

# Marksman

April / May, 2024



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Scottish Charity SC011210



## From the Manse



We feel, at last, to be at the change of seasons. A little more daylight, a brighter blue sky, a little more warmth in the sun – at least for today. It is no wonder we Brits like to talk about our weather because it is changeable and unpredictable and sometimes you don't know from one day to the next what is going to happen.

To me, that sums up Holy Week as well. It is a week that starts so well, on a high on Palm Sunday, with cheers and *Hosannas*, as Jesus rides on a donkey into Jerusalem, and we end on a different kind of high, with Easter Sunday as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, after Mary finds the empty tomb, but in between it is so changeable, so unpredictable. Jesus' own behaviour erratic and so different from his usual.

On Monday, he upsets the tables in the Temple before going on to heal people. Upsetting the traders with the former, and the priests with the latter. His friends are twitchy, watching as he walks a dangerous line. On Tuesday, he curses a fig tree for having no figs, when it was outside the usual season for them anyway. He upsets the powers-that-be, speaks out against their privileged position, accuses them of not caring for the least in society, of being too concerned with the letter of the law to be of any earthly good.

On Thursday, his friends are fractious, cracking under the strain. He sends a couple to go and prepare a meal for them all. Over bread and wine and blessing he talks of his body breaking and bleeding, and he wants them to eat the bread and drink from his cup of suffering. It's all too much. They lash out at one another, fingers point, and accusations fly; they fight for top position on what feels like a sinking ship. His words, though quiet, cut through the conversation. He speaks of God's kingdom, built on loving service: seeing, hearing those ignored and unheard, and making space at the table for all. He's being radical again – he needs to watch out – that kind of talk will get him killed.

Then out, for a walk after the meal, to the garden of Gethsemane, a peaceful, prayerful place, although the disciples find more peace

rather than prayer as they succumb to sleep, whilst Jesus prays, his heart full of sorrow. He finally finds peace, accepting the Father's will, as the peace of the garden is disturbed by the arrival of an armed guard.

Taken away, to the council, and to Pilate, accused by false witnesses, abandoned by his friends, swapped on a prisoner exchange for Barabbas, the murderer, condemned to die, although Pilate found him innocent of any crime. The saviour of the world was condemned, verbally and physically abused, before being put to death in the cruellest way ever known to mankind. And the heartbroken women watched on from the distance.

The sorrow, the pain, the separation as he bore our sin, and died, alone, on the cross. The desolation of his disciples, the heartbreak for the women watching on, the unexpected care of the Pharisee, Joseph of Arimathea. The low of Saturday, when all seemed hopeless; for it was over, he was no more.

And then, the amazing news early on the Sunday morning, the tomb was empty, his grave clothes left behind, a voice in the garden, calling Mary's name. A voice she recognised, the Master's. The Disciples, afraid, uncertain, unsure, but suddenly the Master's presence. "Peace be with you" he said.

What a turbulent, troubled, unpredictable week. What highs and lows, what joys and sorrows.

The God of the Resurrection rolled the stone away.

The Creator God brought us from darkness into the light.

The Lifegiving Spirit moves among us, making us a new creation.

In His dying, Jesus destroyed our death,

in his rising, he restored our life,

in his living among us, he transformed our life.

*By your will, and because of your boundless love for us,*

*We find ourselves standing on the threshold*

*Between old creation and new,*

*Looking at a world filled with your life and love.*

*By your grace, walk with us into Easter, and beyond,*

*Help us to see where, even amid the shadows of the old life,*

*Your new life awaits us;*

*Help us, every day, to embrace hope rather than fear,*

*Joy rather than anger,*

*Life rather than death,*

*All in the name of Christ,*

*Who died on our behalf, and rose to show us the way,*

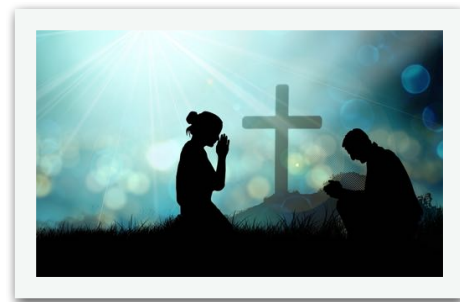
*And who taught us to live and pray with joy, saying, "Our Father..."*

I wish you a happy and hopeful Easter, full of the joy and the love of the Lord Jesus. Whether you celebrate alone or with family or friends, may you walk with Jesus, full of his love, his joy, and his peace, and may the blessing of the Holy Spirit be yours this Easter time and always.

Your friend and minister,

*Sonia*

*(Prayer in italics by Rev James Hart Brumm, minister of the Reformed Church in America)*



## Worship Matters

Sonia will be on Holiday 8<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> April.

William McCullough, ministry candidate in training, will lead worship on 14<sup>th</sup> April and Rev. Eric McLachlan on the 21<sup>st</sup> April.

Pastoral cover will be provided by Rev. David Hood, from Paisley South.

## Funerals

- 20.2.24. Andrew Kellock, Darvel Crescent
- 26.2.24 Margaret Ritchie, Buchlyvie Rd
- 12.3.24 James (Jim) Stevenson, Alloway Grove
- 24.3.24 David Kettlewell, Dunchurch Rd



# Session Report



Session met on 5<sup>th</sup> March and we had updates from the various sections which tell the tale of all the work that goes on within our church. The Finance Team reports a healthy state of affairs, but it is noted that there has been a drop in the freewill offering side, but a slight increase in the open plate. Again I would urge members to consider gift-aiding their contributions. As said before, the church can claim back 25% of contributions from HMRC for anyone who pays any sort of tax. There is no penalty to the individual who opts for this method of payment.

The organisations are all getting on well with their programmes and a recent Thinking Day service was well attended. It was nice to see new people in the church.

There has been a successful repair to the sanctuary ceiling and it has been repainted. Some work needs to be done in the manse with minor areas of dampness being repaired and this will be carried out soon. There has been removal of some dangerous branches from the large trees at the front of the church and some tidying of the cherry tree at the Corrie Drive side.

The café finally opened and so far has been a great success and many thanks are due to the manager, Meena Patel, and her willing team of volunteers who cater to our culinary needs. I would recommend it to all and encourage folk to drop in and have a cuppa or two...the goodies are excellent also!

**Colin Reid**

**Session Clerk**



# Sunday Duty Team Rota

DATE	TEAM	LEADER	DATE	TEAM	LEADER
<b>APR</b>			<b>MAY</b>		
07/04/2024	6	Dr C. Reid	05/05/2024	2	Mr A. Taylor
14/04/2024	1	Mr J. Goodall	12/05/2024	3	Mrs C. Hair
21/04/2024	1	Mr J. Goodall	19/05/2024	3	Mrs C. Hair
28/04/2024	2	Mr A. Taylor	26/03/2024	4	Mr G. Black



## **God's Garden**

***The Lord God planted a garden  
In the first white days of the world,  
And He set there an angel warden  
In a garment of light enfurled.***

***So near to the peace of Heaven,  
That the hawk might nest with the wren,  
For there in the cool of the even  
God walked with the first of men.***

***And I dream that these garden closes  
With their shade and their sun-flecked sod  
And their lilies and bowers of roses,  
Were laid by the hand of God.***

***The kiss of the sun for pardon,  
The song of the birds for mirth,  
One is nearer God's heart in a garden  
Than anywhere else on earth.***

***For He broke it for us in a garden  
Under the olive-trees  
Where the angel of strength was the warden  
And the soul of the world found ease.***

***Dorothy Frances Gurney***

I was recently asked by a family to include this poem in their mother's funeral. I'd read the fourth verse alone before – probably on a little plaque for a garden or maybe even a fridge magnet, but reading the whole poem as we approach Easter, I was struck by the words in the last two verses taken together. The last verse gives a totally different perspective to the first four verses which are simply about God's garden. The last two verses together speak of God breaking his heart in a garden under the olive trees (Gethsemane?) and the angel of strength being the warden caring for the olive trees and for God himself, until the soul of the world – (the soul of Christ?) found ease – the peace Christ gained as he prayed for his Disciples, and for us, the peace of accepting the Father's will, and walk off to his arrest.

Sonia

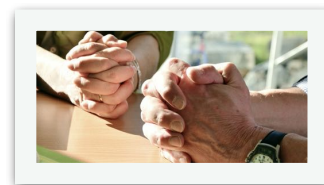
P.S. When I saw the Funeral Service sheet, the family actually wanted a different poem, also called *God's Garden* read, not this one.

# Prayer Guide



APRIL, 2024		
Mon	1	Our streets this week for prayer are Ossian Road, Penilee Road and Ralston Avenue. Holiday Club starts today. May God bless this venture.
Tue	2	Holiday Club today.
Wed	3	Holiday Club today. Prayer groups on Zoom and in church tonight.
Thu	4	We give thanks and prayer for the Property Team for all all their work. Holiday Club today.
Fri	5	Holiday Club today.
Sat	6	Holiday Club Family event today. May they enjoy their time together. Give thanks for the week's activities and stories of Jesus that have been shared.
Sun	7	Today we come with grateful hearts ready to hear your word for us. Pray for Sonia as she leads us.
Mon	8	Pray for those living in Ralston Avenue, Roffey Park Road and Rosshall Avenue this week. Sonia is on holiday from today. Be with her, refresh her and help her to relax and enjoy her time. Pray for Rev. David Hood providing pastoral cover.
Tue	9	We pray for staff, pupils and parents on their holiday break.
Wed	10	Give thanks for all who are carers, professional or unpaid, and ask God to give them strength and patience as they fulfil this role. Prayer groups tonight on Zoom and in church.
Thu	11	Pray for our Presbytery Elder as she attends meetings and shares information with us.
Fri	12	Pray for all the emergency services who work tirelessly to help and support those in need. Remember the Street Pastors and their work on their patrol this evening.
Sat	13	Thank God for the many blessings he has given you. Pray for Bible Study group this morning.
Sun	14	Worship this morning will be led by William McCullough, Ministry Candidate in training. Pray for him this morning.
Mon	15	We remember all those in School Road, Southwold Road and Springfield Avenue this week. Remember the schools today as pupils and staff return after their break.
Tue	16	As the days lengthen, enjoy and give thanks for the seasons and for creation. Reflect on how we each can play our part in caring for it.
Wed	17	Pray for families today and for those whose family live far away. Prayer groups tonight on Zoom and in church, followed by Bible Study.
Thu	18	Our Mission Planning Group is in our prayers. Help them discern what God has in mind for us here at St Mark's.
Fri	19	We pray for ROAR and all those who attend weekly.
Sat	20	Pray for Street Pastors out and about in different cities throughout the UK.

# Prayer Guide



APRIL, 2024		
Sun	21	Pray for Rev. Eric McLachlan as he leads us in worship this morning. Help us be receptive to what you have to say to us.
Mon	22	All in Strathmore Avenue, Tylney Road and Woodend Drive come under our prayers this week. Clyde Presbytery ministers meet with the Presbytery Moderator Rev. David Burt for lunch and fellowship. Bless their time together.
Tue	23	Thank you for the gift of music, for those who lead us in worship, and for the music we can enjoy listening to.
Wed	24	World Immunisation Week begins today. Prayer groups on Zoom and in church tonight.
Thu	25	We pray for our minister today. Remember Sonia and ask God to bless her in her ministry. Dementia-Friendly Café Film afternoon. Pray for all those who come along.
Fri	26	Continue to pray for the Boys' Brigade as they meet each week.
Sat	27	We pray for leisure times that we have, for sports and hobbies that allow our creativity. Thank God for gifts and talents. Bible Study group this morning. Messy Church this afternoon. Pray everyone has fun and learns more about Jesus.
Sun	28	We come this morning to worship you. Help us do so sincerely and to listen for your voice.
Mon	29	Pray for those who live outwith the district this week.
Tue	30	We pray for those who live alone, for those who are lonely and for those who struggle to get out and about. Bring them peace.

## Choir

The church choir has been having a great session so far, singing a mixture of modern and traditional anthems and introits, fitting in with the theme of the sermon and readings each week.

Rehearsals will soon stop for the summer, commencing again in September : every Thursday evening 7-8pm for all who want to sing praises to God, serving Him with joyful voices. Please consider joining us. All are welcome, as the good hymn states.

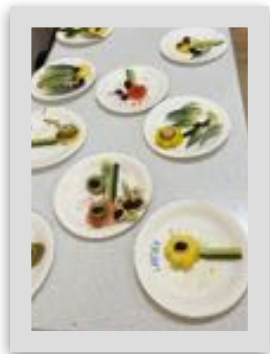
**Dawn Hope**



## 39<sup>th</sup>A Paisley Brownies

The Brownies continue to have really busy meetings every Wednesday and happy adventures at other times!

For the last couple of months, we have been working on the *Express Myself* theme. Some of the Pack have looked at the *Innovate* Skill Builder which included making and racing boats made from sponges and creating flower pictures from fruit.

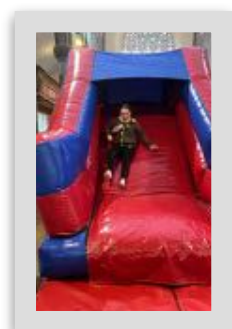


Meanwhile, others were experiencing the *Communicate* Skill Builder and learning about non-verbal communication and voice projection. Most of the Brownies have completed this and we will be presenting 11 *Communicate* and 15 *Innovate* badges soon.

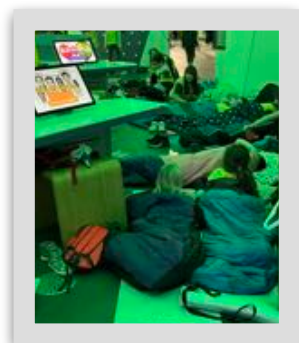
February is always a busy time in Girlguiding as we celebrate *Thinking Day*. As always, we had a fun night to celebrate. We played games involving different countries. The best fun was trying foods from different countries. The Brownies had to guess what they were eating and where it came from. Marshmallows were very popular, but the Vegemite was not as well received! Some of the Brownies were able to attend and participate in the *Thinking Day* service. Special mention for Lauren who was our flag carrier and our great readers, Evie and Daisy. Thank you to the Flower committee who made a super display to celebrate Girlguiding.



On 17<sup>th</sup> February, 12 Brownies and 3 Leaders spent the day in Greenock where the County *RenFriends* was being held. We took part in a variety of activities including some fitness fun, STEM activity, giant inflatables, craft activities, Silent Disco and several others. We all had great fun and even the rain did not stop us singing as we walked the streets between venues.



One of the highlights of our session was on 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> March, when 26 Brownies and 5 Leaders met at the Science Centre for a sleepover. We joined about 300 other Brownies from across the County and also from Ayrshire as we 'took over' the centre. As well as trying out the many exhibits, we also attended the Planetarium and a Science Show. Hot chocolate was very popular before we bedded down for the night. It was an early rise for breakfast before we all departed. Special thanks to 2 local Guiders, Jo and Julie (our own Mrs Wright), who were mad enough to volunteer to help the Pack so we could maintain the ratios needed for all the Brownies that wanted to attend. (See Daisy's impressions on next page.)





# 39<sup>th</sup>A Paisley Brownies

Other badges have been completed and awarded. Well done Brownies – they have all worked really hard!

## Interest Badges

<b>Artist</b>	Tilly
<b>Baking</b>	Ada, Keavagh, Katie MacD
<b>Collecting</b>	Ada, Anna, Charlotte C, Emily H, Freya, Tilly
<b>Grow Your Own</b>	Breagha, Carla, Charlotte C, Charlotte L, Esme, Jess, Katie MacD, Katie Mcd, Keavagh, Tilly
<b>Languages</b>	Tilly
<b>Zero Waste</b>	Evie
<b>Know Myself Theme</b>	Anna, Charlotte C, Freya
<b>Anniversary Badges</b>	3 years – Francesca 2 years – Keavagh 1 year - Lottie
<b>Silver Award</b>	Freya

## Daisy's Thoughts on Science Centre Sleepover

The Science Centre Sleepover was super fun! There were loads of activities to do. We got to explore all the floors.

We also had hot chocolate for supper and for breakfast we had some yoghurt, fruit and a chocolate muffin, yum!

My favourite part was the snacks!

Anyone - Adult volunteers particularly welcome - who would like to join in the fun and friendship that Girlguiding offers should register at :

[www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus)

**Christine Hair**

**Brown Owl**



## 39<sup>th</sup> Paisley Brownies (Tuesday)

We've been doing a lot of celebrating this year. We enjoyed our Shortbread and Irn Bru for *Burns Day*, Fortune Cookies for *Lunar New Year*, and pancakes on *Pancake Day*. We've been very creative for *Valentine's Day* and *Thinking Day*, and an appeal to our church members for buttons ensured that we had lots of buttons for *Mother's Day* pictures.



During Spring Break, we had an evening focussed on interest badges, which has resulted in 7 completing their *Collecting Badge* and some working on the *Dancing Badge*. We've seen collections of books, toys, figurines, and been regaled with visits to museums, libraries and other collections.

Our three new Brownies made their Brownie Promise on 19 March, when we were joined by Visiting Elders, Myra McKellar and Karin Grant, in the Sanctuary, along with parents and friends. Sonia kindly presented badges and certificates, and we were given an impromptu exhibition of how to do a cartwheel by one of our Brownies, Allegra, who had appeared on BBC CBeebies coaching just such an activity.

The previous week we had been joined by Peter, Bob, Danielle, Caitlin, Lucy and Karen at our *Jobs Fayre*. Each was interviewed about the highlights of their jobs, and the skills which they needed to do it. It was mayhem for 45 minutes as our guests were thoroughly grilled, not necessarily about anything to do with their jobs (!), but it has spurred some of the Brownies on to complete the *Jobs Interest Badge*.



Time for a change in direction, and a bit of fun over Easter, as we will be doing a badge based entirely on rabbits. There will be lots of challenges featuring bunny hops, anagrams, puzzles, treasure hunts, craft activities, food – and a really delightful badge at the end of it.

Following the Easter break, we're planning to visit a local supermarket to find out about which skills are needed by their staff, and we've arranged to visit Ralston Bowling Club to learn some new skills of our own. Before we finish for the summer holiday, we plan to visit *Gravity* at Braehead. So lots still to do and for the girls to enjoy.

**Sheena Tonner**

**Brownie Leader**

# Our Happy Band of Bakers

For many of us, baking is something we do on a regular basis; maybe for our families or when we plan to visit a friend. How many of us turn out a fruit loaf, a batch of scones or pancakes, maybe a fairy cake or two? But then – we have to eat our makings! That can be our downfall.

However, to bake on a regular basis for our *Church Bake Sale* gives us the opportunity to bake, and hand over the baked goods in the hope that someone else will enjoy our offering.

Since we started having a monthly *Bake Sale* (in recent years), our happy band of bakers has raised a considerable amount towards church funds. Meringues by the boxload, fruit loaves and scones by the dozen, traybakes (lemon, chocolate, fudge, peppermint, Malteser and Mars Bars to name but a few), cupcakes, carrot cakes and muffins (banana or apple) aplenty.

Our repertoire varies as our audience increases, eg for *Tremendous* and *Plant Sales*, with members of our local community also joining in the desire for a sweet treat.

Recipes have been shared and passed on, so that the next generation can still enjoy the ‘golden oldies’. How many of us think of an individual in our hearts as we mix a batch of fruit loaves or beat up a lemon drizzle cake? The love of baking is a love which we share with others.

We thank our regular bakers most sincerely for all their efforts, which we know are appreciated by those who wait patiently in a queue to get their fix. If you are also a keen baker, and would like to join our happy band, please don't hesitate to make yourself known. It doesn't need to be a regular contribution, and all contributions are welcomed.

We do, however, need to conform with Food Health Regulations, and any wrapped goods need to have any allergens identified – a fact sheet is available on request.

## Liz Morgan and Sheena Tonner



## ***The Windhover***

***To Christ Our Lord***

***I caught this morning morning's minion, king-  
dom of daylight's dauphin, dapple-dawn-drawn Falcon, in his riding  
Of the rolling level underneath him steady air, and striding  
High there, how he rung upon the rein of a wimpling wing  
In his ecstasy! then off, off forth on swing,  
As a skate's heel sweeps smooth on a bow-bend: the hurl and gliding  
Rebuffed the big wind. My heart in hiding  
Stirred for a bird, — the achieve of, the mastery of the thing!  
Brute beauty and valour and act, oh, air, pride, plume, here  
Buckle! AND the fire that breaks from thee then, a billion  
Times told lovelier, more dangerous, O my chevalier!  
No wonder of it: shéer plód makes plough down sillion  
Shine, and blue-bleak embers, ah my dear,  
Fall, gall themselves, and gash gold-vermilion.***

***Gerard Manley Hopkins***



## ***The Eagle***

***He clasps the crag with crooked hands;  
Close to the sun in lonely lands,  
Ringed with the azure world, he stands.  
The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;  
He watches from his mountain walls,  
And, like a thunderbolt, he falls.***

***Alfred, Lord Tennyson***

## *The Kingfisher*

*It was the Rainbow gave thee birth,  
And left thee all her lovely hues;  
And, as her mother's name was Tears,  
So runs it in my blood to choose  
For haunts the lonely pools, and keep  
In company with trees that weep.  
Go you and, with such glorious hues,  
Live with proud peacocks in green parks;  
On lawns as smooth as shining glass,  
Let every feather show its marks;  
Get thee on boughs and clap thy wings  
Before the windows of proud kings.  
Nay, lovely Bird, thou art not vain;  
Thou hast no proud, ambitious mind;  
I also love a quiet place  
That's green, away from all mankind;  
A lonely pool, and let a tree  
Sigh with her bosom over me.*

*William Henry Davies*



## *'Hope' is the thing with feathers*

*'Hope' is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul,  
And sings the tune without the words,  
And never stops at all,*

*And sweetest in the gale is heard;  
And sore must be the storm  
That could abash the little bird  
That kept so many warm.*

*I've heard it in the chillest land,  
And on the strangest sea;  
Yet, never, in extremity,  
It asked a crumb of me.*

*Emily Dickinson*





## Flowers in Church

07/04/24	Mr Sandy Fergusson
14/04/24	Mrs M. Currie
21/04/24	Mrs B. Craig
28/04/24	Mrs S. Smith
05/05/24	
12/05/24	Mrs J. Dempster
19/05/24	Mrs C. Kinloch
26/05/24	Mrs M. Robin

## Ladies Delivering Flowers

07/04/24	Mrs K. McLauchlan	
14/04/24	Mrs S. Tonner	
21/04/24		
28/04/24	Mrs D. Grant	Mrs M. Adam
05/05/24	Mrs S. Tonner	
12/05/24	Mrs I. McBride	
19/05/24		
26/05/24	Mrs A. Black	

## Ladies In Fellowship Together (LIFT)



Some of you may have heard of LIFT but wondered what on earth it is!

It is a group for women to meet and explore their faith. We are open to all and currently enjoy a gathering of about 20, all of varying ages. The programme is varied, including visits from guest speakers, Bible Studies and Fellowship Evenings that are led by our own members. The purpose of our meetings is to strengthen friendships, meet new people and LIFT each other up by sharing Christ's love with those around us. We meet every two months on Friday evenings at 19.30 in the Church Café.

If anyone would like to join us for our next meeting, please speak to **Jen Morgan** or **Lorna McCartney** for the details.

**A warm welcome awaits you.**

*Thank You*

Thank you to Ann and Graham Black who, after many years of devoted service, have retired from the church's gardening squad. We appreciate all their efforts in keeping the Church grounds so tidy.



## WANTED

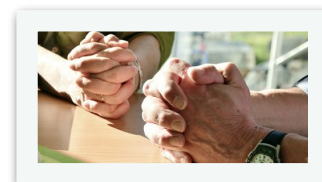
Subsequent to Graham's retiral, we are now looking for more people to take on the job of caring for the church grounds – especially the task of grass cutting. We do have 2 ladies who will care for the flower beds, but more volunteers are always welcome. Currently, the garden team meets on Tuesday mornings, but the grass could be cut at an alternative time to suit whoever was willing to attend to it.

Thank you.

## WHY NOT VOLUNTEER?



# Prayer Guide



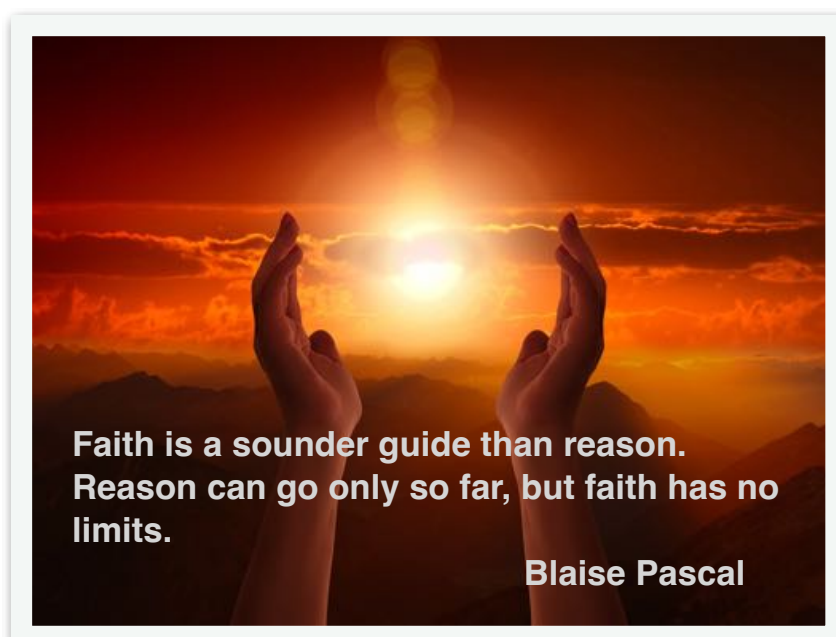
MAY, 2024		
Wed	1	Prayer groups on Zoom and in church followed by Bible Study.
Thu	2	We pray for Peter and his role as Church Worker. Pray that God would bless all he does and give him strength. Give thanks for the work currently being done with young folk.
Fri	3	Give thanks for the work our Marksman Editor does in preparation and delivery of the magazine.
Sat	4	We give thanks for all who are involved in bringing goods and food to our shops, for the choices we have and the accessibility we enjoy. Pray for those desperate for food and water.
Sun	5	We pray for our service this morning that you would be with Sonia as she leads our worship. Excite us to come and worship you.
Mon	6	We bring those in Allanton Avenue, Alton Road and Atholl Crescent before God in prayer.
Tue	7	Our Kirk Session meets this evening, and we bring discussions and decisions to you in our prayers. 39 <sup>th</sup> Brownies are going bowling at Ralston Bowling Club. Pray they have fun.
Wed	8	Prayer groups on Zoom and in church this evening.
Thu	9	School Assemblies today and tomorrow. Pray for Sonia and Peter as they lead these. Our organisations come under our prayers today. Pray for all who lead and work in them. May they show God's love to all they work with. <i>Thy Kingdom Come</i> runs from today till 19 May.
Fri	10	School Assembly today. Be with the children and staff as they participate. We pray that as things move on with the Presbytery Plan we will be found following in your footsteps. Street Pastors on patrol tonight. Pray for them as they are out and about and for those they interact with.
Sat	11	The Annual Plant Sale takes place today. Pray for good weather and a good turnout.
Sun	12	We pray for the children and young people in the church and thank you for them. Pray too for their families.
Mon	13	We remember people living in Auchmannoch Avenue, Balfron Road and Barshaw Place this coming week.
Tue	14	Remember the work of aid agencies and local charities. Pray for the work they do in reaching those who are in need.
Wed	15	International Day of Living Together in Peace. In our broken world pray that God who help us turn to him, the true giver of peace, and help us strive to live in peace with each other.
Thu	16	Pray for those who work in the emergency services that they will be kept safe as they help others.
Fri	17	As we reach the weekend, we give thanks for the week that has gone, the people we have met and the things we have been able to do.
Sat	18	Remember those in local, national and international politics, for leaders worldwide that they would be fair and equitable, and that justice would be seen to be done throughout the world.



# Prayer Guide



MAY, 2024		
Sun	19	Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Bring us to our service this morning aware of what a holy God you are. Thank God for his amazing gift of salvation.
Mon	20	Remember all in Bathgo Avenue, Blair Road and Buchlyvie Road this week in your prayers.
Tue	21	Today we pray for war-torn countries where lives have been traumatised and thousands of innocent people killed or displaced. Bring them your hope in Christ.
Wed	22	Prayer groups on Zoom and in church this evening.
Thu	23	Give thanks for Fiona in her administration role and for the work she carries out.
Fri	24	Pray for the local Community Council and the work they do for those who live in the area.
Sat	25	Pray our lives will display the true likeness of Christ as we go about our daily lives. May people around us see Christ in us.
Sun	26	Baptism or Blessing for Alfie MacKenzie this morning. Be with his family and friends on this special day. Thank God for the freedom we have to worship and remember the many Christians throughout the world who are being persecuted for their faith.
Mon	27	Crookston Drive, Dalfoil Court and Darvel Crescent are in our prayers this week.
Tue	28	Session ends for the 39 <sup>th</sup> Brownies tonight. Give thanks for the year they have enjoyed, for the input and enthusiasm of both girls and leaders.
Wed	29	Pray for the P7 trip away that everyone has a great time. They return home on the 31 <sup>st</sup> . Pray for Peter as he goes with them.
Thu	30	Our Flower Team faithfully share their talents in the lovely displays we enjoy, as well as the ministry of sharing these with people at home. Bless their work.
Fri	31	Pray for safe travel home for P7s and Peter and for a good rest for them all this weekend!



**Faith is a sounder guide than reason.  
Reason can go only so far, but faith has no  
limits.**

**Blaise Pascal**



## Coin Collection

Please continue to donate your small change which weighs down your pockets and purses. This collection goes towards church funds and is greatly appreciated. Collect in any container and leave on table in front vestibule or at the church office. Every little helps!

**Margaret Adams**

## Renfrewshire Foodbank

Please remember to donate to the Renfrewshire Foodbank. Pop an extra item each week into your shopping and put it into the container in the Corrie Drive entrance to the church.

Items that are in short supply at the moment are : UHT Milk, diluting juice, tinned meat, crisps, sanitary products and deodorant.

Anything you can give will help families who are in need.

Yes, you can make a difference.

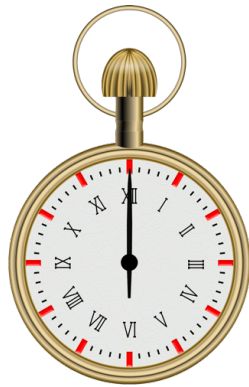
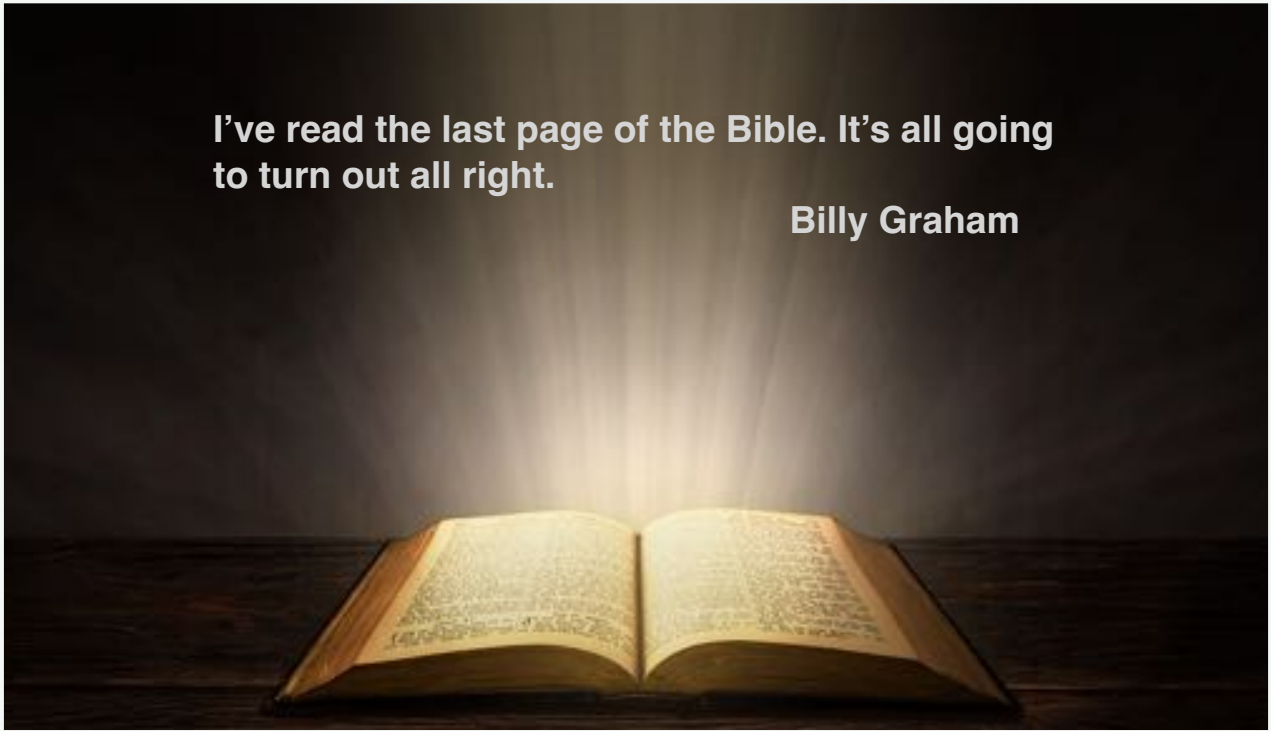


Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

I've read the last page of the Bible. It's all going to turn out all right.

Billy Graham



Please send articles for the *Marksman* to the editor at :

[marksman@stmarksoldhall.org.uk](mailto:marksman@stmarksoldhall.org.uk)

Contribution deadline for June/July edition : **12 noon, 16 May, 2024.**