

Parish of Kilconriola and Ballyclug



**Parish Magazine
February 2020**



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 Emma Carson
20 Old Ballymoney Road, Ballymena (075 6894 3272)
Email revemaycarson@gmail.com

LAY READER

Mr J Perry, 261a Galgorm Road, Ballymena
Mr R Cotter, 6 Markstown Crescent, Cullybackey

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 People's	Mr Jim Thompson Mrs Angela Thompson
Ballyclug	Rector's People's	Mrs Ruth McNeill Mr Jackie Greer
St Columba's	Rector's People's	Mrs Liz Hughes Mr Billy Taylor
Glebe Wardens	Rector's People's	Mr Kenneth Hughes 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 St Columba's	Mr John Linton Mr Andrew Clarke
Organists:	St Patrick's St Columba's 2	Mr Adrian Poston, Mr Frank Hewitt and Dr Iris Millar Vacant



SURVIVING THE GLOOMIEST MONTHS

January and February according to many are the most difficult months of the whole year - the most sacking's, family rows and splits, financial worries, levels of stress and depression added to normally dark cold weather means inside and out it can be a miserable time for many - the madness of Valentine's Day half-way through the month does little to lift the soul.

One of the best ways I know to lift the soul, still the frantic pace of life and slow down a little is with a good book. I wonder if getting reading (alone, or, as a family) some of the best books from 2019 would lift the soul in these dark months.

1. To read with the kids

The Friend who Forgives - Dan DeWitt and Catalina Echeverri, (The Good Book Company).

Particularly great to read with pre schoolers or, early primary school children. The story of Peter and Jesus is captured in a fun and powerful way.



2. To read in a busy household

The Storm Tossed Family - Russell Moore (B&H)

This bleary-eyed father of five and preacher is so honest and sharp in his own shortcomings and triumphs in striving for peace under his roof. You will laugh out loud and cry out loud with this book.

3. To read if you want to be surprised and challenged

The God who Plays - Brian Edgar (Cascade)

We are all 'Children of God' - so why not act like it? Far from an easy read and no-one will agree with everything Brian proposed but a real thought provoking page turner - highly recommended.

Of course the Bible should be part and parcel of our daily bread but perhaps one of the above, alongside God's work, will lift your soul during these tough months.

P.S. Please remember to support our local Faith Mission Christian Bookshop in Ballymena who are always so helpful.

(The titles above are all 2019 prize winners as highlighted by Christianity Today).

R.M.N.C. M.

Church Lads' and Church Girls' Brigade Grand Spring



Friday 6th March 2020



Parish News

PARKING AT ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

The cones that have appeared each Sunday at the entrance to St Patrick's Church are there for a genuine reason - to allow clear access at all times for emergency vehicles to the main door of the Church. Please keep this area free of vehicles at all times and if you have any difficulties, please contact the Church Wardens or Church Office and we will do our best to assist. For those disabled parishioners who need to park at the front of the church the cones will be lifted, before the service is over, to allow them to leave without the need to reverse.

INTRODUCING PRAYER TRIPLETS

On Sunday 23rd February across the Parish we hope to introduce the concept and practise of Prayer Triplets.

We already have monthly/weekly Healer Prayer deeply embedded in our Parish life but there is no such thing as too much prayer!

So what is a Prayer Triplet? - A group of three believers who meet on a regular basis to pray for the world, our country, town, Church and each other. The Bible base for this now world wide movement is Matthew chapter 18 verses 19-24. 'Again I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For when two or three come together in my name there I am with them'.

That's it - you set the rules, the where - the how - the how often. Just get together with two friends and get praying. Watch out for more on Sunday, 23rd February. Just in time for Ash Wednesday/Lent and the countdown to Easter.

Mark and Emma

BALLYMENA CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

On Christmas Day 2019, Canon Ruddock was taking our Service and as he was leaving, he caught me by the arm and said, as Bally-

club will be 175 years old in 2019, what have you planned to celebrate it? I replied that we had arranged a Gospel Music Night which had taken place earlier in the year. Canon Ruddock replied, we should have a flower show or a Christmas Tree Festival.

Vera and I asked for a Committee to be formed and I must say it was their dedication and support in both organising and hard work that made the Festival such a great success. When we opened the Festival we needed 60 people to help and we got 24. Some went home and didn't come back, others never left till the end. I would like to thank Canon Ruddock, Beth Adger and Jim Perry for opening the Festival, all of the sponsors

who gave us donations of goods, Ballykeel Primary School for coming along to entertain us with a lovely programme. Further thanks go to Beth and the Council for their grant and printing and to Lorraine and Sandra for their guidance and support in the office.

Words cannot explain how thankful and grateful I am to all who worked hard, came along, supported the Festival or took part in any way.

The total raised was a fantastic £10,000 after expenses.

I thank you all from the bottom of my heart and may God Bless you all.

Jackie Greer





Our December 2019 figures are as follows:

Income: £57,491.34

Expenditure: £36,653.44

A **Surplus** for the month of £20,837.90

Our Year to Date figures are as follows:

Income: £327,757.50

Expenditure: £277,950.99

This leaves a surplus for the year to date of £49,806.51

These figures are purely based on income and expenditure through the general CRG account. This surplus helps to reduce the deficit that we have been running over the past 3 years, but does not yet clear it. The surplus has been achieved by two main components, one of starting to claim our gift aid on a quarterly basis, the other the very successful Christmas Tree festival held in Ballyclug Church.

Thank You to...

- St Columba's Ladies' Circle for their donation of £30 towards the Christmas Tree Festival.
- St Patrick's Catering for their donation of £2000 towards church funds.
- St Patrick's Choir for their donation of £100 towards church funds.
- St Patrick's Mothers' Union for their donation of £150.00 towards church funds.
- St Patrick's Sewing Group for their donation of £330 towards church funds.
- St Patrick's Indoor Bowling Club for their donation of £1000 towards church funds.
- St Columba's Scout Group for their donation of £150 towards church funds.
- Alzheimer's Society for their donation of £60 towards church funds.
- Along with a number of other anonymous donations for church funds received during November and December 2019.

Treasurer: Richard J Cotter

Famous Prayers



Her real name Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu may not be known by many but her 'public and adopted name' is recognised all over the world - Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Leaving the confines of her convent in 1948, Mother Teresa began her lifelong ministry to the poorest of the poor in the slums of Calcutta. She began the Missionaries of Charity Movement in the early 1950's and inspired by it's founder's faith and drive they now operate across the world in over 100 countries. Here is a daily prayer written by Mother Theresa that was used by workers in a

Calcutta Orphanage.

Dearest Lord, may I see you today and every day in the person of your sick, and, whilst nursing them, minister unto you. Though you hide yourself behind the unattractive disguise of the irritable, the exacting, the unreasonable, may I still recognize you, and say: "Jesus, my patient, how sweet it is to serve you."

Lord give me this seeing faith, then my work will never be monotonous. I will ever find joy in humouring the fancies and gratifying the wishes of all poor sufferers. O beloved sick, how doubly dear you are to me, when you personify Christ: and what a privilege is mine to be allowed to tend you.

Sweetest Lord, make me appreciative of the dignity of my high vocation and its many responsibilities. Never permit me to disgrace it by giving way to coldness, unkindness or impatience.

Jesus the patient deign also to be to me a patient Jesus bearing with my faults, looking only at my intentions. Lord increase my faith, Bless my efforts and work now and for evermore. **Amen.**



The Curate Writes

New Year, New You?

A New Year and a new decade marks a new start. This, of course, is the time of year that people make resolutions; take a step in a new direction; decide to leave something behind or take on something new.



However, according to Forbes magazine, 64% of New Year's resolutions are abandoned after one month! That means that nearly two-thirds of our goals will be cast aside after just four weeks into 2020. Some New Year's resolutions don't stick. I'd love to say that I have any hope of keeping my New Year's resolution of eating less chocolate and drinking less coffee. This is mainly because the joy that both bring me is something I'm not really willing to lose! One 2019 New Year's resolution I was able to keep last year was to spend more time reading more books (for my own rest and enjoyment and to feed my spiritual life and walk with God). I managed to read 29 (and a half!) books by the end of 2019. This was no mean feat because I was spending the majority of my time studying and finishing off my dissertation. I have to say I was quite proud of myself.

With the beginning of the New Year, many of us might have seen and heard that phrase, 'New Year, New Me' popping up in our conversations, on social media, on the TV and in magazine articles. Many of us begin the New Year with the intention to change *something* - a habit, an exercise programme, our behaviour or attitude. Or we might want to change *ourselves* - our weight for example. Society and culture conditions us into thinking that we *have* to change ourselves in order to be happy and feel like we have achieved something.



Having goals and ambitions is good for us. We can always be caring for and developing our minds and bodies in order to be healthy and happier within ourselves but are we also working on our hearts and souls in the light of Jesus Christ?

What if, rather than working to change ourselves in order to please ourselves and according to what

culture and society dictates, we focused on cultivating afresh our relationship with God? What about new faith, new hope, new walk or renewed relationship instead of ‘New Year, New Me?’

In Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus tells us

“But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matthew 6:33)

Instead of spending all of our time and energy on planning our weight-loss journey, we could be devoting that same amount of energy to our prayer life. We could be seeking to feed our faith in prayer, spending time with His Word, in spending time in worship. Seeking God first, seeking His Kingdom should always be our top priority. When we’re focusing on developing new habits and lifestyles, we can remember that cultivating and growing in our walk with God this year is and should be our main focus.

No one is perfect. We’re all on this journey together as a Church family, as a community seeking the things of Jesus Christ first. We learn from each other and grow in spending time together in community worship. Maybe this year, you could plan to spend more time getting to know some other people in church better. Maybe you could plan to meet up for a coffee, take the dogs for a walk or take your kids to the park together. You might want to sign up to volunteer, give, sing, play, read a Bible passage - there are any number of ways of being involved in the life of our parish.



It's like 1 Corinthians 1:31 - "...whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." Whatever we do, wherever we go and whatever we achieve this year, let's do it all in the knowledge that the Lord God goes with us, that His Spirit empowers us and that His Son shows us the way. Let's be people who put their relationship with God first this year, so that when we reach the end of the year we can say "Yes! I kept my most important New Year's Resolution!"

EMMA

Verses for the New Year

2 Corinthians 5:17

"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"

Proverbs 3:5-6

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Psalms 96: 1-3

"Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples!"

Psalms 98:1

"O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory."

1 Peter 5:6-7

"Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you."

James 1:17

"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

Isaiah 40:31

"...but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."



Worship, Bible teaching and ministry for women



This is a wonderful conference which gives women from around Northern Ireland the opportunity to experience teaching, worship and fellowship together.

The teaching will be led by two excellent speakers. Becky Harcourt leads a church outside London with her husband Paul and has a particular interest in prayer ministry and inner healing. Susan

Heaney is part of the leadership team in Redcross Church, Co. Wicklow. Her passion is to equip and to release others in the gifts of the Holy Spirit and to encourage them to live it out practically.

I have been attending this conference for many years and love it. It's a busy but easy going conference with great coffee and snacks! It's always a 'great day out.' If you would be interested in hearing more, chat to me.

If you are interested in going, go online and book yourself a ticket! You can choose to attend either the morning or afternoon conference - 9.00 am - 12.30 pm or 2.30 pm - 6.00 pm (it is the same conference in the morning and afternoon). This event books up very quickly so consider booking soon (Tickets: £12).

EMMA

Around the Parish

CHURCH LADS' AND CHURCH GIRLS' BRIGADE

It's great to see all the boys and girls back after Christmas. We are busy with our scripture course and preparing items for this year's Friends and Parents evening.



The Brigade 'Grand Spring Jumble Sale' will be held on **Friday, 6th March**. This is our main fundraiser for the year and we would appreciate your support. It is a great chance to clear the clutter out of the attic and garage. Donations of bric-a-brac, clothes, furniture, toys, unused gifts, groceries and cakes will be gratefully received. Anything you have to donate may be brought to the halls on **Thursday, 5th March**. If you need items collected contact Alan Ross - 2589 2740/077 5991 6755.

Alan Ross

MOTHERS AND TODDLERS GROUP



In December, Rev. Emma led us in a lovely Carol Service, and everyone enjoyed the Christmas party. It was lovely to welcome everyone back in January, which was a very busy month.

The children had good fun making Christingles and learning the meaning of the different parts. We contributed to an Inter Church art project about Caring for Creation and celebrated The Chinese New Year and Burns Night.

Our volunteers enjoyed a lunch on Monday 13th January finished off with a bit of fun at a Beetle Drive. Charitable donations have been made to Radio Cracker, St John Ambulance, Community Rescue Service, Air

Ambulance, Ballyclug Christmas Tree Festival and £400 to the church towards heat and light.

This month the children will have a craft activity for Valentine’s Day and Sure Start will be visiting us in March.

Rota for February:-

DATE	NAME	FUNCTION
4 th Feb	Rosemary Stacey, Sandra McKay, Jean Cunningham and Jean Ross	Tea
	Bee Robinson	Welcoming
	Alex McKay	Hall Set Up
11 th Feb	Evonne Stinson, Eleanor Burnett, Vera Owens and Marlene Gray	Tea
	Ann Fisher	Welcoming
	Ray Burbage and Noreen McKeown	Hall Set Up
18 th Feb	Isabel Halliday, Eva McCarthy, Vera Greer and Sandra Duke	Tea
	Dorothy Hegan	Welcoming
	David Oliver and Rodney Gourley	Hall Set Up
25 th Feb	Ruth Murray, Isabell Adair, Vivien Gilmour and Kathleen Thompson	Tea
	Liz Bodel	Welcoming
	Davy Nelson	Hall Set Up

Dorothy (2589 2740), Anna, Catherine and Liz

BEAVERS, CUBS AND SCOUTS

Everyone enjoyed a busy run up to Christmas in the Scout Group. All sections of the Group took part in the Bag Pack at Tesco which raised funds for both the 5 Eurojam participants in the group and our chosen charity, which was JDRF, the diabetes charity. We raised an impressive £2500.00! Well done to all involved, this is an incredible amount. Everyone enjoyed the Group outing to watch the Sleeping Beauty pantomime at the Braid. It was great to see some of our talented



Scouts up on stage performing. As a group we also enjoyed participating in the Christmas Tree Festival at Ballyclug. The tree looked very impressive with all the decorations each section made for it. A big thank you to everyone who came along to our Chinese Banquet fundraiser back in November. We raised £700.00.

Scouts continued to work hard on their badge work which resulted in Amme, Ben, Emma and Zach being presented with their Chief Scout Gold Awards. Well done to all. They also took part in the Northern Ireland finals of the Dodge ball competition and were placed a very respectable 2nd! The team also competed in the County Archery competition and came 1st! We can't wait to see how they get on later in the year when they attend the Northern Ireland finals.

Cubs started the New Year with their annual District hike which this year took place at Randalstown Forest. It was great to get everyone out in the fresh air and mud!

Beavers have also been working hard on their badge work and we were delighted to have the District Commissioner, Steven Miller, join us to present 13 of our Beavers with their Chief Scout Bronze Awards. Well done Beavers! They also enjoyed Christmas crafts and attending the District Beaver Party.





On December the 23rd 2019, the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers from 5th Ballymena were bag packing to help fund raise money for two great causes. Firstly, to help two of our Scouts, two Explorers and one Leader to attend Eurojam in Poland this summer, and secondly to raise money for a charity close to my heart, JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation).



A positive experience of the day is that most of us gained the skill in how to bag pack. Bag packing is a great experience and a positive learning curve as it helps to develop our confidence as you have to talk to people you don't know or are not familiar with. Some customers said that they didn't want help with their bags but they would still donate which was very generous of them. This could be seen as a negative as it felt awkward when people said no to packing their bag. Another downside is due to the 'Scan as you shop' service as most people packed as they went around the shop. As a result most people didn't need their bags packed and we were no help to them. For the future it may be a good idea to

have the older scouts offer to help people out to their cars with really big trolleys of shopping.

Our 3 top tips for bag packing are:

- 1) Look presentable and tidy, and wear your uniform so people know which organization you are you representing. Therefore, always be on your best behaviour!
- 2) Make sure you know what your charity is and what they do. Then you can chat to people about where their donations are going to.
- 3) Lastly, never forget your manners. Smile, be patient and say thank you no matter what amount is donated.

A big thank you to Ronnie McFall for allowing us to bag pack in Tesco again and everyone who donated. We raised a massive £2346.40, which is a terrific sum of money for 12 hours work! This is a huge help towards JDRF's work and our Eurojammers.

Yours in Scouting,
Rory MacDonald, Jack Weir and Oliver & Alfie Logan

MOTHERS' UNION

12th February 2020 - we meet for our annual dinner in Tullyglass House Hotel - 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm.



Jean Kennedy

Church Mice

Copyright Karl A. Zorowski



A banner with a green and blue gradient background. The text "Church Elections" is written in a black, serif font, centered on the banner.

Church Elections

Some Explanations

This year we will be electing some extra folk to represent our Parish across the wider Church of Ireland. It's always good to remind ourselves of some of these positions and their key responsibilities.

Here goes:-

Churchwardens (Yearly Election)

One elected by the Rector and one by the People - key duties include preparation and tidying up during Sunday worship.

Select Vestry (Yearly Election)

There are normally two Churchwardens per active worship centre - day to day management group for a Parish including the finances, fabric and furnishings and ever evolving compliance issues that every church, now a charity, faces.

Glebe Wardens (Yearly election)

The particular role of these folk (normally two per Parish) is to oversee the maintenance and upkeep of the Rectory and any other land owned and managed by the Parish. Our Glebe Wardens are part and parcel of our Select Vestry.

Diocesan Synods Person (Elected every three years)

Our Church is broken down into regions called Diocese (we are in Connor Diocese). Major decisions are made by a kind of super-committee called a Synod which meets once a year with ongoing business conducted by

various councils and sub-groups. We elect members of our Parish to be our eyes and ears in this bigger decision-making group.

The size of the Parish dictates the number of representatives we are allowed - three years is a long time so we also elect a set of substitute members who will be called upon if required (known as Supplemental Diocesan Synods Persons).

Parochial Nominators (Elected every three years)

The unique responsibility of this group is to liaise with the Bishop and his/her team in the event of a vacancy (the Rector moves or retires/resigns) to find a new Rector for the Parish - as with the position above substitutes or supplemental nominators are also elected every three years.

Lots of more detailed information can be found on the Church of Ireland website.

Our elections are held each year just before or just after Easter. Please pray now if God is calling you to get involved, or nudging you to ask someone you know with faith and gifts that God could use in any of these positions. Mark and Emma will always be glad to chat more. Hope this helps.



INSTALLING CHURCHWARDENS
(PUTTING THEM IN THEIR PLACE)



Well done to all the young people who completed their OCN Level 1 in Youth Work Practice. Thanks to Rick Scott from Youth Link who was their course tutor. A presentation was made to him with thanks from the young people.



The Christmas party for all youth of the parish took place on Saturday 8th December. We enjoyed games, food and a visit from Santa.





On Monday 16th December we were delighted to welcome Ady Camancho back and to hear what he has been doing since his last visit to us. We

pray for Ady as he follows his call from God and pray that he may receive the knee operations that are needed to maintain better health for him.



The Sunday School Nativity Service took place on Sunday 16th December. The Children's Nativity reflected on the Greatest Journey. It was great to see a good turn out. The service finished with refreshments.



Thank you to all who donated Christmas presents for the Salvation Army Appeal - these were gratefully received. Also a big thank you to those who contributed to the Christian Aid Christmas Family Appeal.

Thanks to everyone who came and supported the Movie Night. A great night was had by all. Thanks also to those who helped and provided desserts.



The winner of Guess the Elf was Jessica Rock and the winners of the fireside quiz were 1st Noreen McKeown, 2nd Liz Taylor. Thanks to all who have supported the youth with their fundraising.

On Sunday 12th January we had our second Youth Service and our speaker was Andrea Cotter. We focused on the theme Expectations and were looking at expectations for the New Year and how sometimes our expectations don't go to plan. This is the same with our journey of faith. Even though we have expectations we can be disappointed. In hard times, however, we know that God is with us and no matter how rocky the journey is we will reach the end goal - fullness of life in Christ and eternity in heaven.



Summer Madness, Friday 26th - Sunday 28th June - cost £40. Any young person wishing to attend please contact Lucy for consent form.

We held our annual Christingle Service on Sunday 19th January remembering in this dark world there is always light and that is in the form of Jesus.





Come and join us for Messy Church on Sunday 16th February at 10am in the Hall where on the weekend of Valentine's Day we look at the theme of Love - how God loves us and how He is the best Valentine ever.



Wednesday 12th February 7 pm - Supporting Friends with The Big House. All secondary age young people are welcome to attend.

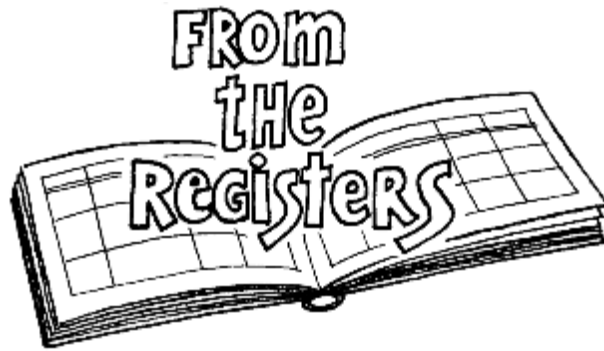
Lucy

A view from the pew



The Junior Choir are pictured way back in 1987 following a little concert they gave to some of our parishioners in a Nursing Home out near Slemish. Don't they just look like little angels?





CHRISTIAN BURIAL



26 th November	Mary Wright	41 Chichester Park Central, Ballymena
10 th December	Henry (Harry) Lewers	6 Tobar Grove, Cullybackey
13 th December	Beth (Elizabeth) Wilson	Camphill Nursing Home, Ballymena
15 th December	Anna Elizabeth Perry	Slemish Nursing Home, Ballymena
7 th January	Sam Nigel Robert Gilmore	61 Clarence Street, Ballymena
13 th January	Mary Josephine (Marie) Murray	19 Kirkwood Manor, Ballymena
25 th January	Elizabeth (Betty) Gordon	18 Duke Street, Ballymena

Mary Wright

Mary was born on 27th March 1947. She was one of a large family. She went to the Church School in Ballymoney Street and then to Ballymena Intermediate School. After leaving school she worked in The Mill and then in Gallahers Factory where she met her future husband Cecil. Mary

was an excellent dancer and throughout her life she had a great love of Irish dancing. Mary and Cecil lived at various addresses in Ballymena but eventually settled in 41 Chichester Park Central. Together they had three children, Karen, Robert and George to whom she was a very good mother and friend. When her children were older she continued to work but also enjoyed looking after her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Unfortunately Mary's health deteriorated which resulted in a loss of some of her stamina and strength. Mary loved her family and friends and it is to her husband Cecil, her daughter Karen, sons Robert and George and all of her family circle that we extend our sincere sympathy.

Henry (Harry) Lewers

Harry was born in Dublin in 1946 and was one of a large family. He spent his childhood in Enniskillen and had many happy times in Rossnowlagh in Donegal and in Londonderry. As a boy soldier of 16 years, Harry joined the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Previous to this he worked on tug boats at the port in Londonderry. He enjoyed military service and all of his postings which began in St Lucia Barracks in Omagh. Harry had especially cherished memories of his postings to Cyprus and Canada, however, it was during a posting to Ballymena that he met his future wife Maggie and they were married in the late 1960's. Together they settled in Dunclug, Ballymena and this became their family home. After retirement, Harry still kept up with his comrades, service events and marking commemorations. Every July Harry together with his son Harry, went to the Irish National War Memorial Gardens, Dublin. He had a wonderful memory and the stories of his military service were incredibly important to him. He loved his family and was devoted to his loved ones and it is to his family and friends that we express our sincere sympathy.

Beth (Elizabeth) Wilson

Beth was born to William and Jane Toner and was one of seven children. Beth was married firstly to Kerry McCartney and then to Albert Wilson and she had five children. She enjoyed her life even though she was wheel chair bound due to not walking after a hip replacement. She loved being the centre of attention and was a very outgoing person. She had a brain tumour removed and was also diagnosed with vascular dementia in later life. As her health deteriorated, she was well cared for by her family but eventually had to be admitted to Camphill Nursing Home and was to

remain there until she passed away. We would like to express our sympathy to all her family and friends.

Anna Elizabeth Perry

Anna was born into the family of Robert and Jeannie McClean. She was the youngest member of her family and as a twin to Jean, she was also the youngest of the twins. Anna and Jean lived together all of their lives and were separated only when Jean died in January 2018. Anna went to the Model School and then to Millar's Academy Secretarial School. She lived in Mount Street, Ballymena, and had wonderful memories of the families who lived in this neighbourhood. Anna started work in an Estate Agents Office, then in the Braidwater Mill and finally in the Finance Department in County Hall. Anna married Teddy Perry who later moved to live in Canada and they had one son Jim. Anna was a very strong and independent lady who devoted her life to her son. She made sure that Jim had a good education and was a most caring and loving mother. When Jim married, Patricia and Jim had two lovely children, Sarah and Christopher. Anna and Jean were always delighted to be asked to look after Sarah and Christopher and it was a joy to them when they were brought to stay with them if Jim and Patricia had to work or attend other functions. Anna was much loved by Jim, Patricia, Sarah and Christopher and we extend to them and their wider family circle our sincere sympathy.

Sam Nigel Robert Gilmore

Baby Sam had a very short life. He was born on 16th December 2019 but passed away just four days later on the 20th December 2019. During his short life his parents Nathan and Danielle were able to hold him, cuddle him and show their loving care for him. Unfortunately Baby Sam did not live long but he was one of a loving family circle and it is to all of them that we extend our sincere sympathy at this very sad time.

Mary Josephine (Marie) Murray

Marie was one of a large family. She was born on 20th February 1954 to Paddy and Mary Lemon in Donemana, Co Tyrone. She had many fond memories of her childhood and loved being part of her large family. She was a huge County and Western fan and met her husband Billy at the Flamingo Ballroom. Billy was also a Country and Western fan and played with 'The Idahoes'. Marie and Billy had two children, Gael and Andrea.

She enjoyed telling them stories of her childhood and the fun that she had with her brothers and sisters. She loved going on family holidays with Billy, Gael and Andrea and seeing new places. Marie worked in Muckamore Abbey for over 40 years and then with children and adults with special needs in the George Sloan Centre and in Wilson House, Broughshane. She was a loving and caring mother and when she retired she took on the role of looking after her five grandchildren, Anthony, Sophia, Eva, Gracie and George. Marie was a fighter but unfortunately her health started to deteriorate. She was a strong lady and bore her illness with bravery and determination. She will be much missed by her husband Billy, Gael and Niall, Andrea and Jonny, her grandchildren and her many friends and it is to them that we extend our sincere sympathy.

Elizabeth (Betty) Gordon

Betty was the only girl born to Sam and Maggie Mark. She was born into a close knit family who lived in Parkhead, Ballymoney Road, Ballymena. After school and at the tender age of 17 years she met and married Tommy Gordon. Betty and Tommy had two daughters, Valerie and Ann, however, when the girls were both very young, Betty lost her husband in a road traffic accident. Betty and her girls moved to Mount Stewart and she took on various jobs in order to maintain them. She had a strong Christian faith and was a rock to her family. She loved having them coming to visit. Unfortunately Betty suffered a massive stroke which changed her life in later years. Betty will be sadly missed by her daughters, sons-in-law, grandchildren, great grandchildren and her brothers. We extend our sincere sympathy to them and her wider family circle at this sad time.





OUR ACTIVITIES

SAINT PATRICK'S

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

SAINT COLUMBA'S

	Day	Time	Contact
<i>Beavers</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>6.30 pm</i>	<i>Mrs H Weir</i>
<i>Ladies' Circle</i>	<i>4th Monday</i>	<i>8.00 pm</i>	<i>Mrs L Hughes</i>
<i>Brownies</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>6.30 pm</i>	<i>Mrs K Black</i>
<i>Guides</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>6.30 pm</i>	<i>Mrs K Black</i>
<i>Senior Guides</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>8.00 pm</i>	<i>Mrs K Black</i>
<i>Squirrels</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>6.30 pm</i>	<i>Mr P Houston</i>
<i>Cubs</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>6.45 pm</i>	<i>Mrs H Clarke</i>
<i>Rainbows</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>6.15 pm</i>	<i>Mrs H Strain</i>
<i>Scouts</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>7.45 pm</i>	<i>Mr A Coates</i>



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