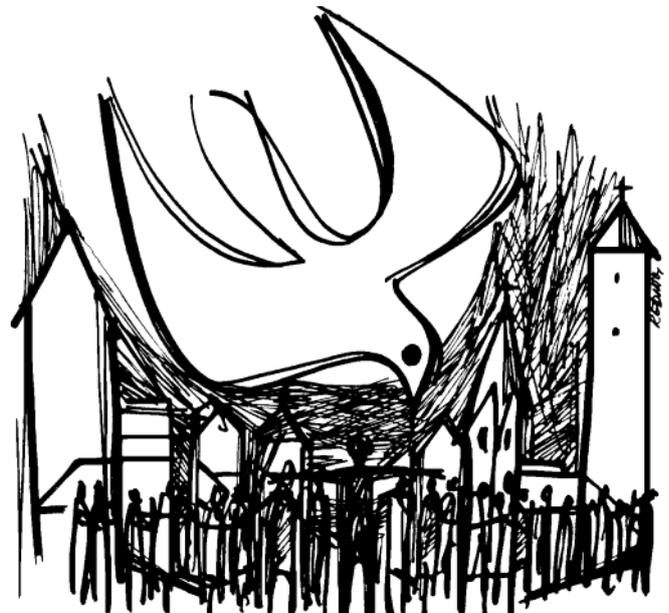




# St Martin of Tours

Diocese of Edinburgh Scottish Charity No: 011137

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



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## Pentecost and Trinity 2018

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# 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 July & August, will be distributed on Sunday 24 June.  
Copy to David Warnes by **Sunday 17 June** please.

# Looking Forward

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

The post of Rector of St Martin's and Chair of the Community Resource Centre was advertised in *The Church Times* for the first time on Friday 23 March. The final appearance of the advertisement was on Friday 27 April, and the closing date for applications was Monday 30 April. In addition to appearing in printed copies of *The Church Times*, the advert is appearing on that paper's website, on the Diocesan and Provincial websites and in the Diocesan fortnightly newsletter, *The Communicant*.

Interviews are scheduled to take place on Monday 14 May. The shortlisted candidates will all meet separately with Bishop John, and the members of the interview panel are the Wardens, George South and Kate Campbell, Peter Moir (representing St Martin's Community Resource Centre, of which he is Treasurer and Acting Chair) and Elizabeth South.

Those interested in the post of Rector have the opportunity of reading a detailed and well-illustrated Congregational Profile, and this can be downloaded from the Church website by following this link:

<https://stmartinsedinburgh.org.uk/welcome/resources-for-applicants-for-the-post-of-rector/>

Work on the refurbishment of the Rectory has been progressing well, and will be completed before the interviews happen. Many thanks to George South for supervising this process.

## St Martin's Strollers

For a variety of reason the only walk now planned during the May/June period is a walk on the 2nd June. This will be a walk around Dunbar. More details nearer the time.



**Peter Moir**

## Ladies Tea Party

This will take place on Saturday 26th May from 3pm till 5pm. The hostesses this year are Mrs Liz Moir, Kate Campbell, Penny Allen, Lynne Dailly, Liz Moir and Diane Fairlie-Clarke. If any lady would like to attend please get in touch with me to allocate you a table. The men will, as usual, be acting as waiters. The cost is again £12.50 per person. As usual, there will be a raffle and I will be grateful to receive anything suitable.

**Liz Moir (Mrs)**

# Street Theology 4

“Can you help us? We're looking for escape.” The young couple who stopped me outside the Dalry Road Co-op didn't look distressed but I hesitated to answer them because it wasn't clear what an appropriate pastoral response might be. “We think we've come too far” the young man added. “*Come* too far, not *gone* too far” I thought, somewhat reassured. It was only when the girl added “We were told that it was a few minutes from Haymarket Station” that I was certain that what they were looking for a place, not a way out of some existential crisis. I sent them back the way they had come and it was only when, later, I followed in their footsteps that I realized that they had been looking for escape, Scotland's first live escape game.



Pausing outside the premises, I gathered that the challenge on offer was escaping from a locked room in, at most, sixty minutes. I also savoured the fact that the proprietors had felt it necessary to install a burglar alarm. Breaking out might be the name of the game, but people still need to be deterred from breaking in.

At that point, the instinct to reflect theologically kicked in. Religious belief is often dismissed as a form of escapism, a retreat from the harsh realities of the world into a cosy interior life. That's a criticism to be challenged in a number of ways. There's nothing escapist about Good Friday. When we pray that day we cannot avoid contemplating violence, pain and injustice. Easter triumphs over all of that, but it doesn't erase it. The Risen Christ is visibly, tangibly wounded. There *is* an escape on offer here, but it is an escape from the cycle of violence



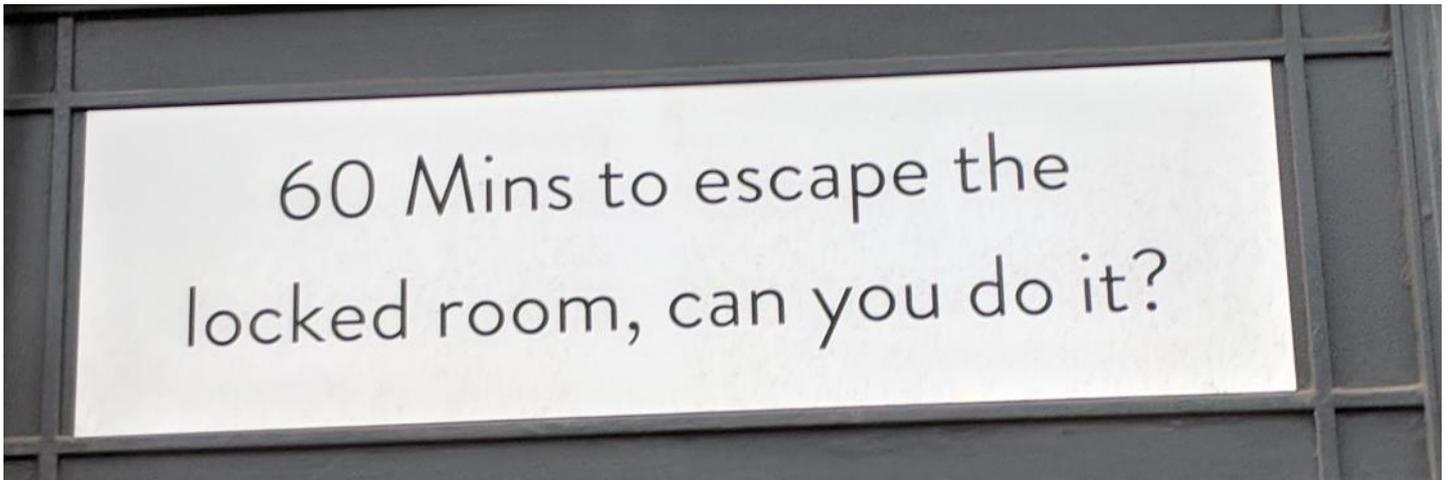
and retaliation into the possibility of love and forgiveness. To live by that is not easy and is not about evading grim realities but about responding to them in ways which do not deepen or extend them. Not a sixty-minute challenge, but one that is lifelong.

The burglar alarm set off another train of thought. Religious believers are sometimes accused of being “God botherers”, an expression which has long struck me as odd, given that distinguished Christians have suggested that the reverse is true, and that they have been bothered by God and by the growing realisation that there was a God-shaped hole in their lives. St Augustine of Hippo acknowledged that when he wrote, of God, “You have made us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You.”

Francis Thompson’s poem *The Hound of Heaven* tells of his experience of being pursued by the love of God and seeking to escape. Thompson, the son of a convert to Roman Catholicism and himself educated in a Catholic seminary, uses as the central metaphor of the poem the image of God as a pursuing hound who cannot be shaken off.

“I fled Him, down the nights and down the days;  
I fled Him, down the arches of the years;  
I fled Him, down the labyrinthine ways  
Of my own mind; and in the mist of tears  
I hid from Him, and under running laughter.”

The metaphor - pursuer and prey - would be intolerable were not the pursuer a loving God. The poem had an interesting afterlife. It was recited from memory one evening in a New York bar, the Hell Hole, by the playwright Eugene O'Neill. Among those who heard the recitation was a young journalist, Dorothy



Day. She was, like O'Neill, a free thinker and her life in the decade after that evening was far from easy. An abortion, divorce, the experience of being a single mother and a search for escape in the form of whisky were parts of her journey, yet Thompson's description of God as "this tremendous lover" found a lodgement in her mind and soul. At the age of thirty she was received into the Roman Catholic Church and the rest of her long life was devoted to campaigning for justice and peace through the Catholic Worker movement and to living alongside the poor and the marginalised. Of the poem, she wrote:

"The idea of this pursuit fascinated me; the inevitableness of it, the recurrence of it, made me feel that inevitably I would have to pause in the mad rush of living to remember my first beginning and last end."

The "mad rush of life" is one of many escape routes from the reality of the love of God, a love which, as the Easter Gospel reminds us, penetrates the locked rooms of our fear and our guilt, the love which another poet, W.H. Auden, was seeking when he wrote

"In the prison of his days  
Teach the free man how to praise."

**David Warnes**

## Coffee Morning raises £350

The Coffee Morning on Saturday 7 April, held to raise money for Eleanor's Orphanage in Liberia, raised a total of £350. Warm thanks to all who baked, served, sold produce and came to enjoy the occasion.

# Eco congregation

Eco Congregation Scotland is exploring the relationship between faith and nature through a pilot project, to encourage congregations to get more involved in caring for our natural world.

The aim is to empower churches to improve their management of their grounds for wildlife and care for creation in the wider community through practical action at home, at church and locally.

We have agreed to take part this year from April 2018 to March 2019 and we will be given seasonal packs to use as we wish.

The idea is to provide helpful tips, ideas and things to try, with the help of an RSPB advisor. This could help the congregation in practical, local and home activities, involving all ages and providing a useful reflective resource for our worship.

I hope that in taking part, whether in useful outings, involvement in the community or our homes, we will be able to embrace the wonder of creation and be part of its renewal.

Watch this space and see how you can be involved.

**Penny Allen**



## G in the Park

This year's G in the Park event, organised by local churches, will be happening on Saturday 23 June. Last year St Martin's ran a café in one corner of Murieston Park as we did for many years for the Gala. This year many of the people who in previous years have volunteered to run the café will be away on holiday, so we are not able to offer this service. If you are at home that day you will be very welcome to turn up and enjoy the event.

## Quiet Space dates

Quiet Space is an opportunity for silent prayer to which all are welcome. The dates and times of the next two sessions are:

Sat 12 May 2018 - St Martin's Lower Hall 09:45am.

Sat 16 June 2018 – St Martin's Lower Hall 09:45am.

# A woman's place

In this story what is a woman's place?

We seem to fulfil our usual roles.

A woman used her veil to wipe Christ's face:  
serving servitude with its own symbols.

Mary's 'yes' exalted willing motherhood,  
while theologians extolled virginity,  
conceiving conception sinful – though they could  
be confused by linguistic discrepancy.

With rush of fragrant waterfall Eve's mane  
of wild hair like a liturgy clad  
her nakedness, once nakedness was shame,  
while with loosened hair a prostitute made glad  
unwelcomed Christ, and with oil and tears won  
that same grace which freed from flying stones  
a shamed woman. Men noted, "He's begun  
new status trends for women: harlots, crones!"

Could it have been the sexuality  
and not the nard which vexed Iscariot,  
provoking him to that treachery,  
unable to bear it that Jesus did not  
reject the woman's tenderness and touch?  
Damning themselves, the Gospel writers tell  
how the men hid, while women stayed true; much  
more that the Spirit indiscriminately fell

with flame and feathered love at Pentecost,  
ignoring convention with fiery grace:  
which fact the theologians somehow lost,  
defining in this story woman's place.

**Jenny Robertson**

# Transformation Project



After nearly eight years, the transformation of the building is now complete. Works downstairs on the toilet block were handed over to the Board on Friday 20th April.





The Transformation Project now sees the building having an accessible entrance, a lift, two accessible toilets and a new toilet block. This along with the various spaces for use has brought the building well into the 21st century.

But works are not complete. The Board is always conscious of maintaining these spaces and developing the facilities to keep them fresh. In this respect we are always looking for volunteers, male and female, to assist with the many little jobs which need done. So please let us know if you would like

to assist and remember part of the role of helping out is to gain yourself some new skills. Contact Bob Allen if you want to help.

There are many people who need to be thanked for their support throughout this whole project. Plans are underway to hold an event to celebrate all the work carried out where this can be done more formally.

**Peter Moir, Treasurer & Interim Chair**



# St Michael's News

All welcome to St Michael's Summer Events:

1: **Tuesday 15th May:** Summer Fruit Punch and Cheese social at the Church Hall 7pm to 8.30pm and an Any Questions Panel

2: **Sunday 20th May:** Heart & Soul at Princess Street Gardens: 1.00pm - 6.00pm. Closing worship in the Ross Bandstand from 5pm

3. **Sunday 27th May:** Joint St Martin's / St Michael's Evening Service: 6.30pm to 7.15pm at St Michael's

4. **Sunday 3rd June:** Barbecue lunch in St Michael's Gardens from 12 noon and visit to the Tower (optional!)

## **Where does the Charity Food bread come from?**

The bakery is the Au Gourmand Bakery located behind Linton Court in Murieston Lane. They support the Food Sharing Scotland Organisation, which is a volunteer-led, community-based, food waste reduction project.

Au Gourmand do not have any obligation to donate their bread and pastries but choose to do so to avoid good food going to waste.

The bread is collected each Sunday at 10am. It went out of date at midnight on the Saturday night, hence it cannot be sold. Nevertheless, the bread and pastries are very tasty and beautifully presented.

It continues to be popular at both St Martin's and St Michael's, and is feeding people who are very grateful to Au Gourmand for their generosity.

**Martin Pearce, Locum at St Michael's**

## Cleaning Rota

Church to be cleaned ready for Sunday...

### **May**

Sunday 6 Roderick  
Sunday 13 Penny & Bob  
Sunday 20 George & Elizabeth  
Sunday 27 Frank

### **June**

Sunday 3 Stuart & Kate  
Sunday 10 David  
Sunday 17 Monika & Sonia  
Sunday 24 Roderick

# Calendar: May-June 2018

## May

Sun 6      10.30am    **Celebrating Communion - Easter 6**

Preacher: Liz Moir

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Sun 13     10.30am    **Celebrating Communion - Easter 7**

Preacher: Sarah Kilbey

6.30pm    **Celebrating Communion**

Monika's & Sonia's lounge (14 Morrison Crescent)

Tues 15    7.45pm    **Vestry Meeting - at 7e Devon Place**

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Sun 20     10.30am    **Celebrating Communion - Pentecost**

Preacher: William Mounsey

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Sun 27     10.30am    **Celebrating Communion - Trinity Sunday**

Preacher: David Warnes

6.30pm    **Shared evening service at St Michael's**

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## June

Sun 3      10.30am    **Celebrating Communion - Pentecost 2**

Preacher: David Warnes

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Sun 10     10.30am    **Celebrating Communion - Pentecost 3**

Preacher: David Warnes

6.30pm    **Celebrating Communion**

Monika's & Sonia's lounge (14 Morrison Crescent)

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Sun 17     10.30am    **Celebrating Communion - Pentecost 4**

Preacher: David Warnes

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Sun 24     10.30am    **Celebrating Communion - Pentecost 5**

Preacher: David Warnes

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