

Marksman

June / July, 2024



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

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Scottish Charity SC011210



From the Manse



I recently sent an email, saying someone had their finger in too many pies and had too many plates spinning at once. Someone else asked me if I knew where the saying “Help ma Boab” came from, and I am continually explaining different English idioms and phrases to my Ukranian family who are still living with me in the manse.

English is a strange language, which has its roots in the language of the Germanic peoples of northern Europe, (which curiously does not correspond to modern day German) but has also absorbed words from, among others, French, Latin and Greek. Classic writers like Chaucer, Shakespeare, and the King James Bible have all had an important role to play in the way English has developed.

Shakespeare first used the expression of fingers in pies in *Henry VIII* and having so many plates spinning means you can't focus on any one task because too many things are going on at once.

Other phrases that come from the Bible include :

1. **The land of Nod** – not really where people sleep – although I suppose they do, but a land to the east of Eden (another literary reference) to where God sent Cain after he murdered his brother Abel.
2. **Escaping by the skin of your teeth** - perhaps surprisingly, that phrase comes from someone who didn't seem to escape at all. After all of the calamities Job endured, he says he escaped with his life by the skin of his teeth in Job 19.
3. **The writing is on the wall** predicts an obvious conclusion, but the phrase ironically describes a situation that wasn't so obvious. No one knew what the writing on the wall in Daniel chapter 5 meant, until God gave Daniel the interpretation that the kingdom would be taken away from the king.

“Help ma Boab” is often thought to originate with *Oor Wullie*, but my source told me that it comes from war days when men signed on for a shilling, and their mothers would say, “Help ma Boab” almost as a prayer.

This started me thinking about the many ways people pray without realising they are doing so. When someone sneezes, we say “Bless you”, an abbreviation of ‘God bless you’ which dates back to plague times, and a desire for God to keep a person safe from contagion. People today are very fond of saying “Oh my God!” or even “OMG!!!” without thinking about what it means, or questioning who their God is anyway. “God help us” is a cry that can be sent up in any eventuality. Surveys have shown that more people pray in times of crisis than at any other time – even many people who don't regularly pray will pray when the chips are down, (another idiom relating to gambling at card tables or roulette when you have placed your stake but don't yet know what the outcome will be).

During the eleven day period between Jesus' Ascension up into Heaven, and the arrival of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the disciples met regularly for prayer and worship. This time has often been considered an important time for prayer, following their example. In recent years, some of the folk at St Mark's have been taking part in *Thy Kingdom Come*, an international ecumenical prayer initiative that encourages people to take time daily during this period to pray for friends and family to come to know Jesus, and to pray that God's Kingdom will come, which we all pray each time we pray the Lord's Prayer. When we pray these words, we are asking that God's kingdom will come on earth, and make earth a better place. It is our hope that those who have not yet heard the Good News of Jesus, and of his love for the world, will hear it for themselves and respond, and follow him.

From the Manse (Cont'd)

The coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost gave the disciples the confidence to go and tell others about Jesus, and I pray it does the same for us.

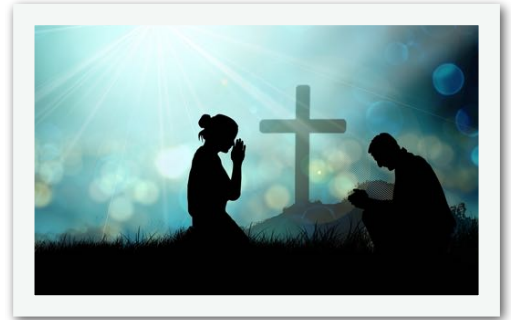
And remember, praying is simply talking to God, no special words or phrases are needed. Talk to him as if he is sitting in the chair beside you, or walking with you through the park. God hears and answers prayer.

Your friend and minister,

Sonia

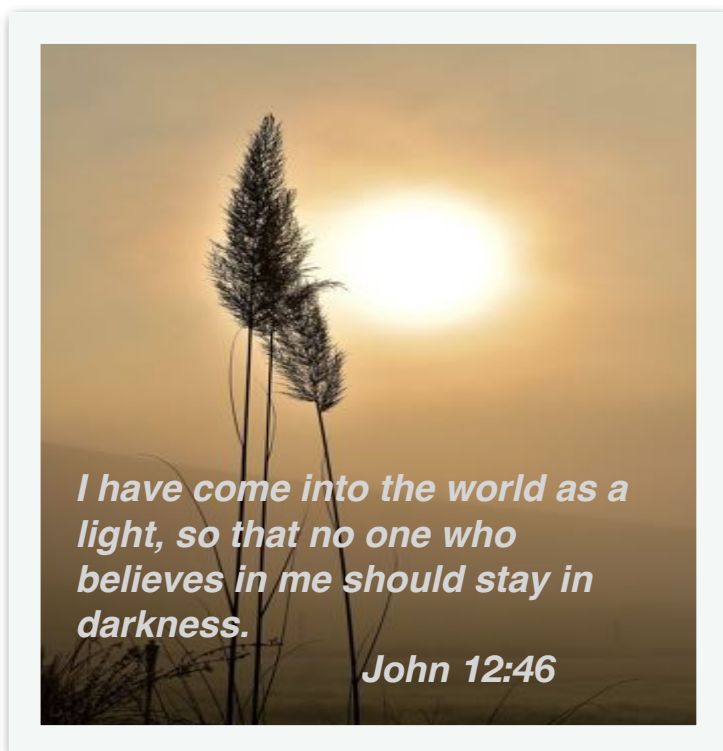
Worship Matters.

Sunday 2 nd June	End of Year Service for Uniformed Youth Organisations
Sunday 23 rd June	End of Year Service for Evolution
Sunday 30 th June	Communion Service
Sunday 14 th July	Service of Blessing
Sunday 21 st July	Sonia on holiday
Sunday 28 th July	Sonia on holiday



Funerals

7 th May	Isobel Waddell, 58 Bathgo Avenue
20 th May	Jean McGugan, Kelburne Ct (formerly Auchmannoch Ave)



Session Report



Session met on 7th May 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 slight decrease in the freewill offering side and 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 they are starting to wind down for the summer recess.

We are fortunate to have secured a volunteer to help cut the grass around the church and two ladies have volunteered to look after the flower beds around the church.

We are very grateful for all the work that Graham and Anne Black did in maintaining the church grounds for many years. They have only stopped due to relative ill health and chronic back problems. We wish them well in their 'retirement', but know they will continue to contribute to the life of the church.

The café has 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!

It would be beneficial if more folk would consider volunteering to help even one day per month to allow us to continue with this venture as it is a source of income for the church but, more importantly, a way for us to integrate within the wider community.

We held an extremely successful plant sale on 11th May and many thanks are due to Jen Morgan for her organisation thereof. And many thanks to all the volunteers who turned up and helped serve teas/coffees, set out table, put tables away, carried plants and generally mucked in to ensure a successful day.

The Bake Sale was also a tremendous success and multitudinous thanks are extended to Liz Morgan, Sheena Tonner and June Chapman for their efforts.

We were also fortunate to have the Art Club and Friends of Barshaw displaying their wares.

Keep up the good work.

Colin Reid, Session Clerk



Sunday Duty Team Rota

DATE	TEAM	LEADER	DATE	TEAM	LEADER
JUNE			JULY		
02/06/2024	4	Mr G. Black	07/07/2024	1	Mr J. Goodall
09/06/2024	5	Mr A. Boyd	14/07/2024	1	Mr J. Goodall
16/06/2024	5	Mr A. Boyd	21/07/2024	2	Mr A. Taylor
23/06/2024	6	Dr C. Reid	28/07/2024	2	Mr A. Taylor
30/06/2024	6	Dr C. Reid			

A cry for peace in the Holy Land -

Moderator signs joint statement



The Moderator of the General Assembly and the Archbishop of Glasgow have signed a [joint statement](#) calling for an end to war in the Middle East.

Rt Rev. Sally Foster-Fulton and Most Rev. Archbishop William Nolan pray that people in positions of power end the "senseless violence" and have the courage and wisdom to pursue the path of justice and peace for all who call the Holy Land home.

The two religious leaders said "enough is enough" and spoke out after Gaza's only Catholic priest, Father Gabriel Romanelli, visited Glasgow last Friday.

He shared the plight of his Holy Family Parish congregation, said people are "living in hell" and called for a ceasefire, describing it as a necessary step to restart dialogue between all parties.

The Moderator, the Archbishop and other ecumenical partner representatives attended the event, organised by the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF) and Justice and Peace Scotland at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall.

The full statement reads: -

On the occasion of Fr Gabriel Romanelli's visit to Glasgow on 26th April 2024, we, the undersigned, express our solidarity with the people of the Holy Family Parish in Gaza, the Christian community of the Holy Land and people of all faiths and none across the region tormented by war.

In recent months, millions of innocent people have suffered the consequences of violence and war.

Families and communities have been devastated.

Many have lost hope for a peaceful future.

Men, women and children have been robbed of their innate human dignity and their right to survive and thrive.

Our cry is "Enough is enough".

- We stand shoulder to shoulder with our brothers and sisters in Christ in Gaza and across the Holy Land. May they feel our solidarity and Jesus' loving embrace.
- We stand in solidarity with all the sons and daughters of Abraham, the peoples of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim faiths in the Holy Land, that all may know deep peace and reconciliation in their lifetimes.
- We stand in support of agencies and individuals who are serving those suffering at their time of greatest need. May they be rewarded for their courage and compassion.
- We stand united with all people of goodwill who are campaigning for an end to this violence. May we never lose hope and may our resolve not falter.
- We stand together as disciples of Jesus Christ, who, in the very lands that are lacerated by hostility and violence today, called on his followers to be peacemakers. In the name of God, we call for an end to war, closure of heart and hatred to be replaced with dialogue, reconciliation, and peace.

Today we cry out to all people in positions of power to end this senseless violence.

We pray to Almighty God that their hearts may be turned towards compassion, and that they may have the courage and wisdom to pursue the path of justice and peace for all who call the Holy Land home.

<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/articles/a-cry-for-peace-in-the-holy-land-moderator-signs-joint-statement>

29th April 2024

Holiday Club



The holiday club was on the first week of the school holidays and we had *Blast Off* with our space-themed club. We had a total of 80 young people come along with the majority coming at least 4 days. Every day we had more than 52 children hearing about people who became friends with Jesus after meeting him or people who had followed Jesus.



We had the usual mix of games, crafts, drama, competitions, memory verses and noisy fun. The young people of TRASH did a lot of the upfront leading of the holiday club and did very well. We also had a family event on the Saturday following the holiday club where there were a number of space-themed crafts, a space quiz and then some refreshments.



A huge thanks to everyone who was involved in the holiday club - in the preparation; with the children; providing fruit and juice and those who were praying. It is a big team effort to run the holiday club.

TRASH



TRASH continues to tick along with each evening having times of chillout, games and bible study. We have 14 young people who are there most weeks and we split the bible study into two groups to provide appropriate material for the wide range of ages that we have.

Our numbers have been down a little bit over the past few weeks with most of the young people sitting exams. We will continue to meet up during the summer (but not every week) and even get our long-planned trip to Largs.



The Junction Youth Café is a space for young people from P6 to S3 to come together and have fun with their friends. We have consoles, pool, table tennis, table top games, big games and some crafts for the young people.

The Junction is going really well with an average of about 17 people there with the first one after the Easter holidays having 31 young people come along.

We are planning on running the Junction during the last week of the school summer holidays as we have done the past couple of years. The full details will be in the next *Marksman*.



Messy Church is on the last Saturday of every month from 2pm to 3.30pm. At Messy Church we have looked at the story of Easter and Ascension/ Pentecost and we plan to look at the parables of the hidden treasure and prodigal son over the next couple of sessions.

Messy Church has been going really well the last few months with an average attendance of 38 people (excluding volunteers). Families are coming along and spending time together doing activities and hearing about Jesus and the people who follow him.

Ralston Primary School

Sonia and I have been in to the school taking assemblies and the school came down to the church for their Easter services. I have been going in weekly to support the P7s with some of their maths work.

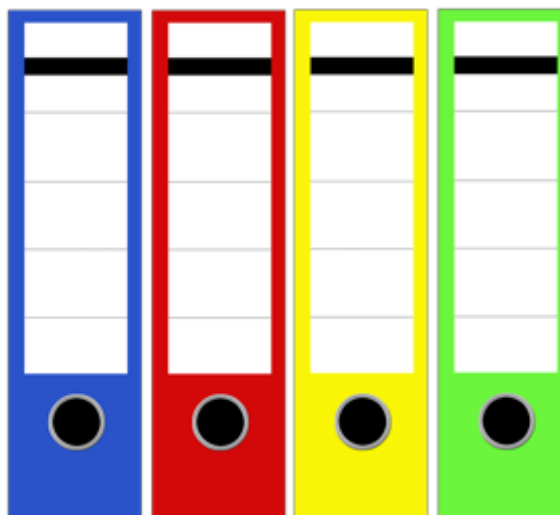
I am looking forward to this year's trip to Lockerbie with the P7s at the end of May. Fifty-eight children will be heading to Lockerbie Manor for their outdoor adventure week. With climbing, canoeing, paddleboarding, abseiling and axe-throwing this year, it will be a fun-packed week for the young people.



In June we will start to get prepared for the Leavers' Service and the P1-3 Summer Service.

Thank you for your continued support of me and this work that goes on in the church and wider community.

Peter



Church Archive

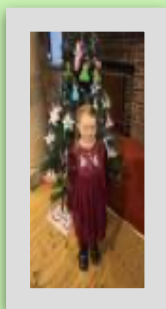
Peter is hoping to create a proper archive of the history of our church. Lots of information is available, but it needs to be properly organised and collated.

Could you help in any way with this? If so, he would love to hear from you.

1st East Rainbows

What a year this has been on Wednesday evenings. We started the new term with twenty girls which included returners and new members. In November, eleven girls joined from the 2nd East Rainbows on Tuesdays when their leader took unwell.

We celebrated *Hallowe'en*, took part in *Treemendous*, *Santa Express* and had a visit from Santa.



We like to eat, and fruit kebabs regularly feature in our programme.



The Rainbows have been busy working on interest badges at home.

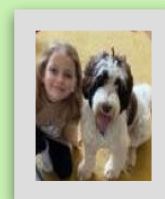
Family Tree

Alba, Eilidh, Ellie, Jessica O'L, Mollie, Everly, Grace, Laurie, Summer and Tillie.



Animal Lover

Alba, Eilidh, Ellie, Mia D, Skye, Sophie, Alexa Rae, Bella, Eve, Everly, Georgia, Grace, Laurie, Summer, and Tillie.



Drawing

Charlotte Mc, Bella, Eve, Grace, Summer, Alba, Eilidh, Faith.



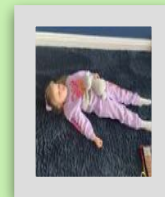
Storyteller

Aoife & Grace.



Healthy Mind

Alba, Aoife, Charlotte McN, Georgia, Grace & Laurie.



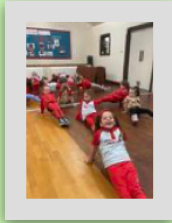
Fruit & Veg

Alba, Eilidh, Ellie, Fath, Jessica O'L, Mia D, Mollie, Skye, Sophie, Alexa Rae, Anna, Aoife, Charlotte Max, Emily, Georgia, Grace & Phoebe.



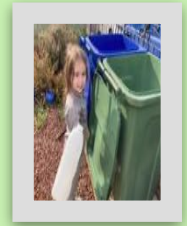
Agility (Tested by Eilidh's Gran)

Alba, Eilidh, Ellie, Jessica F, Mia D, Mollie, Skye, Sophie, Alexa Rae, Anna, Aoife, Bella, Beth Charlotte Max, Charlotte McN, Daniela, Emily, Eve, Georgia, Grace, Laurie, Summer & Phoebe.



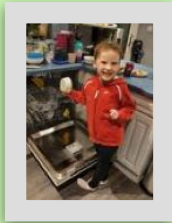
Recycling

Aoife, Daniela, Everly, Georgia, Grace, Phoebe, Alba, Eilidh, Ellie, Skye & Jessica F.



Helper

Alba, Jessica F, Skye, Aoife, Beth, Charlotte Max, Daniela, Emily, Eve, Everly, Georgia, Grace, Laurie, Phoebe & Summer.



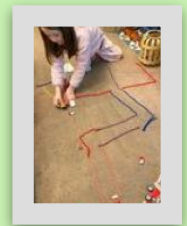
Book Lover

Aoife, Anna, Emily, Eve, Georgia, Summer & Alba.

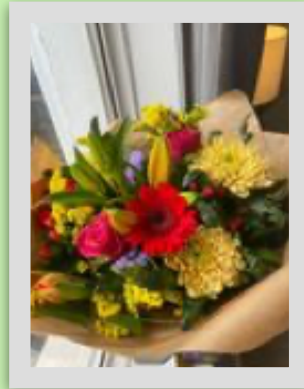
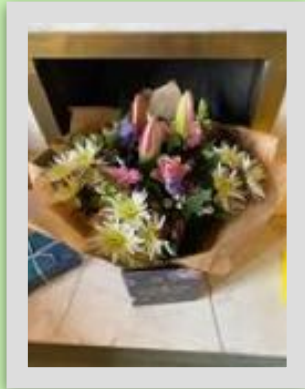


Construction

Beth & Georgia.



This year has been busy with celebrations as Blue celebrated her 21st and Red, her 50th Birthday.



We have had Promise Celebrations ; Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards ; and, recently, a Blue Peter Reading badge awarded.

Currently, we are in a variety of Glasgow Tesco stores as part of the blue tokens and, fingers crossed, we receive a donation from them to help fund the next year at Rainbows.

Both units have made donations to St Mark's for letting us use the church and to help with the costs of providing us with a great space to meet and build friendships.

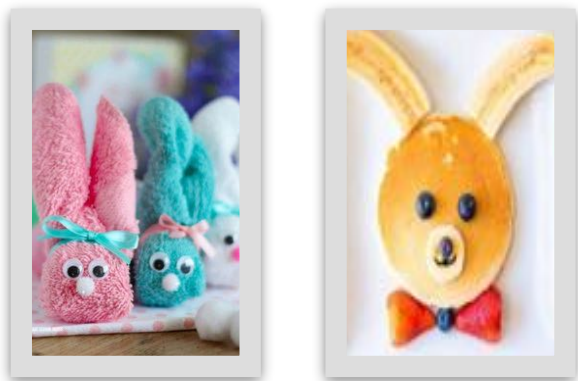
We are coming to the end of this busy year and have our visit to Brownies for twelve girls moving up; Rainbow Fun Night for our new girls starting in September and finally our Parents' Night will be on the 29th of May when we will celebrate the year past with our Guiding families.

Purple

39th Paisley Brownies (Tuesday)

What to do on a Bunny theme? Lots.

As well as bunny jumps, puzzles and anagrams, colouring and finger puppets, the girls all made bunnies out of facecloths, and we had edible bunnies made from pancakes and fruit. The girls have totally enjoyed this badge : a lot of fun, and a cute badge at the end of it.



We had a great night round at Ralston Bowling Club, where Jim and Anne Marie Cullen and Hugh Sherry kindly put the girls through their paces. The weather was kind to us, and the girls enjoyed learning a new skill in the sunshine.



Even better, we were invited upstairs into the Club House, where we had juice and crisps, and each was presented with a certificate from Jim.



We had our Store Tour at Morrisons, Anchor Mills, and what an interesting evening that was! Sharon Dennison, the Community Champion, took us round the various departments: fruit and veg, fishmonger, deli, bakery, butchery, and we talked to the staff at the various counters about their jobs, and found out more about where our food comes from.

The girls then had an opportunity to run items through the till, before we headed to the café to enjoy juice and snacks, provided to us by Morrisons. Sharon then presented the girls with a certificate and badge as a memento.



We will have lots of badges and certificates to present as the girls come to the end of the year. We have another three who will have attained Silver, with Gold just on the horizon for them when we start back after the summer holidays. We'll also have a few Bronze Awards and Sabaha will make her Brownie Promise, having only just joined us after Easter and already working through Interest Badges

We've no Brownies due to move to Guides this term, but we look forward to welcoming a couple of Rainbows moving up in September. The number in the unit will remain much the same, which is good.

Our last week will be a trip to *Gravity* at Braehead, where the girls will put their bunny jumping skills into use as they bounce around for the night. The leaders will be happy to watch them !

Have a wonderful summer everyone.

Sheena Tonner

Brownie Leader

39thA Paisley Brownies

Another session of Brownies is drawing to a close but we have still been busy and have more planned before we finish up at the beginning of June.

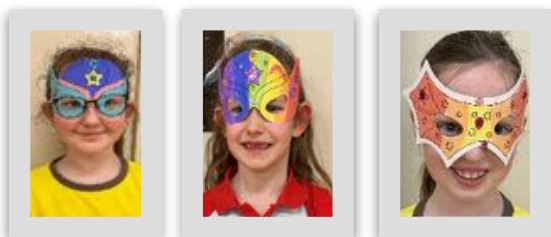
We had a couple of messy but fun nights at the end of March. Organised by our great Young Leaders, the Brownies made slime. Not sure how successful it was but the Brownies giggled lots at the mess they made! The Leaders all had a major clean-up to do at the end of the night!



We also had an Easter-based fun night which included painting sun-catchers and decorating eggs. The Easter Bunny visited too and hid eggs for all the Brownies. Unfortunately, he was really busy, but was able to leave eggs for the Rainbows that the Brownies hid.

For the final part, we decided to work on a different challenge – one linked to Spies! This started with a series of challenges to find clues about a missing bag. This allowed the Brownies to find the identity of the person that stole some chocolate. We were really lucky that the mystery was solved and the bag found. Even better, it contained chocolate for everyone! We have since completed more challenges including using Morse Code and invisible writing.

The Rainbows who will be of age to join Brownies in September visited for an evening and joined in our adventure. Everyone (all 39 Brownies and Rainbows) painted fingerprint pictures and made masks to disguise themselves.



The Brownies then made an ID card containing their photograph and made up a spy name.

One night, the Sixers and Seconds ran a fun night for the Pack. This involved deciding on a game in their Six and then sharing the rules with everyone before playing. They did a great job and hopefully they will make leaders in the future.

Our preparations for the final meeting are under way. All the Brownies are writing letters of invitation to someone else's parent and even addressing envelopes. Another skill ticked off!

Many of the Brownies have also been completing Interest Badges at home and every week we have more badges to present. This has been the 'haul' over the last 2 months :

Take Action Theme – Beth, Francesca, Freya

Know Myself Theme – Emily H, Katie Macd

Skills for My Future Theme – Beth, Evie

Express Myself Theme – Carla

Zero Waste Badge – Beth, Emily L, Francesca, Freya, Tilly

Collecting Badge – Katie Macd, Katie MacD

Inventing – Beth

Baking – Carla, Tilly

Dancing – Tilly

Aviation – Tilly

Jobs - Evie

Anniversary Badge

3 year – Katie MacD, Nina

2 year – Breagha

39thA Paisley Brownies (Cont'd)

We have 3 of the Brownies ready to start working on the Gold Award and we hope these will be completed early next session.

At the end of the session we have 8 girls who are leaving Brownies. Another 3 will leave us in October. They were delighted to be invited to join the Guide company for an evening. They seemed to have great fun and hopefully most of them will continue their Guiding adventure!

We still have some fun to look forward to before we finish for the session. From 31st May to 2nd June, 18 Brownies and 4 leaders will be heading to PGL Dalguise. This will see the Brownies being challenged in a variety of activities including Zipwire, Trapeze and Archery, to name a few. Wish us luck.

Our last meeting is on 5th June and the parents will all be invited. Each Brownie is about to write (yes WRITE not word process!) to someone else's parents and address an envelope to hold the invitation. We are looking forward to a busy evening serving tea and coffee to them all.

It is hard to believe another year of Brownies is drawing to a close and we will soon be planning for next session. If you know of anyone (young person or adult) who would like to join Girlguiding, a warm welcome awaits them. (girlguiding.org.uk)

Christine Hair

Brown Owl



Flowers in Church

02.06.24	Mr + Mrs R.
09.06.24	Mr + Mrs W.
16.06.24	Mrs A. Roberts
23.06.24	Miss I. Higgins
30.06.24	Mrs W. Keith
07.07.24	Mrs E. MacDonald
14.07.24	Mrs A. Black
21.07.24	Miss J. Chapman
28.07.24	Mrs A. McLachlan



Ladies Delivering Flowers

02.06.24		
09.06.24	Mrs M. Scobie	
16.06.24	Mrs D. Grant	Mrs M. Adam
23.06.24	Mrs K.	
30.06.24	Mrs M. Currie	Mrs E. Boyd
07.07.24	Mrs I. McBride	
14.07.24	Mrs A. Christie	
21.07.24	Mrs E. MacDonald	Mrs W. Keith
28.07.24	Mrs C. Sinclair	

Annual Plant Sale

We were blessed with a beautiful sunny day on Saturday 11th May for our Annual Plant Sale where we welcomed members of our congregation and the local community to come and enjoy the sunshine.

We had a wonderful range of plants from McLaren's Nurseries to suit all gardeners and a selection of community group stalls selling a variety of different items. Thanks to Friends of Barshaw who had a great selection of gardening items, The Ralston Art Club with a beautiful selection of paintings and Lesley Barclay who had brought along some of her wonderful hand-knitted items. A big thank you to Liz Morgan and Sheena Tonner for organising the crafts and baking donated by members of our congregation.

As well as our plants and stalls, people were welcomed into our fantastic café to purchase coffee and a cake and to enjoy them in the company of friends on the church lawns.

I would like to thank the social/ fundraising committee for all their hard work behind the scenes and with the addition of volunteers on the day for making it such a great success. Through everyone's hard work and generosity we made an amazing amount of money to go towards Church funds.

Jen Morgan
Social/ Fundraising Committee



Prayer Guide



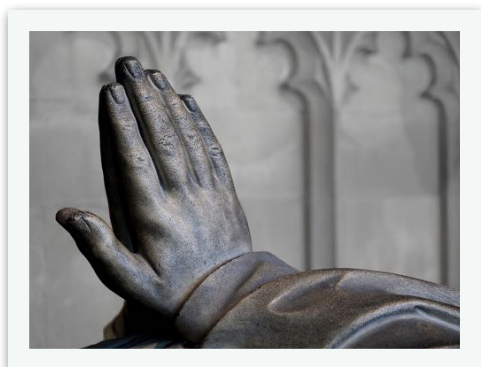
JUNE, 2024		
		<i>Included over these two months are the Beatitudes found in Matthew chapter 5 verses 3–12, taught by Jesus. You will find them in italics.</i>
Sat	1	Global Day of Parents.
Sun	2	We have our End of Year service for the organisations today. Pray for all the youngsters who have come along throughout the year, for their leaders and for Sonia as she leads our service. We ask that parents and children will be blessed as they share in our worship this morning.
Mon	3	Here are our streets for prayer this week – Drummond Drive, Duchray Drive and Dunchurch Road.
Tue	4	<i>Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.</i>
Wed	5	Clergy Coffee – Paisley ministers getting together. Pray they find rich fellowship, friendship and make good working alliances. Prayer groups on Zoom and in church, followed by stand alone Bible Study in church – all welcome
Thu	6	We give thanks and pray for The Green Team who work to keep the grounds tidy, recycle and reuse materials etc.
Fri	7	This is World Food Safety Day. Sonia is on patrol with Street Pastors tonight. Remember her and others involved as they seek to get alongside people.
Sat	8	Pray for the emergency services who work to help others.
Sun	9	We pray for Sonia as she will be leading worship in Kilmacolm this morning. Pray for Peter taking our service in St Mark's.
Mon	10	Pray for all those in Gartartan Road, Gartmore Road and Glasgow Road this week.
Tue	11	<i>Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.</i> Pray for the Presbytery Ministers Away Day to Helensburgh. May they have a great time together – and lovely weather!
Wed	12	Prayer groups on Zoom and in church.
Thu	13	The Worship Team are in the spotlight for our prayers this week and we ask that they are blessed as they participate throughout the year. Help them grow in you and help us to encourage them.
Fri	14	We remember those who are unemployed, those who are struggling to make ends meet, and for many who are homeless.
Sat	15	Today remember all who have helped you on your journey of faith. Is there someone you could personally thank?

***Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.
Colossians 4 : 2***

Prayer Guide



JUNE, 2024		
Sun	16	As we gather for worship, pray that God will speak to you today through his word, and that he will be with Sonia as she brings his word to us.
Mon	17	Golf Drive, Hawkhead Road and Killearn Drive are the streets we are remembering this week.
Tue	18	Pray for the Presbytery meeting that takes place tonight. <i>Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.</i>
Wed	19	Prayer groups on Zoom and in church, followed by stand-alone Bible study in church.
Thu	20	Our Pastoral Care Team are a great support to members and adherents of St Mark's, and we give thanks for all that they do through visits and for their care. World Refugee Day – we remember all who are in this position that they may know God's love and presence with them.
Fri	21	We pray for St Mark's Café and all who are involved in helping run this.
Sat	22	Often many people who live alone find the weekend challenging. Be with those who struggle and find time heavy. Help us to pray for those we know in this situation and show us how we can help.
Sun	23	Today is the End of Year service for Evolution, and we thank Ruth and helpers for their work throughout the past year. We ask that the children come to know you in their lives at an early age.
Mon	24	Our prayers this week are for those living in Kinpurnie Road, Lanfine Road and Marchbank Gardens.
Tue	25	We have our Kirk Session meeting this evening. Pray that all we talk about and make decisions about will be blessed and that You lead us in these.
Wed	26	<i>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.</i> P7 Leavers' Service in the church today. Be with these young people as they transition to High School. The last prayer groups on Zoom and in church until after the holiday period. This doesn't mean we won't be praying!
Thu	27	We remember our Treasurer and Finance Team as they work behind the scenes as stewards of our giving.
Fri	28	Pray for children, parents and staff as schools close for the summer break.
Sat	29	STOP! Give thanks for the many good things you have in your life. Is there someone who you could thank for what they've done for you? Thank God for them too.
Sun	30	Worship this morning will celebrate Communion and we pray that we will be blessed as we share in this together. Be with Sonia in her preparation and as she leads us this morning.



Where in Scotland?

Answers in next edition.

A



B



C



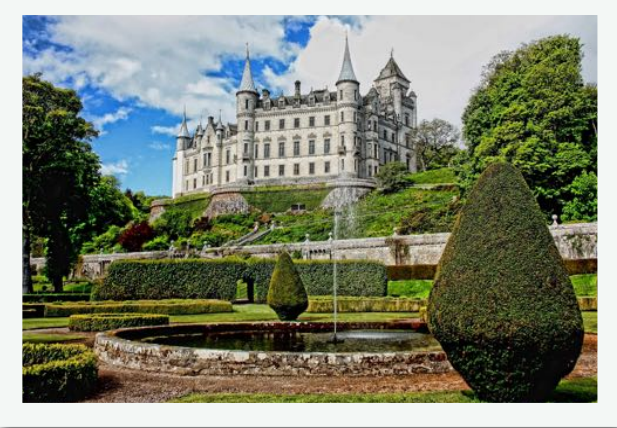
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E



F



G



H



I



J



K



L



M



N



O



From Renfrewshire Council Voter ID needed for next election.



Ahead of the next UK Parliament general election, due to take place before the end of January 2025, we want to make all residents in Renfrewshire aware that they will need an accepted form of photo identification to cast their vote.

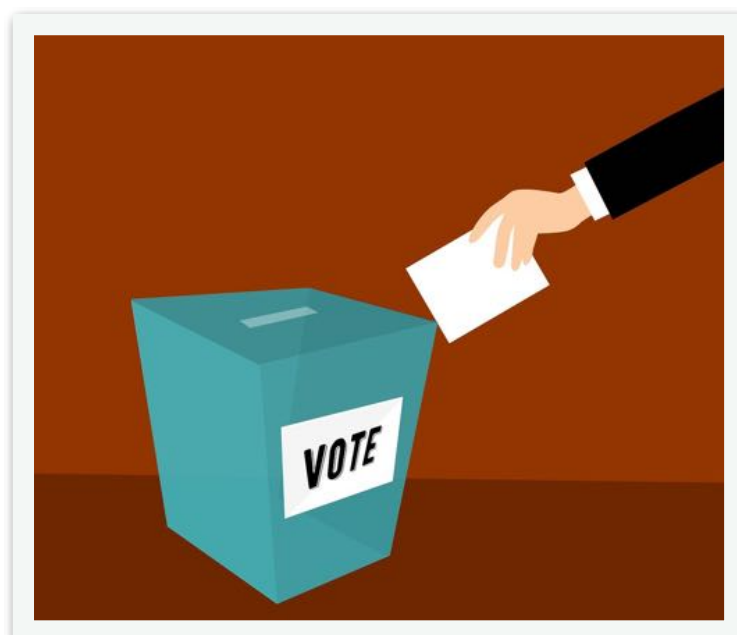
All people voting in-person will need to show photographic ID at the polling station for the first time following the introduction of new legislation by the UK Government.

Accepted forms of ID include a passport, driving licence, older persons or disabled persons bus pass and Young Scot card. Voters will be able to use expired ID if they are still recognisable from the photo.

Anyone who does not have one of the accepted forms of ID will be able to apply for free ID online at www.voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk or by completing a paper form.

The full list of accepted ID is available on the Electoral Commission's website, along with more information about the new requirement and details of how to apply for the free ID, at www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID.

The need for photo identification applies to UK general elections only and not for local or Scottish Government elections.





The Guild Outing in May was to Luss and afternoon tea at the Lodge on Loch Lomond Hotel.

Everyone enjoyed the afternoon and even more so as we had good weather! The afternoon was completed with a trip to Helensburgh for a short time and then back home.

Many thanks to Betty Brown who made all the arrangements for transport and hotel.

Irene Stirton

Dementia-Friendly Drop-In Café

St Mark's Church (2-4pm)

Future Dates

Thursday 20 June

Thursday 18 July



Prayer Guide



JULY, 2024		
Mon	1	Netherdale Drive, Newtyle Road and Newnham Road are for prayer this week.
Tue	2	<i>Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.</i> Pray for Sonia as she chairs her first meeting as Convenor of the Church of Scotland Safeguarding Committee. May there be good relationships built and bless their working together.
Wed	3	While there are no set prayer groups during the summer, you can still remember others in your prayers at home. Thanks God we have direct access to him.
Thu	4	Our prayers are for the Christian Education Team as they plan and deliver Bible Studies and support the prayer life of the church.
Fri	5	We remember Sonia again this evening on her Street Pastors' patrol.
Sat	6	We pray for persecuted Christians throughout the world and ask that your Holy spirit will strengthen their faith and your presence will enable them.
Sun	7	Pray for Sonia in her preparation for our worship this morning. Prepare your heart as you come to meet with our Living Lord.
Mon	8	Please remember Oldhall Road, Ossian Road and Penilee Road in your prayers this coming week.
Tue	9	<i>Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.</i>
Wed	10	Pray for our local, national and international governments, for those in authority and we ask that they seek you and your wisdom as they serve others.
Thu	11	The Elders are in our prayers this week and we ask that you encourage them in their work for you and they would support those in their districts.
Fri	12	Pray for the committees in St Mark's and for their varied roles in our fellowship.
Sat	13	Weekend and leisure time for many. Pray for all who can enjoy this time and that they give thanks for your creation if they are out and about.
Sun	14	This morning will be an Infant Blessing during our worship. Pray for the family as they mark this special day.
Mon	15	It is the turn of Ralston Avenue, Roffey Park Road and Rosshall Avenue for our prayers. Sonia is off on holiday from today until the 28 th July. Pray God blesses and refreshes her during this time off.
Tue	16	<i>Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God.</i>
Wed	17	Throughout the summer months many children and teenagers will attend Christian camps e.g, Scripture Union. Bless this work and bring many to a personal relationship with Christ.
Thu	18	Remember the Choir and Dawn this week and that they enjoy their break from practices during the summer. Thank you for their faithfulness.
Fri	19	We remember those who do menial jobs and are often overlooked, yet without them our lives would be less safe, clean or comfortable. Help us take time to thank those we come across who fulfil these roles.
Sat	20	Today remember Christians in Sport who work with many young people, sharing the message of hope in Christ.

Prayer Guide



JULY, 2024		
Sun	21	Arrangements for our speaker today have still to be finalised but we pray that you will be with them and with us as we meet together.
Mon	22	Pray for those who live in Rotherwick Drive, School Road and Southwold Road this week.
Tue	23	<i>Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.</i>
Wed	24	We give thanks that we have easy access to your word, the Bible. Pray for translators and bible societies who seek to bring people the good news of the gospel in their own language.
Thu	25	Pray for Messy Church – leaders, helpers, and those who have come along regularly or on a one-off basis. May they have found fellowship and friendship during these sessions and may the love of Christ be seen in the work being done in this way.
Fri	26	Pray for mission workers who serve in various ways throughout the world, and also here in the UK. Encourage them and may they know many are keeping them in their prayers. Bless their work.
Sat	27	We thank God for our individuality, yet all of us are wonderfully made in His image. Help us live our lives in that knowledge.
Sun	28	Remember Jack Goodall as he leads us in worship this morning while Sonia is on holiday. May we know God's presence with us all.
Mon	29	Remember all living in Springfield Avenue, Strathmore Avenue, Tylney Road and Woodend Drive this coming week.
Tue	30	This is International Day of Friendship. Give thanks for the gift of friends you have and remember those who have few friends or none.
Wed	31	<i>Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.</i>

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses . . . to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1 : 8

Choir



The choir has now finished weekly rehearsals for the summer and enjoyed a lovely dinner at the Golf Club. A lovely time was had by all.

I will remind you when rehearsals commence in September so that I can be inundated with new members.

Dawn Hope
Organist and Choir Leader



What a generous group of people is the family that is St Mark's!

Since December 2023 you have donated 233.27 kg of food and £1467.13 via collection tins and a retiral offering.

Well done!

Your continuing support is greatly appreciated.

Peace

*My Soul, there is a country
Afar beyond the stars,
Where stands a winged sentry
All skilful in the wars;
There, above noise and danger
Sweet Peace sits, crown'd with smiles,
And One born in a manger
Commands the beauteous files.
He is thy gracious friend
And (O my Soul awake!)
Did in pure love descend,
To die here for thy sake.
If thou canst get but thither,
There grows the flow'r of peace,
The rose that cannot wither,
Thy fortress, and thy ease.
Leave then thy foolish ranges,
For none can thee secure,
But One, who never changes,
Thy God, thy life, thy cure.*

Henry Vaughan 1621-1695



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

marksman@stmarksoldhall.org.uk

Contribution deadline for Aug / Sep edition : **12 noon, 18 July, 2024.**