

Parish of Kilconriola and Ballyclug



SUMMER NEWS 2022



Diocese of Connor - Parish of Kilconriola and Ballyclug

PARISH OFFICE

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OR

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<https://www.facebook.com/ballymenaparish>

Office Opening Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, and

Wednesday 9.30am to 1.30pm

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

Mrs Ruth McNeill

CHURCHWARDENS

St Patrick's	Rector's	Mr J Mawhinney
	People's	Mrs I Mawhinney
Ballyclug	Rector's	Mr J Graham
	People's	Mr J Greer
St Columba's	Rector's	Mrs J Cunningham
	People's	Mr R Atkinson
Glebe Wardens	Rector's	Mr A McKay
	People's	Mr B Taylor

SELECT VESTRY

Clergy, Church Wardens, Glebe Wardens and: Mr Dessie Dunlop, Mr Ronnie Fleming, Mrs Vera Greer, Mr Alex McNeill, Mrs Sharon Doak, Mrs Carol Sloan, Mr Alastair Marrs,

Mr William Burnett, Mrs Helen Weir, Mr Alan Adair, Mr Ian McKay and Mrs Lynda Bell.

Honorary Secretary:	Mr R Fleming	44 Meadowvale, Ballymena
Honorary Treasurer:	Mr D Megaughin	158 Moorfields Road, Ballymena
Sextons:	St Patrick's	Mr J Linton
	St Columba's	Mr A Clarke
Organists:	St Patrick's	Mr A Poston & Mr F Sloan
	Ballyclug	Mrs F Logan & Mr I McKay
	St Columba's	Mr M Johnston

Prayer Teams

We are very privileged to have six teams. All prayer requests are treated as confidential within the team. You may contact any of the team leaders, the clergy or the office should you require prayer.

Team Leaders are:

- Millicent McClelland 077 9173 6117
- Adelaide Nimick 2564 0865
- Alex McKay 2564 4698
- Ruth McNeill 075 3122 8050
- Andrew Speers 075 9227 2260
- Irene Thompson 2564 1834

Looking back and Looking forward!!!

“See! The winter is past;
the rains are over and gone.
¹² Flowers appear on the earth;
the season of singing has come,
the cooing of doves
is heard in our land.”

This scripture quotation from The Song of Songs 2:11-12 formed the basis of my thoughts at our Easter Vestry - It is good to be able to use this magazine to share a shortened version with you all.

We took time to look back over the past couple of pandemic years. With all our suffering, loss and restrictions. As the scripture above says - like looking back into a long dark winter. Is it now time to look forward? To look forward to spring or even summer a brighter future for our church and community? We whisper those words in fear in case they might be snatched away from us again!!

We look forward to welcoming the Moore clan (see separate article), and sending our Emma to Magheralin. We look forward to getting to grips with a plan of priorities and action to help guide us in the years to come, we look forward to exploring new and traditional forms of ministry as we approach the autumn months to help us all reconnect with God and one another.

It is still a wonder that we navigated through a major building project we are back in church and the final bills will all be cleared shortly. Praise God for His goodness. Of course looking after our buildings never stops and new projects will be tackled in the years to come. Thanks to everyone who rolled up their

sleeves and helped us through this major project - you are all amazing.

As we look back have we learned valuable lessons? Northern Ireland folk, like many, answer any enquiries about their well-being with the usual “I’m OK.” We have not been OK, we have been scared, alone, heart-broken, we have had our faith tested, we have seen the world around us change. We need God more not less as we dare to look forward, we need each other and the love and prayers and fellowship we can share, even more as we look forward.

So I encourage you to come, come to worship, come to study groups and Sunday school, come to our socials, come to our fund-raisers, come to God and come back to each other. Invite one another, encourage one another, transport one another.

May I wish you and your loved ones a great and safe summer.

Mark and all at the Rectory.



On Wednesday 4th May we handed over our cheque to Rev Mark for the St Patricks Church Repairs. The Squirrels had collected money in Smartie Tubes at Christmas and raised a fantastic total of £205.00. Well done Squirrels



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We have had an update on the shoeboxes 2021.

23,500 boxes were collected in Northern Ireland and sent to Belarus and Moldova.

1,000 - 1,500 boxes were done online and these were sent to Nigeria. So, all very good.

Many thanks to all who contributed. We plan to do them again this autumn.

Liz/Jean

Congratulations to George and Ella Duddy on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. George and Ella were married on 16th June 1972 in Annahilt Presbyterian Church, County Down, and their reception was held at the Deer Park Hotel in Antrim.







Ringling for the Jubilee 2022



Ringling for Morning Prayer

*Alex McKay, Alastair Marrs, Ronnie Fleming
Sarah Chestnutt, Colin Watt
not Included Loraine Watt*

Ringling for MEA Platinum Jubilee Service

*Alex McKay, Alastair Marrs, Ronnie Fleming,
Colin Watt, not included
David Megaughin & Loraine Watt*

THE NEW HELPER HAS A NAME!

Many thanks to all you contributed to the fundraising event to Name the Tractor. A total of £400.00 was raised. The name was correctly guessed by one of the congregation at Ballyclug, Hannah Stewart. Well done Hannah!



Children's Church continues throughout the summer in the Minor hall at 11.30am.

ALL WELCOME

Youth Activities

We were delighted to see the hall full again for our 1st Children's Day in 2 years. It was great to get back to face to face worship again and welcome all ages together. We were joined by Victoria Jackson Children's ministry development officer of Connor Diocese. It was a great celebration of Kingdom Kids with puppets and the young people singing. Everyone enjoyed some ice cream afterwards. Thanks to everyone who came and to those who helped in any way it was lovely to see people back enjoying youth and children's ministry within the parish.



We had a great night at our Fun Night and Jubilee Celebration. Families enjoyed bouncy castles, football, basketball, face painting, tattoos, jubilee trail, BBQ and refreshments. Thank you to all who came and to all those who helped in anyway



We had a great week at Kingdom Kids. We looked at Kingdom Kids in the bible and across the global church with our CMS friends in Rwanda, Kenya, Egypt and South Sudan. Through the stories we hope the Kingdom Kids heard God's call and can now play their part in the Kingdom of God.

Day 1 We learnt about Samuel and how God called him and he listened and how important it is as Kingdom Kids to listen to God and follow Gods plan. Roger came from CMS and we looked at the country Rwanda we learnt that the children like singing and dancing. We dressed up in Rwandan clothes and Roger taught us a song and dance.

Day 2 We read the story about Josiah and how he read God's word and to help other people and love God. We watched the video on Kenya and saw the children have fun, friendship and fellowship with each other.

Day 3 Was all about Miriam and how she watched over her baby brother and helped care for him and as Kingdom Kids its important to look out for people and care for them. We also looked at the country Kenya and how as Kingdom Kids they are committed to building peace and unity together.

Day 4 We learnt all about David and how he was a brave and courageous Kingdom Kid who grew up to be a very important King and how important it is to trust God in tough times and to have courage and stand up for what is right. We also looked at South Sudan and that the children there have the same dreams and aspirations as us they want to be Youtubers too. The difference there is they have to pay to go to school and some of the children can't afford it. The church and CMS then reaches out to help them by paying their fees. Thanks to all those who came and to all the leaders who helped.



Sunday school trip please contact Lucy 07759950497 if you would like to go. Transport will be provided.

We hope you all have a great summer and stay safe. Hopefully we will see you throughout the summer at our events.

We look forward to welcoming you all back for our full programme starting again in September.

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

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



Kingdom Voices

Global Fun Day



All Nations Ministries

Come and meet our global guests

Games, Fire Engine, BBQ, Bouncy Castle, Drumming

Saturday 13th August 2022 - 2pm-4.30pm

Sir Thomas & Lady Dixon Park, Belfast

SAMS
IRELAND
South American Mission Society



cmsireland

Mothers and Toddlers Group



We would like to thank everyone who has supported the group as we returned this year. It was lovely to see many familiar faces and welcome all the new children. The usual mix of fun and games was enjoyed by everyone each Tuesday. We celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a party attended by princesses and princes, and everyone enjoyed the cupcakes.

Best wishes to all the children who are moving on to Nursery school.

Our sincere thanks to our volunteer helpers who come each week - we couldn't do it without you. We pass on our thanks to Eva and Liz for all your help over the years, we will miss you.

Congratulations to Jean Cunningham on the birth of another grandchild.

Mothers and Toddlers will resume Tuesday 6th September.

Rota for September 2022

DATE	NAME	FUNCTION
6 th September	Margaret Douglas, Noreen McKeown, Jean Cunningham, and Sandra Thompson	Tea
	Sandra McKay	Welcoming
	Alex McKay	Hall Set Up
13 th September	Ronnie Fleming, Margaret Soutar, Anne Eccleston and Cherith McConnell	Tea
	Barbara Fleming	Welcoming
	Ray Burbage	Hall Set Up
20 th September	Isabel Halliday, Vera Greer and Sandra Duke	Tea
	Ann Fisher and Dorothy Hegan	Welcoming
	David Oliver and Rodney Gourley	Hall Set Up
27 th September	Ruth Murray, Isabell Adair, Vivien Gilmour, and Kathleen Thompson	Tea
		Welcoming
	Jim Ross	Hall Set Up

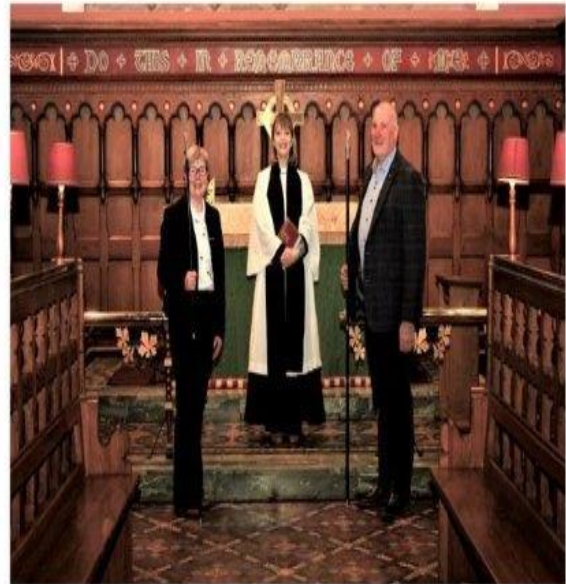
Dorothy (07759938126),

Anna, Margaret, Jean and Liz

GOODBYES & HELLOS

Churchwardens 2020 - 2022

For the past two years most of you attending St Patrick's know us as Heather and Hugo the Church Wardens. We thoroughly enjoyed meeting you and getting to know each one of you, but things became very different during Covid. There was the wearing of face masks, the spacing, sitting so far apart, and only a certain number of parishioners were allowed into the Service. Thankfully we had a great team around us who would help us when needed. Now the church is open again we are delighted to hand over our Staves to Jim and Irene, who are very capable of fulfilling these posts. To Jim and Irene and all those of you who we have come to know during our term as Churchwardens, we wish you All God's Blessings.



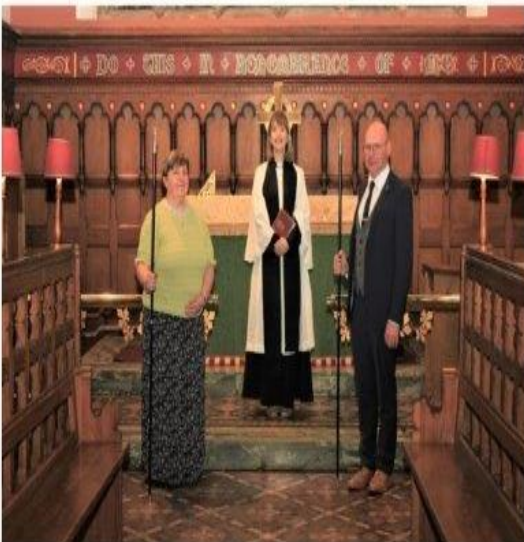
Churchwardens 2022

We were somewhat surprised, but delighted at being asked to fill the Church Warden roles. Jim, as Rector's Church Warden and myself, Irene, as People's Church Warden. The previous Church Wardens were Hugo and Heather Swan and we knew it was going to be hard to live up to their high standards. We are extremely grateful for the amount of support and guidance received from them, Cannon Mark and other church members, too many to name.

To be able to play a part in the recent St Patrick's Platinum Celebration church service, organised by Mid & East Antrim Borough Council, was a huge honour. We thoroughly enjoyed working as a team with the other Church Wardens from St Columba's and Ballyclug. It truly was a very special occasion.

Now that St Patrick's has re-opened, it is great to see more and more familiar faces returning each Sunday for worship. DV this will continue.

Irene and Jim Mawhinney



Goodbye from Emma

Dear all,

It seems like no time at all since I wrote to you all introducing myself ahead of arriving in Ballymena! However, the time has come to say a *very* fond farewell to you all. It's not a *goodbye* but a *see you later*. I will be introducing myself to a new parish once again when I begin my new post as Associate Minister in Magheralin on 21st August. I am looking forward to a new challenge but I will really miss Ballymena and Ballyclug parish and the many friends I have made here.

The past three years have brought many new, exciting and unexpected experiences - least expected of all was a global pandemic. While my curacy has been incredibly different than those of previous other curates, I have loved my time in Ballymena. I'd like to express my thankfulness to you all for your welcome, support and encouragement over the past three years. I found myself very much at home and part of the furniture here and have enjoyed getting to know so many of you. I will take many lovely memories of my time here and I will continue to pray for you all.

As we all continue into a time of recovery after Covid and all the changes and challenges the past few years has brought us, I encourage us all to '*set [our] minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth*' (Colossians 3:2) and to not look only to ourselves but to the Lord and to our neighbours. As Paul tells us in Philippians 4:8 lets set our minds '*on whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.*'

With much love and many prayers, Emma

Meet the Moores!

Hello! It's a really exciting time for our little family as we get ready to come and join you all in Ballymena. I wanted to introduce ourselves to give you a little flavour for who we are, what we hope to bring to the parish and a warning of the whirlwind that is our family.

Laura and I grew up in Bangor and met when we were 17 and 20. We've been married for 10 years and have three beautiful children, Jacob who is nine, Sophia who is seven and Charlotte who is four. We have a cat called Jess (after postman Pat's cat) and a tortoise called Tony.

I worked as a Paramedic for the majority of my professional life, having joined the West Midlands Ambulance Service at 19. I spent five years in Birmingham and what an experience that was to have had. I came home in 2012 and worked for two years in Lisburn and Bangor before moving to North Division, stationed primarily in Whiteabbey and Carrickfergus but I'm no stranger to the Ballymena area having worked across most of County Antrim. In 2020 I moved into an office job in the Belfast Trust but I've kept up the Paramedic side of things and still do the odd bank shift to keep the skills and knowledge sharp. My call to ministry has been there since I was a young teenager and my home Rector in Groomsport was a source of real encouragement and pushed me towards getting life experience before going into the ministry. I'm grateful he did.

Laura is a counsellor and also works in retail. She has a love for people and is very much the force behind me, always present and never afraid to pull me back or keep me in line! Laura has a love for English and completed her BA at Queens in Belfast. She has been invaluable during the MTh process and perhaps she is more relieved

than me that the essays and dissertation are behind us. Laura is a qualified Girls Brigade officer and has been involved with the GB since her childhood.

Jacob is football mad and supports Liverpool. He can be found most days hiding his homework and kicking a ball around the garden. We also watch ice hockey together and support Colorado Avalanche in the NHL. On top of this Jacob and I have a shared love for model railways and we have JacobCity in the roof space, which we are currently trying to work out the logistics of moving it to the curatage. Jacob is a member of the Boys Brigade.

Sophia is an accomplished Irish Dancer, having won more medals than I can count. She is often away at competitions and festivals across Northern Ireland. She also loves music and singing and is incredibly sweet and kind towards her friends and parishioners.

Charlotte is the loose cannon of the family and full of life and energy. She is into her gymnastics and could well be seen doing 'roly polys' down the aisle of the church on a Sunday morning. Whilst the smallest of the family, you always know when she is about and she's great fun. Both Charlotte and her sister Sophia are members of the Girls Brigade.

We hope that the years to come in Ballymena will be a blessing on our family but also that we may bring with us a real sense of God's love and how He has been so loyal in direction, guidance and ultimately placing us with you. We're all really excited to get to know you all, to become part of the furniture and that we can journey together in our faith and relationship with the Father.

As my robes will testify, I love cake, tray bakes and going for coffee. It's one of the best ways I have found of getting to know people and I hope we can break bread together over the coming years. We pray this little introduction has given you a taste of who we are, but the

proof is in the pudding and we can't wait to meet you all in a few months. God bless.





July Holidays

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed during July.

If anyone has any urgent queries that can't wait until the office is open again you may contact Ruth on 07531228050.

Summer Services Schedule

July 2022

3 July 2022	Ballyclug 10.00 am St Columba's 11.30 am St Patrick's 11.30 am	Morning Prayer (Jim Perry) Morning Prayer (Jim Perry) Morning Prayer (Mark McConnell)
10 July 2022	Ballyclug 10.00 am St Columba's 11.30 am St Patrick's 11.30 am	Morning Prayer (Mark McConnell) Morning Prayer (Mark McConnell) Morning Prayer (Emma Carson)
17 July 2022	Ballyclug 10.00 am St Columba's 11.30 am St Patrick's 11.30 am	Morning Prayer (Mark McConnell) Morning Prayer (Mark McConnell) Morning Prayer (John Wilson)
24 July 2022	Ballyclug 10.00 am St Columba's 11.30 am St Patrick's 11.30 am St Patrick's 6.30 pm	Holy Communion (Emma Carson) Holy Communion (Emma Carson) Morning Prayer (Brian Bennett) Holy Communion (Emma Carson)
31 July 2022	(Emma's last service) Joint Service in St Patrick's 11.30 am	Morning Prayer (Mark McConnell) (Emma Carson)

August 2022

<p>7 August 2022</p>	<p>Ballyclug 10.00 am St Columba's 11.30 am St Patrick's 11.30 am</p>	<p>Morning Prayer (Mark McConnell) Morning Prayer (Mark McConnell) Morning Prayer (Jim Perry)</p>
<p>14 August 2022</p>	<p>Ballyclug 10.00 am St Columba's 11.30 am St Patrick's 11.30 am</p>	<p>Morning Prayer (Jim Perry) Morning Prayer (Jim Perry) Morning Prayer (Mark McConnell)</p>
<p>21 August 2022</p>	<p>Ballyclug 10.00 am St Columba's 11.30 am St Patrick's 11.30 am</p>	<p>Morning Prayer (Mark McConnell) Morning Prayer (Mark McConnell) Morning Prayer (John Wilson)</p>
<p>28 August 2022</p>	<p>Ballyclug 10.00 am St Columba's 11.30 am St Patrick's 11.30 am St Patrick's 6.30 pm</p>	<p>Holy Communion (Mel Sloan) Holy Communion (Mel Sloan) Morning Prayer (Mark McConnell) Holy Communion (Mark McConnell)</p>



IN MEMORY

Edmund (Eddie) Leonard 27.3.1934 - 23.4.2022

Jean Craig - 4.12.1939 - 9.5.2022

Mary Steele 21.12.1931 - 16.5.2022

John Crawford 31.7.1958 - 24.5.2022

Alexander Graham 7.1.1941 - 26.5.2022

Aileen McAuley 29.4.1932 - 27.5.2022

Edward Hanley 20.4.1950 - 4.6.2022

Rosaleen Alma Brough 19.12.1935 - 18.6.2022