



Concord

*The magazine of
St. Andrew's and St. Peter's.
The Scottish Episcopal Church
in Ardrossan, Irvine and Dalry.*



Easter 2018

Dear Friends,

As I write the so called 'Beast from the East' has descended upon us in the shape of snow and wind causing disruption to road, rail and air transportation and the physical difficulty of just getting out of the house. How things can change so quickly just last week I saw crocuses flowering in the walled border of the Ardrossan church and thought great spring has shown it's face and we will soon have winter behind us.

So much for that idea but we know it will return as normal and this interruption will be short lived.

However, it does remind us just as nature is prone to change so also how quickly our lives can change often with little or no notice. As we get older health issues are a difficulty we face from time to time which can involve doctors, tests, consultants and at times hospitalisation which is not always welcomed although necessary.

Our NHS is the envy other countries but it's only when we become patients ourselves that we can appreciate the qualities of our health service even if only we or those we love may need its care one day. The NHS is in continuous change as modern and better facilities become available and new procedures are constantly being developed as are newer and better drugs to treat a variety of illnesses.

When we talk about the healing ministry of the church we often focus on the healing of individuals who are sick or in need.

Issues of hungry people around the world or those caught up in war as some Syrians still experience or the needs of homeless people in our towns and cities might seem more about peace and justice but there are crossovers in all things. We have this image of Jesus healing people found in the scriptures and the early church called Jesus the 'one and only physician'. Because

the early church believed that he alone could really heal so people brought their sick to Jesus' feet for him to heal them, but it's interesting to note that as the evangelists told stories of healing they were more interested in the way Jesus dealt with the sick person he wants them to get back into the society where they belong he has in a sense re-established them with freedom to change to be themselves without fault.

Maybe that is also a good way to think of Lent as a kind of healing re-establishing ourselves as Jesus' followers. We have been considering some of the saints in the Lent house group at Kilwinning and it has been most enlightening because again its about change in people and as Oscar Wilde once said, 'The difference between a saint and a sinner is that every saint has a past and every sinner has a future'. So Lent is a time to consider starting afresh and just as I mentioned earlier in nature's significant change we don't need to instruct the flowers to do what they do best that is to blossom and opening up and as every tree on the death of winter awakes as it were a new resurrection to the spring. Sometimes we too need a sort of rebirth which can be again and again and again because God's love is never ending and as we follow the Cross to Easter Day and beyond God walks that path with us.

With Easter Blessings

Canon Sandy

I wish to thank all members of the Irvine congregation for the cards, phone calls and good wishes which I received following the birth of my grandson, Max.

Max arrived a few weeks early but I am very pleased to report that he is thriving and bringing much joy to his mum and dad, Elizabeth and James.

Thank you .

Yvonne

Easter in the Year 2018

Each Easter comes a journey
Not many wish to take,
A journey to show us worthy
For Jesus Christ's own sake.

A journey filled with love
Knowing we are not alone,
Instructions from above
The reward being a Heavenly home.

That journey was made for mankind
Where loving and caring were given,
The first steps are taken in our mind
Pointing the way towards Heaven.

Christ knew not what He had to do
Knew not what lay ahead,
But finding, as life He went through
That He would soon be dead.

A horrific time for God's son
I am sure you will all agree,
But from that foul deed a victory was won
When He died for you and for me.

He came back from death as many did know
A definite life changing day,
For us and ours we must believe
He gave us hope for today.

That journey which we still must take
Daily, as we go on our way,
There is no choice, make no mistake
Show loving and caring as Christ did say.

The reward for us is as before
We need not die on the cross,
God has opened wide that door
To our Heavenly home with no loss,

To us and ours, when we do leave
This beautiful planet of ours,
God's arms are open as our souls do weave
A path towards Heaven's doors.

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St Peter's Scottish Episcopal Church Dalry



A Service for Holy Week Wednesday 28th March at 7pm

A quiet and reflective ecumenical service
of prayer music and silence

Ron Swanson came to church on 28th January to receive a cheque for £150 which we raised at our 9 Lessons and Carols service and Christmas morning. Ron and his brother Andrew went with their parents from 1960 to 1967 to Chitembo, Zambia. The parents were missionaries and their father helped to build hospital wards, a maternity hospital and a manse. The brothers went back in 2017 and have established a Foundation to support the rebuilding of the manse and others projects. We were happy to support them and wish them well in their endeavours.

During the festive season we also raised £150 for The Bible Society from our joint service with The Church of Scotland in November and £175 for CLAPA from our St Andrews Day afternoon tea and raffle. This was chosen as a tribute to our late friend Michael Whitby.

All in all a great effort and I would like to thank everyone who organised and attended for their contributions to the above. Thank you all and God Bless you.

Barbara Mackie



Prayer Support



The Prayer Support Team

In April, please remember in your Prayers
Susan Garner, Carolyn French, Mary Coutts

As they pray for members of their Congregation

Remember also this month
Vestry Members



The Prayer Support Team

In May, please remember in your Prayers
Eveline Gray, Kit Still, Connie Mulcock

As they pray for members of their Congregation

Remember also this month
Eucharistic Assistants



The Prayer Support Team

In June, please remember in your Prayers
Dorothy Lynam, Helen Ternent, David Williams

As they pray for members of their Congregation

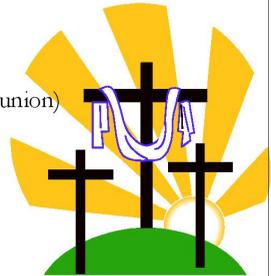
Remember also this month
Readers

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

ARDROSSAN CHURCHES GROUP

Monday 26 th March	Kirkgate Parish Church, Saltcoats
Tuesday 27 th March	E.U. Church
Wednesday 28 th March	St. Peter In Chains
Thursday 29 th March	St. Andrew's Church (Holy Communion)
Friday 30 th March	Park Church (Good Friday)

Easter Sunday 1st April Castle Hill (8am)
(Followed by breakfast in the E.U. Church Hall)



All the above services start at 7pm except Easter Sunday.
Everyone is welcome.

Morning meditation service Monday to Friday at 10:00am in the Park Church.

St. Peter's Spring Fayre & Coffee Morning

St. Peter's, Dalry, will host a Spring Fayre and coffee morning on Saturday 14th April, 2018 from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon. The Fayre will be held in Rosearden Hall, Courthill Street, Dalry and entry tickets costing £2 will be available in advance or at the door.

In addition to tea, coffee and cake there will be a raffle and craft and bottle stalls in the hall.

Any donations of raffle prizes, bottles or baking for the Fayre will be gratefully received and if anyone is able and willing to help on the day, they will be made most welcome.

Book club continues to meet regularly. We meet at Yvonne's approximately once a month and discuss the book we have read. Books are chosen by vote and sufficient copies are obtained from the local library which offers quite an extensive collection of books for use by book clubs. We also take the opportunity to enjoy a

cup of tea and keep up with the church news. All are welcome from any of our congregations.

Yvonne

What do you call a rabbit with fleas?

Bugs bunny

What's wrong with Easter jokes?

They crack you up

How does the Easter bunt stay fit?

Eggs-ercise

What happened to the Easter bunny at school?

He was eggspelled

What happened to the egg when he was tickled too much?

He cracked up.

What do you call an egg from outer space?

An "Egg-stra terrestrial"

What day does an Easter egg hate the most?

Fry-day



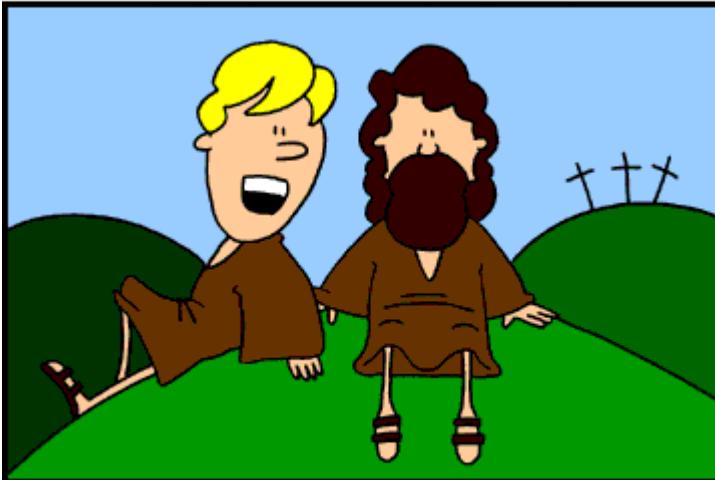
Gift Day For 2018

Once again this year both Ardrossan and Irvine will be holding a **Gift Day** on **Pentecost Sunday**, 20th May. However, this year all the monies raised will not be going to the joint account but remaining with each Church.



If you are able to make a donation can you please use the envelope provided and bring to Church on Pentecost Sunday. If you are a tax payer can you please write your name on the envelope to allow us to claim the tax back.

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(See John 19:17-37)

04-09-1998

SO JESUS, HAVE YOU MADE ANY PLANS FOR
EASTER YET?

A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act.

Mahatma Gandhi

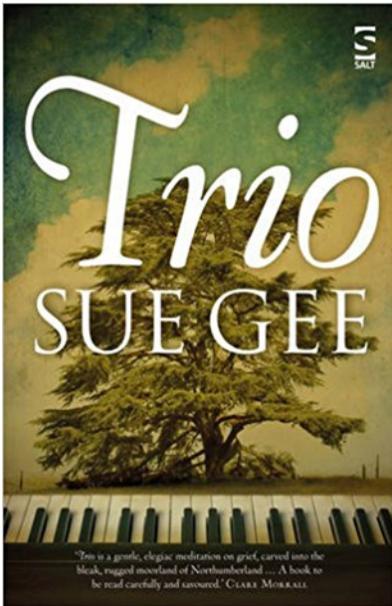
God proved His love on the Cross. When Christ hung, and bled, and died, it was God saying to the world, 'I love you.'

Billy Graham

My favourite book of the moment - Heather Upfield

Trio by Sue Gee (Salt Publishing, 2016)

It's 1937 in the Northumberland moors. An energetic ensemble of young musicians plays a concert in a country house. In the audience, a young history teacher deeply mourns the loss of his beloved wife from TB. As he is drawn into this circle of friends, he finds solace in the music and new life beyond grief.



I have rarely felt such connection with fictional characters and as Part 1 ends with the outbreak of WW2, I had immense concern about what would happen to them all. Part 2 leaps forward to the present and the narrative continues to a satisfying conclusion, through the voices of the next generations.

It's beautifully put together and parts of it made me cry. The author writes intelligently and honestly about some difficult subjects, with such great tenderness and affection for every single person who walks through the story. This is its strength. I was wholly absorbed in this novel from page 1, and I keep going back to it for another read

Come work for the Lord. The work is hard, the hours are long and the pay is low. But the retirement benefits are out of this world.

Last Writes

From the Editor's desk

A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read, 'The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee

out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt.'

His son asked, 'What happened to the flea?'



**St. Andrew's, Ardrossan, St. Andrew's, Irvine and St. Peter's, Dalry
form the North Ayrshire Team Ministry
of the Scottish Episcopal Church
A warm welcome awaits you at any of our services**

Service Details:

St. Andrew's Ardrossan

Sundays 11.30am Family Communion,
Wednesdays 10am Holy Communion

St Andrew's Irvine

Sundays 9.30am Family Communion

St. Peter's Dalry

Sundays 10am Holy Communion

Church Web Site Address: www.standrews-stpeters.org.uk

Clergy Team details:

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