



Ayr:St Quivox Parish Church



MARCH 2023

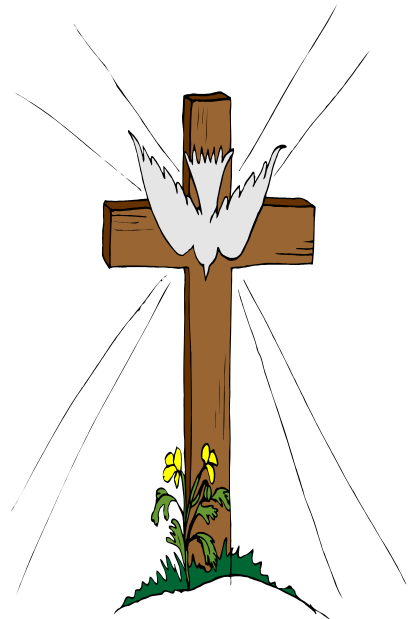
SUNDAY SERVICES
Alternate between
Auchincruive and Dalmilling

Check Facebook page for
updates

Ayr:St. Quivox Parish Church

MINISTER Rev John McCutcheon
Tel: 01292 861641

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Tel: 01292 283503





Hi everyone and welcome to 2023 and another church magazine. I hope that most of you were able to enjoy some peace and rest over Christmas and New Year. As I've mentioned previously, at a personal level, the first couple of months of the new year are ones that I tend to grind through, rather than ones that I enjoy. The darkness, the cold and the bad weather always adding to the ongoing sense of misery.

For others the start of another year can bring with it, its own sense of hopes, expectations, fears and worries. I know that already for some in the congregation 2023 has not started very well. And as a church community sometimes all we can do in such circumstances is to rally round one another so that we all know that we don't need to go through these times on our own, and that we are all there for each other. We will have our own ways of coping, and our own unique ways of caring, but if 2023 is to mean anything for us as a church may it be that, amongst everything else that we will have to deal with this year, all will still know how much we care for one another, which then leads out to caring for those in the wider community.

Communion can be just such a time of us coming together and showing just how much we care, and of how much we want to be at one with one another and more importantly be at one with Jesus.

If you haven't been to church for a while, or you haven't shared in Communion, we would love to see you and share in the peace that we are assured we will receive when we gather as one around the Lord's table.

If you are unable to get out and would still like a home communion, then that is something that we would love to offer as well. All you



have to do is get in touch with me and we can arrange a date and time that suits.

Take care and stay safe

John

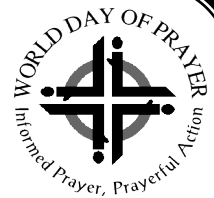
Communion
5th March at Dalmilling Church



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 3rd March 2023

Annbank Parish Church at 7pm



The theme of the service is
“I Have Heard About Your Faith”
and was prepared by the
World Day of Prayer Committee of Taiwan



December was a very busy month within the life of the church, and hopefully elsewhere in the magazine you will see some of the examples of the things that we were involved in with either 'Vics in the Community' or with our Community Worker, Paul.

However one of the key dates in December was the 11th when we had a joint service with St James. For those who attended the service it would hopefully give us a flavour of what our future services would look like once the Union takes place. It was also the date of my 3rd anniversary of being inducted to St Quivox. How time flies when you are enjoying yourself. 😊

One of the obvious differences was the increase in numbers of those attending worship. There were approximately 80 in attendance, which was a mixture of age ranges, which included Junior Church and the uniformed organisations. For those of us from St Quivox, it was a big change from the usual 15-18 that we usually get on a Sunday.

It was also noticeable the generosity that was on display from the St James congregation in the number of gifts that were handed in and which would then be passed on to Children First.

Everyone seemed to enjoy being able to sing as well. The more voices singing, making it easier for those who are a bit shier when it comes to exercising their vocal chords!!

The service was capped off by members of St Quivox helping with the tea and coffee after the service.

I think it is fair to say that everyone from both churches regarded the service as a success and are looking forward to sharing more joint services together as we anticipate the time when worshipping



as one, on a weekly occasion. Everyone coming together and Christ still at the centre of everything we do.

For the eagle eyed amongst you, you will note that Auchincruive has not yet closed and we are still worshipping there as normal on every second Sunday. Prior to Christmas a rumour was circulating that the church was due to close after the Watchnight service. This had the adverse effect that time was spent dealing with this and trying to reassure some in the congregation that we weren't trying to pull a fly one by closing the church when we have on many occasions previously stated what the plans and the proposed timetable of future events might look like.

Even a month on now since Christmas I still get sympathies about "the closure of the church". Can I assure and remind everyone that there have been no changes to our future plans from what has been stated in earlier letters or within the magazine.

Once we are able to advise you of future plans we will let you know through the official and usual channels.

On the positive side our two Christmas Eve services had approximately 100 at each so it was good to see the two types of service, the messy Christmas service and the traditional watchnight services being well supported by the community. I would like to place on record my thanks to all those who constantly help behind the scenes and at the front as well for making these services and our Sunday morning service as well the enjoyable services that they are.

John



January was a bit of a cruel and sad month for us as a church family as we mourned the loss of four members of our congregation:

Christine Niven

Margaret Lindsay

May Welsh

Ann Finlayson

Although all of these ladies were no longer worshipping on a regular basis with us, they still had a heart for the church and their friends within it. Any visit I had with them, the church was always a key part of the conversations we shared. Each of them had their own particular gift and worshipped in their own unique way. As a congregation we are now the poorer for them not being here, but heaven is a richer and happier place with their presence.

As always at times like these our loss is as nothing compared to the grief of the family and our prayers go to all families who are grieving the loss of a loved one at this time.

John

John 14:1-4 *“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.”*



Since November we have been running the Community Corner in partnership with 'Vics in the Community'. We meet every Wednesday between 12 noon and 2pm, and everybody is more than welcome.

The original proposal had been as a response to the energy crisis and the thought of many of the poorest and most vulnerable in our community sitting in cold houses, afraid to put their heating on and isolated from the rest of the community. It was a project that was planned to finish at the end of March.

However, such has been the success of this and the opportunity to do further work with 'the Vics' it is hoped that we will be carrying on with this for a while yet and potentially adding to the things we are trying to do to 'take the church out into the community'.

Whitletts Vics - Community & Wellbeing
4 h · 🌐

Wednesdays @ Dalmilling

- ◇ Teddy Bear Tots - 9.30am - 11.30am
- ◇ Wednesday Wanderers meet at 10.30am
- ◇ Community Corner - 12pm - 2pm ... See more

From Facebook page.

All Welcome

This week at the Community Corner

- Homemade Lentil Soup & crusty bread.
- Cheese, ham & chicken toasties
- Tea, coffee & juice
- Card games
- Board game
- Mental Health Support

Wilson Hall,
Dalmilling Church
12pm - 2pm

And when it rains on your parade, look up rather than down. Without the rain there would be no rainbow.
-C.K. Chesterton

Happy Wednesday!



Teddy Bear Tots – Breakfast with Santa

Teddy Bear Tots finished up the year by hosting a Breakfast with Santa in the church, this was very well attended by regular members and family members, each child enjoyed spending time with Santa whilst enjoying a delicious healthy breakfast, all of the kids and adults received a lovely gift from the big man himself. This event was made more special by using the church to host this event due to the festive surrounding and poignant meaning, this event was made possible by funding received from Vics in the community, Flair SCIO and The DV Camera club.

Teddy Bear Tots

Teddy bear tots have continued to go from strength to strength. In 2022 we welcomed 2 new volunteers who have done great work by reintroducing song time and the craft table this gives the tots a little bit of structure and routine. Our numbers have dwindled slightly in the last few weeks due to nursery placements but although the kids no longer attend the Mums still join us for a cuppa and a chat, this in itself is amazing as it is so important for Mum's to realise they are not alone. In January we decided to remain open although the schools were on strike. We had a little reunion with some of our Teddy Bear Tots from years gone by, we had a wonderful time and we couldn't believe just how grown up some of them were. Time sure flies when you're having fun!!

Kirsty McCardle







Community Corner

The community corner was introduced in December 2022 and has been a welcome addition to the church schedule, by working in partnership with Whitlets Vics in the Community. This has been a great success. We have welcomed roughly 25 people through the door on a weekly basis, these individuals enjoy hot soup, toasties, cakes and beverages as well as a listening ear and a warm space. Through this partnership we have also been able to facilitate the distribution of Red bags for local families from NB4CC, Pre-loved warm jackets & clothes from Baby to Teen and Christmas Meals for vulnerable and infirm in which our minister was involved in the sorting and packing.

NB4CC Night Before Christmas Campaign





Brownies



by Brown Owl Lise Whittle

dalmillingbrownies@hotmail.com



The Brownies kept very busy Last term. For Remembrance they each had a soldier's name from the War Memorial to remember, and they carefully sewed themselves a poppy brooch with a button



in the centre - for some of the girls it was the first time they had sewed something. We talked about true stories from WW1 and WW2, and played parachute games with a real green army parachute, and ended by singing some songs including '*Pack Up Your Troubles*'.



On Remembrance Sunday two Brownies and Leaders joined the congregation for the Remembrance Sunday service, one Brownie was our Flag Bearer and the other Brownie was our Wreath Bearer. We sang our song '*Turn Your Thoughts On This Occasion*' and then joined the congregation laying our wreath with the others at the War Memorial. Afterwards, the girls

enjoyed coming back to the Church for sandwiches - and LOTS of cakes!!



*Turn your thoughts on this occasion
To those who fought and died in the war.
Years have passed and time has forgotten,
But we will remember the soldiers once more."*



Another week we completed the final part of our 'Take Action' badge by finding out about plastic and zero waste – is plastic good or bad? This led to a lot of discussion and views, and we decided that *some* plastic is very useful as it is long-lasting, strong and waterproof, but because plastic doesn't break down naturally in the environment

we need to use far less, and reuse and recycle it as much as we can.

We looked at some beautiful plant pot covers made from recycled plastic fishing rope washed up on the shore. We played a 'Which Bin Does This Go In' game, and everyone made model toy monsters out of recycled materials and recyclable paper sticky tape.



Brown Owl had a surplus of baby plants attached to her spider plant (which had originally come as a cutting from a plant at Dalmilling Primary School), so she brought her plant in to Brownies one week and everyone chose a baby spider plant and potted it up to take home.



The Brownies had great fun getting ready for Christmas! For Christmas crafts everyone made a wooden penguin tree decoration, a reindeer stick puppet, and a Christmas card.

They also made their own recycled wrapping paper using old wall planners and decorating the back with Christmas ink stampers and stickers to make the sheet look colourful and festive. The Leaders kept the wrapping paper to wrap the Brownies' presents in for the Christmas party the following week!



At the Christmas party we started off by singing 'O Little Town Of Bethlehem' and we discussed the meaning of Christmas and why we give and receive presents (because the Wise Men gave presents to Jesus). Then it was time for some games – Santa Says, Musical Chairs and Christmas Corners which involved acting out a penguin, Santa, a reindeer and a Christmas tree! Snowy Owl read out a Christmas snowman story which involved the girls passing a toy penguin around the circle – every time she said the word 'left' or 'right' they had to change the direction of the penguin! We had a delicious party tea, and a Christmas Quiz, and we finished up with a newspaper snowball fight. Everyone left the party with a present (wrapped in their own personally designed wrapping paper they had made the week before), activity sheets, a carol sheet, a scratch art decoration, and a Christmas card – and a smile on their faces!

The following Saturday we had a Girlguiding trip to the cinema in Ayr to see 'Matilda The Musical', and girls from all sections of Girlguiding Ayrshire South came along – Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers – the cinema was almost full of girls





in uniform! The Leaders had some concerns beforehand as the film was rated PG, but the Brownies said they enjoyed it afterwards. Everyone received a lovely special 'Matilda' badge. After saying a 'Brownie Thank You' to the cinema staff, everyone wished each other a very Happy Christmas, and it was time to go home.



We are still looking for Leaders to restart the Rainbows and also Guides, and we have girls waiting to join. A programme is already available, and full training and support will be given. If you or anyone you know might be interested in becoming a volunteer Rainbow or Guide leader, please get in touch. For more information, contact Brownie leader Lise Whittle at dalmillingbrownies@hotmail.com or District Commissioner Janis Meredith at dcjcentralayr@girlguidingayrshiresouth.org.uk

See next page for Brownies Christmas Quiz.

***HAPPY
EASTER***





CHRISTMAS QUIZ
BY BARN OWL SONYAHILL

1. What is the name of the snowman in the Disney movie Frozen?
2. What four letter word is an abbreviation of the word Christmas?
3. Where does Santa live?
4. True or False: In Japan, millions of people eat KFC for their main Christmas meal?
5. Santa Claus is also known as Saint who?
6. Tradition has it that in order to bring good luck, people should do what on each of the twelve days of Christmas?
A) Eat a mince pie B) Open a present C) Pull a cracker
7. What is the name of the lead character in the movie Elf?
A) Ronald the Reindeer B) Alfie the Elf C) Buddy the Elf
8. How many points does a snowflake have?
9. What is the name of the evergreen plant that it's traditional to kiss under?
10. What is the name of the 25 days leading up to Christmas?
11. What is lucky to find in your Christmas Pudding?
12. Who were the first people to visit baby Jesus?
A) Shepherds B) Three Kings C) Three Queen

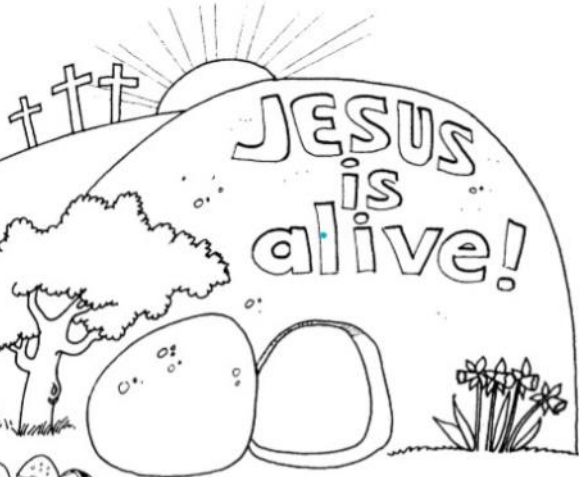
QUIZ ANSWERS 1 Olat 2 Xmas 3 The North Pole 4 True 5
Nicholas 6 Eat a mince pie 7 Buddy the Elf 8 Six 9 Mistletoe
10 Advent 11 Sixpence 12 Shepherd



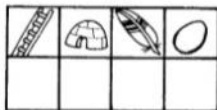
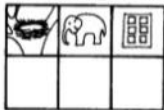
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Very EARLY on SUNDAY morning the WOMEN went to the TOMB. They FOUND the huge STONE had been ROLLED AWAY. An ANGEL told them that JESUS was no longer DEAD. He was ALIVE!



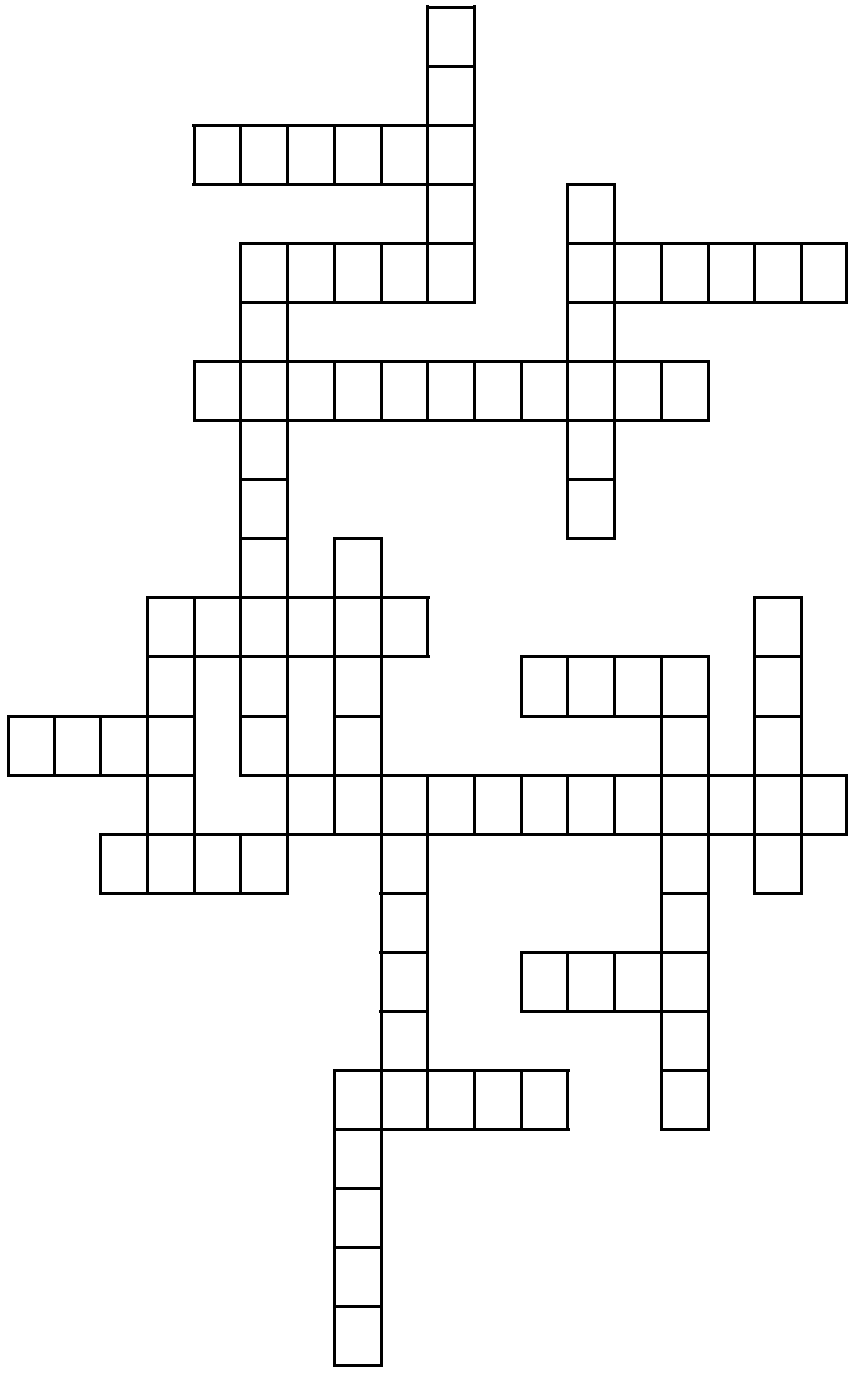
So we give each other as a sign of



HAPPY EASTER

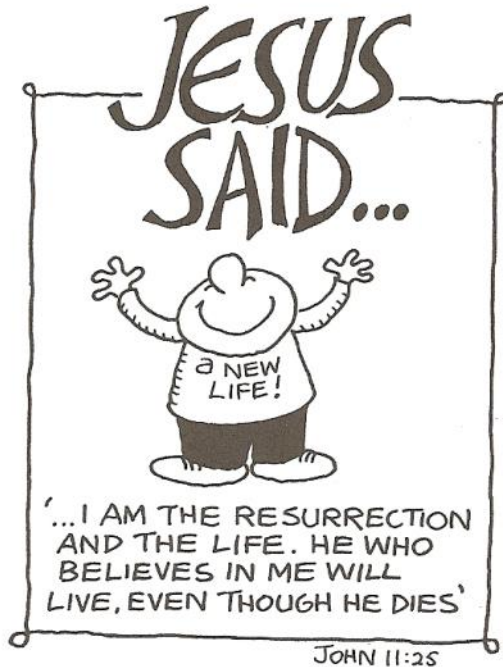


EASTER WORDFIT





LAST	CROSS	DENIAL	BETRAYAL
MARY	CROWN	EASTER	
PRAY	JESUS	PILATE	JERUSALEM
TOMB	JUDAS	SUPPER	
	PETER	THORNS	CRUCIFIXION
	SIMON		
	STONE		RESURRECTION





Have you ever watched kids on a merry go round?
 Or listened to the rain Slipping on the ground?
 Ever followed a butterfly's erratic flight?
 Or gazed at the sun into the fading light?

**You had better slow down, Don't dance so fast
 Time is short. The music won't last.**

Do you run through each day on the fly?
 When you ask 'How are you?' Do you hear the reply?
 When the day is done do you lie in your bed
 With the next hundred chores running through your head?

**You had better slow down, Don't dance so fast
 Time is short. The music won't last.**

Ever told your child, we'll do it tomorrow?
 And in your haste, not see his sorrow?
 Ever lost touch, let a good friendship die?
 Cause you never had time to call and say Hi?

**You had better slow down, Don't dance so fast
 Time is short. The music won't last.**

When you run so fast to get somewhere
 You miss half the fun of getting there.
 When you worry and hurry through your day
 It is like an unopened gift....Thrown away.

Life is not a race.
 Do take it slower.
 Hear the music.
 Before the song is over.

anon.

Provided by Vickie Mutch



*Winter is over,
Dark days have gone.
Spring has finally begun,
And brought with it the sun.*

*Thank God for the sunshine.
Thank God for the rain.
It brings life to our gardens.
And brightens them again.*

*The crocus and daffodils,
And tulips we grow,
Mimic the life cycle
of all that we know.*

*So don't waste a moment,
Of each God-given precious day
Don't take life for granted,
Don't throw it away.*

By Elizabeth Brechany





There are 365 days in a year, (unless it's a leap year), but some are more special than others. For us in the church we count Christmas and Easter as some of the most important dates in our Calendar but there are others which some consider important. In the next few months, we have the following.

Valentine's Day - Tuesday 14th February

This originated as a Christian feast day honouring Christian martyrs named Saint Valentine. It wasn't till the 14th and 15th centuries that the day became associated with romantic love. Nowadays it is associated with the giving of cards perhaps with SWALK on the flap, chocolates or gifts to a loved one.

Shrove Tuesday / Pancake Day – 21st February

Regarded as a day of feasting prior to participating in the season of Lent.

Ash Wednesday – 22nd February

Marks the first day of Lent which is the season of fasting or penitence in some Christian cultures.

Red Nose Day / Comic Relief – Friday 17th February

Comic relief supports many projects both in the UK and across the World. There are many ways in which you can be involved in this. Some might wish to fundraise themselves or support celebrities completing a challenge.

- Emma Willis, Oti Mabuse and Rylan will trek between Braemar and Cairn Gorm in the Scottish Highlands immersed in a vast wintery landscape with few roads and little shelter. Lasting 3 days and 2 nights the trek will take place between the 8th and 10th February and will be broadcast on BBC in the run up to Red Nose Day.



- Gethin Jones intends to dance non-stop for 24 hours to raise funds.
- Your local primary school might get involved. If you have children in your family they might be looking for money to purchase one of the new style paper red noses from the school. These come flat and then open out into a circle. Older people reading this might remember Christmas decorations like this that opened out into a bell shape.

Mother's Day - Sunday 19th March

Like others Mother's Day has become more commercialised over the years. It is generally seen as a time for families to acknowledge how loved their mother is. A child might give their mother a handmade card or some flowers or chocolates. As both mother and child grow older this might become a visit to a restaurant for lunch. This latter a welcome break from the hundreds of meals prepared each year.

Palm Sunday - 2nd April

This is the day we celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Riding on a donkey the people cheered shouting 'Hosanna in the highest' and laid palm branches on the road.

Good Friday - 7th April

On this day we commemorate Jesus' crucifixion and death. We remember that he suffered and died for us. Although it is a dark day, we know that looking onward it is but three days to the Resurrection.

Easter Sunday - 9th April

When we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus. The empty tomb was not an ending but a beginning as Jesus returned to show his victory over death and a promise to us of life everlasting.

Elizabeth Brechany



FLOWERS IN CHURCH

If you have been attending church, you will notice that flowers are once more decorating both the sanctuaries. After the service, these flowers are given to people who are ill, been in hospital, are housebound, or have been bereaved. They are sometimes given to celebrate good news or birthdays.

If you would like to commemorate a special date by donating flowers, speak to Rosemary if the date falls on a day we worship at Auchincruive, or Pat if it is Dalmilling.



“Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Revelations 21:3-4



Christening

18th December Jackson Grove



Funerals

17th November Steven White, Ayr

23rd November Sandra Ramage, 51 Sannox View

6th December Ruth Holland, 77 James Brown Ave

16th December John Collins, Heathfield House

11th January Margaret Allan, 19 Viewfield Court

11th January Robert 'Bob' Lewis, 7c Low Road

26th January Grace Douglas, Ayr

27th January Norah Campbell, 6 Braemar Square

8th February Mary Anne O'Neill, 23 Back Peebles Street

14th February May Welsh, Temple House, Mossblown

15th February Margaret Lindsay, Windyoaks, Fulshaw

16th February Ann Finlayson, 31 Mainholm Crescent



20	FEB, MON	● 16:00 – 17:45	Brownies Lesser Hall
21	FEB, TUE	● All day ● 17:00 – 21:35	Carnival / Shrove Tuesday / Pancake Day Dancing - Lynne Wilson Hall
22	FEB, WED	● 09:30 – 11:30 ● 12:00 – 14:00 ● 17:45 – 21:25	Tots Group Wilson Hall Community Corner Wilson Hall Dance - Lauren Wilson Hall
23	FEB, THU	● 13:00 – 16:00	Wild Rhythm Wilson and Lesser Halls
24	FEB, FRI	● 10:30 – 11:30 ● 16:15 – 18:15	Transform Women's Exercise Group Wilson Hall Dancing - Lynne Wilson Hall
25	FEB, SAT	● 10:30 – 12:30	Dancing - Lauren Wyllie Wilson Hall
26	FEB, SUN	● 10:30 – 11:30 ● 12:00 – 18:00	Auchincruive Church Service War Gamers Lesser Hall

Website: www.ayrstquivox.com

Facebook: Search for Ayr:St. Quivox Parish Church
Here you can find updates on our services and signposts to what's going on in our church.





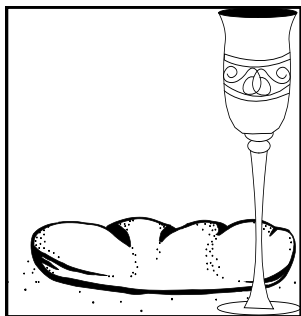
CONTACTS

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Safeguarding Team	A Leydon, R Alexander, Rev John McCutcheon	
Audio/Visual Programmer		
Order of Service & Intimations Secretary	Vickie Mutch	263678
Organist	Jennifer McCutcheon	261248
Auchincruive Church Officer	Katharine Black	478242
Dalmilling Sunday Church Officer	Allan Leydon	262293
Dalmilling Premises co-ordinator	Allan Leydon	262293
Auchincruive Communion	Katharine & John Black.	478242
Dalmilling Communion	Allan Leydon Elizabeth Brechany	262293 268363
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Flowers Dalmilling	Pat Smith	
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Magazine Editor	Elizabeth Brechany	268363



We Invite You
To join us for COMMUNION
SUNDAY 5th MARCH 2023
At Dalmilling Church



*Do this in remembrance of me.
Luke 22:19*

Next issue of Church Magazine

All items should be submitted to Elizabeth Brechany

by Sunday 7th May 2023

St Quivox Parish Church: Ayr (Church of Scotland) (known as Ayr:St Quivox Parish Church) is a Scottish Charity, SC004906, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).