

# Marksman

October / November, 2023



St Mark's Church of Scotland (Oldhall), Paisley

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Scottish Charity SC011210



## From the Manse



As I write this, I am also preparing for our Harvest Thanksgiving which will take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> September – not a date for your diary - by the time you read this you will have missed it if you weren't there. On that Sunday we thought about the growth of a sunflower seed, and the way it is transformed within the soil, and of the Parable of the Sower. This parable may be one you are familiar with- some of the seed falling on the path, and being eaten by the birds ; some falling on the rocky ground and starting to grow, but not having much soil to take root in ; some falling amongst thorns and the plants being choked as they grow and some falling on good soil, and growing well, and flourishing, giving a good crop.

Later, when Jesus explained the parable, he did so to the disciples and not to the entire crowd. And he told the disciples that they were able to understand what he called the 'secrets of the kingdom' but that this knowledge was not for everyone.

He quoted the words of the prophet Isaiah who said :

"You will listen, but never understand, and you will look but never perceive.

For this peoples' heart has grown dull, and their ears hard of hearing,

And they have shut their eyes." (from *Isaiah* 6)

Today, just as in the time of Isaiah, and later in the time of Jesus, many people are not hearing or seeing properly. There is a tendency to look at the problems of the world, of homelessness, poverty, famine and think they are too big, too difficult for us to do anything about, and so we do not try. We may recognise that there is a huge problem with climate change, maybe even call it a crisis, but think if we throw a few items in the recycling bin we are doing our bit.

Jesus said that those who hear the word of God but do not understand, and those who hear the word of God but who are distracted by other things, will fall away. But those who hear God's word and understand it will bear fruit.

In hearing God's word and responding to the word of God in our lives not only do we help others, but we ourselves are blessed.

This autumn, I challenge you to think again of the Harvest.

- Think of the seed that fell on good ground, and about the sunflower seed, and how a small seed can be transformed.
- Think about how you can make a difference in our world, to our brothers and sister close at hand and far way, how you can, in the words of the prophet Micah, " Do justice, and love kindness and walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)

That is the Harvest of our lives, the harvest that God desires.

Our Harvest gifts, both financial and practical went to the Renfrewshire Foodbank ; other donations were given for the work of Christian Aid. If you weren't at the Harvest service, perhaps you might consider giving a donation to one of these charities now.

Finally, in closing, a Prayer for a rich harvest :

Lord Jesus,

Like the sower you scatter seed to bring about a harvest, spreading the seed of love, kindness and truth:

You water the seed with your grace and warm it with your compassion.

May that seed germinate and take root in us.

Nurtured by your Spirit, may it grow to a rich harvest of lives that delight in your truth, that show love in word and action and that care for all with whom we share this earth.

Amen

(written by Simon Taylor, Baptist Minister and University Chaplain in Bristol, and member of the Iona Community)

May God bless you as you bless others this harvest time and throughout the autumn,

Your friend and minister,

*Sonia*

## Worship Matters

Looking forward:

1 <sup>st</sup> October	Youth Dedication Service
15 <sup>th</sup> October	Service of Infant Blessing/ Baptism
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Communion Service
29 <sup>th</sup> Oct & 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Sonia on holiday – worship team leading services
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Sunday
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Annual Giving Day

## Welcome and Hospitality

Over the summer we have had the opportunity to welcome many visitors to our Sunday morning Worship. Some have been family members, some friends who were visiting, others people quite unknown to us, and it has been a delight to welcome them.

There are also new people from the local area who are worshipping with us on a Sunday and they are most welcome, and I would encourage you to take a moment and speak to them before or after a service. If it happens that you speak to someone whom you don't know but who has been a member of St Mark's for years, then just be glad that you have met a brother or sister who was previously unknown to you.

We are currently hosting both the Paisley Church of the Nazarene, and the Kingdom Ambassadors Ministry who are worshipping in our building on a Sunday afternoon. Both these churches were previously worshipping within the building of the Life Church, but they have moved out of their old building, and their new building is not yet ready for occupation, so they themselves are worshipping within the Central Methodist Hall. The Church of the Nazarene will meet in the church sanctuary at 2pm, and the Kingdom Ambassadors in the large hall from 1pm onwards. We pray a blessing on them as they worship within our building.

## Funeral

21<sup>st</sup> September      Jean Craig,  
16 Dunchurch Road.



We recognise that many people from Ralston use the church paths as a regular way of passing from Corrie Drive to Glasgow Road, and have done so since the church was built. We wish to be known as friendly and welcoming by the local community, and so we should not have a problem with people or dogs walking around the paths or the grass – as long as no damage is being done, and no dog mess left behind. Sadly, this does not appear always to be the case, as we have heard of people being 'told off' and informed that the church's paths are 'private property'. Whilst the church does own the paths and has responsibility for the upkeep, there is no law of trespass in Scotland, and there are no gates or fences to keep people out, so the Kirk Session wish to remind the congregation that no-one should be challenged for walking along these paths, even on a Sunday morning, but instead perhaps we can greet our neighbours with a smile, and a friendly word, and maybe even an invitation to step inside. However, if there is a problem, and you witness it, please let me know and I can respond appropriately if the issue is raised with me at a later date.

We hope to begin our *Winter Welcome* project again this year utilising the new café space. More details as autumn progresses. We are waiting for the kitchen being installed before we begin.

**Sonia**



## Flowers in Church

01.10.23	Mrs S. Smith
08.10.23	Guides
15.10.23	Mrs C. Sinclair
22.10.23	Mrs P. Strachan
29.10.23	Mrs C. McCulloch Love
05.11.23	Guild
12.11.23	Dr C. Reid
19.11.23	Mrs J. Forson
26.11.23	Mrs M. Johnston

## Ladies Delivering Flowers

01.10.23	Mrs J. Dempster	
08.10.23	Mrs I. Ritchie	
15.10.23	Mrs J. Chapman	
22.10.23	Mrs J. Dunsmore	
29.10.23		
05.11.23	Mrs K. McLauchlan	
12.11.23	Mrs I. McBride	
19.11.23	Mrs K. McLauchlan	
26.11.23	Mrs D. Grant	Mrs M. Adams

## Sunday Duty Team Rota



DATE	TEAM	LEADER	DATE	TEAM	LEADER
OCT			NOV		
01/10/2023	5	Mr A. Boyd	05/11/2023	1	Mr J. Goodall
08/10/2023	5	Mr A. Boyd	12/11/2023	2	Mr A. Taylor
15/10/2023	6	Dr C. Reid	19/01/2023	2	Mr A. Taylor
22/10/2023	6	Dr C. Reid	26/11/2023	3	Mrs C. Hair
29/10/2023	1	Mr J. Goodall			



**Trash** is back up and running to our normal format after the more relaxed evenings we had during the summer.

We have had an evening thinking about the most important stories of the bible. Looking at Timothy 3:16 where it says that all Scripture is profitable. We will be looking at some of these stories that the young people identified over the next few weeks.

The young people of Trash spend some time during the summer decorating the Stage Room. They chose the colours and did the majority of the painting and are now creating some artwork to go on the walls.



**The Junction Youth Café** was run from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> of August. It was a space for young people from P6 to S3 to come together and have fun with their friends. There were a number of table top games, consoles, pool, table tennis and some craft activities. We had a total of 46 young people come during the week with 36 there on the Friday night.

Some of the young people who came have connections with the church or youth organisations, but quite a few did not. I am hoping to be able to run something regularly for these young people. If you think you might be able to help support that, please speak to me.



**Messy Church** was on in July and August. In July we had a games afternoon and in August we looked at the story of the Good Samaritan. Thank you to everyone who comes along to Messy Church and also to those who help run it.

Messy Church is on the last Saturday of every month (apart from December) from 2pm to 3.30pm.

## Summer Evolution

I would like to thank everyone who helped out with Evolution during the summer holidays. There were nine people who offered to help out, meaning that nobody had to do it more than once. We had young people come along every Sunday except one, making it worthwhile to put on.

In next few weeks we will hopefully get back into the primary school for assemblies and other work. Also in the next few weeks we will try and have a plan for what we do with *The Junction*.

Thank you to everyone for their continued support of the work that is happening at St Mark's and of the support given to me personally.

God bless,

**Peter**



# Prayer Guide



OCTOBER, 2023		
Sun	1	This is the <i>Youth Dedication Service</i> today. Pray for all the young people who are involved in different organisations, all the leaders and helpers as they work with them, and for ourselves as we support them in prayer. Be with Sonia as she leads this service. While we are celebrating the youth today, it is also International Day of Older Persons, so let's remember them also.
Mon	2	Pray for those living in Rotherwick Drive, School Road and Southwold Road this week.
Tue	3	Pray for the new Presbytery Clerk, Rev. Robbie Hamilton, who takes up this role this month.
Wed	4	We meet for prayer on Zoom and in church this evening, followed by Bible Study in church.
Thu	5	Pray for the Worship Team and all they are involved in, and also for those who are undertaking Worship Leader Training.
Fri	6	Pray for Boys' Brigade sections who meet tonight.
Sat	7	Today take time to pray for those you know who are unwell, bereaved or lonely.
Sun	8	Pray for Sonia as she leads us in worship this morning. Pray for the young folk of TRASH as they meet in the evening.
Mon	9	Our streets for prayer this week are Springfield Avenue, Strathmore Avenue, Tylney Road and Woodend Drive. Pray for the youngsters who attend K-Dance in our premises each Monday after school.
Tue	10	Pray for all suffering from mental health issues on this <i>World Mental Health Day</i> .
Wed	11	Prayer Groups tonight on Zoom and in church at 7:00pm.
Thu	12	It is the Pastoral Team we remember this week and give thanks for all their support to so many.
Fri	13	Pray for the TNT group of young people when they meet and for bible studies they undertake.
Sat	14	Our Bible Studies continue this morning on Zoom with our 4 <sup>th</sup> study in Colossians.
Sun	15	There will be a service of <i>Infant Blessing</i> this morning. Pray for the families involved and that the babies will come to know You in the years ahead.
Mon	16	Remember those outside the district in your prayers this coming week. <i>World Food Day</i> today. Help us pray that there would be food enough for everyone throughout the world, and that the inequity that is seen would be righted.
Tue	17	We pray for the Rainbows, the 39th and 39thA Brownie Packs and the Guides who meet in the church on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
Wed	18	Prayer groups on Zoom and in church, followed by Bible Study tonight.

# Prayer Guide



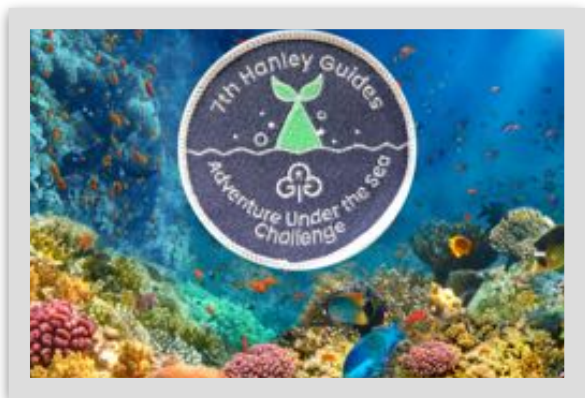
OCTOBER, 2023		
Thu	19	Dementia-Friendly Café this afternoon. Pray for the Finance Team as they carry out their duties on our behalf.
Fri	20	Thank you for the website and media folk who work to keep our information up to date and available to those in the wider community as well as ourselves.
Sat	21	We pray for all who use the church premises.
Sun	22	This is our Communion Service this morning. Pray that we will be blessed as we meet for fellowship together.
Mon	23	Prayers asked for those who live in Allanton Avenue, Alton Road and Atholl Crescent. Hopefully this week sees the kitchen unit fitting in the café done.
Tue	24	We pray again for the work done so far, and for the future plans for the Café. The 39th Brownies were going to the Science Centre in October, but this has been put back to March.
Wed	25	Prayer Group time again tonight on Zoom and in church.
Thu	26	Christian Education Team is our focus for prayer today. Bless the work done.
Fri	27	<i>National Mentoring Day.</i> Pray for all those who guide others by offering advice and support.
Sat	28	Bible Study time again this morning on Zoom.
Sun	29	Worship will be led by Eileen Wilkie this morning as Sonia is on holiday. Pray for them both.
Mon	30	Pray for Auchmannoch Avenue, Balfron Road and Barshaw Place this week. Remember all involved in the Guild and bless those who attend.
Tues	31	Bring our cities to God in prayer today as we remember <i>World Cities Day.</i> Pray for the millions who live in cities where there is overcrowding or an imbalance in power and wealth, and where many feel isolated despite being surrounded by others.



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

We have started our year with ten new Brownies, and that takes our numbers up to a healthy 18 this year. Our ten new girls will be working their way through Brownie Promise activities, and we hope that they will be ready to renew their Promise in early November.

We are doing an *Adventure Under the Sea Challenge Badge* to kick off the term. Readers may remember that we visited the Odeon cinema to see *The Little Mermaid*, and this badge builds on the story and the characters involved. We'll be doing various activities for Ariel, Prince Eric, King Triton, Sebastian, Scuttle and others, and this will also link across to SkillsBuilders and UMAs in the *Feel Good/Be Well* Theme.



We started by making under the sea pictures, and this will be followed by making mermaids, learning about ocean health, making our own rules, sporting challenges and identifying types of gull!



By November we'll have concluded the badge ready for presentation along with the SkillsBuilder Badge. We're sharing materials with the Tuesday Rainbows, and hopefully they will also be presented with their badges around the same time.

Invitations have been extended to the Brownies and their families for the Youth Dedication Service in October, and it will be lovely to see the girls attend if they are able.

We're considering going to the pantomime this year (*Beauty and the Beast* at PACE), as we haven't been since before Covid.

GirlGuiding/Odeon are again putting on a special GirlGuiding screening – this time *Wish*. It focuses on a 17-year-old girl named Asha, who makes a passionate plea to the stars in a moment of need when she senses a darkness in the Kingdom of Rosas that no one else does. The film is inspired by Disney's 100th anniversary, which ties together a major theme across most Disney films – of wishes becoming reality.

So along with our usual crafting and party nights, that will keep us busy up until Christmas.

**Sheena Tonner,**  
**Brownie Leader**



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

Another session is underway and we are delighted to welcome 5 new starts who have transferred from Rainbows and another 2 girls who are new to Guiding. We also welcomed a new Adult Helper – Simone Smith.

At our first meeting, the Brownies decided what they would call our new leader. In a secret vote, the selection was made and Simone will now answer to Snowy Owl. [Dare you to try it!] They are all settling in well and we look forward to taking them on many Guiding adventures.



At the start of a new session, we like to look at the Brownie Promise and Law and build teamwork. This introduces the new girls to the 'backbone' of Brownies and also acts as a reminder to the Brownies who have made their Promise when they joined. We have done this through playing some games and carrying out some Unit Meeting Activities especially in the theme of *Know Myself*. We hope this will lead to our new starts wanting to make their promise soon.

Over the holidays, one of the Brownies completed the Aviation Badge. This means she completed the *Have Adventures* Theme and has now achieved the Silver Award. Very well done Beth – onwards to Gold now!!!

We also had several Brownies awarded with Anniversary badges to celebrate their time in Girlguiding :

2 years – Ada, Carla, Esme, Maisie, Tilly

3 years – Anna, Katie

4 years – Daisy, Jessica, Lauren, Phoebe

It is not only the Brownies that have been achieving awards. We are delighted to report that Nicola Wright has now completed her Young Leader qualification. Well done Nicola and thanks again for all the help and support you give the Brownies.

If you have any new neighbours with girls in the family, please encourage them to come along and enjoy the fun and friendship that Girlguiding offers. Adult volunteers will, of course, be very welcome too! Interest should be registered at :

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

**Christine Hair**

**Brown Owl**



# Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal 2023



Hopefully by now you have assembled the ESSENTIAL elements for your shoebox - toothbrush and toothpaste, hat, scarf and gloves, soap, underwear/socks/tights, a small toy (for children & teens) and sweets, NOT chocolate.

If not, there is still time to find a shoebox; gift wrap base and top separately; decide on the gender and age of the recipient (pre-school, primary, teenager, adult, elderly); put in the essential items then add something from the filler list of ideas opposite.

**Deadline : 22 October.**

Checklists for attaching to your box are available.



shooboxappeal.org

## SHOE BOX APPEAL

### Bring hope this Christmas

For more information or a leaflet  
01349 830777 • shooboxappeal.org

Transforming lives through Christian care

## Checklist

Please ✓ items included and firmly secure this list on your shoebox lid.  
**Include the essential items highlighted in the red box.**  
**IMPORTANT: PLEASE ONLY INCLUDE NEW ITEMS.**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Toothbrush and Toothpaste</b></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Hat, scarf, gloves</b></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Soap</b></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Underwear/ Socks/Tights</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Small toy* / gift</b><br/>*small children's toy such as cars, dolls, balls etc. Please only include new shop-bought toys.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Sweets</b><br/>No chocolate or any other food items. No loose sweets, lollies or undated bags of sweets. Best before date no earlier than 31st March next year.</li> </ul> |
|--|---|---|

**Do not include** used or damaged items; war related items such as toy guns or knives or military figures; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; chocolate or any food other than sweets. Chocolate Eclairs and Chocolate Limes are not allowed; books that are mainly words should not be included.

#### Toiletries (NO TALCUM POWDER)

- Shampoo or Shower gel
- Face cloth/ Moist wipes
- Deodorant
- Moisturising Cream
- Comb/Brush
- Sanitary Products
- Shaving foam/Razors

#### Clothes and other Items

(T-shirts/Pyjamas/Jumpers/ Shirts) etc

- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....

**Please tick the box next to who the box is for and the age of the female or male you have filled this box for:**

**Female**  **Male**

#### Miscellaneous

- New Make-up
- Sewing Equipment
- Household Candles
- Screwdrivers/Pliers
- Kitchen Utensils

#### Stationery

- Pens/Pencils/Sharpener
- Notepads/Colouring books
- Rulers/Rubbers

- Preschool age.....
- Primary age.....
- Teenager age.....
- Adult age.....
- Elderly age.....

Tear along the perforation to detach this panel and secure to the outside of your shoebox

# Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal 2023



Girl/Boy 3-7	Girl/Boy 3-7	Girl/Boy 8-12	Girl/Boy 8-12
Plasticine	Pyjamas	Sewing kit	Lego
Simple sewing	Toy car/truck	Craft kit	Draughts
Dressing-up	Toy animals	Paint by numbers	Modelling clay
Chalk	Paints	Jewellery/beads	Tennis ball
Sticker books	Picture snap cards	Socks	Vests
My Little Pony	Wooden toy	T-shirt	Watch
Colouring book	Small ball	Pyjamas	Playing cards
Crayons	Socks	Colouring book	Sticker book
T-shirt	Shorts	Stationery	Socks
Underwear	Vests	Skipping ropes	Marbles

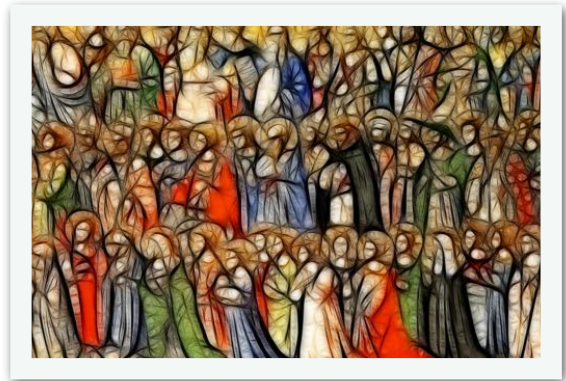
Teenage Girl / Boy	Teenage Girl / Boy	Woman	Man	Elderly woman
Make-up	Shorts	Make-up	Dominoes	Magnifying glass
Craft kit	Tennis ball	First aid kit	Pack of cards	Umbrella
Jewellery	Rubix cube	Sanitary products	Draughts	Hand cream
Hair brush	Draughts	Perfume	Tape measure	Folding walking stick
Nail varnish	Aeroplane model	Shampoo	Tin cup	Slippers
Dominoes	Windup torch	Tape measure	Belt	Apron
Perfume/After shave	Dominoes	Apron	Braces	Candle
Hair band	Deodorant	Measuring spoons	Wind-up torch	Tin cup
Small watch	Small watch	Kitchen utensils	Pen knife	Small clock
Diary	Thermal vest	Small scissors	Shaving brush	Nail brush
Manicure set	Cap	Underwear	Pen	Tights

## Saint Ninian

Saint Ninian probably lived from about 360 to 432AD. Little is known for sure about his background, origins and early life. It is said, however, that he was British, and that he studied Christianity in Rome, being given the mission of converting the Picts by Pope of the day, Pope Siricius.

St Ninian is not a Celtic Saint, he is a Northumbrian Saint, the first evidence about him coming from the Venerable Bede, a Northumbrian Monk writing some 300 years later. He wrote: *"the southern Picts received the true faith by the preaching of Bishop Ninias, a most reverend and holy man of the British nation, who had been regularly instructed at Rome in the faith and mysteries of the truth; whose episcopal see, named after St Martin the Bishop, (St Martin of Tours) and famous for a church dedicated to him (wherein Ninias himself and many other saints rest in the body), is now in the possession of the English nation. The place belongs to the province of the Bernicians and is commonly called the Candida Casa, because he there built a church of stone, which was not usual amongst the Britons"*.

It would seem St Ninian came to Scotland in the 390s, establishing his mission at Whithorn. It became known as *Candida Casa* or "White House" because of the appearance of its stone construction. There appear to have been well- established links between the Northumbrians and Galloway, both under the oversight of the Northumbrian Archbishop of York. There is actually a lot of academic dispute about many of the details of St Ninian's life. This even includes the century in which he lived, with some believing Bede had confused him with St Finnian, who was a teacher of St Columba in 560. This is still a commonly held belief. However, others believe that St Ninian dedicated the



*Candida Casa* to St Martin on hearing of the latter's death, which would place the dedication of his church in 397.

Work among the Britons in modern day Galloway was followed by St Ninian's mission to the "southern Picts". Early maps were tipped on their side, so St Ninian's mission seems to have worked his way up the east coast of Scotland, possibly reaching as far as Shetland. As St Columba and others had to start afresh converting the Picts in the late 500s, it would seem that either St Ninian's Pictish converts returned to paganism after his departure, or possibly that Bede did indeed get his dates and identities confused, and St Ninian and St Columba were indeed operating at much the same time.

Either way, after his death St Ninian was buried in Whithorn. He is commemorated in the names of many churches, including St Ninian's Chapel at the isle of Whithorn, and St Ninian's cave on the shore south-west of Whithorn, has become a place of pilgrimage. He is also commemorated in the isle of Man, and in Northern Ireland.

As noted above, St Ninian is not a Celtic saint, but since I visited Whithorn during my summer travels I thought he deserved a mention.

**Sonia**



## Guild

The Guild meetings will be starting on Monday 2nd October at 2.00pm and each Monday thereafter.

We look forward to you joining us, enjoying our fellowship together and our varied programme for the coming session.

All welcome.

**Irene Stirton, Secretary**

### SAVE THE DATE!



This year's *TREEmendous Event* will take place on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December from 10am till 1pm.

Come and join us for this fantastic community event.

## Dementia-Friendly Drop-In Café

St Mark's Church (2-4pm)



Thursday 19 October

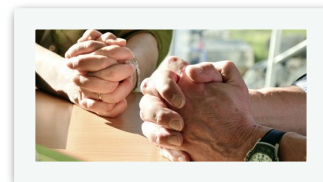
Thursday 16 November

# Prayer Guide

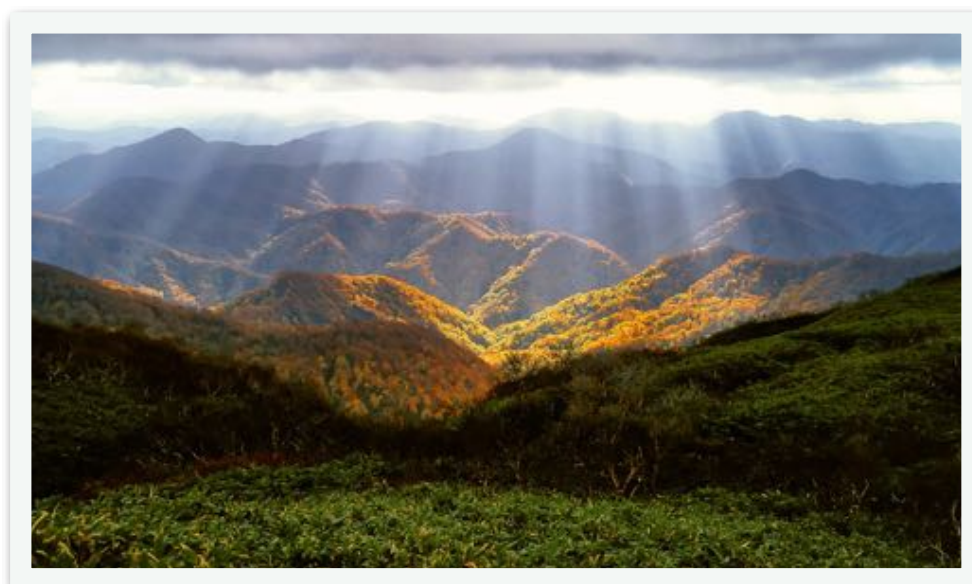


NOVEMBER, 2023		
Wed	1	Prayer Groups on Zoom and in church, followed by Bible Study.
Thu	2	Our prayers today are for our Elders. Pray that God helps guide and directs them and help them persevere in their faith.
Fri	3	Help us remember those throughout the world who are persecuted for their faith – people in India or China for example.
Sat	4	Why not take time to stop and give thanks for the many blessings you have received this past week?
Sun	5	Peter Blair leads us in worship this morning while Sonia is off on holiday.
Mon	6	Remember all who live in Bathgo Avenue, Blair Road and Buchlyvie Road this coming week.
Tue	7	Pray for the children in our local school, for the teachers and staff, and for the relationships built up over the years with Peter and Sonia. Pray for the new Brownies of the 39th who will be making their Promise in the sanctuary this evening.
Wed	8	Prayer Groups meet tonight on Zoom and in the church.
Thu	9	Pray for the Choir and Dawn as they meet and practise. Bless them in fellowship together and as they use music to enhance our worship.
Fri	10	We pray for all the Street Pastors who are out and about in Glasgow and Paisley over the weekend.
Sat	11	We meet for Zoom Bible Study this morning at 10:15.
Sun	12	Remembrance Sunday.
Mon	13	Our prayers are for the folk living in Crookston Drive, Dalfoil Court and Darvel Crescent.
Tues	14	Pray for Fiona in the Office and for the work she does.
Wed	15	Zoom Prayer Group and Church Group tonight, followed by Bible Study group.
Thu	16	Dementia-Friendly Café this afternoon. Messy Church is the focus for our prayers today. We ask that all who attend, and all who help, will be blessed and that good relationships are made.
Fri	17	Thank you, Lord, for the beauty of your creation as we see the changing colours of autumn.
Sat	18	Pray for all who serve on the local Community Council. We pray for the <i>Little Kickers</i> who meet in the church premises on Saturday mornings

# Prayer Guide



NOVEMBER, 2023		
Sun	19	This is our Annual Giving Day. It is also <i>World Toilet Day</i> – please remember that Dawn raises funds for this through the <i>Toilet Twinning Project</i> and perhaps you may feel led to give to this today too.
Mon	20	Please pray for the following streets - Drummond Drive, Duchray Drive and Dunchurch Road. <i>World Children's Day</i> today. Pray for any children you have contact with, as well as all children worldwide
Tue	21	We thank you for all those who work as carers, paid or unpaid.
Wed	22	We meet for Prayer Groups tonight on Zoom and in church.
Thu	23	We pray for the Dementia-Friendly Café work that is done here in St Mark's. For all who come along to know a warm welcome and find a place of safety, rest and companionship.
Fri	24	We thank you for all the gifts and talents you give us. Help us use them well for your service.
Sat	25	<i>International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women.</i> Bible Study group meets on Zoom this morning.
Sun	26	We ask that you help us to come prepared to worship you this morning. Be with Sonia as she brings your word to us.
Mon	27	Pray for those in Gartartan Road, Gartmore Road and Glasgow Road.
Tue	28	Pray for those in our community and the wider local area who are in need of Foodbanks and help us to do what we can to help.
Wed	29	Prayer Groups tonight on Zoom and in church at 7:00pm, followed by Bible Study group.
Thu	30	Remember the Property Team and pray for all that they are involved in.



# Lest we forget



## The Dead

These hearts were woven of human joys and cares,  
Washed marvellously with sorrow, swift to mirth.  
The years had given them kindness. Dawn was theirs,  
And sunset, and the colours of the earth.  
These had seen movement, and heard music; known  
Slumber and waking; loved; gone proudly friended;  
Felt the quick stir of wonder; sat alone;  
Touched flowers and furs and cheeks. All this is ended.

There are waters blown by changing winds to laughter  
And lit by the rich skies, all day. And after,  
Frost, with a gesture, stays the waves that dance  
And wandering loveliness. He leaves a white  
Unbroken glory, a gathered radiance,  
A width, a shining peace, under the night.

## Rupert Brooke





# From My Travels ( Editor)

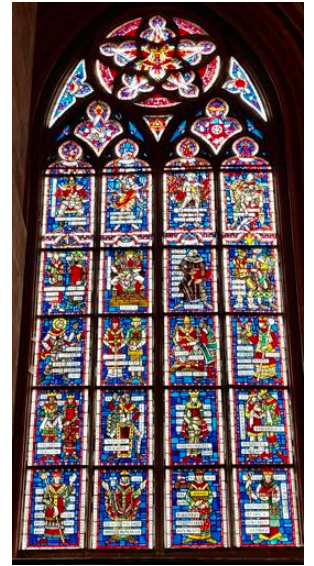
## Some Examples of Stained Glass, Ancient and Modern



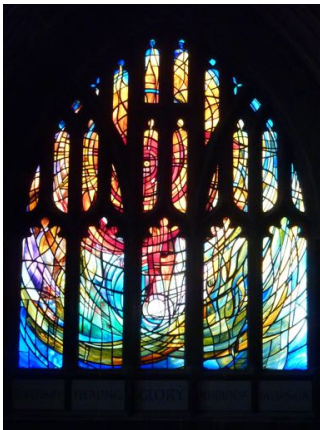
Almudena Cathedral, Madrid



Newcastle Cathedral



Worms Cathedral, Germany



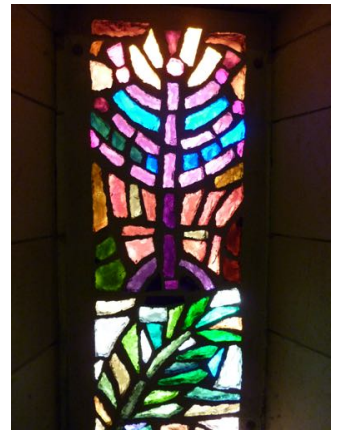
Manchester Cathedral



Holy Trinity and  
St Barnabas Church,  
Paisley



Reykjavik Cathedral,  
Iceland



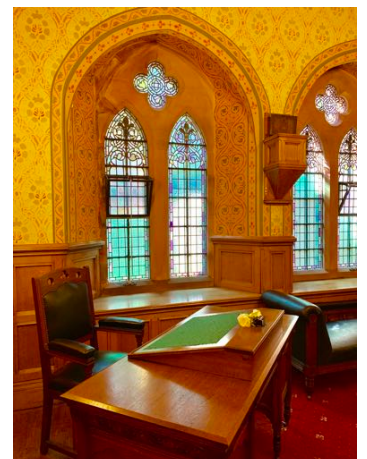
Church of the Annunciation,  
Nazareth, Israel



Gartnavel Hospital, Glasgow



Church of the Beatitudes, near Sea of Galilee,  
Israel



Coats Memorial Church,  
Paisley

## Harvest Thanksgiving Lunch

On Sunday 17 September we held our *Harvest Thanksgiving Service* at which donations to Renfrewshire Foodbank were received.

The service was followed by a very enjoyable *Bring and Share Lunch*. Our thanks to all who contributed to make the events so successful.



**And goodness is the harvest that is produced from  
the seeds the peacemakers plant in peace.**

**James 3 : 18**



# Alpha Course

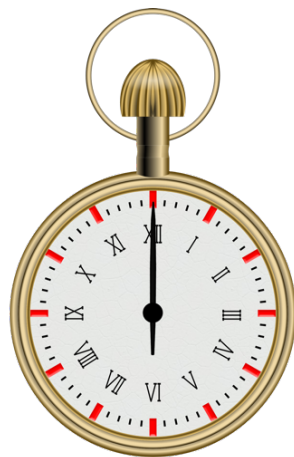


“WHAT’S THE MEANING OF LIFE?”  
“DO I HAVE A PURPOSE?”  
“IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS?”  
“WHAT AM I DOING HERE?”  
“IS THERE A GOD?”

**Alpha**

**FIND OUT ABOUT THE ALPHA COURSE**

An Alpha course will be starting in January at St Mark's.  
This will be for church members and the wider community to come and think about the big questions of life. Full details of the course will be announced soon, see [www.alpha.org.uk](http://www.alpha.org.uk) for more about ALPHA.



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

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Contribution deadline for Dec/Jan edition : **12 noon, 16 November, 2023.**