

ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity No: SC012233



Praise for the past, thanks for the present, hope for the future

SUMMER 2025

Bulletin No 367



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

-----oOo-----

FUNERALS

"I am the resurrection and the life"

1 April

Mrs Sheila Sinclair

22 May

Mr John King

-----oOo-----

NEW MEMBERS

Mr Gordon Joyce and Mr Alistair McDonald

-----oOo-----





Manse of St Mary's

May 2025

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to write this short introduction to our Summer Edition of St Mary's Parish Church Bulletin. The weather over the past few weeks of late Spring has been wonderful - I've even got a bit of a Scottish Suntan! A few folks have remarked to me 'that's our Summer'. Let's hope, though, that there is still more lovely weather to come - so that we can enjoy the glories of God's Summer gifts - illuminated by bright sunshine. In Summer, I particularly enjoy the smell of the Manse Garden Roses on a bright, sunny day. God's creation is truly glorious - in myriad ways.

In recent weeks, since the Spring Bulletin, St Mary's Parish Church has had some wonderful achievements.

On Sunday 23 March, we were visited by representatives from Eco-Congregation Scotland and due to the inspirational work of our Y-Zone and Eco Team we have been awarded a Silver Eco-Congregation Award. We had been aiming for a Bronze Award, but Eco Congregation Scotland thought that we had surpassed the Bronze criteria and awarded Silver. This is a significant achievement, and I am so grateful to all who have made this possible. We do not rest on our laurels, though, and in the days ahead, led by our Eco Warriors, we will continue to seek to make St Mary's Parish Church as eco-friendly and environmentally aware as we can.

On Friday 9 May, at the Annual Battalion Review, our 13th Motherwell Boy's Brigade were rewarded for all their hard work, fun, and enthusiasm over the past year. Our

Junior Section won the Matt Walker Rosebowl for the second year in a row and our Company Section were named Battalion Flag Champions for 2025. As Parish Minister, and Boy's Brigade Chaplain, I am immensely proud of all our boys. I am also hugely grateful to all our dedicated Officers - led by Captain Stewart Maxwell.

At last night's Kirk Session Meeting [Wednesday 21 May] it was also announced that our Street Food Outreach Project has been given a grant of £500 from the Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale. This is a wonderful project, led by a small and dedicated team, which reaches out to some of the most vulnerable people in our town with the love of Jesus. Thank you to Presbytery for the generous grant.

In the past few weeks, we have also marked some significant events as a Congregation. On Sunday 11 May, Rev John Thomson and Rev Arthur Barrie led a very poignant and beautiful service marking the 80th anniversary of VE Day. Then on Sunday 18 May, I had the joy of leading a service marking the 80th Anniversary of Christian Aid. If you have not already managed to give a donation to Christian Aid's vital work, there is still plenty of opportunity. I have set up a Just Giving Page for St Mary's - which can be found at: www.justgiving.com/page/bryce-calder-12

Social events are always popular at St Mary's, and we have had several successful and fun-filled fellowship events in recent weeks. I'd like to pick out a couple for special mention. On Tuesday 22 April, Renée Turner organised a hugely enjoyable Tea Dance - which saw over 100 attendees. Thank you, Renée. Then on Monday 19 May, the Events Action Team held a very successful evening event entitled: "A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE". It was an opportunity to celebrate the history of our wonderful

congregation. The proceeds of both these events [over £1000] have been donated to our Fabric Appeal for our Heating System. The Finance and Property Team are working hard on this project and on other vital and aspirational projects to make St Mary's Parish Church Building an ever more safe, comfortable and versatile place for our congregation, parish and community today and in the days ahead.

In the last Bulletin, I gave some details about the new Unitary Constitution under which St Mary's Parish Church now operates. In essence, the Kirk Session is solitary body which deals with all church business: fabric, finance, and all spiritual matters.

The Kirk Session has created and delegated smaller Teams to take care of specific areas of Church business: Business and Administration; Finance and Property; Communications; Events Action; Pastoral Care; Mission and Outreach; Children, Youth and Young Adult Development; Ecology and Environmental Work; and Discipleship and Training. These smaller Teams comprise both Elders and Congregational Members. The Teams are still in the early stages of their work but are already doing great work. For Congregational information, the Teams are each led by a Convenor. The Convenors are:

Business and Administration:
Rev Bryce Calder

Finance and Property: Mr Ian Beattie

Communications: Mr Stewart Maxwell - Stewart is covering this role temporary until we find a full-time Convenor for this vital Team.

Events Action: Mrs Kristeen Kennedy

Pastoral Care: Mrs Christine Brown

Mission and Outreach: Mr Alan Brown

Youth and Young Adult Development:
Mrs Hilary Kidd

Eco Team: [Contact: Mrs Elaine Neilson]

Discipleship and Training: Mr Alan Joyce

Under new Church Legislation passed at this year's General Assembly, Kirk Sessions will be responsible for creating a Five-Year Action Plan - which is revisable on a yearly basis and then submitted to Presbytery for information and approval. The key sections in the new Five-Year Action Plan fit in almost perfectly with the Team Structure the Kirk Session has created. Please pray for our Kirk Session and Teams as they continue the work of leading our congregation forward in faith in the years ahead.

Under Charity Law, it is now the responsibility of the Eldership [titled 'Trustees' for official charity business] to approve the Annual Church Accounts and Report for OSCR and the National Church. Our Accounts were approved at the February Kirk Session Meeting. The Congregation still have an opportunity to examine the accounts to make sure that they are happy with the work being carried out by our 'Trustees' on behalf of St Mary's Parish Church. An Annual General Meeting must be held before 30 June each year. This year, our Annual General Meeting will be held at the end of our Communion Service on Sunday 15 June. It would be wonderful if worshippers could stay for this meeting. The Annual Accounts will be available 2 weeks before the meeting to examine. This means that the meeting itself should be relatively short. In future years, we may revert to having the Annual General Meeting on a Week-Night - perhaps with some food and entertainment.

On Sunday 22 June, we will celebrate the children and young people of our Junior Church and Y-Zone in a special service. Then on Sunday 29 June, we will share in the Sacrament of Baptism. The Short Summer Services begin from the first Sunday in July until mid-August. Helen and I are due to become grandparents [for the first time] in mid-July, and I am thinking of looking at Bible stories of babies and children as a Summer Theme.

As I end this letter, I wish you all a very blessed Summer.

Your Friend and Minister
Rev Bryce Calder

A SUMMER PRAYER [AUTHOR ANONYMOUS]

*Father, Creator of all, thank You for summer!
Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight.*

*Thank You for the beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation.
Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season.*

Draw me closer to You this summer.

Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing.

Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence and light my path with Your Word and Counsel.

As I enjoy Your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.

In Jesus Name:

AMEN

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE



MOTHERS' DAY



Pictures from the very successful Afternoon Tea Dance



NEWS FROM THE TEAMS

FINANCE AND PROPERTY



Fabric Appeal

Progress to 30
April 2025



As we reach the end of year 1 of our fabric appeal the Kirk Session want to extend their thanks to everyone who has contributed to the total so far either via any of the special events or from regular monthly giving.

Envelopes have now been issued, either directly or via District elders, for year 2. If you have not received a set, please email stuart.dick@stmarysmotherwell.org.uk with your name and address. If anyone would prefer to donate each month by standing order the bank details are:

Account Name: St Mary's Church
Account No: 00123358
Sort Code: 83-25-45

EVENTS ACTION

Advance notice of "St Mary's Got Talent" on Saturday 25 October. It is hoped all organisations will take part - singing, dancing, acting..... whatever they want. Five minute slots. More details to follow.

NEWS FROM THE TEAMS

OUTREACH TEAM

Our Outreach Activities

Christian Aid	Wednesday Coffee Morning
Motherwell Foodbank	Street Project
Avondale Care Home Services	Reach Out (providing meals to those in need)

We have added to our team since we last reported - the full team now is

Alan Brown, Tracy Dodd, Hazel Graham, Joanne Morrison, Jemma Henderson, Ian and Margaret Carrol, Tom McPherson, Elaine Mitchell, June Wilson and Bryce Calder.

Vacant role

Scottish Bible Society representative

Feel free to speak to any one of our team members about getting involved or let us know through the Church email address office@stmarysmotherwell.org.uk

In the last magazine we highlighted the connection we offer to people in need on the streets of Motherwell. We have since secured funding from the Presbytery to further support provision of food and clothing through this work. We have the means, now we need people to carry out this work. I would urge anyone who feels they have the gifts to help others in this way to get in touch.

In this magazine we tell the story of the work of Motherwell Foodbank (see below).

1 Peter 4 8-10

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ.

NEWS FROM THE TEAMS

St. Mary's Community Outreach

**MOTHERWELL
FOODBANK**

100 food parcels
issued every week

£92,000
required every year

1,200 people have received help from the foodbank

People are limited to one visit per month, unless referred by a specialist organisation

Cost of a food parcel based on Asda 'own brand'

£14.84 -single person
£21.10 - Family of 4
£27.91 - Large family



The following items are gratefully accepted-

cash, noodles, long grain rice, dried pasta, pasta sauce, tea bags, coffee, biscuits, tinned foods (eg. soup, beans, spaghetti, potatoes, vegetables, hot dogs, meatballs, corned beef, tuna etc.)

Thank you for your continued support

Our cash donations have totalled £530 this year so far and estimated donations of food of around £500.

Motherwell Foodbank operates from the Maranatha Centre in Glencairn Street once each week on a Thursday morning. Those in need can visit to pick up a food parcel, eat a free breakfast or get a haircut. The team of 25 volunteers who run it also offer support with toiletries, clothing and pet food. Our local Citizens Advice Bureau has a desk to offer free advice. Rather than question how as a society we find ourselves having to provide food and effectively ration it, we simply respond to the need, just as a first aider would assist someone who is injured. **Thank you for your support for this ongoing project and we hope if you are able you can continue to donate cash and food.**



GUILD

The Guild have had an enjoyable and interesting 24/25 year and we are now looking forward to 25/26. The Committee have met and we are in the process of arranging the Syllabus for the next session. At our closing social we were entertained by the Inbetweeners and as usual it consisted of singing, fun and food.

Our Guild Outing this year was on Monday 12 May to Perth Museum and then to The George Hotel for High Tea. We also had some friends from the Trefoil Guild join us for the day. There was a guided tour of the museum which included The Stone of Destiny. The weather was kind to us and everyone enjoyed the day.

The Guild Annual Gathering is on Saturday 13 September 2025 from 11 am to 4 pm in Perth North Church. If you are interested in going, please give your name to myself or Eleanor and we can apply for tickets.

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday 1 September 2025 at 7 pm.

Hope you and your families have a lovely summer and I look forward to see everyone at our opening Social on Monday 6 October 2025.

Myra Philip
Guild President

WORK PARTY

We have only just resumed our labours. However, with the good weather in our favour, we have been concentrating on outside work in and around the church and halls. Weeding paths, and pruning the Rose Trees on the Avon Street side of the church is a work in progress. An additional area of work for us, is the garden at the church house. The house is vacant at present, so the garden needs to be attended. The area of garden at the front, is small. However, the garden at the rear is larger, with a lawn, borders and shrubbery. At the time of writing this (Friday 16 May) we have started work on the garden, and will maintain it until a decision is made regarding the church house.

Howard Rennie

WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNING

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



Our Wednesday mornings continue to be busy with new people popping in to join us. It is a most sociable morning. We also donated our takings to Christian Aid Week in May.

We are taking our usual break over the Summer. Our last coffee and tea will be served on 25 June and we will restart on 13 August.

We would be grateful to have new volunteers to serve teas and coffees on a Wednesday morning. This can be once a month or on a more random basis. More help is certainly needed. Speak to Isabel Johnstone, Margaret Watson or Christine Clark if you would like to help.



Championship Flag Winners!



END OF SESSION EVENTS

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 **Adam Bradshaw** and our Senior Sports Champion was **Jamie Reid**.

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 **Jamie Reid** and the Captain Mathie Commendation was presented to **Lewis McLachlan**.

BATTALION REVIEW & FLAG CHAMPIONSHIP

The Annual Battalion Review took place on Friday 9 May, hosted here in St Mary's 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.

The theme of the Review was the "Succession of King's Men" to mark the Queen's badge becoming the King's Badge. Our boys were among the first year group to receive the new King's Badge from our inspecting officer, Lady Haughey, the Lord Lieutenant and King's representative in Lanarkshire.

The feature items focused on what this year's group of young men had done in their King's badge programme and also one looking at the succession of the Queen's Badge becoming the King's Badge across 3 generations of 2 of our BB families.

At 13th we have had a very successful year in the competitions - 4 first places (Bible Knowledge, Squad Drill, Senior Football and Quiz) and 5 runners up places (Restricted Drill, Athletics, Swimming, Physical Challenge and Cross Country) out of a total of 12 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.

PRESIDENT'S BADGES

We had 4 of our senior boys achieve their President's Badge this year: **Adam Hattie, Murray Neilson, Jamie Reid and Jack Sharkey.**

This is the second highest award in the BB and involves completing the badge programme in physical, community and skills sections.

KING'S BADGES

The King'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.

Finlay Bradshaw, Charlie Fleck, Alex Hamilton, Alex Maxwell, Lewis McLachlan, Fraser Neilson and Adam Shepherd are all worthy recipients of the King's Badge. All 7 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 King'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 7 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 Saturday 28 June to Wednesday 1 July.

Twenty-one boys are currently signed up to go supported by 6 staff and our 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

28th June to 1st July - BB Summer Camp

Fri 3rd October - First night back for Company Section.



We are the Anchor Boys!

It's been another successful, fun filled year at 13th Motherwell Anchor boys.

We have enjoyed participating in theme nights, crafts, sports and challenges. We have learned the importance of cooperation and teamwork in our 4 squads, this year named by the boys - Minions, Hulk, Wolves and Black Panther.

At our presentation evening 42 boys were awarded their activity and service badges.

We performed our song 'We are the Anchor Boys' and the long wait was over to hear the winning squad this year which was the 'Wolves'.

Our P3 boys spoke so confidently to all of the parents and told us what they have most enjoyed throughout the year at Anchor boys.

This year we wave goodbye to 16 of our wonderful P3 boys. We want to wish them good luck for the future and we hope they are able to continue their BB journey at Junior section next year.

Any P1-3 wishing to attend Anchor boys on a Friday evening next year are very welcome to join us when we restart in September 2025.

Gordon Murray and Alison Miller
Officers in Charge



6th Motherwell Brownies



Well, when we left you in the last magazine, the Brownies were about to head off to **Brownie Pack Holiday!** The girls went to Gowanpark, Crossford, our Brownie and Guide Holiday Cottage! The girls arrived on Friday evening and stayed through until Sunday afternoon, and a fabulous time was had by all! This year's theme was "*Brownies at the Movies*", and the girls made their own *Walk of Fame* handprint, *Oscar tee-shirts*, *Moana necklaces*, *Wicked wands*, to name but a few things, and had a special showing of *Paddington*! Friday night also saw a very late midnight feast, but with some fresh air on the Saturday, sausages and marshmallows on the open fire, and fun in the woods, everyone was early to bed on Saturday night.....a sigh of relief from the Guiders!



This session has also seen us welcome new girls to the Unit and 5 of the Girls completed their Brownie Promise, receiving their special Promise Badge!



The Girls have also now completed their Jobs Badge! The final challenge was to take part in a STEM challenge, learning about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. In groups the Girls designed a 'solution' to keep a boiled egg protected from a drop from a high height! The girls did a brilliant job! Well done to all the Girls on completing their Jobs Badge!



The session has continued to be busy right up to the end, and May saw the Girls take part in the 80th anniversary of VE Day! Then the lovely warm weather has seen us spend some evenings at the Duchess Park, with some great outdoor activities and of course loads of games!



So as we finish up for this session, thank you for reading and we wish you, from all the Brownies and Guiders, a lovely summer, fingers crossed for some more sun!

Brownies and Guiders of the 6th Motherwell Brownies



6th Motherwell Guides



The Guides have completed a variety of activities this session but the most unusual was a Chip Shop Chomp. The purpose of this was to raise awareness of Girlguiding. This definitely happened as the leaders were asked who the girls were as they walked around Motherwell. It just shows that we can't take for granted that everyone knows about youth organisations. Most had heard about Brownies but not Guides!

Finally, The Guiders, on behalf of the 6th Motherwell Brownie Unit, took part in the St Mary's 'A Trip Down Memory Lane' evening, with a brilliant stand showing the history of the Unit!



The girls have completed challenges related to Earth Day and further explored the Unit Meeting Activities based on Knowing Myself. In the new session Girlguiding is introducing 72 new interest badges across all our sections, so that should be interesting.

Y ZONE

The Y- Zone has enjoyed another busy session which has included a number of special services; Thinking day, Mothers Day, Easter Sunday, Songs of Praise, VE Day and Christian Aid.

We continue to follow a varied program which tries to link the issues that face us in day to day life with our responsibility to be eco friendly, while linking the theme to the Word of God.

An example of this was the when we recognised National Science Day (whilst continuing to be eco friendly 🌱) We talked about early scientists like Galileo, Kepler, Newton, and Boyle, who were deeply religious and viewed their scientific work as a way to explore and understand God's creation. The morning was led by Ross (who lucky enough is not only one of the Y-Zone leaders but also a physics teacher) and he helped us create our very own rockets made from recycled items 🌱 - plastic bottles and elastic bands (amongst other things) not only was it lots of fun but we all learned a lot.

The group also spent morning taking part in another First Aid training session that was arranged by Tracy Dodd and Fiona Torrance. We spent time looking at how to respond to emergencies, CPR and first aid bandaging. Everyone learned a lot and it was a lot of fun. Huge thanks to Tracy and Fiona for giving of their time.

We also enjoyed some crafting lead by Rosaline where we planted beautiful flowers in pre loved tea cups 🌱 ready to be given to our mums, grans and Aunties for Mother's Day. Thanks to Valerie who provided the beautiful tea cups which will now be treasured by all.

In May we entered in to Exam season for many of our members so some time was spend looking at how to deal with the stress of exams and what techniques we can use to relax. Simple but effective breathing exercises.

In recognition of VE Day we took part in some special activities lead by Elaine, Ava and Megan. They educated us in rationing and blackouts and we all left with a better understanding of what it must have been like for families during the war.

It was also lovely to be part of the 'Trip down memory lane' event when we made a display of all the photos of past and present Youth Fellowship and Y-Zone. Some fabulous photos and some great events and ideas from the leaders who have gone before us which we will look forward to trying out (thanks Mr Joyce 😊)

We are so fortunate with the group of young people that we have in the Y-Zone along with the leaders who gives their time willingly. We were especially proud of success of our young leaders Fraser, Lewis and Alex from the BB who were amongst the boys who received the Kings Badge for the very first time at the BB review. The boys have been a great addition to the Y-Zone and it's a wonderful achievement for them.

Looking forward to lots more fun and fellowship in the coming months.

Diane, Elaine and Ross - Y Zone leaders

A Relaxing technique shared by the YZone

TAKE 5 BREATHING

Stretch your hand out like a star

Use your pointer finger on your other hand to trace each finger slowly

Breathe in through your nose as you trace up towards the tip of your finger

Breathe out through your mouth as you trace down your finger

Continue until you have traced all fingers on one hand

Y-ZONE GAMES & PIZZA NIGHT

Bring a friend

P7'S AND ABOVE

SAT 7TH JUNE 7PM- 9PM



Junior Church

VE celebrations...

The children in the Junior church enjoyed joining together with the congregation to mark the VE 80 Anniversary. Following the All age address the children headed to the church grounds waving their VE flags. We played lots of street games; skipping, hoopla, hopscotch and ball games, before making paper planes and crafts. To end the morning we had a tea party in the garden. The congregation then joined us after the service for coffee and cakes and a chance for many to share their memories of this important day.

Christian Aid Sunday...

On Sunday 18th May all our zones took part in our Christian Aid Service and messy morning. 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. The morning ended with a sponsored moveathon! Lots of energetic children! Photographs of our special morning formed the slide show on 25.5.24.

Following the morning service the congregation were invited to join together for coffee and cakes provided by CAST and their leaders.

End of Session ...

On Sunday 22 June our Junior Church Zones will be taking part in our family service. A number of our children will be promoted from the Kids Zone and Mini Zone. We are very grateful to the Guild who have supported the Junior Church with a very kind donation following their AGM. We thank them for their ongoing support of our young people. This will allow us to purchase our promotion books and Bibles. We are also very fortunate to be

supported by a number of individuals in the congregation. This support is very much appreciated.

Every Junior Church member will receive a certificate and book in church. We look forward to our special family service to mark the end of another busy Junior Church session. Following the service all our families and friends in the congregation are invited to join us for a Summer BBQ in the church garden. We hope the sun will be shining for us.

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 enjoy stories, games or craft mornings. This will be supervised by the parents and friends of Junior Church.

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

Start back Sunday - 17 August 2025

Junior Church

This year's Summer Challenges:

We are setting challenges for our friends and family in the congregation and Junior Church.

Challenge 1 – send a **Selfie/Photograph/Postcard**

If you are out and about or when you are away on your summer holidays our challenge this year is a selfie/photograph or send a postcard of a church/cathedral or religious building! Looking forward to seeing where we all go!!

Challenge 2 –

Our seedlings are making good progress and our families will receive their sunflower plants to care for over the summer weeks. I wonder who our winners will be this year! 🌻



Entries can be sent to Lisa, Bryce, Karen or the church office email to be included in our weekly slide show and end of summer competition for the tallest Sunflowers.



Christian Aid Sunday activities





ECO COMMITTEE

ECO COMMITTEE

The Eco Committee is a small group that was formed a few years ago with the aim of looking at how we can become a more Environmentally Friendly Church. The committee is made up of cross section of people within the church :

**Diane Connor
Elaine Neilson
Barbara Aitkenhead
Howard Rennie
Ros Ward
Alan Henderson
Hilary Kidd
Fraser Joyce
and input from the young people at the Y-Zone.**

The committee works together as we work through our ECO action plan and meet formally every 2 months to discuss progress and new ideas.

Details of our action plan can be found on our newly formed ECO notice board which is situated in the corridor leading from the Avon Hall Door.

We appreciate we are at the very early stages of our Eco Journey but it is an important stage where in simple terms we recognise that as individuals and as a Church we can do better and have the desire to do so.

Should anyone have any ideas or suggestions on things we could do please contact a member of the committee



Month	Eco Event	Website	Church Activity
March	Global Recycling Day – Tuesday 18 th March	www.globalrecyclingday.com	Y-Zone are creating window displays for the three Conference Room windows to encourage participation by the local community.
	The Great British Spring Clean – 21 st March – 6th April	www.keepbritaintidy.org	Also - • Social Media • Pre-service presentations with ways to take action • Eco Notice Board posters
	Earth Hour – Saturday 22 nd March 8.30 - 9.30pm	www.earthhour.org	
April	Stop Food Waste Scotland - Wednesday 30 th April	www.stopfoodwasteday.com	Easter Breakfast on Sunday 20 th April 2025. Notice Board info. about what YOU can do.
May	World Bee Day - Tuesday 20 th May	www.bbka.org.uk/world-bee-day-events Theme – Life on Land	Junior Church - • Planting a Bee Garden on church grounds and at home. • Build Bee Hotels from eco materials. Raise awareness - • Social media • Notice board
June	30 Days Wild	www.wildlifetrusts.org	• Signed up for resource pack – Jnr Church <i>Actioned - BA 24.5.25</i> • Crafts by Jnr Church • Raise awareness with craft displays on Church windows
	Bike Week – 9 th – 15 th June	www.cyclinguk.org Theme - Ride for a Greener Future	Alan Joyce will visit the Y-Zone re - • Green transport • Health benefits • Bike maintenance • His adventures
July	Bee's Needs Week 14 th Sunday 20 th July	www.gov.uk www.ukpoms.org.uk	Continuation of 30 Days Wild with FIT (flower-insect time) • Spend more time in the garden/ park etc to observe insects & take notes, draw, video etc. • Grow more flowers • Grow wildflowers • Make insect nests & hibernation spots • DON'T USE pesticides!
	Don't Step on a Bee Day 10 th June		
August	Big Butterfly Count 18 th July – 10 th August.	Butterfly Conservation – Big Butterfly Count	Independent task for Jnr Church • record findings on the Free App.

Suzanne O'Reilly Fitness

BRINGING A NIGHT OUT TO YOUR WORKOUT!

Clubbercise® is a fun full body workout with a banging soundtrack that gets great results. One session burns around 600 calories. The routines combine toning and combat moves with options to suit all fitness levels. Classes are held in a darkened room with disco lights and our trademark LED glow sticks.

Thursday 6.45-7.45 in the Church Hall.

To book simply click on the link - <https://gymcatch.com/app/provider/4319>

St Mary's Church



Toddler Group



Tuesdays & Fridays

10:00 - 11:30 AM

For More Information Visit

St Mary's Toddlers Facebook Page

New class alert - PILATES SCULPT

Time to make that change - this is not just for summer! Pilates has the power to change your body and the way you move forever!

This class is aimed at targeting those hard to reach areas - tummy, buttocks and arms!

It's suitable for all levels but I do ask if you have any back or knee pain please explore my Tuesday night class which can be tailored to individual needs. For more details please click on the link - <https://www.facebook.com/lauraphysiopilates>

Monday 7.15pm-8pm.

St. Mary's Church,
Avon Street
Motherwell

JUST BREATHE YOGA GROUP

St Mary's Parish Church Hall

Saturdays 10:00 - 11:00 AM

You Can Join By Coming Along
Or Telephoning 07795 378490

EVENTS ON OFFER IN OUR HALLS

Chair Yoga Sesions

Join us every Wednesday
9.30-10.30 am

Benefits:

Greater flexibility, mobility,
stamina and sense of balance.

Fosters mental clarity, aids stress
reduction, stimulates cognitive
function and enhances a sense of
wellbeing.

Connect with like-minded people in
a supportive and uplifting
environment.

St Mary's Parish Church, Avon Street,
Motherwell

First session FREE
£5 per session
£20 for a block of 5 sessions

Booking on www.mayaschool.co.uk

Artisew Sewing Classes

for beginners at St Mary's church,
Avon St, Motherwell

Come along and learn to sew in a friendly and
encouraging environment! Make new friends!
Develop skills and confidence!

Starting Saturday 3rd May

Adult class- 9:30-11:00

Junior class (age 10-15)- 11:15-12:45

£18 per week

Secure your place now at

ArtisewScotland@outlook.com

St Mary's is delighted to be
hosting a BoogieBeat mixed age
class on a Wednesday morning 9.30
-10.15 am.

The classes for children 6 months
to 5 years feature lots of singing,
dancing, stories and lots more.

To book a space simply click on the
link

www.boogiebeat.co.uk/classes/lanarkshire





FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Sunday	15 June	11 am	Sacrament of Holy Communion followed by Stated Annual Meeting
Sunday	22 June	11 am	Junior Church end of session service followed by whole church Family BBQ

FLOWER LIST



JUNE

2nd Mrs W Burrell
9th Mrs C Anderson
16th Mrs I Scott
23rd Mrs F Hannah

JULY

7th Mrs E Blackwood
Miss J Graham
14th Miss L Clarkson
Mrs F Shearer
21st Mrs E Galloway
Mrs J McInnes
28th Mrs F MacFarlane
Mrs M Tracey

AUGUST

4th Mrs G Neill/Miss A Gibson
11th Mrs L O'Neill
Mrs J Hunter
18th Mrs J Crawford
25th Mrs J Paterson

SEPTEMBER

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

FORTHCOMING EVENT

St Mary's got Talent Concert

- Saturday 25th of October
- 7pm
- Ticket
- Children go free
- Refreshments Available



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>

June Graham - Flower Convener