

Parish of Kilconriola and Ballyclug

PARISH MAGAZINE

OCTOBER 2014



Diocese of Connor - Parish of Kilconriola and Ballyclug

WHO'S WHO IN OUR PARISH



The Revd Iain Jamieson
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CLERGY

Rector

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St Patrick's Rectory
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Curate Assistants

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LAY READER

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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

CHURCH WARDENS

St Patrick's	Rector's	Mr Ronnie Fleming
	People's	Mr Jonathan Nevin
Ballyclug	Rector's	Mr Jackie McMaster
	People's	Mr Jackie Greer
St Columba's	Rector's	Mr Ivan McCombe
	People's	Miss Stephanie Allen
Glebe Wardens	Rector's	Mr Kenneth Hughes
	People's	Mr Peter Chestnutt

SELECT VESTRY

Clergy, Church Wardens, Glebe Wardens and:

Mr Bill Balmer, Mr William Burnett, Mr Barry Duke, Mr Dessie Dunlop, Mrs Rosalie Grainger, Mr Les Hughes, Mr Alastair Marrs, Mr Alex McKay, Mrs Patricia McWhirter, Mrs Adelaide Nimick, Mr Richard Todd and Mrs Loraine Watt.

Honorary Secretary:
Honorary Treasurer:

Mr A Marrs
Mr J Carson

32 Granville Drive, Ballymena
19 Valley Road, Ballymena

Sextons

St Patrick's
St Columba's
St Patrick's
St Columba's

Mr John Linton
Miss Margaret Mawhinney
Dr Jonathan Drennan
Mrs Sandra Montgomery

Organists



The Rector Writes

It was time to purchase some grass seed and to get it sown. I had already measured the area to be covered and worked out how much seed I might need. I visited local hardware and garden shops to try to see where I would get the best value - thrifty me again! It didn't seem to make much difference as to where I went - it was going to be a very costly exercise.

Then I was pointed to an out of town establishment which dealt mainly with the needs of farmers. Having heard my needs the proprietor here seemed to have the answer. "I'll give you a sack of field grass - it will easily cover your area and will give a grand green look." "Sounds good but how much will it cost?" He then quoted a figure that was well below what others had been quoting. "Just you take a sack with you and after you have sown the grass come back with whatever remains and I will just charge you for what you have used." It was getting better by the minute. Needless to say I jumped at the chance and soon he had carried the sack to my car and wished me well as I made my departure.

I of course was feeling pleased with myself. It was only as I made my way home that I began to wonder. Would the one sack meet my needs? Yes he had told me to sow it sparingly but surely it would not cover my area. And was it good seed - would it suit my poor soil? Could I end up with a bit of a disaster area after me putting in a lot of work. I didn't know the man - could I take him at his word.

Yet he had trusted me. I could have made it away with a sack of his grass seed and never returned to pay him. I felt a bit ashamed at my doubts and the limitations of my trust.

At the heart of the Christian Faith is trust. That is our response to all that God is, has done for us and is doing. Faith or trust is our response to all of God's goodness and how we take hold of all his promises. Fullness of

life, wholeness, salvation is what God gifts us - we come to enjoy the gift through faith. Faith of course is to an extent a leap in the dark - we only come to see the rightness of that leap after we have made it - it cannot be proved beforehand.

And amidst all our legitimate questions and wondering and doubts and struggles at the centre there has to be what Jesus described as a childlike trust, as he talked of the necessity of becoming as little children in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. And is it not our experience that where we have shown some of that trust, ultimately, though not necessarily at the time, that trust has not been misplaced.

The seed I can report is on its way. Despite the driest few weeks on record and my limited efforts at watering, grass is appearing and it is green. Oh ye of little faith!

Stuart Lloyd.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING



SUNDAY 12th OCTOBER 2014

*11.30 am - Preacher Reverend Gary Millar,
Rector of Ahoghill and Portglenone*

*6.30 pm - Songs of Praise introduced by
parishioners involved in outreach*



Parish News

RECOGNITION AWARDS

To mark the demise of the old Council and the inauguration of the new Mid and East Antrim Council, Ballymena Borough Council is going to recognise individuals/groups who have made an outstanding contribution to the Borough or achieved exceptional recognition in their chosen field. Members of the public and clearly that includes parishioners are invited to nominate people who they feel are of sufficient merit to warrant such a reward. Nominations are welcome from all sectors including industry, science, church, public sector, sports, arts, education, leisure, community and charity. Forms can be downloaded from www.ballymena.gov.uk or hard copies are available from Council reception - deadline for nomination **24th October**.

HARVEST SUPPER

If you are reading this in time don't forget the Harvest Supper on **Wednesday 8th October** at

7.30 pm. Entertainment and food with the proceeds (admission £7) going to Dementia and Click Sargent.

TIME AWAY

As mentioned in last month's magazine a retreat has been planned for **Saturday 11th October** in Dromalis, Larne - hopefully a good number will have signed up by now.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Harvest Thanksgiving in St Patrick's on **Sunday 12th October** - once again gifts of fruit and vegetables etc would be much appreciated. Simple decorating of the church will take place on **Friday 10th October** from 10 am. If you could spare some time please come along.

Etta/Jean

TEAM NEPAL

Nicola Burnett, Anne Todd, Debbie Chestnut, Cheryl Sinclair, Ian McKay and the rector leave for

Nepal on Monday **27th October**. They fly out from Dublin to Abu Dhabi and then on to Kathmandu. They return home Friday 14th November. So far the team is set to undertake manual work at Jiri Hospital 6 hours drive east of Kathmandu and a craft project with homeless women who also have mental issues. The team also hopes to link up with others whom it has met over the years.

To resource the project the team has given a target figure of £1000. The one fundraising event was held on Saturday 4th October and we thank Joan Holden for all her work in this regard. Individual donations can be made throughout the month. Placed in an envelope marked Nepal and if wished the donor's name. These can be placed on the plate in church or given to any members of the team.

TIME OUT

God willing we will hold the fourth of a series of vigils on **Friday 17th October** from 8 - 12 pm in St Patrick's. Primarily this is a time when we sit quietly in church and open ourselves to God. While most of the time is spent in silence we come together several times for a period of singing and joint prayer. People can come and go as they wish and there is no requirement - public reading or praying - asked of anyone ex-

cept their presence. Most who come find it fulfilling and some appreciate setting aside the whole time and waiting on God.

CARERS NORTHERN IRELAND

Carers Northern Ireland is a charity that gives advice, information and support to anybody who is looking after a sick or disabled partner, parent, child or friend. Many people don't recognise themselves as carers because they're just doing what needs to be done or it is their responsibility. Every year more than 69,000 people in Northern Ireland take on a new caring role and this could well include some in this parish. The local organiser Joanna Toner has written to make people aware of the help the charity gives and she can be contacted at 9043 9843 or info@carersni.org.

SHOE BOX APPEAL

200 shoe boxes have been distributed in the 3 churches. Please return by mid October, sooner if possible.

IRENE'S SOUP AND COFFEE

Thank you is totally inadequate to all those who made the Soup and Coffee Day such a success. We had a 'full house' and I appreciate the wonderful support given to me by the clergy and parish family as

well as many friends and neighbours. Our food supplies were running out by two thirty, which was great! I would also like to thank the many people who were unable to come but gave such generous donations.

Where would I be without my faithful helpers - Nina, Rosemary and Patricia? Without their hard work and cheerfulness the event would grind to a halt! They worked tirelessly and even left my kitchen in pristine condition. An extra helper this year was Irene - Maurice's American cousin who

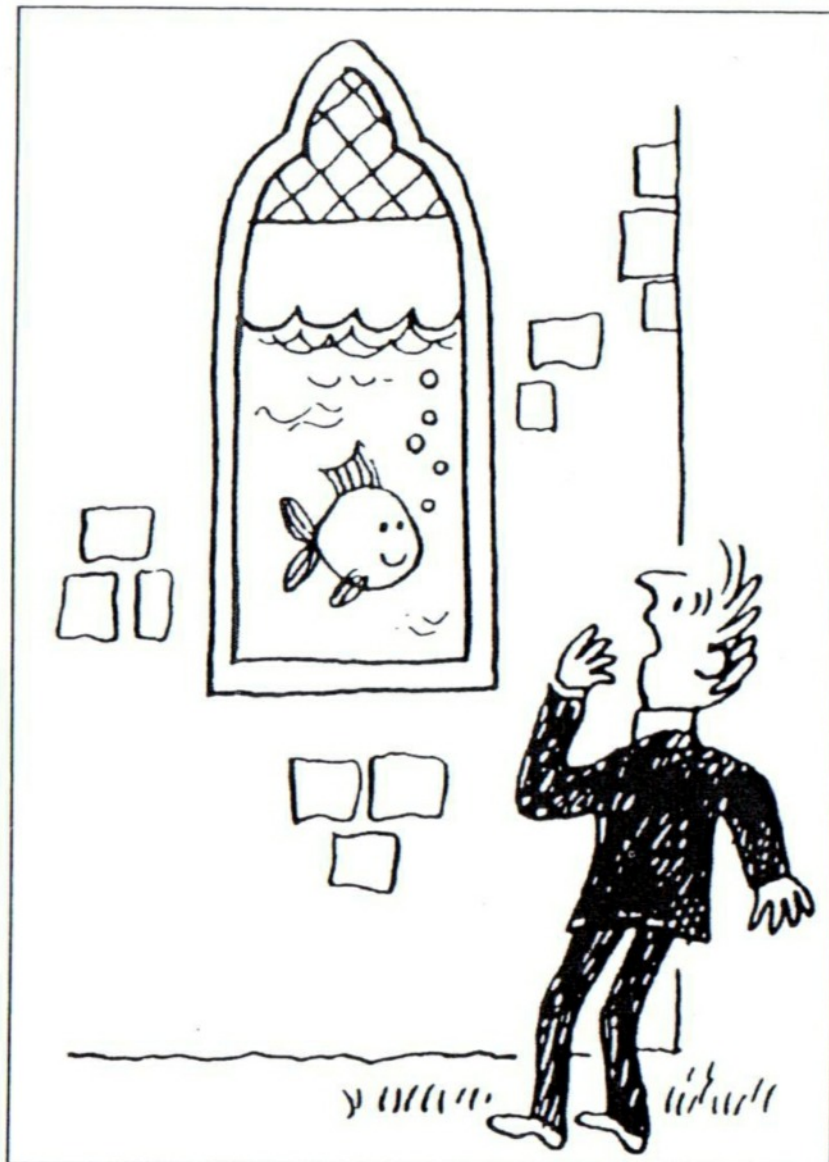
just happened to be here on a visit! She was kind enough to say she had a 'fun day'. A word of thanks also to Ivan who counts and banks the money. Not forgetting the help as always freely given by Lorraine and Sandra in the Parish Office.

A great time of fun, fellowship and friendship was enjoyed by all who came.

Total to date - £1,100.

A million thanks to you all.

Irene



Harvest Supper

St Patrick's Church Hall



Wednesday 8th October at 7.30 pm
Entertainment and Food

PROGRAMME

Church Choir
Taylor Ross and friends
Patsy Bradley
Tracy, Rod, Eamon (Bar Room Buddies)
Eugene O'Dornan
Billy McFarland
Compere – Bill Balmer
Cake Sale

Admission £7 – proceeds to Dementia and Click Sargent
Tickets available from all Churchwardens



Due to the good weather not every one has returned back to Sunday School but we hope this will happen soon. We welcome some new faces and some new teachers. It is important to keep good attendance throughout the year. This is recorded using the attendance cards at the back of the church. The dates of attendance are then added up to determine the prize at the end of the year. Family Service attendance is also recorded each month and the prize is in the form of a shield which is presented at the end of the year. Sunday School teachers will meet on **Monday 20th October** at 7.30 pm and are looking forward to a children's ministry conference called Building Blocks in November which is all about 'Messy church'.



We are glad to see the young people back at Youth Club on a Saturday night - if anyone would like to bring any friends they would be very welcome. We welcome Barry Lorimer to the post paid by NEELB and hope he settles into his new role. During this month we will be focusing on Operation Christmas Child the Christmas shoe box appeal where we will be looking at children in other countries who do not have as much as we have and how we can help them by making up a shoe box. The Senior Youth Club will be having a fundraising night for 'Stand up to cancer'. Anyone who would like to help at Youth Club on a Saturday night should contact Lucy or Alan.

‘Reveal’ Youth Event for 11 - 18 year olds in Antrim - theme ‘How can God be real in our lives?’ - **Saturday 4th October**. A day of worship, Bible teaching, fun and fellowship, songs, poetry, crafts, BBQ and human football. We are leaving St Patrick's at 12 noon and will be back at 4 pm.

‘Kids Big Adventure’ - **Saturday 18th October** in Lisburn. Children's event for primary school children. Bus leaving St Patrick's at 1 pm and returning 6 pm. Contact Lucy.

Lucy





Around the Parish

MOTHERS AND TODDLERS

It's great to see everyone back and also some new faces, you are very welcome. We have the boxes for the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal - these can be filled over the coming weeks. We are looking forward to our Coffee Morning for the tea ladies and gentlemen who look after the car parking on **Wednesday 1st October**. We send our congratulations to Sandra Duke on the birth of a grand daughter. We will be off for Hallowe'en on **Tuesday 28th October**. We are delighted to welcome Jimmy Tuff, David Oliver and Jackie McMaster to our car park team, thank you gentlemen for your help.



Rota for October:-

DATE	NAME	FUNCTION
07 October	Rosemary Stacey, Sandra McKay, Mary Cochrane and Jean Cunningham	Tea
	Bee Robinson	Welcoming
	Alex McKay and Eddie McClelland	Car Park
14 October	Evonne Stinson, Eleanor Burnett, Vera Owens and Marlene Gray	Tea
	Martha Caulfield	Welcoming
	Oliver Reid/David Oliver and Robert McGimpsey	Car Park
21 October	Dorothy Hegan, Isabel Halliday, Karin Agnew and Sandra Duke	Tea
	Ann Fisher	Welcoming
	Jackie McMaster and Jimmy Tuff	Car Park

Our thanks to you all for your continued support.

Dorothy (2589 2740), Anna, Anne and Liz



ST PATRICK'S BOWLING CLUB

Do you belong to St Patrick's Bowling Club or have you in the past been a member? If so you may have old photographs or memorabilia. We would like to make a collection of anything relating to the history of the club and would ask you to have a look in a drawer or the back of a cupboard. Who knows what you will find there simply gathering dust. Any items will be gratefully received and can be brought to bowls on a Monday or Thursday or left into the Parish Office.

Ann Agnew

MOTHERS' UNION

Area Service : Monday 6th October - All Saints, Antrim at 8 pm. (Anyone requiring transport please phone me on (2563 0671)).



Branch Meeting on Wednesday 15th October at 8 pm, 'Cranberry Line', supper - D Clements/F McKinley. (Note: This night was changed due the Harvest Supper).

Jean Kennedy

CHURCH LADS' BRIGADE



A big warm CLB welcome to our six new members into the youngest section of CLB - The Martins. Boys have progressed into older sections and with members increasing we are very grateful to all the leaders who give up their valuable time on Friday nights.

The boys are working towards badges in Scripture, Art and Craft and Helping at Home. Our Hallowe'en Party is on Friday, 31st October. Usual times for each section.

Alan Ross
2589 2740

Christmas Fair



and Auction

St Patrick's Church Hall

Saturday, 29 November 2014

10 am – 12.30 pm



*Interested in organising an event or
having a stall at the Fair?*

*Please get in touch with a member of the
Fundraising Committee by 26 October*

*Committee members: Debbie Chestnutt,
Debbie Crawford, Sandra Duke, Jackie Greer,
Joan Holden, Alan Ross, Lynda Bell*





The Curate's Letter

The Unhealthy State of Homelessness

Information supplied by over 2,500 people experiencing homelessness reveals that homeless people still have shocking levels of poor physical and mental health - at levels well above the general population. The poor health of homeless people is now a new issue. Living on the streets or without a stable home can make you vulnerable to illness, poor mental health and drug and alcohol problems. Many people become homeless because of existing health needs. The longer people remain without a stable and safe place to live, the more these problems multiply and the harder they are to overcome.

For the past few years an increasing body of evidence has shown the impact of this poor health on individuals and on the NHS. Homeless people are more likely to use A & E, spend time in hospital and to be heavy users of mental health and substance misuse services. Premature rates of death and the prevalence of chronic and multiple health conditions among homeless people paint a very stark picture of the human cost to this inequality, and the scale of the challenge to overcome.

Across the NHS, voluntary sector and local communities, services have long been rising to this challenge, developing health services which are more accessible, personalised and which bridge the gap with accommodation so that a longer-term route out of homelessness and poor health can be found. Alongside local action, recent changes to the NHS have put renewed calls on local commissioners to identify the needs of the most vulnerable, and ensure health services work together to make measurable improvements to people's health and tackle the inequalities that exist.

Reference: *The Unhealthy State Of Homelessness - Homeless Link Health Audit Results 2014.*

Despite government and local authority intervention the issues of homelessness remains a problem within society. All hostels and emergency accommodation providers struggle to meet the needs and provide the support that is required to this vulnerable group of people. Unfortunately beds are constantly full - leaving some persons with no place to find shelter. The Rough Sleepers Unit in Belfast which provides overnight accommodation and a few hours respite to those it cannot provide a bed to for the night, is constantly full each evening and struggles to meet the demands of the client group. 'NIHE - report that over 19,374 households presented as homeless'. (Ref: *NIHE homeless statistics Sep 2014*). This figure does not take into account the many people who have not presented for accommodation - many people who sleep rough, or sofa surf, people who are currently in hospital or prison.

Thankfully this has been a relatively good summer - a period when some emergency accommodation providers would have in the past, had a lesser demand for the service as rough sleepers would have chosen not to access support when the weather is easier to live with. This year, however, the need for emergency accommodation has remained high with very limited bed space available. With the onset of cold wet winters the need to access accommodation always increases - at this time of year - the outlook is bleak for many vulnerable lives.

Support services struggle to meet the needs of this client group - prison and hospital discharges cannot always access temporary accommodation for homeless persons.

Just this past week a young homeless man was found dead on our streets in Northern Ireland - several more will die over the winter. A young life, a mother's son, a brother, loved and cherished as a child, he had his hopes and dreams, his plans. He leaves behind a grieving family.

Homelessness is not a lifestyle choice, addiction is not a chosen pathway, trauma through life can impact on mental health issues.

What can we as Christians do?

What would Jesus do to help the vulnerable ? ? ? ?

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "John McCune". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "John" and last name "McCune" clearly distinguishable.

THINK SCOUTS ONLY TIE KNOTS?

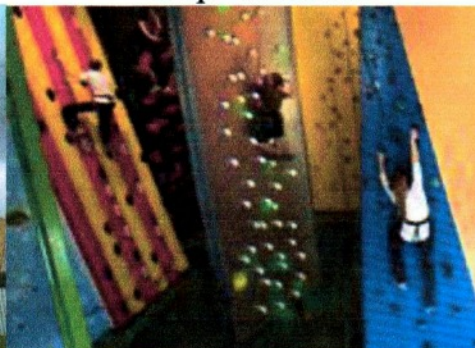


THINK AGAIN!

Zip Wire



Clip 'n' Climb



Canoeing

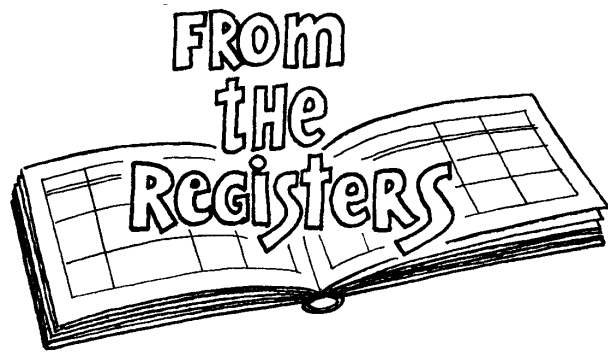


Camping

**And much much more for everyone aged 11+
Come along and join the fun
Fridays 7:45pm**

For more info www.stcolumbasscouts.co.uk

St Columba's Church of Ireland, Doury Road, Ballymena



HOLY MATRIMONY



6 th September	John Foster	6 Carmosan Park, Ballymena
	Lisa Fleming	6 Carmosan Park, Ballymena
13 th September	Peter Moore	114 Ballymoney Road, Ballymena
	Nicole Simmonds	114 Ballymoney Road, Ballymena
19 th September	Ryan Steele	217 Lisnahunshin Road, Rasharkin
	Tammy Reid	21 Ravel Court, Cargin
27 th September	Barry Miller	15 Cadogan Park, Londonderry
	Stephanie Brooks	29 Old Galgorm Road, Ballymena
27 th September	Martin Ramsey	128 Queen Street, Ballymena
	Sharon Silkowski	128 Queen Street, Ballymena

CHRISTIAN BURIAL



11 th September	Lindsey O'Loan	42 Upper Princes Street, Ballymena
15 th September	George Black	30 Johnston Close, Ballymena
28 th September	Doris Middleton	Galgorm Care Home and 5 Bamber Avenue

George Black

George was born in Belfast and attended schools in the east of the city. George was one time head chorister at St Anne's Cathedral, he was also a gifted pianist and enjoyed a wide range of music and was in a pop band in the 60's. George liked tennis and local politics, on which he was always ready to give an opinion. He had a variety of jobs of which his favourite was librarian at St Patrick's College Ballymena. In George's final years he had declining health. George was a private person who kept himself very much to himself. He had a fine sense of humour. Our sympathy goes to Aaron, Stacey, Lyndsey, Scott, and to George's grandchildren.

Doris Middleton

Doris was unable to manage on her own over the last few years and found herself in various care homes. Brought up in Ballymena, she at first worked in the Civil Service before moving to Gallahers where she spent many years on the switchboard. Married to Roy and without a family they were able to have many holidays abroad. Doris also enjoyed golf and music and had a fine collection of books. In her earlier years she and her sisters were regular worshippers at St Patrick's. We remember her sister Eileen and brother Ernie.



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	7.30 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
Youth Club	Saturday	8.00 pm	Parochial Hall
Junior Youth Club	Saturday	7.00 pm	Parochial Hall
Youth Fellowship	3rd Sunday	7.30 pm	Parochial Hall
Badminton	Wednesday	7.30 pm	Parochial Hall
Theology Group	1st Thurs.	7.45 pm	Jubilee Room
Sewing Group	Thursday	10.00 am	Parochial Hall

SAINT COLUMBA'S

	Day	Time	Contact
Beavers	Monday	6.30 pm	Mrs L McCullagh
Ladies' Circle	4th Monday	8.00 pm	Mrs L Beatty
Brownies	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Mrs S Foster
Guides	Tuesday	7.30 pm	Mrs K Black
Squirrels	Wednesday	6.30 pm	Mr P Houston
Cubs	Thursday	6.45 pm	Miss H Hughes
Choir	Sunday	10.15 am	Mrs S Montgomery
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		<i>Holy Communion</i>
10.15 am	<i>3rd Sunday in the month</i>	<i>Family Service</i>
11.30 am		<i>Morning Prayer</i>
	<i>1st Sunday in the month</i>	<i>Parish Communion</i>
6.30 pm		<i>Evening Prayer</i>
	<i>3rd Sunday in the month</i>	<i>Holy Communion</i>
	<i>4th Sunday in the month</i>	<i>Living Faith Service</i>

EVERY WEDNESDAY

10.30 am	<i>Holy Communion</i>
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ST PATRICK'S, BALLYCLUG

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.00 am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
	<i>Holy Communion</i>
	<i>4th Sunday in the month</i>

ST COLUMBA'S, DUNCLUG

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.30 am	<i>1st Sunday in the month</i>	<i>Holy Communion</i>
11.30 am		<i>Morning Prayer</i>
	<i>2nd Sunday in the month</i>	<i>Family Service</i>
	<i>3rd Sunday in the month</i>	<i>Family Communion</i>

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

ST PATRICK'S

11.30 am	<i>Church</i>	<i>Leaders - Mrs L McLaughlin and Mr A Ross</i>
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ST COLUMBA'S

11.30 am	<i>Church</i>	<i>Superintendent - Mrs S Foster</i>
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HOLY BAPTISM

At Sunday services by arrangement