



Dalsersf Parish Church Newsletter



May 2020



May Church Calendar

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
Has been suspended until further notice.

Worship at Rorison Church
Has been suspended until further notice.

*In light of the current Government Guidance,
all Church gatherings have been suspended
until further notice.*

Bible Verse of the Month



“I lift up my eyes to the mountains - where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip - he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD watches over you - the LORD is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD will keep you from all harm - he will watch over your life; The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore”

Psalm 121

Nursing Home Visits

**Have been suspended
until further notice**



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

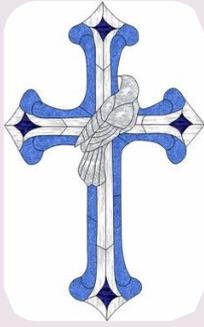


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CHARITY SC016156





Dear Friends

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of Hope, it was the winter of Despair.

These are the opening lines of Charles Dickens' novel, 'A tale of two cities.' In those few words Dickens tells us of a time of despair and suffering on one hand, and joy and hope on the other. We could almost recognise our own situation today. Where Dickens was speaking of London and Paris, our situation is 'World-wide'!

The Corona Virus has meant huge changes in our living. No longer can we go freely and greet one another with a handshake or a hug; oh, how I miss those hugs!!

For the first time in our lifetime normal life seems to have been closed down. We can no longer meet together for worship of God in our churches. '*It is the worst of times*'! On the other hand, I learn of wonderful acts of kindness by people reaching out to offer a kind and encouraging word to those who are finding 'social isolation' difficult. People who cannot shop for themselves are finding others willing to do this for them. That telephone call just to remind them that they are not forgotten. People are continuing to pray, especially for those who are ill and for the people at the frontline in the NHS who work selflessly, and at great danger to themselves. '*It is the best of times*'!

I hope that each one will be assured that God is still at work! He has promised that he will never leave us nor will he forsake us, and this is evidenced in the acts of kindness and bravery being exercised by those I have just mentioned. God's love is shown through all that we do for others less fortunate than ourselves.

I have a little reminder in my study that tells me that "*This too will pass.*"

During this period of difficulty, I have been impressed by the symbols that have emerged and in particular the 'Rainbow' that appears on many house windows. The rainbow, the symbol of HOPE, is a reminder that God's love will never fail us;

Three things last forever, FAITH, HOPE, and LOVE, and the greatest of these is love.
(1 Cor. 13: 13)

In this, our, time of 'Isolation', may I bring our thoughts to that period in Jesus' ministry when he too experienced what we are going through. For forty days and forty nights, Jesus was in 'Isolation' in the wilderness. During that time, he had no contact with his friends; he did not have the comfort and the communication devices we take so much for granted in the 21st century. When he emerged from that time in the wilderness Jesus fulfilled a wonderful ministry of love to all who would listen and then he did, for you and for me, pay the sacrifice for our eternal life, by dying on the cross and praise be to God he was raised to life eternal.

HE IS RISEN, HE IS RISEN INDEED! HALLELUJAH

Finally, may I be permitted to say a huge thank you to all for your prayers for Isobel and myself. Having experienced the virus for myself I thank God for your love and care that has brought us through, '*the worst of times*'.

May God bless us all and keep us safe as we continue to live by faith and not by fear.

John





Worship in Isolation

During these extremely difficult times it is comforting to know that we may not be physically in Dalsersf or Rorison Church worshipping together but we can worship together in our own homes through Social Media.

Many of us are listening to the daily reflection from the Moderator Colin Sinclair and his wife Ruth. What a blessing to be able to tune in to them each day. Also there is Colin's Sunday Reflection. Uplifting, supportive and encouraging. Giving us spiritual food for thought.

Then there is the Sunday morning worship on BBC when we can meet as a Church if not in the same building at least at the same service. Worshipping with like-minded folks from different denominations.

Thanks to Mike we can see Dalsersf Church being lovingly looked after and it is a comfort to see the photos on a Sunday. To know that we will get through this and meet again as one congregation.

But, most of all, the building may be closed but CHURCH isn't. We, the people, are the CHURCH and we are one in spirit and in faith. We are united together through Father God and the Risen Christ.

On Mothering Sunday Dalsersf Guild members joined the National Guild incentive to wear a piece of Guild Memorabilia, like a scarf, our Guild tartan favour, or whatever we have. We were one together at Dalsersf as we agreed to all participate between 11.30 and 12.30 when we would have been in church. The next week we lit our candles at 7.00pm and are being encourage to do so every Sunday while repeating the prayer posted by 13 denominations. We clap on a Thursday. There are so many ways we can come together in spirit knowing we are part of a wonderful family, the Church of God.

Stay in, stay safe, God Bless

Kay Blair



Easter Sunday



19 April 2020



Church Clock Mechanism



Rainbow knitted by Nancy Rundell



Say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you." (Isaiah 35:4)





1st Dalsersf Girls Brigade 27th April 2020

It was almost in stunned silence that on the 14th of March I read the email from Girls Brigade headquarters advising that with immediate effect all GB companies had to close as a result of coronavirus..... little did I know how life would change for us all in the weeks ahead.

Our parents evening and presentation of awards will hopefully take place when we resume. I am sure it is perfectly normal to present end of session awards at the start of a session! We also plan, in particular for the Primary 7 and Senior 5 girls, to hold a school leavers/exam results party at GB.

I have been trying to keep in touch with our girls asking parents to share some videos with activities from our Facebook page. In the first video I told the story of Noah and asked the girls to draw and colour rainbows to place in their windows to share Gods sign of hope with their community. The second activity was to draw pictures, write letters of cards to send to the two Care Home communities in the village to help cheer the residents while visiting was suspended. The leaders also held a zoom meeting tonight to discuss plans for the future. Where would we be without modern technology?

Good News

In this time of uncertainty, I was delighted to hear tonight that our Brigaders had won the Hamilton Lanark Division Competition "*The Word*". The brief was to tell the story of the Last Supper in whatever method they wanted, be it PowerPoint, song, play. We studied different versions of the Last Supper and discussed the important points. The girls put their own modern interpretation into the story, planned the props, costumes, character list and filming. Thank you to all our Brigaders who took part. A special thank you to Karyn Scotland who edited the video for submission. The leaders and I are all delighted for the girls and it certainly is a story they will never forget. Hopefully the video clip will be on the Church Website to allow you to view it.

At the moment, we do not know what the plans will be to ease lo lockdown for our country and realistically we don't really know if GB will be able to resume after the summer, we can only wait and see and be guided by the experts.

From our zoom meeting tonight we prayed:

Heavenly Father, we pray together as your Girls' Brigade family

We thank you for Easter and all that it means to us and for us as Christians.

In this time of uncertainty and sorrow, we have the assurance of heaven.

Let your light shine brightly in this darkness, and remind the world of your love.

We pray for our governments and their team of experts guiding the decision makers. We pray for all our frontline workers, scientists and world leaders using their skills as never before.

Lord we ask you to be with each of our girls and their families and our church family at the difficult time. Help us all to be patient and accept the many positives this situation has brought family time together, new activities and looking out for each other.

Stand with us when we confront our fears and our future in these unsettling days of uncertainty.

Help us to feel hope - connection - comfort - and new possibilities.

Bring us into new life through our faith in you.

We ask for your support and guidance for us all, whatever our situation, as we do our best to love you and to love our neighbour.

In Jesus' name we pray

Amen

Can I also ask you to pray for our girls, their families and our leaders, 3 of whom are front line nurses facing this crisis on a daily basis.

Please look after yourself and stay safe.

God bless

Ann Price

Captain

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)



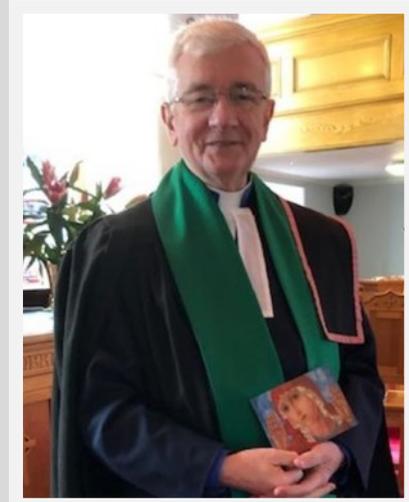


A Prayer In Times of Isolation

God of heaven and earth,
in these times of isolation,
apart from loved ones
distant from friends
away from neighbours
thank you that there is nothing
in all of creation,
not even coronavirus,
that is able to separate us from your love.

And may your love that never fails
continue to be shared
through the kindness of strangers
looking out for each other,
for neighbours near and far
all recognising our shared vulnerability,
each of us grateful for every breath,
and willing everyone to know the gift
of a full and healthy life.
Keep us all in your care.

AMEN



A Postcard From Russia

Many of you will know our Minister John has a great interest in Iconology and has studied Orthodox ology. During my recent visit to St Petersburg our guide, Frida, became aware of John's interest and as she has visited our church sent him a post card of Mother Earth blessing the people, with a personal message to him and our church and congregation.



Pretty as a Picture

We are called to help each other and Rae undertook her good deed by helping the Marie Curie Appeal. Several of us probably know the work carried out by Marie Curie none no less than myself. My brother, during his wife's end of life only got to bed when the Marie Curie ladies came in to sit with Charlotte during the night.

Well done Rae in your work for Marie Curie Nurses and Service. You deserve a pat on the back and a round of applause.





Grateful Thanks

Andy and myself wish to express our grateful thanks for the cards, flowers, gifts, best wishes and prayers that we received on the occasion of our Golden Wedding Anniversary.

In this time of uncertainty and fear it is wonderful to know that we have loving friends who care for us.

God bless all of you

Keep well

Joan and Andy

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Contacts



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Rotas



3rd May

10th May

17th May

24th May

31st May

In light of the current Government Guidance, all Church rotas have been suspended until further notice.

Items for next Newsletter

If you have any news or information that you wish to submit for the newsletter for June 2020,

the deadline will be Sunday 17th of May 2020. Please contact the editor with your content by this date.

