



Mauchline Parish Church

Linked with Sorn Parish

Magazine



From the Minister – *Rev Dr Allan Vint*

In my thinking, I often reflect on the past to help my understanding of the present and the prospects for the future. History can be a great teacher, not only of what has happened previously, but also of the lessons we need to learn.

In recent weeks, it was a great privilege to be involved in the unveiling of a memorial in Sorn to two individuals involved in the story of covenanting – Rev Alexander Peden and George Wood. The video of the tragic story of George Wood can be viewed online (*see insert*)



The sorry tale should remind us of how our religious freedoms came at a price and should never be taken for granted. Today there are many forces at work in our society that do not want our children to know the Christian story. Of course, it is a story rich in teaching values and ethics, along with the essential principles of living a good, productive, and agreeable life. This is not to mention the pointers it gives to receive the inner strength, guidance and hope that so many today crave. So, what might be the outcome of a society where Christian principles and actions are left behind? A more selfish way of being? A society where everyone makes up their own rules for what is right and good? A society where politicians determine what is ethical (a frightening prospect) and where the boundaries of right and wrong exist? Sadly, we are beginning to see this reality begin to emerge.



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I recently went to have a closer look at the old Ballochmyle Creamery (some also call it the 'Plastic factory'). It was a sad sight to witness the terrible demise of this once beautiful location. It also stands as witness to what happens when we stop looking after what we have – when what is there is just



let go. Some have suggested that we are now in an era of a Post Christian society – where the once treasured things of church and faith are in the process of being ignored and forgotten (certainly fewer young adults know much about the Bible and its contents and a great number of adults never 'darken the door of the church').

I want to take this opportunity as we move out of the cold and dark of winter into the new life of Spring to ask readers to consider how we might truly value our Christian heritage and how we might, with renewed determination, hold fast to the truths passed down the generations in God's word. As we approach Easter with its message of God's triumph over the forces of darkness through Jesus, let's work and pray with vigour that God will again be honoured and glorified in this part of his precious world. Let's pray for a spiritual revival.

Video Links

<https://youtu.be/SW0M77I89og> George Wood Covenanter

<https://youtu.be/r0BtcnScxVQ> Ballochmyle Creamery



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A fresh new way of
experiencing church.....
for children & parents/
carers to enjoy together.

Our first Messy Church of the year took place on Saturday 10th February 2024 when we heard the story and learned about the Good Samaritan

After the opening songs and a prayer we went down to the Dunlop Hall to see a video telling the story of the Good Samaritan. We then had a solve a clue hunt round the hall spelling out the word KINDNESS before having our snack.

Our crafts this month included a Good Samaritan story wheel, kindness handprints, Love our Neighbour hearts, decorating heart shaped biscuits but I think the most fun was had in the "gloop" and water play areas.

Our morning wouldn't be complete without fun and games with James and a lovely lunch of soup and crusty bread.





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Marie Curie Daffodil Teas

Annette, Janice & the folks involved in organising the Marie Curie Daffodil Teas would like to thank everyone who supported the event in any way. Special thank you to the House Captains and Vice Captains from Mauchline Primary School who came along to help on the day.

The magnificent sum of **£700** has been sent to the charity.



SHOPPERS'



LUNCH



Mauchline Church Hall

The next two Shoppers' Lunches are

Thursday 18th April
Thursday 16th May

11.30am – 1.30pm

Come along and purchase some
delicious homemade soup, choice
of rolls/ sandwiches/ home baking
and have a blether!



Everyone welcome
11.30am – 1.30pm



