



Dunscore Church Family Notices

Registered Scottish Charity SC016060, Congregation Number 080454

SUNDAY 12th December 2021 at 10.30am!

Messy Christingle (also on Zoom)

Please bring gifts for the Toy Appeal...

New and Unwrapped.

Minster REV MARK SMITH

Manse: 01387 820475 Mobile: 0776 215 2755

Email: Mark.Smith@churchofscotland.org.uk

YouTube: Cairn Valley Churches & Facebook: Rev Mark Smith

This Sunday is Messy church where we will be holding our Christingle service. Be prepared for messy crafts, lots of fun and of course the Christingle making. Teas and coffee will be provided during the service, please make sure to wear face masks while moving around the church.

We are also gathering toys for the Dumfries and Galloway Standard's Christmas toy appeal. Please bring along an unwrapped toy for any age of child (from babies to teenagers), the toys must be new. These will be donated after the service.

Later today...

3pm - **A Quiet Time of Joy** in St Ninian's, Moniaive with music from Melanie Thorne

From 5pm - **Santa Visits Dunscore!**

7pm - **A Quiet Time of Joy** in Dunscore Church with music from Wendy Stewart

Message from our Minister:

Some of you will have noticed a bit of the 'bah humbug' about me. I constantly remind people that Christmas does not start officially until Christmas Day. That is, of course, true, but as some wag once said: "Jesus is not just for Christmas"!

With so many plans being scuppered by COVID resurgences in both our villages, every event will be precious. Last Sunday, our Quiet Time in Dunscore Church was greatly enriched by Beccy playing her violin, this afternoon we have flute (Mel T) at St Ninian's and harp (Wendy S) at Dunscore - join us for a re-fuel as the busyness continues to increase! Living Advent, Choir Concerts, Santa's Visit and the like help us celebrate the Joy of Jesus' Birth - don't miss out, whatever the format.

Christingle uses familiar Christmas symbols to remind us of the Love that brought Jesus to earth and the Joy which that brings. Today it's 'Messy' in Dunscore and on Christmas Eve we'll join it with our Carols at St Ninian's. The Festivities begin ... whether we like it or not! I hope that in each activity and event we remember the awe and wonder of the first Christmas and that the birth of Christ overwhelms the stresses and worry of this time.

God Bless & Festive Greetings, Mark

PRAYER for this week: (The Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent)

God of Power and Mercy,

You call us once again to celebrate with joy the coming of Your Son.

Remove those things which hinder love of You,

that when He comes He may find us waiting in awe and wonder

for Him who lives and reigns with You

and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

PRAYER THEME - Ask God to help you be joyful and not bowed down by worry and stress.

Friday 17th:

from 6pm - **Living Advent** in Moniaive starts at St Ninian's Church (wander round and wonder)

Saturday 18th:

3pm - **Dalgarno Singers** in Dunscore Church - get tickets (see posters)

...**They** are back together and will be giving a short and jolly one-hour Christmas Concert in Church. There are no tickets, but a donation would be appreciated. *Alternative date and venue* - 7.30pm Mon 20th Dec in Dalswinton Church.

Next Sunday: "LOVE"

10am - **Morning Worship** in St Ninian's, Moniaive

11.45am - **CAROL SERVICE** in Dunscore Church (also on Zoom) with an ad-hoc band!

- retiring collection in aid of Lubuto Church roof repairs

3pm - **A Quiet Time of Love** in St Ninian's, Moniaive

7pm - **A Quiet Time of Love** in Dunscore Church

Connect

The Connect group will meet this **Thursday 16th December at 7.30pm in Church** when we are continuing our Advent Course entitled 'Wake up to Advent' by John Sentamu, former Archbishop of York. All are welcome to join us. Contact Tim Harmer timharmer95@gmail.com

Christmas Shoe Boxes

It's Shoe Box season. - 5 minutes of your time can give hope and joy to a child for a lifetime. If you want to fill a Shoe Box online this year please go to: www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

Christian Aid Christmas Appeal.

Please take a look at this excellent video -

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christmas-appeal>

Eco Snippet

When you are out and about enjoying a meal or coffee it's worth taking your paper napkin home where it can be useful in numerous ways for mopping up spills or in the car. After all, the restaurant will throw them out and they will take up valuable space in landfill. At home using fabric napkins makes more environmental and economic sense.

First Base Food Bank

Mark Frankland of First Base has told us that pre-Covid they were distributing **600 food parcels** a week throughout Dumfries & Galloway. At its peak during lockdown this had risen to **2,400!!!** It has now levelled off to around **1,400**. **BUT** he dreads the result of the £20 a week reduction in universal credit received during the pandemic and knows that the numbers will soar again. **YOU CAN:** Donate through 'Just Giving' on line - www.justgiving.com/first-base **OR** Mark Frankland would be delighted to receive cheques made out to 'The First Base Food Agency' at First Base Food Bank 6 Buccleuch Street, Dumfries DG1 2NH.

OR I will be happy to take a donation in church and send it via 'Just Giving'.

Many thanks for your help. **Sheila**

Please send items for the CFNs for December to Sheila Anderson sheila69@btinternet.com