



# Markinch Parish Church Sunday Bulletin

*Minister: Revd Alex Forsyth TD BA MTh*

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## *Our Mission*

*To Worship God, Share His love and Serve His World*

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## *Grace To You And Peace*

*During the organ prelude please quietly prepare yourself for sharing in the service by offering a prayer and reading the lessons set for today.*

*To access the loop system switch to setting "T"*

**We enter to worship**

**Prelude - music for prayer and meditation**

Welcome & Intimations

**HYMN 600 Spirit of God Unseen As The Wind**

Prayers & Lord's Prayer

Learning Together

**HYMN 350 As The Deer Pants**

*The children continue with their service in the hall*

Isaiah 42.1-9 p 727

Acts of the Apostles 19:1-7 p1115

Mark 1.4-11 p1002

**HYMN 465 Be Thou My Vision**

Prayers for Help & Healing

**HYMN 636 Baptized in Water**



Sermon

The Offering

**HYMN 468 Son of God Eternal Saviour**

The Blessing & Choral Amen

**Postlude - music for prayer and reflection**

**We depart to serve**

*Coffee & Conversation in the Hall*



## The Minister's Viewpoint - New Year

*The following article was written by Rev. Alex Forsyth for inclusion on the church website.  
It is printed here for those of you who do not have internet access.*

Around the world, different cultures have their own traditions for welcoming the New Year.

At the stroke of midnight, the Chinese open up all the windows and doors of their homes, to let out the old year and to open up their space to the fresh night air of the new year with its new opportunities.

In Japan, people dress in new clothes and decorate their houses with bamboo and pine branches - symbols of long life.

The Danes jump off chairs at the stroke of midnight, jumping into the New Year, not lumbering or loitering their way into it.

Some Italian villages have a clear-out. On New Year's Eve as the night deepens and it grows closer to midnight, traffic on the streets comes to a standstill. Soon there is no traffic and no pedestrians. Even the police take cover. Then at the stroke of midnight the windows of the houses open up, and to the sounds of music, fireworks and laughter, people begin to throw things out the open windows. This is 'Gardylloo' with a vengeance!

They throw out old crockery they no longer want, and long detested ornaments. Furniture they have looked at and detested for years is tossed out the window. Tasteless presents rain down on the pavements. Personal items that are reminders of difficult or bad experiences in the past year, are enthusiastically dumped.

Perhaps the Italians may have something here. There are times in our lives when we need to throw out the old and make room for the new. Now is the time to dump the dark memories of past hurts: slights, frustrations, failures, disappointments, grudges, anger and all the other damaging things we've carried around for so long.

Start the New Year with a clean slate. Remember, God is 'making all things new.'

Every blessing for 2012.

Alex

## Update



**Welcome.** We hope you will feel at home and among friends. Would visitors please sign our visitors book. Please join us for coffee and a chat in the hall after the service. If you would like information about the Church or any of the organisations please see a member of the welcome team. The reader today is Nancy Munro.

**Ministers Vestry Hour** 12 noon - 1.00 pm. Please contact the Minister for an appointment - phone 01592-758264 or E-mail [alex@arforsyth.com](mailto:alex@arforsyth.com) In the event of hospitalisation, serious illness, family anxiety, bereavement or personal difficulty the Minister is readily available to visit. Let him know if he can help.

**Coffee Mornings** are held on Thursdays from 10.00am - 11.30am in the church hall. Come and join us for tea or coffee and a chat. You are always welcome.

**The Guild** meets tomorrow evening, Monday 9th January 2012, at 7.00pm in the Church Hall. Travel agent Ron Fitzcharles will be sharing 'Coaching Experiences' with us. A large attendance is requested.

**The Congregational Board** will meet in the hall at 7.15p.m. on Monday 16th January 2012. Copies of the agenda and minute of the last meeting are now available in the Session House for those members who do not have e-mail facilities

**Christmas Decorations.** Many thanks to Bert and Marjorie Ward for decorating the church and the hall. Their efforts were appreciated by everyone over the Christmas period.

**'Markinch - Its Church and Parish'** A small quantity of hardback copies of this book are now available. If you are interested in a copy please speak to Ken Wilkie. The price is £15. We also have paperbacks, priced at £10.

**Furniture Plus** is appealing for donations of any unwanted household goods. The charity has urged householders who received new electrical appliances or furniture to hand in their old items. It reopened on the 4<sup>th</sup> January and can uplift any suitable donations. Operated as a social enterprise, Furniture Plus helps low-income households by providing low-cost essentials for the home. For more information, visit [www.furnitureplus.org.uk](http://www.furnitureplus.org.uk)

**A Dedication Service** for the Personal Search Week at Auchmuty High School, will be held on Sunday 15 January at 6:30pm in St Margaret's Church. Everyone is very welcome to attend this service and have the opportunity to meet the team and hear about the week. We would also value your prayers for the week. There will be an opportunity to pray each day from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> at 10am in Glenrothes Baptist Church.

**The Flowers in Church** today are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Warden. They are gifted to the church by their daughter Isobel and family.