

ST. BRIDES PARISH CHURCH, NEWTONMORE NEWSLETTER LENT 2014

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From the minister's desk

Over the past couple of years we have taken time to think about different areas of stewardship. We looked first at the stewardship of our time and then of our talents, and I think that some of us found it quite challenging. Stewardship means how we use what God has entrusted to us to serve him. This year we will be thinking about the stewardship of our money and later in the year you will hear a lot more about that. But one thing which already the Board may be getting tired of hearing me say is that stewardship is not fund raising. When we consider the stewardship of our money, we do not think, what can I give, what should I keep? Instead we ask ourselves how we can bring our spending and saving into our relationship with God, so that how we handle our money becomes a help to our walking with God, not something apart from it. This may be challenging, but it is also freeing and exciting, and I hope that this might be the year when we discover that stewardship of our money is not a burden but a delight!

Meanwhile we are also looking ahead to Easter, with Lent beginning on Wednesday 6th March, and Easter Day itself falling on April 20th. During the weeks leading up to Easter we are planning to hold a Bible study on Thursday evenings alternating between Am Botham in Laggan and the Manse in Newtonmore. The study will be about Prayer and is entitled "Life Source" reminding us that prayer is the source of our life with Christ, and without it our faith will dry up and wither.

And talking about Prayer in April our church will be part of a national outreach campaign entitled "Try Praying". Our hope is that others who do not know God will discover the relationship that comes through prayer as we give them this invitation. Prayer is not a slot machine, of course. We are not guaranteed always to get what we ask for. But in coming to God our relationship with him grows, and so our lives are changed. What a good way to approach the good news of Easter - by spending more time in prayer with God.
Your Minister, Catherine.

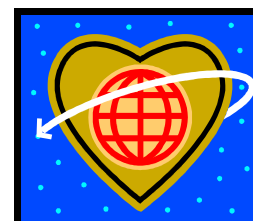
COMMUNION



The sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated at our morning service, 11.15 a.m., on Sunday 2nd March. All followers of Christ are welcome to join us around the Lord's Table. At the service a retiring offering for Cancer Research will be taken.

World Day of Prayer

Friday March 7th is the World Day of Prayer. Praying together is an important part of being church, and so the various churches in the area are coming together for a service which this year is in St. Bride's. The service, prepared for us by Christian women of Egypt, will be held at 2 p.m. and everyone will be most welcome.



LOOKING AHEAD

March 2nd Communion service

March 7th World Day of Prayer, St. Bride's church 2 p.m.

March 30th Messy Church, St. Bride's 4 p.m.

April 2nd Concert, Seonaig Buxton and friends, St. Bride's 7.30 p.m.

April 16th Palm Sunday

April 17th Maundy Thursday Service - Laggan 7.30 p.m.

April 18th Good Friday Service - Laggan 7.30 p.m.

April 20th Easter Day. Worship 10.00 a.m.



Try Praying

We all pray, some more than others, and we all know how grateful people can be if we offer to pray for them in times of difficulty. In April at one of the worship services you will be given a booklet entitled "Try Praying". The idea is that you use this short book of suggestions and ideas for a week and then the next week you give it away to someone who might like to try praying for themselves. "Use it and Lose it!" Look out for the banner which will appear on the church fence....

Music in St. Bride's

There are two concerts coming up in St. Bride's church.

On Wednesday 2nd April, **Seonaig Buxton and friends** from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland will give a programme of varied music.

On Saturday 17th May the **Scottish Reed Trio** will give us a concert of wind music. Both evenings of music start at 7.30 p.m.



*If you ever have to miss worship and want to catch up with the sermon, you can find it on the St. Bride's website, at www.stbrides-newtonmore.org.uk. It gets posted there a couple of days **after** the relevant Sunday! You will also find the weekly notices and other information there. Check it out!*

Church Office Bearers

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