



# St Martin of Tours

Diocese of Edinburgh Scottish Charity No: 011137

Living our faith in our community  
through prayer, reflection and action



---

## Lent, Holy Week & Easter 2018

---

# St Martin of Tours Episcopal Church

is part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

[www.stmartinsedinburgh.org.uk](http://www.stmartinsedinburgh.org.uk)

## Who are we?

Interim Pastor	William Mounsey	
Team Priest	David Warnes	337 3574 <a href="mailto:david.warnes@stmartinsedinburgh.org.uk">david.warnes@stmartinsedinburgh.org.uk</a>
Organist	Chris Johnson	620 2603 <a href="mailto:chrisj@epcc.ed.ac.uk">chrisj@epcc.ed.ac.uk</a>
Rector's Church Warden	George South	346 1338 <a href="mailto:gsouth6691@yahoo.co.uk">gsouth6691@yahoo.co.uk</a>
People's Church Warden	Kate Campbell	466 8184 <a href="mailto:CampbellZn@Hotmail.com">CampbellZn@Hotmail.com</a>
Vestry Secretary	Roderick MacKenzie	449 5465 <a href="mailto:roderick@blueyonder.co.uk">roderick@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
Treasurer	Frank Alexander	228 4489 <a href="mailto:francis.alexander.1@mypostoffice.co.uk">francis.alexander.1@mypostoffice.co.uk</a>
Gifts Secretary	Stuart Campbell	466 8184 <a href="mailto:CampbellZn@Hotmail.com">CampbellZn@Hotmail.com</a>
Fundraiser	Mary Kernohan	662 8471 <a href="mailto:mary.kernohan@stmartinsedinburgh.org.uk">mary.kernohan@stmartinsedinburgh.org.uk</a>
Lay Representative to Synod	Kate Campbell	466 8184
Alternate Lay Representative	Liz Moir (Ms)	

## Next issue

The next issue, covering May & June, will be distributed on Sunday 29 April.  
Copy to David Warnes by **Sunday 22 April** please.

# Looking Forward

*An update for those who don't receive the Mailchimp version.*

## **Working parties**

The report of the Budget working party was forwarded to the Dean in February. As this Newsletter went to press, Vestry was about to meet to make final modifications to and approve the Congregational Profile, including the section produced by the working party which considered the person specification for the next Rector and Chair of St Martin's Community Resource Centre. The Profile is a richly-illustrated document which gives a strong impression of the varied and dynamic life of St Martin's and of the Community Resource Centre and Vestry members are grateful to many members of the congregation for their contributions to it. and to the members of the working party for their work on the person specification.

## **Rectory**

The refurbishment of the Rectory is well under way. The asbestos has been removed and by the time this Newsletter is distributed the damp-proofing work will be complete. We are grateful to George South for all the work he is doing to ensure that this happens. It remains the case that the Rectory should, by Easter or soon after, be in a fit state to be inspected by applicants for the post of Rector.

## **Timing**

The hope is that we will be able to advertise the post of Rector by Easter and conduct interviews in late April or early May in time for the person appointed to give the required three months' notice to their current church and be able to move into the Rectory before the start of the new School year in mid August.

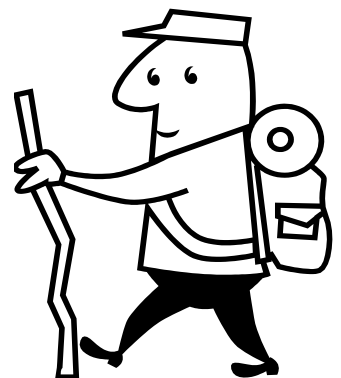
# St Martin's Strollers

The walks planned for March and April are:

**24th March** Broxburn to Ratho to Edinburgh along the Canal

**21st April** Gullane to North Berwick along the beach collecting nurdles

More details nearer the time or from Peter or Liz Moir or George South.



**Peter Moir**

# Street Theology 3

Sometimes a shop front can trigger theological reflection, and this one, which has recently appeared in Fountainbridge, caused me a moment of wry amusement.



It is interesting that the word “divine” has come to mean not much more than “excellent” or perhaps “high quality” though that turns out not to be the recent diminution of meaning that I thought it was. My dictionary of etymology says that this change dates back to the late 15th century. What amused me was the reminder, not I am sure intended by the shop-owner, of the belief in a three-decker universe, with Heaven above our heads and Hell - conceived of as a place of fiery torment - somewhere beneath our feet. Divinely-ordained underfloor heating; the destination for hardened sinners.

The notion of Hell as a place where the unrepentant suffer eternal torment is problematical for a number of reasons. It has served some questionable, even dangerous purposes in human culture. It has been used to try to terrify people into believing certain things or behaving in certain ways; as though virtue or faith could be achieved by the application of fear. It has been used as a form of social control; break whatever happen to be the norms of society in your time, and that’s where you will end up. It has been used as a means of persuading people to accept unjust economic and social orders; you may be poor and powerless now, you may be enslaved, but God will put everything right in the hereafter and your oppressors will get their just deserts. “Pie in the sky when you die” simply won’t do, and my sympathies are with the member of the congregation who responded to a preacher’s use of that phrase by saying “That’s all very well, Reverend, but what I need is ham when I am.”

Above all, the notion of Hell as a place of everlasting torment is problematical because it is very difficult to square with the belief that God is love.

In the past the language of repentance and belief has been used to present people



with a choice along the lines of “Subscribe to this set of theological propositions and you will end up in Heaven. Fail to subscribe to them and you will end up in Hell.”

It sounds like a massive choice and also a simple one. Sermons are still being preached on this theme.

In some branches of Christian theology there is no choice, what happens is predestined and the numbers of those who are saved is far from massive. As John Calvin put it: “All are not created on equal terms, but some are preordained to eternal life, others to eternal damnation; and, accordingly, as each has been created for one or other of these ends, we say that he has been predestinated to life or to death.”



Calvin came to that conclusion because he believed that the authority of God is absolute and unlimited. More recently, some theologians have argued that in choosing to create a universe in which free and rational beings evolve, God has willingly allowed the emergence of creatures (us) who are not God and yet are made in the image and likeness of God. A massive choice indeed and a choice which, given human freedom, inevitably resulted in the possibility of human beings choosing to separate themselves from the love of God. That separation is not something that God wills or intends and, in the Incarnation, God goes to great lengths to overcome it. If Hell is regarded not as a place, and not as a divinely-ordained punishment but as the state a person is in when he or she chooses to separate themselves from the love of God, then the possibility of Hell is a necessary consequence of human freedom.

That thought raises questions as well as answering them. What about divine justice? Does the perfection of Creation require that no-one ultimately remains in a state of separation from God? Can even one unrepentant sinner have the power to thwart God’s loving purposes? In the face of these questions, I find myself falling back on the wisdom of F. W. Faber’s hymn:

“There's a wideness in God's mercy,  
like the wideness of the sea.  
There's a kindness in God's justice,  
which is more than liberty... “

...For the love of God is broader  
than the measures of the mind.  
And the heart of the Eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.”

**David Warnes**



# Ladies' Tea Party

The date has now been set for the Ladies' Tea Party. It's **Saturday 26th May** from 3pm to 5pm. Please keep this date free in your diaries and invite your family and friends too. As usual, we hope the men will act as waiters and there will be a raffle too. There will be more information nearer the time.

**Liz Moir (Mrs)**



# O happy band of pilgrims

A group photograph taken by Liz Moir (Mrs) on the First Sunday in Lent



# Eco congregation



Some of you may have noticed in the last magazine that one of our walks is collecting nurdles from Gullane beach and you may be wondering what is a nurdle? Well it's a small piece of plastic about the size of a bead that may have been in the sea for years. Eventually some of them get washed up on beaches. These small beads started life in the plastic industry but accidental spills have meant millions have entered the sea. They attract toxins from other pollutants and can be digested by fish and sea mammals.

Another pollutant on our beaches are cotton buds. Apparently there are also millions of these in the sea causing the same problems as nurdles. On April 21st we are heading off to Gullane with jam jars, tweezers and other pieces of equipment which is being supplied and we will collect as many nurdles and cotton buds as we can.

Of course it would be great if these items never went into the sea in the first place. If you buy cotton buds buy the cardboard ones which are biodegradable.

Please do join us on our walk and do a small thing for our planet. Might be an idea to bring some gloves too.

**Liz Moir (Mrs)**

## Flowers

Many thanks to everyone who continues to support the Flower Fund with regular or occasional donations, large or small, and for the generous donations from the "Tea" Fund.

There will be no flowers in church during Lent as we prepare for the joy of Easter, but I ask you all to consider offering a donation to the Flower Fund for Easter and to take us into the summer months. Like so many other things the cost of the flowers is increasing but I continue to try to make them last as long as possible.

You can put your donation in an envelope marked "Flowers" and place in the plate on a Sunday morning or hand it to me after church.

With grateful thanks.

**Lynn Dailly**



the  
colinton &  
merchiston  
choir

Music for Easter  
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30 pm  
Memorial Hall, Merchiston Castle School

STAINER: THE CRUCIFIXION  
BRAHMS: HOW LOVELY  
ARE THY DWELLINGS  
SUMSION: THEY THAT GO DOWN  
TO THE SEA IN SHIPS

All welcome  
Refreshments  
Admission free /  
Retiring collection



## St. Cuthbert's Lecture

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018

7pm

Followed by refreshments

St. Cuthbert's Scottish Episcopal Church  
Colinton



Professor  
Paul Foster

Head of the School of Divinity  
University of Edinburgh

The Apocryphal Gospels

## Edinburgh International Harp Festival

30 March-4 April 2018-02-18. Merchiston Castle School, 294 Colinton Road, EH13 0PU

Concerts at 3pm and 7.30pm, workshops, classes from beginners (harps provided) to advanced. Come and wander round the 'Exhibition' – the showrooms for a huge variety of harps. More details from 554 0212 or [www.harpfestival.com](http://www.harpfestival.com)

Unfortunately this year is over the Easter Weekend but for further details talk to Jenny Brockie (337 6483).

## Lent Bible Studies

After Celebrating Communion on Sunday mornings, and drawn from *God's Green Book*.

The remaining sessions are:

Sunday 4 March. Mark 6:30-44 led by Elizabeth South.

Sunday 11 March. Isaiah 35:1-7 led by Liz Moir.

Sunday 18 March. John 4:4-15 led by David Warnes.

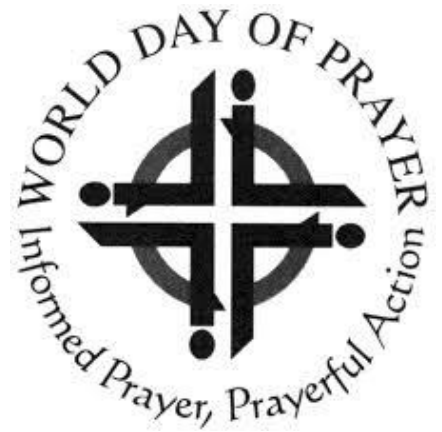
All welcome.



# World Day of Prayer

This year's World Day of Prayer service will be held at **Gorgie-Dalry-Stenhouse Parish Church** in Gorgie on **Friday 2 March** starting at **2pm**.

The theme of the service this year is “**All God's Creation is very good**” and the service has been prepared by Christian women in Suriname.



## News from Jordan

Once again we are grateful to Sonia Squires for keeping us in touch the work of the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf, whose Newsletter periodically appears on the Church noticeboard. The Autumn Newsletter highlighted the theme of **Communication** and the various means of communication, including Jordanian Sign Language, Picture Language, Tactile Sign Language and the new Arabic Lorm Alphabet which students and teachers at the HLID use. The English version of the Lorm alphabet, used to communicate with people who can neither see nor hear, has been around since 1908 but it was only last year that an Arabic version was devised and approved.

The letters of the alphabet are drawn on one hand by means of gentle finger strokes and touches, a gentle knock with a whole hand signifying that one word has been completed and another is about to begin. Two gentle knocks mean “Yes”.

This important new means of communication was developed at HLID by Asma, the Assistant Director of the Institute's deafblind unit. She herself has recently graduated with a bachelor's degree.

Lorm was devised by and is named after Hieronymus Lorm, which was the pen-name of the Czech writer Heinrich Landesman (1820 – 1902). He lost his hearing ability at the age of 15. By his early thirties his eyesight had worsened to the point where he could no longer lip-read and in 1882 he lost the remains of his sight. He devised the touch alphabet to communicate with his family and friends and his daughter published it six years after his death. It is possible for users to pick of the rudiments of Lorm quickly by wearing a glove on which the letters and movements associated with them are printed.

If you would like to know more about the work of HLID and how you can support it, speak to Sonia and visit the HLID website.

[www.holyland-deaf.org](http://www.holyland-deaf.org)

# St Michael's News

Members of St Michael's joined us for the Ash Wednesday Eucharist, and the preacher at that service was their Locum Minister, Martin Pearce. At the time this Newsletter went to press, St Michael's was about to place an advertisement for a new Minister in *Life and Work*. They have put their manse on the market, and are seeking an alternative property. Our prayers are with them as they move forward.

We are invited to join St Michael's for **Lenten Bible Study and prayer**. These meetings will all take place in their Church Hall from **12.30 - 1.30pm**. The dates and themes are as follows:

Weds. 7 March	Jesus the teacher	Third Week of Lent
Weds. 14 March	Jesus the miracle worker	Fourth Week of Lent
Weds. 21 March	Jesus lives with perfect purity	Fifth Week of Lent
Weds. 28 March	Jesus claims to be the Son of God	Holy Week

## Holy Week and Easter

As will be seen from the Calendar, the pattern of services for Holy Week and Easter will be almost identical to last year.

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	10.30am	Celebrating Communion with short Liturgy of Palms and reading of the Passion.
<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	7.30pm	Celebrating Communion with footwashing followed by stripping of the altar.
<b>Good Friday</b>	12 noon	St Martin's open for the Three Hours Vigil.
	1pm	A short Good Friday service.
	3pm	Prayers to conclude the Vigil.
	7.30pm	At St Michael's - Reflections and music based on the Seven Sayings of Jesus on the Cross.
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	7am	Dawn Communion Service in the garden at St Michael's, followed by breakfast.
	10.30am	Celebrating Communion at St Martin's.

# Calendar: March 2018

## March

Sun 4	10.30am	<b>Celebrating Communion - Lent 3</b> Preacher: David Warnes
Sun 11	10.30am	<b>Celebrating Communion - Lent 4 / Mothering Sunday</b> Preacher: Sarah Kilbey
Tues 13	7.45pm	<b>Vestry Meeting - at 7e Devon Place</b>
Sun 18	10.30am	<b>Celebrating Communion - Lent 5</b> Preacher: David Warnes
	6.30pm	<b>Celebrating Communion</b> Monika's & Sonia's lounge (14 Morrison Crescent)
Sun 25	10.30am	<b>Celebrating Communion - Palm Sunday</b> Preacher: David Warnes
Thurs 29	7.30pm	<b>Celebrating Communion &amp; Footwashing—Maundy Thursday</b> Preacher: David Warnes
Fri 30	12-3pm	<b>Three Hours Vigil Prayer - Good Friday</b> with a short service at 1.00pm
	7.30pm	<b>Seven sayings of Jesus on the Cross - at St Michael's</b>

# Calendar: April 2018

## April

Sun 1	7.00am	<b>Dawn Communion Service - Easter</b> In the garden at St Michael's, followed by breakfast
	10.30am	<b>Celebrating Communion - Easter</b> Preacher: David Warnes
Sun 8	10.30am	<b>Celebrating Communion - Easter 2</b> Preacher: William Mounsey
Sun 15	10.30am	<b>Celebrating Communion - Easter 3</b> Preacher: Stuart Robertson
Sun 22	10.30am	<b>Celebrating Communion - Easter 4</b> Preacher: David Warnes
Sun 29	10.30am	<b>Celebrating Communion - Easter 5</b> Preacher: David Warnes

## Cleaning Rota

Church to be cleaned ready for Sunday...

### March

Sunday 4	Stuart & Kate
Sunday 11	Monika & Sonia
Sunday 18	Roderick
Sunday 25	Penny & Bob

### April

Sunday 1	George & Elizabeth
Sunday 8	Frank
Sunday 15	David
Sunday 22	Stuart & Kate
Sunday 29	Monika & Sonia

### May

Sunday 6	Roderick
----------	----------