

Kilbride **HERALD**

St Bride's—where Faith and Fellowship grow



EMERGENCY EDITION [1]
2020

PARISH OF KILBRIDE : ST BRIDE'S CHURCH
- where Faith and Fellowship grow

Rector: The Revd Canon W D Humphries
 St Bride's Rectory, 53 Brook Meadow, Doagh, Ballyclare BT39 0QF
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<p align="center">Reader Emeritus William Harper</p> <p align="center">Parish Reader David Holmes</p>	<p align="center">Honorary Treasurer Lilian Lyttle 9332 3311</p>
<p align="center">Rector's Churchwarden Clarence Gibson: 9332 3761</p> <p align="center">People's Churchwarden Hazel McDonald: 9332 4208</p>	<p align="center">Parish Hall Organiser Alex Johnston: 9334 9393</p> <p align="center">Caretaker Jean Johnston: 9334 9393</p>
<p align="center">Rector's Glebewarden Jim Wilson: 2589 8753</p> <p align="center">People's Glebewarden Billy Robinson: 07799 863 095</p>	<p align="center">Parish Website kilbrideparishchurch.org Parish Webmaster: David Holmes</p>
<p align="center">Honorary Secretary Ivan Topping 9334 1916</p> <p align="center">FWO Secretary Ashley Hurst 07890 583 962</p> <p align="center">Gift Aid Secretaries Phyllis Glenn: 9334 0884 Irene Paget: 9332 3579</p>	<p align="center">HOLY BAPTISM This is by arrangement. Please contact the Rector at the phone number in the top panel.</p>
<p align="center">Organist & Choir Director: Vacant</p> <p align="center">Sunday School Superintendent Eleanor Graham: 9334 0000</p> <p align="center">Charity Number: 10 35 70</p>	<p align="center">The Rector would be grateful for information about hospital admissions and discharges.</p> <p align="center">KILBRIDE HERALD Editorial Panel Iris McCormick, Ivan Topping, The Rector</p>

NEWS

Good and Bad

☪ Church services, all our parish organisations, and any other activities on church premises are suspended until further notice, and just when that will be, we have no idea.

☪ The Rector can still be contacted by phone or by email, (see page 2), but he is not allowed (by a directive from the Bishop designate) to visit you.

☪ We are fortunate to have a parish website, and we are currently setting up an aid to help you in your worship, especially on Sundays, and we would encourage all our folk to worship with us, albeit in their own homes. Some of you don't have access to the internet, we know, so we would ask you to worship as best you can. You can find some aids within these covers.

☪ Remember that we also have Facebook. Our page there is useful to give a quick summary of what we're doing and what's going on generally.

Thanks so much for this info.

Can I ask a question?

Yes.

The Summer Fete?

Perhaps not this year.

The Clare Chorale?

Postponed.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals?

These are mentioned on another page. Please do read what it says about them, as it is rather important.

☪ Suffice it to say that some people are working very hard to keep the parish moving along without the use of our buildings. So keep in touch, and working together we'll beat this thing!





A WORD FROM THE RECTOR

Greetings to you all at this very difficult time. We are currently waging war with the Coronavirus, and just a few weeks ago no one could have predicted that everyday life would come to be so different.

No doubt many of you feel isolated, locked away in your own homes, without the social contact that we normally take for granted.

To those of you who are regular church-goers, I suspect that the withdrawal of going to church has come as a very big blow.

One serious problem has been the speed at which matters have been moving, and just as we were ready to implement some changes, matters have overtaken us and we're back to the drawing board. Our present style of life is certainly bewildering!

However, in the midst of this distressing situation we must look for something positive to dwell on, and if we look in the Bible, encouraging words are not hard to find.

God has something reassuring to say to Joshua:

Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified. Do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you. [Joshua 1:9]

God tells us to be courageous as we face the dangers and battles of life. We will never be alone, because our salvation is with us.

St Paul is also a great help:

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be

compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. [Romans 8:18]

So although we may be suffering right now, it is only temporary, and God knows how to care for us. He is infinitely wise and skilled, and we can trust that he will never leave us.



And if any of you feel helpless, perhaps on your own in the house, there is something very important that you can do. Would you please pray about this situation in which we find ourselves? A whole parish family praying to God perpetually during the day, and perhaps during the silent hours as well, will make a big difference.

There are some "helps" for prayer in the following pages. Do please use them. As we pray, we will be spiritually strengthened and fortified to face the difficulties that are presently upon us.

You can also be assured that your church is working on other ways to be of use in this crisis. Those of you who have access to the internet will find aids to prayer and worship on the parish website. Remember that I am

only a phone call away, and you can also contact me by email—just see the front inside cover.

With the help and inspiration of the Holy Spirit we will get through this. May God bless you and all whom you love.

Your friend and Rector,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that appears to read "David", followed by a horizontal line.

For up-to-date news, keep an eye on the parish website.

That's where we'll show the most recent reports of what's going on in the parish, and what our people are doing to combat this virus.

kilbrideparishchurch.org



Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

IF THE CHURCH IS CLOSED, HOW DO WE COPE WITH THESE OCCASIONAL SERVICES?

Well, it won't be easy, but please bear in mind that we are acting the directives we've been given, by Church and State, and we're this in order to combat Coro-

on
both
doing
navirus.

BAPTISMS. Any Baptisms been arranged must be things are better.

which have
postponed until

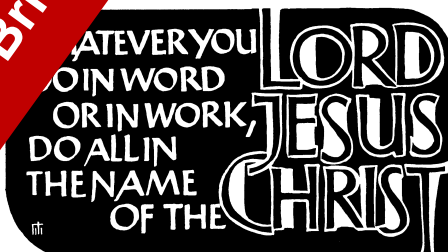
WEDDINGS. It may dings to go ahead, attending the ser-duced. We forty people but we weddings

be possible for wed- but the number of people vice must be greatly re- reckon that a maximum of in church is all we can manage, would recommend not holding until further notice.

FU-

NERALS. Funeral services must

Information on this page has been updated.
NO Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals will be held
at St Bride's until further notice.



OUR PRAYERS



"The very moment I call to you for a Father's help the tide of the battle turns and my enemies flee. The one thing I know: God is on my side." [Ps.56]

There is enormous fear about this disease, but we can rest assured that God is with us in all things—even in the spread of Coronavirus.

It is absolutely vital for all of to pray—without ceasing—for an end to the attack of this virus.

Pray for all who are worried about the spread of Coronavirus:

Heavenly Father, you are bigger than the threat of anything, and so we ask you to comfort those who are living in fear. Help them to remember that you are on the throne and therefore in control. Help us all to trust you utterly, in the knowledge that you will be with us until the end of the age; in the name of Jesus. Amen.

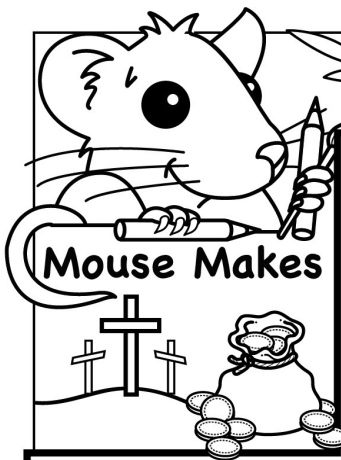
Pray for all those who are ill with the virus:

Heavenly Father, we humbly pray you to be with all those who are infected with Coronavirus. You are the great Healer, and so we pray that you will heal them and comfort them. Give them the medical care they need, with the right medication, so that they can live life abundantly; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

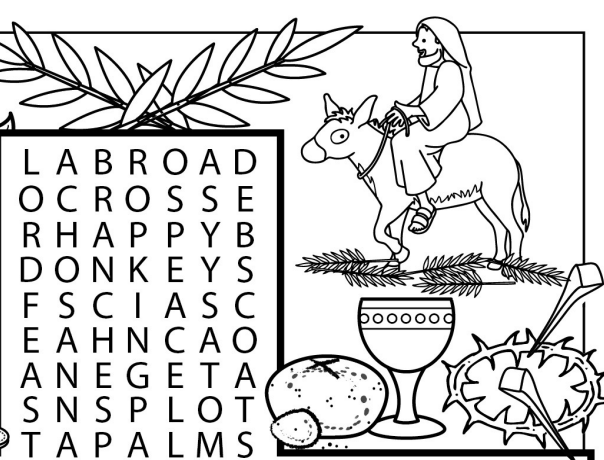
Pray for doctors and nurses, and for all who are involved in healing the sick.

Heavenly Father, be with all those who are helping to heal those with Coronavirus. Give them the skill and wisdom that they need, and help them to know that they are working with you in the task of healing. We pray too, that their own health may not fail, but that you will protect them as they continue their work; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

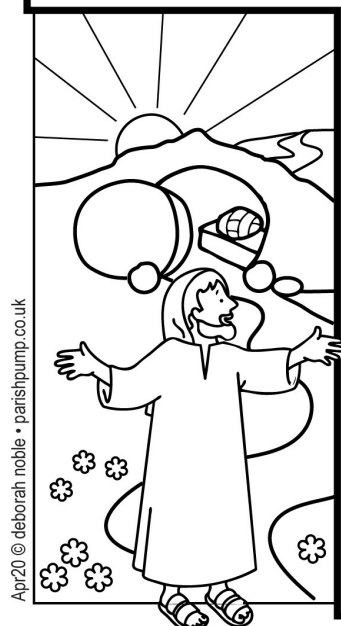


Mouse Makes



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DONKEY • COLT • SAT • COATS
 ROAD • CROWD • CUT • PALMS
 BRANCHES • KING • HOSANNA
 DISCIPLES • ROOM • PASSOVER
 FEAST • EAT • DRINK • BREAD
 WINE • SON • MAN • BLOOD • CUP
 MEAL • JEWS • PLOT • KILL • COINS
 GETHSEMANE • PRAY • WILL
 BETRAY • KISS • ARREST • MESSIAH
 CHRIST • CRUCIFY • JESUS • CROWN
 THORNS • ROBE • TREE • NAILS
 CROSS • SPIRIT • DARKNESS
 TEMPLE • DEATH • LOTS • DICE
 TOMB • STONE • LINEN • BODY
 BURY • GUARD • THREE DAYS
 DAWN • MORNING • ANGEL • TELL
 HEAVEN • GOOD NEWS • LORD
 GOD • RAISED • JOY • PEACE
 PRAISE • SAVIOUR • EASTER



HOARDERS SHAMED BY CLUTTERLESS GWEN

So many people admit to being hoarders or collectors and find they are stressed by the clutter in their home, but few take the brave step to get help.

The guest speaker at a meeting of the Ladies' Group was Gwen Montgomery who explained how to deal with clutter as well as how to address the underlying issues and habits that need to be changed.

Gwen runs a business on the basis of decluttering, and she highlighted the therapeutic effect of letting stuff go and clearing out bags to the skip or the charity shop, and that it is a wonderful feeling which almost all of her clients express at the end of their first session.

A good, practical session for the ladies!

REMEMBERING THE WAR YEARS AT BALLYCLARE

The Watchmen group had another very enjoyable visit to the War Years Remembered museum in Ballyclare last month.

Following on from last year's visit when the talk covered World War 1 this year's visit concentrated on the events of World War 2. The curator is David McCallion and he has spent a lifetime building up the exhibits for the museum by purchasing them or by donation.

His enthusiasm and knowledge

of the two world wars and Northern Ireland's and Ireland's role in them is immense, and this came across in his talk on some of the main topics of World War 2.

Of particular interest was the new exhibit on the most decorated soldier in Northern Ireland's history and indeed in the British Army, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Blair 'Paddy' Mayne.

Mayne's family, who live in Newtownards, recently presented the museum with virtually all of his war records, letters and army memorabilia, and it now takes pride of place within the museum.

Another great excursion. for the Watchmen.





MONEY FROM THE PARISH GOES TO LOCAL FOLKS

Members of the Select Vestry were delighted to be able to hand over a cheque for £300 recently, to help the work of AgeNI in Ballyclare.

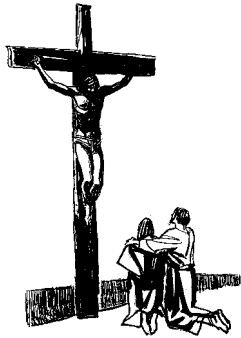
The presentation took place in the Town Hall during one of the group's normal meetings. Hazel McDonald handed over the cheque to Mary Todd from the Ballyclare branch of AgeNI, accompanied by Lillian Lyttle, Carol Ireland and the Rector.

"We want to make Northern Ireland a great place to grow older," said Mary at our meeting. "Our free Advice Line and Website help thousands of people every year."

Age NI is helping thousands of older people enjoy a better life, providing all sorts of activities throughout the year, and there's a branch right here in our area!



GOOD FRIDAY (10th April)



To a world that seeks to show power through explosives, military might, and physical force, Good Friday makes little sense.

A man, hanging on a cross. A man, who claimed to be the Son of God, nailed to a tree. Naked, broken, and dying. Forsaken. Passers-by mock Him: 'Save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!' (Matthew 27:40). But with no word of complaint, no attempt to fight back, an innocent man accepts a death penalty.

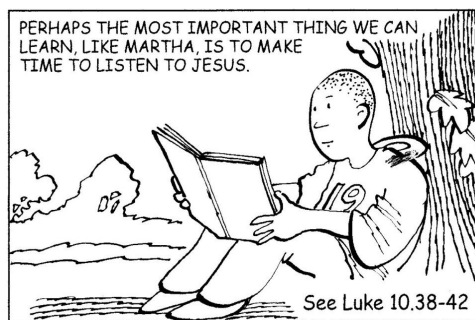
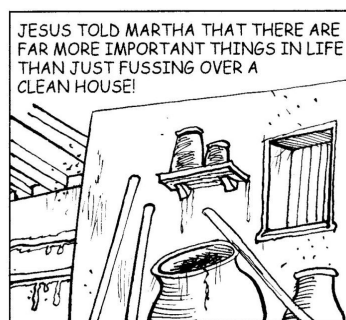
Is this power? The world says no. Power is loud, it is ferocious, and it visibly wins. It is often selfish and seeks advantage over those who are weak and helpless. That is what we see when governments and corporations seeking to show their power at the expense of other people. Is there really power to be found in the broken and bleeding body of a dying man? The world says no.

But Good Friday tells a different story. This broken and bleeding body of a dying man turns any earthly ideas of power upside down and inside out, as salvation and redemption are found in the most unlikely of places. Power is found in sacrifice, humility, and death. Power is found in a man, hanging on a cross. Naked, broken, and dying. Forsaken. Power is found here, at Calvary.

Today, we preach Christ crucified, 'a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles' (1 Corinthians 1:23). The power of the Cross can certainly make little sense to us and our world, so set in our ways. The Cross comes in direct contradiction to everything we hear and see about power on a daily basis. It speaks not of explosives, military might, and physical force, but of love, forgiveness, and the laying down of one's life. A stumbling block and foolishness perhaps, but also a better way to live.

May we seek to show something of Christ's subversive power in our words, lives, and actions, this Good Friday and beyond.

Words and Actions



FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION

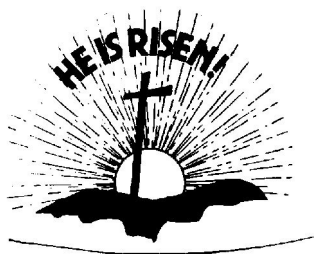
'When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.' [St Mark 16:4]

Frank Morrison was an investigative journalist who was a sceptic when it came to religion. He decided to write a book to disprove the claims of Christ, specifically focussed on the last week of His life.

However, when he came to consider the evidence for himself, he was drawn reluctantly to a different outcome than he had imagined. He found that the evidence proved the story to be true, including the fact that Jesus not only died but rose again.

In the end he wrote a different kind of book called 'Who Moved the Stone?' with the first chapter entitled, 'The book that refused to be written.'

The veracity of the Christian faith is grounded on historical fact. Not only was Jesus a real person, a figure of history, but His death was real, and so was His resurrection.



Examine the evidence for yourself. Read the gospel accounts openly and honestly and see what happens. The truth is there for anyone willing to consider the facts.

Easter reminds us that our faith rests on solid ground. It is why we celebrate Easter Sunday with such gusto.

The Resurrection proves that Jesus was who He said He was (the Son of God) and that He did what He set out to do (save us from our sin). But more than that, it reminds us that He can deliver what He promised and help us today because He is alive for evermore.

Jesus is not a figure of history, locked away in the past. No, He is a risen Saviour who is alive today and who invites each of us to receive the gift of salvation, and to live a new life in fellowship with Him.



From the Registers

HOLY BAPTISM

23 February

Jake Jeffrey John Moore

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

19 February

Leith Henderson Burgess

24 February

Valerie Isobel Hamill

**Please don't forget to
pray at home.**



Remember,
we are still

CHURCH

