

The Connect

The Weekly Newsletter for the congregation and friends
of St Leonard's Lasswade & St Mary's Dalkeith



Delight yourself
in the Lord,
and He will give you
the desires of your heart.

Psalm 37:4

On Mothering Sunday

Sunday 14th March 2021

The Fourth Sunday of Lent



A Rectors Mum

Mothering Sunday is celebrated in churches on the fourth Sunday in Lent and traditionally it is a day when we remember and thank God for the love of our mothers, and the care of God whom like a mother bird gathers us under the wings of love.

There is a small but distinct difference between Mothering Sunday, and 'Mother's Day', which is a celebration of Mothers that was instigated in 1914 in the USA as a holiday on the second Sunday in May, as a result of a campaign by Anna Jarvis to recognise the important role of mothers in society following the death of her own mother. Initially the wearing of a white carnation and a proclamation from the House of Representatives honoured mothers. The commercialisation of Mother's Day and consequently Mothering Sunday rapidly grew, though Anna Jarvis is known to have taken a stand against this.

Mothering Sunday as we know it today in the UK, and across the Anglican Communion, traces its roots back to the pre-reformation practice of Laetare Sunday. Once a year, on Laetare Sunday, worshippers would return to their home or 'mother' church or cathedral. In Latin, the first words of the prayer for this Sunday were 'Laetare, O Jerusalem' ('Rejoice, O Jerusalem') taken from Isaiah 66.10, and the prayer spoke of the love for Jerusalem – the original 'mother church'.

Constance Smith, who was inspired by Anna Jarvis, campaigned for a revival of Mothering Sunday observance in Lent, writing a booklet 'The Revival of Mothering Sunday' in 1920. This was so influential and widely read that by 1938 it was said that every parish in the UK celebrated Mothering Sunday.

In the days before lockdown it would have been our practice to hand out a posies of flowers to those who mother and care for us in church. We are also aware and pray for those for whom Mothering Sunday is a painful time whether due to the loss of a Mother, or of a broken or uncaring relationship. We also pray for those who are childless yet long to be mothers, and those grieving for the loss of a child at any stage of life. Our prayers also go to those who are looking forward to becoming parents or grandparents in the coming months and for those struggling to cope with the demands of a new born and the changes that come from caring for another.

Just as we have a story to tell of God's love and care we all have a story to share of our own Mothers and those who have cared for us over the years. I have many memories to treasure of my own Mother and Grandmothers care for me and our family. My Mum Gina, was actively involved in our Mother Church, Hurlford Kirk CofS. In fact you may not be surprised to hear that as a bump I was already attending church before I was born. She was involved in Sunday School for a time and helped run the Parents and Toddlers club at the church where I attended along with my big brother Andrew and younger sister Tina. Living in Ayrshire we had many fun times as a family, outings to Troon or Brassie beach or along to Largs for an ice cream and paddle in the sea. My Grandparents had a Caravan which was often based at Sandhead for the summer holidays. At other times we would meet up with my Aunt and Uncle and my cousins at Butlins or Pontins camps. Mum was always there caring for us looking out for us and fretting that every time we went on holiday at least one of us would end up in hospital and it would usually be me! It's a running joke in my family that my favourite holiday past time as a child was to visit the local hospital. Thankfully that tradition has not been passed down to my own children.

Today I long to give my Mum a cuddle and just to sit and hold her hand but until the travel ban is lifted that will have to wait. So I give thanks for her love and care from afar and thank God for my mother and all who mother us. Its been a tough year but thankfully Zoom has kept us in touch with family and I pray that in the coming months all of us will know again the joy of meeting up with our wider family members and continue to share our love.

With love from Peter

Condolences

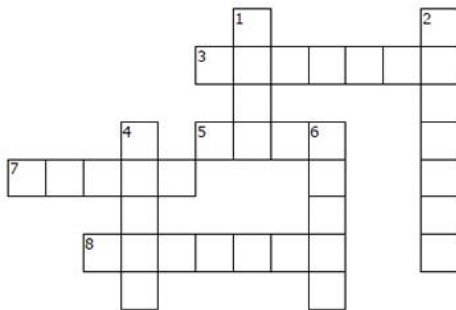
We give thanks this week for the life of June Luck.

June is the mother of Vicki Clark and her brother Richard and sister Tracy.

We pray for the family and friends of June and rejoice that although we grieve her death she was a child of God and is now at peace.

June worshipped with us at St Leonard's for a time and even attended Spring Harvest with us, where she enjoyed the lively worship with Betty Tinley and her church friends.

Gospel Puzzle Time



ACROSS

3. An event that cannot be explained by the laws of nature
5. Of the highest quality; One that surpasses all others
7. Low in cost; of poor quality; inferior
8. One who is employed to perform services for someone else

DOWN

1. A beverage made of the fermented juice of grapes
2. A ceremony joining a man and woman as husband and wife
4. A clear, colorless, odorless, and tasteless liquid, H₂O
6. To eat or drink a small amount

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

| | | | | |
|-------|---------|--------|----------|-------|
| JARS | WEDDING | FILLED | MASTER | SAVED |
| LAST | SIGNS | FAITH | BEST | CANA |
| GLORY | WINE | TASTED | SERVANTS | WATER |

Izzy's News



What an amazing transformation is taking place all around us as the Spring season takes hold. Only a few weeks ago I was moaning about there being even more snow.



Back then I was thinking that I needed to learn how to ice skate as I spent more time sliding rather than walking. I remember a few of you also had falls in the snow and ice and so I hope you are all recovering from your bumps and bruises. Now its all change and the days are a little warmer and longer. Colour has burst onto the scene in a variety of spring flowers and on every walk there is a freshness in the air (usually wild garlic) and a sense of hope for the months ahead.



I have included some pictures of my favourite spring flowers. Some are in abundance while others are only just appearing. I wonder if you can name them all? I also hope that when you go out for your walks you may also spot these beautiful but tender flowers and marvel in the new birth as winter turns to spring.



Dad's says I have to remind you all to pot up some spring flowers for our Easter Garden. The Tomb will hopefully be in place at each church over the next few weeks. So do visit the church gardens and look out for our Easter Tomb and Garden as we journey towards Easter and our time of new life and celebration of God's amazing love.



With love and licks from Izzy





Weekly Worship Online

Sunday @ 10am with Eucharist Celebration

Wednesday @ 10am Informal Worship

Join us on ZOOM for Worship and Fellowship

ZOOM Meeting ID: 656 157 5203 at 10am

Or watch our Facebook group at

"St Mary's and St Leonard's Church Family" Or phone in



Telephone Worship Service

join in with your church family by dialling into worship

(0131) 460 1196

Aware that some people in our congregations do not have access to a smart phone or computer, or are not comfortable using Facebook or Zoom we have decided to try a Dial in Service. By dialling a **local rate number** you will be able to listen to the weekly worship services both on a Sunday and a Wednesday and be able to speak and contribute to a time of fellowship with other church members after the service. We invite you to give it a try:

Step 1: At 9.55am just before the Worship Starts dial **460 1196**

Step 2: You will be asked for a Meeting ID

type in **656 157 5203**

Step 3: then press the # key

Step 4: There is no additional Password

so press the # key again

you will then be connected to the Service

*Please note that depending on your Phone Contract
you may be charged for using this service at a local rate call.*

Sunday 14th March Fourth Sunday of Lent

Welcome *Elizabeth*

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Hymn **THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD** never ceases,
His mercies never come to an end;
They are new every morning,
New every morning,
Great is Thy faithfulness, O Lord,
Great is Thy faithfulness.

Prayer of Confession - *Elizabeth / Peter*

As we draw near to God and seek his mercy and grace
we confess our sins with penitence and with faith

**Father we acknowledge that we have not loved
as you would have us love.**

**We turn to you again and ask for your mercy,
forgive us and renew us through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

God, who is both power and love
Forgive us and free us from our sins
Heal and strengthen us by his Spirit
And raise us to new life in Christ our Lord **Amen**

Collect We pray together

**Almighty God, you hate nothing that you have made, and
forgive the sins of all who are penitent: create in us a clean and
contrite heart; that, in lamenting our sinfulness, we may
receive from you, forgiveness and perfect peace; through Jesus
Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of
the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. .**

Gospel Reading **John 2:1-12** - *read by Martin*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to John
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.

When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, 'They have no more wine.' 'Woman, why do you involve me?' Jesus replied. 'My hour has not yet come.'

His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from eighty to a hundred and twenty litres. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water'; so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, 'Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.'

They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realise where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said, 'Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.'

What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him. After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother and brothers and his disciples. There they stayed for a few days..

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sermon - Jacqui

Hymn **I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY,**
I have heard My people cry;
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
I will speak My word to them.
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, If You lead me;
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain;
I have wept for love of them –
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone;
I will speak My word to them.
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them –
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts are satisfied;
I will give My life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Prayers for Today *Led by Val*

The Peace - *Elizabeth*

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Eucharistic Prayer III - Peter

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, maker of light and darkness.
Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos,
brings a harvest out of sorrow and leads the exiles home.

In Christ your Son enemies are reconciled,
debts forgiven and strangers made welcome.
Your spirit frees us to live as daughters and sons in our Father's house.

We, who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross,
sharing the joy of his obedience, now offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory.

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father,
for Christ in whom the world is reconciled.
Lifted on the cross, his suffering and forgiveness
spanned the gulf our sins had made.
Through the dark struggle death was swallowed up in victory
that life and light might reign.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
recalling the night of Israel's release,
the night in which the sons of Egypt died,
your Chosen One, himself the Firstborn, freely offering his life.

At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:
'Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.'

After supper he took the cup,
he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:
'Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

**We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages, world without end. Amen.**

The living bread is broken for the life of the world
Lord, unite us in this sign.

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us, we are bold to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come;
thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Communion

Your are invited to say this prayer as the Priest takes communion on your behalf

*God of mercy, we thank you for Jesus our Saviour,
Though we cannot consume the gifts of bread and wine this day,
May we know the presence of Holy Spirits kindling in us the fire of love,
the forgiveness of sins, and life eternal. Amen*

Prayer after Communion

**Faithful God, increase our faith, hope and love.
Lead us in the path of Christ who is your Word of life.
We ask in his name. Amen**

Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son
and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Hymn

THERE IS A REDEEMER, Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

*Thank You, O my Father,
for giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit
till the work on earth is done.*

Jesus my Redeemer, Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain.

When I stand in glory, I will see His face,
And there I'll serve my King forever in that holy place.

Dismissal *Peter*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ Amen



Help Raise Funds for St Leonard's join the Kiltwalk

Team "Rise and Shine" wants YOU to join us in walking, having some fun, and raising a few pounds towards our building fund! Don some tartan and bring your furry friend(s) as we go as far as we can go (1 mile, 5K, 10K, or "infinity and beyond!" whatever works for you).

The team's designated charity is St. Leonard's, Lasswade, and the team "leader" is Sashabelle. The team will walk in the King George V Park in Bonnyrigg and wave at St. Leonard's as we loop past at the top of the hill!

Kiltwalk 2021 is a opportunity to raise funds for charity while walking with friends or by yourself (staying within whatever restrictions are in place at the time!). In years past this has been a large group event over a set course, but this year individuals and teams have the flexibility to set their own course and agenda. Individual walkers sign up online (note there is a registration fee) and set individual distance and fundraising goals. Kiltwalkers may designate any Scottish charity. Funds raised by Kiltwalking will be matched at 50% by the Hunter Foundation, so if you get £100 through sponsorship, your charity will receive £150. So it is a great opportunity for us.

Sashabelle sincerely hopes you will join team Rise and Shine, and sponsor our team, or let her know how to cheer you on as an individual Kiltwalker!

Questions?

Contact Sashabelle's spokesperson (Sandiann Devaney) at sandiann.devaney@yahoo.com or 0785 1903151.

The Kiltwalk website is thekiltwalk.co.uk which has lots of good information and a "Register Now" button. So go on walk and raise funds with friends.



Hello everyone,

So, with us now in the middle of March, I really need to share the Eco Scotland theme for this month with you, however once announced you will understand why I have held back. The topic for this month is Coasts and Seas, and with current restrictions for travelling in place, we are unable to even cross over county boundaries to visit the beaches, never mind offering to support a 'beach clear up' as the resource suggest.

However, I do know that friends who live near the coast are involved in keeping their local stretches of beach clear of debris even during lockdown, so as part of a global initiative to improve our world, action is being carried out by other local communities on the coastlines as we continue to look at ways to be effective in our local community. Dates and time of our next litter pick will be advertised soon.

I was wondering what can we do relating to this months theme when the children's hymn, "Jesus bids us shine" dating back to 1864 came into my head:

Jesus bids us shine with a clear, pure light,
Like a little candle burning in the night;
In this world of darkness, we must shine,
You in your small corner, and I in mine.

Jesus bids us shine, first of all for Him;
Well He sees and knows it if our light is dim;
He looks down from heaven, sees us shine,
You in your small corner, and I in mine.

Jesus bids us shine, then, for all around
Many kinds of darkness in this world abound:
Sin, and want, and sorrow, so we must shine,
You in your small corner, and I in mine.

Jesus bids us shine, as we work for Him,
Bringing those that wander from the paths of sin;
He will ever help us, if we shine,
You in your small corner, and I in mine.

Draw strength from knowing Jesus' love for you and shine with good deeds of love knowing that we are part of a global revival for God's love and around our planet.

A Prayer written by Rev Jenny Adams of Eco-Congregation Scotland.

For all working in the marine environment, for the protection of the marine environment by all people and by politicians, for all communities and nations affected by increasing sea levels due to climate change. Jesus, you walked on the shore of Lake Galilee, at a threshold of land and water. You loved those who worked at that threshold, calling them to come, forgiving them their mistakes, and sending them to share your love.



Lent and Easter Activities

With the arrival of spring and looking forward to Easter we are inviting you to be part of our Lent and Easter Activities.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

“The Way of the Cross” is now in place at both church gardens providing all of us with the space and opportunity to take time as we journey towards Easter to remember the astonishing passion and love of Jesus facing humiliation and death for us. Do find time to come along and contemplate anew how much God loves you. Please also feel free to invite and share this activity with friends and family.

EASTER GARDEN

As we move closer to the great celebration of Easter a Tomb and Easter Garden will be erected in the church grounds and we need your help.

Although to begin with the Tomb will look stark and lifeless we hope by Easter Sunday it will be decorated with flowers of thanksgiving and celebration.

Turning the grave into signs of hope and new life!

We invite you to donate spring flowers in pots to be placed around the tomb or to come along with bunches of flowers to lay at the garden.

We also invite you to write simple words of encouragement on stones, or for the more creative to decorate stones with words or symbols of Christian faith, dove, cross etc. These will then be placed around the garden to inspire and encourage those who come and see and ponder the wonder of Easter.

Do let us know if you can help—we want to encourage everyone to be involved in making Easter 2021 a great celebration.



stones

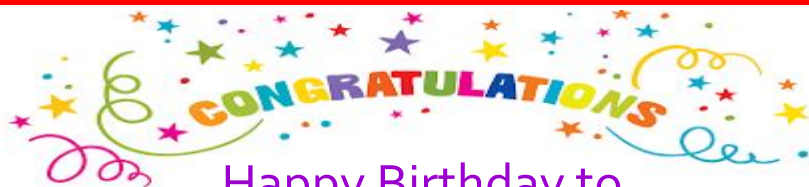


Paschal Candle 2021

Paschal Candle Motif Competition for Easter 2021.

Our Paschal Candle has been lit throughout the last year to remind us of Christ's eternal presence with us. We invite you to design a motif for this years competition and ask that you submit your entries to the Church Office by Palm Sunday 28th March.

Thank You



Happy Birthday to
Fiona Tebbutt, James Tebbutt
Mary (Steve) Scola

1st Peter 1 verse 3

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In his great mercy he has given us new birth
into a **living hope** through Jesus Christ.*

**St Mary's
Dalkeith**



**St Leonard's
Lasswade**

stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

stleonardslasswade.org.uk

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Do call or email if you need help