St Bride's

Church



Brodick

Autumn

2011

Newsletter

Brodick Church of Scotland

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Mrs Morag Watson & Mrs Elizabeth McKellar

Scottish Charity No SCO12017

Congregation No 120654

Editors Remarks

As the nights draw in we look forward to another busy winter and as always the various committees ask for yoursupport to ensure the success of their various activities.

Although the summer fete took place some few months ago it is only right that special thanks be accorded to Janet Ramage and Susan Dobson, our convenors par excellence, for their magnificent leadership of the fete committee which resulted in the magnificent sum of over £5,000 being raised.

My thanks as always to all who have contributed to this edition of the magazine.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2011

Wanted - as many filled shoe boxes for the Christmas Appeal.

Blythswood Care send these boxes by truck overland to Eastern Europe and Northern India and distribute them to people who have nothing, no hat and scarf, toothbrush and toothpaste, toy or sweets. These are items that we take for granted.

Please take time to fill a shoe box according to the leaflet you have already received. More leaflets are available in the Church along with empty shoe boxes. If you have a problem or need to arrange a pick up for your box please phone me on 302285. Closing date is 30th October.

Please bring a smile to the faces of boys and girls, men and women who have nothing. Fill a shoe box.

Hamish Mitchell

County Dancing

How lucky we are on Arran to have such a variety of things to do on winter evenings. Keeping active is a positive and hugely enjoyable experience, and while the fashionable activities come and go, the one constant is our unique Country Dancing.

It is so much more sociable, meeting so many more people, with time to talk and enjoy the wonderful store of music that sets the feet dancing.

We can sing to many of the traditional tunes, and learn the new, from the young lively bands everywhere.

We can welcome new and old friends worldwide and unite us on Arran as we start the dance season once more.

We meet on Tuesday evenings in Brodick Church Hall at 7.30pm.

RP

Brodick Manse October 2011

Much focus at this year's General Assembly and since, has been the ongoing controversy over the issue of same sex relations and ministry. No clear decision was made in May and we still await the final outcome. This has led to unsettling times for all congregations and will, in the fullness of time undoubtedly cause damage to our national church, regardless of which way the final decisions goes. However, two very important decisions that were taken then, already threaten to make a huge impact on our congregational life over the next 12 months.

The first means that the Kirk, due to current financial pressures, must now embark on a reduction of 200 ministry posts. Each Presbytery has been instructed to come up with a new plan to make this a reality by 2014. The Presbytery of Ardrossan must shed 6 posts out of 29. The second decision is an instruction for every congregation in the Church of Scotland to engage in a Stewardship campaign by the time of next year's Assembly.

What does this mean for us in the North Arran linkage? Well in the worst case scenario, the reduction in posts would mean the possibility of us losing Jean, leaving me to carry on alone, trying to minster to two thirds of the island. I shudder to think of the consequences of this prospect for all concerned. It was therefore with some trepidation that representatives of each of our Boards/Deacons' Court and Sessions met with a Presbytery Committee over a two day period at the beginning of September. Whilst the recommendations of their findings are not absolutely certain, and must be discussed and ratified by both Business committee and full Presbytery in due course, the indications thus far seem more positive.

The Committee found all five congregations to be in excellent shape, recognizing that they remain essential for the Church's work of witness in North Arran, as well as providing important places of worship over a large geographical area. They also recognized the difficulties of staffing that large area with less than present provision. In fact it was noted, that in order for it to be ministered to at current levels, it required Jean to work way, way beyond the 30 hours she was paid to work. Recognition of her dedication and sacrifice I hope is something we never take for granted.

In saying this, neither can we take anything for granted at this stage. We must therefore be extremely diligent in making sure that we continue to work hard to illustrate that we are fulfilling our potential, especially in regard of using all the many gifts and talents of all our members.

Those gifts and talents and your commitment and dedication will certainly be needed as we now have to embark on another stewardship campaign. The timing of this, in these recession times is going to be more challenging than the last time 3 years ago, when we achieved significant results, results that have seen us well on the way to becoming self supporting. Something else that made a big impression on the Presbytery Committee.

Again it was with not a little foreboding that our representatives from each congregation met once more with Edith Scott, the Stewardship Advisor assigned to us by 121, Church H.Q. Once again however, after listening to her presentation, we came away feeling more positive. We will have independence to do things our own way, allowing us to tailor things to best suit our 5 very unique congregational areas, remaining sensitive to the different situations of each.

Both these live issues of post reduction and stewardship will form the main part of the agenda to be discussed at the joint Board/Deacons' Court/Session meeting, now set for the Friday 4th November at 7 p.m. in Kinloch Hotel. A social evening with supper will follow at 8 p.m., to which <u>all</u> are invited to attend. Tickets can be obtained at church, or by contacting the respective Session Clerks.

On Sunday 6th November a joint North Arran Communion Service will take place at Brodick Church at 11 a.m. Please note the time and place of that service as well as the details of the social gathering at Kinloch Hotel.

I hope to see you at both events.

Angus

Arran Churches Together

To provide a summer social event, a Quiz was organised in Brodick Church Hall on 24th August. It was well attended and proved to be great fun, although the Elders were rather embarrassed at not being in the winning team for the Biblical questions – until it was realised that the team scoring the highest in that section consisted of Father Noel Colford and some divinity students! It is hoped to repeat this event next year – but with more care given to the composition of the teams!

The next event will be the Christingle Service, planned this year for Thursday $\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}$ December in Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church at 7pm Children should meet at 6.30pm to make their Christingles.

It is planned to have Carol Singing outside the Co-op on Saturday 17th December from 11am to 12 noon.

Strabane Open Day

At the kind invitation of the Lady Jean Fforde, we were invited to hold an Open Day at Strabane on Monday 1st August. As ever teams of willing helpers manned the gate and tea tent throughout the day. Fortunately the weather proved to be better than last year and visitors to the garden were able to enjoy the pleasures and delights of this lovely place. Now that Margaret and I have mastered the cold water tap and electrical connections we might tackle it again provided the gentlemen erect the gazebos. Once again thanks to everybody for all their help on the day.

Harvest Thanksgiving

As always the generosity of Brodick Church folk was very evident on Harvest Sunday 25th September. A very full and welcoming table was there for everyone to enjoy. To make this possible many people deserve our thanks: members and friends, children of the Sunday School, Brodick Primary School and Lindsay Kerr for generous donations. Many members and friends in the Parish and Congregation were able to have a visit on the Sunday afternoon. The Harvest parcels are always so well received and thanks are due to all those who deliver them year after year. My special thanks to the ladies who gave of their time and talents on Saturday and Sunday to make the gifts and posies possible.

MW

Arran Youth Foundation has been running a very successful youth group in Brodick church hall. The charity aims to address the problems that the young people of the island face. They open from 7-9pm every Friday night. Having moved from the cabin behind the library to the church hall on September 9th, their first few weeks have been well-attended with a bunch of new faces coming to AYF for the first time. So far the young people have taken part in football (against youth worker Graeme!), baking, movie nights, learning guitar and all sorts of other activities. There has also been a football tournament at the Ormidale pitches against a group from the mainland. Anyone of high school age is welcome to come along to the Friday nights - a fun programme is planned over the winter.

Note:

The crest on this edition of St Bride's Church Newsletter depicts the alternative emblem of the Church of Scotland 'Burning Bush'. It featured on the back cover of the Order of Service for the Rededication of the Church on 3rd July when the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland the Rt. Rev. David Arnott preached the sermon.

Copies of the full colour DVD of the service are still available priced £10 from the Session Clerk, Alex Lawrie, Tel: 302782.

Note:

At a recent meeting of the Kirk Session it was decided to introduce 'Courtesy Cards' for those members of the congregation who contribute to the Church regularly by Direct Debit. This is to ensure that they are not embarrassed at rejecting the offering plate each Sunday. It would also be helpful to Stewards in remembering to whom not to offer the plate. The cards would be picked up from the vestibule on entry and recirculated each week. This system is used successfully in other Churches in the linkage and will be given a trial over the next few weeks. Please feel free to participate in the scheme if you so wish.

Seasonal Reminders:

- 1. Remember to clip those used postage stamps (we all receive many envelopes at Christmas) and put them in the box in the church vestibule the money raised from their sale helps fund needy causes overseas.
- 2. This year many of us have been saving our 1p and 2p coins and bring them to church for Mary's Meals over £100 raised so far. If they are in £1 bags hand them to the steward on door duty, or if loose place them in the large bottle in the vestibule.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Givings – January to September		
	2011	(2010)
Freewill Offering Envelopes	9637	9681
Open Plate Collections	3645	2663
Standing Orders Through The Bank	13932	14289
	27214	26633

The large congregation at our centenary service on 3rd July saw an open plate collection bring in a very welcome £500 more than usual. Had this not occurred, our income from giving would have been nearly level with last year at the same time.

In the current economic climate we have done very well to maintain our level of giving, and I appreciate that this has been an expensive year for members with so many centenary and other events making demands on their wallets. Equally it has been an expensive year for the church and in the coming months we face several larger bills for maintenance and repairs and other running costs.

I had forecast a useful surplus in our budget for this year, which would have added to our reserves and allowed us to contribute more to the full level of our ministry and mission costs*, but we may not now achieve that aim.

*The actual cost of ministry, which covers stipend, employer's national insurance, and pension contributions in our linkage is: add in mission and renewal and central services costs of: making a total of:	£64,000 £ <u>8,150</u> £72,150
Together the five churches in our linkage pay to central funds to cover the costs of ministry (86%), mission and renewal (6%), and central services ((8%): This leaves a linkage shortfall of: which is paid for by larger and wealthier congregations so that the national church can balance its books. If this congregation could raise a further £6,270 we would pay our full share of these costs.	£58,218 £13,932

John Lauder

ST. BRIDES'S LADIES

"All is safely gathered in, 'ere the winter's storms begin."

It is always annoying to find that favourite hymns have been altered to make them politically correct, but given the vagaries of Scotland's weather, one wonders if whoever penned these lines from a well-known harvest hymn was being just a trifle optimistic. Here on Arran, we can be visited by the winter storms at almost any time of the year, and the rain is not always soft and refreshing, so perhaps, in this case, altering the first line in the cause of truth would be acceptable (answers on a postcard, please).

Happily, even on a brollies and wellies evening, the weather hardly ever prevents anyone from attending the annual Harvest Supper, and on Monday 26th September, all were safely gathered in Brodick Church Hall. After a glass of wine, words of welcome by our President, Morag Watson, and grace said by Jean Hunter, everyone tucked into the splendid buffet provided by the St. Bride's Catering Co., with quite a number taking up the offer of second helpings (you know who you are!). The meal over and the tables cleared, the entertainment began. For this we had the pleasure of hearing a fairly new group called 'Aint Misbehavin'. Several ladies and two men, accompanied on the piano by a third man, their speciality is Golden Oldies sung in a lovely swinging style, many of them from the movies. They will be in great demand, for their appeal is universal. One of our visitors, Elma Stevenson from Sannox, gave an excellent vote of thanks, and so ended another happy evening.

The syllabus for the new session of St. Bride's Ladies (2011-12) has now been completed, and is as follows:

2011 Monday 24th October - Stuart Gough

Monday 21st November - ARCO musical group

Saturday 3rd December - Christmas Fayre

Monday 12th December - Christmas party

2012 Monday 9th January - Sandra Kemp - Ethopia

Monday 23rd January - Scots Night

Monday 6th February - Visit to Lifeboat Station

Monday 27th February - Soup, sandwiches and entertainment

Monday 12th March - Church AGM and Cams Campbell

Monday 26th March - AGM with Jean Hunter

Saturday 31st March - Easter Fayre

Our meetings are held on alternate Mondays in Brodick Church Hall at 7.30pm, unless otherwise stated. New ladies are always welcome.

Property Report

Since the last report in April 2011, we have had an exceptionally long list of repairs and renewals. To that end I shall try to be as brief as possible.

The Manse

Pending work: new bathroom suite, velux roof lights, new linoleum in kitchen and utility room floors following burst pipe. Cement render and roughcast work to the whole building will be completed before winter sets in.

New double glazing and draught strips have been fitted to back door and a new eye level oven has been bought.

A report on the condition of the electrical work is awaited.

Church

The bell tower floor was cleared in an attempt to stop rainwater dripping on to the stairs to the gallery.

The electrics in the church have been giving problems and hopefully will soon be repaired.

Annual roof and gutter checks have been completed.

The Hall

Thanks to Brian, the hall floor has been varnished over the summer and is now shining like a new pin.

Kitchen floor has been repaired and new linoleum fitted.

Over the spring, summer and autumn the ladies' toilet has been blocked on several occasions. To try and rectify this a hand drier has been fitted and the use of paper towels has been discontinued.

Various other jobs have been attended to

The Quinquennial Visitation's report is now available to view and was generally positive. Certain areas were identified as requiring attention.

I would like to thank Susan for cutting the grass in the church grounds over the season and Brian, yet again, for his endless patience when I call for help.

NC

MEDICAL TREATMENT



	Anagrams - Towns and Villages in Scotland		£1
1.	REIWAGBOLRI	BLAIRGOWRIE	
2.	REDRARETHCUA	AUCHTERARDER	
3	RENLALADC	CALLANDER	
4.	EDHAELSML	HELMSDALE	
5.	BNHIECEIKOLRV	KINLOCHBERVIE	
6.	INROGNGYB	BONNYRIGG	
7.	IMRNUFDELNE	DUNFERMLINE	
8.	VVNIRREEBEI	INVERBERVIE	
9.	EITSUONRAC	CARNOUSTIE	
10.	UONHSTARGES	GRANTSHOUSE	
11.	TEEDWOCNBAH	COWDENBEATH	
12.	TLRHENINNEIE	INNERLEITHEN	
13.	EINIHWLADN	DALWHINNIE	
14.	MESDLOCTRA	COLDSTREAM	
15.	ENIEHKOLCW	KINLOCHEWE	
16.	IUSEOMTLOSH	LOSSIEMOUTH	
17.	KRCOOTPINKE	PORTKNOCKIE	
18.	PTAERNSSPNO	PRESTONPANS	
19.	NRSRDAOSA	ARDROSSAN	
20.	GNLSEHRHBEU	HELENSBURGH	
21.	OGDTANHIND	HADDINGTON	
22	OLAETNITOEMON	NEWOASTIETON	

WINNER: M NORRIS, SELKIRK

Answers to G. Allan, 15 Old Selkirk Waterworks, Selkirk TD7 5DJ by 15 September 2011. Prize for correct drawn.

22. OLAETNTCEWSN NEWCASTLETON

Remembrance Day

A poignant poem for today.

I stand on the tarmac feeling cold, alone,
I wait for the moment my hero's coming home.
He gave his life for freedom,
So we can all be free,
But as I stand here waiting,
I wish you were here with me.
I will not feel your touch again,
Or watch you as you sleep,
Pick up your clothes or hear you laugh,
The sadness makes me weep.
But as they bring you from the plane,
Draped in red, white and blue,
I know you are a hero and I'm so proud of you.
Amanda Binnie --May 2009

As we approach our Annual Remembrance Day Services, it is appropriate that we take time to reflect on the events which took place in our lifetime.

With the majority of those who lived through the Second World War already well into their 80's and 90's, it is important that we cast a backward eye and actually commit to paper, tape-or even computer- our thoughts and recollections of events and how they affected our lives. A recent survey revealed that the majority of today's children lack the most basic knowledge of what happened between 1939 and 1945, with some even believing that Adolph Hitler was a German football coach!

In a previous edition of this Newsletter reference was made to the effects of the war as recorded in the minutes of our Kirk Session meetings. A request was also made for contributions from members of the congregation in compiling a more comprehensive account of our 100 years history.

Extracts from Family History 1939 - 1940

My War by Alex Lawrie

The outbreak of the Second World War in September 1939 found me a newly turned hand year old schoolboy living in Sheffield, Yorkshire, having moved there with my parents and sister just three months earlier from Troon, Ayrshire. We were living in temporary rented accomodation but about to move into a permanent home. Alas, my father happened to be away at AnnualCamp with his local (Irvine) T.A.Unit and on the declaration of war they were immediately mobilised and directed to the South of England. A decision was taken to abort the house move and the furniture removal van was diverted to a store in Sheffield. My Mother, Sister and I packed as much as we could in a large trunk and returned to Scotland by train.

We found suitable rented accommodation in Troon and I returned to the school which I had left just one term previously. To my complete indignation I was placed in an Evacuee Class along with a motly collection of pupils of similar age but widely different backgrounds. Despite vehement protests by my Mother, the Headmaster was adamant and stood by his decision - probably influenced by directive guotas and

maybe payment also.

Life in Troon continued very much unchanged in the early days of the 'Phoney War'. except that all street lights were extinguished and direction signs removed and road blocks set up with sandbags at the extremities of the town. The harbour area was sealed off completely with high security fences and 8 foot high brick walls with broken glass fragments cemented into the copings. Much speculation took place about what went on in the shipyard behined closed doors. I recall walking home from school one day and passing over a high level footbridge, glancing out to sea and catching sight of the newly built Queen Elizabeth painted in Admiralty Grey slipping down the Clyde passed Arran hills on her secret maiden voyage to New York to be fitted out as a troopship. Another memory is of standing outside our home at night mesmerised by the lights in the sky as the Clydebank blitz raged not so far away. Also the uneasy feeling of the German bombers with their peculiarly unsynchronised engines droning overhead as they followed the coastline on their way back to base thankfully for us having dropped their evil bomb load. I also recall occasional visits to my Aunt and Uncle who lived in Cambuslang, Glasgow and being petrified by the sound of the Air Raid Siren sounding in the middle of the night, sometimes only as a precautioin, but waking up in the morning with pyjamas and bedclothes soaked in sweat. Such is the experience of true fear.

Even in wartime summer rental of accommodation at the seaside was extremely expensive and we were forced to vacate and spend the school holiday months with relatives at the Station House in Creetown, Wigtownshire, where my cousin's husband was Stationmaster. This was a complete contrast with seemingly endless weeks of warm sunshine and only the daily news bulletin at 6 o'clock on the wireless to remind us of the progress of the war. The only other reminder was the daily passage of special troop trains with engines and carriages painted in the green livery of the Southern Railway. As they slowed almost to a standstill to exchange the 'Tablet' on the single line working system, soldiers lent out of the windows tossing sweets, bars of chocotate (rationed to us), and even tins of sardines from their rations with their names scratched on the surface. The big question was, Where are

they off to?' Truly, 'Destination Unknown.'

Friends of Montrose House Association Autumn 2011 Report

Most recently the main topic of interest has been a daylong series of meetings called by North Ayrshire Council to discuss proposals for the Montrose House - New Build.

Residents and their families were consulted in the morning, Staff in the afternoon and FOMHA in the evening of Friday 16th September. The meetings were chaired by NAC Senior Care Manager with the Architect, the Team Manager for Residential and Day Services, and the local Unit Manager of Montrose House.

It was explained that the project is in the early stages of development constructing a 'Model' incorporating ideas from all interested parties to fulfil the perceived future needs of an ageing population on the Isle of Arran. Despite the overall concept of 'Care in the home' for as long as practicable the need for a Residential Home on Arran has been firmly established. Acquisition of a site further up Glen Cloy adjacent to the Auchrannie development is well advanced and there seems little doubt that it will be finalised in due course.

The preferred construction would be a single storey low pitched roof building (ie. no flat roof) with 24 - 30 en-suite rooms for full time residential care including temporary respite for residents and their carers pending their return home as soon as practicable, and Dementia Care. Each room should have access to a secure garden area with communal lounge and dining areas and facilities for residents to entertain visitors. The need was expressed for a large lounge for special social events but with the facility for conversion to smaller areas for meetings etc. It was also pointed out that the proposed site was very exposed to severe weather conditions (high winds and rain) and all construction should be robust and weatherproof. ie. fixed canopies as opposed to garden umbrellas. It was also suggested that the manager's office should be sited with a view of the entrance foyer.

The meeting concluded with an assurance that all input would be carefully considered in formulating the final design and future meetings were invisaged to keep us informed of progress.

Outside events in which residents have participated include the Brodick Church Harvest Thanksgiving Supper in the Church Hall

Future events planned include the traditional Hallowe'en Party and Bonfire Night Celebration at the Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot and Brodick Church Christmas Fayre. Plans are already afoot for the in-house Christmas Party on Wednesday 7th December.

It is with sadness that we have to report the deaths of Ruth Russell, Alex Baird, Jean Murchie, Don Knowles and Mattie Bannatyne. Memorial Services have been held in-house in their memory.

How erratic the changing seasons have proved over the last few years! So, on the one hand, we have had temperatures in the 80's, while, on the other, a few weeks ago, on the Castle Friends' trip to Elgin, we were admiring all the beautiful scenery of Perthshire and Buchan with many hues and tints of bronze.

How fortunate we are, whilst other parts of the world suffer drought, disease and poverty, floods and disasters. Trying to make the unequal equal needs to be our aim, as ever, starting where we are now.

We have had a busy summer with visitors to the island, but ever tightening belts means less money around, although we can still give of our time and talents. Robbie and Marilyn Brown did that again in opening their garden to raise funds for us, and we do thank them. Thanks too, for all the help we had at the annual fete and barbecue, blessed with good weather and gifts.

The visitors from Presbytery were very impressed by the work of the church under Angus and Jean and their efforts to care for the widespread parish. And, of course, as our number of elders and Board members reduces, we need help from everybody else to maintain our enriching presence in the community.

The McLellan festival week began with the inspiring voices of Peter Wilson's students who took part in the service on 4th September. We are very grateful for all that Peter does for the church.

Harvest saw visitors to the service and all the gifts distributed with help from the Sunday School. It has been good to welcome a new face there, and we thank Faye and Linny for their work. We look forward to our Harvest Supper on 15th October and welcome all to join us.

Property: The new sound system has proved a big improvement on audibility, and new lighting for the paths improves access especially in the approaching darker nights. Gardening is ongoing as ever.

Finance: With the major outlay on the above and future expense on the manse, there has been a drop in funds which we hope to rebuild as months pass.

We do thank the treasurer and Property Convenor both, for all their hard work.

Baptism: Emily Susan Catherine Verdot – 13th August.

Marriage: Monica Hamilton and Douglas $Orr - 3^{rd}$ September.

Deaths: Ruth Russell 1st September 2011.

Elsie Kelso 7th September 2011. M.C. McLean 16th September 2011.

Diary Dates

4th November – Joint Board & Session Meeting, Kinloch Hotel at 7pm.

6th November - The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated in Brodick Church, jointly with Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill and Shiskine on Sunday 6th November at 11am, followed by a Joint Service of Thanksgiving in Corrie Church at 7pm.

10th December - Peter Wilson Concert.

Coffee Mornings

28th October, 25th November, 16th December, 27th January.

Brodick Church Notices - Autumn 2011

Bereavements:

Ruth Russell	Montrose House	25.08.11
Alastair MacBride	Sunnyhurst, Brodick	30.08.11
John Moore	Whiting Bay	06.09.11
Bob Bryce	Grey Gables, Brodick	17.09.11
Jean Murchie	Montrose House	22.09.11
Alex Baird	Montrose House	22.09.11
Don Knowles	Montrose House	23.09.11
Mattie Bannatyne	Montrose House	02.10.11
Dick Sim	Brodick	10.10.11

Transfer in:

John & Maureen Moore, Whi	iting Bay 18.07.1
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Communion:

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated in Brodick Church, jointly with Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill and Shiskine on Sunday 6th November at 11am, followed by a Joint Service of Thanksgiving in Corrie Church at 7pm on the same day. We welcome to the Lord's Table any who are members of any branch of the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Dates for Your Diaries:

Health & Healing Service, Shiskine, Thursday 28th October at 12 noon.

Joint Board & Session Meeting, Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot Fri 4th Nov. at 7pm
Remembrance Day Service, Brodick Cenotaph, 10am Sun. 13th Nov.
Remembrance Day Service, Brodick Church 10.30am Sun. 13th Nov.
Faure Requiem, Brodick Church, Monday 14th November 7.30pm.

Brodick Church Christmas Fayre, Saturday 3rd December 2pm.

A Prayer to be found on the Whithorn Pilgrims Way to St. Ninian's Cave

Deep Peace of the flowing air to you
Deep Peace of the running wave to you
Deep Peace of the quiet earth to you
Deep Peace of the shining stars to you
Deep Peace of the Prince of Peace be upon you