



**ST.  
MICHAEL'S**  
Parish church

## APRIL NEWSLETTER

**Happy Easter! Spring is bursting into life and so is St Michael's. Read on for news of Holy Week celebrations; children filling the church and the hall; multiple ways to raise money for our beloved church spire; and so much more besides! As we approach the central season of the Christian year, it's all here in your April newsletter.**

### EASTER SERVICES

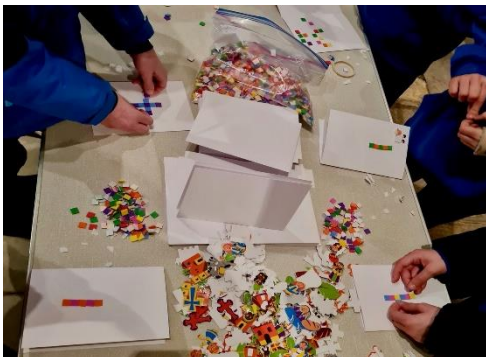


One of the great joys of this time of year is to join with our friends from all the Linlithgow churches as we journey together towards the Cross and the empty tomb. Details of the joint Holy Week services are on the Easter cards distributed all around the town, and can also be found below.

It all culminates with the Open Air All-Age Easter Sunday service on Cockleroi hill at 9am on 17<sup>th</sup> April. Who knows – with Easter being so late this year, thermals may not be required! If you plan to attend this service, please be respectful of the land: leave your dogs and bicycles before you go through the gate, pick up any litter (including eggshells) and close all gates.

Then you have time for a hearty Easter breakfast before joining us in the church for Easter Sunday worship. Please note that for Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> only, this service will start at **11am**.

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	6.30 p.m.	St Peter's Episcopal, Choral Evensong
<b>Monday</b>	7.30 p.m.	St John's (Union Road)
<b>Tuesday</b>	7.30 p.m.	St Michael's CoS
<b>Wednesday</b>	7.30 p.m.	St Michael's RC <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	7.00 p.m.	St Michael's RC <i>Mass of the Last Supper with Procession to the Altar of Repose and Compline at 9pm</i>
	7.30 p.m.	St Ninian's-Craigmailen CoS <i>Maundy Thursday Communion</i>
<b>Good Friday</b>	10.00 a.m.	St Michael's RC <i>Morning Prayer</i>
	11.45 a.m.	At the Cross <i>A public affirmation &amp; reflection</i>
	12.15 p.m.	St Peter's Episcopal <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
	3.00 p.m.	St Michael's RC <i>Celebration of the Lord's Passion</i>
	7.00 p.m.	St Michael's RC <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
	7.30 p.m.	St Michael's CoS <i>Tenebrae Service</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	10.00 a.m.	St Michael's RC <i>Morning Prayer and Blessing of Gifts</i>
	8.00 p.m.	St Peter's Episcopal <i>Easter Vigil &amp; First Easter Communion</i>
	8.30 p.m.	St Michael's RC <i>The Easter Vigil</i>
<b>Easter Day</b>	9.00 a.m.	Open Air All-Age Service on Cockleroi. <i>Christ is risen!</i>
	Morning	Easter Day Services in all of our Churches



## Cracking Easter

Nearly 200 primary 6 children descended on St Michael's on 29<sup>th</sup> March to immerse themselves in Easter. There were 6 'stations' to help them explore different parts of the Easter story. The joy and excitement from staff, pupils and volunteers was amazing! It was lovely to have the Church buzzing with the noise of all the kids.

Next up: Hobby House on 15th April for all in P5-S6. See below for details.

**Hobby House**  
A DAY OF ART AND CRAFTS  
FOR ALL THOSE IN P5-S6  
FRIDAY 15 APRIL 2022  
10AM-3PM  
CROSS HOUSE, THE CROSS, LINLITHGOW  
PLEASE BRING A PACKED LUNCH  
Spaces limited, please reserve spaces at  
ajohnston10992@gmail.com

ST. MICHAEL'S  
Parish church

Recognised as a Scottish Charity  
No. SC016185.

## Linlithgow Pilgrimage

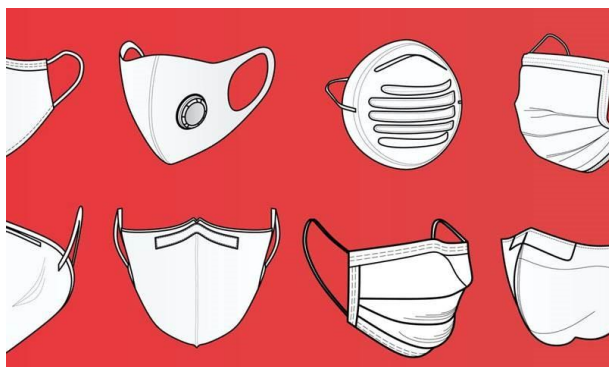


**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm** on Zoom is the place and time for a fully illustrated virtual walk with Bruce Jamieson around the holy places of Linlithgow. In Bruce's inimitable style, no doubt there will be some cracking stories along the way to illuminate our town's fascinating history. All payments and donations go to Aspire Linlithgow.

Please sign up in advance by paying at least £5 to this bank account:

- **Name – Bruce Jamieson**
- **Halifax BOS a/c no 00090575**
- **Sort code 11-47-87**

Please also email Bruce at [bruceajamieson@yahoo.com](mailto:bruceajamieson@yahoo.com) – he will send you the Zoom access details nearer to the date of the event.



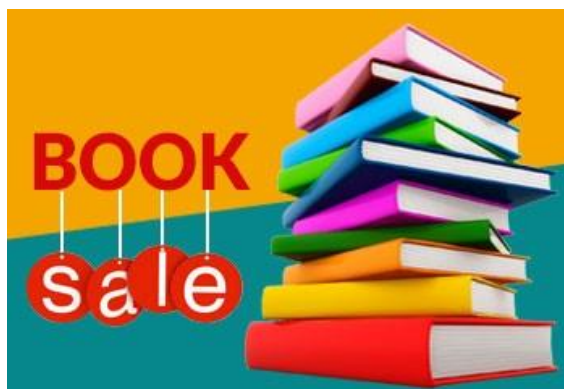
## Masks Move

As of 4<sup>th</sup> April, it's no longer a legal requirement to wear a mask while you attend a church service or a funeral: it is now your personal choice whether you wish to continue wearing a mask at worship. An area at the back of the church will be clearly signposted for people to wear masks and where you can choose to sit at least 1 metre from other households.

## Book Sales

If you've never experienced the delight of rummaging through books and finding something unexpectedly wonderful, now is the time. Tim Brown is running book sales in the Kirk Hall on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April from 10am-1pm, and again on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> (same times).**

The sale will also include DVDs, CDs and LPs (yes, vinyl is back!). Take what you like and make a donation by cash or card. Tim is also delighted to receive items for sale: leave them in advance by the Kirk Hall door, or bring them with you on the morning. All proceeds go to Aspire Linlithgow.





## Outdoor Church

On Sunday 3rd of April we met on The Peel and reflected on how the stone rolling away is a sign of hope. We wrote our hopes and prayers on hard-boiled eggs, and then rolled them away down the hills (though some clung onto the warm eggs as hand warmers!). We walked and looked for signs of new beginnings....a bud, a flower and blossoms.

If you want to know more about outdoor church, please contact Lorraine on [lrr@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:lrr@churchofscotland.org.uk)

## Occasionally @ St Michael's

We now have not one, but two concerts coming up in the next few weeks: a song recital on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May, followed by the return visit of Toccata Ladies Choir on the 15<sup>th</sup>. This will be a particularly special occasion as it marks Eleanor Howat's final concert after 25 years directing the Choir. Free entry with all donations going to fund maintenance of the church organ.

### Occasionally @ St. Michael's

A series of recitals by local musicians  
in St. Michael's Parish Church, The Cross, Linlithgow



*A Season of song, continued*

**Sunday 1st May, 3pm**

**Sophie Halpin ~ Alan Hastie**

Soprano Piano

Admission free, donations invited for upkeep of the church organ

### Occasionally @ St. Michael's

A series of recitals by local musicians  
in St. Michael's Parish Church, The Cross, Linlithgow



**Sunday 15th May, 3pm**

**Toccata Ladies Choir**

Eleanor Howat *Director* Don Finlay *Piano*

*West Lothian's Award Winning Ladies' Choir*

Admission free, donations invited for upkeep of the church organ



## Silence is Golden

A date for your diary: on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June**, a silent auction will take place at the Queen Margaret Hall by St Michael's RC Church as a fundraiser for Aspire Linlithgow. We're putting together a **very** special selection of lots to catch your attention. Enjoy wine (or soft drinks) and cheese as you mull over your bidding strategy.

How about a unique pendant featuring the church and tower in diamond-encrusted gold and silver? Or a private piano recital in your home by a world-famous concert pianist? Or dinner, bed and breakfast at a top restaurant with rooms? Each of these could be yours for the price of a winning bid.

More details next month on how to buy tickets. We also hope to set up online bidding for those unable to make it on the night. And if the drama and excitement of the auction is not for you, remember that you can donate to Aspire Linlithgow at any time. This QR code takes you to our online donations page:



## Terrific Toddlers

After a great term, we're having a break for the Easter Holidays and will start back on Friday 22nd April from 9.30am to 11.30am. If you know anyone with under 5s they are very welcome to come along, but please book places via Eventbrite [here](#).

Fiona is always delighted to have offers to help at Toddlers. She says "Opportunities include setting up and taking down the toys, making teas and coffees, chatting to parents/carers and sometimes even baby hugs! We are friendly and you don't have to commit to every week". Please contact Fiona at [fiona@stmichaels-parish.org.uk](mailto:fiona@stmichaels-parish.org.uk)



## Email Updates

Speaking of emails, please note that all church emails are in the format name@stmichaels-parish.org.uk. You need both the hyphen and the '.uk' to connect.

And if you receive an email from 'liamjerrold.stmichaelsparish@gmail.com' – please delete it without replying. This is a craftily-constructed spam email address. Liam does not send out emails that say "I need a favour from you, email me as soon as you get this message"!

Also, it has come to our attention that letters from 'Nextdoor St Michael's' may be circulating the town of Linlithgow. If you have received a letter of this nature, please rest assured that it was not generated from nor associated with St Michael's Parish Church.



## Christian Aid Week 15-21 May 2022

Have you stopped watching the news because it's so shocking? You're not alone! But each of us can still make a difference. During Christian Aid week we can bring hope to those most in need by making a donation, no matter how small.

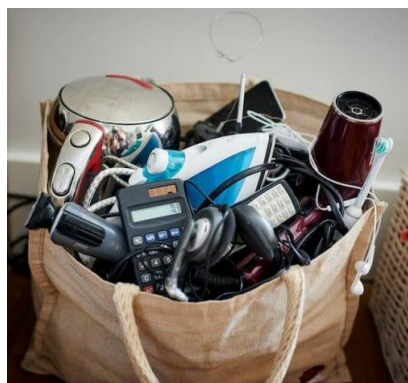
Hope is in the hands of the local charity worker in Hungary, delivering emergency food to hungry refugees; and in the eyes of Jessica in rural Zimbabwe, knowing her little ones won't go hungry thanks to fresh water and drought-resistant seeds. Hope is in the homes of all who welcome the fleeing.

Hope lives in you.

During Christian Aid week volunteers will deliver envelopes to as many homes as possible, leaving instructions for their safe return. You can also donate through the Linlithgow e-envelope <https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/linlithgow-e-envelope?channel=status> or through this QR code.



## Raise Money by Spring Cleaning



Do you have any of these lurking in drawers or cupboards:

- Electrical devices that you don't use, working or not – phones, tablets, kettles, microwaves, you name it
- Charger leads you can no longer match to a device
- Other leads and cables – power leads, network or phone cables
- Broken computer peripherals (keyboard, mouse etc).

Here's a chance to achieve a triple hit. Burnish your green credentials and clear out your cupboards – pass your old electricals to Tim Brown, who will sell them to raise money for the Aspire Linlithgow project. Go green, Spring clean AND help to safeguard our iconic Crown of Thorns spire – where else can you achieve so much, so quickly?

## Sunday Service



**Our worship services are every Sunday at 10am**

Our worship services are every Sunday at 10am. As Covid-19 remains highly transmissible, please take a lateral flow test before attending for worship, maintain sensible social distancing, and, if you wish, wear a mask at all times while inside the church building. Three pews at the rear have retained 1m guidance for those wishing greater separation. We look forward to worshipping with you, safely and joyfully, Sunday by Sunday.

Services at Springfield School are at **09:45** and you are invited to enter the school hall by the fire door.

**If you are not able to attend in person, our main church services are live-streamed:**

Website: <https://www.stmichaelsparish.org.uk>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsparishlinlithgow/>

and later on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/c/StMichaelsLinlithgow>

**CDs and printed copies of the Sunday service are also available to those without internet. Please check in with neighbours and friends to see if they would like a copy and contact the office: [info@stmichaels-parish.org.uk](mailto:info@stmichaels-parish.org.uk)**

### Space for your story

Do you have a story to share that will resonate with St Michael's members? Please send your draft text, or simply a rough idea, to [alan.d.miller@icloud.com](mailto:alan.d.miller@icloud.com) by 10<sup>th</sup> May to feature in next month's newsletter. Alan would also be delighted to hear your feedback about what you'd like to see in future newsletters.

Thank you for reading!



We take our members' privacy seriously, and the information provided will be retained by us for as long as it is required for the purpose for which it was collected or unless you tell us otherwise. A copy of our full Privacy Notice can be found on our website <http://www.stmichaelsparish.org.uk>

This information is for church use only and is not shared with any third parties.



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St Michael's Parish Church of Scotland, Linlithgow is a Scottish  
Charity  
Reg No SC016185