

Parish of Kilconriola and Ballyclug



**Parish Magazine
May 2019**



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 revmarkmcconnell@gmail.com



Curate Assistant

The Revd Dennis Christie
6 Old Antrim Mews, Ballymena
Mobile No 075 0060 7448
Email revdennischristie@gmail.com

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

CHURCHWARDENS

St Patrick's	Rector's	Mr Jim Thompson
	People's	Mrs Angela Thompson
Ballyclug	Rector's	Mrs Ruth McNeill
	People's	Mr Jackie Greer
St Columba's	Rector's	Mrs Liz Hughes
	People's	Mr Billy Taylor
Glebe Wardens	Rector's	Mr Kenneth Hughes
	People's	Mr Billy Gillespie

SELECT VESTRY

Clergy, Church Wardens, Glebe Wardens and: Mr Richard Cotter, Mrs Anne Crawford, Mrs Debbie Crawford, Mr Dessie Dunlop, Mr Ronnie Fleming, Mrs Vera Greer, Mr Les Hughes, Mr Alex McKay, Mrs Dawn McLean, Mr Jackie McMaster, Mr Alex McNeill and Mr Oliver Reid.

Honorary Secretary:	Mr R Fleming	44 Meadowvale, Ballymena
Honorary Treasurer:	Mr R Cotter	6 Markstown Crescent, Cullybackey
Sextons:	St Patrick's	Mr John Linton
	St Columba's	Mr Andrew Clarke
Organists:	St Patrick's	Mr Adrian Poston, Mr Frank Hewitt and Dr Iris Millar
	St Columba's	Vacant



EASTER VESTRY 2019 - RECTOR'S REPORT - A SUMMARY

The theme of my report was set against the 'Good News, Bad News' context. For this summary I will spare you the jokes that I told.

Parish Vision

Good News and Bad News.

Bad News

It's hard work to keep a parish running and to get to all the different vision initiatives that are on my heart started as quickly as I would like.

Good News

The weekly New Life Service in St Patrick's has attracted a steady congregation of around a hundred or so and is working well as an informal service aimed at younger and unchurched people and families.

Secondly we have just received a grant from the Church of Ireland Priorities Fund that will enable us to begin our Town Centre Chaplaincy Ministry. We will be able to appoint a new part time member of staff to get this ministry up and running. The funding body see the potential for a model that can be transferred across Ireland to other towns and cities and will be monitoring us closely as we get going - please pray for us as we organize, advertise and please God appoint in the months ahead. Ballymena Parish gets to lead the way - good news indeed.

Curate Update - Good News and Bad News

Good and bad (I suppose), Dennis and the Christie Clan are leaving us at the end of June - but are only going as far as Ahoghill and Portglenone.

Having not yet served a curacy here myself the thought of Dennis going is at times more than daunting! Thankfully the Connor leadership team of Bishop and Archdeacons has allowed Ballymena Parish into the process of looking at 3rd year students coming out of our Theological Institute in Dublin. This is far from an easy process - 5 students for 7 parishes - please pray that if one of these curates is God's man or woman for Ballymena that the call is clear and we will be successful.

Money and People - Good News and Bad News

It is at the Easter Vestry that I get the chance to say a huge and heartfelt thank you to the army of staff and volunteers who give so much, so often, in so many ways to serve the Lord and our parish, you are amazing. I have the best family in the world who sacrifice a lot so that I can serve you all, you are amazing.

Although Richard, our treasurer will put it far more expertly than I we are still in need of your support financially. Everything costs more every year and parish numbers continue to decline - we are making savings but we need your help to keep going. If you can increase what you give - even by a little, please do so. If you pay tax but do not gift aid, please do so. We are not alone in this struggle and we are doing ok but in terms of pure economics doing ok is not ok. Please help if you can - every little will help.

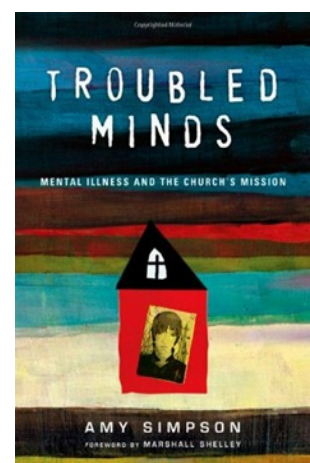
Our God is unchanging, the gospel we have to proclaim is wonderful good news. The world and culture in which we are to live, be faithful and proclaim is ever-changing. God help us all to be the good news in the bad news around us.

R.M.N.C. [Signature]

THE GOOD BOOK CLUB CONTINUES ...

24th May - The Church Is Called to Help with Mental Illness

7th June - God Can Redeem Mental Illness





Parish News

UPDATE FROM BISHOP ALAN

Dear All,

At this Easter Season be assured of my prayers for you as we remember the events of that first Holy Week and Easter.

In my previous update I informed you about the next stage of my treatment. Over the last few weeks I have had time to recover from the chemotherapy and that has been very helpful. My radiotherapy begins on Wednesday 8th May, daily for 8 weeks - Monday to Friday. As well as the radiotherapy I will be having 6 injections delivered 4 weeks apart. This treatment will finish in September. This is a new treatment for prostate cancer and is part of a clinical trial. I am very grateful for the many good wishes I have received but am particularly thankful for the prayers of so many. I covet your continued

prayers for this next stage of the journey. The prayers of so many have been such a blessing, as we have experienced deep peace and the presence of Jesus with us.

My sabbatical seems a long time ago as my focus ever since has been my journey with cancer. In consultation with my publisher it has been decided to launch my new book 'The Jewel in the Mess', on 7th May. It is a reflection on the life and ministry of Jesus and how he came into the mess of the world but did not fix it. However, he brought blessing into the mess as he touched and changed lives. I also reflect on how today we are called to bring the blessing of Jesus into the mess of today's world.

Be assured of my thoughts and prayers for you all.

Grace and Peace to you.

+Alan Connor

FAREWELL EPHESIANS - HELLO JONAH

By the time you are browsing through this issue of the parish magazine we will have concluded our series of Sunday morning sermons looking at Ephesians. Our theme, sometimes in the background often in the foreground was that of identity. Who do YOU think you are? Who do others think you are? Who does God think you are? We hope (Dennis and I) that you have found this interesting and helpful.

Now Jonah awaits - simple fable or multi-layered message on race, mission, obedience and overcoming personal spiritual demons. We dismiss the Book of Jonah at our peril. So work out where Nineveh is on your Sat Nav, put your wellies on and let's set sail with Jonah to see what God has for us in this mighty book.

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT CONCERT

The Fundraising Committee would like to thank everyone who give of their time and talents that made the St Patrick's Night Concert so enjoyable, especially as a lot of

the artists taking part are associated with our parish. Special thanks to Laura and Rachel Smyth, Erin McConnell, Ellie and Ellen, Mr Billy McFarland, Canon Stuart Lloyd, Mr Geoff Stevenson and Canon Mark McConnell. Thanks also to Vera and the catering team for the delicious food served during the interval. It was good to see so many people enjoying themselves and at the same time raising much needed funds for the parish.

There are further events planned for later this year, the details will be published in the June magazine.

***The Fundraising
Committee***

SUNBEAMS IN THE MIST by MAY HAMILL

This is a great wee book and would make a wonderful gift. Supplies of *Sunbeams in the Mist* are held in the Parish Office and Lorraine and Sandra will be glad to help with any enquiries. In an act of great generosity, May has pledged the proceeds of all sales to support the Building and Renovation Fund of St Patrick's.

Famous Prayers

Jen Christie - read on with interest. Henry Martyn was the very first Englishman to apply for a missionary position in the newly formed Church Missionary Society - but was turned down! (Jen you let a good one get away there).

He travelled to India as a Chaplain with the East India Company and then for health reasons to Persia. While in both nations he translated the New Testament and Book of Common Prayer into both Hindustani Arabic and Persian. Below are a few short prayers from the man who wanted to, "Burn out for God."



Oh! When time shall give place to eternity.
When shall appear that new heaven
and new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness.
There, there shall in no wise enter in any thing that defileth;
none of that wickedness
which has made men worse than wild beasts,
none of those corruptions which add still more
to the miseries of mortality,
shall be seen or heard of anymore. Amen.
(From Longing for Glory)

Lord, I am blind and helpless,
Stupid and ignorant.
Cause me to hear;
Cause me to know;
Teach me to do;
Lead me. Amen.
(As he began to translate the New Testament into Persian)

Around the Parish

ST PATRICK'S CHOIR

We recently said goodbye to one of our members Moyna Kilfedder who has moved to Hollywood. She will be missed by us all but especially from our alto line. We had a little celebration to send her on her way and presented her with a painting of Slemish which she loved.



The Parish Choir is always on the lookout for new members. If you feel that you would like to join us we meet on Thursday evenings at 8 pm in the Choir Vestry.

Sharon Doak



MOTHERS' UNION

On Sunday 7th April, 16 of our members attended the annual Festival Service which included the commissioning of our new Diocesan President, Sally Cotter. An Area Fundraiser held in St John's, Crumlin raised £603 for worldwide projects. On Saturday 11th May we hosted members of Seagoe Mothers' Union, St Gobhan's Parish, Portadown to morning coffee before they headed to the north coast on a day trip.

We now take a summer break, returning on Wednesday 11th September.

Patricia McWhirter

MOTHERS AND TODDLERS GROUP

We finished April with our Easter party and everyone had great fun rolling (and throwing) their eggs, hopefully you saw the photos in the local paper. Thank you to



everyone who continues to support our Mothers and Toddlers group, we hope you all had a lovely break and enjoyed the sunshine.

St John's Ambulance will be giving us a talk this month.

Rota for May:-

DATE	NAME	FUNCTION
7 th May	Rosemary Stacey, Sandra McKay, Jean Ross and Jean Cunningham	Tea
	Bee Robinson	Welcoming
	Alex McKay	Hall Set Up
14 th May	Evonne Stinson, Eleanor Burnett, Vera Owens and Marlene Gray	Tea
	Mary Steele	Welcoming
	Ray Burbage	Hall Set Up
21 st May	Dorothy Hegan, (Isabel Halliday)/ Eva McCarthy, Vera Greer and Sandra Duke	Tea
	Ann Fisher	Welcoming
	David Oliver and Rodney Gourley	Hall Set Up
28 th May	Ruth Murray, Isabell Adair, Vivien Gilmour and Kathleen Thompson	Tea
	Liz Bodel	Welcoming
	Davy Nelson	Hall Set Up

Dorothy (2589 2740), Anna, Catherine, Liz and Patricia

CHURCH LAD'S AND CHURCH GIRLS' BRIGADE

Thanks to Rev. Dennis Christie and his wife Jen for attending our Parents Evening on 12th April and we all wish them well in their new Parish of Ahoghill and Portglenone.

The following awards were given on the night:-



MARTINS SECTION

Boyd Shield for PE and Games
Runner Up

Alex Quigley
Cole Mawhinney

Hamill Shield for Best Squad

Alayna Wilson, Harper Jackson, Emeli Turner, Lexi McPeake, Cole Mawhinney

Stinson Shield for Best New Recruit
Runner Up

Alfie Young
Beau Jackson

Rodgers Cup - Scripture Knowledge
Runner Up

Emeli and Jack Turner
Reuben Rea

Gillespie Cup - Best Overall
Runner Up

Alayna Wilson
Lexi McPeake

Willie Nelson Cup - Sunday School and Church Attendance

Reuben Rea

Special Achievement Award

Leighton Nicholl

Special Attendance and Attitude Award

Brooke Mawhinney

All boys and girls received their badges, attendance vouchers and Easter Eggs.

YBC SECTION

Andrew Dennison Shield for PE and Games
Runner Up

Jamie Quigley
Cameron Ward

Black Cup - Best Squad - No 1 Squad

Charlie Stewart, Joshua Livingstone, Callum Abernethy, Casey Parkhill, Matthew McLaughlin, Cameron Ward

McBride Shield - Scripture Knowledge
Runner Up

Corey Black
Casey Parkhill

Elliot Cup - Best Overall
Runner Up

Kayden Wilson
Callum Abernethy

**Stewart Allen Shield - Church and
Sunday School Attendance**
Runner Up

Matthew McCallister
Matthew McLaughlin

All members received scripture certificates, attendance awards and Easter Eggs.

JTC SECTION

Iris Burnett Shield for PE and Games

Harry Lamont

McCready Cup - Best Overall
Runner Up

Harry Lamont
Robert Johnston

All members received scripture certificates, attendance awards and Easter Eggs.

CLB SECTION

**O'Hara Centenary Shield for PE
and Games**

Callum Hamill

Perry Cup - Best Squad - No 2 Squad

*Adam Reynolds, Adam
Smith, Aiden Hoey,
Harry Lamont*

Nevin Cup - Best Overall

Simon Bennett

Anne Johnston Cup - Scripture Knowledge
Runner Up

Adam Boyd
Aiden Hoey

All members received scripture certificates, attendance awards and Easter Eggs.

GENERAL CUPS - ALL SECTIONS

**Sally Ross Cup - Best All Round
PE and Games**

Callum Hamill

**Sittlington Cup - Highest Collection
Brigade Week
Runner Up**

Jack Gillespie

Casey Parkhill

Penney Cup for Church Duty

Joshua Livingstone

Barr Cup - Best Overall in Company

*Oonagh Lamont and
Sophie Leetch*

10 year medals

*Matthew Boyd and
Conor Ross*



The Y team of St Patrick's Church pictured at their display. GB1635D19

Cheques were presented to Church (£300) and the Leprosy Mission (£200). Collection on the night to the CMSI Project 'Outside In - Changing Lives in Nepal' (£220).

Alan Ross

ST COLUMBA'S SCOUT GROUP



A busy month for the Scout Group at St Columba's! The beavers enjoyed their District Easter event at Antrim Castle Gardens and their own Easter

Party and Easter Egg Hunt in the Church grounds. It's great to get out and about in the evenings now they are brighter.



The Cubs took part in a fun packed day at W5 with other packs in the District. Then over to the Odyssey Bowl for a game of bowls and a Belfast Giants Match.

Cubs and Scouts joined together for a Community Clear up at Sentry Hill. Many black bags were filled, a great effort from all involved.



All sections came out for the annual St George's Day Parade which was held in Cullybackey this year. Despite the cold day we had a great turn out!



I think this month's highlight for the younger sections was the sleep-over at Monkey Business. 43 of our Beavers, Cubs and younger Scouts stayed overnight and they had such fun playing together, singing round the campfire and enjoying a midnight feast of pizza! It was such a fun night for us all, leaders included.



The Scouts were out and about and headed to the Antrim Hills for a hike with an overnight stay in Ballyeamon Barn.



As well as the map reading and planning skills they have gained, they also had the opportunity to cook, clean and look after themselves and each other. All valuable skills that will take them far in life.

Well done everyone who took part and a big thank you to all the leaders for giving up of their weekend.

Both Cubs and Scouts are now gearing up for their respective District Camps in May and we look forward to sharing their adventures with you.



GAMES

CRAFTS

MUSIC

**BIBLE
STORIES**

DVD's

SNACKS

**You are invited to
Emoji Week**

For Primary School Children

Date Monday 17th – Friday 21st June

Time 7.00 – 8.15 pm

Place St Patrick's Church Hall, Castle Street

Come to join us at Emoji Week where we will learn about all our emotions but face to face with Jesus. We will learn that God's love is the best love that the world can ever know.

Free tea and coffee for adults.



Our April 2019 figures are as follows:-

Income: £24,354.68

Expenditure: £30,093.71

This leaves a deficit for the month of £-5,739.03

Our Year to Date figures are as follows:

Income: £113,726.07

Expenditure: £95,415.80

This leaves a surplus for the year to date of £18,310.27.

These figures are purely based on income and expenditure through the general CRG account.

Thank You to ...

The Mothers and Toddlers Group for their donation of £400 towards church funds.

The GFS for their donation of £300 to church funds.

ANNOUNCEMENT

As was advised at the Easter General Vestry, the Select Vestry have made the decision to rename the Renovation and Maintenance Fund.

This fund from the 1st June 2019 will be entitled the Property Fund. There will be no re-branding of the white envelopes until the next year. However, please be aware that any contributions paid through the white offertory envelopes, or by standing order, from 1st June 2019 will be for the Property Fund.

All monies received before the 31st May 2019 and lodged will be solely for the use of Renovation and Maintenance.

The Property Fund will have a more diverse use, not only will it be used for Renovation and Maintenance (which is still the primary purpose of the fund) but it will also allow the Select Vestry to pay for the running costs of our properties.

Should anyone have any queries on this please contact myself or a member of the Select Vestry.

Treasurer:
Richard J Cotter



Church Wardens

ST PATRICK'S



Jim Thompson

I like outdoor activities and work as a gardener. My sporting interests include football and cricket. I also enjoy reading, especially books by the Reformers and Puritans. I am very pleased to have been chosen as Rector's Churchwarden and look forward to doing the

various duties which are involved with this position over the coming months.

Angela Thompson

I am very happy to be offered the opportunity to serve as People's Churchwarden. Twenty years ago, I was the Rector's Churchwarden and I do notice that the duties for both wardens have changed quite a bit since then, so there is a bit of apprehension, but hopefully all will be well! And after the busyness of a Wardens's Sunday I will look forward to relaxing with (my favourite) Classic FM and a good novel.



2019/2020

BALLYCLUG

Ruth McNeill

I have been a member of St Patrick's, Castle Street for most of my life. I was baptised at Ballyscullion and confirmed in St Patrick's Church. My father, Stewart Dixon was a parishioner at Ballyclug, whilst I attended St Patrick's, Castle Street as a member of the Parish Choir. I have served three terms of office as a Churchwarden at St Patrick's, 2007, 2016 and 2017. Following my marriage to Alex in Ballyclug we both decided that we would like to continue to worship at Ballyclug and we have been made to feel very welcome there. Canon Mark McConnell asked if I would be his Warden and I felt very honoured to be asked. I look forward to serving out at Ballyclug.

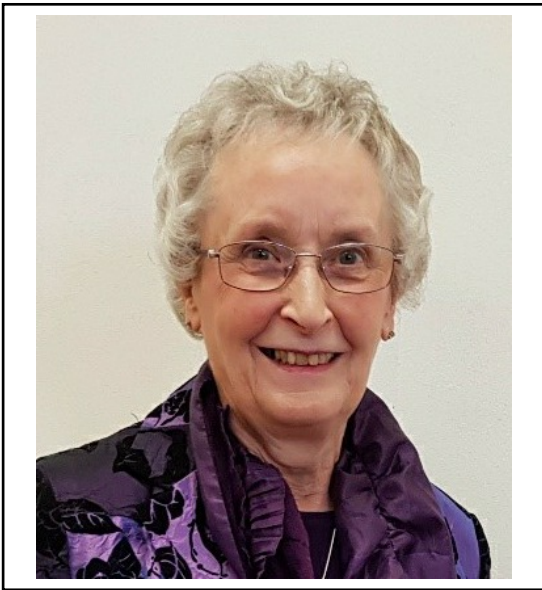


Jackie Greer

I served my time as an engineer with the Merchant Navy and worked with several local companies since leaving the Navy. I became a member of St Patrick's when I met my wife. We have three grown up children and three grandchildren. This will be my 13th year as Churchwarden and I feel particularly privileged to be part of the 175th Anniversary at Ballyclug. I thoroughly enjoy my role in the parish and the continued involvement with the various work parties in the upkeep of the church and graveyard. My hobbies are music and caravanning.



ST COLUMBA'S



Liz Hughes

I am originally from Co Down. I moved to Ballymena in 1982. I am married to Les and we have two grown up children, Kenneth and Heather and one granddaughter, Ellie. I worked in the Health Service and am now retired.

Billy Taylor

I grew up in and still live in Ballymena, although when I was young I spent weekends and summers in Carnlough and attended the Church of Ireland there. I have lots of wonderful childhood memories but sadly lost my sister and father before meeting my lovely wife Emma 20 years ago in 1999. We married in 2006, and although in a mixed relationship started attending the Church of Ireland when our first child Daniel was born in 2008, Olivia came along 3 years later. I work in Caterpillar in Larne as a joiner and have been working there for the past 16 years now. I have met some wonderful people through the church, who are so committed to their faith. Our kids have enjoyed Cubs, Scouts and Sunday School and various events organised by some of these dedicated people. I look forward to the next year and hope I can contribute in some small way.



CHINESE BUFFET EVENING And Raffle

Wednesday 15th May at 8 pm
Go Sun Restaurant

Ticket only event - £20
(available from Lucy)
For Youth Funds





The Curate's Letter

There is Safety in the Lord

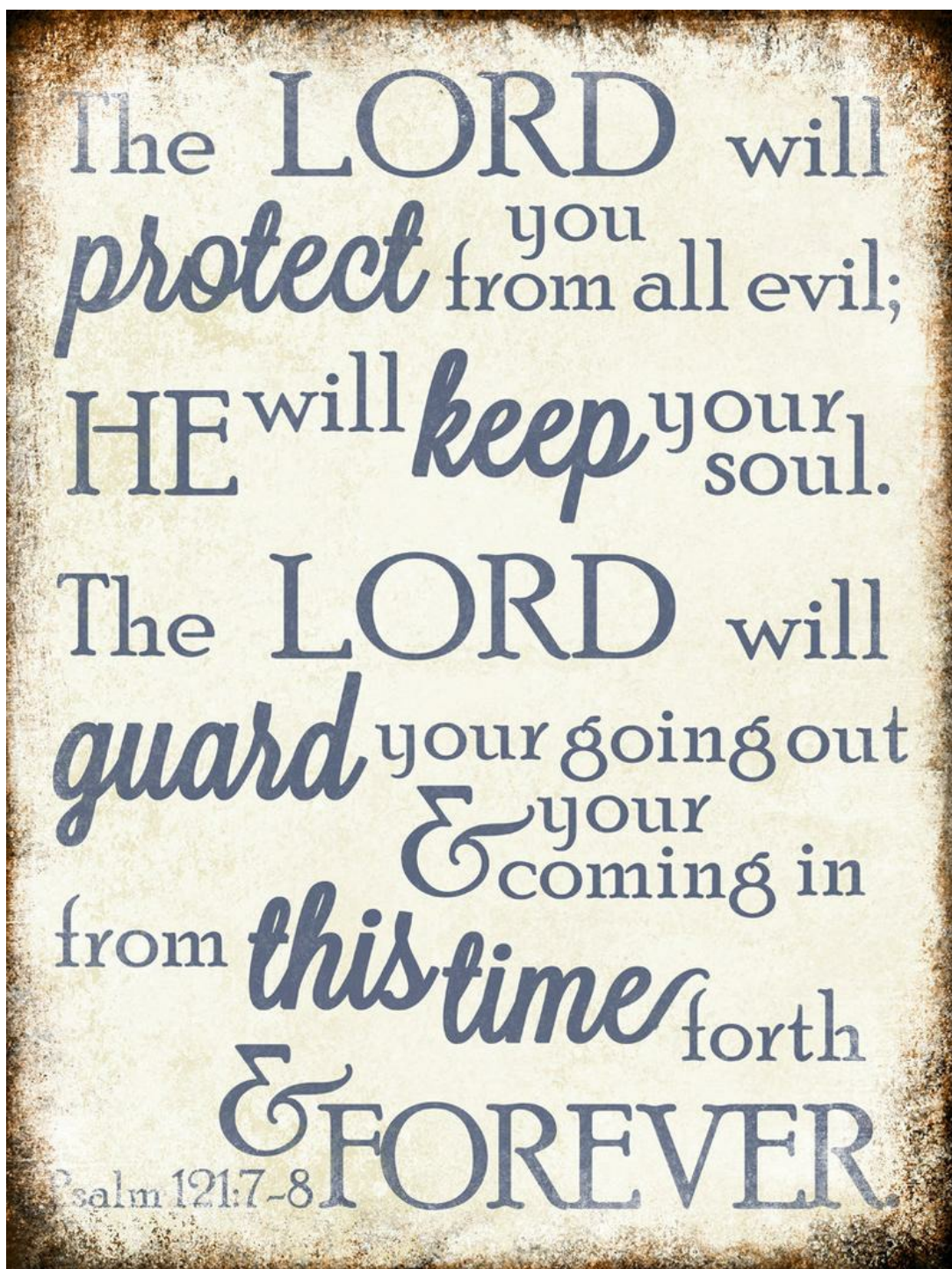
The Lord God is our refuge. Sometimes we forget that we have a God who is for us. If we have made a commitment to Him, He is for us. We sometimes think that because we sometimes behave well and at other times not so well, that our security in God ebbs and flows with it. As if His protection in us is dependent on our ongoing behaviour. Luke 13:34 includes the words of Jesus, 'How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!'



We have a God of tenderness who wants to protect us. He is not waiting about for us to slip up or make a mistake so that He can punish us. He wants us simply to be His, so that He can care for us and protect us. As Luke 13 suggests we need to be willing to be His. Have we handed ourselves over to Christ? Have we given up every aspect of our lives into His hands? We can so often take the warped attitude that it is all about behaving well, and when anything bad happens to us it's because we haven't behaved well and God is punishing us. God wants you to be His, and if He is prompting you it is for you to turn to Him. He wants to care for you. When a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wings it is for

security, against attacks from predators and against the elements of nature. Where would you rather be when times are difficult, coping on your own, maybe even complaining to God as you are out on your own, or under His wings secure that He is a good God who cares for you regardless of what you are going through? Trusting in God is maybe the biggest lesson in life for all of us. Commit yourself to Him, learn to trust not in your own works, but in Him at work in your life.

Jenni



A view from the pew

Lest We Forget



D Day June 6th 1944

The man we knew as Canon Craig was a Chaplain to the 34th Tank Regiment - part of the D Day Landings. The scenes he witnessed on that day on the beaches must have been horrific, yet he never talked about it. Following D Day he saw service in France, Belgium and Holland before returning home to his family. In 1950 he was Instituted as our Rector and remained with us until 1978.





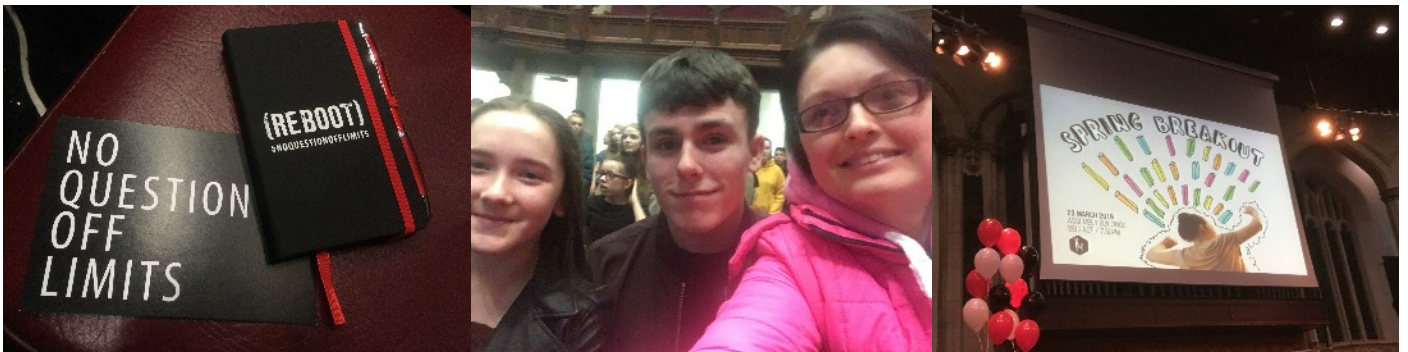
Christian Aid Week 2019

As part of our support for Christian Aid and on top of our envelope collection we will be serving bacon butties on Sunday 2nd June after New Life and before the 11.30 am service. All will be welcome - give what you can to support many vital aid projects around the world. Our special focus this year as revealed by our visiting preachers from Christian Aid is to provide help for expectant mothers in Sierra Leone. Please come and support us ... and who doesn't love a good buttie?





Some of our young people went to REBOOT Belfast and joined with other young people from all over Ireland. Lots of questions were asked and speakers spoke on topics including 'Isn't faith in God irrational and outdated', 'Sexuality and Identity' and 'Abortion'. The young people were also encouraged to make a stand in their faith. We also went to Spring Breakout which was a great evening of worship and teaching by Joshua Luke Smith and Lisa Kernoghan to build us up to Summer Madness.



Well done to the GFS and CL & CG Brigade for their displays. Thanks to all the leaders for their hard work and commitment throughout the year.





We had a great turnout on Good Friday for the Family Service and Buns and Crosses. While the adults enjoyed their hot cross buns the young people watched an Easter video, sang 'Oh Happy Day' and enjoyed activities. The weather was great and we were able to have an Easter Egg hunt outside.





The young people will be taking part in this year's 'Darkness to Light Walk' on Saturday 11th May. This is happening worldwide in over 200 venues, in 19 countries and across 5 continents. Everyone will get together to walk from the darkness of night into the light of the morning to help in the global fight against suicide and self harm.

Symbolically the walk represents the therapeutic counselling journey. It sparks conversation about the importance of mental health and well-being in all our lives. If you would like to sponsor our young people there

is a sheet at the back of the church - any donations would be gratefully received.



‘Leaders Night Out’, Wednesday 12th June 7.00 pm Rococo. Please let Lucy know if you can attend.

Chinese Buffet Evening - please get your ticket asap from Lucy as this is a ticket only event.

Lucy



Alpha St Columba's

ST COLUMBA'S ALPHA COURSE

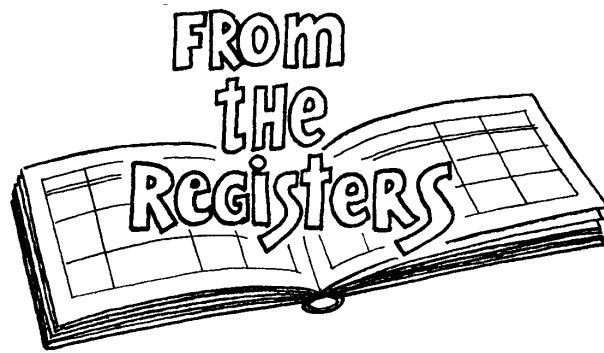
Our Alpha course at St Columba's has been going for six weeks up until Easter and has grown in numbers from around 8 to around 16 through its course. Given it has been so well received we have now extended the course for another 4 weeks through the month on May, again on Wednesday evenings at 8 pm at St Columba's. The course can be joined in with at any point, so why not come and join us on any of the upcoming dates - the 8th, 15th, 22nd or 29th of May?

**If you
don't look,
you can't
find.**

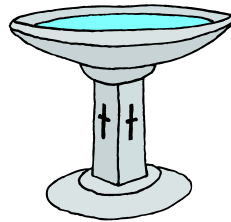


The Alpha Course

An opportunity to explore the meaning of life



HOLY BAPTISM



28th April

Josh Robert
James Rock

17 Clonavon Terrace,
Ballymena

HOLY MATRIMONY



4th April

Simon Turner
Nicola Burnett

3 Hillside, Antrim
3 Hillside, Antrim

12th April

Gary Jackson

Karen Graham

34 Clerwood Terrace,
Edinburgh
34 Clerwood Terrace,
Edinburgh

CHRISTIAN BURIAL



8th April

Margaret Telford

7 Foxhill, Ballymena

9 th April	Tommy McClean	14 Bamber Park, Ballymena
17 th April	Jean Kathleen Goodwin	Doury Road, Ballymena
18 th April	Valerie Finlay	Innisfree Residential Home, Broughshane (formerly 36 Doury Road, Ballymena)
26 th April	Jane (Jean) Letters	94 Princes Street, Ballymena
1 st May	Leah McConnell	Glebe Care Centre, Newtownabbey

Margaret Telford

Margaret was born in 1938 in Ballymena, one of four children to Hugh and Catherine Telford. Margaret was a gifted academic who, having achieved first in the country in A-Level mathematics, was offered, and passed up, the opportunity to take up a scholarship to Queen's University Belfast. Margaret instead began her forty-year career as a biochemist with the Northern Health and Social Services Board, and became a fellow member of the Institution of Chemical Engineers. Although Margaret was never married, she greatly enjoyed the family which God blessed her with, she doted on her nephews and nieces in particular and she is remembered as a loving and caring family member. Margaret lived with her close sister Marie all her life and they were a very well known and liked couple in Ballymena. Margaret and Marie were both committed members of both St Patrick's and St Columba's parish churches. Margaret was a GFS leader, she managed the Safeguarding Trust procedures at the church for many years, and she was an enthusiastic member of the church Sewing Group. Margaret will be sorely missed by her close family and our prayers and sympathies are with them at this difficult time.

Samuel Thomas McClean

Thomas (Tom) was born on 14th August, 1934. He had seven sisters and one brother all of whom have sadly passed away. Tom began his career as a clerk for the Great Northern Railway but was later employed by Wellworths in Omagh. He became the manager of their store in Strabane and it was here that he met and married Vera Kearney his wife of 61 years. Together they had four children, David, Alastair, Lorna and Cathryn. After leaving Wellworths Tom started up his own business. He

began with a paint and wallpaper shop, a café and then a funeral directors business. Unfortunately in 1973, after suffering from a brain haemorrhage, he had to give up work. Vera and Tom then moved to London where for a period of ten years he became the superintendent of Putney Vale Cemetery. After Tom retired from this position they came back to live in Ballymena in the late 80's. Tom was an active man and after moving to Ballymena he took up a part time job with Montgomery and Murdock in Cullybackey. He was a very friendly man and loved speaking to people. He was also a dedicated radio ham and enjoyed talking to people from all over the world. Tom was a great family man and helped all of his children and grandchildren with their electrical, plumbing or car problems whenever possible. He also loved Scottish pipe music and singing. He was a member of various church choirs. Tom will be sadly missed by his wife Vera, his sons and daughters, nieces and nephews, his grandchildren, the family circle here and in Canada, USA and abroad and will always be loved and remembered by them. Our prayers are with them all at this sad time.

Jean Kathleen Goodwin

Jean was not known to the clergy, however, we offer sincere sympathy to her sons Christopher and Roger, her sister Joyce, grandchildren Bianca, Mark, Sarah, Kate, Louise and David and to the entire family circle.

Valerie Finlay

Valerie was born in September 1925, one of six children to Robert and Cathleen Thompson, on Doury Road, Ballymena. Valerie got married in her forties to Albert Finlay and moved to live in Belfast. After her husband passed away Valerie returned to Doury Road where she lived out her retirement years. Although she was never blessed with children, Valerie enjoyed being an aunt to her nephews. Our prayers and sympathies are with all of the close family at this difficult time.

Jean Letters

Jean was born on 28th October 1925. She was one of five children born to John and Sadie Letters and she lived all of her life in Princes Street. She attended Guy's School and from there she went on to work in the Waveney Laundry and in the Gallaher Tobacco factory. Jean was a

faithful member of St Patrick's Church and was always willing to help with all of the church activities. She was a lifelong member of the Bowls and together with her brother Sam rang the bells in the Tower of St Patrick's. She was a Sunday School teacher, a member of the Church Choir, the Dramatic Society, the Catering Group and a founder member of the Still Active Group. Jean had a determined spirit but was always willing to help and assist other people. She was a devoted daughter to her mother and father and a loving sister to all of her brothers and sisters, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law. Jean was always happiest when her nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews were all around her in her home and they gave her great joy throughout her life. She loved hearing of their achievements and was always interested in their activities. Her bright smile and caring nature were well known and will be sadly missed by her family and all of her friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with her wide family circle at this time.

Leah McConnell

Leah was born in May 1924, one of two children to Helena and John Graham in Derrybrick, Kesh, Fermanagh. She married John McConnell in 1948 and they lived together in Ballymoney and Ballymena. Leah served in the RAF during WW2 and regularly represented the force during the annual Remembrance Day services in Ballymena. Leah was a committed member of St Patrick's Church, she was active in the Mother's Union and was a regular of the Still Active group in the Church. We pass on our prayers and sympathies to all of the close family circle.





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
'The Way'	Sunday	6.30 pm	Minor Hall
Youth Fellowship	(Fortnightly)		

SAINT COLUMBA'S

	Day	Time	Contact
Beavers	Monday	6.30 pm	Mrs L McCullagh
Cubs	Thursday	6.45 pm	Mrs H Clarke
Ladies' Circle	4th Monday	8.00 pm	Mrs L Hughes
Brownies	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Mrs K Black
Guides	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Mrs K Black
Squirrels	Wednesday	6.30 pm	Mr P Houston
Senior Guides	Tuesday	6.30 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 C Kernohan

HOLY BAPTISM

At Sunday services by arrangement