

Parish of Kilconriola and Ballyclug



**Parish Magazine
February 2017**



Diocese of Connor - Parish of Kilconriola and Ballyclug

WHO'S WHO IN OUR PARISH



CLERGY

Rector

The Revd Mark McConnell
102 Galgorm Road, Ballymena (Tel 2565 2253)
Mobile No 077 5954 5932
Email mmccconnell60@yahoo.co.uk



Curate Assistants

The Revd Dennis Christie
127 Whitesides Road, Ballymena
Mobile No 075 0060 7448
Email revdennischristie@gmail.com

The Revd John McClure
69 Parkgate Road, Connor (Tel 2589 2324)
Mobile No 078 4186 6414
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LAY READER

Mr J Perry, 261a Galgorm Road, Ballymena

YOUTH WORKERS

Lucy McLaughlin
3 The Commons, Broughshane
Tel 2586 1524
Mobile 077 5995 0497

Alan Ross
70 Maine Road, Shankbridge, Ballymena
Tel 2589 2740
Mobile 077 5991 6755

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	Miss Ruth Dixon
	People's	Mr Richard Cotter
Ballyclug	Rector's	Mr William Burnett
	People's	Mr Jackie Greer
St Columba's	Rector's	Mr Bert Kernohan
	People's	Mr Larry Cunningham
Glebe Wardens	Rector's	Mr Kenneth Hughes
	People's	Mr Peter Chestnutt

SELECT VESTRY

Clergy, Church Wardens, Glebe Wardens and: Mr Alan Adair, Miss Nicola Burnett, Mr Barry Duke, Mr Dessie Dunlop, Mr Ronnie Fleming, Mrs Rosalie Grainger, Mrs Elizabeth Hughes, Mr Alex McKay, Mrs Patricia McWhirter, Mr Alastair Marrs, Mr Oliver Reid and Mr Richard Todd.

Honorary Secretary: Mr A Marrs 32 Granville Drive, Ballymena

Honorary Treasurer: Mrs L McBride 29 Ballylummin Road, Ahoghill

Sextons St Patrick's Mr John Linton
St Columba's Miss Margaret Mawhinney

Organists St Patrick's Mr Adrian Poston, Mr Frank Hewitt and Dr Iris Millar
St Columba's Vacant

THE RECTOR WRITES



Rectory Ramblings

SAY IT WITH FLOWERS?

How will you be saying it this month? The month that includes Valentine's Day. Is love and romance in the air? Will you be saying it with flowers, chocolates, a surprise, will you be saying it at all?

There is a great story on the theme of 'Quality Love' that is often told. A champion golfer won yet another tournament. He receives a large cheque and after the celebrations heads back to his car and home. On the way he was met by a sad looking lady with a very sad story about her very sick only son and huge medical bills. Without hesitation the golfer changes the name on the cheque, gives it all to the lady and hopes that better times were ahead.

Of course she was a fraud and was never seen again and when our golf champion was told this his response was amazing - "No more sick child that's the best news I've heard in months!"

I don't think you, or I, would have reacted in that way. What a beautiful spirit and one that reminds me of the spirit God shows towards us. True love, if you will. Despite taking God and His goodness for granted, despite repeated failures to accept and appreciate all that He has done and offers, his love for us - His Valentine statement is summed up in this amazing scripture, Romans chapter 5:6-8. 'For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die'. God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

My prayer this month when love is in the air, albeit mostly tacky false love that this wee thought will motivate you to respond more to the One who loves you most and to seek to love others with a more profound spirit.

Happy Valentine's Day Everyone!



Parish News

THE LEPROSY MISSION



The total donated in the little red boxes in 2016 was a magnificent £747.57 which was over £80 more than 2015. I am very grateful to all those who contributed to this very worthwhile cause.

If you wish to start, you can get a box in any of our three churches. Why not make it your Lenten Project for 2017? Lent begins on 1 March.

Your help is, as always, appreciated by The Leprosy Mission.

Christie Colhoun

SAFEGUARDING TRUST TRAINING EVENING

Leaders of all organisations are invited to a training evening in the

Minor Hall on 20th February at 7.30 pm. The evening will be hosted by the PSNI and Extern and provide an update on drugs in the community as affecting young people.

Should any other parishioner wish to attend please contact a member of the Parish Panel.

STUDENT LUNCH VOLUNTEERS

Wish to thank the students and a small number of parishioners who supported them each Thursday, resulting in a profit to church funds of £100.

FIRST AID COURSE

A three hour First Aid Course for Youth Workers will run on:-

- **Monday 6th February 2017**
from 6.30 - 9.30 pm.

Those in need of a Refresher Course will be notified individually.

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS 2017

Sainsbury's



Active Kids 2017 launched on 25 January. Vouchers are only available online and at Sainsbury's stores and petrol stations until 2 May 2017.

You'll receive 1 voucher for every £10 you spend. So if you spend £50, you'll get five vouchers. Sainsbury's have brought back pre-printed 1 and 5 vouchers at the till.

St Columba's Scout Group (Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts) are taking part again and hope that you will bring your vouchers to the collecting boxes at the back of each of our three churches. The boxes will be there until the end of May.

Thank you for your support. Look out for further reports in the summer and autumn to learn how many vouchers we received and

what equipment the Group was able to obtain.

Christie Colhoun

CHRISTMAS FAIR

On Saturday, 26th November, St Patrick's Church Hall was definitely the place to be! From the moment the doors opened, crowds weaved their way around the hall, stopping now and again to have a chat with old acquaintances or to seize a bargain from one of the many stalls. Many took a break to enjoy the lovely tea/coffee and scones served by the ladies from the Mothers' Union. Suddenly, above the hustle and bustle, the familiar ring of a Christmas bell could be heard, followed by a robust, "Ho, ho, ho!" Santa had arrived, spreading good cheer to one and all.

Then the Rector - accompanied by Santa - appeared on stage. It was time for Santa to draw the winners of the Prize Draw and this created a lot of excitement! Our sincere thanks go to all our sponsors for their overwhelming generosity: Adrian Hairstyling, Boots (Fairhill Centre), Cosmo (Belfast International Airport), Killyhevlin Hotel (Enniskillen), Lifestyle Fit-

ness (Pennybridge), Paul McLean (voucher for the Merchant Hotel), Marks & Spencer, Montgomery's Restaurant, Oranmore Guesthouse & Tea Rooms, Sainsbury's, Martin Scullion (formerly Bannside Meats, now trading @ McFall Meats, Harryville) and a parishioner (voucher for Waterstones donated anonymously). Many of the prizes valued, individually, up to £100.

The Christmas Fair was a real team effort with many people contributing to its success. It was wonderful to have so many stall holders from Ballyclug, St Columba's and St Patrick's who gave so willingly of their time. Our thanks also go to those who volunteered to help in a number of other ways including the setting up and tidying of the hall, welcoming, collecting and counting money, publicising the event, providing/serving refreshments and managing the sound. We are also indebted to Sadie Peachey (Sainsbury's) who set up a stall, providing free samples of delicious cheese and chutneys from the Ballymena store. The leaders of the various Church organisations did a superb job in selling tickets for the Prize Draw during the weeks leading up to the Fair

and we really appreciated their support. As always, our thanks go to the staff of the Church Office, our caretaker and clergy. Of course, huge thanks to Santa!

In particular, a very big 'thank you' to all of you who attended the Christmas Fair or gave donations. We were absolutely delighted that the Fair raised £5,076 in addition to £2,891.60 already raised from the Parish Auction on 24th September. The proceeds of both events will be used for Church Funds. In addition, proceeds from supporting events including Irene's Soup and Coffee (£1,010.00), Harvest Supper (£565.00), Fit for Life (£80.00) and the Shoe Box Appeal (£105.00) will also go towards the Christmas Fair/Church Funds, making a grand total to date of £9,727.60.

May we humbly ask for your continued support for the forthcoming Coffee Morning and Cake Sale (Saturday, 11th February) and the Spring Concert by the prestigious PSNI Ladies Choir (Friday, 24th March). Once again, proceeds from both of these events will go towards Church Funds.

The Fundraising Committee

HEALING ON THE STREETS BALLYMENA

Hots Ballymena is off to a great start - Praise God! Look at these numbers. Seventy-five Christians from twelve local churches taking part (Including the Church of Ireland). In the period December to date - several commitments to Christ - at least three significant recorded healings reported, many thousands of healing bookmark publications handed out and 70+ follow ups to those who have received prayer. Please pray for this prayer outreach to continue and to grow and if you are interested in more information email: Healingballymena@gmail.com.

‘A HEARTFELT APPEAL’

I would like to take a moment to ask for your help! At a recent Vestry meeting we agreed to set in motion a project which will in time lead to the placing of defibrillators in each of our churches - hence the title of this article. There will be considerable costs to this project when you add to the cost of the actual machines (which start at around £600/£700), the essential costs of user training and ongoing maintenance.

However the whole Vestry stands behind a comment made by one of our number - “What price a Life!”

If you feel strongly about this project, I would humbly ask that you might prayerfully consider making a financial donation to help us achieve our aims.

Any further enquiries, or, donations can be made to Alastair Marrs, (Honorary Secretary), Lorraine McBride (Honorary Treasurer), or any of the Clergy.

Our Vestry will act with both haste and diligence to secure the best equipment and training for the best value.

I hope to have touched a heart or two through this appeal and my prayer is that we don’t need to use them - but if needed, they are available!

Thanks for your support.

Mark McConnell, Rector

RE-DEDICATION OF RECTORY BY BISHOP ALAN

We are delighted that bar a few small niggles, the McConnell’s are in the Rectory and the Rectory

Refurbishment Project is coming to a close. We will be joined by the Select Vestry/Finance Group/Wardens/Church Staff and a small number of invited guests to host a Prayer Re-dedication led by the Bishop on Sunday afternoon, 5th March. We hope for plenty of interest from local and church press at the event.

As a follow-up when the weather is better (we hope) during the summer months to be host a Parish Picnic/BBQ at the Rectory with an opportunity for more of our Church Family to see around and hear the story of the Rectory scheme.

GIFTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Donation to Church Funds - £20

Donation to Church Funds from St Patrick's Choir - £200

Donation to Christmas tree in St Patrick's
in memory of a loved one - £100

Anonymous donation to Church Funds - £500

Donation to Church Funds from Chamber Orchestra - £300

Donation to Church Funds from Castle Players - £150

Donation to Church Funds from Student Lunches - £100

Anonymous Donation to Church Funds - £100

Donation to Church Funds from Sewing Group - £250

Easyfundraising Donation - £55.42

Anonymous donation to Church Funds
in memory of a loved one - £646.03

Donations to Christmas Fair - £59

Donation to Church Funds from Alzheimer's Group - £60

Donation to Church Funds from Ballymena Academy - £350

Donation to help the people of Syria - £300

Donation to Church Funds from Men's Fellowship - £131

The PSNI Ladies' Choir



present a

Spring Concert

in

*St Patrick's Church Hall
Castle Street, Ballymena*



Friday, 24th March 2017

at 7.30 pm

Refreshments will be served

*Tickets £8
available from
Church or pay at
the door*



*Proceeds in aid of
Church Funds*



Around the Parish

SQUIRRELS

The Squirrels enjoyed a fun term in the lead up to Christmas. We made some Christmas decorations and played lots of games.

One of the highlights of our term was our Christmas Party and the visit from Santa Claus. We are delighted that he was able to take time out from his busy schedule to come and see us all and he even left some presents for us.



The other highlight of the term was our Christmas Radio Cracker Appeal. We filled Smarties tubes with 20 pence pieces and donated these to Radio Cracker. We are delighted to announce that our Squirrel total was a fantastic amount of £350.00. Well done Squirrels! It was lovely to remember the true meaning of Christmas and to help others.

The Squirrels are now back for another term and we hope to have lots more fun and games in St Columba's. If any adults would like to come along to help out, then feel free to contact Ann or Paul or come along any Wednesday evening 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm.

Paul, Ann, Jack and Mr Squirrel

MOTHERS AND TODDLERS



We have started the year with very healthy numbers and it's lovely to welcome these new families to our group. Children and grown-ups had fun making Christingles in January. Sure Start will visit this month with a craft activity for the little ones.

We are very grateful to Derek Bell for volunteering to help and welcome him to our team.

Our annual lunch to thank catering and car park helpers was held on 16th January and we all enjoyed the fellowship.

Rota for February:-

DATE	NAME	FUNCTION
07 February	Rosemary Stacey, Sandra McKay, Mary Cochrane and Jean Cunningham	Tea
	Bee Robinson	Welcoming
	Alex McKay and Eddie McClelland	Car Park
14 February	Evonne Stinson, Eleanor Burnett, Vera Owens and Marlene Gray	Tea
	Mary Steele	Welcoming
	Oliver Reid and Derek Bell	Car Park
21 February	Dorothy Hegan, Isabel Halliday, Karin Agnew and Sandra Duke	Tea
	Ann Fisher	Welcoming
	Jackie McMaster and Jimmy Tuff	Car Park
28 February	Ruth Murray, Isabell Adair, Vivien Gilmour and Kathleen Thompson	Tea
	Liz Bodel	Welcoming
	Bob Peachey and Davy Nelson	Car Park

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

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Clay Pigeon Shooting - The Men's Fellowship group took part in a Clay Pigeon shoot at Clough Clay Pigeon Club early in the new year. Peter 'Quick Draw' Chestnutt turned out to be



the sharpest shooter on the day. Apart from a few sore shoulders the following morning everyone greatly enjoyed the day. A big thank you to Stephen Nevin for all the organising.



Men's Breakfast with Bishop Ken Clarke - More than 30 men gathered, including some members of Ballymena Methodist Men's group, to enjoy an excellent cooked breakfast in the Parish hall, before listening to an enjoyable and challenging talk from Bishop Ken Clarke. A note of thanks goes to all those who helped out in the kitchen (Barbara, Joan, Ruth, St Clair, Ronnie and Alex). Also thanks to W. Allen Meats (Ballykeel Industrial Estate) who provided the meat for the event free of charge as a gift to the church.



Upcoming Events - Another Men's Breakfast is planned for Saturday the 11th March 2017, during which Action Mental Health will come to speak about Mental Health Awareness among men. Breakfast will be served at 9.30 am for those attending. The Men's Fellowship group continues to meet on a monthly basis on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm in the Minor Hall at St Patrick's. Attendance has been very encouraging but new members of any age are always welcome to join us, so please come along.

MOTHERS' UNION

The February meeting will be held at 8.00 pm on 8th February 2017 when Derek Bell will give a talk on Grace-hill. Tea rota - N. Marrs and R. Stacey.



The 2017 Programme will be available at this meeting.

Jean Kennedy, Secretary

CHURCH LADS' BRIGADE

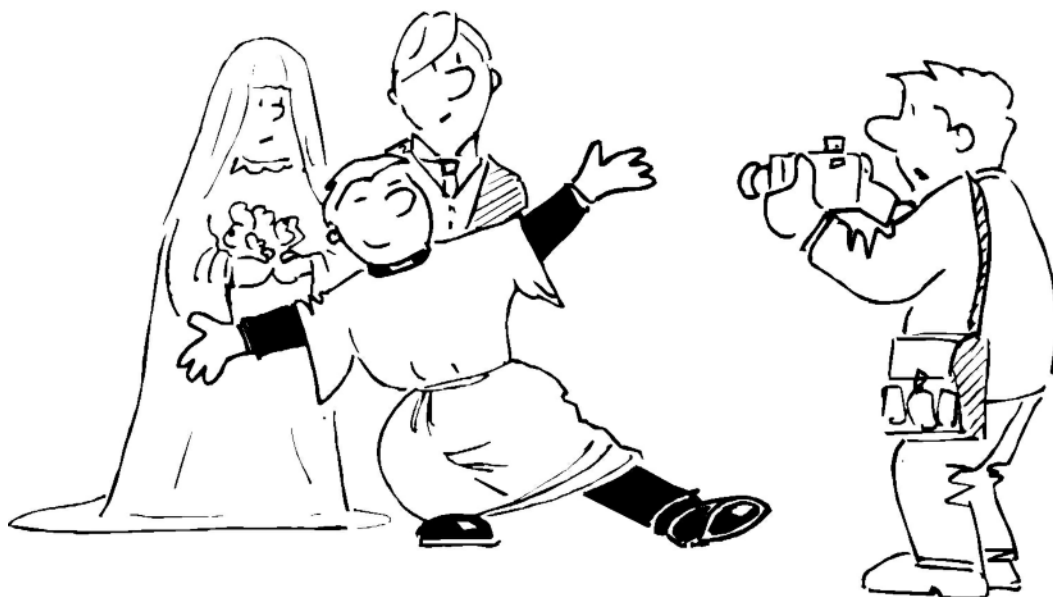


The CLB 'Grand Spring Jumble Sale' will be held on Friday, 3rd March 2017. This is our main fundraiser for the year and we would appreciate your support. It is a great chance to clear out the attic and garage of all the clutter that has been gathering up over the years. Donations of bric-a-brac, clothes, furniture, books, toys, unused gifts, groceries and cakes will be gratefully received. Anything you would like

to donate can be brought to the halls anytime on Thursday, 2nd March and if you need items collected contact Alan Ross (2589 2740) or (077 5991 6755).

We are all back into the swing of things at the Brigade and all sections are working towards items for this year's Parent Night.

Alan Ross



Revd Thomas loved the limelight



Ballymena Parish Alpha 2017

Preparations are ongoing for the Parish Alpha course, which will be running each Tuesday evening in the Minor Hall at St Patrick's from 7th February until 11th April 2017.

Parishioners are again encouraged to attend the course and also to take the opportunity to invite any friends, work colleagues or family members, who may be interested in coming along. The Lord has used this course for many years to draw people into a deeper Christian faith, or, into faith for the first time.

By the time you read this the course may already be underway, but do not let that deter you from coming along if you have not yet done so. Each evening of the course is on a different theme and can therefore be attended without being there previously.



YOUTH ALPHA

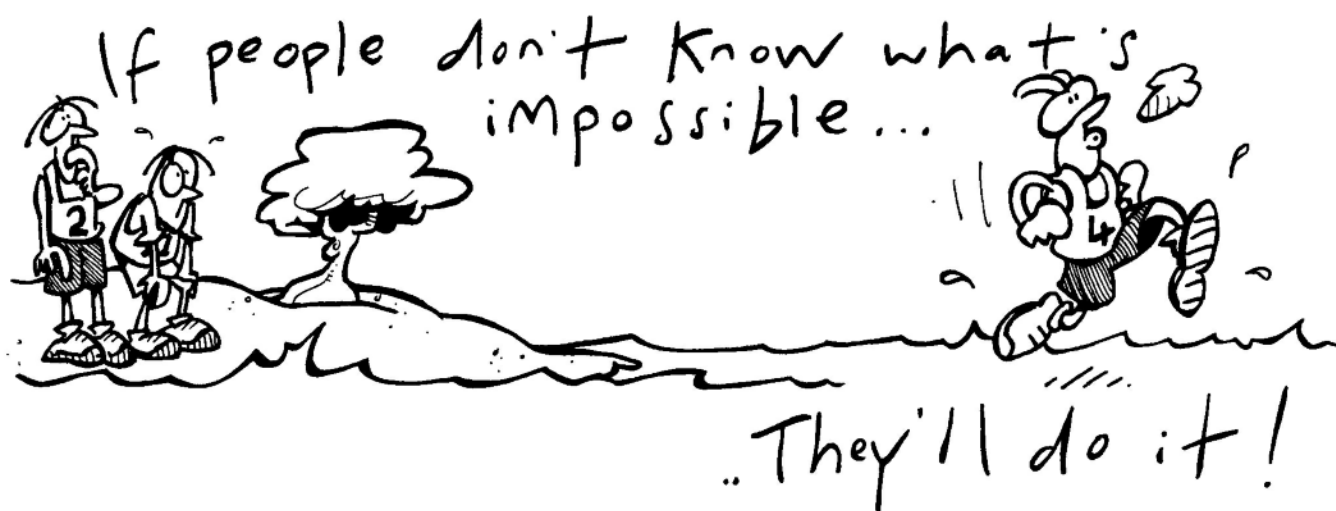
The Youth Alpha course is designed for anyone of secondary school age and is intended to help our young people engage in conversations about life and faith. By the end of the six-week course we hope that each young

person will have become more aware of the fundamentals of the Christian faith and been given the opportunity to talk openly about their relationship with God in today's world.

We will be running Youth Alpha over six Sunday evenings, between 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm, in the Minor Hall. The sessions will include food (takeaway Pizza!), a short 20 minute video and a time for discussion. The opening evening will be on Sunday the 5th of March, with the final session on the 9th of April 2017.

Although the Youth Alpha course is free for anyone of secondary school age to attend, there is a requirement that all church members hoping to go forward for Confirmation this calendar year will need to attend.

ALPHA YOUTH FILM SERIES



Coffee Morning and Cake Sale



St Patrick's Church Hall

*Castle Street
Ballymena*



*Saturday, 11 February 2017
10 am – 12 noon*



*Come along and join us
for Morning Coffee/Tea, Scones
and Tray Bakes*



*Proceeds in aid of Church
Funds*





We hope everyone had a good Christmas. Here are some photos of the Christmas parties and Sunday School Carol Service.



We welcomed everyone back to Youth Club after the Christmas holidays. We started off by making calendars and thinking about the year that had just gone by. We acknowledged that if we had made made any mistakes or did wrong things we could say sorry and God would forgive us, erase these things and we could start the New Year afresh. We also made Christingles and looked at the meaning of them and how we can share Jesus' light with others.



It was great to see a good turn out on the first Sunday back to Sunday School. We hope this will continue. We were delighted that so many were able to attend the annual Christingle family service and hope you enjoyed it. Next month will be Family Service in Church and on the third Sunday in March we will have Messy Church in the Hall with the theme being Lent.

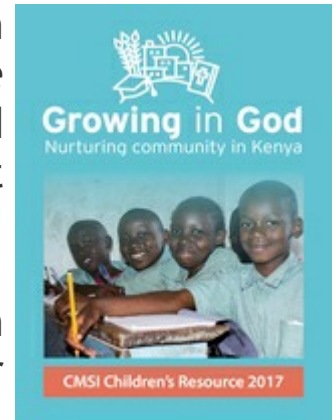




On Sunday 22nd January our Sunday School teachers met with others to look at this year's CMS project called 'Growing in God'. The project considers what it means to grow-up as part of God's family and explores the importance of community work in global mission. It has a particular focus on the work of the Urban

Development Programme (UDP) in All Saints' Diocese Nairobi, Kenya. Using stories from the gospels and examples from the global Church, the material looks at the importance of knowing God and growing as a disciple.

We will learn about nurturing children within communities in Kenya - providing good foundations for them to grow, learn and reach their full potential.



Anyone wishing to take part contact Lucy.



The Curate's Letter

A New Year - a time of reflection looking back and anticipating what this year will bring.

The past year for me has been a mixture of blessings and emotions, many happy and also some sad memories. Becoming grandparents for the first time when our grandson was born last February has certainly been the highlight for Margo and I. Friends often joked about how our lives would change, how we would love every moment of it all. This has certainly been very true from the moment of the announcement things changed, anxiously waiting and wondering would it be a boy or a girl, what name would the child be given, would everything go well. Thankfully all is well and we are richly blessed in the new addition to our family, the joy of his safe arrival, the daily changes in his growth, appearance and development of his personality have all been a joy and have certainly changed the dynamics of the household. All the teasing, joking and wise support from family and friends has been an important part in these memories and we are indeed blessed to have these memories to treasure.

Looking back over the past months and the dreading of a cold hard winter thankfully things have not been extremely difficult so far and already we can see signs of spring. New life in the fields as lambs appear and daffodils trying to poke up through the ground. Hope of new life is all around us if we would just take a moment to stop and look.

At present the words of the hymn, 'Because he lives' are often in my head - not just because we are new grandparents and our lives have been changed by this recent event but because we have faith in the Lord Jesus. Because he lives through us and died that we might be forgiven, we have hope and we have a future to look forward to.

Life brings changes and none of us know what a moment can bring and what changes can result that impact on the future. As Christians who believe we have hope and the joy that goes along with it, no matter what happens in life we have a future. This year will also bring changes to all our lives. We will create more memories happy and sad ones through the changes that time brings.

Meanwhile take a moment to celebrate the joy that we have in our lives, the gifts that we have around us and the knowledge that we can get through whatever comes our way.

All because He Lives we can face tomorrow -
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because he lives.
This child can face uncertain days because He lives

John McCune



Do U Have Old Photos of Parish Organisations?

Why not share them with US!!!! Put them in an envelope with your name and address and they will be returned to you probably the next day. Did your Dad or Mother sing in the choir, or in the Youth Organisations even the Drama Club. These photos will be uploaded to Facebook and your relations will be able to see and share

‘The Family Memories Too.’

Give them to Ruth Dixon Church Warden or leave them into the Parish Office.

‘Stewards of Creation’

is the theme of the Bishop’s Lent talks 2017



The Bishop of Connor, the Rt Rev Alan Abernethy, has announced the dates and venues of his 2017 Lent Course.

The theme of this year’s course is ‘Stewards of Creation.’ Sessions, which begin each evening at 7.30 pm, are as follows:

- † Tuesday 28th February - Bushmills Parish Centre
- † Wednesday 8th March - Lisburn Cathedral
- † Monday 13th March - Jordanstown Parish Centre
- † Tuesday 21st March - Bushmills Parish Centre
- † Wednesday 29th March - Lisburn Cathedral
- † Monday 3rd April - Jordanstown Parish Centre

For further information and booking details, please contact:
Rosemary Patterson (Bishop’s P A)

Tel: 028 9082 8870

Email: rpatterson@diocoff-belfast.org

Action Cancer 'Big Bus'

Three Wide Men now given a sharp deadline for Weight Loss

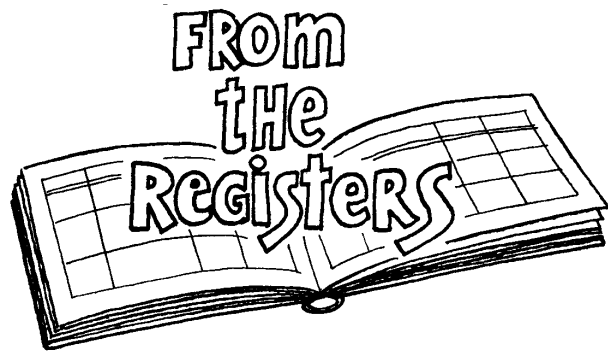
Following the commitments of Reverends Mark, John and Dennis to each lose a stone in weight after their MOT Health Check last November, they have had varying success. Various excuses have been heard like, "It's very difficult to do this over Christmas ye know!", or "People keep offering us cake when we visit them!" Such excuses are no



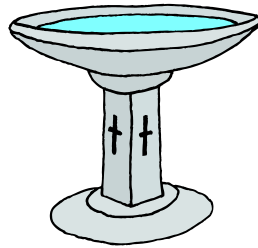
longer acceptable to parishioners, so there is now an enforced deadline of the end of February for each clergy member to shed the weight.

Mark, John and Dennis will all be visiting Action Cancer for another MOT check at the end of February and the results will be made known after this. [Before and after weights will not be included]. Any of the clergy who do not manage to lose the weight may need to undergo a forfeit. [Please make any suggestions for forfeits known to the office].

Parishioners have already been very generous with donations to this cause and Action Cancer, the Men's Fellowship group and the clergy team would like to say thank you for this. Given the popularity of the Action Cancer 'Big Bus' when it visited the parish (42 breast screenings and 13 MOT men's health checks carried out on the day) the Men's Fellowship group have decided that the money raised will go towards the costs of bringing the Big Bus back to the church for another appointment later this year, and anything extra raised will go directly to the charity. Collection plates will continue to be available at all three churches, and online donations can still be made via www.justgiving.com/3widemen.



HOLY BAPTISM



18 th December	Georgia Sarah Violet Rea	92 Tobar Park, Cullybackey
15 th January	Emily Isabella Fisher	5 Mill Race, Broughshane

CHRISTIAN BURIAL



16 th December	Jack Richmond	Prospect Nursing Home
22 nd December	Anne Preston	32 Rowallane Drive
28 th December	Eric McKee	88b Carniny Road
17 th January	Anne Murray	74 Upper Princes Street

John Noel (Jack) Richmond

Jack Richmond was born on 14th December 1937. He was the middle one of five children. Jack grew up in East Belfast. He met Jean and she thought he was the most handsome man on the planet. They got married on 17th February, 1962 and had three children, Tracy, Keith and Victoria.

He was a totally devoted Father. He was the good guy, all the discipline and rules were left to Jean. He taught them the value of respect which he practised himself and this was passed on to his grandchildren. He loved sport and was especially fond of Ballymena Rugby Club. This was like a second home for him and he had many friends there. Jack was greatly respected by his work colleagues and was known as the gentle giant, a true gentleman. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease twelve years ago and his health started to deteriorate. This was difficult for such a big strong fit man. He was a devoted husband to Jean and was heartbroken by her sudden death ten years ago. Our thoughts and prayers are with Tracy, Keith and Victoria and the family circle.

Anne Preston

Many within the parish were shocked and saddened to hear of the death of Anne Preston in December last year. Anne was born in Carnlough in January 1938, the daughter of Michael and Mary McMullan. Anne got married to John Preston over 50 years ago in Craig's Church, Cullybackey, and they went on to bring up four sons together, Michael, John, Paul and Mark. The Preston's were a keen rugby family and Anne faithfully followed and supported her sons as they played for both Ballymena Academy and Ballymena Rugby Club. After Anne lost her husband in 1998, at the early age of 58, she became more involved in the life of the church. Anne was a keen member of both the Still Active Club at St Patrick's and the Ladies' Circle at St Columba's, Dunclug. We pass on our sympathies and prayers to all of the family circle and to her many church friends.

Eric McKee

Eric was a very gracious and generous person. He was born in 1941 in Bessbrook and was the youngest of nine children. Eric enjoyed travelling and visited many countries with his wife Irene. He also enjoyed regular

train outings with his friend. Eric had a great love for his church and enjoyed being involved in church activities, particularly the annual auction and Christmas Fair. He visited homes throughout Ballymena selling his fireside quiz and raised a lot of money for Church funds. Eric had a very great sense of humour and laughter was one of his special skills. He was a loyal and good friend to those who knew him and especially to his loving wife Irene. Our thoughts and prayers are with Irene and the family circle at this time.

Anne Wright Murray

Anne lived at the family home until February 2016 when her illness necessitated a change of care. She bore her illness with great dignity, contentment and confidence. Anne had a successful career, and enjoyed life to the full. She also had a love for designer clothes, jewellery and enjoyed holidays to many countries around the world. Anne had a solid faith in the Lord and was a regular attender at church. All who knew her would say that she was a very generous and caring person who cared for and looked after her parents. Anne took an interest in all of her nephews and nieces and she had a love for all her family. The last year of Anne's life was spent in Andena Residential Home and the family would like to thank all the staff for their great care of Anne. Our prayers and sympathy are with Anne's family circle at this time.





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	Miss H Hughes
Ladies' Circle	4th Monday	8.00 pm	Mrs L Hughes
Brownies	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Mrs S Cardwell
Squirrels	Wednesday	6.30 pm	Mr P Houston
Guides	Thursday	6.30 pm	Mrs K Black
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		<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