

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.

November 2013

Dear Friends,

In October we celebrated a wonderful Harvest Thanksgiving here at St Mary's. Although, sadly, I was absent on that particular Sunday as I had a prior engagement to preach in Edinburgh, I heard lots about it when I returned. Barnardo's thank you all for the response to their Appeal. Don't forget this is ongoing and our box in the porch is there for dried food, cans etc. I assure you that they are very grateful for all we give to them – so *Thank You* – October is a month to give thanks.

Now November is a time to remember. Each year we gather to remember those who dedicated and gave their lives so freely for wars both in the past and in more recent times. We will do this during our worship on the 10th when we will have an act of remembrance within the context of the Eucharist.

I have been asked this month, through the Oil & Gas UK, to preach at the Annual Service of Remembrance which will include the recent Shetland helicopter accident, a sad occasion where family and friends gather together in the Kirk of St Nicholas to remember those

they have loved and lost. The two readings I have chosen for the service are Micah Ch 4: 1-5 and Romans Ch 8: 31 – end. Do spend some time reading these verses when you have a moment. They speak to us of the last days, about judgement and most important of all they include the verse *"If God be for us, who can be against us?"*. This is about that love of God from which we can never be separated, for nothing in the whole of creation is able to take away God's love from us.

What a lovely thought that through the whole of our lives, we are secure in the knowledge that *"...we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us"*.



I leave you this month with a lovely poem of reassurance and remembrance:

They Are Not Dead

They are not dead,
Who leave us this great heritage
Of remembered joy.

They still live in our hearts,
In the happiness we knew,
In the dreams we shared.

They still breathe,
In the lingering fragrance windblown,
From their favourite flowers.

They still smile in the moonlight's silver
And laugh in the sunlight's sparkling gold.

They still speak in the echoes of words
We've heard them say again and again.

They still move,
In the rhythm of waving grasses,
In the dance of the tossing branches.

They are not dead;
Their memory is warm in our hearts,
Comfort in our sorrow.

They are not apart from us,
But a part of us
For love is eternal,
And those we love shall be with us
Throughout all eternity.

We will remember them.....

Love and Prayers,

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.

The services for All Saints and All Souls will take place at the following times:

**All Saints – Friday, 1st November, 7.45a.m.
Morning Prayer, followed by Holy Communion.**

**All Souls – Saturday 2nd November at 12 Noon
– Holy Communion and the reading out of names we remember (A sheet for people to add names for commemoration is at the back of the church).**

* * * * *

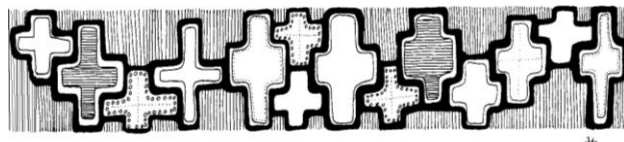
Open 4 Prayer

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 26th. November, at 12.30p.m.

* * * * *

Prayers for Healing

The next Prayers of Healing service will be held on Sunday, 3rd. November, 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.



Vestry Report

The Vestry met on 2nd October when the following items were discussed.
The annual stewardship campaign has been deferred until Spring but there will be a gift day in November.
It had been suggested that we might purchase something in memory of Josie Duncan and it was

agreed that there would be a retiring collection taken for this.

Several new pilates classes have started for a total of 6 hours weekly.

The new web-site address and the Church telephone number will be added to the notice boards in the grounds.

New spotlights were fitted in Church recently but it is felt that the light is too white so the electrician is to be asked to come back to fit different bulbs.

The roof at the east end of the building has now been repaired but there are further problems as it is thought that some of the downpipes are blocked and also some of them are not wide enough for the volume of water and this may be contributing to the problems round some of the windows in the corridor, Sacristy and toilets.

The Pastoral Care Group hosted a welcome supper to which all members of the congregation who were 'new' since the last welcome supper were invited. Twenty people attended and it was a very successful evening.

The Communications and Publicity Group has prepared leaflets to advertise Friday 'Open 4 Prayer'. Volunteers will be required to distribute these round the offices in the vicinity of the Church.

The BBQ was held on 29th September when £230 was raised. The Silent Auction will be held on 1st November and donations of good quality items are required to make it a success.

Raffle tickets are now available for sale. Anyone who has not received any, please contact Mary Allardyce who will be happy to give you some to sell to family and friends. The draw will take place at a soup lunch on 11th December and donations of items for prizes are welcome.

The new web-site is now up and running and looks very good. Thanks to Mary McKinnell and Carol Graham for all of the work they have done on this important work.

The Guild from Holburn West has invited members of Saint Mary's to attend a meeting on 27th November. A list will be put at the back of the Church for anyone interested to add their names to.

The 'Young People's Group' (LEGO group) is now meeting in the Choir Vestry on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm.

The Rector is starting a Film Night at Saint Mary's. This will be held monthly on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm, the first one being on 23rd October when the film 'Faith Like Potatoes' will be shown.

Illegal parking in the grounds of the Church is becoming a problem. It has been suggested that we put a sign up stating that it is a private area and stickers prepared to place on the windscreens of cars belonging to people who are not visiting the Church or are members of the congregation.

More volunteers are desperately needed for some of the duties undertaken each week in Church. In particular, the cleaning rota on Saturday mornings for 1-1½ hours on Saturday mornings once a month, coffee helpers on Sundays following the 10.15am service for ½-¾hour and sides-people to hand out books and count the offering again for ½-¾hour following the 10.15 service. The more people who do these tasks the less frequently for everyone involved.

Mary Allardyce
Vestry Secretary

* * * * *

Volunteers Needed!

More volunteers are urgently needed for the cleaning rota, coffee rota and sides-people rota to keep our church clean and welcoming! Contact Mary Allardyce or Rachael Cormack if you can help, even if it's only one day in the year!

* * * * *

Sunday School

Happy Birthday to Georgina Stephens, who will be seven on the 19th. November.

* * * * *

Bible Study

The Bible Study Group has resumed for prayer and fellowship, continuing 'The Beloved Disciple' study of the apostle John. Meetings will be held in Church after morning Service every Wednesday from 11am – 12.30pm followed by a light lunch. (Please bring a packed lunch).

* * * * *

LEGO Group
(Learning and Experiencing God with Others)

A group for young adults mixing fellowship, bible study, prayer and more

Thursday evenings at 7.30pm

Contact Mary mjmckinnell@gmail.com or Aaron aaron.mccarthy.6989@gmail.com for details

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.

* * * * *

Barbecue

A select group of appreciative lunchers had a fine time at the church barbecue. Many thanks to all those involved in the organization and the fine cooking – and any contributions for a caption for this fine photo?



Harvest at St. Mary's

The church looked particularly fine on 5th. October for Harvest Festival: thanks to all who helped make it look so magnificent. The donations of food went to Barnardo's, who have asked us to thank everyone who contributed. The food, both in this Harvest gift and in our ongoing donations, is very much appreciated by the young people in their care.



100 Club

100 Club subscriptions are now due for 2013-2014: please see Mary Allardyce if you want to renew your numbers or purchase new ones.

* * * * *

Christmas Raffle

It's very nearly that time of year already! There will be a Christmas Raffle again this year, and tickets will be available from Mary Allardyce. The draw will be made at a special Soup Lunch on 11th. December, 12 noon to 1.30p.m. Good prizes will also be gratefully received!

* * * * *

Blytheswood Shoeboxes

And while we're on the theme of Christmas, the Blytheswood shoeboxes are due by 8th November, preferably earlier. If you want more details on how to fill a shoebox, please talk to Morag McPetrie.

* * * * *

Silent Auction

There will be a Silent Auction with wine and nibbles on 1st November, so keep the date free, and see if you can dig out some high-quality donations for the lots: contact Rachael Cormack or David Rose.

* * * * *

New History of the Scottish Episcopal Church

A history of the Scottish Episcopal Church has been written by Gerald Stranraer-Mull, Dean Emeritus of Aberdeen and Orkney. It has been printed by the Inverness charity, For The Right Reasons, which helps those who wish to overcome drug or alcohol dependency. The book costs £6.00 including p&p. Please email any orders to fortherightreasons@rocketmail.com

* * * * *



A photograph from the lovely wedding of Judith Ferguson and Didier Altmeyer on 12th October, including St. Mary's Emergency X-Factor Choristers!

Dates for your Diary

November 1st. Silent Auction and Cheese/Nibbles
24th. Bring and Buy
December Carol-singing (tbc)

* * * * *

An explanation of Life

On the first day, God created the dog and said: "Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years."

The dog said: "That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?"

So God agreed.

On the second day, God created the monkey and said:

"Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh, and I'll give you a twenty-year life span."

The monkey said: "Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the dog did?"

And God agreed.

On the third day, God created the cow and said:

"You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years."

The cow said: "That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?"

And God agreed again.

On the fourth day, God created man and said: "Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you twenty years."

But man said: "Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?"

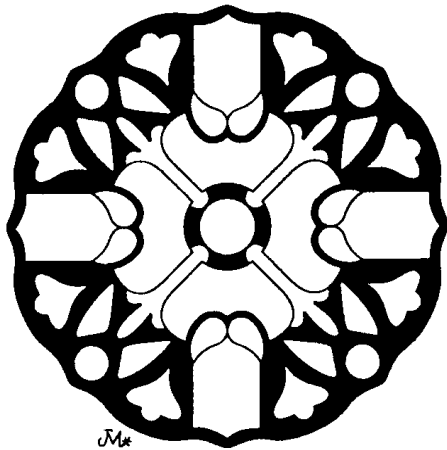
"Okay," said God, "**You asked for it.**"

So that is why for our first twenty years we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years we slave to support our family. For the next ten years we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren. And for the last ten years we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone.

Life has now been explained to you...

Saints' Days in November:

1 st .	All Saints' Day
2 nd .	All Souls' Day
3 rd .	Richard Hooker
7 th .	St. Willibrord
9 th .	George Hay Forbes
10 th .	St. Leo the Great
11 th .	St. Martin of Tours
12 th .	St. Machar
16 th .	St. Margaret of Scotland
17 th .	St. Hilda of Whitby and St. Hugh of Lincoln
18 th .	St. Fergus
21 st .	St. Columban
22 nd .	St. Cecilia
23 rd .	St. Clement of Rome
24 th .	Lucy Menzies
30 th .	St. Andrew of Scotland



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!

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Rector: Rev. Canon Graham Taylor, 28, Stanley Street (584123)

rector@stmaryscardenplace.org.uk

Assistant Priest: 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: Lucy Fleming

Church Administrator: Avril Scott (561383)

Tuesdays 8-11a.m.,

Fridays 1.30 – 4.30p.m.

office@stmaryscardenplace.org.uk

Website: www.stmaryscardenplace.org.uk

All copy for the December / January magazine must be with the Editor by 18th. November, 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).