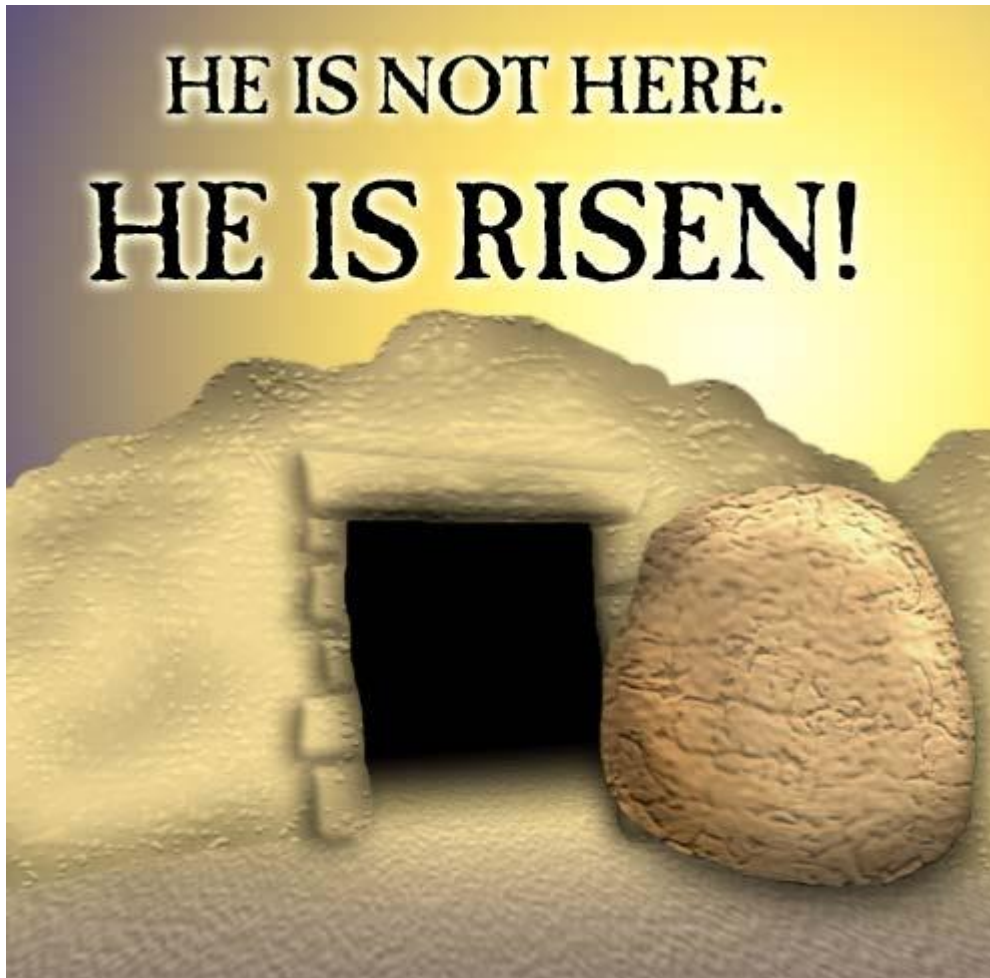


# West and Wardlawhill News

**MARCH 2023**



*Happy Easter*

*Rutherglen West and Wardlawhill Parish Church is a congregation of the Church of Scotland and a Charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SCO 07585*

[www.westandwardlawhill.org](http://www.westandwardlawhill.org)

*Hello from Interim Moderator,*

Pentecost, Christmas ... Easter: it can sometimes feel that the church can often just 'do' Christian festivals in the same way each year – in a kind of churchie way. The church 'appropriates' the Bible events and almost separates them off from the real world. We celebrate events in church services that we can then sometimes have difficulty connecting to our real world.

Could it *really* be true that in our weakness God makes us strong? When we go through the Easter events do we really recognise a life-example of weakness made strong? Is that so removed from the real world? Are there any real-world examples that could help?

There are more management gurus in this world than there are limited companies. There are so many management books touting 'the-latest-thing' to make your company a world leader. So hopefully you'll agree, even in the short time I've been doing these Rutherglen W&W magazine letters, I don't make a habit of sourcing my church magazine letters from non-christian management gurus! However, sometimes you do find the 'real world' reaching conclusions which simply reflect a universal biblical truth.

It's probably unfair to describe Nassim Nicholas Taleb as a management guru. He is himself something of an outsider. He tells companies what they usually don't want to hear; a kind of psychologist to the business world. *The Black Swan* is his most famous book – but *Antifragile* is the one that I'm focusing on here – a book that focuses on the *things that gain from disorder*.



Taleb makes a basic observation. Things that break when you mishandle them are often called fragile. Things that get similarly mishandled and *don't* break *aren't* fragile. Taleb observes that there is a third outcome: some things get *better* when you mishandle them. His example is a piece of glass: fragile glass is the stuff that breaks; normal glass is the stuff that remains intact; but there is a third kind of glass that gets mishandled and comes out appearing to have changed into a diamond.

Most businesses have found the cost of living crisis as hard to deal with as people have: horrific – many companies have not survived. Taleb points out that there *are* companies which have done more than survive. He cites lots and lots of examples from the business world that have thrived in the economic horror of the last few years.

Amidst all his economic examples Taleb gives a very telling additional example of his theory: the church in China! In a decidedly secular book an apparently spiritual example – in its weakness the Chinese church gets strong as the Chinese government persecutes it in an attempt to eradicate it. Surely not. That won't sell in the commercial world – surely that's just for ... Easter?

Why should we be surprised when Biblical truths 'appear' in the real world? A biblical truth is just a truth. Companies, says Taleb, need to learn a general truth from the church in China.

We can honestly respond to lots of things in the Bible by saying: it's all very well spouting that in church on Sunday in a nice little sermon – but in the real world – seriously? Ian, in the commercial world the toughest survives. That's it. Faith is for Sundays – but not for much else. Certainly not in business.



Journey through the Easter story again this year. Read it through the SU reading notes WordLive in Lent (see below). Ask God to teach you the old truths that you've heard since Sunday School but have left untried In the real world. Get your personal Sunday stuff and take it into the real world. The mishandling may do us some good.

More importantly, the Church in Scotland is now in a world of spiritual disorder – and it scares us. But we need to be more and more *antifragile*. We need to reflect on what being antifragile in our society looks like and embrace it – to embrace the mishandling, it may very well be the making of us. In our weakness, Jesus shows this world His strength. Meanwhile, have a great Easter, and don't eat too many chocolate eggs!

*Yours in Christ,  
Ian Cathcart*

P.S.

WordLive from Scripture Union is a free, online guide, helping you meet with God devotionally – through the Bible. Each day uses a new Bible passage with fresh resources to refresh your quiet time with God.



## PASTORAL LIST

Funerals (\*Denotes Church Member)

6<sup>th</sup> February                      \*Stuart Caldwell, Eskdale Drive  
 23<sup>rd</sup> February                     \*Bob Miller, Forefaulds Care Home, East Kilbride

*Alistair McInnes*

Session Clerk



SUNDAY                      24<sup>th</sup> March    11.00am    Palm Sunday Service



**Holy Week**

**MONDAY**                      25<sup>th</sup> March    7.00pm    Holy Week Service – **West and Wardlawhill Church** – Katie Morrison, Old Parish Church

**TUESDAY**                     26<sup>th</sup> March    7.00pm    Holy Week Service – **West and Wardlawhill Church** – Rev Ian Cathcart, Flemington Hallside Church

**WEDNESDAY**                27<sup>th</sup> March    7.00pm    Holy Week Service – **Old Parish Church** – Katie Morrison, Old Parish Church

**THURSDAY**                 28<sup>th</sup> March    7.00pm    Holy Week Communion Service - **West and Wardlawhill Church** - Rev. John Sanderson, Rutherglen United Reform Church

**FRIDAY**                      29<sup>th</sup> March    7.00pm    Good Friday Service – **Old Parish Church** – Stuart Harbinson

**SUNDAY**                      31<sup>st</sup> March    8.30am    **Easter Sunrise Service at the Cathkin Braes** - Rev. Aquila Singh, Fernhill & Cathkin Church

SUNDAY                      31<sup>st</sup> March    11.00am    Easter Sunday Service

All services are open to everyone. Refreshments will be served after each service. Breakfast will be available in the Black Hall, at Western Avenue, for those attending the Easter Sunrise Service.

## CHURCH FINANCES

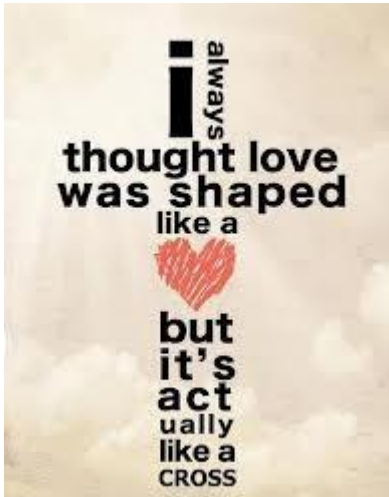
JANUARY 2024	AMOUNT	YEAR TO DATE
Receipts	£6117	£6117
Payments	<u>£7240</u>	<u>£7240</u>
Surplus/Deficit	<u>-£1124</u>	<u>-£1124</u>

Thank you all for supporting the Company's Coffee Morning. It was good to see so many from the church popping in for a cuppa and a chat. We had many generous donations of baking and to top it all, we raised £511.

Our next event is the Family Quiz Night on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March starting at 7 pm. This is a relaxing evening with all participants working in teams. Questions are set for all ages, from 5 – 99. We look forward to a fun night on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

Regards

*Alistair McInnes*  
Company Captain



**NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:**

Items for the April edition of the Magazine to be handed in for Sunday 24th March.

Magazine available Sunday 31st March.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

To enable the Congregational Roll to be kept up to date, would members who have recently or are about to, change their address, please either complete the form below and forward it to our Roll Keeper, Jean Duncan, [REDACTED]

**RUTHERGLEN WEST & WARDLAWHILL PARISH CHURCH**

Name ..... Date .....

Is moving from ..... Post Code .....

To .....

..... Tel No .....

## ROTAS FOR MARCH & APRIL 2024

### DOOR AND OFFERING PLUS COUNTING DUTIES MARCH & APRIL

#### **3rd & 31st March, 28th April**

C-L Fletcher, C-K Mann, C-D Fraser,  
R Tennent, C-D Smith, C-S Harbinson,  
C-K Jackson  
Beadle: C-I Tennent

#### 10th March & 7th April

C-K Johnston, C-M Feeney, C-S Brown,  
C-J Duncan, A Kennedy, C-D Baird,  
C-D Smith, C-K Jackson  
Beadle: C-A Chambers

#### **\*17th March & 14th April**

\*Communion  
C-E Ross, C-E Reid, C-S McDonald,  
C-M Ross, C-A McMillan, C-M Cruthers,  
C-D Smith, C-K Jackson  
Beadle: C-J Brown

#### **24th March & 21st April**

C-M McInnes, C-A McInnes, C-K Jackson,  
L Fotheringham, C-T McEwan, C-S Kerr,  
C-D Smith  
Beadle: C-S Blakeley

*Alistair McInnes*

Session Clerk

### SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE READERS

#### **MARCH**

3<sup>rd</sup> S Rowan  
10<sup>th</sup> A McInnes  
\*17<sup>th</sup> M Grieve  
24<sup>th</sup> A McMillan  
31<sup>st</sup> K Jackson  
\*Communion

*Alistair McInnes*

Session Clerk

#### **APRIL**

7<sup>th</sup> M McInnes  
14<sup>th</sup> M Ross  
21<sup>st</sup> I Tennent  
28<sup>th</sup> T McEwan

#### *Paws For Thought*



Always remember to forget  
The things that made you sad  
But never forget to remember  
The things that made you glad.

Always remember to forget  
The friends that proved untrue.  
But never forget to remember  
Those that have stuck by you.

Always remember to forget  
The troubles that passed away  
But never forget to remember  
The blessings that come each day





## T-Bar

Every Sunday following morning worship  
Enjoy a cuppa and fellowship in the Baker Hall from 12 noon

### 10th & \*17th March, 21st & 28th April

\*Communion

S Blakeley, B Reid, S Kerr, J Brown,  
M Ross

### 24th & 31st March

L Fletcher, V Rowan, A Chambers,  
G McMillan, H Mulholland

### 7th & 14th April

I White, N Hay, K Johnston, E McMillan,  
J Doherty

*Morag Smith*

T-Bar

## CHURCH FLOWERS

### MARCH

3rd M Feeney  
10th M Smith  
\*17th J Doherty  
24th M Feeney  
+31st M Smith

\*Communion

+Easter Day

### APRIL

7th J Doherty  
14th M Feeney  
21st M Smith  
28th J Doherty

## Dedications -

Sunday 25th February  
"In Memory of Loved Ones"

*Morag Smith*

Church Flowers



## *Mother's Prayer*

I never can forget the day  
I heard my kindly Mother say,  
"You're leaving now my tender care  
Remember, child, your Mother's  
Prayer"

When'er I think of her so dear  
I feel as if she still were here  
A voice comes floating on the air,  
Reminding me of Mother's prayer.

I never can forget the voice  
That always made my heart rejoice  
Tho' I have wandered God knows  
where,  
Still I remember mother's prayer.

Tho' years have gone, I can't forget  
Those words of love, I hear them yet,  
I see her by the old armchair,  
My mother dear, in humble prayer.

I never can forget the hour  
I felt the Saviour's cleansing power  
My sin and guilt He cancelled there,  
"Twas there He answered mothers  
prayer.

O praise the Lord for saving grace!  
We'll meet up yonder, face to face,  
The home above together share  
In answer to my Mother's prayer.

# WAYS & MEANS

## "FILL A SMARTIE TUBE"

YES, it is quite a number of years since we asked you to 'fill a Smartie tube', a fundraiser which has proved in the past to be so successful and you are getting a tube of Smarties to eat, before you start, how good is that! If happy to do so, on leaving church on a Sunday morning, please simply pick up a tube of Smarties from the boxes sitting on the tables at either side of the church front door. After enjoying the smarties, please fill your tube with any denomination of your choice - from 1p to £1 pieces. Smartie tubes are also available on a Sunday morning at T-Bar. If you are attending any other get-togethers in our halls during the week, and wishing a tube, just ask and someone will bring one to you. Filled tubes to be returned to either Morag Smith or Sandra Blakeley by the end of April, thank you

## SPRING COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 23rd MARCH 10am - 12noon

Once again Spring is approaching and time for the first of our yearly Coffee Mornings. Tickets priced £3.00 are available from either Vicky Rowan or myself, or simply 'pay at the door' on the Saturday morning. Last year attendance at our Spring and Autumn Coffee Mornings was marvellous, we hope to see a great turnout again on the 23rd of March.

Our normal fundraising Raffle will be available that morning and our 'wee Corner Shop'. Donations of raffle prizes, baking, and small gifts for our shop, as always, a great help and very much appreciated.



## OUR SUNDAY MORNING T-BAR

Yes, even though there has been a slight reduction in numbers, following the Pandemic, how nice it is to see so many of our regulars at the T-Bar each Sunday morning, enjoying tea, coffee, biscuits, lots of chat, and fellowship - a chance to catch up with each other on a weekly basis. If YOU have thought of coming through after the Service, but haven't managed yet, then we look forward to seeing you, even if only for a quick cuppa - or perhaps a little longer - whichever is suitable for you.

## AND NOW: A SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM OUR T-BAR

*My Committee would like to take this opportunity, through the Magazine, to say a HUGE thank you to church members, friends and family, whether regular or semi-regular, for such generous donations given for your Sunday cuppa, placed in your table basket each week. Despite our five tables no longer being packed with people, as was the case prior to the Pandemic, your donations each week, I do assure you, CERTAINLY WOULD INDICATE OTHERWISE. We look forward to your continued company every Sunday when tea and coffee will be waiting for you after the Service, served as always by our ever cheerful and helpful ladies on the T-Bar rotas.*

## DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 19th March 2024

7.30pm in Committee Room (off Black Hall)

*Morag Smith*

Ways & Means Convener

