



In Touch

The Magazine of
St Mary's Church,
Dalmahoy
February - March 2016

www.stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk

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**St Mary's Church Dalmahoy
Scottish Registered Charity:
SC014203**

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A note from Deryck

Visiting family in Aberdeen at Hogmanay we were lucky, we got over the Bridge of Dee shortly before it was closed to traffic; the level of the river was almost unbelievable. But then we heard about the devastation further up Deeside and that put the flooding we had witnessed in a very different perspective.

Here, we fared lightly compared to those further north and a little south on either side of the Border. Will those of us *not* directly affected quickly forget the scenes we witnessed in the media as those whose lives are turned upside down sort out their own fate?

The honest answer for many of us is “probably”. Fresh news speedily fills pages and screens and our minds will become filled with other concerns. Those still clearing up last year’s tragedies tend to do so out of the public eye.

This is where it is good for us to be part of something bigger than ourselves – part of a ‘Provincial’ church and a world-wide Communion. Regular cycles of prayer remind us of folk in other places with whom we have particular relationships within the family of the Church and for whom we should have particular concern.



A visit from Archbishop Clyde Igara of PNG reminded us of the importance of mutual support within the Anglican Communion. St Mary’s recently sponsored an ordinand training for ministry in PNG. Many parts of that

nation do not have a cash economy, so raising funds for any unusual expense is difficult and they depend upon partners like ourselves to put people through training.

We have benefitted in return – in direct input from people like John and Della Rea and Bp Douglas Cameron. But so too has our Province benefitted from the experience of numerous people like them who have

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spent time in PNG and other Provinces very different to our own over the years, helping us to see our own lives from a different perspective. We are all part of the one Body. As we approach Lent and Easter we are taken to the heart of that mystery, that Christ died for all and in rising brings new life to all, imparting gifts through diverse individuals and peoples, through which we are enriched and our unity confirmed.

With my love and prayers.

Deryck

From the editor

Once again I am very grateful to those folk who have submitted articles to help us to keep up to date with what is happening at St Mary's.

As we approach Easter the calendar of events will get busier and I hope you may be able to join some of the events at this time.

Though this edition is slimmer (unlike myself after Christmas) it is still full of useful and interesting information.

I would draw your attention to the early copy date in March which is due to the last Sunday being the 27th when we always aim to have the magazine available.

The views expressed in this magazine are personal, and not necessarily those of the editor or congregation.

Margaret Scott margaret.scott56@btinternet.com

For information

We have a few excellent wheelchairs. If anybody would like to borrow one, or knows someone who needs one, please get in touch with Carole or Rosemary.

From the Registers

Baptisms

Dec 5th Cara Wilson
Jan 3rd Jamie Samuel Baines
24th Emma Charlotte Braithwaite

Weddings

Dec 22nd James Gilchrist to Kay Grant

Funerals

Dec 29th June Reid
Jan 9th David Stephens

JOHN PELHAM. A personal appreciation.

A few Christmas's ago, John sent us a card. It was a simple nativity, with a shepherds and kings offering up their gifts in response to God's gift of the Christ child.

The text hand written by John, was;

"What does the Lord require of you, but to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God."

John might have smiled that I offer these words now in appreciation for a man who in the time I have known him, some 45 years has done his best to fulfil those words of OT Micah. John followed the difficult path of a working scientist, and a man of faith. On the one hand he had the analytical mind of the scientist, there was the necessity to produce proof and evidence for every statement conclusion and argument, and on the other hand as a Christian, he was in the words of Paul to the Hebrews:

"Sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see, by faith we understand, so that what is seen was not made out of what is visible." And like Abraham, *"Obeyed even when he did not know where he was going."*

I appreciated his gift of both priest and scientist, of seeing the divine and eternal in the natural order of the earth and heavens, always with that sense of awe of the glory of God all around him; marvelling each day at the sunrise from his window, dazzled by the blue irises which bloomed at the time of Pam's death, and comforted by the sign and promise of the geese flying in perfect formation, in the winter sky, which filled him with hope, reflecting the mystic speaking, in Psalm 8

"When I consider the heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and stars which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him.?"

Characteristic of his scientific mind, he methodically read his Scripture Union verses at the beginning of the day. There was always a verse which spoke to him personally, which he could apply to the day, the pattern which ordered his life. The emphasis of his chats and prayers always majored on the wonder and glory of God, in Christ, from whom he drew his strength even in the darkest most desert times. Often after prayer time on Sundays before the main service, we would find a phrase in which to glory in; and at coffee time, we might mention a new thought provoked by the readings or Deryck's sermon.

I am sure that all those who gave John lifts to hospital for treatment this last year were deeply touched by his words and his humour breaking through. He never faltered in his pattern of readings and prayers

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throughout his illness, even the day he died. In them he found peace and strength, in contemplating God's love for him, an example to us all. The very last prayer time while he was able to listen was very special; I read Psalm 84.

*"How lovely is your dwelling place O Lord God Almighty.
My soul yearns even faints for the courts of the Lord."*

When I remember John, I am so thankful for his kind words, his wise counsel and his quiet encouragement over the years. In 1977, when he was considering Training for Ministry, it was only John, when I was teetering about in indecision, who said, "You could do it, why don't you. "? Women did not "do" training for ministry in those days. TM was a unique kind of training for ministry in the workplace brought to the Edinburgh Diocese by Bishop Kenneth Carey. Subsequently for 3 years we chummed each on the same perilous journey towards ordination, mostly sharing lifts to all the training venues, of which there were many. I seem to remember after one of the silent retreats which had lasted 5 days, we were so desperate to talk about it all, on the way home he completely missed the road, ending up completely lost with absolutely no idea where we were. I think it was a rubbish dump. (No sat nav's 35 years ago!) .

The memories over 45 years of knowing John and Pam are many, but I think I would most like to remember with many others, is the trip to the Holy Land last year. It was very special to John as he explained, it was 10 years almost to the day that Pam died, so it must have been very difficult remembering those cherished days with her.



The first morning on the hill top of the Roman town of Sephorris in the golden light of the early February sun, there was John, note book in hand, sleeves rolled up, ready to record everything. All the places we visited he enjoyed himself immensely, he looked well. St. Peter's Gallicantu, memorable for being the site of the house of high priest Caiaphas, where S Peter is said to have denied Christ, John breathlessly told us "Did you hear the cock crow when we came out of the church!" Speaking to young Jewish soldiers of the

common foundation of our faith, at Yad Vashem, memorial of the Holocaust.

The visit to the Garden Tomb was place of special memory of Pam for him, but he was able to speak about it with joy. But at supper on the last evening a quite extraordinary thing happened that gladdened our hearts. A Palestinian lady, stood up to the music, and started dancing sedately, inviting some of the men in our group to dance, and she stood in front of John, he paused, laughed, and then gallantly danced with her with a touch of that Morris man dance from his youth! There was a freedom in that moment for John, and we all rejoiced with him as we clapped in time to the rhythm of the Eastern music.

Thank you John, how I value your friendship and how we will all miss you from the circle of our fellowship, you are remembered by us all with love and affection.

I felt it appropriate for John, to finish with the blessing of the Nunc Dimmittis. I read from the Book of Common Prayer which would have been very familiar from his early days. This is the song of Simeon, the old priest, as he takes the infant Christ in his arms and praises God that he has seen the promise of Salvation for the darkness of the world in this little child. Please join with me if you remember the words:

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant; depart in peace; according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation; which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end.

Amen

Janet Dyer

Ash Wednesday

Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes
will take place at

11.00 am and 7.30 pm

Both services will be in the Church.

Do come to one of these services if you can.

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An Invitation!

Craig Lodge House of Prayer, Dalmally, Argyll

Monday 23rd May arriving in time for lunch and departing Thursday 26th after breakfast

Cost £35.00 per person per day (£105 includes all meals)

This is a time for you to be as carefree as you would like to be. There are no formal commitments for our group other than meal times. In between you can roam the beautiful Argyll countryside with others from our group, go out for a drive, sit and blether for hours in the comfy sitting room, sleep and read, walk in the gardens and generally enjoy the freedom to simply just be.

Over the years, most of our congregation have chosen to attend some of the services led by the House Community. These are held in the beautiful peaceful little chapel within the house. For many of us time spent there is an important part of our stay at Craig Lodge. This, however, is in no way obligatory for any guests.

Each and everyone is always assured of a great welcome by the permanent members of the House Community and the young people from all over the world who are temporarily there for a year to help in the running of the house.

Often, we have had very unexpected and inspiring conversations with others who just happen to be staying there for a short while. At meal times you may find yourself sitting next to a Franciscan friar having a break from working with the poor in New York, a young school leaver trying to decide what path he or she will follow in life or an overseas employee of Mary's Meals. On one occasion we were even invited to a small wedding taking place in the chapel during our stay in the house. Most of us were lacking the usual wedding attire but it didn't matter!

Jane Helliwell

Passover Meal

Maundy Thursday, 24th March
6.30 pm, in the Hall

This is a family event, for all ages.

It is a festive occasion with a blend of fun and solemnity, matched by the foods we eat at supper.

Passover is the greatest Jewish feast of the year. It is the celebration that Jesus shared with his disciples the night before he was crucified.

We hear the story of the escape from Egypt and the promise of new life. Within the story symbolic foods are used, which speak of the mix of joy and pain that life generally brings us. Then we enjoy a good meal together, and there will be songs and some games too.



The Passover Meal takes us straight back to the Last Supper and shows how firmly within Jewish tradition our roots are – and how startlingly Jesus' words changed every expectation within the celebration.

Please sign the list in the hall if you would like to come.

Donations (suggest around £5) will be welcomed to help cover costs.

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Sunday Readings for

		Old Testament
Feb 7	1 before Lent	1 Kings 8: 22-23, 41-43
Feb 14	Lent 1	Deuteronomy 26: 1-11
Feb 21	Lent 2	Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18
Feb 28	Lent 3	Isaiah 55: 1-9
Mar 6	Lent 4 (Mothering)	—
Mar 13	Lent 5	Isaiah 43: 16-21
Mar 20	Palm Sunday	—
Mar 27	Easter Sunday	—
Apr 3	Easter 2	Acts 5: 27-32
Apr 10	Easter 3	Acts 9: 1-6
Apr 17	Easter 4	Acts 9: 36-43
Apr 24	Easter 5	Acts 11: 1-18

February – April 2016

Epistle	Gospel
Galatians 1: 1-12	Luke 7: 1b-10
Romans 10: 8b-13	Luke 4: 1-13
Philippians 3: 17 – 4: 1	Luke 13: 31-35
1 Corinthians 10: 1-13	Luke 13: 1-9
Colossians 3: 12-17	Luke 2: 33-35
Philippians 3: 4b-14	John 12: 1-8
—	Luke 22:14 – 23:56
Acts 10: 34-43	John 20: 1-18
Revelation 1: 4-8	John 20: 19-31
Revelation 5: 11-14	John 21: 1-19
Revelation 7: 9-17	John 10: 22-30
Revelation 21: 1-6	John 13: 31-35

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Organist's Corner

Programme Notes for Lent, Holy Week and Easter
by Alan John Phillips

This Lent, I'm taking Bach's set of eleven variations on the Passiontide hymn 'Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig' (BWV 768), which date from around 1710, when the 25-year-old Johann Sebastian was employed at Weimar Castle. To go with them, I'm playing all but one of the Passiontide chorale preludes from the 'Little Organ Book', also composed at Weimar a couple of years later.

Wednesday 10th February - Ash Wednesday

Prelude: Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig (chorale) - Bach

Communion: O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig (BWV 618) – Bach

Postlude: Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig (Variation 1) - Bach

Sunday 14th February - The First Sunday of Lent

Prelude: Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig (Variation 2) - Bach

Communion: Christe, du Lamm Gottes (BWV 619) – Bach

Postlude: Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig (Variation 3) - Bach

Sunday 21st February - The Second Sunday of Lent

Prelude: Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig (Variation 4) - Bach

Communion: Christus, der uns selig macht (BWV 620) - Bach

Postlude: Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig (Variation 5) - Bach

Sunday 28th February - The Third Sunday of Lent

Prelude: Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig (Variation 6) - Bach

Communion: Da Jesus an dem Kreuze stund (BWV 621) – Bach

Postlude: Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig (Variation 7) - Bach

Sunday 6th March - The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)

Prelude: Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig (Variation 8) - Bach

Communion: Wir danken dir, Herr Jesu Christ, dass du für uns gestorben bist (BWV 623) - Bach

Postlude: Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig (Variation 9) - Bach

Sunday 13th March - The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Prelude: Sei gegrüßet, Jesu gütig (Variation 10) - Bach

Communion: Hilf Gott, dass mir's gelinge (BWV 624) - Bach

Postlude: Sei gegrüßet, Jesu gütig (Variation 11) – Bach

Sunday 20th March - Palm Sunday

Prelude: Processional to Calvary ('The Crucifixion') – Stainer
Stainer wrote his well-known oratorio in 1887. Although the composer himself described it as 'rubbish', the work has remained popular with amateur choirs.

Communion: He was despised ('Messiah') – Handel

The middle section uses a text from today's Old Testament reading

Postlude: In tears of grief (St. Matthew Passion) - Bach

Thursday 24th March - Maundy Thursday

Prelude: Schmücke dich, O liebe Seele (BWV 654) – Bach

Bach's setting of hymn 257 in AMNS is from the 'Eighteen Chorale Preludes', which he compiled towards the end of his life.

Communion: Ave verum corpus - Mozart

Friday 25th March - Good Friday

Prelude: Herzlich thut mich verlangen (BWV 727) – Bach

The tune, also known as the 'Passion Chorale' was originally set to a secular love song, 'My heart is distracted by a gentle maid', in Hans Leo Hassler's 'Lustgarten Neuer Deutscher Gesang', 1601.

Postlude: Lie still (St. John Passion) - Bach

Saturday 26th March – Easter Vigil

Postlude: Hallelujah Chorus ('Messiah') - Handel

Sunday 27th March - Easter Day

Music including two choir anthems:

Sing choirs of heaven! – Richard Shephard

A metrical version of the Easter Proclamation.

Rejoice, the Lord is King – Malcolm Archer

A bouncy setting of Charles Wesley's hymn by a former Organist

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Congregational Giving

The Mary's Meals retiring collection which was held during Advent raised £637. Of this money £577 was eligible to be doubled as part of the government's UK Aid Match scheme. This makes the total benefit to Mary's Meals £1214. An excellent result.

The Church Christmas card collected £70. As there were two other fund raising initiatives running in parallel (Mary's Meals and the knitted angels for Breast Cancer) the vestry had agreed that we should match the Christmas Card money collected in 2014 and send to CHAS. Therefore a cheque for £80 was sent to the Aberlour Child Care Trust. A thank you note from Aberlour is displayed on the notice board.

Denis King

Angels for Advent.

Many thanks to all who knitted Angels, bought Angels or knitted and bought Angels.

The grand total for Breast Cancer Care Scotland was £423.

A great result!

Jane Russell

Lent Groups

Please think about joining one of the Lent Groups,
Details will be posted soon on the board in the Hall.

President Assad (who is bad) is a nasty guy who got so nasty his people rebelled and the Rebels (who are good) started winning.

But then some of the rebels turned a bit nasty and are now called Islamic State (who are definitely bad) and some continued to support democracy (who are still good).

So the Americans (who are good) started bombing Islamic State (who are bad) and giving arms to the Syrian Rebels (who are good) so they could fight Assad (who is still bad) which was good.

By the way, there is a breakaway state in the north run by the Kurds who want to fight IS (which is a good thing) but the Turkish authorities think they are bad, so we have to say they are bad whilst secretly thinking they're good and giving them guns to fight IS (which is good) but that is another matter.

Getting back to Syria. President Putin (bad, as he invaded Crimea and the Ukraine and killed lots of folks including that nice Russian man in London with polonium) has decided to back Assad (who is still bad) by attacking IS (who are also bad) which is sort of a good thing?

But Putin (still bad) thinks the Syrian Rebels (who are good) are also bad, and so he bombs them too, much to the annoyance of the Americans (who are good) who are busy backing and arming the rebels (who are also good).

Now Iran (who used to be bad, but now they have agreed not to build any nuclear weapons and bomb Israel are now good) are going to provide ground troops to support Assad (still bad) as are the Russians (bad) who now have ground troops and aircraft in Syria.

So a Coalition of Assad (still bad) Putin (extra bad) and the Iranians (good, but in a bad sort of way) are going to attack IS (who are bad) which is a good thing, but also the Syrian Rebels (who are good) which is bad.

Now the British (obviously good, except Corbyn who is probably bad) and the Americans (also good) cannot attack Assad (still bad) for fear of upsetting Putin (bad) and Iran (good / bad) and now they have to accept that Assad might not be that bad after all compared to IS (who are super bad).

So Assad (bad) is now probably good, being better than IS (no real choice there) and since Putin and Iran are also fighting IS that may now make them good. America (still good) will find it hard to arm a group of rebels being attacked by the Russians for fear of upsetting Mr Putin (now good) and that mad ayatollah in Iran (also good) and so they may be forced to say that the Rebels are now bad, or at the very least abandon them to their fate. This will lead most of them to flee to Turkey and on to Europe or join IS (still the only constantly bad group).

To Sunni Muslims, an attack by Shia Muslims (Assad and Iran) backed by Russians will be seen as something of a Holy War, and the ranks of IS will now be seen by the Sunnis as the only Jihadis fighting in the Holy War and hence many Muslims will now see IS as good (doh!).

Sunni Muslims will also see the lack of action by Britain and America in support of their Sunni rebel brothers as something of a betrayal (might have a point) and hence we will be seen as bad.

So now we have America (now bad) and Britain (also bad) providing limited support to Sunni Rebels (bad) many of whom are looking to IS (good / bad) for support against Assad (now good) who, along with Iran (also good) and Putin (also, now, unbelievably, good) are attempting to retake the country Assad used to run before all this started?

I really hope that this clears it all up for you.

If it does, please apply for your PhD now !

18.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT (29 February – 13 March) 2016

Before you finish eating breakfast in the morning, you've depended on more than half the world." Martin Luther King.

The theme of Fairtrade Fortnight (FF) 2016 is 'Sit down for breakfast, stand up for Farmers!'

The following (slightly amended) excerpt is taken from the FF Church Action guide 2016 – "Despite working hard to grow the food we eat every day, many farmers and workers in developing countries don't earn enough to know where their next meal is coming from. Fairtrade works to change this, and where producers are able to sell enough of their produce on Fairtrade terms, it can make a life-changing difference. Fairtrade now reaches over 1.5 million farmers and workers across the globe. However, with around 795 million people undernourished globally, and many in farming communities, we still have far to go.

When people are paid a fairer price, they can have more control over their lives when times are hard, and worry less about how they will feed their families. Whether it's the extra cash in their pockets or being able to expand their farms to grow more food to eat, Fairtrade means many farmers and workers are able to fulfil a basic human need – to put enough food on the table for the people they care about, all year round.

You and your church have the power to change things. Please join others throughout the UK by taking part in the Big* Fairtrade Breakfast, before or after your services."

Please come along to the Big Fairtrade Breakfast at St Mary's church hall on Sunday APRIL 10th – the eagle eyed amongst you will notice that this is well outside Fairtrade Fortnight, but why be tied down by convention! I look forward to seeing you there to enjoy Fairtrade muesli, bananas, tea/coffee etc – and it will not be in Lent on this date either.

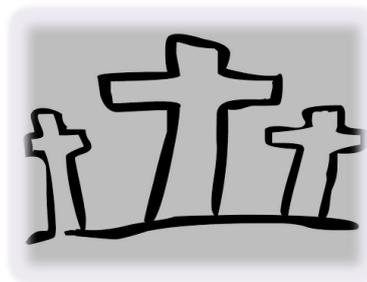
Steve Haigh

Ps Alan tells me that the choir might have the morning off.

*'Big' is not intended to be a reference to the size of the portions, but the large number of people sharing a convivial breakfast – though I have never known anyone go hungry at an event at St Mary's

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

20th – 27th March



Palm Sunday

10.30 Sung Eucharist with procession of palms and dramatised reading of the Gospel of the Passion

Monday & Tuesday

19.30 Compline

Wednesday

11.00 Eucharist (in the Church)

19.30 Compline

Maundy Thursday

18.30 Passover Supper (in the Hall)

Good Friday

14.00 Stations of the Cross

19.30 Meditation on the Cross

Holy Saturday

20.30 Vigil and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Easter Sunday

6.30 Dawn Eucharist

10.30 Family Eucharist (sung)

Diary of Events, February - March 2016

Date	Times	Venue	Event
Feb 3	11.00	Hall	Eucharist in Hall (Candlemas)
Feb 6	10.00	Hall	'Bread-Making & Blethering' day of sharing & reflection
Feb 10	11.00 / 19.30	Church	Ash Wednesday Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes
Feb 20	11.00	Hall	Eucharist
Feb 24	11.00	Hall	Dalmations – John Donaldson, Wood Carver & Sculptor
Feb 28	18.30	Church	Eucharist with Prayer for Wholeness & Healing
Mar 2	11.00	Hall	Eucharist
Mar 5	10.00	Hall / Church	Quiet Day
Mar 6	10.30	Church	Mothering Sunday
Mar 7	19.30	Hall	Vestry Meeting
Mar 9	11.00	Hall	Eucharist
Mar 12	09.30	St Paul's & St George's	Diocesan Synod
Mar 20	10.30	Church	Palm Sunday – Procession and Dramatised Reading of the Passion

Diary of Events (cont)

Date	Times	Venue	Event
Mar 21	19.30	Church	Compline
Mar 22	19.30	Church	Compline
Mar 23	11.00 19.30	Church	Eucharist / Compline
Mar 24	18.30	Hall	Passover Meal
Mar 25	14.00	Church	Good Friday – Stations of the Cross
Mar 25	19.30	Church	Meditation on the Cross
Mar 26	09.30- 11.30	Church	Spring Clean/ Church Decoration
Mar 26	20.30	Church	Vigil of Easter & Renewal of Baptismal Vows
Mar 27	06.30	Hall/Church	Easter Day – Dawn Eucharist
Mar 27	10.30	Church	Easter Family Eucharist
Mar 30	11.00	Church/ Hall	Dalmations

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WHO'S WHO (cont)

Vestry:

Treasurer	Denis King	
Rector's Warden	Alan Coupe	
People's Warden	Caroline Gunn	
Lay Representative	John Blaber	01555 663910

Other members

Geoff Angell
Richmond Davies
Carole MacBride
Gillian McLennan
Bill Scott

Altar Guild	Denis King (co-ordinator) Mavis Blackwell Val Lawrie Faye Watson
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Child Protection/ Vulnerable Adults Co-ordinator	Caroline Gunn
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Covenants Sec.	Geoff Angell
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Fabric Coordinator	Rosemary Procter
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Head Server	Denis King
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Visiting Team:

Lois May Donaldson
Janice Goodfellow
Caroline Gunn
Derek & Ella Henderson
Margaret Hunter
Margaret King
Carole MacBride
Gillian McLennan
Olive Metcalfe
Jane Russell
Bill & Margaret Scott
Claire Starr
Rosemary Procter

Hall Bookings

0131 333 1683

Stewards for each Sunday:

First Sunday	Richmond Davies
Second Sunday	Wilma Brown
Third Sunday	Val Lawrie
Fourth Sunday	Jane Russell
Fifth Sunday	Alan Coupe

If you need transport to or from church on Sunday,
please contact the steward for that Sunday.

Church Office, St Mary's Church Hall,
Dalmahoy, Kirknewton EH27 8EB

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Prayer Chain:

John & Claire
Myrtle
Rona
Janet
Margaret

In Touch Editor

Margaret Scott

Website Admin:

John Blaber webmaster@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk

Service Times

Sunday	Morning Prayer	10.00am
	Sung Eucharist	10.30am
Last Sunday of the month	Evening Prayer	6.30pm
Wednesday	Said Eucharist	11am

Monday and Friday – the church is open between 9.30 and 10am for quiet reflection and prayer.

**Copy date for the April / May
Issue is Sunday 13th March**