

Parish of Kilconriola and Ballyclug



**Parish Magazine
April 2018**



Diocese of Connor - Parish of Kilconriola and Ballyclug

WHO'S WHO IN OUR PARISH



CLERGY

Rector

The Revd Mark McConnell
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Curate Assistant

The Revd Dennis Christie
6 Old Antrim Mews, Ballymena
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LAY READER

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YOUTH WORKERS

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PARISH OFFICE

St Patrick's Hall - Tel 2563 0741 E-mail - kilconriola@btconnect.com **OR** ballymena@connor.anglican.org
Web Site - ballymena.connor.anglican.org and Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/ballymenaparish>

Open - Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Mrs Lorraine McBride

CHURCHWARDENS

St Patrick's	Rector's	Mr Alex McNeill
	People's	Mrs Ruth McNeill
Ballyclug	Rector's	Mr William Burnett
	People's	Mr Jackie Greer
St Columba's	Rector's	Miss Laura Doole
	People's	Miss Elizabeth Peachey
Glebe Wardens	Rector's	Mr Kenneth Hughes
	People's	Mr Peter Chestnutt

SELECT VESTRY

Clergy, Church Wardens, Glebe Wardens and: Mr Alan Adair, Mrs Andrea Cotter, Mr Richard Cotter, Mr Barry Duke, Mr Ronnie Fleming, Mrs Vera Greer, Mrs Elizabeth Hughes, Mrs Emma McAleese, Mr Alex McKay, Mr Alastair Marrs, Mr Richard Todd and Mrs Helen Weir.

Honorary Secretary:	Mr A Marrs	32 Granville Drive, Ballymena
Honorary Treasurer:	Mr R Cotter	6 Markstown Crescent, Cullybackey
Sextons:	St Patrick's	Mr John Linton
	St Columba's	Vacant
Organists:	St Patrick's	Mr Adrian Poston, Mr Frank Hewitt and Dr Iris Millar
	St Columba's	Vacant

THE RECTOR WRITES



Rectory Ramblings

As a butterfly soared overhead, one caterpillar said to the other, "You'll never get me up in one of those things!" Yet for every caterpillar the time comes when the chrysalis forms and hardens and you'd think for all the world that the caterpillar is dead. But spring comes - eventually, the chrysalis cracks and opens and a beautiful butterfly emerges. We are fascinated by the miracle of the butterfly - perhaps because it is a preample of the Easter miracle.



On Easter Day we will have gathered with Christians around the world to celebrate and wonder at the death and resurrection of Jesus.

The chrysalis of sin becomes the butterfly of forgiveness.
The chrysalis of separation becomes the butterfly of adoption.
The chrysalis of death becomes the butterfly of new life.

On Easter morning the disciples saw Jesus' grave clothes lying in the tomb but His body was gone - a bit like the chrysalis after the butterfly breaks free.

"He is Risen," an angel told the incredulous disciples and over the next few days His words and appearances convinced them all (even Thomas) that Jesus really was alive. Death is maybe our greatest, darkest enemy. But in Jesus, in his Gospel promise we make the Easter claim - death is our enemy but it is not the end. Jesus, the risen Jesus, says so and proves it. Happy Easter everyone.

R.M.N.C. [signature]



Parish News

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT CONCERT AND SUPPER

On Saturday, 17 March, St Patrick's Church Hall was the setting for a wonderful evening of entertainment, good food and great fellowship. Prior to the event, the organisers had been a bit apprehensive, to say the least! Would many people come? Would there be any glitches with our brand new sound system? Some of our artists were travelling some distance and others were coming directly from other St Patrick's Day events - would they all make it on time? However, we needn't have worried - all went well! The turnout was amazing and our thanks, first and foremost, go to each of you who came along on a bitterly cold night to support this event.

The large crowd of around 300 began to flock into the hall just after 6.30 pm. On arrival, they were treated to a visual feast, featuring tables beautifully decorated with green ribbon, shamrock and St Patrick's day hats.

Special mention must go to the performers, each of whom held the

audience spellbound. It was wonderful to showcase such great talent in the form of Emma Nevin (fiddle) and Diane McCullough (fiddle/accordion); 2 am (acoustic group); Erin McConnell and Eve Sterrit (Irish dancers from the Ollar School of Dance, Ballyclare); Rev Jason Kernohan (soloist) accompanied by Jonathan Houston; Canon Stuart Lloyd and Evelyn Riddell (Castle Players) and Laura and Rachel Smyth (soprano), joined by Jonathan Houston and Timothy McCormick. All of these artists have hectic schedules. Some had just come from events earlier in the day while others were hotfooting it to play at other venues immediately after St Patrick's.

As always, this was a really wonderful team effort, with so many people contributing to its success. Many volunteers were in the hall from 10 am, setting up and ensuring that everything would go smoothly on the night. The Catering Team did a superb job as they weaved their way around the tables, serving Irish stew, apple tart and tea/coffee. We are extremely grateful to all of them. They continue to give so willingly of their time at all of these events.

The sound and lighting team did a superb job, having only had a few days to 'get to grips' with the new system. Thanks, also, to Lorraine and Sandra in the Parish Office for their support and, as always, to Helen Weir who does such a wonderful job for us on Facebook. Our thanks also go to Debbie Chestnutt who provided an insight into the valuable work carried out by 'Good Morning Ballymena'. Of course, no concert would be complete without an accomplished compère and our thanks go to Revd Mark who was just perfect for this role!

Our sincere thanks go to Raymond Cochrane for his kindness and generosity in donating one of his beautiful

paintings of a snow scene near Slemish. This was presented as first prize in the Prize Draw. Our thanks also go to Montgomery's who very kindly donated 'Lunch for 2' in their restaurant. Thanks, also, to the volunteers from 'Good Morning Ballymena' who donated a beautiful hamper.

Once again, our sincere thanks to all of you who attended the Concert and helped to make it such a great night. Thanks, also, to those who were unable to attend but gave donations. A total of £3,628 has been raised, with some donations still coming in. Net proceeds will go towards Church Funds and 'Good Morning Ballymena'.

The Fundraising Committee



Coffee Morning Cake Sale and Raffle

Saturday 28th April

10 am - 1 pm

St Patrick's Church Hall

Donations in aid of Summer Madness/Youth Fund

The Good Book Club

**ARE YOU READY FOR -
THE REALLY, REALLY GOOD - GOOD BOOK CLUB?**



WHAT IS IT?

A new monthly Bible Study and Fellowship Group that has grown out of our Alpha and Alpha Plus Groups.

WHAT WILL IT BE LIKE?

A standard Book Club but really, really good. An innovative and refreshing way of reading and growing more familiar with God's Word. There will be great coffee, great cake and most important great prayer and fellowship.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Everyone and anyone who would like to grow in faith and know their Bible better. Certainly for those who enjoyed our Alpha and Alpha Plus groups. For those new to faith, or, are Church Family to help continue your faith journey and for all existing members.

WHAT WILL IT BE? A standard Book Club but really, really good.

Watch out for more details coming your way after Easter.

The Annual Easter Vestry for the Parish of Kilconriola and Ballyclug

Tuesday 10th April at 7.30 pm

You are invited to attend this important Parish Business Meeting. You have Voting Rights as a **Registered** member in electing Churchwardens and Select Vestry - your vote counts!

You have the opportunity to be part of the decision making team of our Parish.

Your views will be respected, you will not be forced to do something against your will.



CHURCH MEETINGS ARE BRILLIANT

Your presence is a sign of your interest in and concern for your Church and for those elected to office.

AGENDA

- Presentation of Parish Accounts
- Election of Churchwardens (Rector's and People's)
- Election of Select Vestry

Please keep this evening free - your presence counts!

Missions

Hi Everyone

I volunteer as part of a Homeless Outreach, The Friday Night Feeding Station - you can find us on Facebook.

We feed and clothe the rough sleepers and homeless who have a bed in the night shelter in Belfast on a Friday night. There is a group who work each night to ensure that they have at least one hot meal per day and a snack for later.



If anyone has any clothing ladies size 8-12, gents size small - large, jeans, tracksuit bottoms up to size 34 waist, footwear etc we can make great use of it.

We also accept donations of coffee, hot chocolate, marshmallows, squirty cream, pasta, chocolate bars, crisps, small bottles of water and juice, all toiletries.

If anyone knows of a chip or pizza shop who would be willing to make a donation of some hot food even once every 6 weeks we would be extremely grateful. The portion sizes required are very small as they cannot manage a large portion. We have the means of keeping the food warm and can collect it on route to Belfast. We feed approximately 50/60 people each week so this should give you an idea of the extent of this need, we usually try to have a choice of 2 hot meals.

This work is funded by either the group members or donations from the public so everything is gratefully received. Donations can be left in the

Northern Regional College, Trostan Avenue or given to Jenna Andrews, G.F.S. Leader and Junior Youth Fellowship Leader.

My contact number for more information is 078 0517 9937.

Many thanks,
Donna McCullough

Friends of Vispa

<http://vispa-kenya.org/> or Facebook Friends of Vispa for more information on the amazing work the charity carries out.

A new home for your old spectacles



The girl sitting on the bed is named Genta and thanks to the eye clinic which is run by Jill Holmes during the mission trip week and the kind donation of spectacles from various people and groups throughout Northern Ireland Genta is now thriving at her school work and studies. Just remember that a pair of glasses is life changing for these students at Vispa. God is faithful and true. Thank you to all who have donated spectacles to this worthy cause.

Any donations of old spectacles can be left at reception of Northern Regional College, Trostan Avenue or passed to Jenna Andrews, G.F.S. Leader and Junior Youth Fellowship Leader. My contact number for more information is 078 0517 9937.

Many thanks,
Donna

Famous Prayers - Take 2

Anselm (1033-1109) was to reach the heights of the position of Archbishop of Canterbury. It all started badly within his road to faith and life within the church began with a huge falling out with his father. The author of several very important theological works, Anselm is thought of as one of the most enlightening thinkers of his day.

*O Lord our God, grant us grace
To desire you with our whole heart,
That so desiring we may seek and find you,
And so finding you may love you,
And loving you, may hate those sins
From which you have redeemed us.
Amen.*

A Call to Meditation

*Come now, little man,
Turn aside for a while from your daily employment,
Escape for a moment from the tumult of your thoughts,
Put aside your weighty cares,
Let your burdensome distractions wait,
Free yourself awhile for God and rest awhile in Him,
Enter the inner chamber of your soul,
Shut out everything except God
And that which can help you in seeking Him
And when you have shut the door, seek Him,
Now, my whole heart, say to God,
“I seek your face, Lord, it is your face I seek.”*

A 'NOT SO FAMOUS' Prayer

I recently returned from a wonderful holiday in North Carolina, USA. There I was the guest of the Herstines - Irene and Jim, who form a very special part of my extended family. Many of you will remember Irene who was with me when Maurice passed away.

Every morning around eight thirty I went out for a walk as I usually do. The Combine Lane development is in a beautiful woodland area which makes walking a pleasure. On my last morning I was joined by another 'young at heart' lady who introduced herself as, "Judy." She and her husband are retired missionaries who served the Lord in Indonesia. Judy carries a stick which apparently she keeps at hand to ward off barking dogs!

When Judy heard it was my last day there she stopped! "I would like to pray with you!" she said. And putting her hand on my shoulder she simply asked our Heavenly Father to look after me, keep me safe and bless me on my journey home. (Which He certainly did!)

The question - "Would I have the courage to stop by the roadside and pray with a complete stranger?" Sadly my answer is, "No."

May God give us the grace and courage to share our faith as Judy did on a beautiful March morning in the USA.

Irene





Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid Week 2018 13 - 20 May

We support Christian Aid throughout the year - the needs of the people they support are there throughout the year. But, as a parish, we have always supported Christian Aid Week particularly generously; we have attended the lunches in either St Patrick's or St Columba's, we have given generously on the church plate at services during that week and many parishioners have been out collecting door-to-door in our allotted area of the town. All three fundraising efforts have raised substantial amounts of money to help Christian Aid to assist individuals to help themselves and to look after their families and neighbours.

This year Christian Aid is focusing on helping deal with the ravages of the weather; both by giving temporary shelter and vital supplies to those whose homes are destroyed and by building houses that will withstand hurricanes so that in the future fewer people will be left completely destitute.

Marcelin lost his home, his livestock and all his possessions when Hurricane Matthew struck in October 2016. He and his teenage daughters have been living in an old concrete shower block ever since with just a single bed in which the three girls sleep. Marcelin does try to grow food to feed the family but there are times when the weather destroys his crops and then everyone goes hungry. He is hoping that he will be able to get a strong, stable house built so that his family will have somewhere safer to live.

When Hurricane Matthew struck Haiti many of the inhabitants were still suffering from the devastating earthquake of 2010. Vilia had lost her mother, her home and all her possessions in Port au Prince then but with help from a cousin was able to return to her childhood village. She was

lucky enough to be one of the people for whom Christian Aid's partner, Koral, had, in the interim, built a strong, safe and stable house. When the hurricane struck Vilia was able not only to keep herself safe but more than fifty other people as well inside her house. Indeed of the dozens of houses built by Christian Aid's partner in anticipation of hurricanes hitting the region only one lost its roof; the others were indeed strong, safe and stable.

When earthquakes and hurricanes hit different parts of the world the headlines bring them to our attention and reports from the devastated areas leave us in no doubt about the plight of the local inhabitants but the media can be a somewhat fickle friend and new news soon takes over and while our interest is drawn away to the next sensational event the affected people are left to continue picking up the pieces and trying to rebuild their homes and lives.

The affected people - people like Marcelin and Vilia. They are people for whom life is already hard, but people who are willing to keep on working to sustain their families and to help their neighbours. Through Christian Aid we can give them a helping hand and a better chance of surviving the next hurricane or earthquake. Our donations this Christian Aid Week can provide tools and supplies for building safe and secure homes and training for people to build them.



Please continue digging deep into your pockets for the Christian Aid collections and lunches at church but also please think about joining the willing band of collectors who will be out during Christian Aid Week - and then either contact me

(2564 6701) or leave your name and contact details with a member of the clergy or at the Parish office to be passed on to me. You will be welcomed into the group as we sally forth to collect door-to-door. We enjoy the companionship of this part of our parish's witness in Ballymena. Don't let us fail Marcelin, Vilia and the many others whose plight has dropped out of the headlines.

Mary Campbell

The 'Three T's'

The 'Three T's' Parish Development Programme

As part of the various Vision Sunday initiatives, presented and outlined last October, we are now progressing our 'Three T's' programme. A leaflet will soon be going out to all parishioners, including those who may be lapsed attenders, which asks how they can contribute more to the life of Ballymena Parish. It is an invite for people to consider how their **Time**, their **Talent** or their **Treasure**, could be a real blessing to our church community.

Please respond when you receive this leaflet, and remember that your ideas and feedback are always welcome. We want to be a church where all our members are able to contribute to the growth of God's kingdom in whatever way they can. Also, most importantly, please take some time to pray over this initiative, and that all we do as a church family will be to the glory of God.



Time



Talent



Treasure



Around the Parish

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Men's Fellowship group enjoyed a trip to the Irish Men's Convention on Saturday 24th February at the Assembly Buildings in Belfast. There were over 1,000 men in attendance, the speaker was Michael Reeves who taught on the importance and the reassurance of being In Christ. The teaching was great and the worship was superb. And Dennis Beattie enjoyed his first ever trip to Subway!



Dennis



MOTHERS' UNION

At our meeting on 11th April at 8 pm in the Minor Hall, we will welcome a speaker from **COACHING 4**

CHRIST. We will be joined by the Men's Fellowship and encourage anyone interested to join us. **BRING AND BUY** on the evening.

COUNCIL is on **17th April at 7.30 pm** in St John's, Crumlin.

MID CONNOR MOTHERS' UNION AREA COFFEE MORNING, St Patrick's Parish Church Hall, **Saturday 21st April 2018, 10 am to 12 pm.** £3 admission (including refreshments). Proceeds to the MU Relief Fund. **ALL WELCOME.**

Patricia McWhirter

MOTHERS AND TODDLERS

The group finished off in March with an Easter party and, thanks to lovely weather, the children were able to roll their eggs outside. We are delighted to welcome Vera Greer to our catering team and thank her for volunteering her services.



Rota for April: -

DATE	NAME	FUNCTION
10 th April	Evonne Stinson, Eleanor Burnett, Vera Owens and Marlene Gray	Tea
	Mary Steele	Welcoming
	Derek Bell	Hall Set Up
17 th April	Dorothy Hegan, (Isabel Halliday)/ Eva McCarthy, Vera Greer and Sandra Duke	Tea
	Ann Fisher	Welcoming
	David Oliver	Hall Set Up
24 th April	Ruth Murray, Isabell Adair, Vivien Gilmour and Kathleen Thompson	Tea
	Liz Bodel	Welcoming
	Davy Nelson	Hall Set Up

Dorothy (2589 2740), Anna, Anne, Catherine, June

‘THE WAY’ YOUTH FELLOWSHIP



The Way Youth Fellowship continues after Easter on 15th and 22nd April. Since Christmas we have been looking at what the Bible says about relationships and, more recently, social media! In April we will be thinking about how our young people can best cope with stress, especially as exam season kicks in and how God practically cares for us when we are worried! We'll also be planning a wee trip or two so watch this space! The chat so far has been great and the games have been hilarious! We have a small but committed group of young people and leaders and we love to see new faces. The Way is for all young people age 11-18 and you will be made so welcome (we don't do cliques!). So come along, bring a Bible and your mates (you don't need to go to St Patrick's to attend!) and see what life as a Christian can be like, 6.30 - 7.45 pm. For more info, speak to Rev Dennis.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Whilst we don't have a trendy name, we can't agree on the same night of the week to meet and we are never in the same venue twice, I think it's fair to say the Women's Fellowship is well under way! We meet once a month for a couple of hours and we share chat, coffee, treats and great craic. Our March get together saw us making a start on the Fruitfulness on the Frontline resource that the men's group are studying too. It was a really special night where no one felt under pressure to do anything more than listen (largely because Jenny talks so much!) and yet the conversations were wonderful. We thought about the ways we can show Christ to others in our family, work and social lives. Simple but powerful stuff! By the time the magazine is printed we will have met up for the Maundy Thursday Communion Service at St Patrick's to quietly think about the Easter story. Everyone is welcome to come along and if you need any information on our next meeting, just get in touch with Cherith or Jen. xx



GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY

GFS held their annual display on 20th March. We had a great night of fun with dancing, marching and singing. We hope everyone enjoyed it.



The following awards were made on the night:-

Junior Candidates

Best Newcomer
Best Behaviour

Sofia Rock
Layla Rock

Candidates

Most Improved
Bible Study
Drama
Best Overall

Jessica Rock
Ellie Thompson
Maggie Lorimer
Catelyn Wilson

Junior Members

Best Behaviour
P.E.
Bible Study
Most Improved
Most Helpful
Best Newcomer
Best Overall
Best Overall

Miley Doherty
Kayleigh Mooney
Zoe Moore
Erika Carp
Kaitlyn Gibson
Ellie Mayo
April Reid
Natalia Skrobakora

Members

Attendance
Marching
Best Behaviour
P.E.
Choir

Anna Service
Louisa Shaw
Caragh Hamill
Erin McConnell
Abby Christie

Shields

Cotter
Adair
Galbraith
Molly Carson Memorial

Catelyn Wilson
Anna Service
April Reid
Natalia Skrobakora

GFS leaders would like to thank the girls who come along on a Tuesday night, without you there would be no GFS.

A big shout out to the parents and grandparents who support our organization, we can't thank you enough for bringing the girls along on a Tuesday night and to church services that we have asked to be part of.

We hope you all have a lovely Easter and enjoy your Easter Eggs.

Stay safe over the summer and we hope to see you all when GFS resumes in September. God bless all of you.

*Anne, Debbie, Elaine, Jenna and Amber
Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ*

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY!



Mrs Mary Worrall celebrated her big day at her daughter's house surrounded by many friends and family members. Originally from Birmingham her favourite birthday present apart from a letter from Her Majesty was a signed England Rugby shirt - lots of teasing about the result as you can imagine. I spent a fantastic afternoon with Mary learning something of her long life. Happy birthday Mary and many more of them.

Mark



Mid Connor Mothers' Union Area Coffee Morning

* **Cake Stall** * **MU Enterprise Stall**
* **Bran Tub for children** * **Bring & Buy Stall**

Saturday 21 April 2018,
10am to 12pm

**St Patrick's Parish Church Hall,
53 Castle St, Ballymena BT43 7BT**

Admission £3.00 (incl. refreshments) Children free
All proceeds will go to the MU Relief Fund

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Diocese of Connor

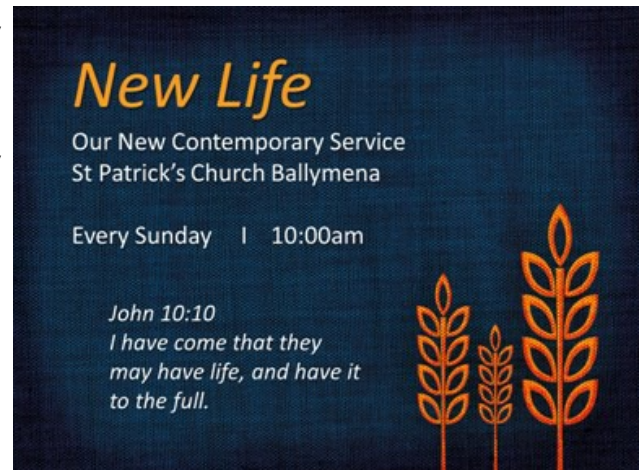
Charity Number: NIC 101658





The Curate's Letter

At this time of year, even if the weather has not yet been too 'springy', we often think of new life springing forth in our gardens. Jesus told us that, "I have come that they may have life and have it to the full," (John 10:10). This is the strap line for our New Life Service which is now a well-established addition to our Sunday services.



By God's grace we have seen new life, in the form of new families, and increased children attending on a regular basis. The new life that Mark and I are really hopeful for is not however, in terms of increased numbers, although that is wonderful, but in terms of signs of new life in every individual who walks across the threshold at any of the services.

Before we know Christ we can try to satisfy our longing or find fulfilment in things that are not of God and which ultimately leave us still searching. When we do find Christ, there is a peace and a joy within us, and a knowing that a new life in His service has begun. Our new life in Christ does not mean we are immune from suffering and that our life will be a bed of roses, but there is a joy evident that was not there before. The joy in knowing we are no longer a slave to sin, a joy in knowing we have Jesus to support us as we grow, and that we CAN live life to the full as a committed Christian.

There is a new life, there is an awesome adventure, waiting for all of us. But we also need to be careful as we grow. Paul writes, 'I planted,



Apollos watered, but God gave growth ... for we are God's fellow workers; you are God's garden' (1 Cor 3:6,9). As we enjoy a new life in Christ, and although we can look to many people who help us on our journey, it is God who really helps us and sustains us as we grow. It is a commitment to turn to Christ in all things and at all times that will keep us growing steadily in God's will. May we all continue to trust in God as we grow in our faith.

Dennis



St Patrick's Men's Fellowship invite you
to a fundraising breakfast!!
on Sat 14th April
9-11am in the Parish Hall



The men's group have very kindly offered to host this breakfast for Rev Dennis' daughter, Abby, who has been selected to be part of a Down & Dromore team from NI to travel to New York state this July. Abby will be serving for two weeks as a 'camp counsellor' at a large Christian summer camp in Albany Diocese (linked to Down & Dromore Diocese).

Abby and the team will be serving the campers by leading them in activities, worship, Bible study and devotions. It will be very hard work but a wonderful opportunity to serve God and your support to help Abby attend would be hugely appreciated!



Simon Henry, National Youth Officer of the Church of Ireland Youth Department will speak briefly about the type of experience Abby can expect and the work of the Youth Department in Connor Diocese and across the island of Ireland.
All are most welcome!!



YOUTH STUFF!

Some of our young people attended Patrick's Mysterious Adventure on St Patrick's Day in Broughshane. We enjoyed an interactive tour of St Patrick's life, Irish dancing and arts and crafts. We also enjoyed some refreshments and ended our day with ice cream. We had a great time thanks to Broughshane for hosting it.



The Sunday School have been busy learning about Mother's Day and St Patrick's Day. Remember to bring in your filled Smartie tubes with 20 pence pieces.



Unseen Film

In 2014 the Irish Times reported that Ireland had the second highest suicide rate in Europe. A more recent report confirms that suicide is the leading cause of death in young men between the ages of 15 - 34 across Ireland. Christ in Youth have made a film called 'Unseen'. It is a powerful free resource to help the church and society tackle such statistics. Some of us were privileged to see the film premier of Unseen. It is moving and hard hitting. The idea of the film is to set up a natural and safe conversation about mental health. The film was a nominated finalist at the 2017 Galway Film Festival and recently won the best Irish short film. It is an amazing film and has been piloted in many schools. We as a church need to embrace mental health. We hope to show this film to our Safeguarding Trust team and leaders and then our young people aged 14+.

As part of our mental health awareness the young people made a donation of £50 to Turning Point NI as one of their chosen charities to support and in remembrance of Andrew Gillespie.



A Night To Remember

A Charity Night in association
with TURNING POINT NI
suicide awareness, guidance and prevention

WHEN: Friday 29th June

WHERE: The Spinning Mill, Ballymena

TIME: 6pm to LATE

Live Music, Buffet, Guest Speaker and Raffles

TICKETS £5

This will be a ticket only event, to purchase a ticket call

Kimberley: 07960316478 OR Mark: 07788201797

Tickets will also be available to purchase at the door on the night

Coffee Morning

Any donations of buns and cakes for our Coffee Morning on Saturday 28th May would be greatly appreciated - they can be brought to the Church Hall on Friday 27th.

Lucy

Making a Child Go To Church

Recently, a mother asked me, “Should I make my son go to church?” I answered, “Yes, definitely.” Then I explained: “What do you say when your son decides that he does not want to go to school? What did you do when he was little and did not want to take a bath? How did you react when he was sick and did not want his medicine?”

Every right-thinking parent recognizes the importance of these matters and gives the child no opportunity to decide for himself. Instead, parents explain the importance of going to school, taking a bath, or taking medicine when sick.

So, mom and dad, take time to explain the importance of going to church; then simply say to your son or daughter; **“In our family we all go to church and that includes you.”**

“Train up a child in the way he should go...” (Prov. 22:6)



A view from the pew

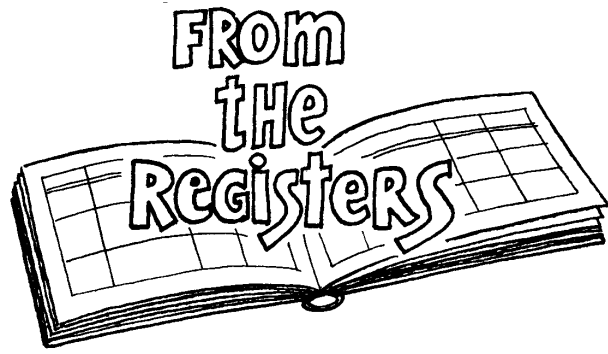


Left to right:- Jane Lloyd, Maura Cunningham, Barbara Harper, Rosemary Stacey, Clare Hudson, Jean Kennedy and Dorothy Ross.

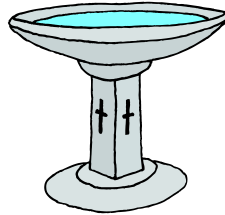
The above photograph was taken about 28 years ago. The Mothers' Union were having a 1940's night. Note the very stylish 1940's look. Charity shops did a fabulous trade in handbags, hats and shoes.

L.W.





HOLY BAPTISM



25th March

Donna McCurdy

Adam McCurdy

42 Cullybackey Road,
Ballymena

42 Cullybackey Road,
Ballymena



*Rev Mark is pictured welcoming Adam McCurdy
and his mother Donna into the Parish of Kilconriola and Ballyclug
following their Baptism on Sunday 25th March*

HOLY MATRIMONY



23rd March

Callum Robinson

Caroline Ferguson

111 Rosses Lane,
Ballymena

9 Thompson Manor, Lisburn

CHRISTIAN BURIAL



5th March	Ivor Abernethy	Braefield Nursing Home, Ballymena
6th March	Finlay Adams	8 Dunluce Park, Ballymena
12th March	Robert Kennedy	40 Balmoral Avenue, Ballymena

Ivor Abernethy

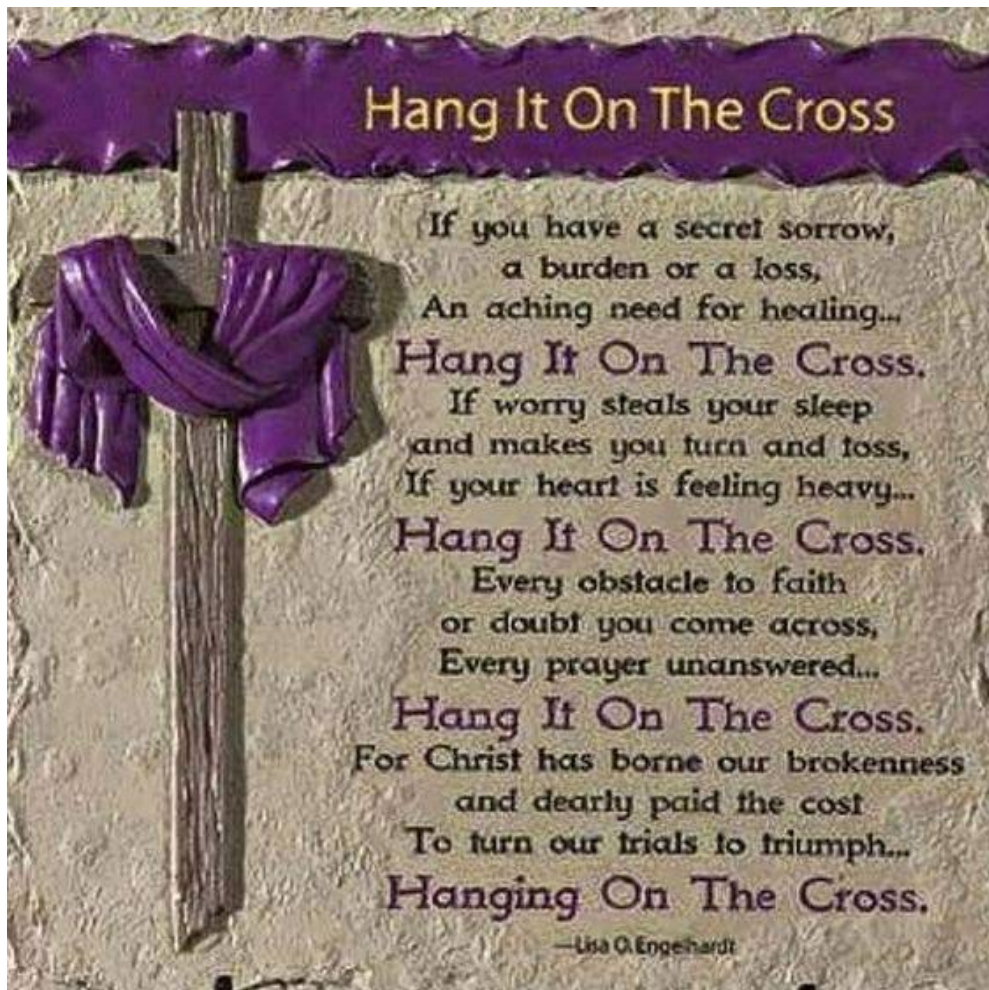
Ivor was born in Ballymoney on 13th August 1921. He was an intelligent young boy and after school he started his working life in the ticket office at Ballymoney Railway Station. He later worked as a manager for the Ulster Transport Authority, a manager with the Northern Ireland Carriers and was appointed as Director of Scotland with British Road Services. He met and married his wife Betty in 1946. Ivor was a devoted husband and a special father to all of his children. He was a wonderful role model and engendered in his family the qualities of honesty, integrity, loyalty, discipline, work ethic and many more. He had great energy and a determination to keep young and fit throughout his life. He played quite a lot of football but he excelled at badminton and travelled all over Ireland to play and represented Ulster in this his favourite sport. Ivor and his wife Betty regularly attended St Patrick's Church and he was involved in many church activities. We extend our sincere sympathy to Ivor's daughter Libby, who together with his husband Eric was most attentive to him, to Heather, Alison, and his son Ivor, his sisters Wendy and Iris, his son-in-laws and daughter-in-laws, his thirteen grandchildren and nine great grandchildren and to all of his family circle at this time. Our prayers are with you all.

Finlay Adams

Finlay was born on the 1st of January 1943, one of three children to John and Sylvia Adams. Finlay was married to Mary for nearly 50 years and they were blessed with two sons, Shane and Andrew. Finlay, together with Mary, ran the family plumbing business. Finlay is remembered as a quiet but humorous and sharp witted man who cared deeply for his family. We pass on our prayers and sympathies to Mary, Shane and to all the close family circle and friends.

Bobby Kennedy

Bobby Kennedy was born on 10th January, 1938. Unfortunately his mother died when he was very young and he then went to live with his granny Mary and his aunt Lizzie who also played a large part in his upbringing. After leaving school he went to work in England but returned to Northern Ireland when he was in his mid-twenties. He then found employment with Northern Ireland Electricity and remained with them until his retirement. For a short time he was a part-time member of the UDR. He was always keen on football, bowls and keeping fit. Bobby married his first wife Ruby in St Patrick's Church and they had two girls Jean and Mandy. Bobby and Ruby and his girls lived in Balmoral Avenue but sadly Ruby was killed in a car crash and this was a devastating blow to Bobby and his family. He had a number of health issues and his second wife Doreen with whom he lived for a further 27 years helped him through this time. Bobby attended St Patrick's Church regularly and was a lifelong member of St Patrick Church Lads' Brigade. He had two sisters Marilyn and Sandra and two brothers Arthur and Willy. He was a family man and loved his daughters Jean and Mandy and all of his grandchildren and great grandchildren. At this sad time we extend to all of them our sincere sympathy and our prayers.





OUR ACTIVITIES

SAINT PATRICK'S

	Day	Time	Venue
Bellringers	Friday	7.30 pm	Tower
Bible Fellowship	Tuesday	8.00 pm	Choir Vestry
Church Choir	Thursday	8.00 pm	Choir Vestry
Church Lads' Brigade			
YBC	Friday	7.00 pm	Parochial Hall
JTC	Friday	8.00 pm	Parochial Hall
CLB	Friday	8.00 pm	Parochial Hall
Girls' Friendly Society	Tuesday	7.15 pm	Minor Hall
Healer Prayer Group	Tuesday	7.15 pm	Church Vestry
Indoor Bowling Club	Monday	7.30 pm	Parochial Hall
	Thursday	7.30 pm	Parochial Hall
Mothers and Toddlers	Tuesday	10.00 am	Parochial Hall
Mothers' Union	2nd Wed.	8.00 pm	Minor Hall
Still Active Club	3rd Wed.	2.00 pm	Minor Hall
Men's Fellowship	1st Thursday	7.30 pm	Minor Hall
Junior Youth Club	Saturday	7.00 pm	Parochial Hall
Senior Youth Club	Saturday	8.00 pm	Parochial Hall
Badminton	Wednesday	7.30 pm	Parochial Hall
Sewing Group	Thursday	10.00 am	Parochial Hall

SAINT COLUMBA'S

	Day	Time	Contact
Beavers	Monday	6.30 pm	Mrs L McCullagh
Cubs	Monday	7.00 pm	Mrs H Clarke
Ladies' Circle	4th Monday	8.00 pm	Mrs L Hughes
Brownies	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Vacant
Guides	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Mrs K Black
Squirrels	Wednesday	6.30 pm	Mr P Houston
Senior Guides	Thursday	8.00 pm	Mrs K Black
Rainbows	Friday	6.30 pm	Mrs H Strain
Scouts	Friday	7.45 pm	Mr K Hughes



OUR WORSHIP

ST PATRICK'S PARISH CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.15 am

10.00 am

11.30 am

1st Sunday in the month

6.30 pm

3rd Sunday in the month

4th Sunday in the month

Holy Communion

New Life Service

Morning Prayer

Parish Communion

Evening Prayer

Holy Communion

Living Faith Service

EVERY WEDNESDAY

10.30 am

Holy Communion

ST PATRICK'S, BALLYCLUG

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.00 am

4th Sunday in the month

Morning Prayer

Holy Communion

ST COLUMBA'S, DUNCLUG

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.30 am

1st Sunday in the month

11.30 am

2nd Sunday in the month

3rd Sunday in the month

Holy Communion

Morning Prayer

Family Service

Family Communion

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

ST PATRICK'S

10.00 am

Church

Leaders - Mrs L McLaughlin and Mr A Ross

ST COLUMBA'S

11.30 am

Church

Superintendent - Mrs S Foster

HOLY BAPTISM

At Sunday services by arrangement