

CONTACT

Church Magazine of The Parish of Traprain



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PARISH OF
TRAPRAIN

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The finale is not the end. It's a new beginning.

Watching box sets on TV, I am getting used to the fact that the season finale rarely finishes with an actual ending. The creators of TV drama series and movie franchises seem keen to ensure that there is always a chance of a sequel, so we are often left with the sense that there is another story yet to be told.



The drama that is unfolded in the gospels builds up to the events of Holy Week, with the finale on Easter Sunday. All of Jesus' mission and ministry has led up to the week in Jerusalem that begins with him arriving on a donkey to great public acclaim. The crowds are on the streets, waving palm branches and

laying their coats on the ground. The scene is set for the history changing events that are about to play out. The entire life of Jesus was remarkable but 40% of the narrative in the four gospels is devoted to this one week in Jesus' life. That is why Holy Week in the life of the church is such a central point of our year, and taking time in the build up to Easter Sunday makes the finale more special.

As we remember what happened in Jerusalem, we join with the disciples on Maundy Thursday around the table. Through sharing bread and wine at our communion service we remind ourselves of this last supper - of the promises that Jesus made, of his act of servanthood in washing feet, and of his betrayal.



Gathering on Good Friday we remember the injustice of an innocent man being sentenced to a cruel death and we experience the sorrow, tears and pain of seeing Jesus on the cross. The end of the Good Friday service is always a poignant moment as we leave in silence. We take in the enormity and significance of what

Jesus went through, so that we could be forgiven and put right with God – but the finale is yet to come ...

The big reveal of Easter Sunday is that death is not the end. There is hope in the empty tomb. There is the promise of new life. There is resurrection.

As we meet the sunrise at the top of Traprain Law, roll eggs at the Garleton Hills and gather for worship at Prestonkirk – we celebrate the greatest day. Jesus is alive, and the rest of history is about to start. It is not the end of the story but a new beginning for all of us.



Rev Douglas Hamilton

OUR NEW ADMINISTRATOR

We are delighted that Lesley Kelly started as our new Parish Administrator on 24 March. Lesley brings a lot of experience from her previous work and is already involved in various aspects of church and community life. Lesley will be the main point of contact for much of the operational side of our church and can be contacted via email at admin@parishoftraprain.org.uk

We would also like to record our thanks to our previous administrator, Wendy Brock. Whilst we are sad that she had to step back from the role we are grateful for her commitment and service to the church over the past year.

THE GUILD OF TRAPRAIN

The Guild continues to meet in the Stables every second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Our meetings this year have included interesting and varied topics. What a joyful afternoon it was when we welcomed Tom Middlemass who entertained us with 'A Poetic Afternoon' where we joined in reciting a selection of some well 'kent' poems along with Tom's presentation. Our charity partners - 'Crossreach' and 'Bibles for Bairns' - have spoken to us about the projects they are undertaking with support from the Guild nationally. We had a very successful fundraising 'Snowdrop Tea' where funds raised go directly to our project partners. Our session clerk Bill Stevenson spoke to us about his recent trip to India particularly our twinning partners in Naxalbari. What a treat it was to see the slides of Bill's trip, one of which was of a local Indian pipe band in full Scottish dress! We have our Annual Meeting in April before our summer break.

Elizabeth Cowan

**The Stables
COMMUNITY CAFE**

**THURSDAYS
10AM-NOON**
The Stables, Prestonkirk

Come join us for a blether or just relax with a cuppa

Refreshments, an emergency pantry and access to advice

There is no charge

For more info contact
07849 743 066 support@the-ridge.org.uk

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ALL WELCOME

WE WOULD LOVE TO MEET YOU

PILGRIMAGE WALK

Saturday 10 May from Athelstaneford to Prestonkirk, meeting at 10am at Athelstaneford Church. To register in advance please visit www.parishoftraprain.org.uk/pilgrimage

EASTER AT TRAPRAIN

Thursday 17th April (Maundy Thursday)	Athelstaneford at 7pm, with Holy Communion
Friday 18th April (Good Friday)	Stenton at 7pm
Sunday 20th April (Easter Sunday)	Easter Sunday Family Service at Prestonkirk at 11am

In addition, we will have the following events on Easter Sunday (20th April):

- ◇ Easter Sunday pilgrimage at Traprain Law — meet in the Law car park at 6am. Followed by breakfast at Allison Cargill House.
- ◇ Egg rolling in Athelstaneford—meet at Athelstaneford primary school at 8.30am. Followed by breakfast in the village hall.

MESSY CHURCH



Our Messy Church at Prestonkirk on Sunday 16th March was a fantastic event, buzzing with excitement and activity. Our theme was Easter and we enjoyed making an Easter frieze, painting stones and stained glass crosses, making cookies, planting sunflower seeds, and hearing the Easter story along the way. It was great to see so many children there having so much fun!



Don't worry if you missed it, our next one will be on **Sunday 1st June** which will be just as much fun! Can't wait to see you there!

Traprain Messy Church Team



COLOURFUL CONNECTIONS



Earlier this year we ran a series of 4 creative art sessions for older people of all artistic abilities (and none) to enhance brain health and wellbeing. The sessions were open to anyone, and also suitable for people living with dementia.

Led by local artist, Jennifer McKay, each session had a particular theme where everyone was able to participate and be creative. New friendships were made, brains were exercised, and wonderful pieces were produced. It was so much fun and so popular that it is going to start up again from 22 April on Tuesday mornings in the Prestonkirk Stables from 10 – 12. Further details of how to join in will be on the Parish of Traprain website.



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YOUTH CLUB!

Our Youth Club runs every **Wednesday evening from 5:30pm until 7:30pm** in Prestonkirk stables. This is open to all young people from S1 upwards. Come along and join in the fun, we have pizza, chocolate, board games, computer games, music and of course lots of fun and chat. Would be great to see you there!



Traprain Youth Club Team

BAPTISMS AND BLESSINGS

"Suffer little children to come unto me"

Reuben Ogilvie, Athelstaneford, 15th December
Jaxson Cullen, Athelstaneford, 16th March

FUNERALS AND MEMORIAL SERVICES

"I am the resurrection and the life"

Betty Steele, Prestonkirk, 9th January
Margaret Rodgers, Prestonkirk, 10th January
Peter Brown, St Mary's Haddington, 28th January
Lionel Moore, Warriston 30th January
Andrew Black, Athelstaneford 21st February
Jane Hall, Warriston, 11th March