



# Dalserf Parish Church Newsletter



December 2018



## December Church Calendar

- Sunday 2nd** First Sunday of Advent
- Wednesday 5th** Guild Christmas Dinner
- Thursday 6th** Focus Lunch
- Sunday 9th** Carol Service (Dalserf 7:00pm)
- Wednesday 12th** Guild Christmas Concert
- Sunday 16th** Baptism
- Sunday 16th** Gift Service
- Friday 21st** Nursing Home visits
- Monday 24th** Watch Night Service Dalserf 11:30pm  
Christmas Treats and Christian Fellowship, Hamilton Hall 10:30pm



### Mission Statement

*“Dalserf Church exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ through the preaching of the word and witness of every member”*

### All Welcome

Worship at Dalserf Church is at 11.30am Sundays, all year through

Worship at Rorison Church is on 1st Sunday of each month at 2.30pm

### Mondays

Bible Study is at 11.00am, Hamilton Hall

Girls Brigade is from 6.15pm, Rorison

House Group is on 1st Monday of each month at 1.30pm

### Thursdays

Boys Brigade from 5.45pm, Rorison

### Announcements

#### Deaths

Dr Donald Hopkins on Tue 6th November 2018

### Nursing Home Visits

On the last Friday of each month. Please come along and support our visits to the homes.

- 1.45pm Clinton House
- 2.15pm Ballantine Court (1)
- 2.45pm Ballantine Court (2)



### Prayer for Others

May the light of God surround you,  
 May the love of God enfold you,  
 May the power of God protect you,  
 May God place his healing hands upon you and heal you quickly,  
 May the presence of God watch over you,  
 Wherever your God is, Amen



[www.facebook.com/dalserfchurch](http://www.facebook.com/dalserfchurch)



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



CHARITY SC016156





### **Guild Report**

*The Guild Christmas Dinner will take place in the Bowling club Ashgill on Wednesday 5th December. Members of the Congregation and friends are invited to join us. The cost will be £14.00. If you are interested please give their name to Kay Blair or one of the Guild members.*

*Also in December we have, what has become our Annual sing along night. We will once again be entertained by Kenny Mason and friends. This will take place in Rorison church at 7.15pm on Wed 12th December. Tickets are available from Kay Blair or any guild Member. A delicious super will be served. Please come along and support us and enjoy a nice start to Christmas Festivities.*

*On January 24th the Guild will hold its annual Burns Supper in Rorison at 7.00pm. Put the date in the diary just now and join us for what is usually a most enjoyable evening with good food, speeches and entertainment. Tickets will be available early January.*

*The Guild members send Christmas Blessings to all at Dalsarf Church and hope to see some of you at our meetings in 2019.*

**Kay Blair, President**

I was reminded on Remembrance Sunday that the Pastoral Letter was due and that got me thinking! On this special day when we remember those who gave so much for our freedom, I was also to remember that I had to produce a Pastoral Letter.

I was also informed that this letter would cover Christmas and the New Year!!!

How do I cover these three big events?

Well, as we paid tribute to those who gave their lives in the Great War, and many other wars since, so that we might live in peace, we also remember that other sacrifice that changed the world; when Christ gave his life so that we might have eternal life.

In just a few weeks we will be remembering the birth of Jesus, when God intervened and came as his Son to be born and live among us. Jesus came to demonstrate how much God was willing to sacrifice to show us his love.

Advent, which begins on Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, is a season of remembering what has gone before and of preparation leading up to Christmas. But what does the word, Christmas mean?

Christ comes from the Greek word *Khrīstos*, which is a translation of the word from hebrew *Māšīaḥ*. This when translated into English means "Messiah". As for "Mas" this is actually a shortened version of mass.

However, in simple terms, for each one of us, Christmas is ALL about Christ!

So, when we celebrate Christmas, we should remember to keep at the forefront of our celebrations the word CHRIST because it is ALL about Him and that he came to die on a cross for us!

Isobel and I wish each and everyone a blessed Christmas and a peaceful, and Happy, New Year.

Blessings to you all.

**John, Locum Minister**





At 5am on 11 November 1918, an armistice was signed and hostilities on the Western Front ceased at 11am. Although the peace treaties that would formally end the First World War would not be signed until 1919, 11 November 1918 was, and continues to be, a significant day.

100 years on, on 11 November 2018 we continue to remember and pay tribute to the courageous souls who made the ultimate sacrifice for their families, friends and country.

The church members and local community gathered at the Cenotaph in both Netherburn and Ashgill in an act of remembrance led by the Rev John Stevenson, with a short service and a minute silence being observed.



The Cenotaph at Rorison Church, Ashgill



Pictured left, Ross Forrest who played the pipes at the Cenotaph in Netherburn, Ashgill and at Dalserf Church as part of the remembrance service.



Pictured below, soldiers gathered together as the guns fall silent and their realisation that the war is finally over



**For the Fallen**

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.



The Rev John Stevenson pictured above with the Roll of Honour for Dalserf Parish.

Thank you

ALL WHO SERVED, SACRIFICED,  
AND CHANGED OUR WORLD  
1918-2018

“ When they saw the star they were overjoyed”

( Matthew 2:10 )





### Bible Verse of the Month



In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.'

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

**Luke 2 : 1-20**

## THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

In today's day and time,  
It's easy to lose sight,  
Of the true meaning of Christmas  
And one special night.

When we go shopping,  
We say 'How much will it cost? '  
Then the true meaning of Christmas,  
Somehow becomes lost.

Amidst the tinsel, glitter  
And ribbons of gold,  
We forget about the child,  
Born on a night so cold.

The children look for Santa  
In his big, red sleigh  
Never thinking of the child  
Whose bed was made of hay?

In reality,  
When we look into the night sky,  
We don't see a sleigh  
But a star, burning bright and high.

A faithful reminder,  
Of that night so long ago,  
And of the child we call Jesus,  
Whose love, the world would know.

*By Brian K. Walters*



**"When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife." (Matthew 1:24)**





*Can you spot the differences between the two similar scenes pictured above?*

*There are 20 to spot, some more obvious than others. Good Luck!*

*“ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” ( John 3:16 )*





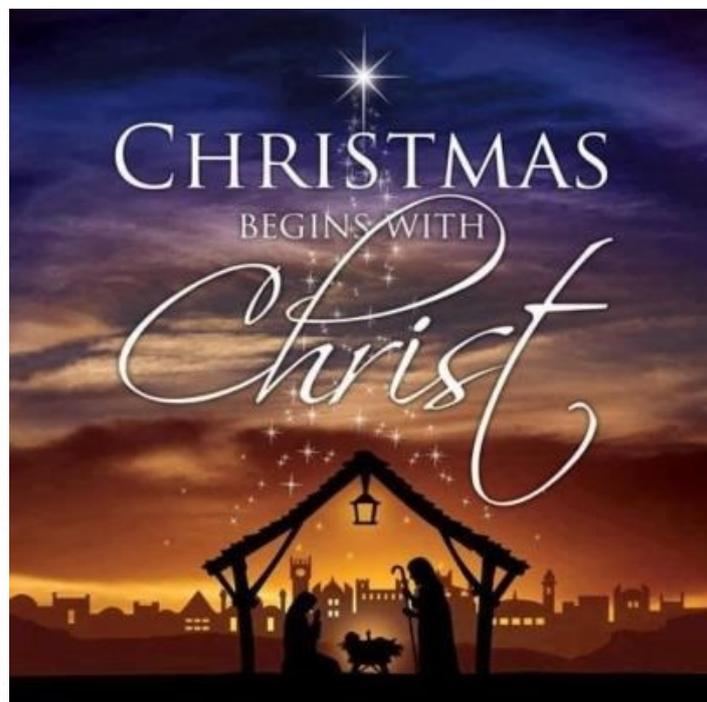
The Rev John Stevenson pictured above with the new Elders of Dalsersf Parish Church who were ordained on Sunday 28th Oct 2018.

(from left to right, Anne McHolm, Joanna Gilchrist, Joan Harvey, Claire Walker and Philip Fox)

Christmas Reflection




  
 God
   
 Jesus
   
 Christ
   
 King of Kings
   
 Gift of God
   
 Alpha and Omega
   
 Lamb of God
   
 Son of Righteousness
   
 Governor, Deliverer
   
 Glory of Israel, Bread of Life
   
 Anointed of God, Beloved of God
   
 Light of Men, Lord, Man of Sorrows
   
 Son of God, Word, Teacher of God
   
 Son of Man, Eternal Life, Word of Life
   
 Root of Jesse, Servant, Witness, Holy One
   
 Mediator, Advocate, Passover, Shepherd, Master
   
 Image of God, Prophet, Truth, Way, Redeemer
   
 Lawgiver, Nazarene, Messiah, Ruler, Son of David
   
 Lord of Hosts, Messenger of the Covenant, Truth, Judge
   
 Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace
   
 Friend of Sinners, Finisher of Faith



Merry Christmas



O Come Emmanuel O Come

“ Glory to GOD in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favour rests”

( Luke 2:14 )





*Twass the Night before Christmas*

*Twass the Night before Christmas.  
And we are all safe and sound.  
Our homes are filled with joy and love,  
There is wonder all around.*

*Twass the Night before Christmas.  
And our children are asleep.  
Dreaming of Santa Claus,  
And all the gifts and treats.*

*Twass the Night before Christmas.  
And our stockings are hung with care.  
The tree is full of presents.  
Wrapped with tenderness to share.*

*Twass the Night before Christmas.  
And our families are close and near.  
To be together with our loved ones,  
And cherish those so dear.*

*Twass the Night before Christmas.  
And the world sings with joy.  
Praising our Lord above.  
For the birth of one baby boy.*

*Twass the Night before Christmas.  
We celebrate in our own way.  
Our traditions and meanings.  
Are different on this day.*

*Twass the Night before Christmas.  
Keep a thought for those in pain.  
For the sick and the disheartened  
The grieving and the lame.*

*Twass the Night before Christmas.  
Please keep amidst your pleasure.  
A thought to all those children  
Whose pain is hard to measure.*

*Twass the Night before Christmas.  
Remember those who cry.  
That not are all so lucky  
As we are – you and I.*

*Twass the Night before Christmas.  
And while we laugh and play.  
There are some who have no joy.  
On this special day.*

*Twass the Night before Christmas.  
And may God keep you close.  
But your hearts remain open  
To think of others and their woes.*

*Twass the Night before Christmas.  
May we count our blessings true.  
May the grace of God be with us.  
In everything we do.*

*L.M. Haddow*

THE  
*Indescribable Gift*

GOD'S INDESCRIBABLE GIFT is Jesus Christ—All that our **hearts** have ever desired, every **need** we face, every **truth** we seek, and every **blessing** we long for is found in Jesus Christ.

IN HIM we see all that God wants to reveal to us, we **walk** in all God has prepared for us, we **experience** all God has planned for us, and we **receive** all God wants to be to us.

HE IS the **Fountain** that quenches our thirst, the **Bread** that nourishes our souls, the **Light** that dispels our darkness, the **Physician** that heals our wounds, the **Shepherd** that guides our steps, the **Counselor** that gives us wisdom, the **Word** that establishes us in truth, the **Faithful One** that gives us security, the **Door** that gives us access to the Father, and the **Way** that leads us home.

WHAT A **love!** What a **Savior!** What a **gift!**

—ROY LESSIN



Notice Board



**Grateful Thanks**

Coming down the hill from Ashgill to Dalserf on the morning of 28th October I was astounded by the beauty of the trees in their full glorious autumnal colours all the way down and the other side of the Clyde Gods amazing nature and I felt him very close.

I would like to thank the Reverend David Doyle and Reverend John Stevenson for the lovely service for the ordination of new elders.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my family friends and church family for their good wishes cards gifts and flowers I was very humbled and Thank you all again.

**God Bless, Anne McHolm**





## Contacts

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<b>Organist</b> Mrs Fox foxatthedden@musician.org	<b>Flowers</b> Mrs Kay Blair <b>01698 882499</b> Mrs RM Clarkson <b>01698 792628</b>	<b>Church Officer (Rorison)</b> Mrs Anne McHolm <b>01698 886658</b>	<b>Church Officer (Dalsersh)</b> Mrs Norah McGuckin 4 Kirk Road, Dalsersh <b>01698 886089</b>	<b>F.W.O. Convenor</b> Mrs A Brown <b>01698 632010</b>
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<b>Rotas</b>		
<b>2nd Dec</b>	Mrs Clarkson & Mrs Gilmour	Mrs L Budgell (Netherburn)
<b>9th Dec</b>	Mrs Hunter & Mrs Lawrie	Mrs A Price (Larkhall)
<b>16th Dec</b>	Mr & Mrs Harvey	Mrs R Hunter (Dalsersh)
<b>23rd Dec</b>	Mr & Mrs Manson	Mrs K Blair (Ashgill)
<b>30th Dec</b>	Mrs Budgell & Mrs Blair	Mrs K Blair (Ashgill)
<b>6th Jan</b>	Mr & Mrs Archibald	Anne McHolm (Ashgill)
<b>13th Jan</b>	Mr Johnstone & Mrs Kelly	Mrs L Lawson (Lanark)
<b>20th Jan</b>	Mrs Clarkson & Mrs Gilmour	Mrs S Archibald (Lanark)
<b>27th Jan</b>	Mrs Hunter & Mrs Lawrie	Mrs A Carson (Law)

### Items for next Newsletter

*If you have any news or information that you wish to submit for the newsletter for February 2019, the deadline will be Sunday 13th of January 2019. Please contact the editor with your content by this date.*



**“ Thanks be to GOD for his indescribable gift! ”**

**( 2 Corinthians 9:15 )**

