

St. Mary's News

Our Mission Statement:

Saint Mary's is a Christ-centred family, caring, sharing and working together, seeking to change through growth.

April 2013

Dear Friends,

As we approach Holy Week together I hope you are able to come along and join in some of the activities that St Mary's will be holding.

There is quite a lot going on during the week and I would very much appreciate your support at one or two of the planned Services.

Lent has been very special this year for those of us who have journeyed along with Holburn West Church, studying the York Course called "Glimpses of God". It has been great to hear input from different people with different ideas. This indeed challenges our faith as we share together at a deeper level.

Easter, as you well know, is a very important time within the life of the Church. Equally with our Saviour's Birth at Christmas, we celebrate His resurrection at Easter. This gives us the hope of a Saviour who brings us from birth into Eternal Life.

In Tom Wright's book, "Surprised by Hope", he gives us a few words in season ... "Easter was when hope in person surprised the whole world by coming from the future into the present". As this shows, Christ gives us the hope of a future secured in Him, as we travel and journey the Christian Walk together.

At this time of writing interviews are taking place for a new paid post at Church, that of part time

Secretary/Administrator. This comes out of our Mission Day with the Bishop a year ago now when he challenged us to move in different and new ways within the life of our Congregation. Yes, it has taken the Vestry a year to decide on this but lots of hard work has gone into getting it right. I hope by the next time you get the magazine, we are able to let you know who is to have this position in our new Church Office. Our thanks are due to those who have worked so hard to bring this new role to fruition.

Over the course of the last couple of weeks I have met with our very small Fund Raising Group. We have tried to draw up new plans for this year to generate income but also to have a bit of fun in doing so. Please let David, Gillian and Rachael know if you have any new ideas. I am sure they would welcome your input.

May the Story of Easter continue to touch all of us as we look at our own gifts which we offer to the Body of Christ, St Mary's, our Church in this place. Whether ordained or lay, God has given us all many individual gifts that we must use together for the building-up of His Kingdom.

Happy Easter and Blessings to you all.

Graham.



Normal weekly services:

Sunday: Holy Eucharist at 8a.m. and 10.15a.m.

Tuesday:
Morning Prayer at 7.45a.m.
Eucharist at 7.00p.m.

Wednesday:
Holy Eucharist at 10a.m.

Thursday:
Morning Prayer at 7.45a.m.

Easter Day Services

8am Holy Communion.
8.45am Easter Breakfast.
10.15am Family Service.
6pm Compline.

From the Registers:

The funeral of Jean Macinnes, M.B.E., took place in St. Mary's on Wednesday 13th March. May she rest in peace to rise in glory.

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Open 4 Prayer

Our lunchtime services continue to take place, normally on the last Tuesday of the month, aimed at attracting the office workers around us in the West End. Please support them and make our new worshippers welcome! The next service is on 30th April at 12.30p.m.

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Prayers for Healing

The next Prayers of Healing services will be held on Sunday, 6th April, at 6p.m., and thereafter on each first Sunday of the month. In addition, there are short prayers for healing after each Sunday 10.15 service in the War Memorial Chapel.

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Bishop's Lent Appeal

The Bishop's Lent Appeal this year aims to support our own Diocese's work with children and families.

'We have recognized that this is a crucial area for work in our church and we want to develop it as much as we can. Your help, your prayers and your generous giving will be vital if we are to succeed.

'Please pray for our work with Children and Families in the Diocese.

'Please talk about it with others and learn about the good work that is being done.

'Please give generously towards it in this Lent Appeal.'

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Vestry Report

The Vestry has met twice since the last report, on 23rd January and 27th February. The following items were discussed.

The Church Office is largely ready for the administrator and the Rector to start working there. A member of the congregation has donated money to purchase items of office furniture. Thanks to her, office chairs, a printer, desk lamps and a telephone have been purchased. As previously reported, desks etc. were received from Queen's Cross Church and a computer donated by Total.

The position of secretary/administrator has been advertised with a huge amount of interest in the post and interviews will take place in March. Nine members of the congregation have offered to help to clean the Church. Many thanks to all of them, their help is greatly appreciated. Because of the number who have offered to help, this will only involve each person once every 4 or 5 weeks and if anyone else would like to help with this very important task, please let me know and it will then be less frequently.

The organist's weekly fee is to be increased by £2 per week as requested by him. It was also agreed that visiting organists would receive a fee of £60 to accompany the full liturgy and £50 if only the hymns along with music before and after the service are played.

The Vestry is very grateful to a member of the congregation who has offered to pay for secondary glazing of the windows of the organ loft.

The organist has also requested that an industrial size dehumidifier be placed in the organ loft. Advice has been sought but we will need to supply the cubic area of the space to get viable advice.

New chuckies are to be spread on the remaining area of the grounds.

The Rector thanked those members of Saint Mary's who attended a service at Holburn West Church on 24th February.

The Lent Study has been shared with members from Holburn West Church this year and this has been very successful.

The Rector will meet with Stephanie Brock, the Diocesan Children and Young People Officer to discuss how the Sunday school might be revitalised.

There have been several complaints about singing the Psalm at the 1970 service and suggestions that we should say it instead. It was decided that at the moment, we should limit the length of the Psalm and review later.

Everyone will remember Venerable Mlu and his family who visited us in the autumn of last year. Mlu has been promoted to Provost of the Diocese of Mthatha and has been moved to another Church. There is therefore a new Priest in our sister church of Saint Mary's Mqanduli and the Rector will contact him.

Mary Allardyce
Vestry Secretary

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Sunday School

Birthday greetings this month to Lisa Cuthbertson, who will be sixteen on the 15th., and to Laura Ross, who will be seventeen on the 21st.

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Friday Openings

More volunteers are always needed to keep the church open to the public on Friday lunchtimes. This is invaluable for people in need of a church open for them to stop, think and pray, as well as those just curious about what the inside of the Tartan Kirkie looks like. If anyone can give up a little time, between 11a.m. and 2 p.m., for this valuable service, please contact the Rector.

Good Friday Devotions at St. Andrew's Cathedral – preliminary arrangements

Richard Bauckham, a lay man and significant international authority and gifted speaker on matters concerning the New Testament and the development of the early Church, will be leading the devotions at our Cathedral between Noon and 3pm on Good Friday coming. His working title is:

Senses of the Passion (in the Gospel of John)

The addresses will be accompanied by hymns, prayers, scripture readings and silence.

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New Diocesan Website

For news and views and information about the diocese, go to www.aberdeen.anglican.org – the new Diocesan website constructed by our own Mary McKinnell!

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Blairs College and Museum

The beautiful Blairs Museum will open again for the season on 30th. March. Once again there will be a variety of icons from Maria, including a lovely cross icon, and this year there are also Penny Dransart's glass findings from her excavations of the Episcopal palace at Fetternear.

The museum is open 2p.m. to 5p.m. Saturdays and Sundays from 30th. March.

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Diocesan Choral Festival 2013

The Annual Diocesan Choral Festival will take place in the Cathedral on Rogation Sunday 5th May with Bishop Bob in attendance. The Service, which will take the form of Choral Evensong, will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Order of Lay Readers. The Choir will be directed by Andrew Morrisson and the Organist will be Ed Jones.

The rehearsal is at 4.00pm to allow seating to be organised for a 4.15pm start and the Service is at 6.30pm. Refreshments including drinks and sandwiches will be available at 6.00pm. The music will include Canticles by Charles Wood in E flat and the Anthem "Light of the World" by Elgar. All choirs in the Diocese and also individual singers are most welcome to join the choir for this event.

The music is available partly on-line and partly electronically by PDF. Master copies can be posted to those without computer access.

Please apply to the Diocesan Office, St Clement's Church House, Mastrick Drive, Aberdeen, AB16 6UF or e-mail directly to cathedral@aberdeen.anglican.org.

Andrew Morrisson

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Regional Ecumenical Team

The Regional Ecumenical Team (RET) is the one ecumenical organ that links the mainstream Christian denominations in the city and which is recognised by Aberdeen City Council and is the one to which the City relates.

Update on Events

Sadly organisation for an event in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity had not worked. However an event is being planned for *Pentecost 2013*. It will be at Crown Terrace Baptist Church at 6.30pm and will be on 19th May.

An event is proposed for *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2014* with the proposed venue being St John's Episcopal Church, Crown Terrace.

The *Good Friday Procession of Witness* will take place as usual beginning at St Andrew's Cathedral, King Street. Last year over 80 people attended it and the event was recognised to be a significant success. The way the event began in our Cathedral was particularly remarked as very good. It is intended to begin this year's event at 11.30am. Lorna Andersen and Joyce Webster will be organising this.

September 14th Year of Faith. This is really important. At the invitation of the Roman Catholic Church the other churches, and not least our own are being invited to join them for a national ecumenical event celebrating their 'Year of Faith'. The event will begin at 2pm at St Nicholas' Kirk and then proceed to St Mary's Cathedral for Evening Prayer at 3pm. It would be truly good if as many of our churches as can could commit, up to five people each, to joining with our brothers and sisters from the Roman Catholic Church for this. The Lord Provost and the City will be involved as will be the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Anecdotes

An elderly couple had dinner at another couple's house, and after eating, the wives left the table and went into the kitchen. The two gentlemen were talking, and one said,

'Last night we went out to a new restaurant and it was really great. I would recommend it very highly.'

The other man said,

'What is the name of the restaurant?'

The first man thought and thought and finally said,

'What is the name of that flower you give to someone you love? You know ... the one that's red and has thorns.'

'Do you mean a rose?'

'Yes, that's the one,' replied the man. He then turned towards the kitchen and yelled, 'Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?'

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Hospital regulations in America require a wheelchair for patients being discharged. However, while working as a student nurse, I found one elderly gentleman – already dressed and sitting on the bed with a suitcase at his feet – who insisted he didn't need my help to leave the hospital.

After a chat about rules being rules, he reluctantly let me wheel him to the lift. On the way down, I asked him if his wife was meeting him.

'I don't know,' he said. 'She's still upstairs in the bathroom changing out of her hospital gown.'

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Children on Marriage

1. How do you decide who to marry?
You've got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming.
-- Alan, age 10

No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with.
-- Kristen, age 10

-- Kelvin, age 8

2. What is the right age to get married?
Twenty-three is the best age because you know the person FOREVER by then.

-- Camille, age 10

3. How can a stranger tell if two people are married?

You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids.

-- Derrick, age 8

4. What do you think your mum and dad have in common?

Both don't want any more kids.

-- Lori, age 8

5. What do most people do on a date?

Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough.

-- Lynnette, age 8

On the first date, they just tell each other lies and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date.

-- Martin, age 10

6. When is it all right to kiss someone?

When they're rich.

-- Pam, age 7

The law says you have to be eighteen, so I wouldn't want to mess with that.

-- Curt, age 7

The rule goes like this: If you kiss someone, then you should marry them and have kids with them. It's the right thing to do.

-- Howard, age 8

7. Is it better to be single or married?

It's better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them.

-- Anita, age 9 (bless you, child)

8. How would the world be different if people didn't get married?

There would be a lot of kids to explain, wouldn't there?

9. How would you make a marriage work?
Tell your wife that she looks pretty, even if she looks like a dump truck.

-- Ricky, age 10

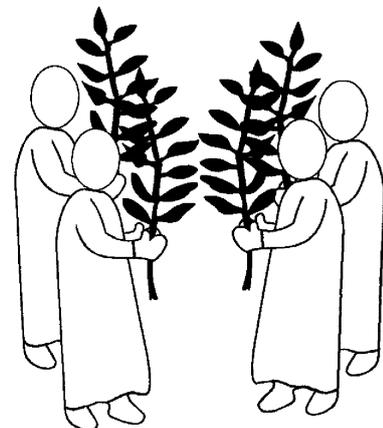
Dates for your Diary

March	31 st . Easter Breakfast
April	28 th . Bring and Buy
May	5 th . Diocesan Choral Festival 17 th . Cheese and Wine 26 th . Bring and Buy
June	14 th or 21 st . Quiz Night at the Ashvale 30 th . Bring and Buy
August	3 rd . Gallowgate Fair 18 th . or 25 th . St. Mary's Gift Day 25 th . Bring and Buy
September	1 st . Barbecue 29 th . Bring and Buy
October	27 th . Bring and Buy
November	1 st . Silent Auction and Cheese/Nibbles 24 th . Bring and Buy
December	Carol-singing (tbc)

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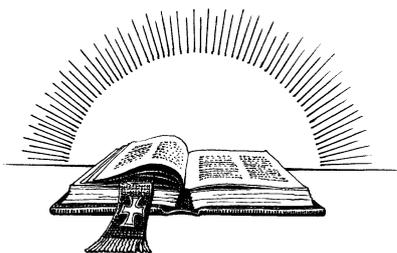
Tartan Kirkie Shorts:

Brenda Topps is pleased to announce the arrival of her eighth grandchild, Jessica Topps, on 7th. February.



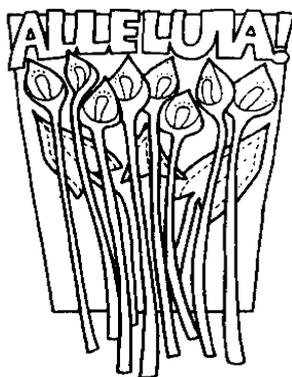
Saints' Days in April:

- 1st. St. Gilbert of Caithness
9th. Dietrich Bonhoeffer
11th. George Augustus Selwyn
12th. William Forbes
16th. St. Magnus of Orkney
20th. St. Maelrubha of Applecross
21st. St. Anselm of Canterbury
23rd. St. George
26th. St. Mark



Your Magazine

You can order your St. Mary's News to be sent to you each month by e-mail, or ask for a Large Print version, or ask for any back copies of editions you may have missed. Just contact the Editor!



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Vestry Treasurer: Lydia Ross (864072)

Lay Representative: Nicola Mills

Sacristan: Mary Allardyce

Organist: Kyle McCallum

Sunday School: Gillian Rose

Protection of Vulnerable Groups Co-ordinator:
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Website:

www.stmarysepiscopal.co.uk

All copy for the May magazine must be with the Editor by 22nd. April, 2013. Hard copy to Nicola Mills, or telephone 01224 488700, or e-mail to palaeography@aol.com. Thank you!

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Carden Place, is a charity (Scottish Charity No. SCO 14062).