

St Mary's Church, Dalmahoy



In Touch

April – May 2021

Registered Charity No. SC014203

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Rosie Mann	Worship

Revd Janet Dyer Steve Haigh
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lordmorton@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk

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Cover Photograph: Christine Downey

Pastoral Letter from Christine

This week I've again seen finches, deer and rabbits all intent on creating life. Each morning, Tonka and I step outside and have to stop for just a moment to listen to the beautiful cacophony of birds in the trees. The world God gave us at creation is insisting on its supremacy!

As children of God we too are called to claim our inheritance as children of creation. We are called to renew our relationships and our commitment to each other and to God through healing and acts of reconciliation. We are called to continue to discern what God is calling the Church to be. Over the next months we will engage prayerfully in actively listening to what God is calling us to.



Our journey through Holy Week takes us from the triumphant entrance into Jerusalem to the unimaginable grief of the cross and then on to the glorious wonder of God's promise fulfilled in the Risen Christ.

St. Mary's is changing our world, come and join us, via Zoom or our YouTube channel and when we finally can in person, come, renew your relationship with God's mission and lend your talent, treasure or time to make a difference. We are the hope that God has promised the world. We are the messengers of God's love. We can be what God created us to be.

St. Mary's Dalmahoy is more than the sum of its parts because we are part of God's plan.

Blessings in this Season of Renewal
Christine+



From the Registers (April – May 2021)

No Baptism

No Weddings

No Funerals

Douglas Hall Classes & Events

At the moment the regular classes below are not running and the hall is closed. We will update you once the hall has reopened.

Monday's	10am-12pm	Craft Group
	7:45-8:45pm	Dance Class
Wednesday's	6-7:30pm	Taekwondo
	7:30-9pm	Yoga
Thursday's	1-2:30pm	Yoga
Friday's	9-12pm	Dance Class
2 nd & 4 th Sundays	2-7pm	Mar Thoma Congregation
<i>Sunday's</i>	<i>8-9:30pm</i>	<i>Yoga</i>

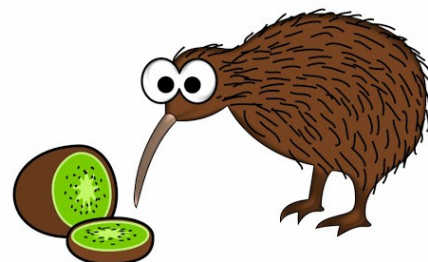


More information and **up-to-date** details
can be found on our website
www.stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk

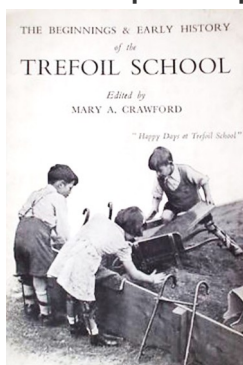
Tributes to Blackie

By Christine Collingwood

Born in Napier New Zealand in 1925, Blackie had a love of the outdoors and of the country, spending time on her grandparents' farm. In 1931, during break time at school, she would experience a tragedy that devastated Napier: the earthquake, which led to rebuilding the town in art-deco style.



She loved new adventures and as a young woman when there was an opportunity to travel to the UK by ship, she jumped at it. On arrival she initially worked in Stroud before travelling to Edinburgh to take up the position of Housemother at the Trefoil Residential



School for Physically Handicapped Children (started by the Edinburgh Girl Guide movement in 1939). Blackie adopted Scotland as her home and when the school closed in 1976 she stayed on as Caretaker and then became the first Warden of the Trefoil Holiday and Adventure Centre for the Handicapped, which the re-fashioned school became, in 1978.

Throughout her time at Trefoil she always focused on an individual's abilities, not their disabilities. Totally practical she would adapt anything which would allow children to be more independent. We have been told that Blackie epitomised the Trefoil School Motto - 'Undaunted'.

It was said that if there had been such a thing as a job description when Blackie first came to Trefoil, it should have read Mechanic, Blacksmith, Cook, Joiner, Accountant, Electrician and above all, **Carer**; for Blackie was all of these. It came as no surprise that she chose a Black and Decker workmate bench for her retirement present! I



n retirement she has enjoyed being in touch with former staff and pupils. Reunions have been very special occasions, of which two have been at St Mary's.

During his time at Theological College (1989-1994) Deryck got to know Blackie through his colleague Avril Low (whose reaffirmation took place at St Mary's in 2004).



Sadly, Avril died suddenly in the Christmas of 2004 and shortly after Blackie offered to have our dog Pepe if we needed any help when going away, and at the same time enquired about joining St Mary's as Deryck was Rector at the time. And so began Blackie's life at St. Mary's.

Blackie has been remarkable, constant in her faith and committed to helping anyone at every opportunity. She was modest, undemanding, totally dependable, always put others before herself and respected confidentiality.

She loved to travel and the trips to Lindisfarne, Cumbrae and the Holy Land meant a great deal to her.

Blackie was known as the quickest of volunteers at St Mary's, no job was too big or too small. Being a welcomer and in later years a sacristan she would describe how significant these roles were and what they meant to her.

Dogs were a huge part of Blackie's life, she owned several through her lifetime. If there was no blanket on the settee there were no dogs there, 'house rules', but immediately the blanket was on up they went! She loved the Scruffs Dog Shows and the animal blessing services. She was always thrilled to see who would turn up and what animals would appear.



The Easter garden was a place dear to Blackie's heart and she could be found hosing the plants. She had such green fingers and any plant she touched thrived. She enjoyed art and needlework and her knitting was prolific. The Seaman's Mission will miss her woollen hats, of which she knitted hundreds, and how they loved them to be colourful.



We joked about her longevity being due to being raised on Manuka honey; there is some truth in it I feel sure. Her death on 8th March was still a great shock although her health had deteriorated this year. I think we all believed Blackie would always be there. She will be missed by so many and we particularly think of her family and dear friends in New Zealand.



Blackie – by Claire Starr

I remember first meeting Blackie when she faithfully bought her friend, Avril to church not long after Deryck arrived. Blackie would drop Avril off, but then sit and wait, or go for a walk before taking her home again.

She then began to come to the service and has been a stalwart member every since. Blackie could always be relied upon to be there, to help with whatever was needed, putting out tables and chairs, preparing the elements ready for the service, arms deep in suds washing up, gardening and giving lifts to anyone unable to get themselves here.



A typical Blackie was the time she drove Myrtle Burnett to church, got out to help her friend, but fell in the way. She hurt her arm, but just got on, helping Myrtle into church. Then, because Christine Collingwood had broken (I think) her ankle, Blackie drive across the road to pick her up. Christine came out of the Rectory to find Blackie slumped against the steering wheel. However, there was no way to stop her driving back across the road, Blackie steering and Christine changing the gears! Christine came in and asked if someone would help Blackie. Someone took Blackie to hospital and they returned during coffee, with her in a sling, she had broken her arm (might have been her shoulder, I can't quite remember!).



It was when she was in her early 80's, when Avril was still alive, that Blackie drove Avril to the RDA stables at Ravelrig and they both volunteered, along with me, first thing on a Thursday morning to muck out the horses. Blackie continued for several years until she felt the mornings too much for her. She was so good with the horses, just calm and steady, as always. She told me about learning to ride in New

Zealand when she was a child and was simply put on the back of a large farm horse and set off.

She said about the earthquake that happened in her hometown, how all the animals had gone up to the hills beforehand and that she was in school, thankfully, at break time, so outside the building. Apparently, everyone went to high ground as the sea was sucked way out beyond view and they expected a huge tsunami. However, the tsunami never came, and they built garden where the sea used to be, near the lighthouse!

Blackie bravely travelled by boat when she was, either in her late teens, early twenties, all the way here to the UK and she worked at the Trefoil centre, alongside young people with multiple and profound learning challenges.

Blackie was someone who quietly and assumedly just helped however and wherever she could, she never looked for any thanks, recognition or to her own needs.

I know we will all miss her, and she leaves a huge hole in the life of St Mary's.

A Tribute to the Unforgettable Blackie

By John O'Connor

Our dear friend Blackie we will miss you so very very much

To all of us you were a corner stone of the church

We often saw you busy, tidying up the garden and lawn

***We will continue to tidy up the garden in your memory now
that you are gone***

***You have gone to your reward in heaven which is really well
deserved***

Safe in the arms of Jesus you so lovingly served



In Gratitude

In gratitude for:

This moment,

This place,

These people,

We give ourselves to you.

*Take us out to live as changed people, because we have been
touched by the living Lord*

& cannot remain the same.

Ask much from us,

Expect much from us,

Enable much by us,

Encourage many through us.

*So Lord, may we live to your Glory, both as inhabitants of earth and
citizens of Heaven.*

Amen.



Photo: Gibson Graveyard Heriot Watt

by Alan Coupe

Bishop's Lent Appeal 2021

Like so much else, our Lent Appeal this year must take account of the pandemic.

Many congregations are responding generously to local need, such as foodbanks and support services for the lonely and the anxious and I hope this will continue into Lent and beyond. My concern is that this focus on the local and personal, on simply getting through the crisis, takes our attention away from pressing needs in other parts of the world, where there is no NHS, no benefits safety-net and where life is constrained by poverty. Hence my proposal that this year we support a single, outward-looking cause.

The Together in Unity Appeal was set up by the Archbishop of Canterbury to support virus prevention and emergency relief for vulnerable communities across the Anglican Communion. At a time when the UK government has, disappointingly, decided to cut international aid this provides an opportunity for us to reach out in solidarity to our sisters and brothers, our neighbours in this small world, whom Jesus calls us to love as we love ourselves.

I know there is less money around this year but I would ask you to be generous. Perhaps we might see our giving as an expression of gratitude for the blessings that we so easily take for granted.

+John

If you would like to donate to this year's appeal, please make a payment to the church account:

Sort Code: 80-12-71

Account: 00810306

Name: St Mary's Church Dalmahoy

Reference: Bishop's Lent Appeal

or post a cheque payable to

St Mary's Church Dalmahoy to: Gavin Craig

35 Hillend View

Winchburgh

Broxburn EH52 6WB.

Eucharist Readings:

Year A Eucharist	(Year A2 for Morning Prayer)	First Reading
4 April	Easter Day Early: Principal Evening	Isaiah 25:6-9
11 April	Second Sunday of Easter	Acts 4:32-35
18 April	Third Sunday of Easter	Acts 3:12-19
25 April	Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 4:5-12
2 May	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Acts 8:26-40
9 May	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Acts 10:44-48
16 May	Seventh Sunday of Easter	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
23 May	Day of Pentecost Whitsunday	Acts 2:1-21
30 May	First Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity Sunday	Isaiah 6:1-8
6 June	Second Sunday after Pentecost Proper 5	1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15)
13 June	Third Sunday after Pentecost Proper 6	1 Samuel 15:34-16:13
20 June	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Proper 7	1 Samuel 17: (1a, 4-11, 19- 23), 32-49

April – June 2021

Second Reading	Gospel
1 Corinthians 15:1-11	John 20:1-18
1 John 1:1-2:2	John 20:19-31
1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24:36b-48
1 John 3:16-24	John 10:11-18
1 John 4:7-21	John 15:1-8
1 John 5:1-6	John 15:9-17
1 John 5:9-13	John 17:6-19
Romans 8:22-27	John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
Romans 8:12-17	John 3:1-17
Genesis 3:8-15	Psalms 130
2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17	Mark 4:26-34
2 Corinthians 6:1-13	Mark 4:35-41

Organist's Corner

by Alan John Phillips

Light at the end of the tunnel



As I write this, I have been told that Easter services will indeed be held this year. A real blessing after the sadness of last year when Easter was stolen from us, and we just managed to grab

one Christmas service in church with no congregation, but with all the glorious Willcocks arrangements on the organ, before commencing a long fast from worship of 99 days.

Jesus saith unto Mary, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou hast borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.



(An early example of social distancing, depicted by Titian ca.1514)

Carole's Challenge

During the month of January, I undertook the challenge to raise money for Maggie's Centres.

I had signed up during December, knowing that we were all expected to have our activities restricted again after Christmas and the New Year. Laziness would probably have won otherwise.

Everyone who participated was expected to raise a minimum of £150 through the donations of friends and family.

A total in excess of £600 was accumulated due to my efforts.

I don't run, have never run and have no plans to attempt to run at this later stage in my life but I can walk and that is what I did.

I actually completed my 50 miles by January 17th and so I set myself a new challenge to complete 100 miles by the end of the month. I managed just over 100 miles with a day in hand.

I am so glad that it wasn't February that the challenge was set. The snowy and icy weather during the first fortnight in February would have made it much more difficult to achieve safely.

Having said that I am not a runner, I'm not much of a walker either but I actually enjoyed the time that I spent walking during January. I found that I could just let my mind drift.

I do need the impetus of doing something that helps others. I am not so good at just doing things for my own benefit.

Thank you to those of you who donated.

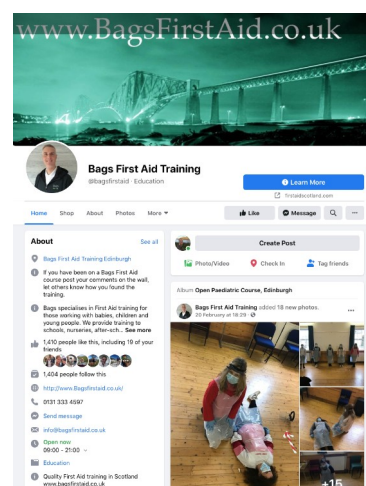
I have not had personal experience of the services which the Maggie's Centres offer but I know of many people who have benefited and their gratitude for the advice and support that is available.



Bags First Aid at St Mary's

At the start of the coronavirus pandemic everything stopped. My work as a First Aid trainer stopped as did most other businesses. We locked down for what at the time we thought would be a few weeks. But soon it became clear the pandemic would not be over quickly and some work simply could not stop.

In fact what was clear is we are very interdependent. The doctors and nurses needed to continue, but that meant they needed childcare and transport. So childminders stayed open as did nurseries in a limited way. Of course the shops selling essential goods remained open and behind the scenes the whole infrastructure which puts food on our plates continued. Farms, factories, distribution warehouses, delivery drivers, cleaners.... They all had to keep working. And so it became clear that First Aid training should continue for those who were working.



Now I have been involved with First Aid for over 30 years, and teaching it for over 20 years, but here was something completely new. The need to train safely when a potentially deadly infection was running amok through society.

After seeking advice and guidance from WHO (World Health Organisation), ERS (European Resuscitation Council), HSE (Health and Safety Executive) and NHS Scotland a strategy for safe delivery of First Aid training was put in place.

Space was required. Space to socially distance a class. So first numbers were reduced, but it still required a large room. Whilst some workplaces had the space to accommodate the training, many didn't. I put out a request for help. Christine contacted me through the Ratho community Facebook page and offered use of the Hall (for the normal fee) to host First Aid courses.

The hall was ideal with it's large space, high ceiling, toilet facilities, car parking and even handy bus stop just outside. To minimise any chance of infection we would not use the kitchen and instead participants would bring all food and drink they needed for the day.

The courses have in the main been Paediatric First Aid for childcare workers. Mostly childminders but also nursery staff and a nanny. The classes are limited to 6 participants and they each have their



own 'baby manikin' to work with during the training. Topics covered include an unconscious casualty, bleeding, burns, choking and CPR.

Because of the pandemic I have also included practise in the use of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and looked at how First Aid procedures can be adapted to reduce risk of coronavirus infection.

It has not been without its challenges, a lot of the fun factor in practising on each other has had to be removed and gearing up in mask, visor, gloves and apron can be a daunting experience.

Feedback from the courses has been over whelmingly positive. Participants felt safe and were able to gain a set of potentially life saving skills. Demand for training remains high as nurseries reopen and the smaller class size limits numbers on each course.

Courses are advertised on <https://www.facebook.com/bagsfirstaid> and then www.bagsfirstaid.co.uk.

I would like to thank the congregation for use of the hall during these difficult times. I hope to continue using the venue when coronavirus no longer poses a threat.

Philip Bagnall www.bagsfirstaid.co.uk

Lost For Words

Throughout the pandemic, one hears so often of those who have quite suddenly lost a loved one, without even being present, to hold their hand, one just has no words.

It may be a seemingly strong father, or a caring mother who leave grieving children, maybe someone we know, a doctor or bright young nurse tending the sick, or the virus takes several in a care home. It seems so unfair.



While we are thankful that the vaccine is saving lives, the deep and painful scars of grief and anger and agony remain amongst so many. Being lost for words and feeling empty, is uncomfortable, but not a bad thing.

For that is when stories of great care and kindness in the face of tragedy speak to the heart, or a comment or a poem or just a short sentence of a psalm or whatever, becomes meaningful.



This Easter sonnet speaks movingly and profoundly to the present, of God's eternal word to us when like the grieving Mary in the garden we are lost for words. I pass it to you.

Sonnet XV EASTER DAWN by Malcolm Guite

He blesses every love that weeps and grieves
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept
And could not be consoled, or leave her love's
Last touching place, but watched as low light crept
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs
A scatter of bright birdsong through the air.
She turns, but cannot focus through the tears,
Or recognise the Gardener standing there.
She hardly hears his gentle question, "Why,
Are you weeping?", or sees the gentle play of light
That brightens as she chokes out her reply,
"They took my love away, my day is night"
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say
The word that turns her night, and ours, to Day.



Muriel's Applesauce Cake



400grams sifted all purpose flour
1 tsp baking soda
1 tsp cinnamon
½ tsp each, salt, ground cloves & nutmeg
100grams shortening
200grams sugar
2 eggs
200grams thick unsweetened applesauce
150grams raisins or dates
100grams pecans or walnuts

Sift together flour baking soda, cinnamon, salt, cloves and nutmeg; set aside

Combine shortening, sugar & eggs. Beat a med 1 1/2 mins. Add applesauce and flour mixture; beat at medium-low 1 1/2 mins. Stir in raisins and nuts. Bake at 350F 50-55 minutes



Diary of Events: April – May 2021

Date	Times	Venue	Event
<p>DUE TO CURRENT GUIDELINES ISSUED BUY THE BISHOP GROUPS AND SOCIAL EVENTS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED.</p> <p>WE WILL KEEP YOU ALL UPDATED WITH ANY CHANGES</p>			



Where to Find St. Mary's



FaceBook:

Search:

St. Mary's, Dalmahoy

Follow Below Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/St.Marys.Dalmahoy>



YouTube

YouTube:

Search:

St. Marys Dalmahoy

Follow Below Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUsCU8vdPLYXXpk0yI4GQjw>

Easy & Fast way to make Donations to St Mary's: Use QR code below



Scan. Pay. Go.

You need to have a QR barcode reader app installed on your smartphone to use the QR code.

Humour

How did the bullet lose its job?

It got fired.

Why should you never trust stairs?

They are always up to something.

Sometimes I tuck my knees into my chest and lean forward.

That's just how I roll.

Did you hear about the cheese factory that exploded in France?

There was nothing left but de Brie.

What do you get from a pampered cow?

Spoiled milk.

What's the difference between a poorly dressed man on a unicycle and a well-dressed man on a bicycle?

Attire

Two goldfish are in a tank.

One looks at the other and says, "You know how to drive this thing?!"

I couldn't figure out why the baseball kept getting bigger.

Then it hit me.

Is this pool safe for diving?

It deep ends.

Why don't ants ever get sick?

Because they have little anty bodies.

What did one toilet say to the other?

You look flushed



Children's Page –



Who's Who (continued from Page 2)

Vestry 2019/2020

Secretary	Denis King	01506 873061 secretary@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk
Treasurer	Gavin Craig	01506 891538 treasurer@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk
Rector's Warden	Wilma Brown	warden@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk
People's Warden	Carole MacBride	07909 582760
Lay Representative	Jonathan Gibbs	layrep@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk
Alt. Lay Representative	Ann Donoghue	
	Margaret Chill	01506 880244
	Jonathan Gibbs	07710 170127
	Ella Henderson	0131 449 2262
	Margaret King	01506 442549

Altar Guild

Co-ordinator	Denis King	01506 873061
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Child Protection & Vulnerable Adults Co-ordinator

Caroline Gunn	0131 443 4059 protection@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk
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Gift Aid Secretary

Geoff Angell	0131 315 2639
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Fabric Co-ordinator

Vacant

Head Server

Denis King	01506 873061
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Hall Bookings

Pippa Crichton	0131 333 1683 admin@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk
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Visitors

Lois May Donaldson	0131 449 4279
Janice Goodfellow	01506 495082
Irina Grigolava	07796 305789
Margaret Hunter	01506 410761
Denis King	01506 873061
Margaret King	01506 442549
Carole MacBride	07909 582760
Jane Russell	0131 441 2346

Prayer Chain

Ann Donoghue	John O'Connor
Revd Janet Dyer	Mandy Smart

Should you wish to add someone, or a situation, to our prayers, please email or telephone (see 'Rector's Warden' on page 2 for contact details).

Sunday Stewards

First Sunday	Richmond Davies	07968 582543
Second Sunday	Wilma Brown	01506 440292
Third Sunday	Irina Grigolava	07796 305789
Fourth Sunday	Jane Russell	0131 441 2346
Fifth Sunday		

Transport

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

Postal Address

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

'In Touch' Editor

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& Christine Downey

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webmaster@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk

Organist Emeritus

John Blaber

emeritus@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk

Service Times

Sunday	Morning Prayer (Said)	10:00 am
	Sung Eucharist	10:30 am
Wednesday	Said Eucharist	11:00 am

Church Open Times

Monday, Wednesday & Friday – 10:00 am to 12 noon for quiet reflection and prayer.

Saturdays – 10:00 am to 3:00 pm from beginning of May to the end of September except during Wedding ceremonies.

**Deadline for articles for the June - July issue
is 3:00 pm on Sunday 16th May 2021**

If possible, please submit articles using the following formats:

Paper size: A4; Portrait; 2 cm margins.

Photographs: JPG format (Separately & Hi-Res if poss.)

Main Headings: Arial Font, 22 point, Purple.

Subheadings: Arial Font, 16 point, Bold.

Body Text: Arial Font, 16 point, Normal.

This is so that the text is readable when reduced to an A5 booklet

**Please submit articles to:
intouch@stmarysdalmahoy.org.uk**

For your Information



Because we at St. Mary's consider ourselves family in many ways, I think it's a good idea for us to make sure we are taking care of each other well and that means a mini review of the "new" information rules that are perhaps different from how we have been used to relaying information in the past.

As always, we want to be sure we are both protecting privacy and providing for appropriate pastoral care for members and their families.

How we relay information about our friends may be confusing at first but in the end will provide real and gentle care in this digital age:

- If you know of someone who is sick and have been in contact with them, please ask if they would like Christine to contact them and make sure to get their consent before putting them on either of our prayer lists.
- If you have picture of congregation members at an event and would like them posted either to Face Book or in In Touch, please be sure to receive their consent or have them contact Christine or Pippa before publishing. At every event we will make sure you can to opt out of photos or videos, so no one need feel they have no choice. (please let Christine or the organiser know on the day).
- Remember that if you don't want your face to show up in Zoom services you may simply opt to leave your camera off.
- If a congregation member has died please be aware that any photos or videos of them, even if you are in the photo and they had consented at the time, those photos may not be used publicly unless we receive consent from their estate.

Please feel free to contact Christine if you have any questions or concerns. The digital age means our identities can be compromised sometimes quite easily and we at St. Mary's will take every care that our congregation feels safe.

We will continue to learn and to adapt, God Bless!