	Other Funds	Total
a) Offerings	£	68,281	£ -	£ 68,281
b) Tax Recovered	£	-	£ -	£ -
c) Donations to General Fund	£	100	£ -	£ 100
d) Donations to Reserve Fund	£	-	£ 1,000	£ 1,000
e) Donations to Fabric Fund	£	-	£ -	£ -
f) Miscellaneous Income	£	1,900	£ 2,000	£ 3,900
g) Use of Premises / Interest	£	5,614	£ 629	£ 6,243
h) Life & Work	£	301	£ -	£ 301
i) Fabric 2024 Appeal	£	-	£ 8,205	£ 8,205
		£ 76,196	£ 11,834	£ 88,030
2 EXPENDITURE	£	79,388	£ 19,087	£ 98,475
3 STATEMENT OF FUNDS				
Congregation	£	14,463		
Fabric	£	12,483		
Reserve	£	71,772		
Total		£ 98,718		
Consolidated Fabric Fund	£	20,121		
4 ANNUAL COMPARISONS				
Offerings to End July 2024	£	68,281		
Offerings to End July 2023	£	67,511		
Difference		£ 770		1.1%
		General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Income to End July 2024	£	76,196	£ 11,834	£ 88,030
Income to End July 2023	£	80,851	£ 5,436	£ 86,287
Difference		-£ 4,653	£ 6,398	£ 1,745
		-5.8%	117.7%	2.0%
		General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Expenditure to End July 2024	£	79,388	£ 19,087	£ 98,475
Expenditure to End July 2023	£	75,727	£ 3,190	£ 78,917
Difference		£ 3,661	£ 15,897	£ 19,558
		4.8%	498.3%	24.8%

2024 FABRIC APPEAL

This appeal began during June and has started slowly. I expect this appeal to really gather momentum after the summer period when the Church was less busy and many were on holiday. Our plan is to raise £200,000, in as short a period as is possible, to replace the heating system within the Sanctuary and improve the heating elsewhere in our property.

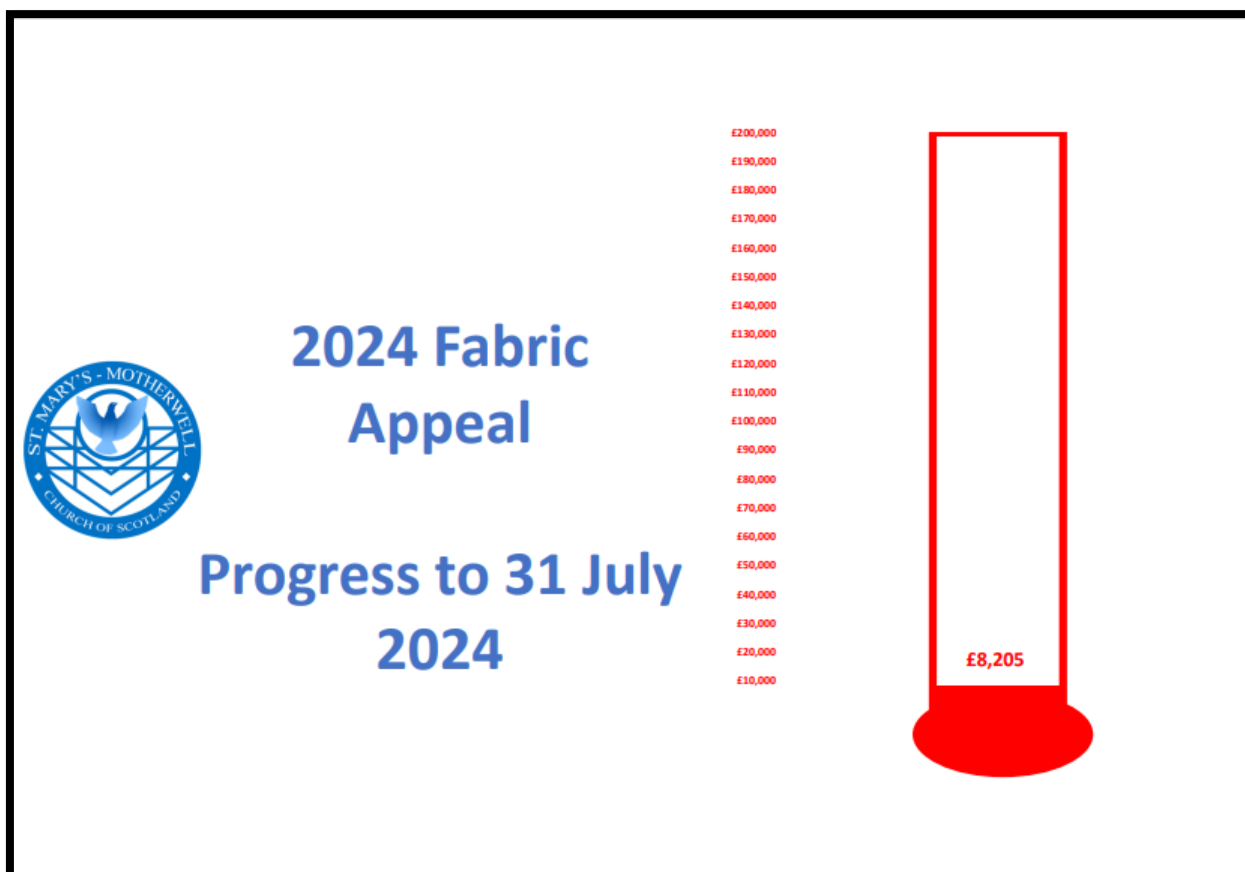
We will raise the money through direct giving, tax recovered through Gift Aid, grants from a variety of organisations and events planned throughout this year and next. The first of these events is on 14th September in the Church halls and the hope is that this will have the support of our Congregation and the Community.

We have raised £8,205 over June and July and we are grateful to everyone who has so far contributed.

Kind regards

Leslie Innes

Finance and Stewardship Convenor



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Session 2024 - 2025

So, the summer in name (not in weather) this year has gone. As we edge towards the darker nights, my hope as the new President of the Fellowship, we can bring some brightness in to your lives on a Monday evening. Our syllabus for the new session is printed (See below) and by the time you read this, you may already have received a copy of the syllabus. As a Committee, we took the decision to give every adult, male and female, who attends church a copy of the syllabus. The thinking being that, although somebody who receives a copy may feel that this organisation is not for them, they may know somebody, not necessarily a member or attender at St Mary's, who may be interested in attending.

It can be daunting for a person, unfamiliar with the layout of St Mary's, and who may not know anybody who attends St Mary's, to attend any meeting for the first time. We are aware of that. To make the process easier for them, we will ensure that we have a member at the Avon Street door to greet anybody, unfamiliar with our church property.

Our first meeting of the new session is on **Monday 9 September**. Meeting in the Conference Room at 7.30 pm. In keeping with tradition, our minister will be the speaker on the first evening.

I hope that our syllabus is of interest to **you**, and you find the time to join us as often as you are able.

Howard Rennie

Men's Fellowship Syllabus

2024

September

9	Santorini	Rev Bryce Calder
23	Shop Fronts of Glasgow	Iain Wotherspoon

October

7	Strathaven Mini Railway	Ian Samson
21	Blood Groups	Hugh Graham

November

4	Confessions of a Trustee	John Maddock
18	Wishaw to Somewhere	Robert Nimmo

December

2	Pantos and Cruising	Scott Fleming
16	Christmas Quiz	Alan Joyce

2025

January

6	Then the Phone Rang	Arthur Barrie
20	Scottish Night	Alex Baird

February

3	Organ Meets Films*	Aaron Hawthorne
17	Poppy Scotland	David Walker

March

3	The Organist Entertains	John Pitcahley
17	AGM and Others	

*Joint with The Guild



MOTHERWELL FOOD BANK

Please continue to donate to this Christian Project which offers support to those who are at a crisis point in their life. All packs are given out on a referral basis to people living in our local area.

Suggested items: hotdogs, meatballs, long-life milk, noodles, breakfast cereal, pasta and sauce, meals in a tin, tinned meat, tinned veg, tinned rice/custard.

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

GUILD



Theme - Sure Foundations

Project - Bibles for Bairns

Hello Ladies

We have had very mixed weather this summer but I hope it has not affected you too much and you have managed to enjoy your summer break

Our opening social this year is on 23 September at 7.30 pm, this is an evening of "Nostalgia" with Roland Russell. Meetings will then follow every 2 weeks

There is a very interesting and mixed syllabus arranged for this session including an afternoon visit to Motherwell Library, and our usual joint meeting with the Men's Fellowship. We also have our usual mix of speakers and social nights, some of which will include Home Baking.

We hope that you can join us and of course new members will be made most welcome. All evenings are open to everyone so why not bring a friend. We will have some spare copies of the syllabus to hand out to anyone interested

Many thanks to the committee members for their suggestions for the syllabus and their support in this my second time as President. I look forward to working with you all to make this an enjoyable session

Best Wishes

Myra Philip

Guild President

WORK PARTY

There is no set date for the Work Party starting, or indeed finishing. Both are determined by what works we have to undertake. This year we finished in August, which is about a month earlier than normal. Notwithstanding that, we have undertaken several smallish projects. Probably the most visible ones are the weeding of the tubs, paths and borders, around the church buildings. We have also undertaken external redecoration to some of the main doors and windows, and handrails. In the Coffee Bar, the table tops have been repainted. We also spent a short time in the Manse Garden. Our labours are over for another year. When we next meet as a group, it will be for our annual lunch in the Moorings Hotel.

Howard

Wednesday Coffee Mornings



COFFEE, TEA, TREAT AND CHAT FROM 10 - 12 NOON

Our Wednesday mornings continue to be busy with new people popping in to join us.

CROSSREACH

Care you can put your faith in

Communication from Crossreach tells us it is little more than 100 days to Christmas and time to order your cards and calendars.

<https://shop.crossreach.org.uk>

Summer Camp 2024



Getting there....Day 1

With 18 boys and 10 officers (all resplendent in our new pale blue BB hoodies), the convoy of 2 minibuses and the Chapman's offroader and trailer we managed to load up and ship out all our camping stuff and luggage for 5 days of adventure as we headed for Badaguish just outside Aviemore in the Cairngorms for our 2024 Summer Camp.

After a lunch stop in Aviemore we descended on Badaguish and began the process of making ourselves at home - 9 tents had to go up, the kitchen had to be organised, our travelling crockery, cutlery and utensils washed, the mammoth online shop had to be unpacked and the tuck shop retail outlet needed stocked and organised.

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

The boys made an excellent job of setting up our tents under the careful guidance of Mr Greenhorn so after an afternoon of settling in we enjoyed our first meal together and then set off for a stroll down to Loch Morlich.

The Hillwalk....Day 2

Day 2 is the traditional camp hillwalk and this year we returned to a walk we last did in 2016 - the Meall a' Bhuachaille circular. This is a brilliant walk that starts and ends at the campsite and loops around the hills behind that campsite.

It was a stunning 15 kilometre walk in very windy conditions at times - between 2 of the peaks we had a great view of the campsite and Mr Reid who was at the campsite was able to capture a great photo of us on the horizon!

Activity Days....Day 3 & 4

Saturday and Sunday were both days of organised activities where the main event of the day was provided by an outdoor activity company. This year we again partnered with Gemma and Calum at Able2Adventure who are based at Badaguish and laid on an excellent set of activities for us.

Over the 2 days the boys learned to paddle board on Loch Morlich, gorge walked (lots of jumping in!) the River Feshie at Feshie Bridge, abseiled down a 20 metre cliff in the Kingussie Crags and canoed Loch Morlich in Canadian canoes.

Motherwell to Aviemore Challenge

One of our reserve officers Alan Joyce had set himself the challenge to cycle from Motherwell to Aviemore to join us at camp on the Sunday and raise funds for the St Mary's Fabric Appeal. He set out early in the morning from the church and crossed our finish line to rapturous applause just after 4 pm having covered 150 miles. An amazing achievement - congratulations Alan!

What else....?

In between all the planned activities the boys were kept entertained/busy by our staff team in football competitions, a quiz night and an indoor games night.

Thank You

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

Thanks to Mr Ian Beattie our camp chef for providing wonderful meals, doing all the dishes and putting up with all the nonsense chat!

Thanks are also due to our partners James Chapman Butchers for their continued support.

Summer Camp 2024 was another great camp in the perfect location, awesome activities with a wonderful group of boys who have all come home with memories that will last a lifetime.

Camp 2025 is already booked and we hope to create another memorable camp for everyone.....

Captain Stewart Maxwell



Summer Camp 2024 – some photos







6th Motherwell Brownies



Welcome back! And we hope everyone had a lovely Summer!

At the time of writing, the Brownies are due to start back for a new and exciting session.

Tuesday 10 September sees the Girls return to brighten up Tuesday evenings at St Marys!

At the end of last session the Girls finished their **Aviation Badge**. They finished the badge with a very special visit from the **Air Cadets!**



This Summer also saw **Lynsey, our Tawny Owl**, celebrate her wedding! Here is Lynsey receiving a little gift from one of the Girls, and how lovely does Lynsey look on her special day! ❤️



We finished last session with a super joint evening with the Tuesday Guides, having our very own **Olympic Games!** Some very important Olympic sports were carried out, from the 'egg & spoon' race, to the 'sack' race, to the 'three legged' race! Much fun was had and of course everyone was a Gold Medalist! 😄

St Mary's Girlguiding

Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Rainbows, Brownies & Guides start back shortly at St Mary's, on the following dates and times:

> 6 th Motherwell Brownies	Mon 02-09-2024	6.30-8.00pm
> 6 th Motherwell Brownies	Tues 10-09-2024	6.30-8.00pm
> 6 th Motherwell Guides	Tues 03-09-2024	6.30-8.00pm
> 6 th Motherwell Rainbows	Wed 04-09-2024	5.30-6.30pm

There are waiting lists for some of the Units above, however if you are reading and would like your child to join:
Rainbows (4-7yrs), Brownies (7-10yrs), or Guides (10-14yrs)
then please register at:
<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/>

We look forward to seeing you soon for lots of fun!





So we move onto the new session and the Brownies are helping to host a very special **St Mary's Girlguiding Tea & Coffee Morning** very soon! On **Saturday 5 October** please come along and support the Units as they help you enjoy a lovely cup of tea, coffee or maybe even a wee hot chocolate, along with a yummy cake, an empire biscuit or even a wee meringue! Sounds lovely!

The Girls are looking for your support to raise funds for both **St Mary's Fundraising Campaign** and to help support a special **Girlguiding Fun Overnight** for all the units later this year, helping to celebrate the special Anniversaries of some of the Units from earlier this year!

Watch out for more news in the Church publications! Thank you for reading and we look forward to seeing you soon, joining us at the St Mary's Girlguiding Tea & Coffee Morning, and then for the next edition of the Church Magazine!

St Mary's Girlguiding Units

Tea & Coffee Morning





St Mary's Parish Church, Motherwell.

Saturday 05th October

Everyone welcome to come along!

Tea, coffee, cakes & biscuits!

**** Raising funds for St Mary's Church & St Mary's Girlguiding Units**

Junior Church

It is always a pleasure to be part of the special celebration Sunday at end of June.

This year not only were we recognizing the participation of the children from Junior church and Y Zone within the life of St Marys, but also many of the adults who have supported over many years in many different roles.

At the end of this session Christine our Mini Zone leader, Rhona and Stephanie from the team are all ready to retire. With a collective service of over 40 years the girls have more than shared their talents and time with the Junior Church - artistic talents, planning talents, musical talents, creative talents to name but a few.

Week by week and session by session the girls have led the weekly activities, planned for special services and organized and staffed many fun days. We thank them for all they have done during their time as part of the Junior Church team.

The girls now look forward to being able to attend the services together with family and friends and to enjoy watching the antics of the front few pews from a distance!

I'm delighted to say that Alison, Lesley and Lynne have agreed to join the team and look forward to them sharing new ideas for our children.

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We have had a super session at Junior Church as you have seen on the church twitter and face book pages and on the weekly pre-service slide show .

Lots of fun, friendship and fellowship each week with our children and team - a team who give their time week by week to plan, prepare and present our Bible themed sessions. My personal thanks and a thankyou from all our families for all that you do.

The start of our new 2024 session began with our Junior Church making a friendship tree, each adding their own person leaf and message.

Our theme for term one is Old Testament characters, following on from the summer services.

We have many exciting activities planned with a number of special services. Details for our children will be shared on our WhatsApp group and also on the church X and Facebook page.

We meet in the Cameron Hall before the morning service and children of all ages will be made most welcome.



Y ZONE

The members of the Y-Zone have enjoyed the summer holidays and are now ready for a new session full of fun fellowship and challenges 🏐🏸🏊

We have lots planned over the coming months from team building days to prayer walks not to mention some time in the kitchen 👨👩👧👦

We will also be concluding our 'come dine with me challenge' this month and look forward to sharing our pictures with you along with the total that we have raised for Church Funds 🍕🍷🍰

Our efforts toward making the church more ECO friendly also continue and we hope to have an update to share soon 🌱

And finally we have a very special family night that we are planning later in the year so watch this space as details will follow ! 🚩

Looking forward to the session ahead and to the ongoing encouragement and support which we receive from the wider church. 🙌🙏

Y ZONE AND FRIENDS IN ACTION AT THE SUMMER FUN DAYS



Summer Fun Days Pictures



Junior Church

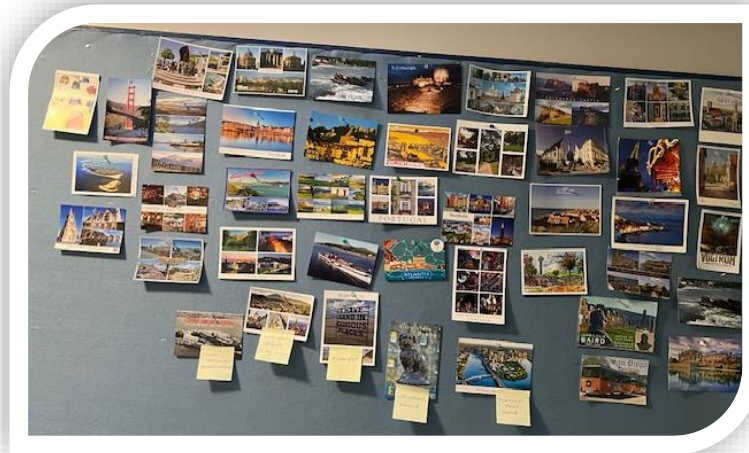
This year's Summer Challenges:

Challenge 1 –

Sunflower competition will run for a further few weeks.

Challenge 2 –

Postcard/Selfie



Postcard winners information-

Most unusual stamp - hot air balloon - sent from Laura St John from Germany

Most unusual location - Tracy Dodd - Alcatraz

Furthest travelled - Margaret McNay - Queensland

Children's choice - Grey Friars Bobby in Edinburgh - Elaine Mitchell

Funniest - Rev J Thomson - Germany

Thanks to all who supported the challenges.



St. Mary's Parish Church

Avon Street, Motherwell

Boys' Brigade STARTS BACK SOON!

If you are a boy from P1 – S6 then come along and start your BB Adventure!

Anchor Boys: P1-P3, Fridays 6:15-7:15pm, starts back 13th Sept
Junior Section: P4-P6, Wednesdays 7-8:30pm, starts back 18th Sept
Company Section: P7-S6 Fridays 7.15-9:30pm, starts back 4th Oct

For more details please contact Stewart Maxwell
stewart@13thmotherwell.org.uk

— >the adventure begins here —



CELEBRATION CONCERT

Saturday 2nd November 7pm.

Tickets Priced £5.00

***The Bothwell Philharmonic
Choir***

and

Dalziel High School Choir

ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

AVON STREET

MOTHERWELL ML1 3AB





FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Sunday	15 September	11 am	Sacrament of Holy Communion
Sunday	6 October	11 am	Harvest Service followed by Harvest Lunch
Sunday	27 October	11 am	Guild Dedication Service
Sunday	10 November	10.45 am	Service of Remembrance
Sunday	24 November	11 am	Church 110 Anniversary Service followed by Anniversary Lunch

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday	14 September	2-4 pm	Summer Fete
Saturday	5 October	10 am - 12 noon	Guiding Units Coffee Morning
Saturday	2 November	7 pm	Bothwell Philharmonic Choir Concert
Saturday	7 December	10 am - 12 noon	BB Coffee Morning
Saturday	14 December	7 pm	Beatson Concert

FLOWER LIST SEPTEMBER



- 1st -
 8th Miss J Graham
 15th Friends of Irene
 Nimmo
 22nd Mrs J Loughbridge
 29th Mrs M Joyce
 Mrs J Findlay

OCTOBER

- 6th Mr A Joyce (Jnr)
 Mrs B Aitkenhead
 13th Mrs S Forrest
 20th Mrs I Dougal
 Miss V Craig
 27th Rev & Mrs J Thomson

NOVEMBER

- 3rd Mrs M Tracey
 10th Mrs S Sinclair
 17th Mrs A Corbett
 24th Mrs M McCloy
 Mrs D Livingstone
 Miss J Graham
 10th Mrs S Sinclair

Useful Contacts

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



St Mary's Motherwell(@stmarysmwell)/X
 Rev Bryce Calder(@bryce_calder)/X



St Mary's Parish Church Motherwell

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

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

June Graham Flower Convenor