



Dalsersf Parish Church Newsletter



February 2019



February Church Calendar

Sunday 3rd Rorison service 2.30pm

Thursday 7th Focus

Wednesday 13th Guild

Friday 22nd Nursing Home visits

Wednesday 27th Guild

Mission Statement

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

All Welcome

Worship at Dalsersf 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

David McIntosh on Fri 11th January 2019

Betty Gillespie on Fri 11th January 2019

Baptism

Jocelyn Ellis Baillie

On Sunday 16th December 2018

Special Birthdays

Love and congratulations to John McPhee who celebrated his 80th Birthday on 16th January 2019

Love and congratulations to David Gilchrist who celebrated his 50th Birthday on 19th January 2019

Bible Verse of the Month



“No, dear brothers and sisters, I am still not all I should be, but I am focusing all my energies on one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us up to heaven.”

Philippians 3 : 13 – 14

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/dalsersfchurch

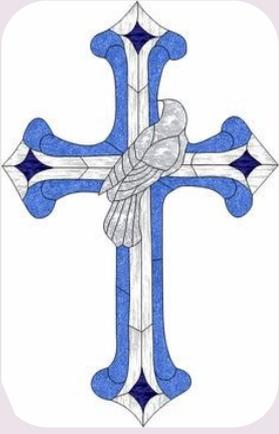


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Food is still at the fore front of a lot of people's minds in this post-Christmas regretting-our-over-indulgence haze, and as we try to stick to our New Year's resolutions to rectify that indulgence.

Someone once told me that food was the one truly controversial topic of conversation – politics, sex and religion were tame compared to the passion that challenging someone's diet can ignite. Mind you this was before the days of Brexit....

But the point still seems to hold; discussions around food can become very heated, very quickly.

Some 20 years ago there were only two questions involved if you wanted a cup of coffee: with or without milk, with or without sugar. Now, of course, especially if you are going to pay for your coffee, there is a choice on the level of milky-ness, its frothiness, it's size, it's flavouring, it's topping, is that to go or drink in?

A similar thing seems to be happening with food now. Again, 20 years ago, if you were going to invite other people for dinner, an idea of their likes and dislikes was a polite enquiry. A few were vegetarians, and even less were vegans. Now inviting someone to dinner often requires a full disclosure agreement!

To be challenged on what you eat feels like an attack at very personal level, and maybe the reason for this is embedded in the phrase "we are what we eat". This is where it gets interesting for Christians who receive Holy Communion - the bread and wine that represent the body and blood of Christ. It is an important part of our fellowship and discipleship. A way of becoming more conscious of the food we are eating is to give thanks for it before we eat - this very often focuses our attention on the process of how the food has arrived on our plates and helps us to remember that not everyone has enough to eat.

Jesus said "I am the bread of life, whoever comes to me will never hunger and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty"

How is our diet today? Are we feasting on him who is the source of all life?

Being a follower of Jesus requires that we constantly feed on him and in fellowship together we are sustained to meet the trials this world throws at us. We are what we eat, but we are also how we eat. Maybe this new year can challenge us to focus our eating, and our Christian witness.

Blessings to you all.

John, Locum Minister





Candlemas

Candlemas is celebrated on the 2nd day of February of each year. The day is celebrated as a day of renewal, hope and purification.

February 2nd is exactly 40 days after the birth of Jesus Christ and it is on this day that Mary along with Joseph brought forth their new-born son, Jesus, to the Temple. Mary was cleansed on this day. Jesus was presented to the Lord in the Temple on this day. During this time, an elderly holy man named Simeon was staying in Jerusalem. Simeon was told by the Holy Spirit that his death would not come until he saw the Messiah. When Simeon held the baby Jesus, he knew that Jesus had come for the salvation of all. Simeon stated that Jesus was "A light to the revelation of the Gentiles and the glory of thy people of Israel."

The light was the inspiration for the celebration with candles. It was and still remains to this day a Christian celebration of the purification of Mary and the first appearance of Jesus in the Temple. During the early years, people would place their candles outside the church in order to be blessed. They would then carry them in a procession to church in order to imitate the appearance of Jesus in the Temple.

Candles are an important symbol used on Candlemas Day. Also, the snowdrop flower appears in a long ago rhyme which states "The Snowdrop, in purest white array, first rears her head on Candlemas day."

Snowdrops are also known as Candlemas Bells because they often bloom early in the year, even before Candlemas. The superstitious used to believe that these flowers should not be brought into the house prior to Candlemas. However, it is also believed in more recent times that these flowers purify a home.

According to folklore, an angel helped these Candlemas Bells to bloom and pointed them out as a sign of hope to Eve, who wept in repentance and in despair over the cold and death that entered the world. Many Christians see the flower as a symbol of Jesus Christ being the hope for the world. Candles that are lit during Candlemas also symbolize Jesus as the "light of the world"

A New Year's Prayer

May God make your year a happy one!

Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;

Not by making your path easy,
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;

Not by taking hardships from you,

But by taking fear from your heart;

Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,

But by keeping your face bright,

Even in the shadows;

Not by making your life always pleasant,

But by showing you

When people and their causes need you most,

And by making you anxious to be there to help.

God's Love, Peace, Hope and Joy to you

For the year ahead.

Candlemas

If Candlemas day be dry and fair,
The half of the winter's to come and mair:
If Candlemas day be wet and foul,
The half o' winter's gane at Yule.

(Scottish Proverb)

A fair Candlemas, a foul Lent.



Ann Carson

"Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails."

(Proverbs 19:21)





Christmas Giving

Christmas is the time to give and Dalsersf congregation did not hold back.

In November we asked for donations to the Blythwood Shoe Box Appeal over 50 boxes were received. Then in December we asked for gifts for Social Work to pass on to children and young folks who would receive little or nothing on Christmas morning.

On 9th December we had the Carol Concert when £480.00 was raised for the Scottish Huntington's Society. We launched our Annual Christmas Appeal and another £200.00 was gifted to help the work of the Hamilton Joint Churches Drop in Centre. At the Christmas Eve Watch-night Service the offering brought in another £200.00 gifted to The Glasgow City Mission.

We pray that those who gifted and those who received will be blessed by the gifting and thank all who helped achieve these results.

Kay Blair



Contacts



Minister Vacant Locum Rev John Stevenson 01698 817582	Session Clerk Mrs Joan Pollok joan.pollok@btinternet.com 01555 860642	Depute Session Clerk Mrs Kay Blair 01698 882499	Presbytery Elder Mrs Elizabeth Lawson 01555 771096	Treasurer Bruce Archibald BDS henry.archibald2512@btinternet.com 01555 666007
Organist Mrs Fox foxatthedden@musician.org	Flowers Mrs Kay Blair 01698 882499 Mrs RM Clarkson 01698 792628	Church Officer (Rorison) Mrs Anne McHolm 01698 886658	Church Officer (Dalsersf) Mrs Norah McGuckin 4 Kirk Road, Dalsersf 01698 886089	F.W.O. Convenor Mrs A Brown 01698 632010
Newsletter Editor David Gilchrist dalsersfnews@gmail.com	House Group Leader Mrs Lorna Brodie 07906416564	Fabric Convener Andrew Gilmour B.Ed., HNC, C&G 01555 662238	Child Protection Co-ordinator Joanna Gilchrist dalsersfnews@gmail.com	Bible Study Group Leader Rita Fairley 01698 881160
Roll Keeper Wendy Manson wendymanson@aol.com 0777560031	Hamilton Hall Bookings Booking Secretary: Lorna Brodie lorna@brodie.myzen.co.uk 07906416564		Rorison Hall Bookings Booking Secretary: Anne McHolm mcholmanne3@gmail.com 01698 886658	

Rotas



3rd Feb

Mr & Mrs Harvey

Mrs K Love (Larkhall)

10th Feb

Mr & Mrs Manson

Mrs Anderson (Larkhall)

17th Feb

Mrs Budgell & Mrs Blair

Mrs J Gilchrist (Ashgill)

24th Feb

Mr & Mrs Archibald

Mrs Paterson (Ashgill)

3rd Mar

Mr Johnstone & Mrs Kelly

Mr B Gold (Larkhall)

Items for next Newsletter

If you have any news or information that you wish to submit for the newsletter for March 2019,

the deadline will be Sunday 10th of February 2019. Please contact the editor with your content by this date.

"Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." (Colossians 3:13)

