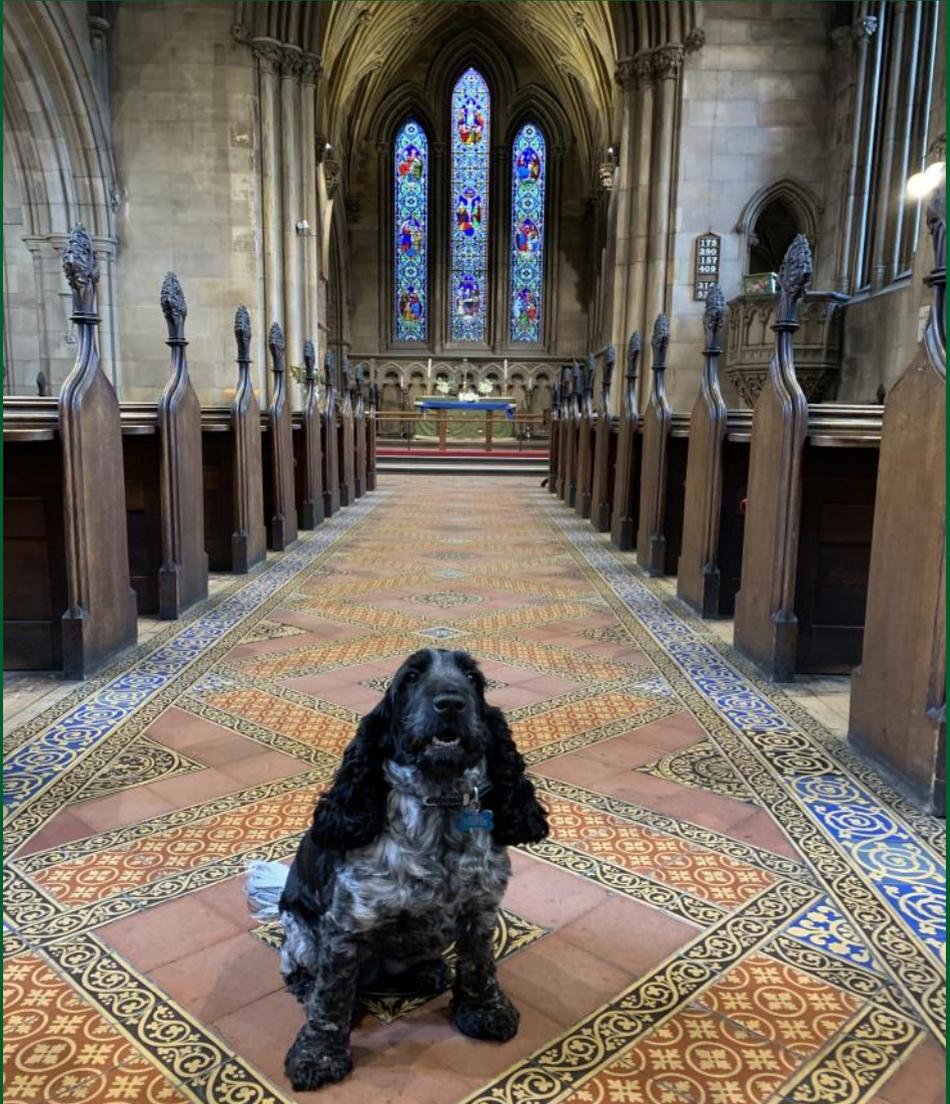


ST LEONARD'S & ST MARY'S

Connect



The weekly news from your church community Sun 19th July



REOPENING OUR BUILDINGS *a not yet update ...*

I want to thank the Vestry and especially the Site Management Group for each church for the work they have done in considering the physical implications of preparing and re-opening the church buildings for worship. This work has considered the current guidelines about the use of the building and involved a risk assessment of what would need to be done to limit our contact with social distancing, hand sanitising and thinking through procedures for entering and exiting the building.

However as your Rector I have to report that in my recent discussion with the Clergy Team it became clear that all of us, (Jacqui, Jennie, Elizabeth, Mike, Bill and myself) are regarded to some degree or other as being within the "at risk group" due to either our health or age or both.

As a Team we were in agreement that for us participating and leading Communal Worship within our buildings at this time comes with a deep feeling of unease. We therefore concluded that the most prudent approach would be to delay opening the church until we enter Phase 4. At this stage although there are still some risks the virus remains suppressed to very low levels and is no longer considered a significant threat to public health.

I therefore have to announce that in respect of our Clergy Team and their wellbeing we will currently be unable to offer Sunday worship within our buildings at this time. We will however maintain our On-line worship which has been appreciated by many and encourage you to join in if you can.

I am aware that there will be some frustration and disappointment around this decision but hope there will also be understanding and patience. Hopefully Phase 4 will not be to far off.

*with love from Peter
trying to navigate a storm*

NEWS FROM David and Shelley

our Mission Partners in Argentina



Dear friends,

Thank you for your ongoing interest at a time when many of you are facing greater difficulties!



We thank God that we are still here, alive and well in lockdown in Ingeniero Juarez. There are no COVID cases locally, though there are cases in Formosa city, our provincial capital. We are now allowed out for exercise! We are required to wear facemasks in public places and to observe social distancing, though most people make no effort to comply except when there is a risk of being fined.

The statue in the local plaza sculpted by a Wichi man we know well has recently been fitted with a facemask made from a Wichi string bag! Food supplies are normal, and there has been no panic buying. Everyone is used to gaps in deliveries so shops regularly run out and everyone plans menus around what there is.

Effects on the churches

All the urban churches continue to function virtually. The Spanish speaking church in Juarez has a WhatsApp group, with services through an organised series of audios, as videos are too heavy for the local internet. Even audios can take a long time to load!

In the indigenous churches, many people do not have access to phones or internet, so the official line is that they should meet at home for services with their extended families. This can lead to spiritual growth for some, but many find it too much of a challenge. In some communities, the church leaders continue to hold services, as the risk of infection seems lower than the risk of people feeling spiritually abandoned. This will be a delicate pastoral issue for the indigenous churches to work through once this is all over.

Faithful servants called home

There have been significant losses among the older leaders here in Juarez. First, Feliciano "Kiche" Tenaiquín, the pastor of the Toba church in Barrio Toba, died on 23 March, just after lockdown began. Then Isabel Vilte, the honorary president of AMARE, died a few days later on 28 March. She was a remarkable woman who served the Lord for many decades in the Wichi churches throughout the diocese.

She was also a close personal friend of Shelley's and is much missed. More recently, on 25 June, Antonio Segundo died. He was the lay leader of the Wichí church in Barrio Pilcomayo. All three went to be with the Lord after many years of faithful service.

May the Lord raise up equally faithful successors.



Lessons to be learned?

What has the Lord been teaching us through the present crisis? We are all learning to use new technologies for services and meetings. Some are facing the challenges of holding services and praying together as families. It has raised questions about our attitude to authority within the church and what it means to obey God. There has been both good and wacky teaching circulating on social media. I was struck by one preacher who looked at examples of “quarantine” in the Scriptures — Noah in the Ark, Moses in the desert, Elijah at Mount Horeb, Jesus in the desert — and argued that in each case the Lord used the time to prepare the individuals for something quite new that he had in mind for his people. May we be willing to listen carefully to the Lord for new instructions!

Ourselves finally

The programme of visits and training conferences is still on hold. Once things do open up again, we need to discern how to use the months that remain for completing our work here and saying goodbyes. We wonder whether our departure date should be delayed until early in 2021. This year has been an unexpected way to end our time here, but we trust the Lord has his purposes both for us and the churches here.

Points for praise and prayer

- *Give thanks for the work of the Argentine government and the medical services here.*
- *Give thanks for the lives and ministries of Kiche, Isabel and Antonio, and pray for the process of finding the Lord's choice of successors.*
- *Pray for wisdom for local partners Mateo and Crisanto and all church leaders and members in hearing what the Lord is saying through this time.*

Pray for wisdom for ourselves in knowing how to end our time here faithfully and what the timings should be.

With our love and prayers, David and Shelley Stokes

A full version of David & Shelley's letter can be sent to you by email if requested from the Church Office.

Izzy's News



Hi Everyone,

Did you see I made it to the front page! Many people have commented on Facebook how smart I look and how nice it was to see the inside of St Mary's.

John Fleming will be happy to know that I didn't leave him any deposits on this latest visit. John has been doing a great job watching over the church during our lockdown period and we should all give him a bark of appreciation. We have also had a few other small furry visitors at St Mary's but these have been dispatched to pastures new after setting up home in our Vestment drawers.

I've had fun this week in the garden chasing Dad round the lawn as he cut the grass and watched mum pick cherries from our cherry tree. Our apple tree is also full of fruit beginning to ripen, the plums are doing well too. I wonder if you have a favourite fruit? I love banana. I also wonder if we will have a Harvest Service this year?

I also helped Dad deliver the Cherries and got to meet up with Annie, Pat and Martins Working Cocker. She was a little boisterous to begin with and people think I get excited! Then we enjoyed a run around, a biscuit and a rest in the sun.



Later we visited Lou and Megan Cromie and through their window I got to see Bailey their new wolf, who is a seven year old German Shepherd. They were amazed she didn't bark as she usually barks at everyone who comes to the door.

Well its time to sign off now and dream of playing with new friends.

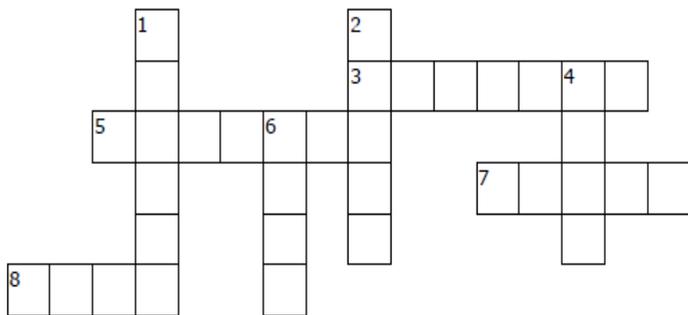
with love and wiggles from Izzy



Bible Quiz

M A V W H F Q B B E W G Q I S
 H R M P S Y I U K D Y H O A J
 C L G A T U A E F I F H E O B
 J F R R E A P S L M N Y O A D
 O H O A Q W K R O D M G P T T
 T T W B M C S X O E V V D P A
 D D E L F G J E N O B U T O D
 X A H E V T C E E X T K R J M
 B G J A V I U C A D D L N C H
 M C W H R M X Z Q V V E M J A
 G Q C E R V J M D P V W V B Y
 L G A R E L E X P A U P D U Y
 S O W J B D T S E A G L Z R K
 J W O V U T S H T S X B L N O
 O X T V D G V N L L C M T I H

SOW	FIELD	GOOD	UPROOT	HARVEST
WHEAT	ENEMY	PULL	KINGDOM	SEED
PARABLE	HEAVEN	BURN	GROW	WEEDS



ACROSS

- The time for gathering crops
- Stories told by Jesus to teach his followers
- A plant that crowds out the good plants
- A building used for storing grain and housing farm animals

DOWN

- The place where God is
- A grain that is ground into flour used in cooking
- A small pod placed in the ground to grow a plant
- To damage or destroy by fire



Ring the Bell - join in the celebration

We were delighted to receive the good news that Lily King 's treatment is done, this course is run and she is on her way to fully enjoying life once again. Under normal circumstances there would be a celebratory ringing of the bell to sound out with joy that another treatment had been successful. Sadly this can't take place in the hospital at this time but the family invite you to join in with their gratitude and support them in a fundraiser.



Lily and the family are walking and running throughout July to help raise funds for the Edinburgh Sick Kids charity. They do cool things like bring singers and other performers onto the ward to cheer the kids up.

Here's Lily hooked up to her immunotherapy and had been having really poorly time of it but the sight of this chap and his guitar had her up dancing in the corridor. She has been a real fighter and star throughout her treatment. They even made it along to Messy Church a number of times.

So although she can't ring the bell yet please consider join Lily and the family as they celebrate and raise funds for Edinburgh Sick Kids Charity.

You can donate online by Visiting

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/LilyKingFamily>

THANKYOU — and keep dancing whatever your troubles



Our Birthday wishes this week go to

Ali Wilson on 19th July
Jerin Mathew 19th July
Jean Mellon on 20th July

SPECIAL MENTION

& Congratulations to:
Pam and Ian Nicolson
on their 30th Wedding Anniversary



Do let the Church Office know if someone you know is having a birthday or other celebration so we can share the news as a church family together

May God bless them on their special days and in the days to come



***A Selection of
Homemade Artisan Jams and Chutney
are still available to enjoy
contact Fiona to place an order***



Online Coffee at Mary's
10:30 am Saturday Mornings
bring your own coffee, cake and chat

If you would like to be part of this Online Coffee Morning
please email andrew@andrewwatt.org.uk
for details of how to join the Zoom Coffee Meeting.
Andrew hosts this event on behalf of the churches.

Sunday 19th July



Weekly Worship Online

Sunday @ 10am
with Eucharist Celebration
Wednesday @ 10am
Informal Worship

Find our Facebook group at
"St Mary's and St Leonard's Church Family"
or Zoom into worship by joining the meeting using

ZOOM Meeting ID: 656 157 5203 at 10am

If you have been unable to join with us online for our worship I pray that you will be able to use this liturgy to guide your own worship during this week.

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office.stlandm@gmail.com

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0131 663 7000

In Commemoration

We continue to hold in our prayers the families of those who grieve and give thanks for the life of Roger Kemp, Iris Toulouse, David Hall, Alice Cathie, Bill Cunningham, Maia Wong and Joyce Porteous.

Please pray for their families and friends as they come to terms with the death of a loved one at this difficult time.

The Welcome Peter

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Hymn

I CANNOT TELL why He, whom angels worship,
Should set His love upon the sons of men,
Or why, as Shepherd, He should seek the wanderers,
To bring them back, they know not how or when.
But this I know, that He was born of Mary,
When Bethlehem's manger was His only home,
And that He lived at Nazareth and laboured,
And so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently He suffered,
As with His peace He graced this place of tears,
Or how His heart upon the cross was broken,
The crown of pain to three-and-thirty years.
But this I know, He heals the broken-hearted,
And stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,
And lifts the burden from the heavy-laden,
For yet the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is here.

I cannot tell how He will win the nations,
How He will claim His earthly heritage,
How satisfy the needs and aspirations
Of east and west, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see His glory,
And He shall reap the harvest He has sown,
And some glad day His sun shall shine in splendour,
When He the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
When, at his bidding, every storm is stilled,
Or who can say how great the jubilation
When all the hearts of men with love are filled.
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,
And myriad, myriad human voices sing,
And earth to heaven, and heaven to earth, will answer:
'At last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!'

Confession

Peter & Elizabeth

God is love and we are his children.
There is no room for fear in love.
We love because he loved us first.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry.
Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil,
for the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

God, who is both power and love, forgive us and free us
from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

**Almighty God, your Son has opened for us a new and living way into
your presence. Give us pure hearts and constant wills to worship
you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.**

A Reading from Matthew 13 v13.24-30 & v36-43 Martin

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to Matthew
Glory to Christ our Saviour

Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man
who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his
enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away.

When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also
appeared. "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you
sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'
"An enemy did this,' he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'
"No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds,
you may uproot the wheat with them.

Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.”

Later Jesus disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.” He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

“As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel
Praise to Christ our Lord.

Reflection Peter

Intercessions for Today Vicki

The Peace

May the Peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Eucharistic Prayer Elizabeth

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you,
in every place and at all times.
All power is yours. You created the heavens
and established the earth;
you sustain in being all that is.

In Christ your Son our life and yours
are brought together in a wonderful exchange.
He made his home among us
that we might for ever dwell in you.
Through your Holy Spirit
you call us to new birth
in a creation restored by love.

As children of your redeeming purpose
we offer you our praise with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth
are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and thanksgiving be to you,
most loving Father,
for the gift of your Son born in human flesh.

He is the Word existing beyond time,
both source and final purpose,
bringing to wholeness all that is made.

Obedient to your will he died upon the Cross.
By your power you raised him from the dead.
He broke the bonds of evil
and set your people free
to be his Body in the world.

On the night when he was given up to death,
knowing that his hour had come,
having loved his own, he loved them to the end.

At supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread,
and gave it to them, saying:
'Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.'

After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:
'Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

**We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters
living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages, world without end.

Amen.

Breaking the Bread

The living bread is broken for the life of the world
Lord, unite us in this sign.

Lord's Prayer

As Christ has taught us so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

Distribution of Communion

You may say this prayer as the Priest takes bread and wine on our behalf:

*God of mercy, we thank you for Jesus our Saviour,
Though we cannot consume the gifts of bread and wine this day,
we thank you that we do receive your Holy Spirits presence,
the forgiveness of sins, and life eternal. Amen*

Prayer after Communion

Lord God, as we are strengthened by the mystery of your great love, may our lives be a continual offering of worship, holy and acceptable in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God
almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Hymn

COLOURS OF DAY dawn into the mind,
The sun has come up, the night is behind.
Go down in the city, into the street,
And let's give the message to the people we meet.

So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return.
Take seeds of His Spirit, let the fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.

Go through the park, on into the town;
The sun still shines on, it never goes down.
The light of the world is risen again;
The people of darkness are needing a friend.

Open your eyes, look into the sky,
The darkness has come, the sun came todie.
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
But Jesus is living, His Spirit is near.

Dismissal Peter

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen