

# 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.*

## June 2013

Dear Friends,

I had the privilege of spending Pentecost Sunday this year with the small congregation of All Saints at Woodhead of Fyvie. This was my last duty to fulfill with them before their new Priest arrives in June. Looking after this faithful group has been a joy and I wish them every blessing for the future as they link with St Drostan's, Inch. We shared the message of Pentecost, of the coming of the Holy Spirit as it came to those bewildered disciples then and as it still comes to the Church and to individual Christians today.

I wished the good people of Fyvie every blessing for the future and said that you never know what the Holy Spirit of God is going to do. It is something which cannot be contained or controlled, but bursts in with new life and a living hope that alights with fire the spark burning within the people of God and his Church.

We must reflect upon this within our life in St Mary's. We must ask the question, 'What is the Spirit of God up to in this place?' as we continue to pray together for new energy and new life. Indeed, what is the Spirit of God up to within each one of us, receiving, reviving,

restoring brokenness and making lives whole once again.

Can you fully grasp the story?

Ten days have passed since the One who had filled their lives with meaning, and then with unbearable sorrow and bewilderment at his death, to culminate in the supreme joy and surprise of resurrection, to the point that he is no longer with them. He left them encouraged after his appearances, yes, but filled with longing for his actual presence. He also left them with a tender promise: "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you," he said to them, as recorded by John. "And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high," – words recorded by Luke in his gospel.



They are together and they are waiting, probably praying in total silence. It is at this point that their senses are invaded, assaulted: for a violent wind makes a terrifying noise; those who have suffered through hurricanes and tornadoes in our day will know the sound. But this time they are not afraid. They look at each other and they laugh with a delight that breaks forth in uncontrollable babbling. They pour out of the house because they have something to say – aloud, and in a manner understood by others no

matter what language they speak at home. It's a delirious moment. It cannot be contained or controlled. It must be shared; otherwise, how can they possibly believe they are not dreaming?

You see, the resurrected Christ is not a possession of some, but a gift to all! The wondrous drama of the day continues with miracles: the miracle of language understood by all; the miracle of Peter's ability to rise above his humble Galilean accent and upbringing; the miracle of hearts being touched and changed. What a dramatic day, the day of the coming of the Comforter, the day of understanding the concept of Christ as the Holy Spirit. I wonder how we today understand the concept of Christ as the Holy Spirit in our lives.

A song I found, written by Sydney Carter, (more famous for writing 'Lord of the Dance') called 'The Bird of Heaven', seems to explain the power of the Holy Spirit on our lives today.

*Catch the bird of heaven; lock him in a cage of gold,  
Look again tomorrow and he will be gone.*

*Ah, the bird of heaven! Follow where the bird has gone  
If you want to find him, keep travelling on.*

*Lock him in religion. Gold and frankincense and myrrh,  
Carry to his prison, but he will be gone.*

*Temple made of marble, beak and feather made of gold,  
Bell and book and candle, but he will be gone.*

*Bell and book and candle cannot hold him anymore.  
Still the bird is flying as he did before.*

*Ah, the bird of heaven! Follow where the bird has gone,  
If you want to find him, keep travelling on.*

- words which really spoke to me of how we cannot contain or control the Holy Spirit but how the Holy Spirit can invade and contain and indeed control us.

What a gift indeed passed on to the Church to Christians who live by faith today, to know that we are not alone, but that the power sent from on high is working within us as we work out our journey here on earth, through Christ, with one another and in the power of God's Holy Spirit.

May God's Spirit be with 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.

### **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 25<sup>th</sup> June at 12.30p.m.

## Prayers for Healing

The next Prayers of Healing services will be held on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup>. June, 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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## Vestry Report

The Vestry met on 24<sup>th</sup> April.

Avril Scott has been appointed as Rector's P.A. / administrator and has started work. She will be in the office on Tuesday morning 8am – 11am and Friday afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm. The office must be respected as such and used exclusively by the Rector and Avril. It is located downstairs in the area previously known as the Crypt and any queries should be directed in the first instance to Avril who will then contact the Rector as necessary. The telephone number for the office is 01224 561383. Thanks to a member of the congregation who has given a very generous donation to purchase much of the equipment for the office.

The cleaning rota is working well but anyone who can come along for approx. 1½ hours on Saturday morning can volunteer by contacting Mary Allardyce.

Chuckies are to be spread over the remaining area of the Church grounds and Pete has now removed all the bulbs from the grounds at the west end.

Some rooms in the Rectory are in need of repainting and quotes have been received and accepted. The rooms are the porch, hallway and stairs and the Rector's study.

A sheet has been placed at the back of the Church for members of the congregation to give donations to allow us to continue advertising our services monthly in the Evening Express.

Thanks to one of our families who have given a very generous donation of £15,000 from a legacy that they have received.

Thanks also to Anna Koruth who has worked very hard on our behalf and has claimed back £6,808 in Gift Aid for a six month period. Very well done Anna.

The walls of the Sanctuary are becoming very black due to damp and are in need of repainting. It is however felt that perhaps we should look at the outside walls before tackling the inside ones. Stephanie Brock, the Diocesan Children's co-ordinator is to attend the 10.15am service some

Sunday morning to speak about Messy Church and how we might attract some young people and regenerate the 'Sunday School'.

Water is coming in at the roof above the toilets. Richardson & Starling have been consulted and have identified some beams which need to be replaced. A roofer will be required to make the area watertight and then Richardson & Starling will then remove plaster and replace it. The cost of the roofer is approx. £1,500 + VAT.

Mary Allardyce  
Vestry Secretary

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Evensong held at St. Mary's on 12<sup>th</sup>. May, with the joint choirs of St. Mary's and Queen's Cross.

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## Cheese and Wine

The Cheese and Wine event held on 17<sup>th</sup>. May was reportedly a great success! Many thanks to the organisers.



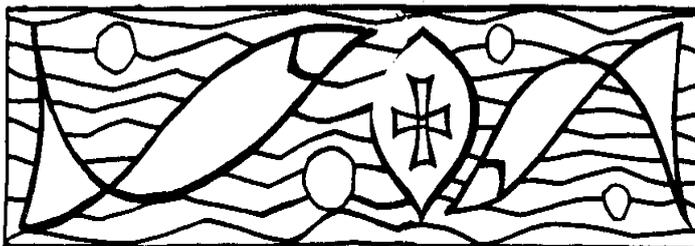
## Sunday School

A trio of birthdays this month: Lewis Smith will be ten on the 13<sup>th</sup>.; Andrew Coutts will be seventeen on the 19<sup>th</sup>.; and on the same day Damon Cormack will be eight. Happy Birthday!

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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.



## Farewell from Pat Valentine

‘To all at St. Mary’s: I was very sorry not to have been able to say goodbye in person. I flew to Gatwick on Saturday with my eldest daughter to her home in Surrey where I shall be living. I shall miss you all but have happy memories of the times over the years (16 years).

‘I wish for St. Mary’s and congregation continued success and happiness.

‘Thank you for all the cards and visit of Graham and Jason when I was in hospital. All very appreciated.’

Pat Valentine  
(new address: The Barn,  
Halesbridge Farm,  
Blanks Lane,  
Newdigate,  
Surrey,  
RH5 5ED  
01293 863906)

## Good Arguments

There were 3 good arguments that Jesus was Black:

1. He called everyone brother
2. He liked Gospel
3. He didn't get a fair trial

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was Jewish:

1. He went into His Father's business
2. He lived at home until he was 33
3. He was sure his Mother was a virgin and his Mother was sure He was God

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was Italian:

1. He talked with His hands
2. He had wine with His meals
3. He used olive oil

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was a Californian:

1. He never cut His hair
2. He walked around barefoot all the time
3. He started a new religion

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was an American Indian:

1. He was at peace with nature
2. He ate a lot of fish
3. He talked about the Great Spirit

But then there were 3 equally good arguments that Jesus was Irish:

1. He never got married..
2. He was always telling stories.
3. He loved green pastures.

But the most compelling evidence of all - 3 proofs that Jesus was a woman:

1. He fed a crowd at a moment's notice when there was virtually no food
2. He kept trying to get a message across to a bunch of men who just didn't get it
3. And even when He was dead, He had to get up because there was still work to do.

## Dates for your Diary

June	14 <sup>th</sup> or 21 <sup>st</sup> . Quiz Night at the Ashvale
	30 <sup>th</sup> . Bring and Buy
August	3 <sup>rd</sup> . Gallowgate Fair
	18 <sup>th</sup> . or 25 <sup>th</sup> . St. Mary's Gift Day
	25 <sup>th</sup> . Bring and Buy
September	1 <sup>st</sup> . Barbecue
	29 <sup>th</sup> . Bring and Buy
October	27 <sup>th</sup> . Bring and Buy
November	1 <sup>st</sup> . Silent Auction and Cheese/Nibbles
	24 <sup>th</sup> . Bring and Buy
December	Carol-singing (tbc)

'Any questions please phone the shop direct on 01224 640319 or I can be contacted direct on 07758 938941.

Thank you in anticipation,

Norah Brown'



Bethany  
Christian  
Trust

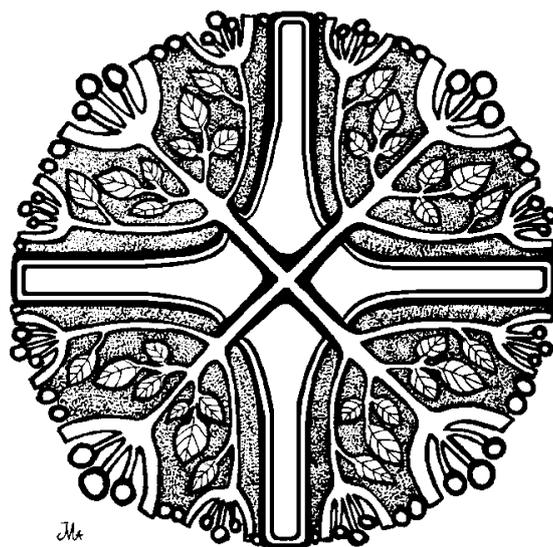
### Special Request

The Bethany Shop at 123 George needs your help. Donations of clothes, accessories, bric-a-brac, toys, books, jewellery are urgently required.

*Giving homeless and vulnerable people hope and a future*

A letter from the Bethany Trust:

'My name is Norma Brown. I am the cluster retail manager for the Bethany Shop in Aberdeen. I trust this is not too strange a request but wonder if it would be possible for us to make an appeal through your church bulletin or magazine for donations for the shop. We would appreciate any donations of clothes, accessories, books, bric-a-brac, toys, jewellery etc. They can be handed in to the shop at 123 George Street (AB25 18HU). Bethany benefits from the sales in our shop and we would be grateful for any help in this matter.



### HOLBURN WEST CHURCH

is celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of the building of the Large Hall  
with an Afternoon Tea Party  
and entertainment  
on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2013  
from 2.30p.m. - 4.30p.m.  
and you are warmly invited.

There will be an opportunity to make a donation to charity.

Please reply by August 15<sup>th</sup> to the Church Office and mark the envelope Party.

## Saints' Days in June:

- 1<sup>st</sup>. St. Justin  
3<sup>rd</sup>. The Martyrs of Uganda  
4<sup>th</sup>. John XXIII  
5<sup>th</sup>. St. Boniface of Mainz  
8<sup>th</sup>. St. Ephrem the Syrian  
9<sup>th</sup>. St. Columba  
11<sup>th</sup>. St. Barnabas  
12<sup>th</sup>. John Skinner  
14<sup>th</sup>. Ss. Basil of Caesarea, Gregory of Nazianus, & Gregory of Nyssa  
18<sup>th</sup>. Bernard Mizeki  
20<sup>th</sup>. St. Fillan  
22<sup>nd</sup>. St. Alban  
24<sup>th</sup>. The Birth of John the Baptist  
25<sup>th</sup>. St. Moluag of Lismore  
26<sup>th</sup>. Robert Leighton  
27<sup>th</sup>. Alexander Jolly  
28<sup>th</sup>. St. Irenaeus of Lyons  
29<sup>th</sup>. Ss. Peter & Paul



## 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!

All copy for the July/August double issue magazine must be with the Editor by 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2013. Hard copy to Nicola Mills, or telephone 01224 488700, or e-mail to [palaeography@aol.com](mailto:palaeography@aol.com). Thank you!

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

Rector: Rev. Canon Graham Taylor, 28, Stanley Street (584123)  
[rector@stmaryscardenplace.org.uk](mailto:rector@stmaryscardenplace.org.uk)

Curate: Rev. Jason Hobbs

Rector's Warden: David Rose

People's Warden: Rachael Cormack (209380)

Vestry Secretary: Mary Allardyce (704743)

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:  
Elizabeth Smyth

Flower Convener: Josie Duncan (645309)

Church Administrator: Avril  
Scott (561383)

Tuesdays 8-11 a.m.,

Fridays 1.30 – 4.30 p.m.

[office@stmaryscardenplace.org.uk](mailto:office@stmaryscardenplace.org.uk)

Website:

[www.stmarysepiscopal.co.uk](http://www.stmarysepiscopal.co.uk)

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