

# Kilbride HERALD

*St Bride's—where Faith and Fellowship grow*

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2018



Kilbride parishioner Jim Wilson receives the  
Honorary Freedom of the City of London.

*See page 7.*

**PARISH OF KILBRIDE : ST BRIDE'S CHURCH**  
*Where Faith and Fellowship grow*

**Rector: The Revd Canon W D Humphries**  
 The Rectory, 7 Rectory Road, Doagh, Ballyclare BT39 0PT  
 Phone: 9334 0225      E-mail: wdhumphries@hotmail.com

**Lay Assistants at Holy Communion**  
 As per rota

**Rector's Churchwarden**  
 Clarence Gibson: 9332 3761

**People's Churchwarden**  
 Iris McCormick: 9332 3921

**Rector's Glebewarden**  
 Jim Wilson: 2589 8753

**People's Glebewarden**  
 Billy Robinson: 07799 863 095

**Honorary Secretary**  
 Ivan Topping  
 9334 1916

**Honorary Treasurer**  
 Richard Balmer: 9334 1314

**FWO Secretary**  
 Graham Campbell: 9334 0565

**Gift Aid Secretaries**  
 Phyllis Glenn: 9334 0884  
 Irene Paget: 9332 3579

**Organist & Choir Director**  
 Beth Aiken

**Sunday School Superintendent**  
 Eleanor Graham: 9334 0000

**Parish Hall Organiser**  
 Alex Johnston: 9334 9393

**Caretaker**  
 Jean Johnston: 9334 9393

**Parish Website**  
**kilbrideparishchurch.org**  
 (also find us on Facebook)  
**Parish Webmaster:** David Holmes

**HOLY BAPTISM**  
 This is by arrangement.  
 Please contact the Rector at the  
 phone number in the top panel.

**The Rector would be grateful  
 for information about  
 hospital admissions  
 and discharges.**

**KILBRIDE HERALD**

**Editorial Panel**  
 Iris McCormick, Ivan Topping,  
 The Rector

***NEXT ISSUE:***

**COPY DEADLINE**  
**Sunday 11 February**

## From the Rector's Desk



Dear Parishioners,

As well as the spiritual and pastoral work in our parish, there is a large amount of administration. In fact, there is a sense in which the parish could be seen as a small business.

As with all well-run businesses, from time to time the system of administration must be reviewed, and if necessary, updated.

This is exactly what we will be doing in 2018, starting right away!

Many of these reviews and changes will go unnoticed by the parish in general, but some changes will affect individual people; you will read of some of these changes each month in the Herald.

Change is made where it is believed that change is necessary, or that it will benefit the parish; in St Bride's we

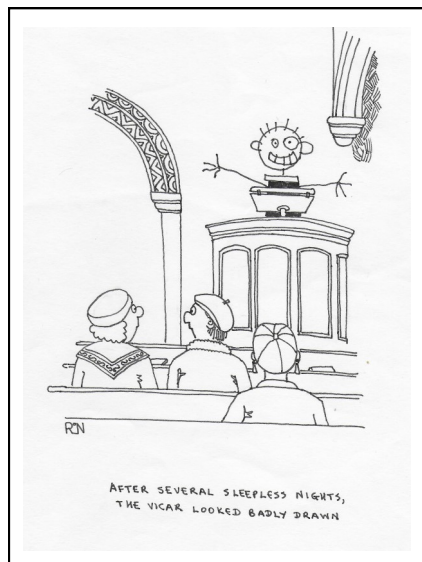
never make any sort of change for change's sake.

So if something changes, even if it has been the same for the past fifty years, don't get upset!

Try to see why the change has taken place and accept it, so that we can all move on together, for the good of the parish and its people. Many thanks for your kind co-operation.

Your friend and Rector,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Humphries".



## The Services at St Bride's

**Monday 1 January**  
**The Naming of Jesus**  
*(and New Year's Day)*

11.00am Holy Communion  
*(followed by a cup of tea  
or fruit punch)*

**[1] Sunday 7 January**  
**Epiphany 1**

11.00am Holy Communion  
6.00pm Prayers for Healing

**[2] Sunday 14 January**  
**Epiphany 2**

11.00am Morning Prayer

**[3] Sunday 21 January**  
**Epiphany 3**

11.00am Holy Communion  
*(Family Service)*

**[4] Sunday 28 January**  
**Epiphany 4**

11.00am Morning Prayer  
*(& Holocaust Memorial)*

**Thursday 1 February**  
**Feast of St Bride**

11.00am Holy Communion

**[1] Sunday 4 February**  
**2nd Sunday before Lent**

11.00am Holy Communion  
*(and Interment of the Time Capsule)*  
6.00pm Prayers for Healing

**[2] Sunday 11 February**  
**Sunday next before Lent**  
11.00am Morning Prayer

**Wednesday 14 February**  
**Ash Wednesday**  
11.00am Holy Communion

**[3] Sunday 18 February**  
**Lent 1**  
11.00am Holy Communion  
*(Family Service)*

**[4] Sunday 25 February**  
**Lent 2**  
11.00am Morning Prayer

**[1] Sunday 4 March**  
**Lent 3**  
11.00am Holy Communion  
6.00pm Prayers for Healing



A lot of hard work went into our preparations for Christmas and the New Year; it was a very busy time for a great many people in our parish family.

Thank you to all who worked so hard; it is very much appreciated!



*The Baptism of Rupert James Waterfield.*

**Here is a prayer which you might like to use daily during the 150th year of St Bride's:**

Grant, O God, that our church may be as a city set on a hill, a witness to your love, a powerhouse of prayer, and a joy and help to all who worship within its walls. Here may the tempted find strength and the sorrowful comfort. Here may the aged find consolation and the young be inspired. Show your mercy upon us, and grant us your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.





27 January is the day for everyone to remember the millions of people killed in the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur. 27 January marks the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp.

At St Bride's, we will observe this day on the nearest Sunday, which is 28 January. On this day we can honour the survivors and challenge ourselves to use the lessons of their experience to inform our lives today.

Holocaust Memorial Day is a time when we seek to learn the lessons of the past and to recognise that genocide does not take place on its own; it is a steady process which can begin if discrimination, racism and hatred are not checked and prevented.

We would ask all our people to be present in church on 28 January so that we as a parish family can properly honour all those who were murdered in the Holocaust.

In so doing, we can make our service a real demonstration of how the lessons of the past can inform our lives today and ensure that everyone works together to create a better, safer future.



We'll be talking about the **Time Capsule** at the Family Service on Sunday 21 January, and then we'll put it down on Sunday 4 February. Have you got your contribution ready?

Remember, we want something from all the organisations so that we can give our descendants a "blast from the past!" The time is almost here!



## A GREAT HONOUR FOR JIM

Towards the end of last year, Jim Wilson received the Honorary Freedom of the City of London.

He made the trip to the nation's capital city with his son Tom and his grandson Stewart, and the ceremony was held at London's Guildhall, in the Chamberlain's Courtroom.

This is a great honour for Jim and Muriel, and all the family, but it is also an honour for the *parish* family, that one of our parishioners has received this great distinction.

Jim has been a member of The Honourable The Irish Society for a great many years, and his service within that body on the Bann Division Committee has brought him this privilege.

It may interest parishioners to know that J K Rowling and Dame Judi Dench have also been given this award, as has the late Sir Winston Churchill!

Well done, Jim, we're proud of you!



**BLESSED ARE THEY WHO  
HEAR THE WORD OF GOD  
AND KEEP IT+**

Here are some services and other events connected with St Bride's 150th celebrations. You might like to take a note of them. We hope these events can take place on the dates advertised, but we can't be absolutely certain, so keep checking as the dates come up.

**Sunday 4 February**

11.00am Service for the Interment of the Time Capsule.

**Wednesday 7 February**

7.30pm An Evening with the Ballyclare Male Voice Choir.

**Sunday 18 March**

11.00am Holy Communion with lunch afterwards.  
Celebrating St Patrick.

**Monday 2 April (Easter Monday)**

An Exhibition on the History of Doagh, care of Alex Hill and friends.  
In the Parish Hall. Runs until Friday 13 April.

**Sunday 15 April.**

3.30pm Parish Recital.

**Sunday 13 May**

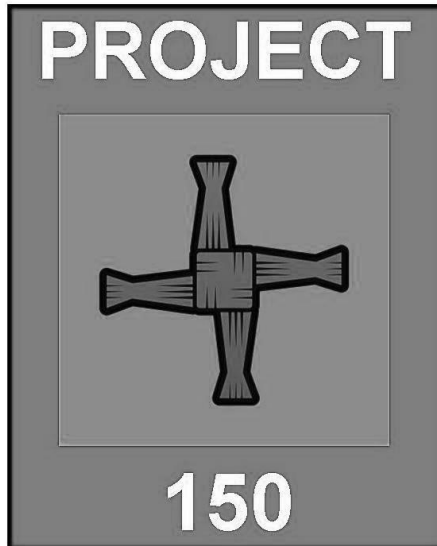
3.30pm Choral Evensong.

**Sunday 10 June**

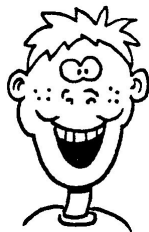
3.30pm Service of Thanksgiving for 150 years of St Bride's Parish Church, Kilbride. Preacher: The Archbishop of Armagh.

**Friday 22 June.**

Parish Banquet at the Rosspark Hotel, 7.15pm for 7.45pm.  
A three-course celebration meal.



## A TALL TALE



One day God was looking down at the earth and saw all of the rascally behaviour that was going on. He decided to send an angel to the earth to check it out.

When the angel returned, he reported to God, "Yes, it is bad on earth; 95% are misbehaving and 5% are not."

God thought for a moment and decided to send a second angel to get another opinion. When the angel returned he went straight to God and said, "Yes, the earth is definitely declining; 95% are misbehaving and 5% are not."

God was not pleased. He decided he would send an email to the 5% that were good, in order to encourage them and give them a little something to help them keep going in such a desparate time.

Do you know what he said in that email?

What? Oh, you didn't get one either?



## A NOTE FROM THE RECTOR ABOUT VISITING

I enjoy my visiting. I regard it as a great privilege to meet people in their homes, and I never hurry this part of my ministry.

I rarely visit "in order". In other words, if I'm in the street next to you one day, it doesn't necessarily follow that I will be in your street before the week is out!

It struck me, however, that there may still be some people who are housebound, or who would like a visit for another reason, and I don't know about them.

Well, if that's the case, just phone the Rectory and let me know, or if you're embarrassed about that, phone one of the churchwardens and *they'll* let me know!

Likewise, if someone is in hospital, it helps if I can be informed; it is also a help if relatives can keep in touch with me during a loved one's illness.

## CHECKING THE BOXES AT BLYTHESWOOD

Just a few weeks before Christmas, some of our ladies dropped in at the head office of the Blytheswood Shoe Box Appeal to deposit their own boxes and to check through a great many other boxes to make sure that all were in order.

The shoe boxes are destined for needy children and adults in vari-

ous places throughout the world, and they come to the Blytheswood depot from all over Northern Ireland.

Once checked, the boxes are despatched by container to places such as Moldova and Bangladesh.

Thank you, ladies (and men—there were three from St Bride's!). You've taken part in a very worthwhile cause. Thank you also, to all those who donated the completed shoe boxes.



*Kilbride parishioners at Blytheswood*





I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:  
“Give me a light,  
That I may tread safely into the unknown.”  
And he replied:  
“Go out into the darkness,  
And put your hand into the hand of God.  
That shall be to you better than light  
And safer than a known way.”

*From a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins, and famously quoted by King George VI.*



## DID YOU **KNOW?**

### 1 JANUARY THE NAMING OF JESUS

It is St Matthew and St Luke who tell the story of how the angel instructed that Mary's baby was to be named Jesus, a common name meaning 'Saviour'.

And it is no coincidence that the Church recalls the Naming of Jesus on 1 January, seven days after 25 December. For in Jewish tradition, the male babies were circumcised and named on their eighth day of life.

For early Christians the name of Jesus had a special significance. In Jewish tradition, names

expressed aspects of personality. Jesus' name permeated his ministry, just as it does so today: we are baptised in the name of Jesus (Acts 2:38), we are justified through the name of Jesus (1 Cor. 6:11), and God the Father has given Jesus a name above all others (Phil 2:9).

All Christian prayer is through 'Jesus Christ our Lord', and it is 'at the name of Jesus' that one day every knee shall bow.



**RENAISSANCE** What a lovely evening we had just before Christmas with the choral group RENAISSANCE, conducted by the Revd Dr Ian Mills. We heard the very neat and precise signing of some music for Advent, together with choral favourites such as "Somewhere over the Rainbow" and many others.

We're grateful to those who supported the event, and can promise many more choral extravaganzas over the next few years, so don't miss out!

## **THE PARISH REGISTER OF GENERAL VESTRYPERSONS**

### **What is a General Vestryperson?**

A parishioner (someone who lives within the parish boundary) or accustomed member (someone who doesn't live within the boundary but attends church) and whose name is on the parish list of General Vestrypersons.

### **How do you become one?**

You fill in a form which the Church Wardens will provide.

### **Can anybody become one?**

No! You must be at least 18 and have subscribed (by recordable means, e.g. Freewill Offering Envelopes) to parish funds in the past year.

### **Why might I want to become one?**

When you register as a General Vestryperson you are entitled to have a say in the business affairs of the parish. The annual business meeting is known as the Easter General Vestry meeting, at which elections to the Select Vestry and other appointments take place.

### **If I go to the meeting can I bring up whatever issues I like?**

No. The General Vestry members elect the Select Vestry and receive the Financial Statement. In our parish they also hear the Rector's Address. Questions on these matters are welcome, but no other business is conducted. Most people find the meeting quite interesting.

### **I think I filled in a form to become a General Vestryperson about ten years ago. Do I still hold this title?**

You might do! In fact, if you still subscribe to parish funds, you probably do! Get the Churchwardens to check if your name is there.

### **When can I register?**

Only during the month of February. An announcement will be made in church, and a notice will be posted on the church door, to tell you when the Register is to be opened and closed.

### **If I register, how often am I required to attend meetings?**

There is usually only one meeting per year.

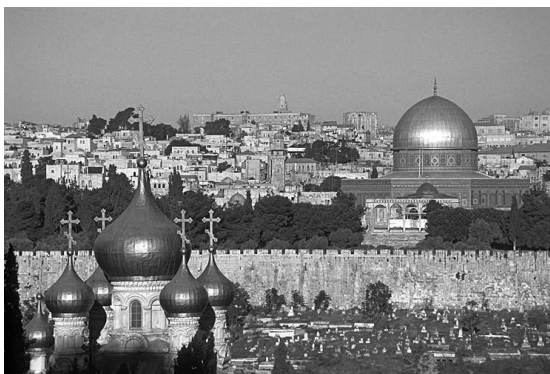
### **As far as I know I meet all the requirements—do you think I should register?**

## PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND 2018

**There are still one or two unfilled places on the next Holy Land Pilgrimage (22 May—1 June).**

Anyone considering this spiritual journey should contact the Rector without delay.

Final numbers will soon be needed, as the travel company must “firm up” numbers for accommodation and flights.



*Above: The Wedding of Delwyn and Pamela, which took place recently.*

You are invited to an evening with the

# **Ballyclare Male Choir**

**in St Bride's Church**

**on Wednesday 7 February at 7.30pm.**

*Refreshments afterwards.*

*Tickets available now!*

*An occasion not to be missed!*





*Above: Remembrance Sunday. The photo includes Audrey Manby (wreath-bearer), colour-bearer Stewart Henry, escorts Avril Nicholl and David Manby, and young people representing the uniformed organisations.*

*Below: The Baptism of Freddie Newell: Freddie with mum and dad, and godparents.*





**At the end of November the Scout Troop hold their annual night walk. This year they were joined by the Girl Guides.**

Eighteen young people and their leaders braved the cold and the dark of Ballyboley forest. There was plenty of excitement (and sweets) amongst the group as they set off into the forest and between breaks in the trees some amazing views over the lights of Ballyclare and beyond.

When the clouds cleared we did a bit of stargazing and some of the scouts and guides made their promise formalising their membership into the units.

The night walk every year sets a marker for the start of Advent and the carol service as well as the Christmas events happening in the youth organisations over the next few weeks. It was a pleasure this year to share this occasion with Sandra, Daphne and the Guides who attended.



## LARGE ATTENDANCE FOR CONFIRMATION



The church was well filled for the return of the Bishop to administer the Rite of Confirmation to nine candidates, three of whom were young people, and six were adults. We welcome them into fuller life within the Church.

Those confirmed were:  
Ashleigh Kane, Tegan Hurst, Jacob Charlton, Dorothy Gibson. Louise Gardiner, Beth Aiken, Stephen Aiken, Alan McLeod, David Holmes.

All gathered in the Parish Hall after the service, where relatives of the newly Confirmed had an opportunity to chat with the Bishop.



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*Why is there no information about such-and-such in the Herald?*

**Because there isn't any more room!**

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*Members of the Choir and other Kilbride parishioners at the home of Steve and Beth Aiken, where they all celebrated the American festival of Thanksgiving with singing, American food, and other joyful happiness!*



## FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

On 6 January we think of the Epiphany, the visit of the wise men to the baby Jesus. But who were these wise men? No one knows for sure. St Matthew calls them 'Magi', and that was the name of an ancient caste of a priestly kind from Persia, or modern day Iran.



It wasn't until the third century that they were called kings, by a Church father, Tertullian. People generally assume that there were three of them—to correspond to the number of gifts given—but this is rather flimsy evidence to make such an assumption, and the Bible simply doesn't tell us how many there were.

Later Christian interpretation came to understand gold as a symbol of wisdom and wealth, incense as a symbol of worship and sacrifice, and myrrh as a symbol of healing—and even embalming. Certainly Jesus challenged and set aright the way in which the world handled all three of these things.

There is also a great deal of debate as to when our Lord was visited by the wise men. It is highly unlikely that the visit took place on the night he was born, or even in the days and weeks afterwards. In fact, reading St Matthew's text very closely, we see that the visit could have been made up to two years after Jesus' birth.

The word Epiphany comes from a Greek word which means "showing forth", and the Feast is also known as "The Manifestation (or showing forth) of Christ to the Gentiles." It reminds us that Jesus was shown to the wise men, the representatives of the non-Jewish world. Epiphany is sometimes known as the Twelfth Day of Christmas. *You can read about the wise men in St Matthew's account of the Gospel, chapter 2.*

## PARISH OF KILBRIDE : ST BRIDE'S CHURCH

**- where Faith and Fellowship grow**

*"The people devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."  
[Acts 2:42]*

*We're on the Web—just take a look!*

[www.kilbrideparishchurch.org](http://www.kilbrideparishchurch.org)

**Well, are you going?**

Going to what?

**Ach, did you not read page 15?**

Er...no, I mustn't have.

**Well, we would advise you to read it again,  
because you're going to miss out!**

