

Marksman

October/November, 2022



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

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From the Manse



Over recent days our television screens, newspapers and social media platforms have been full of coverage of the death and funeral of Her late Majesty, Elizabeth II. It seems that the whole country has united together to give thanks for her life and service, and to pause together to remember her. Whilst it is to be expected that not everyone shares this positive view of the monarchy, none-the-less, many would-be Republicans have also paid tribute to her long and dedicated years of service.

On the occasion of her twenty-first birthday, the then princess gave a speech which was broadcast on the radio from Cape Town while she was on a tour of South Africa with her parents and younger sister. The late monarch vowed to dedicate her whole life to the service of the Commonwealth and said: "I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong." I think we can safely say that she kept that promise. It was a great pleasure to celebrate her Platinum Jubilee earlier this summer, and I believe we can all give thanks that she was able to share in these celebrations, albeit in a more gentle way than she might have hoped, but that she saw the love and affection in which she was held by the British people.

As we look back on her life, we also give thanks for her Christian faith, about which she spoke so openly, and which was at the root of the way she lived her life.

In her Christmas speech 25th December 2000 she said :

"The true measure of Christ's influence is not only in the lives of the saints but also in the good works quietly done by millions of men and women day in and day out throughout the centuries. Many will have been inspired by Jesus' simple but powerful teaching: love God and love thy neighbour as thyself - in other words, treat others as you would like them to treat you. I know just how much I rely on my own faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that day brings, and to put my trust in God."

In her 70 years on the throne, Queen Elizabeth carried out many good works publicly, but many others were carried out privately, known only to the one or two people involved, and it is these little stories that I have most enjoyed listening to in recent days.

However, in light of her great faith in our Lord Jesus, and ours, we know that her funeral in Westminster Abbey, and the later service and burial at St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle, were not the end of the story for this great lady and faithful servant of God, but the start of the next step in her great adventure. We share her belief that she has "gone home" to be with God, and to be united with her parents and beloved husband, the late Duke of Edinburgh. And believing this, we can truly celebrate her life, while remembering her family, friends and all who mourn her death. I remember the words she said to the American people after the terrible 9/11 disaster : "Grief is the price we pay for love." Much grief has been shared publicly, but much more will remain deep in the hearts of those who loved her best, and we will continue to remember them in our prayers.

Such public displays of grief also evoke memories in many others of those whom they have loved and lost, and so my prayers are for all those who grieve at this time, and I recall the words of Alfred, Lord Tennyson: "Tis better to have loved and lost, than never to have loved at all."

May we all, like our late Queen, rely on our faith to guide us through the good times and the bad, take each day as a new beginning, try to do what is right, give our best, and put our trust in God.

And may we follow the words of St Paul to the Philippians :

"If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind." (Philippians 2:1-3)

May God bless and comfort you, as you need.
Your friend and minister,

Sonia

Worship Matters

2 nd October	Youth Dedication Service
23 rd October	Annual Giving Day Service
30 th October	Communion Service 11am
13 th November	Remembrance Sunday Service 10.45am
20 th November	Pulpit swap with Rev. J Murning

I am now Interim Moderator for Kilmacolm Old Kirk (as of 1st August). I will be taking a Communion service there on 16th October. Pulpit supply has been arranged for St Mark's.
Sonia



Funerals

15th September David Wilson, Duchray Drive



Green Team

Work is ongoing to try and improve recycling throughout the church building with more appropriate use of the bins.

Your help would be appreciated.

Blue bins – card and paper

Small Green bins – cans and plastic bottles/food trays (no plastic bags)

Food waste bags are now available in the church kitchen and should be discarded into the brown wheelie bin out the back after each use.

Black bins - non-recyclable waste.



Joint Statement

from John Murning and Sonia Blakesley.
21.8.22

Clyde Presbytery, of which we are part, is currently consulting on its Presbytery Plan. Part of this plan is for the number of ministers in Paisley to reduce from 9 to 5.5.

This would see, at an unspecified point in the future, the creation of Paisley East Church out of Sherwood Greenlaw and St Mark's Churches, and it would be allocated one full time minister.

Recognising the scarcity of ministers across Scotland, and the falling church rolls, and the national plan to work towards reducing the number of existing congregations, as ministers and Kirk Sessions we have agreed to work towards this position.

On Thursday night we held the first joint meeting of the representatives of both Kirk Sessions.

We recognise this as a time of opportunity to try new things, and that there is more strength if we work together.

We recognise that some cross parish work goes on already.

Sherwood Greenlaw Guild joined the Guild of St Mark's last year, and the combined Guild is working well, sharing committee work between them.

Our young people attend groups at both churches, and we have friends and neighbours who attend the 'other' church.

We both work to support the Foodbank, and the Accord Hospice.

We support each other's church events.

We are, after all, part of the one church, we have one faith and one Lord, our Lord Jesus, who calls us all to be part of one body.

Our worship patterns are similar, and we use the same worship resources.

Our plan is to move towards more joined up working.

To reintroduce joint services, and encourage you to support them.

We will arrange a pulpit swap, and initiate more contact between the two Boys' Brigade companies.

We will publicise church events better at our sister congregation.

Finally, we will liaise with Presbytery, and continue to meet in our small group to plan the way ahead, and we will keep you, our congregations, informed as we move on.

It is not, at the moment, part of the plan to close either church building, or remove either minister, rather to work together towards the future, which is in God's hands.

John Murning and Sonia Blakesley



Peter's News



At the start of August we ran the Junction Youth Café during the last week of the school summer holidays. The young people had a choice of a lot of different activities with pool, table tennis, consoles, table games, crafts and some other big games. During the evening we also had some large games where everyone was involved.

During the week we had 45 different young people come along with the busiest night having 29 young people there. I am very grateful for the volunteers who helped run the Junction.

I am hoping that we are able to run something for these young people more regularly. To do this we will need a few other volunteers to help out.



TRASH met up a number of times during the summer for some casual games nights. We started back properly at the start of September with a weekend of activities. This was instead of our residential trip to Teen Ranch.

On the Friday night we met for some dessert and then participated in an Escape Room challenge.



On the Saturday we headed to Xcite to do laser tag and 10 pin bowling. We then headed back to church for a “make your own” pizza dinner.

Over the next few months we will be continuing to study Romans as well as looking at some questions that the young people have.

Some of the young people of TRASH will be hosting the Tearfund Big Quiz again this year. It will probably be on the weekend of the 19th of November.



In the middle of September, Sonia and I were back in Ralston Primary for their school assemblies. Our assembly was thinking about emotions as we discussed the life and death of Queen Elizabeth.

Messy Church has a couple more events before the end of the year. In October we will be finishing off the story of the Old Testament before an Advent one on the last Saturday of November.

Thank you for your continuing support of all this work. Please do continue to pray for all these activities.

Peter



For me the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. . . is an inspiration and an anchor in my life.

Queen Elizabeth II

Rt Rev. Dr Iain Greenshields, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, issued the following statement on learning of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

"The faith, service and dedication of Her Majesty the Queen have been the hallmark of her long reign. She has been the steady constant in the life of our nation for over seven decades and most of us will have grown up knowing only her as our monarch.

Her thoughtful and pertinent Christmas Day broadcasts gave an insight not only into her personal faith, but also reflected the changing concerns and attitudes of our country. They were always marked with quiet perception and a great deal of affection.

Tireless in her duty, the Queen has demonstrated a life of selfless dedication. Her love for her family was mirrored in her love for our nation and the wider Commonwealth.

Wherever the Queen went, she brought encouragement and appreciation as she showed a genuine interest in the people she met.

The Church of Scotland has valued Her late Majesty's generous support, and seen in her private devotion someone for whom faith remained central throughout her long life.

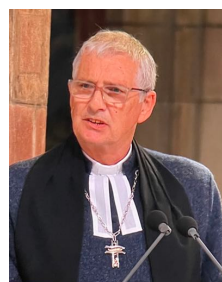
We send our heartfelt condolences to the King, and all members of the Royal Family, assuring them of our prayers and best wishes in the days ahead."

A prayer on the occasion of the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth

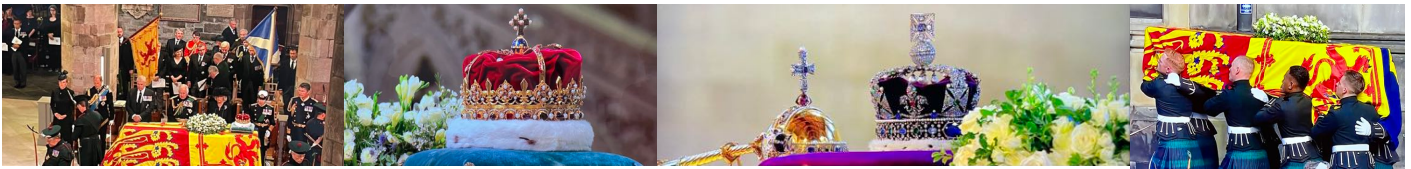
*Almighty and everlasting God,
in you there is neither beginning nor end;
you are from everlasting to everlasting,
ever good and ever true.
You are our hope in life and in death,
and in your word of promise we place our trust.
Today we give thanks for the life of your servant, our Queen Elizabeth,
whom now you have taken to be with you.
Long has she reigned over us,
offering support and courage,
a steadying hand in difficult days,
and a kindly presence in times of peace and prosperity.*

*We praise you for her life,
so rich in years and in service,
for her unwavering commitment to country, commonwealth, and every generation.
And for her trust in Jesus Christ,
her devotion to the church, and her respect for other faiths,
receive our thanks today.
May she rest in peace and let light shine upon her.*

*In their loss, comfort her family,
especially our King as he assumes his new responsibilities;
assure them of your unending love,
grant them the consolation of cherished memories,
and the hope of your promised kingdom.
These prayers we offer in the name of Jesus Christ, AMEN.*



Rt Rev. Dr Iain Greenshields



Homily by Rt Rev. Dr Iain Greenshields

Adapted and abridged.

“Queen Elizabeth II’s links with the Scottish churches were also deep and lasting.

“She was the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, but she worshipped in the Church of Scotland here north of the border, at Canongate Kirk and especially at Crathie Kirk where she took her pew each Sunday morning, prevented from doing so latterly only by infirmity.

“She perceived little difficulty in belonging to two Churches and appreciating the strength of each.”

Dr Greenshields also spoke of her "genuine" Christian faith and her "remarkable" annual Christmas broadcasts where her faith was given "clear and sincere expression”.

"She spoke unashamedly of her trust in God and of the example and teaching of Jesus Christ whom she sought to follow as best she could – indeed, of that faith she said she had no regret," the Moderator continued.

"For 70 years, she reigned as our Queen.

"She has been present amongst us as a follower of Christ and a member of his Church. And for that and much else beside, we give thanks to God together here this day."

He concluded his homily with prayers for King Charles III.

"Today we mourn her passing but we also celebrate the long and happy reign that we experienced with her.

“And we pray God's blessing upon King Charles who will surely draw strength from his mother's example and the many affectionate tributes of these days and from our assurance to him as a Church of our steadfast prayers at all times and of our unstinting support to him as was offered to his mother, the Queen.”

King Charles vows to protect the security of the Church of Scotland.



The oath read by King Charles III at an Accession Council meeting at St James's Palace in London.

“I, Charles III by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of My other Realms and Territories King, Defender of the Faith, do faithfully promise and swear that I shall inviolably maintain and preserve the Settlement of the true Protestant Religion as established by the Laws made in Scotland in prosecution of the Claim of Right and particularly by an Act intituled ‘An Act for securing the Protestant Religion and Presbyterian Church Government’ and by the Acts passed in the Parliament of both Kingdoms for Union of the two Kingdoms, together with the Government, Worship, Discipline, Rights and Privileges of the Church of Scotland. So help me God.”

39th Paisley Brownies (Tuesday)

We started Brownies at the end of August, welcoming up seven Rainbows to join our existing unit, and that will allow us to have another Brownie Sixer and Secondar.

How very sad that the last time I wrote I was telling you about our Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, and just this week we've had a two minute silence in memory of her life and passing.

The Rainbows joined the Brownies as we thought about her own Guide Promise, and how well she had kept that promise.

This term we are looking at the Making Changes Skillsbuilder, which gives us lots of scope to look at the environment (including climate change and recycling), speaking out about things that we believe in, and we're also incorporating Parliament Week. There are some interesting Unit Meeting Activities (UMAs) which sit alongside this theme, and I'm hoping to make small videos of the Brownies à la Greta Thunberg! Watch out for Brownies scrutinising your gardens to see if they are environmentally friendly!

We'll also be introducing the Brownies to Charities, Zero Waste and Speaking Out interest badges. Our new Brownies are so excited about earning badges. We've started them off with the Pencil Express challenge from GirlGuiding Scotland to use pencils (provided) to write about



themselves, where they see themselves in the future, in the community and the wider world.

Our "Gold Brownies" are already helping us by updating the "Rules of our Pack", and Alexa is going to talk to the Brownies about what she did for her Charities Badge. Lois and Kayci meantime are going to talk to the Brownies about the Pack Holiday we had last year, and share their thoughts on that.

This term also takes in changes to our seasons, and we are going to mark that by making a scarecrow bookmark, and talk about Thanksgiving in the USA.



Hallowe'en will see us Making Monsters and TRASH costumes recycled from what we would normally put in our rubbish.

The new Brownies will be making their Promise at the beginning of November, when we'll also have an activity for Remembrance.

We are also planning a joint activity with the Rainbows to celebrate St Andrew's Day.

Sheena Tonner, Brownie Leader

39thA Paisley Brownies

Another session is underway and we were delighted to welcome 6 new starts who have transferred from Rainbows and another girl who is new to Guiding. They are settling in well and we look forward to taking them on more Guiding adventures.

To begin the session, we like to look at the Brownie Promise and Law. This introduces the new girls to the “backbone” of Brownies and also acts as a reminder to the Brownies that 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”.

The sad news of the death of Queen Elizabeth II was marked in the Pack meeting. The Queen had been a Guide and Sea Ranger and became the Patron of the organisation when she came to the throne. The Brownies spoke about her death and we held a silence in her memory. The Brownies also produced “plaques” to celebrate the long reign. These are displayed in the Corrie Road vestibule.



It was very early in the session for our first adventure away from the usual meeting but on 17th September, 20 Brownies and 3 Leaders travelled to Blair Drummond Safari Park. The park had been taken over by Girlguiding and was filled with over 300 Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Leaders from across Scotland.



It was lovely for the girls to see so many members in one place!! We wandered the Park ; went on a bus through the animal enclosures ; visited the dinosaurs in their pre-historic forest ; “met” many other animals ; watched the impressive “birds of prey” display and even had time to play in the giant fort!!



Of course, no Guiding adventure is complete without a badge and we all got one at the end of the trip. What a busy and fun-packed day. Thanks go to Girlguiding Scotland for organising this unforgettable outing.

It seems that towards the end of last session, every week we were issuing badges that Brownies had gained. This session has started off the same as some of the Brownies had been working over the holidays.

Be Well Theme award – Emily, Freya and Lauren S

Baking Interest Badge – Daisy Mas, Ruyi and Zoe

Express Myself Theme award – Daisy Mas, Ruyi and Zoe

Anniversary Badges – Juliette [4 years], Lauren S [3 years], Anna and Katie Mc [2 years]

Bronze Award – Daisy Mas and Zoe

Silver Award – Ruyi

39thA Paisley Brownies

Hedwig is about to leave us for a little while as she goes on “maternity leave”. A new girl about to join the Rainbow waiting list for 2027!!! Best wishes to Hedwig and her [about to expand] family.

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

Christine Hair

Brown Owl

Keep Fit



The ladies of Sherwood Greenlaw Keep Fit wish to extend a welcome to the ladies of St Mark's.

We meet in the upstairs hall at Sherwood Greenlaw on Monday evenings from 6-7pm.

The class is taken by a trained instructor and involves aerobic, strengthening and toning exercises. We each work to our own ability and there is no competition!

The cost is £4 per class and you will need a drink and an exercise mat, if you have one. Some exercises can be done seated, instead of on a mat.

If you wish to give our class a try, you will receive a warm welcome.

For further information please contact Carol Syme on :
carolasyme@hotmail.com or on
0141 8401203



Pastoral Team



Our next afternoon tea will be held at the beginning of December.

As usual, it will take the form of a Christmas celebration.

We are very anxious to ensure all our members aged eighty and over receive an invitation and, as we do not have a record of members' dates of birth, at present we have to rely on word-of-mouth.

If you are, or you know of any member who either is in this age group or is housebound, please inform Fiona in the church office or me.

Thank you .

Elizabeth Macdonald - 882 3980 .

CHURCH GIVING DAY OCTOBER 23rd 2022

Many members participated in last year's *National Giving Day*. This was a Church of Scotland initiative and was very successful.

This year, St Mark's is having another *Giving Day*.

Our members continued both to give their offerings throughout the pandemic and after all formal Covid restrictions were lifted. A big thank you to all our members.



However, we have continued to lose income from hall lets and cancelled fundraising events, and we have lost most of our funding for Peter. In addition, we are facing a large increase in our energy costs.

Again, any donations received will be partly used by St Mark's and partly passed to Renfrewshire Foodbank.

On Sunday October 23rd donation envelopes will be available in church. Please indicate on the slip if you would allow us to collect Gift Aid on your donation and specify how you would like your gift used : towards the salary for Peter ; for funds for our café or for Renfrewshire Foodbank.

Please consider supporting our *Giving Day*. Again, this will run as a season of thanksgiving between October 23rd and November 6th. Donations can be made by cash or cheque or directly into the church's bank account 80-09-29 00173385 St Mark's Church of Scotland.

It is another opportunity for our members of any age to reflect and remember God's presence with us at all times and to offer our gifts of thanksgiving back to God.

The Finance Committee.

Super Strawberry Saturday

A very big thank you to everyone who was involved with this event. It was wonderful to see so many people enjoying strawberry tarts and scones along with tea and coffee whilst socialising in the church garden. The perfect weather added to the enjoyment of the day.

The event raised £525, which was a great outcome

Look out for details of another Super Saturday later in the year.





Prayer Guide

OCTOBER, 2022		
Sat	1	Zoom Bible Study group meets today at 10:15am.
Sun	2	Youth Dedication Service today. Pray for all the young people who attend our organisations, and for their leaders as they start the new session. Baking Sale today – thank you for all who give of their time and talents in this way. Pray for the young folk of TRASH who meet tonight.
Mon	3	We pray for all those who are RETIRED who live in Auchmannoch Avenue, Balfron Road and Barshaw Place. Bless them in this stage of their lives. We pray for the Guild and the ladies of St Mark's and Sherwood Greenlaw as they begin their new session. Bless them as they meet weekly.
Tue	4	We pray for Street Pastors as they work in our communities. Bless them as they seek to help and keep them safe.
Wed	5	Word for Wednesday begins today at 11:00am. Please bless this. Prayer groups meet 7:00pm on Zoom and in Session Room. Bible Study meets in Session Room after this.
Thu	6	Be with the choir as they practise each Thursday evening and with Dawn as she leads them.
Fri	7	Pray for the Anchor Boys, Junior section and BB Company who meet this evening.
Sat	8	For many people on their own, weekends can be very lonely. We pray for all who are in this position and ask you to be with them.
Sun	9	We ask you to bless Sonia as she leads our service today. Prepare our hearts to hear your message.
Mon	10	We remember SINGLE people who live in Bathgo Avenue, Blair Road and Buchlyvie Road. This is World Mental Health Day and World Migratory Bird Day.
Tue	11	Session meeting this evening. Pray that, as we meet and discuss and make decisions, we do so in unity and love.
Wed	12	Word for Wednesday this morning. Prayer groups on Zoom and in Session Room at 7:00pm.
Thu	13	Pray for our Dementia-Friendly Café on this afternoon. School Assemblies start up again. Pray for Peter and Sonia as they are involved in this work.
Fri	14	Be with the older folk who come along to ROAR and may they enjoy a time of fellowship and companionship together. Thank you for this service.
Sat	15	Zoom Bible Study group meets today at 10:15am.

Prayer Guide



OCTOBER, 2022

Sun	16	World Food Day today. Give thanks for the vast choice we have in this country, but help us think carefully and give generously to those who have little. Rev Eric McLachlan will be leading our worship today. Sonia is taking a service of Holy Communion in Kilmacolm Old where she is interim moderator. Pray for both of them.
Mon	17	Crookston Drive, Dalfoil Court and Darvel Crescent are in our prayers this week and we pray for all the TEENAGERS who live there. International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.
Tue	18	We remember our Brownies and Rainbows who meet tonight. May they have fun together and be with their leaders as they work with the youngsters. May they see Jesus through their lives.
Wed	19	Word for Wednesday meets and we ask that you would be with all who attend. Prayer groups meet 7:00pm on Zoom and in Session Room. Bible Study meets in Session Room after this.
Thu	20	We remember the homeless in our local and wider communities. Bless those who work to alleviate their suffering.
Fri	21	Pray for emergency services who support our communities – police, fire, coast guard.
Sat	22	We pray for groups who use our building and ask that you will be with all who enter. May they get a sense of your presence here.
Sun	23	This is Annual Giving Day Service. Today sees the start of One World Week – working together for a just, peaceful and sustainable world. It runs till 30th October. Pray for the youngsters who come along to TRASH each week. May they learn more of your love for them.
Mon	24	Many people are UNDERVALUED and this week we pray for all who may feel that way who live in Drummond Drive, Duchray Drive and Dunchurch Road. United Nations Day.
Tue	25	We pray for our local shopkeepers and businesses today.
Wed	26	Word for Wednesday is on again this morning. Prayer groups on Zoom and in Session Room at 7:00pm. Brownies and Rainbows tonight and we pray for each of them and their leaders too. Thank you for the preparation and work put in to make their evenings fun.
Thu	27	Pray for all those involved in caring for others – NHS workers, carers in residential and nursing homes, unpaid carers and those working with vulnerable children and adults.
Fri	28	We pray for our world and for all who are caught up in wars, suffering from floods or famine and for the many displaced people living in refugee camps.
Sat	29	Zoom Bible Study Group meets today at 10:15am. Messy Church this afternoon. Pray that many will come along, enjoy their time and learn more of you.
Sun	30	We ask you to bless us as we meet for COMMUNION this morning.
Mon	31	Gartartan Road, Gartmore Road, Glasgow Road are the focus of our prayers this week, and we remember all those who may be VULNERABLE. Be close to them this week.

Flowers in Church

02.10.22	Simone Smith
09.10.22	Guides
16.10.22	Mrs C Sinclair
23.10.22	Mrs P Strachan
30.10.22	C. McCulloch Love
06.11.22	Guild
13.11.22	Dr Colin Reid
20.11.22	Mrs J Forson
27.11.22	Mrs M Johnston

Ladies Delivering Flowers

02.10.22	Mrs J Dempster
09.10.22	Mrs I Ritchie
16.10.22	Mrs J Chapman
23.10.22	Mrs J Dunsmore
30.10.22	Mrs D McKay
06.11.22	Mrs K McLauchlan
13.11.22	Mrs I McBride
20.11.22	Mrs K McLauchlan
27.11.22	Mrs Doris Grant



Freebies

In the previous edition of the *Marksman*, this section was successfully introduced and some unwanted printer ink cartridges found a new home.

I would therefore like to use this platform to allow you to add to your recycling credentials so, if there is anything you have and no longer use, please let me know and I will include details in the next edition. You never know, it might just be the thing someone else is looking for. Give it a try.

Editor



The Church Café Project



As you are probably aware, the church is working to set up a Café space in the Session Room. The purpose of having a café is to create a community space where people can gather, relax and possibly have a tea or coffee or something else. The purpose of doing this is not to try and be in direct competition with the Corner Shop or The Kitchen on Penilee Road, both of which sell tea and coffee.

The church café will be different because we are wanting to provide a comfortable place where people can come and chat to a friendly face. If somebody comes to the café on their own, they know that there will be someone to talk to. It can be a space where the church and community can meet and could become an important aspect of the church's mission.

There is a lot still to be decided and work to be done to create this space but things are progressing. If you have entered the church building from the Corrie Drive side you will have seen the coffee machine in the foyer. This has been purchased nearly new from an Arnold Clark grant – as was the crockery.

Funding has also been received to put a disabled toilet into the Session Room space and change the floor covering so it is more accessible for wheelchairs and prams. The ramp that was built for us by MacAsphalt will allow direct access into this space from Glasgow Road.

There is not a firm and definite plan on how this will run, as it will depend on who might use this space. It could be open just mornings, after school for students, evenings for parents of the youth organisations - the possibilities are wide.

In this regard, we are going to produce a questionnaire in the next couple of weeks to gauge interest, ideas and thoughts about how this space could be used. This will be online and with paper copies in church. We look forward to hearing your responses.

This is your space and you will be playing a big part in deciding its future.



No More Jam Jars Please

Hi folks,

Thanks to all for the mountain of jam jars you donated.

I now have a plentiful supply and so do not need any more.

Thanks.

Liz Morgan.



Prayer Guide

NOVEMBER, 2022		
Tue	1	Today remember our young people in church and in our local community. We ask that you would keep them safe and help them in school, university or work.
Wed	2	Word for Wednesday meets this morning. Prayer groups meet 7:00 pm on Zoom and in Session Room. Bible Study meets in Session Room after this.
Thu	3	We pray for the elders and office bearers in St Mark's.
Fri	4	We pray for Sonia and her family. Bless her in her work and be with her, sustain her and help us support and encourage her.
Sat	5	World Tsunami Awareness Day. We pray for the Ladies' Fashion Show today that you will give everyone a very enjoyable time as they meet together.
Sun	6	Baking Sale this morning. Again we give thanks for all who help in this way.
Mon	7	We pray for all those who are WIDOWS OR WIDOWERS who live in Golf Drive, Hawkhead Road and Killearn Drive. Bring them your comfort.
Tue	8	Pray today for aid agencies who work to help others. Thank you for the work they do and show us how to support them through our prayers and our giving.
Wed	9	Word for Wednesday on today. Be with those who gather. Prayer groups on Zoom and in Session Room at 7:00pm
Thu	10	Dementia-Friendly Café on this afternoon. World Science Day for Peace and Development.
Fri	11	Be with all in St Mark's who work behind the scenes in quiet ways – cleaners, gardeners, administration, media, floral, pastoral, property etc., and help us show our appreciation of their contributions.
Sat	12	Zoom Bible Study Group meets today at 10:15am.
Sun	13	Remembrance Service at 10:45am.
Mon	14	(Poetic licence here! Difficult to find a word starting with X) Pray this week for all those who are ANXIOUS especially in these times of uncertainty. Bring them your hope. Our streets are Kinburnie Road, Lanfine Road and Marchbank Gardens. World Diabetes Day.
Tue	15	We pray again for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides as they meet throughout the Session.
Wed	16	Word for Wednesday meets this morning. Prayer groups meet 7:00pm on Zoom and in Session Room. Bible Study meets in Session Room after this.

Prayer Guide



		NOVEMBER, 2022
Thu	17	School Assemblies today. Pray for the staff and pupils as they meet together.
Fri	18	We pray for the Clyde Presbytery and ask that you guide and direct them in the plans and decisions they make in the year ahead.
Sat	19	World Toilet Day. Thank you for the Toilet Twinning Project that helps bring sanitation to many places in the world.
Sun	20	Pray for Sonia today, for all participating in the service and for the congregation as we worship together.
Mon	21	It's the turn of the YOUNG people who live in Netherdale Drive, Newtyle Road and Newnham Road. Remember them in your prayers this week.
Tue	22	Give thanks again for the Guild and bless their meetings, as their link between Sherwood Greenlaw and St Mark's grows.
Wed	23	Word for Wednesday meets. Bless this meeting. Prayer groups on Zoom and in Session Room at 7:00pm
Thu	24	We pray for world leaders to keep their promises on climate change agreements.
Fri	25	Remember the leaders and young folk of the BB.
Sat	26	Zoom Bible Study Group meets today at 10:15am. Messy Church this afternoon. We pray you would bless this venture.
Mon	27	This is the first Sunday of Advent as we start to think afresh of the coming of Christ as a baby.
Tue	28	Oldhall Road, Ossian Road and Penilee Road are streets for prayer. Pray for ZESTFUL people, full of enthusiasm and give them an enthusiasm for you.
Wed	29	Pray for all who are finding life difficult due to fuel poverty.
Thu	30	Word for Wednesday meets again this morning. Prayer groups meet 7:00 pm on Zoom and in Session Room. Bible Study meets in Session Room after this.



They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

From 'For the Fallen' by Laurence Binyon

Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal

Blythswood Care send our donations of gift-wrapped shoeboxes to needy people in countries like Romania, Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine. Perhaps you could find a shoebox, fill it and wrap it, but please leave the box open as the goods have to be inspected by the team. Alternatively, you might like to donate some individual items for others to pack.

There are two leaflets in the vestibule with a contents checklist and a filler list with different ideas of what to include.

Choose the gender and age of the person for whom you are filling the box.

Each box should include these essential items :

- toothbrush and toothpaste ;
- hat/scarf/gloves ;
- soap ;
- underwear/socks/tights ;
- a small gift/toy ;
- packet of sweets (**NOT** chocolate).

Please note that all contents should be **new** and that completed shoeboxes need to be in church by **Sunday 23 October**.

shooboxappeal.org

SHOE BOX APPEAL

Bring hope this Christmas

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

Transforming lives through Christian care

Registered charity no. SC048001 Company no. 583493 Registered address: Highland Deephaven, Evanton, IV16 9XJ

6 steps to bring happiness

- 1 Find:** Find an average-size shoebox. Decide who to fill it for; a child, a teenager, a man or a woman.
- 2 Wrap:** your box and lid separately so that the lid can be removed without tearing the paper.
- 3 Pack:** Gather the items, remove all plastic and cardboard packaging and pack into the box. Please choose items that will last rather than those with a short life and can't be recycled.
- 4 Check:** On the checklist, tick the items you have put in your shoebox and note any that are not on the list.
- 5 Donate:** Secure the ticked checklist to the **outside** of the shoebox lid using sticky tape. Detach the donation envelope as instructed and place **on top of the items** inside your box.
- 6 Deliver:** Secure the lid with rubber bands. (Custom regulations require Blythswood Care to check the contents of your box) Deliver your box to your local collection point.

For Christmas delivery your shoebox should be at your church, school or other collection point during the last week of October/beginning of November

Checklist

Please tick items included and firmly secure this list on your shoebox lid.

ESSENTIAL ITEMS (ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW)

Please include the following items highlighted in red opposite.

Toiletries (NO TOILET PRODUCTS)

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

Miscellaneous

- New Make-up
- Sewing Equipment
- Household Candles
- Screwdrivers/Pliers
- Household products

Stationery

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

Clothes and other Items (T-shirts/Pyjamas/ Jumpers/Shirts) etc

-
-
-
-

- Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- Hat, scarf, gloves
- Soap
- Underwear/ Socks/Tights
- Small Toy*
- Sweets*

NOTE* Small toy for boys and girls such as cars, dolls, balls. A small gift for teens and adults. Please only include new items.

* No chocolate or any other food! Best before* date no earlier than 21 March next year. No loose sweets, tins or unsealed bags of sweets.

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

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

- Preschool age _____
- Primary age _____
- Teenager age _____
- Adult age _____
- Elderly age _____

Fashion Show – 5th November

Please remember the date. The fund-raising event involves buffet lunch, glass of bubbly, fashion show and pop-up shop. All this for a donation of £20.

We will also be holding a raffle. If you have ANYTHING that can be added to the prizes, please hand into the Church Office or give to a member of the Social Committee.

We look forward to seeing you and many of your friends at Ralston Bowling Club on the 5th November!!

Tickets are still available from the Church Office or Christine Hair.



Ralston Primary School Christmas Fayre

Sat. 26 November, 2022

10a.m. - 1.p.m.



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

marksman@stmarksoldhall.org.uk

Contribution deadline for Dec/Jan edition :

12 noon, 24 November, 2022