

*St Leonard's & St Mary's*

# Connect

*Your weekly newsletter keeping us connected  
as a church family and community*

*Sunday October 4th*



# ~~RE-OPENING PLANS~~

The best-laid schemes of mice and men go oft awry ...

*We are all no doubt aware of the new wave of COVID19 cases at this time, reminding us that we are still in the midst of the pandemic. This rise in COVID cases across Scotland although not completely unexpected has sadly forced us to reconsider the wisdom of reopening our churches at this time.*

*Therefore the decision has been made to postpone our return to in-person meetings within our church buildings. We will of course continue with our online worship both on Sunday and Wednesday mornings. It is planned however that with our new tech and camera we will be able to at least broadcast some of the service from within the church buildings. So please do continue to tune in to our worship online if you can.*

*As well as our "On-line Coffee at Mary's" look out for some additional on-line activities we hope to bring you. These will include a Zoom Reflections Group and Scottish History Group and possibilities of an online House group or study course. We are also planning to hold an online Memorial Service to remember and give thanks for our loved ones that we love yet see no longer.*

*If you are reading this and currently do not have the technology to go online or the confidence to do so please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. We would love to find new ways to connect with you but with the tightening of COVID restrictions are struggling to know what best to do. So please do get in touch if there are any items of need or concerns you would like to share. Our Pastoral Callers will still be giving calls to those whom we know are isolated at this time. If you would like a Pastoral Call please do let us know as we are here to help you throughout the monotony of this time.*

*yours with love and prayer  
Peter*

# A wee note from your new

(about to be)

## Assistant Priest!

It's five years ago now that I began my training for priesthood with the Scottish Episcopal Institute, expanding my knowledge and experience and being formed in my Christian life and ministry.



Oh, how good I felt when I was finally ordained a deacon and 'returned' to St. Leonard's and St. Mary's to put into practice all I had learned. And how soon I realised how little I really knew! But under Peter's wise and patient supervision, and with all your loving support and the gentle encouragement of the clergy team, I slowly began to grow into becoming the priest I was ordained to be.

I once said to the Bishop that being ordained felt like God gave me this huge pair of shoes that flopped around uncomfortably at the beginning, as they were far too big for me, but He invited me to slowly grow into them over time until they began to fit. Towards the end of my curacy I could genuinely say they were starting to fit a lot more comfortably, although there will always be a lot more room for growth!

So, now I find myself in 2020, not yet formally licenced (*although I hope that will be able to happen soon*), having finished my curacy and facing all that this year has brought us. I don't believe anything could have prepared me for what has been thrown at us, and if you had told me that almost all of my ministry (for now) would end up being either online or on the phone, I would not have believed you at all!

But despite all the sadness and difficulties, I am genuinely filled with hope for our future.

I always knew, of course, that WE were the church rather than the church buildings we meet in – much as we may love them – but I see the reality of that lived out in the people of St. Leonard's and St. Mary's. We are the church and the church is visibly alive in all of us. God has blessed us and we have risen to the challenges and continued to worship together twice a week, albeit online. Our Connect newsletter is faithfully sent to our email inboxes each week or hand delivered with love to those who are not online. We have shown our compassion and care for one another with our faithful phone calls and our practical help when needed. We have checked in on each other, occasionally met with each other when it's been possible, and at times we have laughed together (remember the photo of Peter covered in coal dust!). We have chatted on Facebook too, and been able to follow something of the various festivals of the church there and shared humour and items of interest, and we have prayed for each other and kept up with those who are in need of our prayers through the WhatsApp prayer group. And there has been loving concern for those who are not online, with people finding creative ways to include them in the week by week life of our church, however possible. I feel proud of how our two churches have continued to share the love of Jesus, everyone each in their own way.

Yes, these may be difficult times, but I am filled with hope that our faithful and loving God will lead us through it and out the other side.

As I end my curacy and become your new Assistant Priest, I thank you for having me on the team and ask for your on-going prayers. And let us all trust in the everlasting arms that lovingly hold us, for "*The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms*". (Deuteronomy 33:27)

*With love, Jacqui*



Hi everyone, welcome to October!

It doesn't seem that long since I was writing about using the Eco Congregation resource 'Let's Talk about the Climate Emergency' and introducing the theme 'Harvest', for September. It was heartening to see so many photos of abundant harvests from our church family gardens on Facebook. Thank you all for sharing. We are indeed blest.

In October we are being encouraged to talk about 'Fast Fashion'. We are so used to hearing about 'Fast Food' and how bad it is for us but oh how convenient it is at times! Education is the way forward for our societies to make more informed choices therefore we are being asked to adopt the phrase 'Fast Fashion' and bring it into conversations as often as we can therefore drawing attention to the plight of the workers involved and the damage it brings to the world.

Vicki has written a reflective report on the industry after attending a Guardian Paper Zoom discussion recently.

## **"FAST FASHION"**

We live in a too disposable age and instead of "make do and mend", we tend to throw out and buy new. Most of our clothes on the high streets are manufactured in factories in the third world where workers are paid very poorly and work in terrible conditions. Remember the Rana Plaza disaster in 2013? Over a thousand workers died when a dilapidated building collapsed? However, factories such as this produce very cheap clothes which are often discarded after a few uses this is known as – "fast fashion".

In a discussion arranged by the Guardian recently I listened to several fashion moguls talk about this dilemma – "Ethical consumerism – oxymoron or opportunity?" They suggested that the way forward is to change attitudes drastically, not only on a personal level but also big brands, corporations and importantly, governments. We need to look at the materials used (polyester is terrible, natural and organic best), the way they are manufactured (factories should pay workers the living wage and working conditions should be improved), where we buy our clothes if we have to buy at all (there are several websites that support ethical clothing), and we should recycle, upcycle and buy second hand where possible. Remember – "There is no fashion on a dead planet."

Vicki

## ***A Prayer by Ruth Livingstone (Administrator - Eco-Congregation Scotland)***

Dear Heavenly Father

Thank you that you have promised to clothe us as you clothe the colourful birds of the forest. Thank you that you care not only for our physical wellbeing but also for our sense of identity and self. We offer you today our self-image as an act of worship. We ask that you open our eyes to how precious we are in Your sight. Help us to see Your joy and allow that to overcome our doubts in our own appearance and worthiness. Lord, move us to honour your image of us, purified by Christ's death on the cross, by honouring the planet He also created. Let us be conscious of how our fashion decision impacts the world and the peoples around us. Lead us to more sustainable choices. Like Elisha, let us turn our back on our old way of living, and look forwards to a more meaningful future. As we accept the cloak of our Elders, let us learn from them how to renew and repurpose that which is old or worn out without losing our God-given sense of style and identity. Thank you Lord, that you lived among us, and understand what it is to be human. Thank you for understanding our need to define ourselves through the things we wear. Please help us both to learn and teach others how we can combine this fashion sense with compassion for Your creation and for the people who are worked so hard to create our clothes. Lead us we pray. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit Amen

### **Some Ideas for Action at Home**

We were planning on holding a Fashion Swap Shop event this autumn. However to keep us all in a positive frame of mind here are some ideas you might like to consider at home.

- Make cushions from old cardigans and jumpers.

- Make dolls clothes for gifts for Christmas.

- Repurpose old jeans into bags or Peg bags.

- Create patchwork memory quilts or memory bags using material from old clothes.

- Don't forget to pass on your skills of knitting, sewing and crafting to others.

Please share on Facebook anything you create using recycled materials. We could have our very own 'Recycle, Repair Shop', exhibition.

Be creative and have fun being an Eco Warrior at home, work and prayer!

Margaret

# Congratulations!

## ***Birthdays***

Izzy turns 3 in human years on the 4th October  
Yvonne Allen on 5th October  
Jan Brooks on 9th October

## **Online Coffee at Mary's**

10:30 am Saturday Mornings  
bring your own coffee, cake and chat.  
For details of how to join the Zoom  
Coffee Morning please contact Andrew Watt  
andrew@andrewwatt.org.uk



## **Scottish History Group**



We are starting a ZOOM HISTORY GROUP to explore Scottish History, comprising a short talk followed by an informal discussion. We plan to meet monthly on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 2.30pm.** Our first meeting will be held on the **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020.**

As a trial we are limiting it to 9 people so if you are interested please contact

**MITCH THOMSON** on 01875 320067  
or by email on [mitchonline16@gmail.com](mailto:mitchonline16@gmail.com)

***For the first session be prepared to bring three Scottish Words and be open to share briefly about their meaning!*** This will form a fun ice-breaker to kick us off as we discuss the idea of such a group. We are then planning that each month a group member would be encouraged to share and present a piece of Scottish History that they have an interest in. We are aiming for a 40 minute meeting with about half based on the presentation and the other half on discussion to begin with. We hope this will be both an informative and fun activity for those on the group. So get in contact with Mitch by phone or email and book your place. Slangevar

# Izzy's News



Dear Friends,

*Its my third birthday!!! It only seems like a short time ago that I was cuddling up with Sam after leaving my Mum and coming to stay with the Harris's. A lot has happened in 3 years and just now I am having to adjust to not having my usual Samuel walks and cuddles.*

*Sam has settled well into his new abode and although I haven't met them yet he seems to have good flat mates. He is being sensible and cautious, so, so far unlike other Student Halls he has not been affected with the COVID outbreaks. I look forward to seeing him again soon and sharing cuddles and my birthday treats with him as well.*

*with licks and barks Izzy*

## Bible Puzzle Time

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

LISTEN	WATCHTOWER	PARABLE	SON	SERVANTS
SENT	WALL	HARVEST	KILLED	COLLECT
BUILT	LANDOWNER	LAST	TIME	FARMERS
DUG	FRUIT	REJECTED	VINEYARD	JOURNEY





# Your Local Weekly Worship Online

*Sunday @ 10am with Eucharist Celebration*

*Wednesday @ 10am Informal Worship*

*Find our Facebook group at*

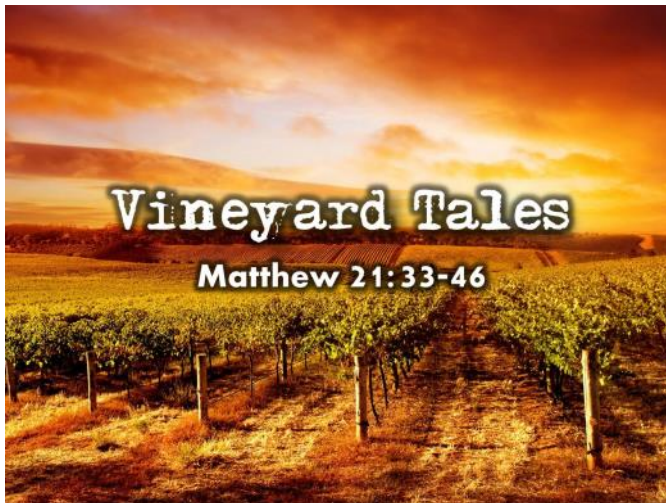
*"St Mary's and St Leonard's Church Family"*

*or Zoom into worship by joining the meeting using*

**ZOOM Meeting ID: 656 157 5203 at 10am**

*If you have been unable to join with us online for our worship I pray that you will be able to use this liturgy to guide your own worship during this week.*

The Following pages include the liturgy for Sunday 4th October  
This service will be on ZOOM, Facebook Live and later on Youtube.



The Provincial Website also offers a weekly service that goes live from 11am each Sunday. You can download the weekly Liturgy :

**[www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship](http://www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship)**

## The Welcome Peter

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**

## Hymn **ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL,**

Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
Him serve with mirth, His praise forthtell,  
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know is God indeed,  
Without our aid He did us make:  
We are His flock, He doth us feed,  
And for His sheep He doth us take.

For why, the Lord our God is good;  
His mercy is forever sure;  
His truth at all times firmly stood,  
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost  
the God whom heaven and earth adore,  
from men and from the angel host;  
be praise and glory evermore.

## Confession Jacqui / Peter

God is love and we are his children.  
There is no room for fear in love. We love because he loved us first.  
*So let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.*

**God our Father, we confess to you  
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ  
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,  
and in what we have failed to do.**

**We are truly sorry.**

**Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil,  
for the sake of your Son who died for us, 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.***

## The Collect

**Almighty God, you have built your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus himself being the chief cornerstone. Join us together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may become a holy temple, acceptable to you; through our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever..**

## A Reading from Matthew 21:33-46 Alison Bruce

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to Matthew  
**Glory to Christ our Saviour**

"Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

"The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said.

"But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance.' So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. "Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?"

"He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they replied, "and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:

"'The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes'

"Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.

Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they knew he was talking about them. So they began to look for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people believed that he was a prophet.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel

**Praise to Christ our Lord**

## Reflection **Peter**

**Song**      **FAITHFUL ONE**, so unchanging,  
Ageless One, You're my Rock of peace.  
Lord of all, I depend on You,  
I call out to You again and again.  
I call out to You again and again.  
You are my rock in times of trouble.  
You lift me up when I fall down.  
All through the storm Your love is the anchor,  
My hope is in You alone.

**Intercessions for Today**      *Neil Stewart*

## The Peace

May the Peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

**Eucharistic Prayer**      *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,  
in every place and at all times.

All power is yours. You created the heavens  
and established the earth; you sustain in being all that is.



In Christ your Son our life and yours  
are brought together in a wonderful exchange.  
He made his home among us that we might for ever dwell in you.  
Through your Holy Spirit you call us to new birth  
in a creation restored by love.

As children of your redeeming purpose we 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 the gift of your Son born in human flesh.

He is the Word existing beyond time, both source and final purpose,  
bringing to wholeness all that is made.

Obedient to your will he died upon the Cross.  
By your power you raised him from the dead.  
He broke the bonds of evil and set your people free  
to be his Body in the world.

On the night when he was given up to death,  
knowing that his hour had come,  
having loved his own, he loved them to the end.

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.**

## **Breaking the Bread**

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

## **Lord's Prayer**

As Christ has taught us so we pray

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

## Distribution of Communion

You may say this prayer as the Priest takes bread and wine on our behalf:

*God of mercy, we thank you for Jesus our Saviour,  
Though we cannot consume the gifts of bread and wine this day,  
we thank you that we do receive your Holy Spirits presence,  
the forgiveness of sins, and life eternal. Amen*

## Prayer after Communion

**Almighty God,  
may we who have been strengthened by your steadfast love,  
proclaim by the power of the Holy Spirit  
the mystery of your Son's death and resurrection.  
This we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God  
almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

## Hymn **MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS**

Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly trust in Jesus' name

Christ alone; cornerstone  
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love  
Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all

When Darkness seems to hide His face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil  
My anchor holds within the veil

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found;  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless stand before the throne.

Christ alone; cornerstone  
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love  
Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all

**Dismissal *Peter***

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

### **SHOE BOX APPEAL 2020**

It's time to get ready for this years Shoebox Appeal bringing a smile to many people for whom a small gift can make all the difference.

If you would like to take part in this years Shoebox Appeal please

contact Martin Johnson 01875 320458

email [t.m.johnson@btinternet.com](mailto:t.m.johnson@btinternet.com)



**St Mary's  
Dalkeith**

[stmarysdalkeith.org.uk](http://stmarysdalkeith.org.uk)

**St Leonard's  
Lasswade**

[stleonardslasswade.org.uk](http://stleonardslasswade.org.uk)

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*Do call or email if you need help*