

Church Register

Baptisms

Jesus said "Let the children come to me and do not hinder them."

Tori Maguire, Roxy Maguire.

Deaths

"The Lord's my shepherd I'll not want"

Mrs Irene Reilly

Maidens

Mary (Molly) McNeillie

Ardmillan Road

Church Office

Church Secretary: Janette Robertson will be in the office – **Tues. 10.00 am – 12 noon & Frid. 9.00 am – 1.00 pm.** All items for the Pew Leaflet should be given to Janette, or posted through the office door. Please note that articles for inclusion in the Sunday Pew Leaflet must be with Janette **no later than 11.00 am on the preceding Friday.**

Contact details:

Telephone: 712672

Email: churchoffice12@btconnect.com

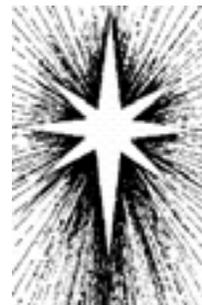
Church Website: girvannorthparishchurch.org.uk



Girvan North Parish Church

EDITOR'S NOTE:

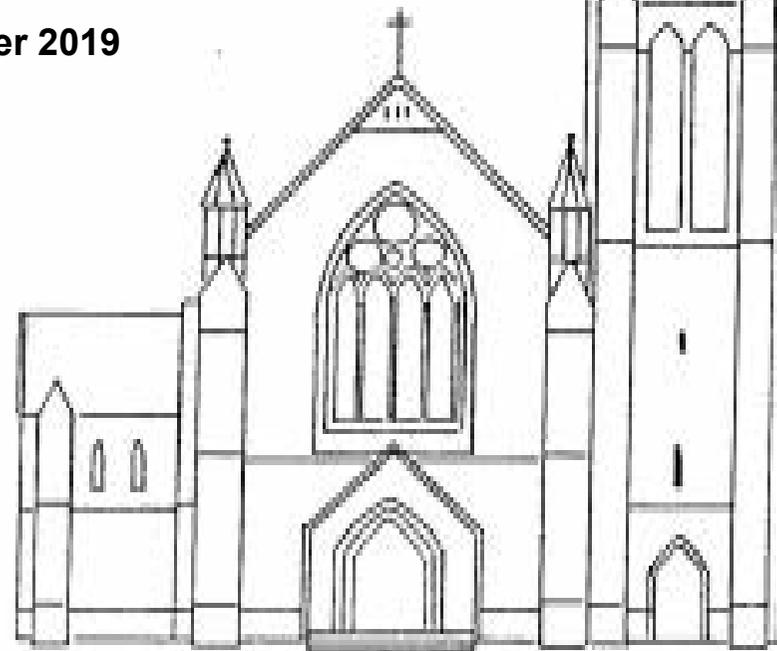
All articles for the November 2019 issue of the Church Magazine should be given to the Editor by Sunday 27th October 2019



The Church
of Scotland

The
North
Star

October 2019



Girvan North Parish Church

Girvan North Parish Church Charity No. SC007347

CHURCH OFFICIALS

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Blythswood Care

We have resumed our collection for Blythswood, so please bring any of the following donations, and they will be taken up to their shop in Prestwick.

Please mark your boxes/bags with the following appropriate label(s):

**BRB = Bric-a-Brac C = Clothes D = Dishes F = Food
G = Glass items M = Medical T = Toys = Books**

Stamps

Please bring along used stamps and place them in the box in the vestibule at the church building.

They are sent to World Mission at '121' who benefit in the region of £2,000 + per annum.

Please leave about one quarter of an inch around the stamp when you cut it off the envelope.

Computer Inkjet Cartridges

Used computer inkjet cartridges continue to be handed in in good numbers in response to the Kirk Session's decision to collect used computer inkjet cartridges and send them off to either The Leprosy Mission (Scotland) or to CHAS. The Leprosy Mission (Scotland) can take only three particular makes but other makes can be sent via the Rotary Club of Girvan to CHAS.

The church will send off the ones to TLM (Scotland) while the rest will be taken to Rotary for them to send to CHAS.

A box will be found each Sunday in the vestibule of the church building into which you may place your used cartridges. Please keep them coming!

October Newsletter for Girvan North.

In a small Italian town, several centuries ago, a small business owner owed a great deal of money to a loan shark. The loan shark was a very unattractive person, in every sense, who wanted to marry the small business owner's beautiful daughter. So, the loan shark offered the small business owner a deal: "Your whole debt would be cleared if I can marry your daughter". Her father hated this offer. The loan shark put two pebbles in a bag: one black; one white. The daughter would pick one pebble out. If the pebble was black the debt would be gone, and the loan shark would marry the daughter; if the pebble was white the debt would be gone, and the loan shark would **not** marry the daughter. The loan shark picked up two pebbles, but the daughter noticed that **they were both black**. Would the daughter refuse to pick a pebble out of the bag, pick up both and expose the loan shark for the cheat he was, or pick a pebble knowing her freedom would be sacrificed so her father's debt would be cleared? Instead, she lifted a pebble from the bag and "accidentally" dropped it to the ground amongst all the other pebbles. She said: "The pebble left will be a different colour to the pebble picked". She was able to play the loan shark at his own game. She pretended the pebble dropped was white, her father's debt would be cleared, and she would not need to marry the loan shark, all because the loan shark would not admit the truth of trying to succeed through deception.

Sometimes Jesus acted in a way which was unexpected. When he overturned the moneychanger's tables in the temple, he showed unequivocal anger. Then he played the Pharisees at their own game. When Jesus was asked if he should pay Caesar his taxes, he knew if he said "no" the Roman authorities would accuse him of sedition against Rome; he also knew if he said "yes" the public would turn against him as they hated being subject to Rome. Jesus wanted to see a tax coin and brilliantly asked whose image and inscription was on it. "It is Caesar's" was the reply. "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's". Whilst the Pharisees cared more about tradition, they were less concerned about matters of the heart. It is

not only our outer acts which Jesus is interested in but what is in our hearts too. When the loan shark placed the two black pebbles in the bag, he was pretending to offer a challenge, but it was a challenge which the daughter could not win. The only way the daughter could "correct" this situation was to play him at his own game. I know deception should not be met with deception but when we are being exploited in a situation, we must use our intellect to outwit that person. When our faith is mocked, or we are being ridiculed for our love for Jesus, we must think of how Jesus reacted when he was tested. Just as the Pharisees had met their match in Jesus, hopefully, we can get the better of anyone who tries to undermine our faith. All the answers are contained in the pages of the Bible. It has worked for generations of Christians over the centuries, so it can work for us too, and those who come after us. If we study the Bible properly it will pay us huge dividends. We must believe in its message. As always, it comes down to our faith, and how strong it is. Hopefully it is very strong indeed. **Best wishes, Glenn.**

News from the Kirk Session -The Vacancy

Unfortunately we cannot move forward on this matter until Ayr Presbytery has decided on a plan for the future of the ministry in Ayrshire. There are currently 250 vacancies for ministers throughout Scotland and there is very little prospect of filling them all. Many factors have contributed to this situation, including the lack of applicants for training for the ministry. We also cannot deny the reality of the fall in numbers of people attending church on a regular basis with the consequent decrease in the income of the church. This in turn makes it more and more difficult to cover the huge costs of maintaining church buildings, most of which are old, with many being listed buildings. The Presbytery has decided, therefore, that in this south area (from Alloway down to Ballantrae) we will have to lose 2 of the current 7 charges over the next few years. By June next year they will be producing a plan on how to do this. The Kirk Sessions and Boards of all the relevant churches are being given the opportunity to contribute their ideas to the Presbytery as to how to achieve this reduction. Please talk to the elders if you have your own thoughts on this matter. We will do our very best to keep you informed of all developments.

Church Calendar

Sunday	6 th October	BB Opening Parade, Mr Glenn Ronald
Sunday	13 th October	Morning Worship, Mr Glenn Ronald
Sunday	20 th October	Morning Worship, Mr Glenn Ronald
Sunday	27 th October	Sacrament of Holy Communion Rev Chris Bradshaw
Sunday	3 rd November	Morning Worship, Mr Glenn Ronald

[All services begin at 11.00 am unless indicated]

South Carrick Churches Together

This evening, we will be gathering for the annual Pot Luck Supper at 6.00 pm in Milestones Mission Church, Bridge Street. Our host, the Reverend Adam Oellermann. Food and entertainment will be provided. We and our brothers and sisters from the South Carrick Churches Together will provide the company. May it be a joyous occasion to report in the November North Star magazine. There is no rain to hold us back this time. May God bless our fellowship.

Norma Logan

Baby & Toddler Group

We have had a very successful start to the new session, with numbers remaining at a good level and new arrivals due in the near future. We are open to all up to the age of 3 and can be found in the Lesser Hall every Tuesday in term time. Our time is from 9.30 till 11.00 am.

Mandy McGlaughlan

Boys' Brigade:

B.B. Opening Parade will take place on Sunday, the 6th of October. On this day a special collection will be held in aid of the Company. Your generous donations will be put towards the development of our upcoming leaders through national training courses at President's Badge, Queen's Badge and Officer training levels. Cooper McClymont has completed the first part of KGV1 cadet training and is now being assessed throughout the year, before returning to a second course next summer to complete the most comprehensive officer training there is.

We also have Gavin Wilson going through the final stages of his Queen's Badge activities before the Completion Course in March of next year.

Hayden Brown and Zak Girvan are beginning their journeys as they embark on skills training to gain their President's Badges next May.

So much is happening in the Company at the moment so feel free to approach the boys and staff when you see us to find out more.

Centre Group

Centre Group meets on first and third Wednesdays of each month at 7.00 pm in the church lounge. A warm welcome is extended to all.

Girls' Brigade

After a series of resignations amongst the leaders, it was impossible to re-open the company after the summer break. The Kirk Session therefore had to make the very regrettable decision to close it down. We hoped this would be a temporary measure but this very much depended on finding several adult volunteers who would be willing to undertake the required GB training for company leaders. We were delighted when the mother of one of the girls, Mrs Michelle Oellermann, volunteered to do so. Michelle will do her training in November and we very much hope, therefore, that we can re-open the company in late November/early December. This solves the problem in the short term but in order to secure the future of the company we still need to find more volunteers who are willing to take on this very worthwhile work with the girls. We would appeal to all members of the congregation to try and help us in this. It would be really good if we could find another person, or more than one, who would like to join Michelle on the course next month.

Treasurer's Report

When I joined the Congregational Board of North Parish Church back in 1975, I remember being astounded by the number of bills the Treasurer read out in his report. I had no idea up until then, how much money it took to keep the church going. I took on the Treasurer's position from Jim Nicol at 1st July this year for a maximum of 2 years. I soon realised that after 45 years we still have as many bills to pay, maybe more, but for much bigger amounts!

These outgoings include gas, electricity, telephone and insurance. Salaries to our minister or locum, our church officer, organist and secretary. Printing and stationery costs, repairs and fabric costs, pulpit supply and ministers' travel costs, etc etc. Each year we are required to pay a set amount to the Church of Scotland for Ministries and Mission, usually over £40,000. This pays for our Minister or Locum's salary, and for work the church does around the country and abroad.

It is through the givings of our members that I am able to pay these bills. Whether you give in the open plate, in free will offering envelopes, by bank standing order or by cheque, every penny is needed. If you are a tax payer, we can claim back from Inland Revenue an extra 25% of your givings. ie for every £1 you give, the church will get £1.25 at no extra cost to you. Contact Joyce Mills , 712050, and she will help you fill in the form. If you would find it more convenient to make your offering by Bank Standing Order I can give you a form to complete. (713059) During the last 5 years our expenditure has exceeded our income in 3 of these years. This year our financial position has been eased by two generous legacies from former members.

Over the coming months I intend to keep you updated on our income and expenditure.

Margaret Benson

Harvest Thanksgiving

Our Harvest Thanksgiving was celebrated in the Church on Sunday 29th September 2019. The Sanctuary of the Church and the Vestibule were decorated with flowers and harvest gifts and looked really beautiful. Organising the Harvest Thanksgiving is the responsibility of the Pastoral Care team and we would like to thank most sincerely all members and friends who gifted money, flowers, fruit, vegetables and groceries. In particular we would like to thank Simpson's Bakery for donating the beautiful Harvest Loaf and to Girvan Early Growers for their gift of potatoes.

Mr Glenn Ronald preached the sermon on "Thinking of God and others before ourselves"

A total of over 90 harvest gifts were distributed to members of the congregation after the Service. Our sincere thanks to the 9 ladies who spent all of Saturday morning arranging flower baskets and posies, to Jimmy Lindsay for erecting and dismantling the staging, to Janet Arthur and her team of helpers for organising and displaying the gifts so beautifully. We also thank the elders and members who delivered the gifts on Sunday afternoon. It was a wonderful team effort and much appreciated.

The Worship Team

A Discussionary Group is starting in the Church, we aim to use a DVD to prompt discussion. We hope to start on Monday 14th October at 7.00 pm in the Church. Tea/Coffee will be served at 7.00 pm and we aim to start the discussion at 7.30 pm. We will finish at some time between 8.30 and 9.00 pm. Everyone most welcome and bring your friends!

The Worship Team

Judgement Day

On judgement day God won't ask what kind of car you drove, but he'll ask how many people you gave a lift to.

On judgment day God won't ask the square footage of your house, but he'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.

God won't ask about the clothes you had in your cupboard, but he'll ask how many you helped to clothe.

God won't ask how many material possessions you had, but he'll ask what you did with them.

God won't ask what your highest salary was, but he'll ask you what you did with it.

God won't ask how much overtime you worked, but he'll ask if your overtime work was for yourself or for your family.

God won't ask how many promotions you received, but he'll ask how you promoted others.

God won't ask what your job title was, but he'll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.

God won't ask what you did to help yourself, but he'll ask what you did to help others.

God won't ask what how many friends you had, but he'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.

God won't ask what you did to protect your rights, but he'll ask what you did to protect the rights of others.

God won't ask in what neighbourhood you lived, but he'll ask how you treated your neighbours.

God won't ask why it took you so long to seek salvation, but he'll lovingly take you by the hand and lead you to your mansion.

Annan Old Parish Churches

Wednesday Break

Nice to see our friends back again and hear the chatter in the small hall. Our series of talks come from a book by Rachel Hickson entitled "Pathway of Peace" where she takes "peace" sayings from the Bible and expands on them with anecdotes.

Our usual team of Stuart, Eric, Kathleen and Anne are there to greet you. Join us for tea/coffee after our short service every Wednesday at 10.30 am.

Pastoral Care Team

Over the summer months, the Pastoral Care Team have visited Members who have requested a regular visit.

Glenn continues with his excellent Pastoral visits and all are reminded to keep Violet Connor (712144) informed of anyone who is ill or requiring a visit so that this information can be passed to Glenn. The Car Service is looking for two new drivers and if anyone is willing to take on this duty, please contact Margaret Murdoch (714515). Flowers continue to be distributed each Sunday and if you know of anyone who should get flowers, please let Myra McCutcheon know. The next meeting of the Pastoral Care Team is Monday 21 October at 7.00 p.m.

Pastoral Care Team

Crèche Rota

6 th October	Diane Irvine, Michelle Scobie
13 th October	Wilma Armstrong, Fiona McCutcheon
20 th October	Arlene McGarragle, Susan Brown
27 th October	Isla Johnstone, Leslie Forbes
3 rd November	Margaret Nicol, Rhona MacKinnon

It is essential that 2 people are on duty in the crèche at all times.

If you are unable to attend please arrange a substitute.

If anyone is interested in helping out on a Sunday morning, Diane, would be delighted to hear from you – contact details are given below.

We are grateful to those members of our fellowship who voluntarily give of their time to staff our Crèche on Sunday mornings. Please remember that if you cannot do your duty one Sunday it is vital that you arrange a replacement with somebody else who is already on the Crèche rota.

We wish to take this opportunity to remind members that the Crèche is available every Sunday for children under 3 years of age.

Diane Irvine is the Crèche co-coordinator, her contact details are: 5 Trowier Road, Girvan Tel: 710524 Wells1969@hotmail.co.uk

Prayer Topics October 2019

1. The Leprosy Mission – Nigeria

Thank God for the volunteers faithfully serving in Niger State, Nigeria. Ask that God will bless their families and strengthen them as they have committed to serving in this capacity. TLM currently enjoys support from two donors who are funding an educational project for children with leprosy or from leprosy affected homes. The support is changing the lives of these children, reducing stigma and giving them an opportunity to have a better future. Please pray that God will bless these children as they learn and grow; and also that the donors will be blessed as they continue to give towards this cause.

2. Mission Aviation Fellowship – Mongolia

People often suffer the effects of extremely bad air pollution in Mongolia, Ullanbaatar. According to pilot Roy Rissanen, the local hospitals deal with so many respiratory infections that they are unable to accommodate any more patients. Please pray for God's protection and that our pilots and personnel will be kept safer and healthy. Pray for safe travel, the new partnerships that have developed over the last few years, and for the many flights taking place to help meet the needs of this vast country. Pray too, that the airport from which we fly remains open, so that MAF's ministry will continue to serve isolated people effectively.

3. Open Doors – Tajikistan

Pray for Pastor Bahrom, imprisoned for three years in 2017 on false accusations of "religious extremism" because of his work with believers from Muslim backgrounds. Pray for spiritual and physical strength as he spends another six months in prison. After Pastor Bahrom's arrest, the authorities took the building that belonged to his church and expelled the church members. Ask God to encourage these believers, who feel lost without their pastor and their building. Pray for a new

building where they can meet.

Pray for all the people who have lost their jobs through the failure of the Thomas Cook company and other companies. Ask God to help them find other employment. Pray that some may be able to use skills they never thought of using before, to start a new business of their own.

Pray for our politicians that the spirit of bitterness between them might be halted and a way forward might be found and agreed upon.

In our church situation, pray that we may be willing to compromise with other churches if or when that is appropriate. Continue to pray, that God's will may be everyone's priority and ask that He may make very clear to us what His will is. Pray for all members and office bearers, Locum and Interim Moderator, that we may work together to promote and live out the Gospel in a God-ignoring world and give thanks for His love and mercy towards us at all times.

Rev Richard Moffat

During a recent phone call with Richard, I was very pleased to hear that he and Margie have settled well into their new charge. They are seeing much more of their wee grandson, as Richard picks him up from school every day. He was pleased to hear what was happening in Girvan North and asked me to pass on his love to everyone here.

The Parable of the Lost Coin

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?" Luke 15:8 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 15:8-10.



The words below have been written in code. Use the hints in the decoder at the top of the page to help break the code (the letters on top are the correct answers, the letters on the bottom are the code). Write the correct word on the line provided beside each code word.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

6-9-14-4 _____

12-15-19-5 _____

23-15-13-1-14 _____

6-15-21-14-4 _____

3-15-9-14-19 _____

1-14-7-5-12-19 _____

12-1-13-16 _____

18-5-10-15-9-3-5 _____

FIND	LOSE	WOMAN	FOUND
COINS	ANGELS	LAMP	REJOICE

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

FOUND	LOSE	SWEEP	SEARCH	HOUSE
ANGELS	WOMAN	LAMP	FRIENDS	REJOICE
COINS	SINNER	PARABLE	REPENTS	SILVER

Parable of the Lost Sheep

Coloring Page

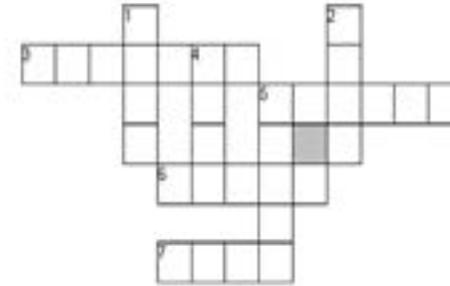


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ACROSS

3. To feel or show great happiness about something
5. A person who disobeys God's laws
6. A heavenly being often used by God as his messenger
7. A device placed on a table to give light

DOWN

1. To no longer possess something because you do not know where it is
2. To locate something by searching for it
4. a small round piece of metal which is used as money
5. To clean a floor by using a broom

ANGEL	COIN	FIND	SINNER
REJOICE	LAMP	LOSE	SWEEP