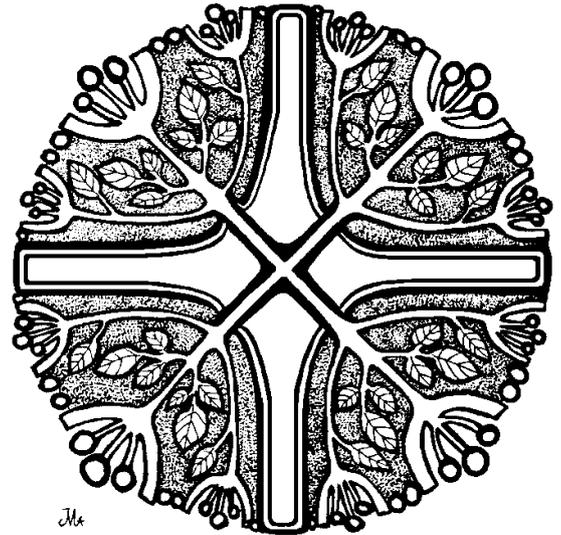


# *St. Mary's News*

interregnum and through Lent, particularly Jason, the secretary and wardens.



## **Our Mission Statement:**

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

## **March 2015**

### **Interregnum News**

As you will have heard by now, the vestry has asked Dr. James Merrick to be our new Rector, and he has accepted.

James was born in Maryland, U.S.A., and currently lives and works in Arizona where he teaches in a university and works at his local Episcopalian church. He and his wife Allison know Aberdeen well as they lived here while he worked for his Ph.D. at Aberdeen University: their older child, Rowan, was born here and both children were baptised here, at St. John's in Crown Terrace where James helped out during their stay here. Rowan should be starting at Ashley Road Primary, and both Rowan and little sister Evelyn will be very welcome in Sunday School!

James lists his interests as including reading, hiking and snowboarding, as well as vegetable gardening, though he might find that a little different here from Arizona!

James very much enjoyed attending a Sunday service at St. Mary's in January and is looking forward to joining us in May, when he has completed his teaching obligations and the family's visas have been arranged.

In the mean time, please keep in your thoughts and prayers the clergy and vestry members helping to keep things going during the

### **Normal weekly services:**

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

Tuesday:  
Morning Prayer at 7.45a.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. This is a lovely pause for fellowship in the day with shared worship and contemplation, and a light lunch to follow. The next service is on 31<sup>st</sup>. March, at 12.30p.m.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Prayers for Healing**

The next months' Prayers of Healing services, Prayers for Healing and Wholeness, will be held on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup>. 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.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Vestry Report**

The vestry met on 21<sup>st</sup> January.

The sign stating that parking by members of the public was not allowed has still not been put in place. This is still a problem and several cars have been illegally parked over the past few weeks. Avril has contacted the contractor several times and she will be asked to do so again.

A quote for painting the sanctuary, Sacristy and toilets has been received and work should begin soon.

The gutters and downpipes at the Choir Vestry have been cleared so hopefully we will have no more water running down the inside of the south side wall.

A list of planned fund-raising events will be available soon.

The vestry secretary and treasurer have been reappointed for a further year.

Arrangements for the AGM to be held on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February following the 10.15 service were discussed.

Mary Allardyce  
Vestry Secretary

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Lent Notices from the Diocesan I.T. Officer**

This year for Lent, we are asking people of all ages from around the Diocese to contribute to our seasonal posting program. We will post all the (suitable) posts that we get - I hope to receive enough contributions that we will post daily, and

I'll be very happy if we have enough for one per day, and ecstatic if we can post more than one per day!

Contributions can be anything with a Lenten theme, and might be:

- a photo
- a picture drawn/painted etc (please take a photo of it, or scan it and send electronically)
- A written prayer, reflection, poem or other writings
- Anything else you can think of - but please do check with me it can be placed online if you want to do something a bit more complex.

Please send contributions to me anytime between now and Wednesday 25 March by emailing [itofficer@aberdeen.anglican.org](mailto:itofficer@aberdeen.anglican.org).



We're also asking people to join together in prayer where-ever you are, and if possible and appropriate, whoever you're with, to say Compline (Night Prayer) at 9:00pm each day during Lent (do change the time if you need to to suit your routine). It is available each day on the Provincial Website (I will make the links available on the Diocesan Website, Facebook, and Twitter pages) or you may wish to use your own resources.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **World Day of Prayer – Help Needed**

The World Day of Prayer service for City Centre West will take place in St. Mary's on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup>.

March at 7.30p.m. Mary Allardyce is our representative and will be looking for help with catering on the night as well as baking for the event – please do what you can!

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Come and be part of the team!**

Our keen and expert teams providing welcome, counting the money, cleaning the church and making coffee are now recruiting! Here's your opportunity to be part of something exciting. Full training is given and job satisfaction is guaranteed. Contact Mary Allardyce for the specialist cleaning services, and for all other teams contact Rachael Cormack.

Diocese of Aberdeen & Orkney

# You are invited to an Easter Fun Afternoon

on Holy Saturday (April 4<sup>th</sup>)  
in St. Margaret's Church,  
Gallowgate.  
from 2.00 p.m. till 4.00  
p.m.

Games, Craft, Worship – the Story of the Cross –  
Refreshments

Enquiries to Stephanie Brock  
([londonbrocks@yahoo.com](mailto:londonbrocks@yahoo.com))  
or Carole Phelan ([carole.phelan@talk21.com](mailto:carole.phelan@talk21.com))

### **Letter from the Mission to Seafarers**

On behalf of the Mission to Seafarers Scotland, please accept our sincere gratitude for the parcel of knitted items which I have received today. Your continued thoughtfulness to our seafarers is so very much appreciated and do please pass on our thanks to all at St. Mary's and to anyone who may have contributed in any way.

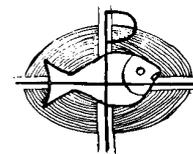
I hope that you have all had a good Christmas and will have a special 2015, although it has sadly been a busy time for the Mission with multiple incidents at sea dominating the work of our chaplains and volunteers, with two serious accidents in the U.K. in Southampton and the Orkneys, the latter resulting in the loss of two lives. There was also a case of a fire aboard a ferry resulting in the death of two Albanian seafarers. We continue to support seafarers and their families and we thank you for the support which you give to us.

Do please encourage everyone to keep the knitting needles clicking for us whenever they are able. You all remain always in our prayers, and I take this opportunity to wish you all, and those you love, a very peaceful, prosperous and healthy New Year.

Jennifer K. Gray.

### **Friday Openings**

Friday Openings of the church will recommence this month.



### **Flower Fund**

The Flower Fund is running short: all contributions would be gratefully received. Many make a donation to mark a special date, while others simply donate to keep the church beautiful. Please support this lovely part of our church life.

\* \* \* \* \*

**For The Love Of.....**  
**why we need to take climate change seriously**



For the love of country walks and Scotland's beautiful seasons. For the love of our global neighbours. For the love of the food on our plates. For the love of the Arctic and the Great Barrier Reef. For the love of all the things we care about, we're taking climate change seriously. And we're not alone.

This year, the Scottish Episcopal Church is joining with organisations, businesses, members of the public and some famous faces to highlight the things they care about that are, or will be, affected by rising global temperatures.

As members of the Stop Climate Chaos Scotland (SCCS) coalition, the Church in Society Committee is encouraging church members and congregations to connect climate change with the things that matter to them. People across Scotland are already telling Stop Climate Chaos Scotland about things they love that are affected by rising global temperatures.

This is part of a broader campaign, *For the Love of ...*, which recognises that everyone loves something that is threatened by climate change. It asks people to share what these things are, and to join together to demand climate action, for the sake of all the things that matter most, both here in Scotland and further afield.

*What do you love?* You can share your ideas at [www.fortheloveof.org.uk](http://www.fortheloveof.org.uk).

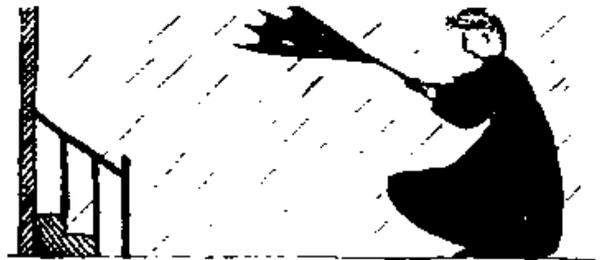
All of this is important because in Paris, in December 2015, global leaders are expected to conclude negotiations for a new global deal to tackle climate change and address its impacts. We are joining with others to show there is a large and diverse range of people who are concerned about this issue.

In February you can join with people across the country to 'Show the Love' for the things that

matter most. Church services focusing on environmental and moral issues will take place across the country on 15<sup>th</sup> February, using *For the Love of...* resources prepared especially for the occasion by Eco-congregations Scotland <http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/materials/for-the-love-of/>

There will be further opportunities to show your support throughout the year. Join in via [www.stopclimatechaos.org/scotland](http://www.stopclimatechaos.org/scotland).

*For the Love of...* is a project from Stop Climate Chaos Scotland



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**Church Grounds**

Does anyone know of a gardener who would be willing to take on some work keeping the grounds in order? Someone prepared to double as a general handyman would be particularly appreciated. Any ideas, please, to a vestry member.

\* \* \* \* \*

**God created Children (and in the process, grandchildren)**

To those of us who have children in our lives, whether they are our own, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or students, here is something to make you chuckle.

Whenever your children are out of control, you can take comfort from the thought that even God's omnipotence did not extend to His own children.

After creating heaven and earth, God created Adam and Eve.

And the first thing he said was:  
'DON'T!'  
'Don't what?' Adam replied.

'Don't eat the forbidden fruit,' God said.  
'Forbidden fruit? We have forbidden fruit? Hey  
Eve...we have forbidden fruit!'

'No Way!'

'Yes way!'

'Do NOT eat the fruit!' said God.

'Why?'

'Because I am your Father and I said so!' God  
replied, wondering why He hadn't stopped  
creation after making the elephants. A few  
minutes later, God saw His children having an  
apple break and He was ticked!

'Didn't I tell you not to eat the fruit?' God asked.

'Uh huh,' Adam replied.

'Then why did you?' said the Father.

'I don't know,' said Eve.

'She started it!' Adam said.

'Did not!'

'Did too!'

'DID NOT!'

Having had it with the two of them, God's  
punishment was that Adam and Eve should have  
children of their own. Thus the pattern was set and  
it has never changed.

If you have persistently and lovingly tried to give  
children wisdom and they haven't taken it, don't be  
hard on yourself. If God had trouble raising  
children, what makes you think it would be a  
piece of cake for you?

#### THINGS TO THINK ABOUT!

1. You spend the first two years of their life teaching  
them to walk and talk. Then you spend the next  
sixteen telling them to sit down and shut up.
2. Grandchildren are God's reward for not killing  
your own children.
3. Mothers of teens now know why some animals  
eat their young.
4. Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they  
usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't  
have said.
5. The main purpose of holding children's parties  
is to remind yourself that there are children more  
awful than your own.
6. We childproofed our homes, but they are still  
getting in.

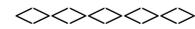
Advice for the day:

Be nice to your kids.

They will choose your nursing home one day.

And finally: If you have a lot of tension and you  
get a headache, do what it says on the aspirin  
bottle:

'Take two aspirin and keep away from children!'



A man sees a sign outside a house:

'Talking Dog for Sale'. He rings the bell,  
the owner appears and tells him the dog  
can be viewed in the back garden. The man  
sees a very nice looking Labrador  
Retriever sitting there.

'Do you really talk?' he asks the dog.

'Yes,' the dog replies.

After recovering from the shock of hearing  
the dog talk, the man says,

'Well, tell me your story.'

The Labrador looks up and says,

'Well, I discovered I could talk when I was  
pretty young. I wanted to help the  
Government, so I joined MI6. In no time at  
all they had me jetting from country to  
country, sitting in rooms with spies and  
world leaders, because no one imagined  
that a dog would be eavesdropping. I was  
one of their most valuable spies for eight  
years. But the jetting around really tired  
me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any  
younger, so I decided to settle down. I  
signed up for the job at Heathrow to do  
some undercover security work, wandering  
near suspicious characters and listening in.  
I uncovered some incredible dealings and  
was awarded several medals. I got married,  
had a few puppies, and now I've just  
retired.'

The man is amazed. He goes back into the  
house and asks the owner how much he  
wants for the dog.

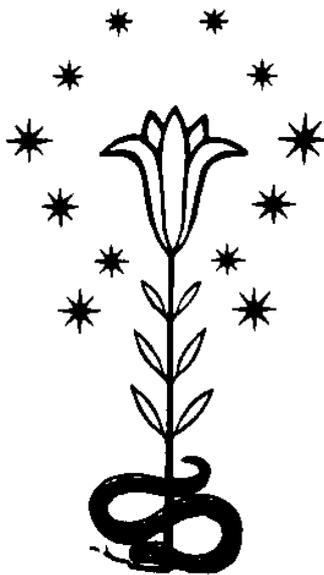
'Ten quid,' says the owner.

'Ten pounds? But this dog is absolutely  
amazing. Why on earth are you selling him  
so cheaply?'

'Because he's a lying hound. He's never  
been out of the garden.'

## Saints' Days in March:

- 1<sup>st</sup>. St. David of Wales
- 2<sup>nd</sup>. St. Chad of Lichfield
- 3<sup>rd</sup>. John and Charles Wesley
- 4<sup>th</sup>. St. Adrian and Companions
- 6<sup>th</sup>. St. Baldred
- 7<sup>th</sup>. St. Perpetua and Companions
- 8<sup>th</sup>. St. Duthac of Tain
- 10<sup>th</sup>. St. Kessog
- 16<sup>th</sup>. St. Boniface of Ross
- 17<sup>th</sup>. St. Patrick of Ireland
- 18<sup>th</sup>. St. Cyril of Jerusalem
- 19<sup>th</sup>. St. Joseph
- 20<sup>th</sup>. St. Cuthbert
- 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thomas Ken
- 24<sup>th</sup>. Paul Couturier
- 25<sup>th</sup>. The Annunciation of the Lord
- 29<sup>th</sup>. John Keble



## 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: Vacancy

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

LEGO Young Adults Group: Mary  
mjmckinnell@gmail.com

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

Website: [www.stmaryscardenplace.org.uk](http://www.stmaryscardenplace.org.uk)

All copy for the April magazine must be with the Editor by 23<sup>rd</sup>. March, 2015. 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).