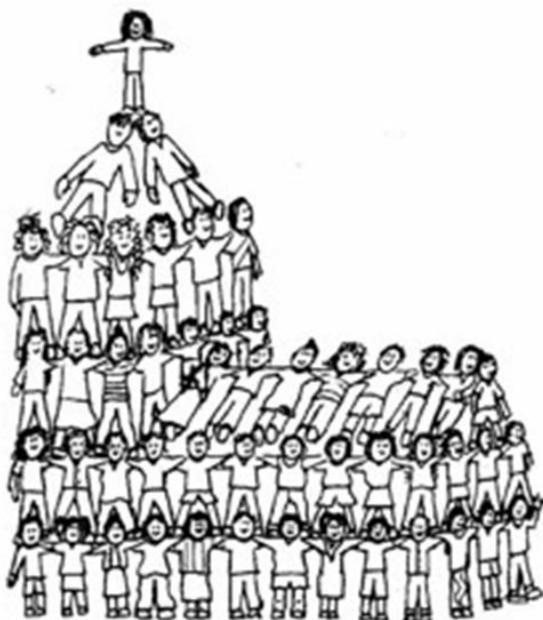


St. Mary's News

Our Mission Statement:

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

May 2015



Every now and again, through social media and in other places, I come across an image like this one, which shows church not as a building, but as a group of people, a family. On this image in particular, I love how everyone is linked together as one group, and I also notice how the people are looking, not into the church, but out into the world.

As part of the St Mary's Communications group, and also in my job as the Diocesan IT Officer, I am always looking for how people in the church can communicate not just with each other, but also with those who remain outside our walls who we don't see on a Sunday morning or during the week.

At St Mary's, we do that in a number of ways including this newsletter, our noticeboards in the grounds, our website, and most recently, we've begun to use Facebook. (Ideas on how we can make better use of these tools are always welcome!) These are all good ways of communicating with each other, and with the wider community, but I do believe that each of us can share God's love with the world around us in our own way, not just within the walls around us, but outwith them too, in the spaces where we spend our day-to-day lives. There are ways in which each of us can share God's love with not only those we know, but those we see who we don't know so well, if at all.

One of the things I love about this season of Easter is the sense of new life, and the hope which that brings. It's not only in the church season, but as the days get longer and warmer (hopefully!), the signs of new life are all around us. And this year, at St Mary's, they are there as we prepare to welcome our new Rector James and his family among us.

So I leave you with this question: This month, as we journey through the season of Easter, what will you do to share that hope and new life, not only with each other, but also with the community that lies beyond our church walls?

Mary McKinnell
Diocesan IT Officer

27th. May, 2015

7.30p.m.

Institution of
Dr. James Merrick
as Rector of St. Mary's

All Welcome

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.



Fellowship on Easter Sunday

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Easter at St. Mary's

Thanks to everyone who helped us to celebrate Holy Week and Easter at St. Mary's this year.



Lighting the Paschal Candle

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 26th. May, at 12.30p.m.

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Prayers for Healing

The next month's Prayers of Healing service, a Healing Eucharist, will be held on Sunday, 3rd. May at 6p.m., Prayers for Healing are usually held 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 8th April when the following was discussed.

A sign stating that the grounds of the church are private has finally been installed. Despite this, the secretary reported that there had been a car parked

illegally on 6th April. There was a suggestion that permits should be available for those members of the congregation who need to park within the grounds and others stating that parking by members of the public is not permitted to put on the windscreens of 'illegally' parked cars. Con Anima is to perform at Saint Mary's on Saturday 6th June. Further details will be available later.

The Music Festival is to hold a series of events during the week 1st – 5th June.

A mould has been taken of the damaged cornice at the Rectory and will be fitted towards the end of April

Four rooms at the Rectory have been repainted with another one to be painted after the cornice has been repaired.

As it has not been possible to find an organist for the church by word of mouth, it was decided that we would place an advertisement in the local paper.

Several items of furniture and other goods have been donated for the Rectory. Thanks to all of those who have given these items to make the Rectory comfortable for Rev Merrick and his family when they arrive in Aberdeen in May. Two pairs of curtains 90 inch x 90 inch which will fit the lounge and the master bedroom have been received but if anyone has any curtains with a 90 inch drop for other windows, they will be most welcome. Shades for the ceiling lights are also required if anyone has any spare ones which they are willing to donate.

The vestry also decided to purchase a fridge/freezer for the Rectory as it will really be needed immediately when the Rector arrives here. A quote for repainting of the 5 panels on the walls of the church and for the upper half of the walls and the ceiling of the choir vestry has been requested from the company that painted the Sanctuary etc.

Members of the Pastoral Care Group are to attend a training day at Saint Mary's on Friday 1st March. A series of fund-raising events has been arranged, the first of which is a Silent Auction on Friday 15th May and the ticket price is £6 per person. Good quality new items are required to auction. See David Rose or Rachael.

Mary Allardyce
Vestry Secretary

* * * * *

Treasurer's Report

February 2015

Income:	4,829
Expenditure:	<u>4,445</u>
Net result for month:	497

Balance at month end:	£84,444
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March 2015

Income:	5,421
Expenditure:	<u>5,432</u>
Net result for month:	-268

Balance at month end:	£84,176
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Lydia Ross
Treasurer

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From Carol's Family:



Dear Bishop Bob and the congregation of St Mary's church,

On behalf of my family I want to thank you for such warm welcome you gave us today. It was a wonderful service and you all made us feel so much a part of it. Carol speaks so warmly of you all and today we could see why. I have been so impressed to know she has had such a wonderful circle of love around her during what has been a difficult time for her over the last year. It was very easy to see today that you have taken her into your church's family.

Your church is a very beautiful building and upon entering for the first time there is an instant atmosphere of love. And upon meeting you all today I can see where that comes from. We have

enjoyed meeting you all and look forward to meeting you again.

Yours faithfully

Fiona Graham and family.

some weeks yet but I am most certainly getting there slowly but surely.

Mary

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Sunday School

A very happy birthday to Rebecca Burney, who will reach the grand age of eighteen on the 16th. May.

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Friday Openings

Because of the loss of some volunteers from the rota, Friday Openings have been suspended until the arrival of the new Rector.



Thanks from Mary McKinnell

May I say a massive Thank You to you all for all the love, support and prayer that has come my way during my recovery from the broken ankle. It has all helped keep me sane (or not!), helped keep me on track and it has kept me positive – even on the few Sundays when I was struggling after a difficult week, I’ve left church each time ready to face whatever was yet to come my way.

I’m glad to say I’m nearly there. I’m now starting to walk short distances stick free, and as I write, I’ve just been told I can have my wheels back! Physio and getting back to full strength may take

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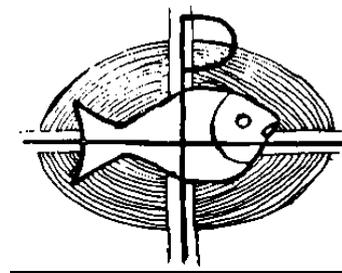
Silent Auction

Friday 15th May at 7.00pm
in the choir vestry.

We are looking for donations of quality items for auction,(no jumble) and raffle prizes. Please invite your friends and family to make it a good fundraiser and social event.

Tickets will be available soon,
price £6.00.

Any queries please see **Rachael Cormack** or **David Rose**.



Social Media Day - Pentecost

This Pentecost, on Sunday 24 May, we’re encouraging as many people as we can to help God’s Spirit move using Social Media Channels. So on that day, whether it’s something said in a sermon, a verse of a reading or a line in a hymn, or even an image, do share whatever speaks to you during worship on whatever social media platforms you use, whether Facebook, Twitter, blogs, or anything else. If you’re using Twitter, please use the hashtag #aopisky.

Can't make it to church that day? Do join in by sharing a thought from something you see, read or hear.

And as the Spirit allows us to speak in tongues, feel free to share it in your own way, in your own words or language – it might be that way that helps the Holy Spirit to speak to someone for the first time.

Remember:

Christ has no online presence but yours.
No blog, no Facebook page but yours,
Yours are the tweets though which love touches this world,
Yours are the posts through which the Gospel is shared,
Yours are the updates through which hope is revealed.
Christ has no online presence but yours.
No blog, no Facebook page but yours.

*(Adaptation of St Teresa of Avila's Prayer by
Meredith Gould)*

If you don't use social media yourself and would still like to take part, please send it to me at the Diocesan Office or email: itofficer@aberdeen.anglican.org, and we'll post them on the Diocesan Social Media in the days following Pentecost.

Mary McKinnell

Preparation for the Merricks' Arrival

As the new Rector and his family will be arriving with the minimum of luggage, we need a few things for the Rectory to make it comfortable and habitable. Does anyone have any curtains or lampshades spare, as there are only nets on the windows and only a couple of lampshades? Curtains need to be at least a 90 inch drop and 2 pairs need to be 90 inches wide also.

We would also like to have some non perishable goods for the family to start them off when they arrive in Aberdeen. Contact Mary Allardyce for further information or donations.

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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.

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Your challenge for the month ...

Can you find 17 books of the Bible in this paragraph?

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for facts, and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books are not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of the 17, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are the names of 17 books of the Bible in these sentences. (One preacher found 16 books in 20 minutes. It took him three weeks to find the seventeenth one.)

And finally ...

A friend was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the preacher was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands. He grabbed my friend by the hand and pulled him aside.

The Pastor said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!"

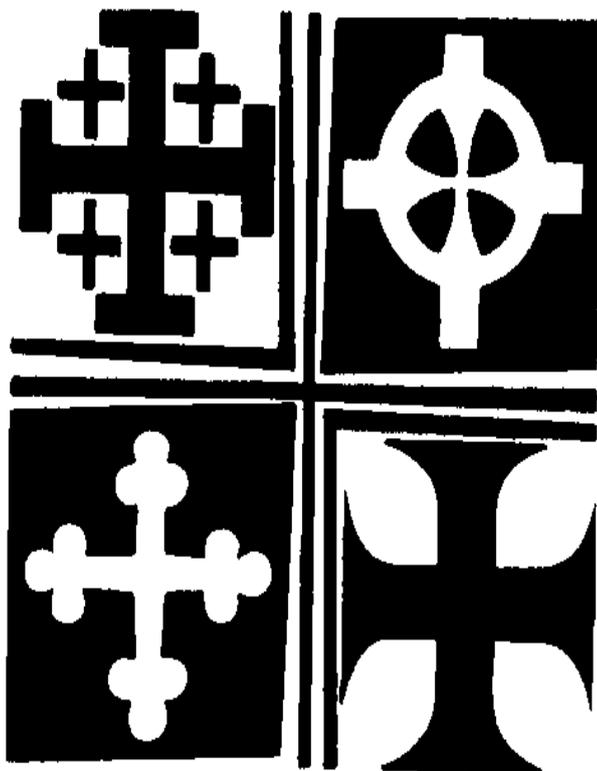
My friend replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Pastor."

Pastor questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?"

He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."

Saints' Days in May:

- 1st. Ss. Philip & James
8th. Dame Julian
12th. Thomas Rattray
14th. St. Matthias
21st. St. Helena
23rd. St. William of Perth
25th. Venerable Bede
26th. St. Augustine of Canterbury
31st. The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth



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: Vacancy

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

Website: www.stmaryscardenplace.org.uk

All copy for the June magazine must be with the Editor by 25th. May, 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).