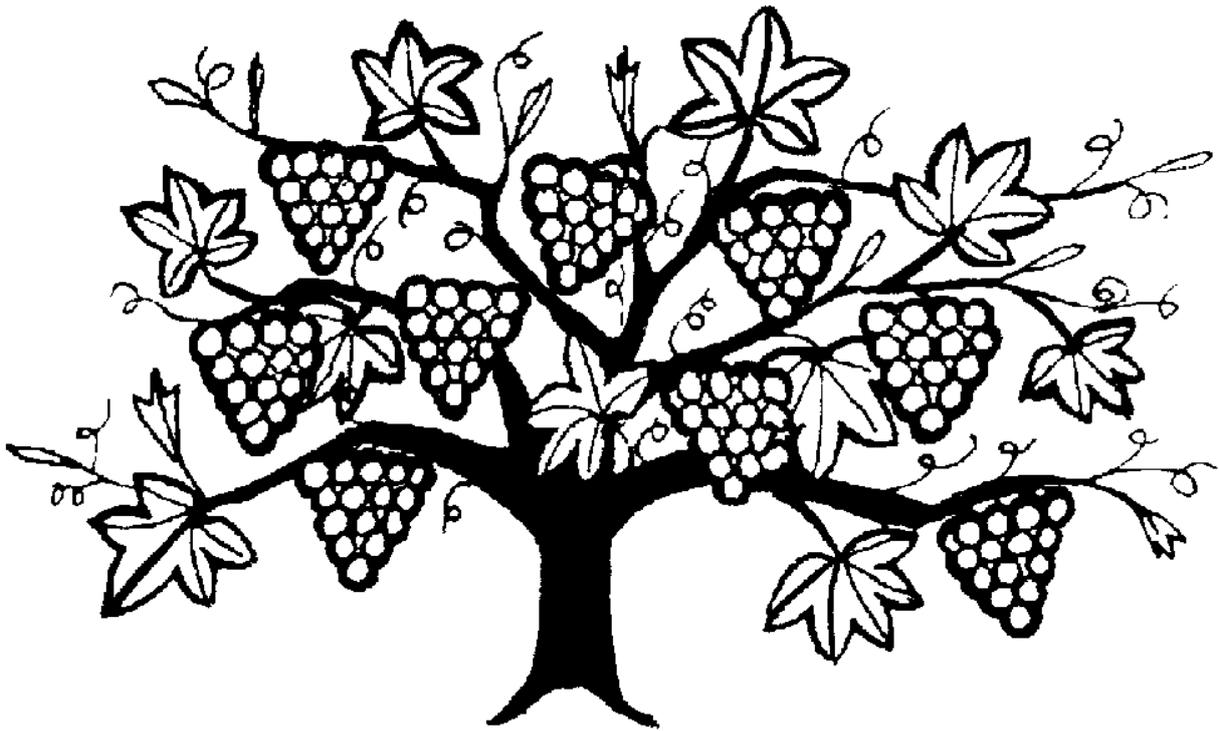


St Mary's Parish Church

NEWSLETTER

November 2018



"For the glory of God
and the solace of a whole community"

Dear Friends

What a great response we had to the Harvest Service appeals – over 350lbs (weight) of donations for the foodbank and £900 for Christian Aid, which the European Union will multiply by five making a total of nearing £5000. A visitor to the service phoned me a day or two later to enquire about the EU grant saying that her church had decided that they would not support an outside charity at the moment as they were stretched to cover all their own costs. I told her that there was good evidence that congregations who were encouraged to be generous to others usually took their own finances seriously and approached them with a generosity of spirit. It often seems like that in St Mary's.

It is a huge credit to everyone who responded to help those at home and overseas who have real need. There is a real need for us all to consider how we ensure the continuing financial health of St Mary's. It is sometimes difficult in the situation of a vacancy to

maintain levels of interest and commitment and that is understandable but nonetheless there are demands we have to meet and bills to pay. In the next little while we will be giving some information on this and asking all our members to consider if they can help us a little more. Please give encouragement by coming along to the Martinmas Fair, the Sunday services when you can and remembering the Nomination Committee in your prayers as they start the search for a new Minister.

In almost no time we will be in the Advent and Christmas seasons, then the new lighting system will be being installed and hopefully a new Minister moving to St Mary's. Exciting times - please make them extra special with your attendance and support. You make a difference.

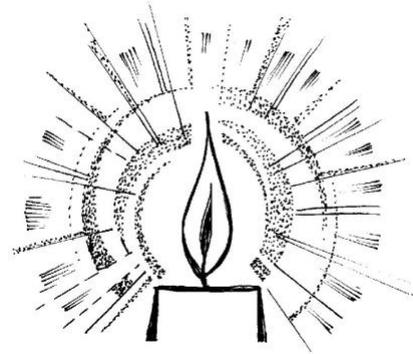
John Cairns

VACANCY UPDATE

The Parish Profile has been prepared and is now on the church website. Copies are also available at the back of the church. Please have a read. Hopefully it gives a real flavour of what is happening at St Mary's and outlines the challenges and opportunities that we face as a congregation.

Our Nominating Committee has met and has chosen Emma Ash as the Convenor and Sheila Wright as Vice-Convenor. Alison Meikle has been asked to be the Clerk to the Committee. Please continue to pray for the Nominating Committee as they try to find the minister whom God is calling to serve us and our community.

THIRD WEDNESDAY



**A time and space for
quiet reflection**
in the church.

The next 'Third Wednesday'
will be on **Wednesday**
21st November 2018 from
7 – 7.30pm

We offer prayers, readings,
music and silence.

**All are welcome to our
sanctuary**
for this different form of
worship.

The Lantern Group will hold
an **Advent Quiet Morning**
in Holy Trinity Church,
Haddington on **Saturday**
24th November. Further
details from Jock Stein

HARVEST THANK YOU

An amazing £925.45 was donated at our Harvest Service last month. £493 of this was gift-aided meaning 25% can be reclaimed from HMRC. For every £1 we gave the EU gave £5 which all means that our donation turns into £4,750 for Christian Aid. Thank you to everyone who contributed.



Thank you also for your generous donations for the East Lothian Food Bank. In their

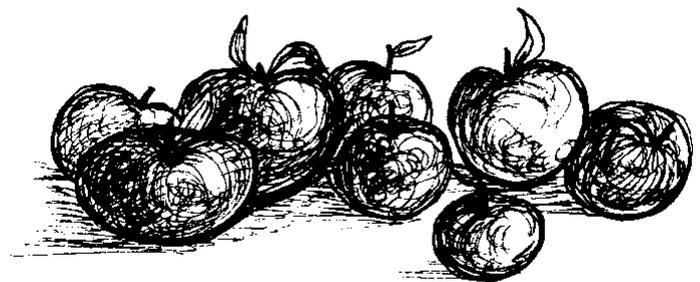
latest newsletter manager Peter Dicker says

“If anyone ever says to you that communities don’t pull together anymore or the spirit of giving doesn’t exist just send them down to us at the food bank.

Once again we are stuffed to the gunnels with donations from a very generous East Lothian community. I wish I had a before and after shot to show you our empty shelves a

month ago compared to the food bank today. It’s amazing! We’ve been the lucky recipients of harvest collections from groups across the county.....Nearly 250 crates of food and other items donated andour band of volunteers have sorted all the food into categories and have now started on the mammoth task of dating the donations so that we can get everything onto the shelves in the right order.

The harvest collections have come at just the right time as all of our supplies.....were running very low and we’re now happy to report that stocks have been replenished thanks to the public (again!). We really couldn’t help those in need without the generous support of all those who donate to us whether it is one can or a bag of shopping every item helps.”



Sunday Teas



*Your donations at the tea table on Sunday mornings throughout November & December 2018 will be shared between St Mary's and our chosen charity, **Muirfield Riding Therapy**.*

Based at West Fenton near North Berwick this facility offers children and adults with disabilities the opportunity to ride free of charge in a safe and stimulating environment.

Specialist physiotherapy on horseback provides life changing physical, behavioural and social benefits to riders thanks to the movement, warmth and rhythm of the horse.

St Mary's at 4



This year's successful series of Sunday afternoon concerts has come to a conclusion but we are delighted to announce that there will be a special one-off Advent Concert on **Sunday 2nd December at 4pm**. Join Peaty Millers a capella group with guests Sadie Maskery and Andy Brown for 'MUSIC IN ADVENT'. Entry is free but donations towards St Mary's church funds would be very welcome. Please put the date in your diaries!

The **DEADLINE** for the December newsletter is **Sunday 11th November**
Please send articles to Alison Meikle

Remembrance Sunday



SERVICES AT ST MARY'S

There will be the usual short all-age service in St Mary's at 9.30am on **Sunday 11th November**. The formal **Haddington Service of Remembrance** will take place in St Mary's at 10.55am following the parade and ceremony at the War Memorial at 10.40am. We will be joined by members from other churches in the town as well as uniformed organisations, veterans and members of the public.

RINGING REMEMBERS

Our bell ringers will be ringing the bells half or fully muffled prior to the Haddington Service of Remembrance on

Sunday 11th November. Afterwards, at 12.30pm, they will join in with ringers from churches and cathedrals in villages, towns and cities across the United Kingdom to mark 100 years since the Armistice as part of 'Ringing Remembers'.

Church bells across the UK remained restricted throughout the course of the war and only rang freely once Armistice was declared on 11 November 1918. Then the ringing of church bells erupted spontaneously across the country, as an outpouring of relief that 4 years of war had come to an end. The ringing in unison honours that moment.

Ringings for Peace
Armistice 100 

Finally, our bell ringers plan to ring a quarter peal of 1400 changes from 1.30pm one change for each of the 1,400

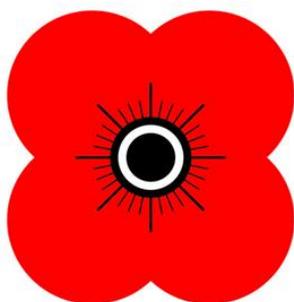
bell ringers known to have lost their lives during the First World War; this will last about 50 minutes.

LIGHTING UP RED FOR POPPYSCOTLAND

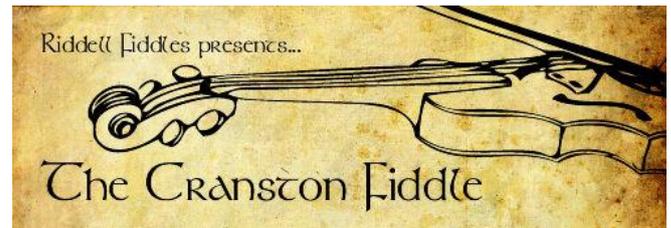
Poppy Scotland is looking to 'Light Up Red' churches, council buildings, monuments and landmarks to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War.

We hope that St Mary's, as one of East Lothian's iconic buildings, might be illuminated in red from 5th to 11th November.

We will also be collecting for Poppy Scotland at the Remembrance Service during the day and at the Garleton Singers concert in St Mary's in the evening of Sunday 11th.



THE CRANSTON FIDDLE



There will be a special performance of 'The Cranston Fiddle' in the Town House at **2.30pm** on Sunday 11th November. This is the heart breaking but uplifting story of an ordinary Scottish family at war – told through the eyes of their fiddle that accompanied them to the trenches and based on a true story.

It features **Sheila Sapkota** and **Selkirk's Riddell Fiddles** playing original music by **Donald Knox**. It was written and is narrated by Haddington based storyteller **Bob Mitchell**.

Tickets £7 (£5 concessions) are available from Joe Forte Sports and Haddington Day Centre.

'THE ARMED MAN' CONCERT

Later on **Sunday 11th November**, at St Mary's, the Garleton Singers will be performing Sir Karl Jenkins' "The Armed Man" to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War. The concert will start at 7:30pm and we hope it will be a fitting culmination to a moving day of commemoration and contemplation at St Mary's.

The Armed Man, subtitled "A Mass for Peace", was commissioned by the Royal Armouries for the Millennium celebrations and was dedicated to victims of the Kosovo crisis. In addition to extracts from the Latin Mass, the full text incorporates words from other religious and historical sources, including the Bible, the Islamic Call to Prayer, and the Mahabharata. Writers whose words appear in the work

include Rudyard Kipling, Alfred Lord Tennyson, and Sankichi Toge.

We will be looking to raise funds through collections on the night in support of Poppy Scotland. We hope that you will come along on 11th to enjoy what promises to be a wonderful concert for a worthy cause.

LIFE & WORK

We are looking for someone to take over the role of managing subscriptions and ordering our copies of this magazine. If this is something you think you might like to do please speak to Margaret Ainslie or Alison Meikle.

CROSSREACH CHRISTMAS

Copies of the Christmas Catalogue, Magazine and Prayer Diary are now available at the back of the church.

Garleton
Singers



THE ARMED MAN

**A Mass for Peace
by Karl Jenkins**

Garleton Singers
directed by Stephen Doughty

Sunday November 11th 2018, 7.30pm
St Mary's Parish Church, Haddington
Free entry - donations in support of

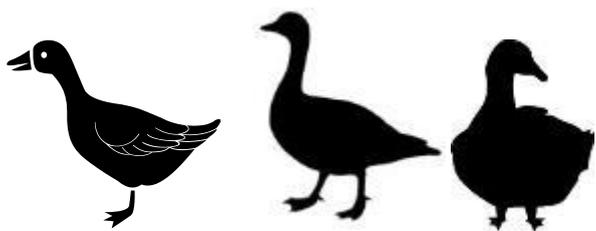
Poppyscotland

Scottish Charity No. SC014096

www.poppyscotland.org.uk
www.garletonsingers.co.uk



Martinmas Fair



The Martinmas Fair is our biggest fundraiser of the year and takes place in the kirk on **Saturday 17th November** from **10am to 1pm**. In this unique year of Haddington 700 why not bring along some friends and family to support us?

A warm and friendly welcome awaits, browse or buy, gaze at our beautiful building or graze in the café and enjoy some music. Be inspired for Christmas and share in the Martinmas Fun!

We need lots of folk to help set up, serve in the café or at the various stalls and tidy up afterwards. We are looking for donations of books, bric-a-brac, plants, cuttings, garden produce, baking, jams and

chutneys and other things to sell.

Donations can be dropped off at the church on the Friday afternoon.

We are particularly looking for

*Home baking for the café and for the produce stall. We need lots and lots!!

*Someone willing to do face painting

*Donations of small (new) toys & gifts for the tombola stall. This stall always sells out so the more the merrier! Age range: 3-12 years. Value: minimum 50p. No weapons or sweets please! Leave at the back of the church or phone 01875 898587 for collection.

We are looking for new, innovative ways to raise money for the kirk so please speak to the McMillans if you can help.

November 2018 at St Mary's

Thursday 1st	Crafty Folk 10.30am. Choir 7.30pm.
Friday 2nd	Bell ringers 7.30pm
Saturday 3rd	
Sunday 4th	Worship at 9.30 & 11am
Monday 5th	
Tuesday 6th	Home Group Bible Study 10.30am
Wed 7th	
Thursday 8th	Crafty Folk 10.30am. Choir 7.30pm
Friday 9th	Bell ringers 7.30pm
Saturday 10th	WALKING GROUP 9.30am Flag bearers rehearsal 11am
Sunday 11th	ALL -AGE WORSHIP AT 9.30am CEREMONY AT WAR MEMORIAL 10.30/40am HADDINGTON SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE 10.55am RINGING REMEMBERS 12.30pm ARMED MAN CONCERT 7.30pm
Monday 12th	
Tuesday 13th	Home Group Bible Study 10.30am
Wednesday 14th	
Thursday 15th	Crafty Folk 10.30am. Choir 7.30pm.
Friday 16th	Set Up for Martinmas Fair Bell ringers 7.30pm
Saturday 17th	MARTINMAS FAIR 10am to 1pm
Sunday 18th	Worship at 9.30 & 11am.
Monday 19th	
Tuesday 20th	Home Group Bible Study 10.30am
Wed 21st	THIRD WEDNESDAY 7pm
Thursday 22nd	Crafty Folk 10.30am. Choir 7.30pm.
Friday 23rd	Bell ringers 7.30pm
Saturday 24th	
Sunday 25th	Worship at 9.30 & 11am
Monday 26th	
Tuesday 27th	Home Group Bible Study 10.30am
Wed 28th	
Thursday 29th	Crafty Folk 10.30am Choir 7.30pm
Friday 30th	Bell ringers 7.30pm

www.stmaryskirk.co.uk



Haddington: St Mary's Parish Church (Church of Scotland)
Scottish Charity Number SCO10614