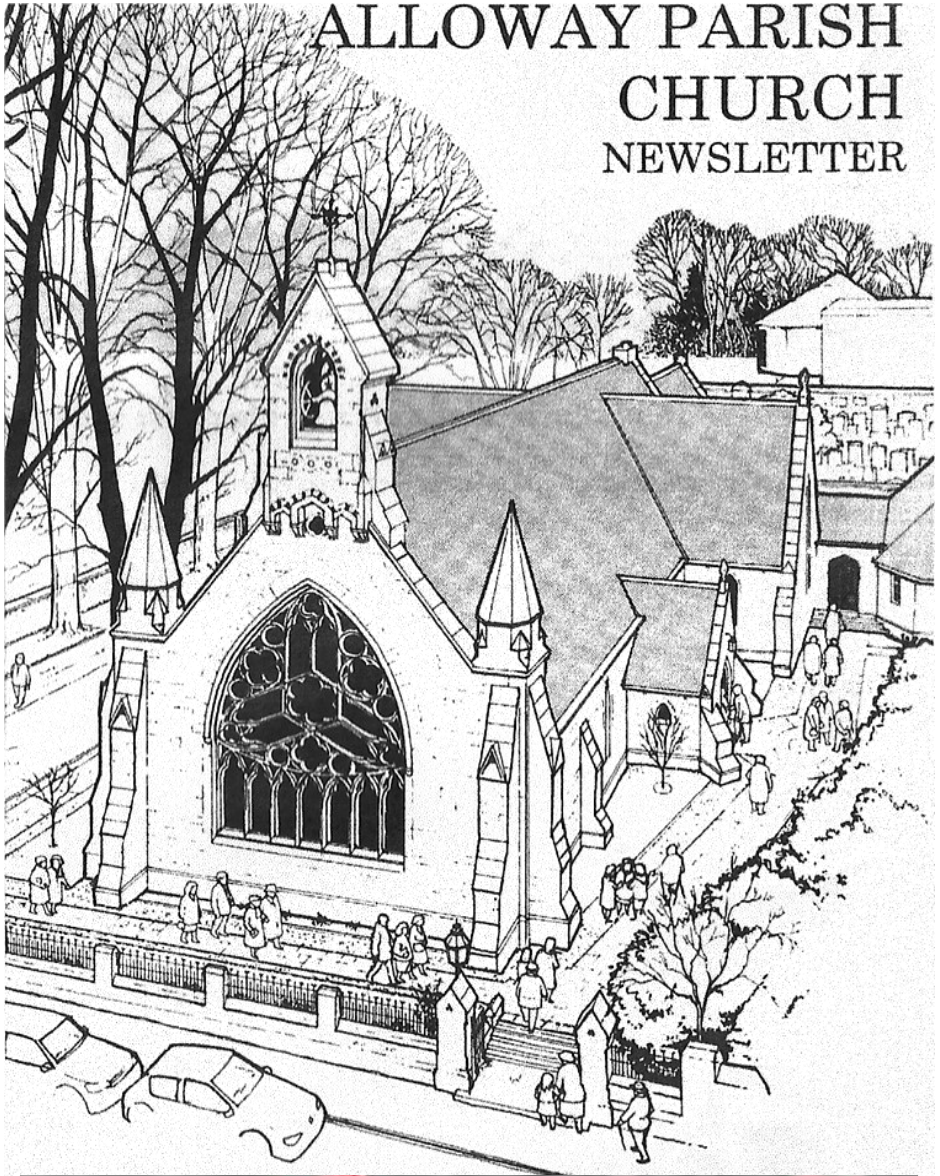


ALLOWAY PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER

2020



Dear Friends,

At time of writing, it seems very strange indeed that in the season of remembrance we will not be free to gather with our young people at the village hall to remember the fallen of two world wars and conflicts since then.

A particular sadness because this is the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the village memorial.

The memorial was placed on a building which was built originally as a school and post office.

In 1896-7 the building was converted into Public Halls.

The war memorial was erected 1920 by James A Morris, dedicated to the fallen of the First World War.

The additional small square stone memorial set at the ground level was dedicated to those who fell in the 1939 -1945 war.

While we are not able to gather with the uniformed organisations, it should not stop us remembering and honouring the generations who gave so much to guarantee our freedom.

Remembering the courage of those who went before seems to me all the more important this year!

Especially now we do well to recall that our generation was not the only one tried and tested.

For previous generations their testing time often brought out the best in them.

Materially they had far less than we do. Spiritually perhaps they had more?

This year marks the eightieth anniversary of a pivotal moment in the Second World War.

Eighty years ago, the people of many cities including Coventry, London, Liverpool, Glasgow were living in terror!

To many it must have seemed like the beginning of the end of the world as the Luftwaffe bombs rained down.

In Aug 1940, the Battle of Britain was infamously described by Winston Churchill

"... never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

Today we remember and give thanks to God for the courage and endurance of our fathers, mothers, grandfathers, grandmothers who stood firm despite the cost.

Let us pray that future generations look back at our conduct through our testing time with similar admiration and gratitude.

In closing another profound quote from one of our finest prime ministers

"Success is not final; failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts." Winston Churchill.

Profound words to inspire our today!

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

- Romans 15:13

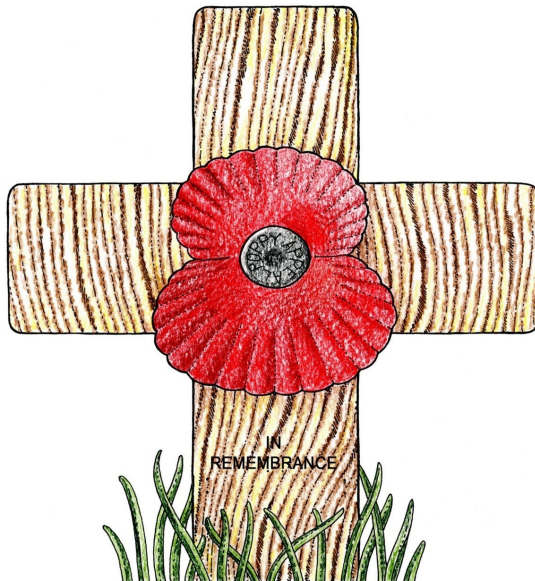
Keep safe

Every blessing

Neil McNaught



November
2020



A note from David...

I must begin this note by expressing my heartfelt thanks to my APC family for all your kind words, messages, cards and gifts given to me on the occasion of my ordination as an Ordained Local Minister - thank you all so much!! I was absolutely overwhelmed by how many people took the time to express in different ways their support, friendship and love.

Those who attended, or watched my service of ordination may remember Rev. Neil referring to a remarkable lady called Edith Eger and her book 'The Choice' - I just had to read it.

A native of Hungary, Edith Eger was just a teenager in 1944 when she experienced one of the worst evils the human race has ever known. As a Jew living in Nazi-occupied Eastern Europe, she and her family were sent to Auschwitz, the heinous death camp. Hours after her parents were sent to the gas chamber, the "Angel of Death," Nazi officer Dr. Josef Mengele, forced Edith to dance for his amusement - and her survival. Edith's bravery however kept her and her sister alive. Toward the end of the war Edith and other prisoners were moved to Austria. On May 4, 1945 a young American soldier noticed Edith's hand moving slightly amongst a number of dead bodies. He quickly summoned medical help and brought her back from the brink of death.

In her book, Edith recounts how throughout her imprisonment and in the years since her liberation, there

have been innumerable occasions where the choices she made had a huge impact on her life - at times making the difference between life and death. Choices are important!

We too have choices to make in our life, and very often these are not easy choices to make. Our faith however is hugely important in guiding our choices, as is the support and love of our Christian brothers and sisters. Let us seek to keep the message of loving our neighbour at the centre of the choices that we make.

On a lighter note...

As an Ordained Local Minister I am fully aware that I still have much to learn. I did not expect however, that as a minister that I would need to learn how to choose my wardrobe so carefully. A few people who watched the recorded service on Sunday 25th October commented that I looked like 'Father Ted'. Despite wearing a navy pinstripe suit, and a matching navy clerical collar, I did look like the 'man in black' - and actually not too unlike Father Ted. I will indeed need to select my wardrobe carefully when preparing for a recorded service - it appears that the camera does lie!!

As always, if there is anything that I can to help you, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

God bless!

David Hume

Church Family and Schools Worker

07858 966367

dhume@churchofscotland.org.uk

Advent Nativity Treasure Trail

During the advent season we will be having a competition based on an 'Advent Nativity Treasure Trail'.

During Advent, we will place knitted characters from the Nativity Story at specific locations around Alloway and Doonfoot. Through advent, those taking part will be encouraged to visit these locations, take a note of which character from the Nativity Story can be found at each location, and at each location answer a Christmas themed question. Completed entries will then be submitted and a winning entry will be selected from all of the correct submissions - though we have not yet decided on a prize!!

I am so grateful to all the ladies (yes, they were all ladies!!) who volunteered to knit the characters from the Nativity Story to make this possible - we even have someone in Texas knitting for us! We will actually have enough characters to put together multiple Nativity Scenes so I hope to be able to donate a set to each of our local primary schools.

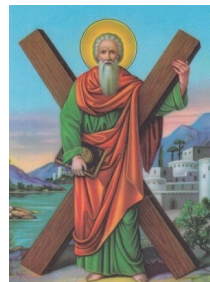
Full details on how to take part in the Advent Nativity Treasure Trail will be available in church, in the December Newsletter, on Facebook and on the Alloway Parish Church website from the 29th of November.

Let's get everyone involved!!

David Hume



Saint Andrew



The apostle Andrew (d. c.60) is Patron Saint of Scotland. According to the gospel of Matthew, Andrew and his brother Simon Peter were the very first two disciples whom Jesus called. 'Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.' (Matt 4:18,19)

Without more ado, they obeyed. 'At once they left their nets and followed him.' The story is touching for the simple but total faith that they had in Jesus.

Whenever the gospels mention the disciples, Andrew's name is always in the first four. Rather than a boisterous leader of men (like Peter), he seems to have been an approachable person who wanted to help people.

It was Andrew who helped introduce a group of Greeks to Jesus (John 12:20-2) and Andrew who offered Jesus the five small barley loaves and two small fishes when Jesus challenged them to feed the five thousand. (John 6:8) His faith in Jesus over small things was richly rewarded, and this faithful, kindly Galilean fisherman turned disciple went on to become one of the 12 apostles of the Christian Church.

Andrew never settled back in Capernaum by Galilee. Instead, his 'fishing for men' seems to have taken him far. One ancient tradition links him with Greece, where both Scythia and Epirus claimed him as their apostle. Another place in Greece, Patras in Achaia, claimed to be the place where Andrew was eventually martyred.

Like Jesus, he was crucified, but the story goes that during the two days it took him to die, he preached earnestly to the people about Jesus. Andrew was not afraid of death on a cross - he had seen it before, and knew one thing for certain: because of Jesus, there was nothing but eternal life ahead of him.

In the West, Andrew's feast-day was universal from the 6th century, and hundreds of churches were named after him in Italy, France and England. But how did he end up as patron saint of Scotland?

Well, according to one ancient legend, some of his relics were taken from Patras to Scotland in the 8th century, and ended up in Fife, where a church dedicated to him was built and became a centre for evangelisation and later pilgrimage.

As Andrew was the only apostle to make it as far as Scotland, he was chosen as patron saint.



Harvest Posies



The ladies of the flower fellowship would like to thank most sincerely the team of ladies who rallied round to help with the posies this year. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all the willing helpers who arrived at the Church Hall to help with their delivery to members of the congregation.
Oonagh Allison.

11th November Martin of Tours

This winter, when you next see someone who looks both poor and cold, think of Martin of Tours. This monk bishop, born in Pannonia (now Hungary) became one of the most popular saints of the Middle Ages.

Martin's father was a pagan officer in the Roman Army, and Martin was intended for the army as well. But from an early age Martin wanted to be a Christian and felt that as a Christian he could not serve the Roman Empire. Martin was imprisoned for this early 'conscientious objection', and not released until 357, when he was nearly 40.

One day Martin met a nearly naked beggar at Amiens. He took off his cloak, cut it in half and gave the half to the beggar. Soon after this, he had a dream in which Christ appeared to him, wearing the half of the cloak which Martin had given away.

Martin was the pioneer of western monasticism: he founded the first monastery in the whole of Gaul about 360. He was made bishop of Tours in 372 - by popular demand of both his clergy and his people.

As bishop, Martin continued his simple life as a monk, - and evangelist. Christianity had been largely confined to the urban centres of population, but Martin went further, and took Christianity to the pagani (countrymen). For the next 25 years this greatly loved bishop travelled his diocese by donkey and by boat, preaching the good news of Jesus Christ, and helping his people to tear down their heathen temples and sacred trees. He was sought out for his healing prayers for the sick, and also his defence of the faith from heretics.



Christmas Fair - 2020 style

Bandawe Girl's School

In the absence of a Christmas Fair this year you will have an opportunity to buy goods at the church halls on four Sundays (November 22nd and 29th and December 6th and 13th). This will take place between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm i.e. during the Food Bank collection time.

All Covid protocols will be observed.

Craft goods will be displayed in the windows of the Fellowship Lounge.

If you see an item which interests you, there will be someone in the lounge who will bring it to the door for your perusal. You can pay by placing cash or a cheque in a box. Sorry we cannot give change and please bring your own bag.

We will also have our usual table of preserves together with a table of plants and bulbs.

This year we are unable to accept baking or donations for any of our other usual Christmas stalls - only craft goods, preserves (proceeds for Foodbank) and plants will be on sale.

If you have crafts for sale please bring them to the hall between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm on Saturday 21st November.

Unsold items may be collected on Sunday 13th December at 2.00 pm. Remaining unsold items will be given to charity.

We hope that we will be able to add to our fund for the Bandawe Girls School. However, we also want to use this opportunity to demonstrate that the spirit of Christmas is still alive in our church amidst these difficult times.

Contacts;- Helen Ness (443800) or Madge Irving (442963)



York Course



This advent course is a chance to have a think about what it means to live well, and to die well. We are people of history and people of hope. We look back to the Bible to see where we've come from, and we look forward in hope to what lies ahead.

Advent Study	"Learning through the season of light "
Wed 25th Nov	7pm Hope 1—Zoom links via Church Secretary
Wed 2nd Dec	7pm Hope 2—Zoom links via Church Secretary
Wed 9th Dec	7pm Hope 3—Zoom link via Church Secretary
Wed 16th Dec	7pm Hope 4—Zoom link via Church Secretary

Wednesday Breaks



"A short service and a long cup of digital tea"

Wed 11th Nov	10.30am - Zoom links via Church Secretary
Wed 25th Nov	10.30am - Zoom links via Church Secretary
Wed 9th Dec	10.30am - Zoom links via Church Secretary

Becoming a Digital Community



Church is beginning to look quite different!

We remain indebted to all those who continue to support the work of the church in a variety of ways.

We fully understand why many people cannot physically attend church given the challenging covid circumstances.

However we are very keen to keep you in touch with the on going work.

Good communication is so important!

To that end we are now soliciting the e mail addresses of our members in the congregation and friends too who would like to be kept informed.

If you would like to be kept in touch with church news etc, please forward your email address to the secretary at secretary.allowaypc@gmail.com.

We assure you that your data will be kept safe and we will not share your data with any other organisation. You are free to opt out at any time by emailing the secretary.

Autumn preserves for sale



Sue Williams and Isabel Bryce have been busy selling homemade marmalade, raspberry and blackcurrant jam with all proceeds going to the Foodbank. The response has been amazing and already in excess of £200 has been raised. This support is very much appreciated and it is hoped everyone is thoroughly enjoying the preserves.

Orders may be placed by email for collection the following Sunday.

bryce.i@btinternet.com

williamssusan59@gmail.com

On Sundays, there will be a small number of jars for sale at the Church Hall Foodbank collection area. Payment for purchases may be placed in the adjacent honesty box. If you have any empty jam jars, please bring them along.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2020

A few empty wrapped shoeboxes are available for you to uplift from the halls during the Foodbank drop off times (Sunday 10am - 2pm).

Filled shoeboxes should be returned by no later than Sunday 15th November.

If anyone has any empty shoeboxes, please can they let us have them as they are on very short supply this year. These can also be dropped off in the halls. Alternatively we can arrange to collect them if that's more convenient. Please call Lynda/Steve on 07952685505.

Below is a link to a little minute long video which explains what it's all about:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CdRnb45mbUU>





Carrick Hike

16 Boys set off in groups of 4 to hike to the Carrick Hills suitably dressed for roads, mud and dirt. Walking in Groups with an experienced senior in charge and in radio contact. They checked into the 3 check points prior to lunch with challenges at each to keep them on their toes. After the three tops challenge, teamwork and survival experience including shelter building. Packed Lunch at the Top - First Aid and all included as DoE practice before hike home.

Irvine Cycle

13 boys successfully completed the 20-mile cycle from Alloway to Irvine.

2 remained in Irvine.

2 stopped to meet friends in Troon.

7 did 42-mile trip as a unit.

2 cycled 50 miles

Route card / log to be filled out by all For Duke of Edinburgh Expedition or practice

WELL DONE MEN

Alloway BB Archery Club

A full squad of Hoods met for the Annual Archery Club Competition.

Two hours of practice, then the two competitions.

Three Targets Shoot

Winner - Craig Steele

Runner up - George Sweeney

Third - Steven McDonnell

Six arrows on target KO

Winner - Steven McDonnell

Runner up - Craig Steele

Overall Winner of the Archery Cup - Steven McDonnell

NB Donald Nicol hit the bull dead centre, leaving a mark but it bounced back.

Good time was had by all.



Alloway Parish Church Newsletter—November

Community Service

Nearly every boy in the Company Section has clocked up more than double their expected level of Community Service. Patio cleaning, gardening, message runner, fence painter the list has been endless. Parents, grandparents, neighbours have been in communication thanking the boys for all their work during this difficult time.

In WW1 & 2, the Brigade was given the title "The Last Line of Defense". It seems strange that in our present social distancing times that the work of the Boys is recognised as the helping hand. A team of boys were on site at Belleisle Conservatory for preparing it and the grounds for the winter. Calla Lilies were cut back and put in storage, flower beds emptied, bulbs dried and cleaned ready for sale in the spring.

Santa's Sleigh - in December

At present our annual Santa's Sleigh is going ahead.

Indications are that we will be "out" 5 nights.

- hopefully, donations to 4 Charities nominated by Queens badge Sgts.

Friday Full Uniform Night

We are STILL awaiting South Ayrshire Council allowing access to Alloway Primary.

Stewart Robertson

BB Captain





Advent Services



29 November Advent Communion—online and in church
(and hall if necessary)

9.30am and 11.15am

6 December Advent 2 - 10.30am

6 December Quiet Service of Remembrance - 7pm



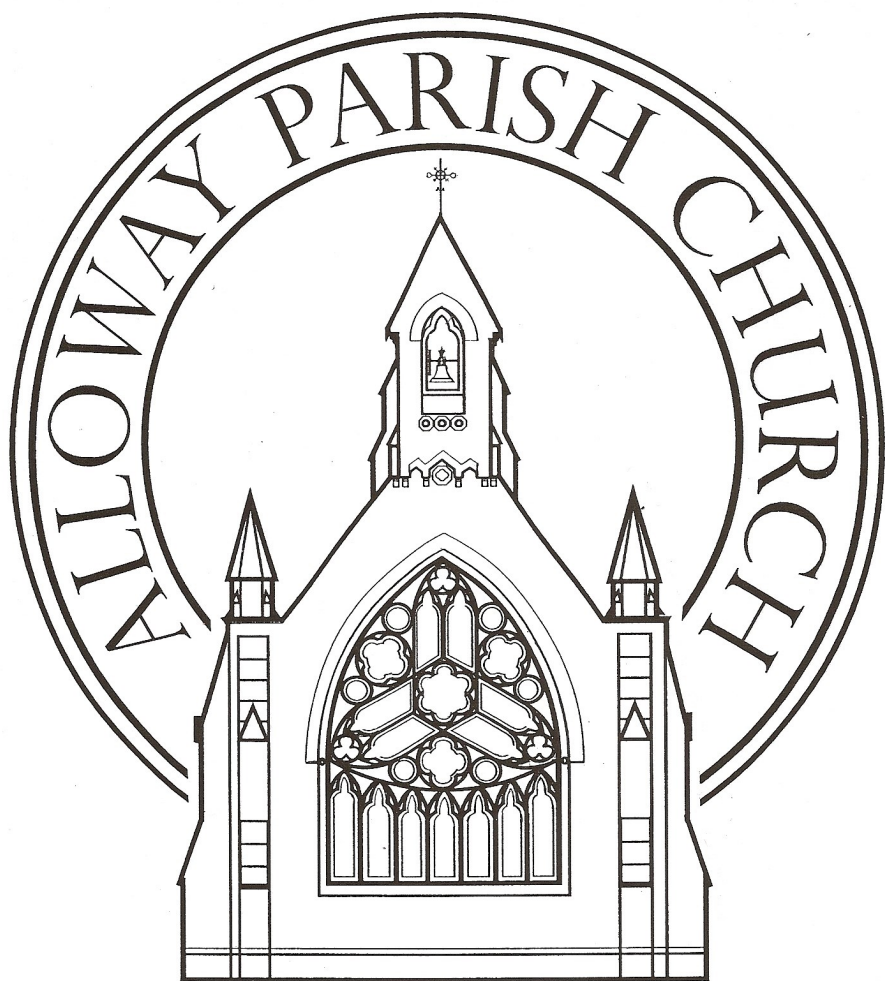
Parish Record



"Blessed are those who die in the Lord "

1.10.20	Mr William Broadfoot	Glenalla Cresc
10.10.20	Mr James McIntosh	The Loaning
12.10.20	Mr Mark Woods	The Loaning
13.10.20	Mr Dan McKiernan	Mount Charles Crescent
28.10.20	Mrs Nancy Thomson	Shalloch Park

Deadline for December Newsletter—Thursday 26 November—12 noon
Contributions should be sent to:
allowaychurch.newsletter@gmail.com
Please visit our website www.allowaychurch.org or our Facebook page



Alloway Parish Church of Scotland
No. 100538

Scottish Registered Charity
No. SC012456