# BAILLIESTON MURE MEMORIAL PARISH CHURCH

#### PARISH PROFILE



#### **Mure Memorial**

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#### LINKED WITH

# BAILLIESTON ST ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

#### St Andrew's

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Website: standrewsbaillieston.co.uk

Facebook: Baillieston St Andrews Church



#### **Our Vision**

Our Joint vision is to be a church at the heart of the community, which is active and relevant, and where people share meaningful worship and worthwhile opportunities for Christian service.

# **Our Joint Mission**

To provide opportunities for Christian worship, fellowship, education, and outreach while offering Christian care, support and love for our community and the wider world.

## Location

The joint parish is large with a population of 19,000, which continues to grow as housing capacity increases. The area is situated six miles east of Glasgow city centre and enjoys superb links to the motorway network – M8, M74, M73 – and excellent public transport facilities with two train stations and good access to different bus routes. The area is served by several primary schools and a local secondary as well as several nursery schools. Each church building is situated in the heart of the community it serves.

The parish of Mure Memorial is a compact and pleasant residential area extending to one square mile.

The parish of St Andrew's Church is more easterly and has an old village environment with a number of local shops and new housing developments along with community facilities.



# **Church Buildings**

Our buildings are in good condition and all rooms and facilities comply with current legislation and are fully accessible. Each church has multimedia equipment in the sanctuary, varied accommodation for a diverse number of large and small groups, and a well-appointed kitchen allowing for catering for all sizes of groups.



Mure Memorial comprises a suite of 3 halls and 4 meeting rooms: its sanctuary has a seating capacity of 350.

St Andrew's has two buildings,
the main one housing the
sanctuary – which has a seating
capacity of 314 – and a main hall.
There is a separate community hall,
used by both church and community.



### The Manse

Moving forward, there may be the possibility, to sell both manses and purchase a new manse which meets the regulations. Meanwhile, in the short term, the accommodation for our minister would be in the current manse of Mure Memorial which is situated in close proximity to the church.





The manse is a detached villa comprising entrance porch, hall, two public rooms, toilet and fitted kitchen downstairs, with four bedrooms, a family bathroom and storage room upstairs. It is double glazed with full central heating throughout, and there is a large secure back garden and garage. The Manse Condition Schedule produced by the Ministries Council and General Trustees forms the basis of our maintenance programme.

The manse is near to the church, situated in the Station Park Estate. It is a modern detached villa comprising an entrance hall, two public rooms, fully fitted kitchen and WC downstairs. Upstairs there are four bedrooms a family bathroom and a "Jack & Jill" bathroom. It is double glazed with full gas central heating throughout. There is a well-maintained garden and a double garage. The Manse Condition Schedule produced by the Ministries Council and General Trustees forms the basis of our maintenance programme.

# Worship

The Sunday Service for each church is live-streamed and available on YouTube and caters for all ages during worship. There is a joint worship group consisting of members from both congregations. Each church has its own organist who leads praise comprising a mixture of traditional and modern hymns.

At present services take place in Mure Memorial at 10.00am and in St Andrew's at 11.30am. St Andrew's hosts a joint evening "Sing-along" at 7.00pm led by members of the congregation and is a more relaxed service.

The minister also conducts on average 5 baptisms, 5 weddings and 30 funerals per year between the congregations. A trend we would hope to change.

Mure Memorial's current membership is 240 with an average of 70 attending Sunday Worship.

St Andrew's current membership is 230 with an average of 60/70 attending Sunday Worship.

# **The Church Community**



We are both family churches, in some cases with three generations of the same family worshipping together. The congregation and wider community are kept informed about church activities via our websites – <a href="www.mure.org">www.mure.org</a> and <a href="www.mure.org">www.mure.org</a> and <a href="www.mure.org">www.mure.org</a> and <a href="www.mure.org">aww.standrewsbaillieston.co.uk</a> - and Facebook pages. A quarterly joint parish magazine has been developed.

Mure Memorial operates a Unitary Constitution with a Kirk Session of 27.

St Andrew's Kirk Session consists of 18 Elders.

Both churches have large, very active, Pastoral Support Teams assisting the minister by visiting Care Homes, sick, elderly and vulnerable members.

The Kirk Session of both congregations have voted to depart from the historic and current practice of the Church of Scotland in order to permit the appointment of a minister who is in a civil partnership or a same sex marriage.





Members of the community make use of both church facilities for one-off events; and the halls are available for hire.

## **Ecumenical Partners**

We have been involved in the past in meetings of Baillieston Churches Together, an ecumenical group incorporating our local Episcopalian and Roman Catholic churches and in the past have shared a variety of joint events throughout the Christian year.

### **Outreach**

A number of successful joint events have been held – Bonfire Night, HRH Queen Elizabeth's 70<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Afternoon Tea, a Fun Day, and Quiz Night – all of these were well attended by both church and community members. A further event – a film afternoon – is planned for September.



## **Outreach (cont.)**

Both congregations respond generously to major appeals as they arise, recently including UNICEF aid to Ukraine and the DEC aid to Turkey and Syria.

One major success in the past at Mure Memorial has been the Holiday Club, which had been running for twenty-five years, providing a week long programme of activities on a Bible Theme for children and young adults during the summer holidays. The participating team was led by the 0.5 Youth Worker. The weekly Thrift Shop offers members of the wider community a chance to purchase pre-owned items and share fellowship in a friendly environment.

St Andrew's formed their Tuesday Club after Covid to help people socialise after isolation. This gives them a place to come where they can take part in craft activities, knit, or just sit and chat. There is also a weekly Pop-in tearoom on a Saturday morning which welcomes members of the wider community into the church in a warm and friendly environment.





Both churches regularly support the work of various charities.

Mure Memorial supports the Lodging House Mission, Christian Aid, Earl Haig Fund, and a local Women's Refuge.

St Andrew's supports the Lodging House Mission, Teenage Cancer Trust, Erskine Home and Poppy Scotland.

Traditionally, the minister has undertaken the role of chaplain to our local Primary Schools and shared in the team chaplaincy at Bannerman High School. We would be keen to support our minister in taking up opportunities within the local school chaplaincy.

We are currently giving consideration to future opportunities for outreach which may include Messy Church.

### **Finance**

Both congregations are fully self-supporting. The members have responded well to the financial challenges created by major projects to enhance our buildings.

# The Way Forward



We strive to be churches at the heart of our communities, active and relevant, and where people share meaningful worship and worthwhile opportunities for Christian Service.

With strong support from our Interim Minister over the past three years, we see the future with a shared vision, building on the growing strength of our partnership and positive relationships.

We seek through God's grace to fulfil our vision:

- By being a believing church who make Jesus central to all our activities.
- By being a caring and welcoming church serving the whole community and wider world.
- By encouraging the development and use of our spiritual gifts and individual talents.
- By demonstrating faith in action.

# The Way Forward (cont.)

We recognise that while we do not always live up to this vision, our aim is to move forward and so are seeking a minister who can help us build on our existing strengths and lead us into the next stage of our spiritual journey.

We are looking for a good communicator who is able to relate to all age groups within the church family and wider community and who will support effective teamwork.

Above all, our minister will assist to share the Good News of the love of God through Jesus Christ with our congregation, parish, neighbours, and wider world.

The current Glasgow Presbytery Mission Plan allows for the appointment of a further 0.5 FTE MDS and both kirk sessions have agreed to delay the implementation until the remit can be decided with the help of input from our new minister.





If you require more information please contact:

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