

From the Rector

Dear Friends

With the arrival of February our Christmas celebrations draw to a close with the Feast of Candlemas, when Joseph took Mary and Jesus to the temple as was the Jewish custom. Mary was to be purified after childbirth and Jesus, as the first born son, to be redeemed by the sacrifice of two doves. Such ideas seem alien to us 2,000 years on. In those days childbirth was seen as a connection to the story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. After having eaten the apple the story tells how woman was cursed to give birth in pain as a sign of her disobedience. Of course we now know that the pain of childbirth is a necessity, the contraction of muscles help in the process of giving birth. However, in less enlightened times such pain and shedding of blood was connected with the devil rather than a sharing in the gift of creation and 40 days after giving birth a woman had to be purified before rejoining society. While the practice of the Churching of women after child birth continued into more recent times the idea of animal sacrifices being offered to God ended long ago. The two doves which Joseph offered to redeem Jesus were the sacrifice of a poor family in line with the story of Abraham and Isaac, a story which sits uncomfortably with most of us today. Surely God didn't really intend for Abraham to sacrifice his longed for son, promised by God? Well of course he didn't but it makes for a good story during a time when sacrifices were commonplace. God intervenes and provides an alternative; the story is about the goodness and love of God rather than a bloodthirsty god. These elements of Candlemas are often glossed over today. We tend to concentrate on Simon and Anna, the faithful people of God who recognise Jesus for who he is and rejoice that the hope they have clung on to in their own lives has come to a fruition. Candlemas, more maybe than any other festival, teaches us that we always have more to learn about God, a continual revelation that started with a star. We have seen over the past month how different people heard about and understood God's presence in the world in different ways. We can see how what were once thought of as God's ways are now not to be understood as such, but rather the way people in those times understood God, just as once it was understood that blood letting was good medical practise, or those who had different religious views should be killed. The wonder and joy of God is the continual revelation that He is bigger, more compassionate more forgiving and more astounding than any human words or concepts can every express. As 2018 continues may we together learn more of God as Emmanuel, God with us.

Blessings Kirstin

Mark and His Gospel – Part 2

Following on from the article in the December/January magazine, here is the second part of the brief overview of Mark's Gospel.

Mark is the main source of our Gospel readings in Church this year. Each of the four Gospels tell the story of Christ in a slightly different way. For Mark the story is being told in the market place and it is the Gentiles attention he is trying to capture.

Mark uses the Greek word '*eutheos*' with abundance; it appears 11 times in the opening chapter. It is translated in various forms, such as straight-away, immediately, forthwith, as soon as, at once. That urgency continues throughout the Gospel.

Mark's Gospel was for the non-Jew. Jewish customs and traditions are rarely mentioned and when they are there is explanation of them.

Mark's Jesus is not only for certain people; there is no lineage or birth narrative.

Unlike in the other Gospels, there are only two direct Old Testament quotations in Mark, one in the introduction and one during a discourse about tradition.

Mark records three times as many miracles as parables.

Mark is the one who champions Jesus being Lord of all creation, the beasts of the air, the wind and waves, all elements known and unknown.

The Holy Spirit's presence is woven throughout the Gospel, beginning with it being present at Jesus' baptism, underlining that Jesus is Lord of the spiritual as well as of creation.

Like other aspects of the Gospel, prayer isn't something that needs discussion and debate. To pray is the important thing, the how, when and where are seen as inconsequential.

Everything is large, all seek Jesus, multitudes gather, the whole region hears about him. Yet it is also in Mark's Gospel we hear Jesus telling others to not say who he is most often.

Just as there is no ceremony surrounding Jesus' arrival, there is little concerning his departure. Jesus arrest, trial and death are told in scant detail, with the resurrection remaining a secret. There are two longer endings to the Gospel neither of which are considered original.

It is now thought by many that Mark's Gospel was originally conceived as a travelling drama, with the question of what happened next being one which the

audience gathered then engaged with, people telling their own stories about resurrection appearances and how Jesus' teaching had influenced their lives. This might shed some light on the two later additional endings, which came about when those who had first-hand knowledge of the events after the resurrection became fewer and fewer.

The Rector

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday falls on 14th February this year and the Imposition of Ashes will be offered at the Said Eucharist at 11.30am and at a Sung Eucharist at 7pm.

Lent Mediation and Compline

On Wednesdays 21st and 28th February, and 7th, 14th, and 21st March at 7pm there will be a Compline and Meditation for Lent. Each week there will be a different artwork and poem for us to think about and pray upon as we journey with Christ from Wilderness to Jerusalem. Each evening we will begin at 7pm. The artwork and poem will also be part of the Wednesday Eucharist at 11.30am for those who would prefer not to come out in the evenings.

Morning Prayer during Lent

As has become our custom Morning Prayer will be offered during Lent in the Choir Vestry, moving into the Church when we get into March as hopefully it gets warmer. We begin at 8am. Please enter through the door off our car park.

Festival of Stars

The festival is now over and the stars have been taken down. There is a yellow box at the back of the church containing stars should anyone wish to take them. Those left as Lent begins will be disposed of.

Association of Bearsden Churches – Unity Supper

This year the Association of Bearsden Churches Unity Supper is to be held in New Kilpatrick New Church Hall on Wednesday 7th February at 7pm for 7.15 pm. Bishop John Keenan, bishop of Paisley, will speak and answer questions on the interface between faith and science. Bishop Keenan is one of the leading thinkers on this important issue within the Scottish church and is an excellent speaker. Tickets cost £10, including a buffet supper, and are available from Celia Fisher (570 0903) and Penny Inglis (942 5649), and at the back of the church.

Vestry Notes – January 8th 2018

- The Vestry met on 8 January 2018, (the proposed December meeting having not been held owing to lack of business). The Rector welcomed those joining the Vestry, Anne MacDougall as a regular member and David Hamblen as Alternate Lay Rep.
- A second estimate had been received for a new Church boiler. As this was significantly lower than the first one, and included a higher power rated unit, the Vestry agreed to accept it.
- The Gift Day held on Advent Sunday had raised £1270 for Church Funds.
- The Vestry returned to the discussion of Data Protection in view of the upcoming EU directive, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which was due to come into force on 25 May 2018. Some surprise was expressed that the SEC had not issued any guidance about what steps it would be necessary to take. The Rector agreed to contact the General Synod Office to find out whether anything would be produced and discussion was postponed until she had this information.
- The Lay Rep reported verbally on the outcomes of the last NWRC Meeting held on 28 November 2017.
- The Treasurer presented the financial data for the first quarter. Essentially expenditure was in line with expectation. A small shortfall in income from regular giving had been more than compensated by the out-turn from the Gift Day.
- The Rector reported on the services which had been held over the Christmas/Epiphany period. The Vestry agreed that the Epiphany Carol Service had been particularly impressive.
- The Rector reported that she had received a letter from the organisers of the Wednesday Lunch Group, Sheena MacDonald and Philip and Jenny Thompson, saying that they were intending to hand on to others after a five year stint (see the article later in the magazine). The Vestry gratefully acknowledged their outstanding contribution.
- The next Vestry meeting will be held on Monday 12 February.

Andrew Long

Changes in the Wednesday Lunch Group Organisation Next Session

The organisers of the Wednesday Lunches over the last five years, Sheena MacDonald, Jenny and Philip Thompson and Susan Gray, have decided that they wish to pass on the organisation baton to a new team after the end of the current session in the Spring. Their tenure has been extraordinarily successful (some 90 people have been associated with the lunches as consumers or helpers, a dozen All Saints members have given talks as well as many guests from outside, and, as an initially unintended biproduct, over £13,000 has been raised for charitable donations over the period). These lunches have become a regular feature of All Saints life, much appreciated by all who attend. The rest of those involved would like to say how much they appreciate the contribution of the above organising team, and to thank them for all they have done.

Those of us who have participated in the programme over the last few years are convinced that these lunches serve an important function in the lives of those who attend, both from within our own congregation and from the wider community. We should like to form a successor organising team to take over the organisation of the Lunch Group and move it into the next period. Would anyone who would like to help with the work of the new team please contact Andrew Long or Brenda Hadcroft in the next few weeks to let us know your interest. We are not looking for involvement every Wednesday but for overall help on a continuing basis.

Andrew Long

Wednesday Lunch Programme 2018

The programme of lunches for the second half of our session is as follows:-

30 Jan, 7, 14 Feb – Chat days

21 Feb – Talk on From Medicine into the Ministry by Roger Sturrock

28 Feb – Chat day

7 Mar – Flower day (Mothering Sunday is 11 Mar)

14 Mar – Chat day

21 Mar – Rev Tim Tunley on his recent period of work in Bangladesh.

24 April (Tuesday) – Lunch at Ross Priory to complete the session

Advent Carol Service – Carols and Stories

The Advent Carol Service was shared with our New Kilpatrick neighbours, and held in their Church on Sunday 17 December. Familiar Carols were interspersed

with Christmas Bible Readings, with further Christmas songs sung by the New Kilpatrick Choir, and by a number of Stories, reflective re-tellings of the familiar narratives to lead the congregation into thinking again about their response to these well-known biblical accounts. At the end of the service there was a further opportunity to get to know those worshipping so close to us.

Christmas Christingle and Crib Service

On Christmas Eve, a congregation of expectant children and their families gathered for a service celebrating the forthcoming birth of Jesus. Children were encouraged to dress up in character and to participate in the story of Jesus's birth by speaking out memorable phrases covering their part in the story. The service finished with the distribution of Christingles. Our photographs show a happy shepherd with Christingle and the decorated Christmas altar and crib at midnight.



Epiphany Carol Service

Leaving home on a cold frosty Sunday evening is not a pleasant prospect but those who did so on the 7th January were well rewarded by a truly magnificent celebration of the Epiphany at All Saints.

The joint choirs of St. James, Paisley and New Kilpatrick, Bearsden joined with ours under the leadership of our own Peter Christie and Chris Nichol, organist of New Kilpatrick, to present a musical feast for our ears. Personally, I

particularly enjoyed the rendition in English of Michael Praetorius' "a rose from tender stem" which is a favorite of mine.

The choice of readings and carols were well matched and members of New Kilpatrick Church joined in equal numbers with us to take part in the readings.

Kirstin and Roddy, as we already know, have a good rapport and they have in the past composed some memorable services together. This one will take its place amongst them.

Congratulations to everyone who put in the hard work, especially the choristers and the congregations who came to participate. We all look forward to future joint celebrations.

Mary Stott

Wednesday Lunch Group – Christmas Pudding

On Wednesday 28th November Andrew Long gave the Wednesday lunch club members and friends a talk and demonstration of his Christmas pudding. Apparently this recipe has been in the Long family for many years. Andrew took over from his father in 1995 and has been making the pudding for family and friends every year since. Andrew



talked about the dry ingredients and their contents. For obvious reasons, he would add the wet ingredients to the mixture on his return home before cooking. Andrew gave everyone present the recipe and would be pleased to give a copy to anyone else who would like one. The recipe he was mixing makes 4 small puddings. The bowl of ingredients was passed round the tables for everyone to have a stir and make a Christmas wish. Andrew's talk was interesting and he certainly looked the part in his apron and chef's hat. It put us all in the mood for the forthcoming Christmas season, so Andrew, many thanks from us all.



Margaret Dunn

Wednesday Group – Christmas lunch

This was a great occasion and a good start to the festive season. What a team they are the Wednesday lunch club, because the organisation was superb and everything went like clockwork. The Drymen Hall was full to capacity and a lot of strangers were present which was good. It was beautifully decorated to put us in the mood. I had never been before but I am glad that I went this year to see so many people enjoying themselves.

The entertainment was given by Geoff and Penny Haydock, the professional duo, on piano and clarinet. Geoff's little quips between the items had us all laughing. The charity this year was the Paul O'Gorman Leukaemia Fund as Penny has a special interest in this.

Well done to the team for giving so much pleasure to so many.

Jean Stirling



Lunch is served



Our guests, the Haydocks & Hilda de Groot representing the Paul O'Gorman Leukaemia Fund



Penny and Geoff introduced by Sheena



Performing

The following letters of thanks have been received by the Church after recent donations.

Mission Support – Letter from Self-Help Africa

Thank you to All Saints Episcopal Church, Bearsden

We give thanks to all at All Saints Episcopal Church for your generous gift of £500 towards our work. In Africa a little can go a long way, and your support of our Harvest Appeal will give the poorest people in rural Africa the vital support and resources they need to survive. You're helping smallholder farmers, like Inoussa, to increase their Harvest yields and build a better future for their families: 'I learned how to grow the onion seeds, how to plant them and how to water them correctly. Before the project I could grow four or five 100kg bags of onions. Now I can grow 20!' A purpose-built storage house has also helped to preserve his crop: 'I used to keep my onions at home, but they would rot soon after Harvest. The storage house is ventilated and now my onions last longer. I sell them when the prices are high on the market' These practical solutions have a lasting benefit for years to come. Thank you very much for continuing to support Self Help Africa, and in doing so, taking us closer to our vision of a rural Africa free from poverty and hunger.

With warmest wishes - Samantha Howlett, Fundraising Administrator

(Autumn Review magazine at back of Church, Photo in Church Hall)

Glasgow Children's Holiday Scheme - Christmas 2017 Gift Appeal

Would you please pass on our thanks and gratitude for the wonderful support we again received from All Saints by way of gift and monetary donations. It is always a pleasure to attend your annual gift service and the generosity is very much recognised. Through this year's Christmas gift scheme we were able to support a total of 150 children and 50 families. As you know there is still a great need across the city and it is so nice we can all play a part in making Christmas that bit better for so many children and families. I attached some leaflets and a few summary reports setting out what the Holiday Scheme was able to achieve in 2017. This includes some personal feedback on the back page. As we discussed I have e-mailed you a few pictures which hopefully show the benefit of a holiday to so many disadvantaged children and their families. (Leaflets, summary reports and photos on board in Church Hall).

We are gearing up now for 2018 and thank you for your continued support. Thanks again and very best wishes for 2018.

Douglas Wilson - Coordinator GCHS



Douglas also sent the Wednesday lunch group a thank-you letter for the money collected by the Wednesday Lunch group through their Craft Sale.

Maxie Richards Foundation

Thank you so very much for the cheque for £400.00 that has been donated to Maxie Richards Foundation by the All Saints Episcopal Church. It was a delightful surprise and much appreciated. The Foundation is continuing to raise enough funds to convert the current accommodation to house two more men. We are currently waiting for planning permission. We have had a gift of £30,000 that is about half the money that we need. In the meantime, the minibus continues to deteriorate, the steriliser in the kitchen must be held closed by hand to keep it working and the website is no longer fit for purpose! However, all the challenges are met with good grace and humour and all the staff and residents work together with gratitude and perseverance to achieve the aim of a drug and alcohol-free life. We shall be looking for new ways to evidence the results that we get so that we can continue to promote abstinence as the most effective way to achieve our aim. We are confident that God is on our side. 'If God is for us, who can be against us?' Romans 8:31.

Please pass on our thanks and gratitude to the congregation. Kind regards.

Sir Roger Martin - treasurer

East Dunbartonshire Foodbank

A letter has been received from Ann Carson, Foodbank Co-ordinator, thanking All Saints for their regular collections for the Foodbank. In the year we donated 237kg of food items, almost a quarter of a tonne! Well done the All Saints Congregation – keep up the good work in the New Year.

Children's Corner

Lent - 14th February 2018 to 29th March 2018

Lent is the period of six weeks, 40 days (not including Sundays) leading up to Easter, the most important festival in the Christian calendar. Lent starts on Ash Wednesday in western Christian Churches. and climaxes during **Easter Week**. The last week of Lent is called **Holy Week**. During the 40 days of Lent, Christians remember the time when Jesus went into the desert to fast and pray before beginning his work for God. During this time Jesus was tempted several times by Satan, but was able to resist.


Lent is a time of giving things up. For Christians, it is one way of remembering the time Jesus' fasted in the desert and is a test of self-discipline. There are many foods that some Christians do not eat in Lent, such as meat and fish, fats, eggs, and milky foods. Some Christians just give up something they really enjoy such as cakes or chocolate. What will you do for Lent this year?

Name: _____

ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH

H	F	D	J	Z	A	S	H	W	E	D	N	E	S	D	A	Y	H	R	R
N	O	A	G	O	O	D	F	R	I	D	A	Y	J	E	S	B	O	E	E
G	O	L	P	A	S	S	O	V	E	R	P	A	S	F	O	R	L	S	S
T	T	M	Y	B	M	F	J	E	S	U	A	J	A	C	K	A	Y	U	U
N	W	S	P	S	G	O	L	O	V	E	L	E	C	E	D	N	T	R	R
N	A	G	R	F	A	R	L	P	A	L	M	B	R	A	N	C	H	E	R
J	S	I	A	A	F	T	P	L	Y	E	S	E	I	S	O	J	U	S	E
C	H	V	Y	S	O	Y	U	J	Y	N	U	A	F	T	A	E	R	U	C
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N	G	G	C	N	O	Y	L	W	E	A	A	E	E	Y	G	S	A	Z	O
W	E	D	N	G	L	S	E	H	O	L	Y	W	E	E	K	H	Y	C	N

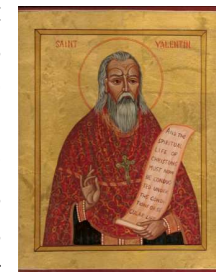
Ash	Holy Week	Palm Branch
Wednesday	Holy Thursday	Forty Days
Sacrifice	Good Friday	Jesus
Almsgiving	Holy Saturday	Passover
Prayer	Easter	Foot Washing
Fasting	Palm Sunday	Resurrection
Lent	Purple	Love



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14th February - St Valentine's Day

Legend has it that Valentine was a priest near Rome in about the year 270 A.D, a time when the early Christian church was subjected to persecution. Valentine's role as a Priest was to help Christians to escape persecution, and to provide them the sacraments, such as marriage, which was outlawed by the Roman Empire at that time. While records are scarce it seems that Valentine's persecution as a Christian included his interrogation by the then Roman Emperor, Claudius II. Finding Valentine an intelligent man, he attempted to get him to convert to Roman paganism in order to use him against the rapidly growing Christian movement. Valentine refused and tried to convert Claudius to Christianity instead. Because of this, he was executed.



While he was jailed awaiting execution, it is said that he performed a miracle by curing the blindness of Julia, the daughter of his jailer, Asterius. Julia and all of her father's household, family and servants, came to believe in Jesus Christ and were baptised by Valentine. Father Valentine is said to have secretly performed many Christian weddings for Roman soldiers, who were actually forbidden to marry as the Roman Emperor believed that married men made bad soldiers. St Valentine is said to have cut hearts from parchment, giving them to the soldiers. This is possibly the origin of the modern tradition of hearts representing love, and especially used on cards and gifts for Valentine's Day. It is believed that on the evening before he was to be executed, he wrote the very first Valentine's card himself, and gave it to the daughter of his jailer, who was now no longer blind, signing as "Your Valentine"!

Upcoming dates for the diary

14 th January	Sunday School	4 th March	Sunday School
21 st January	Sunday School	11 th March	All Age Worship/Mothering Sunday
28 th January	Sunday School	18 th March	Sunday School
4 th February	Sunday School	25 th March	Sunday School
11 th February	Holiday	1 st April	Holiday
18 th February	Holiday	8 th April	Holiday
14 th January	Sunday School	15 th April	Holiday
25 th February	Sunday School		

February Service Rota

Date	Sidesmen 10.30 am	Eucharistic Assistants	Readings	Reader	Intercessor	Coffee Name in bold to bring milk
4 February Epiphany 5	Richard Kingslake Kate Ross	LHS: Hanan RHS: Andrew	Isaiah 40:21-31 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39	Margaret Dunn	Susan Gray	Margaret Dunn Margery Pollock May Campbell
11 February Transfiguration Sunday	Joyce James Graham Bryson	LHS: Louise RHS: Susan	2 Kings 2:1-12 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9	Andrew Roach	Mike Graham	Janet Stack Joyce James Kate Ross
18 February Lent 1	Mike Keen John Harrington	LHS: John RHS: Jenny	Genesis 9:8-17 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15	John Sherwood	John Duncan	Pauline Waugh Fiona Hempel Jean Stirling
25 February Lent 2	Philip Thompson Simon Lewis	LHS: Mike RHS: Catriona	Genesis 17:1-7,15-16 Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38	Andrew Long	Louise Benson	Gioia Whitmore Elaine Perret John Brooker

March Magazine

Please send all articles for the March magazine to Richard Kingslake, richard.kingslake@gmail.com
by **Sunday 18 February** 2018. The magazine will be available on Sunday 25 February 2018

February Services

*God is spirit, and those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth.
John 4:24*

Date	Services	
4th February Epiphany 5 (Green)	9am Said Eucharist	1970 Liturgy
	10.30am Sung Eucharist	Ordinary Time Liturgy
Wednesday 7 th	11.30am Said Eucharist	
11th February Transfiguration Sunday (White)	9am Said Eucharist	1970 Liturgy
	10.30am Sung Eucharist	Transfiguration Liturgy
Ash Wednesday 14 th	11.30am Said Eucharist with the imposition of Ashes	
	7pm Sung Eucharist with the imposition of Ashes	
18th February Lent 1 (Violet)	9am Said Eucharist	1970 Liturgy
	10.30am Sung Eucharist	Ordinary Time Liturgy
Monday - Thursday	8am Morning Prayer <i>In choir vestry please enter through the door off the car park</i>	
Wednesday 21 st	11.30am Said Eucharist	
	7pm Meditation and Compline	
25th February Lent 2 (Violet)	9am Said Eucharist	1970 Liturgy
	10.30am Sung Eucharist	Ordinary Time Liturgy
Monday - Thursday	8am Morning Prayer <i>In choir vestry please enter through the door off the car park</i>	
Wednesday 28 th	11.30am Said Eucharist	
	7pm Meditation and Compline	