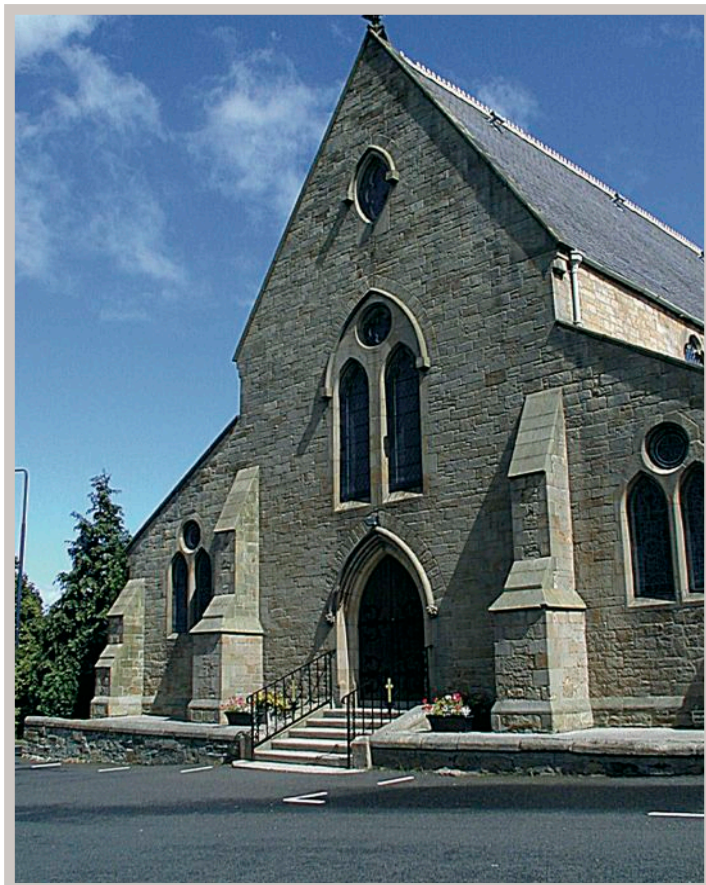


This magazine is free - please take one home.

St. David's Dalkeith

Parish Magazine

Spring 2012



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Parish Priest :

Monsignor Allan Chambers

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Monsignor Allan.

May I firstly thank the editorial committee of our parish magazine, who never fail to impress me with their enthusiasm for producing what has now become an important part of the life of the parish family of Saint David's.

Secondly, I thank also all who have contributed articles, stories or photographs for this edition. Obviously without your input there would be nothing to read, so many thanks.

Finally, to those who have sponsored us in the past and currently, thank you for your kindness and generosity. If possible please support our sponsors.

This time a year ago the priests of the English speaking world of the Roman Catholic Church were getting our first glimpses of the new Roman Missal to be introduced in all the Dioceses of Scotland on the First Sunday of Advent 2011. To say we were apprehensive would be an understatement!

Having now been ordained for thirty two years, the translation of the past was the only one I had known as a priest and was very comfortable in using it. Of course, for priests older than me, and there are a few, this would be the third change of translation of text. They had been ordained when Mass was celebrated in Latin.

It seemed a less than promising Advent!

Another factor was going to be cost. To equip both parishes with the altar missals and the priest's own study edition would leave little change from £1,000! If you want a change of career and are looking to enhance your salary substantially, dare I suggest you move into firms that print altar missals!!

Among ourselves, we priests also wondered how you, as ever the loyal and patient faithful, would adapt to the changes.

However, as is ever the case, our fears by and large were and remain unfounded. Perhaps through Divine Providence what helped was introducing the changes in Advent.

Advent is of course the beginning of the new Liturgical Year. It is about celebrating anew the gift of Hope in the Birth of Jesus and that is what is at the heart of our celebration of the Sacrifice of the Mass.

Over the past thirty two years wherever I have celebrated Mass - in old churches, in newer churches, at home or abroad - when I stand at the altar and look at the walls and the ceiling, I cannot help but think, and this is true of older churches, of the varieties of texts, and translations to say nothing of language that they have heard.

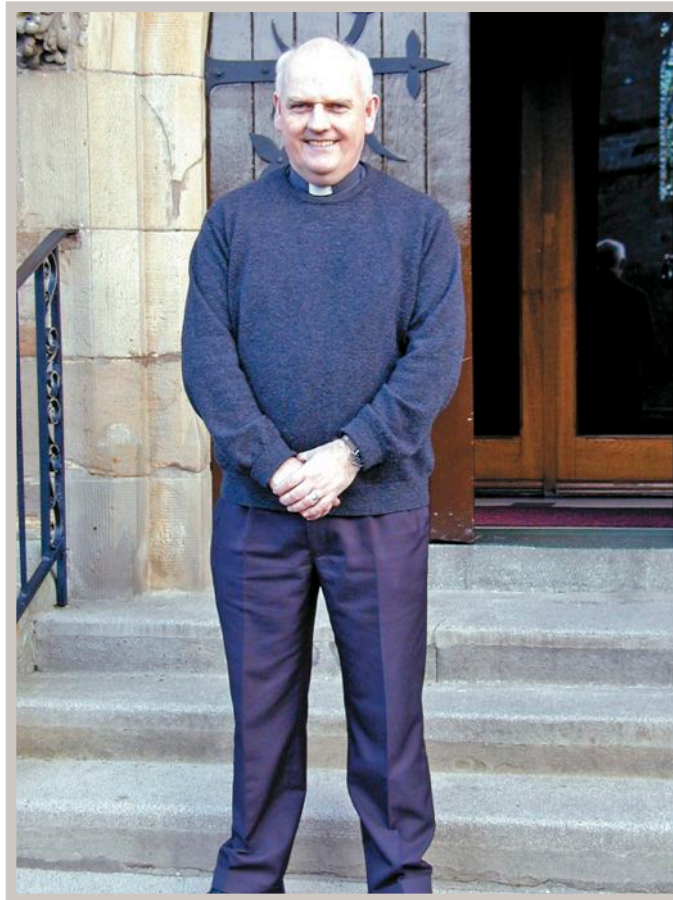
What however remains unaltered and unchanging right through to today is the fact that what we do, we do by Divine Command,

'Do this in memory of me, whenever you do this you do it in my name'.

That is the essence of the mystery of our Faith, Jesus Christ Our Lord and Saviour comes to us through the Eucharistic Bread, through the words of consecration. That has remained unchanged in substance since that first gathering in the Upper Room with the disciples.

Finally I would also wish to pay tribute to members of both parish families who have made the transition to appear almost seamless. Sure, all of us have tripped up, made the wrong response, forgotten at times the new translation! But that is the gift and beauty of our gathering together, we are human, mistakes are made, but we move on towards He who is always inviting us to draw more closely to Him.

May this Eastertide God Bless you and all those dear to you,
Fr. Allan.



Frank Nicholson Retires.

FAREWELL ODE TO ORGAN

Are the fingers not soft enough any more?
So "Praise to the Holiest" ends with a flaw.
50 years at the job! -
I scarce stifle a sob, -
It's high time for the next generation, that's sure.

Once alerted, the Choir were not happy at all.
Here a cry of anguish, there a caterwaul!
But then "Shine, Jesus, shine,"
Brought them back into line,
And Good John H. was there for a neat overhaul.

Frank Nicholson.



The touch of humour always present in Frank's regular report on St. David's Choir belied the serious dedication which produced, on one estimate, somewhere in the region of 50 years of service as principal organist of the parish.

Many tributes have been paid to this rare and astonishing achievement, and of course it was formally recognised in the award of the Bene Merente medal.

In paying my own tribute I would want to recognise three areas in the liturgical music which reflect his specific achievement: the Mass setting, the Psalm setting, and the hymns. In the first of these Frank wisely based his choice on the durability and cheerful optimism of Dom Gregory Murray's New People's Mass. This ensured that all the sections of the Ordinary of the Mass were always sung. Not every parish is so fortunate. Following the recent changes in the Mass, Frank made sure the parish quickly obtained the published setting adapted to fit the new words (the Gloria takes a little longer now).

Again in regard to the Psalm setting few parishes can boast the regular singing of the Psalm using psalm tone, thus completing the inspiration of the Grail translation.

And in the hymns we can be grateful for Frank's balanced choice over the years. This was always selected with thoughtful reflection (and thankfully well documented for poor mortals like myself who find themselves reduced to the state of Buridan's Ass when it comes to making up one's mind what hymns to have!). Again not so many parishes can boast the diversity of hymn styles regularly used.

None of this should go without a mention of Frank's fine touch on an ageing pipe organ whose keys require considerably more effort to depress than those of a piano!

Congratulations again, Frank, and enjoy a well earned rest. A hard act to follow!

Speaking of Mass settings, the changes mean we are faced with a strange choice apart from the new Dom Gregory Murray mentioned above. At the moment it's either learn the new words set to chant, or tackle the daunting James MacMillan setting.

It was this second option which His Eminence, the Cardinal, unexpectedly encouraged us to take at the beginning of this year's Lenten season. Well, we had a go and the Choir rose splendidly to the occasion for the Station Mass. All credit to their hard work and we're indebted to Nora Holden (soprano) for leading in the tricky melodic passages.

This remarkable and inspirational setting, with a number of diverse musical influences (highland pipe music, Danny Boy, Ca' The Yowes Tae The Knowes, and possibly the Fauré Requiem), has exercised liturgical musicians considerably. Normally the Sanctus (Holy, Holy) section has the word "Hosanna" just twice. In the MacMillan as sung at the Papal Mass at Bellahouston in 2010 there were 16 Hosannas!

It may have unintentionally pinched time from some of the other music lined up for the event.

For now we'll keep it ready for special occasions.

John Holden.



Talking to Elizabeth & Pat Flynn.

Pat Flynn was born in Rosewell on the 26th February 1930. His father was Michael Flynn and his mother Mary Kate Loftus. They lived at 17 Preston Street, Rosewell.

Pat attended school at St. Matthew's Primary School, Rosewell. The school was full and had two classes at every stage. The teachers who stood out for Pat were Mrs. Annie Morgan, Mrs. McLaughlin and the infant teacher Miss O'Loan.

They were pleasant and good at their job but Mrs. Annie Morgan stood out. She took the 11 plus class and was something special.

The Junior Secondary which Pat attended was incorporated into St. Matthews, Rosewell. It was only in the last couple of years that he came to the school in Bonnyrigg for woodwork, technical drawing and mechanics. Pat particularly liked technical drawing and woodwork. Pat left school in 1944 aged 14.

His first job was as a van boy with the Co-operative, Rosewell. He was there for 9 months delivering bakery, groceries to Carrington, Caplaw, Bilston and Rosewell.

Tempted by an increase in wages he moved to be a farm boy at William Barr's Farm at Upper Dalhousie. Pat had his own horse, a Clydesdale called Big Auld Bob. Pat enjoyed this time out of doors on the farm.

At 15 and a half, Pat left the farm and went up to Whitehill Colliery where he had an apprenticeship as a boiler maker. It was a five year apprenticeship plus 6 months improver, during this time Pat was living with his family in Rosewell.

Pat's granny, Honor Loftus, had a small holding in County Mayo, Ireland, and each year she took one of the family over there to help her. In 1938 Pat went there with his granny to help her on the croft. When he returned home, the family had moved from Rosewell to Poltonhall. Pat worked on at Whitehill Colliery until it closed in 1960.

Pat has been married to Elizabeth for over 50 years and it was the Hibs Supporters Club that brought them together.

Elizabeth Samuel was born on the 3rd May 1935 at Elmfield Bank, Dalkeith. Her mother and father were Annie and Jackie Samuel. Elizabeth had four sisters, Nan, Mary, Sheila and Agnes. Nan was in the Children of Mary. She had one brother John.

Elizabeth attended St. David's Primary school which was next to the church. She was there for



P1 to P7. Her recollection of good teachers were Mary Morgan but her favourite teacher was Jimmy Ward. She went on to St. David's Secondary School which was in the building at the end of Mitchell Street.

Mr. McLaughlin was the head teacher there.

Elizabeth liked Maths and English but her favourite teacher was still Mr. Ward who was now the head teacher at St. David's Primary and taught all subjects.

Elizabeth was honoured to be asked to carry the Baby Jesus round the Church to the Christmas crib. She wore a long white dress which Mrs. McLaughlin provided. Nerves almost overtook her, just as she reached the crib and she thought that she would let the baby fall, but then, she felt Father O'Donnell's hand under hers holding the baby and the baby was safely placed in the crib.

Elizabeth broke her leg in P2 and was worried that she would have to repeat a year and be in the same class as her little sister, Sheila. However she avoided that and stayed with her own class.

Her brother, John, managed to skip the school undetected for a year. He spent the time helping out at Laurie's piggery at Salter's, although he told people that he was at the carpet factory, he was eventually caught out!

Elizabeth was in the netball team at St. David's School when they won the Midlothian Cup.

The team were back row from left to right, Elizabeth Samuel, Frances Quinn, Mary Brogan, the teacher Miss Gracie.

front row, Mary Gilhooley, Isabel Dixon, unknown?, Mary McLarkey



After their win, they were treated by Mr. McLaughlin to tea and cakes in a cafe in Bonnyrigg.

When her mum was in hospital, Mary stayed off work to look after the family.

Chips every night they hoped!

Elizabeth and her whole family supported the Hibs and went regularly to their games. This was where she met Pat at a New Year party at Bridget Rape's house. Elizabeth went along and she and Pat started dating. Their courtship was at Hibs dances and matches. After a short courtship they were engaged in May 1955 with plans to marry in April 1956.



This was the “austere years” There was very little money. Catholics were not allowed to marry during Lent. It was financially wise to get married before the new tax year started. So Elizabeth and Pat were married in St. David’s Church by Father Kelly on the 2nd April, and got a year’s tax allowance! Three other couples from the parish were married on the same day.

Their first child, Kevin, was born in May 1957, followed by Karen in March 1959. Next was Patricia in March 1961 and lastly Gordon in March 1962.

Every baby was born after a holiday.

Pat moved to Roslin Colliery “The Moat” for a year, then to Dalkeith Colliery in 1962. There he worked as a shot firer Deputy. This is the person who fires explosives in the pit, blowing the coal down.

Pat worked there until 1977 when he went to Woolmit Training Centre as a mining instructor, a job which he thoroughly enjoyed for 9 years.

This was now coming to a very distressing time for miners and anyone with a history of working in or around the mining industry. There were pit closures and the dramatic miners’ strike year.

Pat suffered a heart attack on 8th August 1986 and finished up work after that. He is a staunch trade union man and has been a member of the Labour Party for over 50 years.

His chief mentor was his brother Tom who was training to be a priest with the Jesuits. Tom and Pat’s brother in law, Tommy Pryde used to debate about religion and the existence of God and Pat loved to listen to these debates as views were tossed back and forth. Pat felt that his brother was always there for him and was a big influence in his life.

Pat worked towards miners receiving something when they retired as they did not then get anything. Following Pat’s endeavours and with the support and generosity of fellow miners’ contributions, the miners, on finishing their years of work were presented with a wallet and £25. This was only from the local pit.

Elizabeth and Pat have been active members of the parish for many years. They added to the Hall committee the members being then were, Phil Sharkey, Bill Riley, Peter Gilhooley and Bill Waddell.

Elizabeth and Pat joined Tony Scott on the hall committee. Pat served on that for many years and he, Tony Scott and Bill Waddell looked after the hall spending 2 or 3 hours there 2 or 3 times a week, keeping it spick and span and highly polished.

Elizabeth and Pat’s sisters Mary, Anne and Madelaine did the catering for St. Vincent de Paul’s dinner for the old people in the church hall. They did this for over 15 years and are still willing to help.

They also collected for charity at the British Legion by making and serving soup. One year the soup got burned while they were talking but undaunted they rushed to the Co-op and bought up every packet of soup they could get. This soup was considered to be very good whether home-made or from a packet. Service with a smile and a warm heart!

For the Christmas dinner, the elderly often came straight over from 9 a.m. Mass and sat watching the clock waiting for their dinner. Pat’s sister Madelaine, was carrying four bowls of soup to the clergy’s top table and accidentally let three bowls slide onto Canon Mohan’s suit. Father Rafferty said it needed a clean anyway!, but Madelaine was embarrassed and stayed in the kitchen!

Throughout his life, Pat has been on the following committees:

Labour Party Dalkeith Branch,
Vice Chair of Num Cosla,
Newtongrange Star Football Club,
Royal Musselburgh Golf Club,
St. David’s Church Hall,
Consultative Committee Dalkeith Colliery,
Dalkeith Miners Club 1964,

Member of the Young Christian Workers around 1946 – 1950.

As a friend once said, “*Pat Flynn is on every committee in Dalkeith and District except the Women’s Guild!*”, but when it comes to Pat Flynn, to quote Rabbie Burns, “*A man’s a man for a’ that*”.

Elizabeth and Pat Flynn went to Lourdes with the pilgrimage from St. David’s in July 2009.

Elizabeth and Pat have expressed their joy, appreciation and gratitude to the parish for providing for them to go to Lourdes. It was such a great occasion for them to be chosen and taken there.

Elizabeth and Pat are thankfully fit and able to attend Mass at St. David’s at 11 a.m., every Sunday, sitting in the back row in the middle.

Patricia Barclay.

News from the Schools.

St. David's Primary School - Mundum Pro Christo Vincamus.

School Theme - Scotland: Its culture and heritage.

Throughout term 3, our children have been learning about Scotland's incredible culture and heritage. From Dalkeith's market town, to the



National Museum of Mining and Newbattle Abbey and Rosslyn Chapel. Further afield, we have investigated, explored and

learned at the World heritage sites of Edinburgh's old town and New Lanark, visited the Scottish Parliament, the National Museum of Childhood and the National Museum of Scotland. The children's learning journey

culminated in a "sharing the learning" day with parents and the community, with presentations, displays and interactive



activities all led by the children.

Next term, our school theme is the Olympic and Paralympic Games!

If you can support or complement our children's learning in any way then we would be delighted to hear from you.

P7 Olympic Trip.

Arnold Clark have proven they really are the driving force in Scotland by kick starting P7's London Olympic sponsorship appeal.

In a bid to raise £4,000 to help towards the costs of their three day Olympic adventure in May, P7 pupils prepared and issued letters to a host of local and national businesses in the hope of receiving their support.



Arnold Clark have been the first to pledge their support, very generously donating £900 towards the appeal, enough money to pay for the transport costs of a third of the class. As well as this they have also provided a variety of official Olympic merchandise for the pupils and the London raffle.

Class Teacher, Mr. Wedlock is absolutely delighted with the backing that Arnold Clark have provided. *"Having the Olympics on your doorstep is a once in a lifetime opportunity and we are trying to raise enough money to ensure that every child in the class has the opportunity to engage with this learning experience. The fact that Arnold Clark have been able to provide the large financial contribution that they have during the current financial climate is testament to their commitment to the children of Scotland and we are extremely grateful."*

If you would like to support the class in achieving their Olympic goal or provide any raffle prizes please contact class teacher, Mr. Wedlock on 0131 663 2002

P4/5 Fair Trade Assembly and Coffee Morning.

As part of our on-going efforts to promote the Fair Trade message, P4/5 have been leading the promotion and awareness raising of Fair Trade through presenting at Assembly and organising a Fair Trade Coffee morning

- a very enterprising approach to learning and together we

raised an impressive £345.43.

There were some fantastic stalls as well as a superb raffle and there was an excellent turn out of

people from our school community on the day - we very much appreciate your continued support.



Curriculum for Excellence.

Staff and pupils continue to implement Curriculum for Excellence (CfE).

We continue to build on the very good learning and teaching approaches from P1 to P7 through more active and interactive approaches to engage the children in their learning and development, to improve their understanding of their strengths and areas for development in learning.



We all thoroughly enjoyed our comprehensive study of 'Scotland: Its culture and heritage',

which we explored through our school theme last term. Through our theme there were many opportunities for meaningful and enriching learning experiences particularly when the children researched, visited and documented local areas of interest such as Newbattle Abbey College, The National Mining Museum of Scotland, The Scottish Parliament, Rosslyn Chapel and The National Museum of Scotland to name but a few!



Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Congratulations to our P3 children for a very special service and celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The excellent preparation by



Miss Fallon complemented the partnership work with the families and Monsignor Allan. We are all very proud of them and know they will

continue to demonstrate the excellent qualities and values we hold dear to us at St. David's. Well done!

Health and Wellbeing.

We have had another very busy and exciting term as we continue our on-going promotion of health and wellbeing.

Pupils in P5/6 have had the lucky opportunity to take part in an afternoon of orienteering organised by Outdoor Learning Midlothian.

On arrival pupils were given instructions on how to use and expand on their mapping skills.

Pupils first took part in an orienteering exercise involving 6 posts and then expanded to an exercise with 20 posts. Pupils were highly engaged and

enjoyed having the opportunity to take part in this outdoor activity.

P4/5 and P5/6 pupils successfully completed a 6 week ski-ing course at Hillend. The children had fantastic fun on the slopes and were highly commended by the instructors for their high level of skill on the slopes, their excellent behaviour, their listening skills and their accuracy in following instructions. A big congratulations and well done to all who took part!!

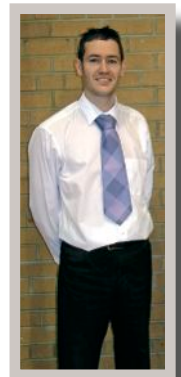
Congratulations to our successful basketball team who didn't lose a single match in the recent basketball tournament in Danderhall- a fantastic effort on the day. Amy Canavan, one of our P7 pupils, was also awarded a trophy for best girl. Also both our girls and our boys football teams continue to shine performing extremely well at recent interschool matches. A superb effort!!

Enrolling your child at St. David's Primary School.

If you would like to find out more about the primary school and would like to enrol at the school please contact Mr. Currie, Head Teacher on 0131 663 2002. There are limited places available at each stage P1-P7 so please do not hesitate to contact the school at your earliest convenience.

Mr. Anthony Currie, Head Teacher, and the St. David's Primary School staff team.

website: <http://stdavidsp.smgfl.net>



Mrs. Golabek retired at Christmas.

We thank Mrs. Golabek for her many years of dedicated teaching service and wish her long life, health and happiness in her retirement.



St. David's High School.



NEWS:

Lenten Appeal.

All pupils in the school were given a SCIAF 'Wee Box' to collect loose change during Lent. It is hoped that everyone will take part in this very worthwhile project.

SQA Exams - Study Leave.

Pupils in S4 began their exam leave on Wednesday 25th April, meaning their last day in school was Tuesday 24th April. Exam leave for S5/6 began on Wednesday 2nd May with their last day in school being Tuesday 1st May. Pupils returning to S5 will have their Induction Day on Tuesday 5th June and pupils returning to S6 will have their Induction Day on Wednesday 6th June.

Diamond Jubilee Holiday - Monday 4th June 2012.

Midlothian Council have agreed to an additional public holiday to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Monday 4th June. All Midlothian schools will be closed on that date.

Visit of Cardinal Keith Patrick O'Brien.

There will be an S6 Graduation Mass celebration on Thursday 7th June, with Cardinal O'Brien as the celebrant. All S6 leavers and families and friends are welcome.

School Uniform.

A new school uniform for senior pupils is being proposed for the start of the 2012/2013 term. This will include a maroon blazer. This was proposed by the pupil council, and also agreed by the parent council.

Leavers' Prom.

This will take place in the Roxburgh Hotel, Edinburgh on Friday 8th June.

Percussion Group.

On Thursday 8th March St. David's High School Percussion Ensemble performed in a concert at Newbattle High School. They are a newly formed group who had only played together five times before the concert, but despite this, they gave an excellent performance. We look forward to their future performances.

(in the photo Miss Barbara Jane Waddell, instructor, Erin, Stephen, Michael, Lewis and Euan)



U/18 Football Team.

The St. David's High School u/18 football team won the Edinburgh & Lothians u/18 seniors football league. The final match was between St. David's High and Craigmount High School.

Well done St. David's team, this required a lot of skill and devotion from the whole team.



CHAPLAINCY NEWS:

The group have helped immensely since last August. They have recently issued a Lenten calendar which was delivered to every class in the school.



They have helped to raise funds for charity and have taken charge of the “Wee Boxes” for SCIAF during Lent. They helped with Christmas services, with Ash Wednesday Services and Lenten Services in the school. They helped organise serving pancakes to all the staff during the lunch break on Shrove Tuesday. They help with S1 chaplaincy groups when necessary. They meet once a week to discuss future events. Some of the group will accompany S1 pupils to Carfin in May. When the S6 leavers go we already have a waiting list for other seniors to join the group.

A group of S1 pupils will visit Carfin on Monday 14th May.

The chaplaincy has become something of a “drop in” centre for pupils during the morning and lunch intervals. Pupils from S1 - S6 meet and enjoy their break and the company of their peers.

Iris.



Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award.

During this school year there has been an exciting opportunity for pupils to get involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. Pupils can either take part in it as an extracurricular activity or as part of their coursework for the new Curriculum for Excellence scheme that has now been introduced in schools. The group of students doing the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award is very large with the group of those who volunteered for the award totalling over 25. The award has also attracted just as many girls as it has boys and offers the opportunity to learn important life skills whilst having a huge amount of fun!

The Duke of Edinburgh group meet every Wednesday lunch time and was brought into the school by Head of the English Department Patrick Boxall. As part of the award, each student must complete a skill, sport and voluntary placement for a minimum of 3 months. There is tremendous scope in the range of things that you can choose from and so, you can find yourself doing bizarre things like bee keeping and rock climbing as part of your award. Also, pupils collect evidence to prove that they are actively completing all aspects of the award. They collect things such as photos, log in sheets and any other written forms of evidence that they can get a hold of. The variety that the Duke of Edinburgh Award offers is great as it helps to cater for all interests, however the group are all united in their love of the outdoors!

The other part of the award (arguably the better part) involves planning and completing a practice and assessed expedition. During both expeditions those who are hoping to complete the award have to carry everything that they will need for two days on their back. Students are also expected to show that they understand how to use a compass and map because it is their own responsibility to direct themselves to where they plan to pitch their tent!

In preparation for this first practice expedition the team have met after school on Fridays once a month to do activities like orienteering around the school grounds or in Dalkeith Country Park. Students have also been shown the appropriate kit that they need and recently met with Midlothian’s Outdoor Education Co-ordinator, Eric, to learn how to pitch tents and light stoves. To test the stoves the group did boil water and make themselves cups of tea and coffee that afternoon! At the end of April the group plan to go on their practice expedition and so they are busy planning their route cards for the expedition using the internet mapping resources that the Duke of Edinburgh Award has available.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award has proven to be a brilliant new edition to what St. David’s has to offer because everyone who has signed up to it loves it!

Catherine.



Parish Groups and News.

Cycle Club. 🚲 🚲 🚲 🚲 🚲 🚲

Our St. David's Cycling Club and Fun Rides are proving to be popular.

We have over 40 members and held 7 Fun Rides last year. This year we hope you will come and join us on some of our of 9 Fun Rides held at 2.00 p.m. on the first Sunday of the months - March to November - when afternoon sunshine has been booked! This photo is of our ride in early April.



Club membership and rides are free to parishioners and friends of all ages, all you need is a bike, please note that children must be accompanied by a cycling parent or guardian.

We ride at various speeds with an experienced ride leader in front and an experienced ride follower behind, but gather at points for everyone to catch up. We usually have to top up our energy levels with a piece of flapjack and a drink of water before cycling back to the hall for a chat over refreshments.

Come along and have some fun with us.

Julian.

Pro-Life.

This year Dalkeith Pro-Life group has kept up its normal activities established over the years.

Sunday Teas, Coffees and Scones continues to raise funds for Pro-Life groups such as Life, Zoe's Place, Cardinal Winning Initiative and SPUC. Support from the parish is, as always, excellent. In November the Kettle family sold Advent candles to raise funds for Lifeline and throughout the year parishioners have donated knitted goods and clothing to help support babies and their families.

This year the Innocents Mass took place in our own parish. It was organised by Chris McIver and was agreed by all to be a most thoughtful and

prayerful event concelebrated by the Cardinal and clergy of the Archdiocese. Monsignor Allan Chambers delivered a fine homily giving us all the opportunity to reflect on issues surrounding vulnerable groups in our society such as the unborn, the disabled and the terminally ill. The sandwiches and cake in the hall afterwards made it into a social as well as spiritual occasion. It was good to see familiar faces from our own parish and catch up with Pro-Lifers from around the Archdiocese.

As always we have to be vigilant when the rights of vulnerable groups are threatened. In the last term of the Scottish Parliament Margo MacDonald MSP (Independent) attempted to have the law on Euthanasia changed. Thankfully this was unsuccessful but she is set to try once more in the new session to have the law changed to allow people to have their lives ended. We ask everyone to pray that MSPs who rejected her Assisted Suicide Bill last year will do so again.

It would be good to see new faces in our small Pro-Life Group. Anyone who is interested in being involved in any way would be most welcome and should get in touch with a member of the group for details.

Helen Holden.

Beetledrive Fundraiser, Rosehill. 🐞 🐞 🐞

Once again at the end of February, parishioners beetled to Rosehill for an evening of fun. Gentleman numbers crept up again. Monsignor Allan having had his arm twisted to complete a table, graciously condescended to abandon scriptural and theological pursuits to draw beetles for an evening instead.

Thank you Monsignor, and thank you to all the avid participants, to those who donated raffle prizes, and those who could not attend but kindly contributed. The final total raised was £200 for the Youth for Lourdes Fund.

An enjoyable evening was had by all.

Sr. Ethel.



Quiz Night.



"The winning team!"



Now try
some of the
questions...

General Knowledge:

1. How is Katheryn Elizabeth Hudson better known?
2. How many bones are there in the adult human body?

Film Quotes, name the film:

3. "Get busy living or get busy dying!"
4. "Father to a murdered son. Husband to a murdered wife and I will have my vengeance, in this life or the next!"

Sevens:

5. Name the seven continents.
6. What is the seventh Station of the Cross?

1. Katy Perry.
2. 206.
3. Shawshank Redemption.
4. Gladiator.
5. North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia & Antarctica.
6. Jesus falls a second time.

How did you do?
Answers.



Lourdes 2011.

Friday 8th July - here we are remembering our 2011 journey to a place which means so much to all of us, Lourdes.

Last year we took John Pye from St. Luke & St. Anne's, Mayfield who went to support the Youth Group of Lourdes. He was accompanied by Liam de Haan on his second Lourdes trip. We also took our sick pilgrims, Victoria Muir, Mick & Rena Kennedy and Mrs. Anne Chambers (Monsignor Allan's Mum), who were all staying in the St. Fraix Hospital where they were well looked after by the army of volunteers, (Doctors, nurses, youth for Lourdes, lady helpers and the Brandcardiers).

The sick have the privilege of being taken to and from all the Masses and processions where they are seated at the front which gives them a Bird's-eye view of the proceedings. They are also taken to the Baths and the Grotto and on all these occasions they are accompanied by nurses and other carers especially the young youth of today.



We set off from St. David's Church early and last year we had the privilege of having Monsignor Allan travelling with us (first time in 23 years) to Edinburgh Airport where he was meeting Cardinal Keith O'Brien who was also on our flight.

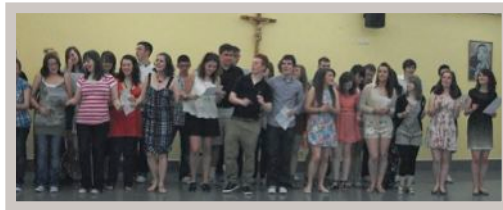
On our arrival at the airport our 2 youths immediately set to work helping with the luggage and wheelchairs and assisting the pilgrims to the airport lounge. After checking in we proceeded to the boarding area where we met up with the other sick pilgrims and volunteers from the Archdiocese.

We were all boarded, ready for takeoff and were about to get our journey underway when, as the saying goes "the heavens opened". Although we took off down the runway, the take off was abandoned due to a thunder storm! I was sitting beside Sister Damien and Mrs. Chambers, but I missed Molly (I usually crush her hand during the takeoff and landing). At this point everyone was making jokes

saying we will be okay as we have Cardinal O'Brien and Monsignor Allan on the flight.

During our second attempt everyone was praying that we would make it to Lourdes and thanks be to God we got there safe and sound.

On arriving in Lourdes the real work begins. The men and youth take care of the heavy baggage and equipment



that we need for the week. The nurses helped by some of the YFL ensure the sick are transferred to the coaches to take them to the St. Fraix.

Arriving at the St. Fraix it is good to see familiar faces to welcome us, some of the nurses travel ahead to ensure that rooms are ready and equipment assembled ready for the pilgrims arriving, among them were my buddy Molly with Leo and Netta, good to see friends after our long journey.

There are many events organised during an average day in Lourdes, central to these events is the wellbeing of our pilgrims from both a Spiritual and medical perspective. For many pilgrims who travel to Lourdes this is their annual holiday, so although meal times are fixed and they are expected to return in time for meals, during down time they are encouraged to venture out and explore albeit accompanied by one of the volunteers, and the youth love to take this opportunity to sit with the pilgrims and share experiences.

Saturday Morning – Last year the Hospitalite Committee had organised a welcoming quiz of famous Landmarks, this was a bit of an icebreaker and allowed the "veterans" of Lourdes to show off their knowledge to the New Pilgrims. This was followed by a free morning then back to the hospital for a bite to eat then a few minutes to freshen up before we are off to Mass.

Sunday Morning – Mass at the Grotto, followed by a visit to the statue of St. Margaret of Scotland (the only National Saint to be granted a special place in the Domaine). Sunday afternoon was the Blessed Sacrament Procession. St. Andrew's and Edinburgh took the lead; it is always with a sense of pride when you see Cardinal O'Brien surrounded by young men and women from his Archdiocese accompanying him on this journey.



There are many events that happen over the 7 days we are in Lourdes.

We attend Mass every day which is always led by Cardinal O'Brien. There is the International Mass held in the underground Basilica, which is a sight to behold, thousands of Catholics from all corners of the world coming together to celebrate.

The Mass for the Sick is always very emotional, where we remember our friends who are no longer with us.

Our Mass of Reconciliation is also an emotional event and very cathartic.

To Wash in the Baths is for some of the pilgrims the most poignant aspect of the Lourdes Journey.

During all these celebrations the contribution of the Edinburgh Lourdes Music group is as always remarkable. But they don't just play at the Masses or at the Baths, they sometimes come to the St. Frai in time for the night prayers and hold an impromptu sing song, usually supported by the YFL which is loved by all.

St. Frai party night enjoyed by all, well maybe not so much by the Nurses who are always the worst, but up for a laugh! The lady helpers are superb, always well rehearsed, but they are being caught up by the YFL who were fantastic this year! Once again music provided by the Lourdes music group.



Lourdes is a very special place, last year Victoria Muir said "Lourdes is a holiday for the Soul" and whether you are a sick pilgrim, a nurse or a YFL it holds a very special place for many people.

We cannot complete this account of Lourdes 2011 without mentioning our friend Mick Kennedy. On our last night Mick suffered a heart attack, Molly was one of the nurses attending him and I knew by looking at her face that this was serious, let's be honest it's what she does.

When Mick was transferred to Lourdes General we had to come to terms with the fact that we would be leaving him and Rena behind, Mick was in Lourdes for another 6 weeks. We still call him our miracle of Lourdes, that's the power of prayer!

Babs and Molly.

Thanks.

I would like to thank all the parishioners for the prayers and support given to me and my family during the weeks I was ill in hospital in Lourdes.



The week I spent with the Pilgrims prior to my illness was wonderful. I attended all the processions and services, took part in and enjoyed all the social interactions, and made many new friends.

I would like to say a big thank you to the people involved in making the pilgrimage to Lourdes possible. They are a small army of people whose sole mission is to give sick and vulnerable people a week they will never forget. Part of that wonderful group are some of our parishioners: Babs, Molly, Leo, Netta, Liam, Eileen & Norah. Their tasks are endless from nursing, waitressing, wheelchair pushing, cleaning, entertaining and just being there when needed 24 hours a day.

There is something very special at Lourdes, the love and support and the feeling of belonging to something tangible. I feel very blessed to have been part of it.

I only ask one more thing, please support any fundraising for Lourdes, you never know when illness might turn your world upside down, and a visit to Lourdes may be what you need.

Thank you again for all the prayers offered up for me. My recovery is evidence of that power of prayer.

Mick Kennedy.

Our Journey to Lourdes 2012 - a preview.

It's hard to believe it's this time again.

This year we are taking Kirsty McMahon for the first time who is going with the youth group this year and also Liam de Haan who is going for the third time.

We are also taking Pauline McGrath from St. David's Parish and Jeannette & George Conway from St. Luke & St. Anne's, Mayfield who will be staying in the St. Frai Hospital, Lourdes where they will be truly cared for.



By staying in the St. Frais it gives you priority when going to all Masses, Baths & Grotto because you can be at the front so the sick

are able to see and be a full part of it.

The St. Frai is similar to a hospital but has a very relaxed atmosphere, where all volunteers and pilgrims share a lot of time together, talking to one another and getting to know each other.

We have sing songs, play cards, dominoes etc.

The Archdiocese usually takes approximately 32 to 40 pilgrims, there are rooms in St. Frai for couples as well as rooms for approximately 6 people sharing with all facilities they need (showers, bathroom etc.).

There is a large Dining Hall where they all have their meals, they are assisted to the Dining Room with the Youth Group and some of the Youth help to feed them if they have difficulty.

The Lady Helpers generally serve the meals and clear away, (many lady helpers have gone for many, many years).

The Youth then return and bring pilgrims back through to the social area or to their rooms wherever they want to go. All volunteers help when going to the Masses, Baths or the Grotto.

The Youth are always there, even when it's their time off they come to assist. They take them shopping and for refreshments too.

A normal day in Lourdes starts around 6:30 a.m.

Nurses start, have a changeover with Night Staff then help and assist pilgrims get up, showered, dressed and medicated.

The Youth arrive around 7:30 a.m., assist pilgrims through for breakfast, then they make beds and clean the rooms, while pilgrims are having breakfast.

Then we all get together ready for the day ahead.

It is very impressive to see so many young youth helping and being involved.

A normal day in Lourdes for all volunteers can be from 6.30 a.m. with maybe a couple of hours off through to 10 p.m. at night depending on what is all scheduled for the day.

Lourdes is magical there are no other words for it. The first few days are very busy, we celebrate Masses each day, we also have the Marian Torchlight Procession to the Basilica where there are thousands of people carrying torches, singing, praying and it can be very overwhelming. Some days are busier than others.

The Grotto is a very special place too, where there are hundreds of Candles lit and people pray day and night. Sometimes at the end of a long day, we the Volunteers go as a group to the Grotto, even as late as Midnight and being there together can be very emotional. Midweek there is a picnic arranged for the Pilgrims & Volunteers, some pilgrims don't go due to their health so we arrange for the staff to be with them at the St. Frai and we let them choose what they want to do.

There's also PARTY Night where all the Volunteers dress up and entertain the Pilgrims, the Nurses Group, Youth Group, Lady Helpers and some of the Priests do their party piece too.

It's all great fun and enjoyed by all.

Everyone relaxes and others from the Archdiocese that are in Lourdes come to watch and mix with family and friends.

We have a music group who comes with us every year who participate at all our Masses, Party Night and at all of our other venues. They are marvellous.

As the week draws to an end, you realise how many new friends you have made and it is very overwhelming.

The night before we leave it's all hands on deck, all pilgrims' packing has to be done, all the men who are there helping have all the heavy work again, equipment from all rooms has to be dismantled and packed for storage, all first aid goods need stored.

They lift all goods and cases onto trolleys ready for transferring to the airport in the morning.

There are walking frames, wheelchairs etc. too.

The morning of departure, everyone is hands on, all rooms have to be cleaned ready for inspection, before we leave, and thanks again to all the Volunteers & the Youth this is all achieved to a high standard.

It is also very emotional on the day of departure for some of the pilgrims, as they are going home, and a lot of them live on their own and they are going to miss the company.

There is lots of love, laughter and tears in Lourdes and memories that we will always cherish.

Father Allan, Molly & myself are looking forward to our 2012 in Lourdes.

We can't thank the parishioners of St. David's enough for their help and generosity throughout all the years helping raise funds, we couldn't do it without you.

Love and God Bless.

Barbara Carr.



St. David's Brass - Christmas Concerts.

The first time the Band played its own Christmas concert was in 1999 at St. David's Church. Fr. Liam Healy was parish priest and gave his full support. His chosen charity was Marie Curie Cancer Care. The players were too young to play for a full concert, so the pieces and carols were interlaced with Bible readings.

Canon Healy supported Friends of Midlothian's Children, helping local children in need, from its foundation in 2001 and so it was the beneficiary of the annual concert until the charity closed in 2009. This remained the case even when, since 2004, the concert venues alternated between St. David's one year and one of the other Dalkeith churches the next.

Friends of Saltersgate School benefited in 2009, with the Year of the Early Winter Whiteout following in 2010, and sadly, no concert.

Last December saw the Band playing to a full house at St. Nicholas Buccleuch Parish Church on behalf of Midlothian Special Needs Playscheme



Monday Club. Run by Jean Munro, the Club offers youth club facilities all year for children aged 4 to 18 years who have additional needs. Activities include arts and crafts, cooking, music and social skills.

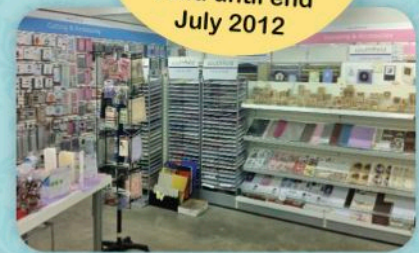
Over £500 was donated, all going to the chosen cause. The generosity of the audience enabled the Club to book a 3-night stay at the Calvert Trust Kielder Water in early autumn, paying for one of the two chalets needed for 4 children and 8 helpers. Activities will include archery, abseiling and climbing.

The Band has always enjoyed great support from St. David's parishioners at our Christmas Concerts. We look forward to seeing you once again in St. David's later this year.

Deirdre.

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Helping Handicapped.

Have you ever helped a flower to grow and watched it bloom?

It is an even more wonderful thing to see a crippled child, unable to walk or even stand upright, gradually learn to walk; to see a child, dying of starvation or malnutrition, slowly return to life and health; to watch children, mentally retarded, or emotionally disturbed, find freedom and grow in an atmosphere of love and understanding.

This is the mission of healing and liberation which Christ came to accomplish, and which He continues through us ... *'that the blind may see, the deaf hear, the lame walk, and the prisoners be set free.'*

I worked for some time in Kenya, and in the Diocese of Kakamega I was in touch with a school for mentally retarded children at Butula and nutrition centres at Butula and Nangina; also, in the Diocese of Eldoret, I visited small homes for the handicapped at Ororongai and Kobujoi.

Very little has been done, until recent times, for mentally retarded children in Kenya - but a beginning has been made. The school at Butula was opened by a Mill Hill priest and an American Peace Corps Volunteer. They now have a most dedicated staff - Sister Justine, Moses, Jonathan and Titus - who care for about thirty children. The Nutrition Centre at Nangina is under the care of African sisters. Mothers bring their sick babies here, and are taught to grow and prepare nutritious food, while they watch their babies return to health, sometimes in a matter of days, although more severe cases may take some months.

The small home at Ororongai is the beginning of a new development in the care of the physically handicapped in the Diocese of Eldoret. A simple African-style house is built on the compound of a primary school, and a small group of children live under the care of a house mother, herself physically handicapped, attending school with the other local children. This initiative was taken by Sister Betty Gillespie, a Sacred Heart Sister, and, since she returned to Australia, the work is being carried on and extended by Sister Kathleen Cronin.

Now, let me introduce you to four little people from one or other of these centres.

Maureen and Alfred are being cared for at Butula.

Maureen (11 years old) suffers from Downs

Syndrome. When she arrived at the school last year, she was incapable of doing anything for herself, or of following instructions, and became completely withdrawn if pushed to do anything. Now she is learning to care for herself and relate with other children.

Alfred (11 years old) had been neglected and even abused at home, and he came to school a frightened little boy with sadistic tendencies. Gradually, he is outgrowing his fears in an atmosphere of love and caring.

Micah is a victim of polio, and, like many others in his situation, he spent his early years sitting at home, deprived of the opportunities of normal children. He is paralysed from the waist down, and his legs were very deformed. Now, his legs straightened, and walking with calipers and crutches, he is living at the small home at Kobujoi, and attending the primary school where he is doing well. He has a beautiful personality, and, will have a valuable contribution to make to society.

Little **Justin** (7 years old) was brought to Nangina Nutrition Centre suffering from severe kwashiorkor, caused by protein deficiency. With proper diet his condition improved, but then lack of bone calcium rendered his legs useless. Very slowly he is learning to walk again.

Unfortunately, many of these children who have suffered from severe malnutrition become mentally retarded as a result.

Don't these stories make one grateful for soundness of mind and body, and long to share these gifts with the less fortunate? It is always good to be made aware of their suffering, and of what can be done to make them feel loved, wanted and appreciated, entering as far as we can into Christ's mission of healing and liberation.

A Kenyan newspaper had this to say ...

'When all is said and done, the most critical issue with respect to the disabled is the attitude of the general public towards them. Some people claim that our society is very intolerant of them because of certain traditional beliefs that anyone who is disabled has fallen from God's grace and that, therefore, nobody should associate with them. People who are intolerant of the disabled should be educated to a better perception of the important role that these members of our society can play, given the opportunity. It is this educational role which the public, media, religious institutions, and government need to take more seriously.'

Anna Mackie RSCJ



Baptism.

Young Jack was recently baptised in St. David's. We welcome him into our parish family.



Deanery Station Mass.

St. David's hosted the Deanery Station Mass on Wednesday March 21st.

His Eminence Cardinal Keith Patrick O'Brien concelebrated the Mass with priests of the deanery. Refreshments were enjoyed by all after in the hall.



SVdP.

The annual St. Vincent de Paul Dobbies outing had been arranged for 11 a.m. on Monday 7th November. It turned out that this coincided with the requiem Mass for Sr. Frances Arrowsmith RSCJ at St. David's so to enable people to get to both we made a later start that morning. Sr. Arrowsmith will be remembered with affection.

SVdP Christmas Party took place on Saturday 10th December and was the usual great success. This is thanks in no small part (i.e. absolutely hugely!) to Liz Flynn and the team. The amount they do, including the raffle, continually amazes us and I trust these few understated



phrases can convey something of our appreciation!

John Holden.

Looking Forward.

June :-

St. David's Fun Ride 11 - Sunday 3rd June 2.00 p.m.

Vocations Mass.

A monthly vocations Mass will be held in St. Joseph's House, Little Sisters of the Poor, 43 Gilmore Place, Edinburgh. 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 7.30 p.m. during May, June, September & October. Refreshments and parking will be available.

The 50th International Eucharistic Congress in Dublin.

An invitation has been sent to all parishes to attend the 50th International Eucharistic Congress National Pilgrimage, which will be held from Wednesday 13th to Monday 18th June 2012.

The cost, which includes bed, breakfast and evening meal in ☆☆☆ Bewleys Hotel, Dublin, is approximately £514.00 for twin/double room. For full information and booking forms, please contact Anne Marie Cairns on 01698-262941 or Monsignor Stephen Robson, the National Delegate for the Scottish Bishops on 0131-623-8902 or email: chancery@staned.org.uk

July :-

St. David's Fun Ride 12 - Sunday 1st July 2.00 p.m.

Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2012.

The 2012 Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 6th to 12th July 2012 led by Cardinal O'Brien. Prices start from £772.00.

Details from Access Travel, 6 The Hillock, Astley, Manchester M29 7GW, (www.access-travel.co.uk).

Enquiries about sick pilgrimage to the Booking Secretary, 61 Hailes Gardens, Edinburgh, EH13 0JN telephone: 0131-441-1939

Youth for Lourdes.

Interested in travelling to Lourdes on a pilgrimage? For more information contact youthforlourdes@hotmail.co.uk or call Kris Thomas on 07747867003

August :-

St. David's Fun Ride 13 - Sunday 5th Aug 2.00 p.m.

ACROSS, which takes sick people to Lourdes by Jumbulance, are looking for helpers, doctors, nurses and chaplains on lots of national groups this year – starting with a group which left on 12th April and continuing through to mid October. If you would like to help to make the impossible possible for Jumbulance VIP's please contact Yvonne or Julie on 01499-302715 or e-mail on contactus@across.org.uk www.jumbulance.org.uk

2013.

WORLD YOUTH DAY RIO July 23-28, 2013.

Registration for Rio 2013 is now open. To find out more about it, see:

<http://worldyouthday.com/rio-20>

After a risk assessment the Archdiocese is not organising a group to travel to this World Youth Day but St. Francis Xavier's Parish, Falkirk is hoping to take a group of young people to Brazil in July 2013. Young people from other parishes are very welcome to join them. The aim is to participate in WYD whilst also experiencing the work of Fr. Neil Crombie SPS, a missionary priest from Falkirk, based in Sao Paolo. You will need to be at least 18 years old at time of travel.

If you are interested or would like to know more, please speak to Fr. Anthony Caruana on 01324-623-567 or email stfxfalkirk@aol.com as soon as possible.

SCOTTISH WORLD YOUTH DAY July 23-28, 2013.

It is hoped that Scotland will arrange our own WYD event through the SCYS at the same time and link up with the WYD events with technology! Anyone over 14 years would be eligible to attend. Cost and a programme are being worked out at the moment. More details will follow as they emerge.

It would be a big undertaking so we would like to know how many of you would be interested in taking part. Please let me know if this would interest you, e-mail me at anne.mcevoy@staned.org.uk

This is our 12th Parish Magazine and we hope you have enjoyed it.

All our Parish Magazines can be read on our website <http://www.stdavidsdalkeith.co.uk/>

If you have any ideas for the Magazine, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please pass your feedback and ideas for the next edition, to Patricia, Winifred, Brian or Julian.

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