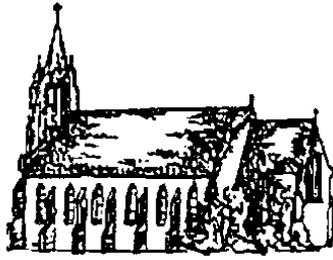


Saint James



Cruden Bay

Saint Mary



Ellon



**March 2017**

***WE SEEK TO BE CHURCHES FILLED WITH GOD'S LOVE,  
GIVING IT AWAY TO OTHERS***

**Saint Mary's and Saint James's are congregations of the Scottish Episcopal Church, the Scottish part of the worldwide Anglican Communion, which includes the Churches of England, Ireland, Wales, the Episcopal Church of the USA, and the Anglican Church of Canada as well as churches in most countries of the world.**

**However, even more important than that, we are members of God's family and all members of that family, from whichever denomination (or none), are welcome to worship with us. We try to welcome everyone in a non-judgmental way. Our congregations seek to develop the ministry of everyone, allowing people to find what God is asking of them and the gifts that he is giving to them.**

*The usual Sunday worship times are -*

*8-30am Early Eucharist in Saint Mary's  
9-30am The Eucharist in Saint James's  
11-0am The Eucharist in Saint Mary's*

During term-time, there is *Whizz Kids* in Saint Mary's Hall at 11am, with a crèche for younger children.

There are celebrations of the Eucharist each Wednesday at 10-0am at Saint Mary's. Other services as announced in Church. The Sacrament is reserved in both Saint Mary's and Saint James's.

**OUR PARISH PRAYER**

*Father, pour out your Spirit upon us and grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your word and a new consecration to your service, that your love may grow among us and your kingdom come: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

## **In this month's magazine:-**

❖ Community News - Are you involved in Community Events in our area involving church members, which will be of interest to our readers in Cruden Bay and Ellon? Let us know about them!

❖ Mothers' Union

❖ Mainly Music

❖ 'Come and meet the Bishop'

❖ Tuesday at Two

❖ Ellon Talking Newspaper

❖ All our usual features:-

- Diary of weekly church services and events
- Bible Quiz
- Recent events in both churches

# COME AND MEET THE BISHOP



The Annual Business Meeting of  
Saint-Mary-on-the-Rock will be held on  
**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm**

when you will have the opportunity to select new members of the  
Vestry to serve you and Saint Mary's.

Everybody is welcome to come along to Saint Mary's Hall on  
to meet with Bishop Mark Strange who is appointed as  
Acting Bishop of Aberdeen & Orkney during the vacancy following the  
retirement of Bishop Bob.

Bishop Mark will be delighted to answer individual questions in an  
informal setting with refreshments served, when you may also wish to  
ask questions of your Vestry.

# Mainly Music

*Sarah Goodyear writes:*

What does having a faith mean to me? There will be a connection to mainly music soon, please don't think that you are reading the wrong article!

Having a faith, being saved, gives me such an assurance of love. I know that God chose me, wants to have a relationship with me, loves me unconditionally, forgives me, has a place in Heaven for me and is always with me.....wow!! It's still difficult at times, life is not without its challenges. Sometimes God seems distant, but it is those times (sometimes when it is practically impossible to pray), that the Church family holds you up in prayer.

Out of all this, having the Holy Spirit residing in me gives me such a joy and contentment. Things can be crashing around me and I might feel a bit unhappy, but still there is a joy in my heart and this contentment and peace.

In today's pressured full on society, it is this joy and contentment that is so often missing. People seem to spend their lives searching for something, something to make them happy. There is a big hole that they spend their lives trying to shovel things into, but still the hole cannot be filled as it is only Jesus that fits. Happiness may come for a while, but the joy and contentment is missing.

It bothers me that there are so many people out there lost and sinking, not experiencing a life with Jesus. It's not that they have necessarily turned their backs on God, it's just that they have not been lucky enough to hear Him knocking.

Should we just sit back and say I am so lucky to know what it is to have a relationship with God....that's me sorted? Did Jesus say to his disciples just before he ascended to Heaven "Sit in your room and rest in the contentment of knowing me....keep it to yourself" NO!! His great commission was and is

*Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

Matthew 28:19-20

Now we are not all gifted with being great orators (I certainly am not), but we all have the opportunities to share our faith and as it says in the passage, God (by the Holy Spirit dwelling in us) is with us always, to the very end of the age. He won't just leave us to muddle through, but rather give us the gifts, the boldness, the words, the actions and the opportunities to go and make disciples of all nations if we but just listen!

This, at last, is where Mainly Music comes in. Some of the team went to a workshop in Aberdeen, run by Jo Hood, the Mainly Music founder, the other week. We were challenged listening to her. Her first words were about how this group is an opportunity to bridge the gap between the families that attend and Jesus. I knew this, but hearing it again just hit me in the face that morning as to what a privileged position we are in to be able to do this. So many of these families are away from their wider family, parents, siblings. They are facing early parenthood alone. As many of us know having been there, it's no easy task raising children, early stages of sleep deprivation and pressures all around to be keeping up with everyone else...little wonder depression is becoming so common. I have always felt that Mainly Music helps to fill the gap of the extended family. We nurture and care for these families and they often form great friendships between each other. It does, however, take things to a whole new level when you think we are not just bridging the gap of being alone but being the bridge to Jesus and then the sense of belonging, and contentment, joy and peace that being saved brings.

I always pray for the group as I drive over from New Byth to Ellon to run the session that all the families as they enter Saint Mary's Hall may just be showered in God's love. I think they do often feel it. We asked

them a couple of years ago what Mainly Music meant to them and here are some of the things that they wrote...

*It is like a family, I enjoy the music, but the time together afterwards makes me feel cared for and I can relax.*

*Having suffered with mental health issues I have always found it hard to get out and mix with people but Mainly Music is different, I don't feel judged, I can just be myself and I feel valued by all.*

*It is the high spot of mine and my little boy's week. He has gained such confidence since attending the class; it is lovely to see him joining in with the songs and actions now, whereas at first he just watched from a distance.*

The belonging part is certainly there.

If you don't know what goes on in these sessions, please feel free to come along and witness it for yourself on Friday mornings. It will lift your spirit (although maybe deafen you a bit too!)

We are a very small team and to really nurture these families and to enable us to show them God's kingdom on this earth we really could do with a little bit more assistance! There are many ways to get involved: going on the rota to help at the actual sessions, as frequently or infrequently as you feel able, baking - we always offer the family's home bakes with their cuppa, makes them feel that bit more special. Cooking - new babies come along and I try and take out a couple of meals to the family to ease the pressure a bit (Jesus cooked the disciples breakfast when they came in from fishing) and there are other times when families are struggling when a few cooked meals would just ease the pressure. It would be wonderful to have a few people that could provide meals when called on, even having something in the freezer ready for when a need arises. Also, and just as important, prayer. Please please pray for this ministry, for all the families that attend and for the Mainly Music team. It would be wonderful if you could keep on holding

Mainly Music in prayer, even whilst the session is going on on a Friday morning.

If you can offer to help in anyway please could you contact me: sarah.goodyear@hotmail.com or 01888 544967. You won't find me in Saint Marys on a Sunday anymore since we moved as I now attend a church closer to my home, but you will find me in the hall on Friday mornings in term time so you can always come and see me then.

Bless you xx

## **Mothers' Union**

*Carole Fox writes:*

Fourteen members met in Saint Mary's hall on 7th February to discuss the programme for 2017. We mapped out dates for the whole year, and have since had confirmation from the Resource Centre that they would again like to join us for an Easter Praise service, and also a carol service in December. Our MU Hour was on Saturday morning, 18th February. Thanks go to Margaret Murray for leading the prayers, a time of meditation, and discussion at that.

On 7th March, the Rev. Canon John Walker will be coming from Inverurie to lead us in thoughts for Lent. Please note that that meeting will start at 1.30 p.m. Our meeting on 4th April will revert to the usual time of 1.45 p.m., when Sheila George will be giving an illustrated talk on memories of an Icelandic holiday. In between those two meetings will be the MU Hour on Saturday, 18th March at 11.15 a.m.

Please watch out for further details of our meetings in future editions of this magazine, as well as the Sunday service sheets. As ever, may I emphasise that all are welcome.



# ELLON TALKING NEWSPAPER

Ellon Talking Newspaper is a registered charity providing news from Ellon and the surrounding area in a weekly audio digest, enabling the visually impaired to gain access to local stories.

Our presenters are volunteers who read extracts from newspapers and general interest articles. The weekly compilation is recorded every week on a Thursday evening at the Ellon Library and distributed by a free postal service to registered recipients.

Our recordings are distributed on USB memory sticks, which enables our listeners to enjoy our publication on a variety of devices specifically designed for the blind and partially sighted community. We also can loan listeners a playback box.

## **Do you know someone who would like to receive a copy?**

Get in touch via the Library on 01358 720865 and we will arrange a demonstration and delivery.

## **Can you help?**

We are always interested in new volunteers. Get in touch via the Library on 01358 720865 and we will arrange to show how we work.

**TUESDAY AT TWO**

**OPEN HOUSE**

**EVERY TUESDAY**

**2 – 3PM**

**10 SOUTH ROAD**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

**TEA, COFFEE AND CAKES ....**



**BRING NOTHING BUT YOURSELF!**

**SAINT MARY-ON-THE-ROCK - ELLON  
AND  
SAINT JAMES'S - CRUDEN BAY**

**CALENDAR OF SERVICES AND EVENTS:**

**MARCH 2017**

**Usual Sunday services are:**

8.30am	Early Eucharist in Saint Mary's
9.30am	Eucharist in Saint James'
11.00am	The Eucharist in Saint Mary's

Holy Communion is held every Wednesday at 10-0am in Saint Mary's Hall.

Saint Mary's Music & Praise Group meets at 7-30pm every Thursday during term time in Saint Mary's Hall.

*Book and Traidcraft shop open in Saint Mary's Hall on Sundays at 12.15pm and on Wednesdays at 10.45am*

*Please note that certain services/events can be subject to change:*

- Please check with the Weekly Notice Sheet
- OR check the website: [www.stmarystjames.org.uk](http://www.stmarystjames.org.uk)
- OR Contact the Parish Office on 01358 720366

**IN ADDITION:**

**Wednesday, 1st MARCH – ASH WEDNESDAY**

*Usual service plus*

1.00-3.30pm CREATE!

7.30pm Ash Wednesday Eucharist in Saint James'.

### **Thursday, 2nd MARCH**

2.00pm Saint Mary's Prayer Group meet in the Chapel in Saint Mary's Hall.

### **Friday, 3rd MARCH**

10-11.15am Mainly Music in Saint Mary's Hall.

11.00am Service at Slater Court – Ellon.

7.00pm World Day of Prayer – Ellon Parish Church

### **Saturday, 4th MARCH**

7.30am – Saint Mary's Men's Breakfast in the hall.

### **Sunday, 5th MARCH, 2017 - LENT 1**

*Usual services plus a baptism takes place during the 11am Eucharist.*

6.00pm A service of Evening Prayer & Meditation is in Saint Mary's Hall.

### **Tuesday, 7th MARCH**

1.30pm Mothers' Union meeting: The Revd Canon John Walker is leading thoughts for Lent in Saint Mary's Hall

7.30pm Meet with Bishop Strange over refreshments and this will be followed by Saint Mary's ABM in the hall.

### **Wednesday, 8th MARCH – Bishop of Lincoln**

*Usual service plus*

12noon Saint Mary's Lunch Club in the hall.

### **Thursday, 9th MARCH**

2.00pm Saint Mary's Prayer Group meet in the Chapel in Saint Mary's Hall.

**Friday, 10th MARCH**

10-11.15am Mainly Music in Saint Mary's Hall.

**Sunday, 12th MARCH, 2017 – LENT 2**

*Usual services*

**Monday, 13th MARCH**

11.00am Julian Meeting in Saint Mary's Hall.

**Tuesday, 14th MARCH**

7.00pm Saint Mary's Film Night in the hall.

**Wednesday, 15th MARCH**

*Usual service plus*

11.15am Wednesday Fellowship Group

1.00-3.30pm CREATE!

**Thursday, 16th MARCH**

2.00pm Saint Mary's Prayer Group meet in the Chapel in Saint Mary's Hall.

**Friday, 17th MARCH**

10-11.15am Mainly Music in Saint Mary's Hall.

10.30am Service at Bonnyton House – Ellon.

**Saturday, 18th MARCH**

11.15am Mothers' Union Hour in Saint Mary's Hall.

**Sunday, 19th MARCH – LENT 3**

*Usual services*

## **Tuesday, 21st MARCH**

1.30-3.30pm Trefoil Guild meeting in Saint Mary's Hall.

## **Wednesday, 22nd MARCH**

*Usual service plus*

11.15am Wednesday Fellowship Group in Saint Mary's Hall.

## **Thursday, 23rd MARCH**

2.00pm Saint Mary's Prayer Group meet in the Chapel in Saint Mary's Hall.

## **Friday, 24th MARCH**

10-11.15am Mainly Music in Saint Mary's Hall.

## **Sunday, 26th MARCH – LENT 4 & MOTHERING SUNDAY**

*Usual services plus a "Stall in the Hall" follows the 11am Eucharist in Saint Mary's.*

## **Wednesday, 29th MARCH**

*Usual service plus*

11.15am Wednesday Fellowship Group in Saint Mary's Hall.

1.00-3.00pm Craft Group in Saint Mary's Hall.

## **Thursday, 30th MARCH**

2.00pm Saint Mary's Prayer Group meet in the Chapel in Saint Mary's Hall.

## **Friday, 31st MARCH**

10-11.15am Mainly Music in Saint Mary's Hall, last one for the term.

11.30am Service at Ythanvale - Ellon

## Answers to “Mountains of the Bible” Quiz

*Bertha Dawson writes:*

- 1 God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on Mount **Sinai**  
*Exodus 19.20 – 20.17*
- 2 The Ark came to rest on Mount **Ararat** *Genesis 8.4*
- 3 Abraham’s son was nearly sacrificed on Mount **Moriah**  
*Genesis 22.1-2*
- 4 God met with Moses on Mount **Horeb** *Exodus 3.1*
- 5 Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal on Mount **Carmel**  
*1 Kings 18.20-40*
- 6 King Saul died on Mount **Gilboa** *1 Samuel 31.1-6*
- 7 Moses died on Mount **Nebo** *Deuteronomy 34.1- 5*
- 8 Jesus preached his last sermon to His disciples on Mount **Olivet**  
*Matthew 24*
- 9 Aaron died on Mount **Hor** *Numbers 20. 22-29*
- 10 The **Transfiguration of Christ** took place on this high mountain  
*Matthew 17.1-5*

## “Bible B’s” Quiz

*(Answers begin with letter B)*

- 1 One of Jacob’s sons
- 2 A disciple of Jesus
- 3 The husband of Ruth the Moabite
- 4 He accompanied Paul on a missionary journey
- 5 This blind beggar was healed by Jesus
- 6 Martha and Mary came from this village
- 7 Jesus was born here
- 8 The wife of Uriah the Hittite
- 9 King of Babylon in the days of Daniel
- 10 Jesus said “I am the ----- of life”

*Answers in next magazine*

# PARISH DIRECTORY

## **Interim Priest-in-charge**

The Reverend Sylvia Spencer  
(01358 723193)

## **Clergy:**

The Reverend Carole Fox (01358 789693)

The Reverend Robert Spencer (01358 723193)

The Reverend Peter Whalley (01779 812511)

## **Saint James Assistant Ministry Team**

Marna Cruickshank, John Palmer,  
Peter Robinson.

## **Saint Mary's Assistant Ministry Team**

Hayden Barrett, Blanche Beattie, Alison Cowe, David Cowe,  
David Crosley, Norman Davidson, Mandy Davis, Charles Fox,  
Sarah Goodyear, Kim Leonard

*The Vestry Secretary of Saint Mary's is Mandy Davis (01358 721197) and the Treasurer is Colin Frost (01358 721249). The Stewardship Promoter is Jim Pittendrigh (07808 823976) and the Director of Music is Alison Stephen (01358 789613). The Child Protection Officer is Hayden Barrett (01358 789703)*

**The Vestry Secretary of Saint James's is Tricia Robinson (01358 751343) and the Treasurer is Irene Dooley (01779812661). The Stewardship Promoter is Peter Robinson (01358 751343).**

**The Rector's Secretary is Carol Marr. She can be reached in the Parish Office (01358 720366) from Tuesday to Friday from 10-0am to 3-0pm.**

*Email – [parish@stmarystjames.org.uk](mailto:parish@stmarystjames.org.uk)*

*Web address: <http://www.stmarystjames.org.uk>*

*The magazine is produced and printed "in house".*

*Contributions for Saint Mary's should be given to Mandy and Dick Davis  
(01358 721197)*

*E-mail: [melric@btinternet.com](mailto:melric@btinternet.com)*

**Deadline for articles for the April magazine: 20<sup>th</sup> March**