

Kilbride **HERALD**

St Bride's—where Faith and Fellowship grow

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2019



A bird's-eye view of St Bride's

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
Phone: 9334 0225 E-mail: wdhumphries@hotmail.com

<p align="center">Reader Emeritus William Harper</p> <p align="center">Parish Reader David Holmes</p>	<p align="center">Honorary Treasurer Lilian Lyttle 9332 3211</p>
<p align="center">Rector's Churchwarden Clarence Gibson: 9332 3761</p> <p align="center">People's Churchwarden Iris McCormick: 9332 3921</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 Graham Campbell: 9334 0565</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 Beth Aiken</p> <p align="center">Sunday School Superintendent Eleanor Graham: 9334 0000</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>
	<p align="center">NEXT ISSUE: COPY DEADLINE Sunday 10 February</p>

**From the
Rector's
Desk**



**FRIDAY 1 JANUARY
THE NAMING OF JESUS**

Dear Parishioners,

Do you like your name? Some people do and some don't, but usually the name we are given by our parents is the one we keep for the rest of our lives.

Of course, people change their name for all sorts of reasons. Marion Morrison, the American actor, changed his name to John Wayne! Or, if we don't change our name we adopt a nickname and only hope it's a favourable one!

Would-be parents have the task of choosing a name for their baby, but in the Christmas story things were different. The parents of Jesus didn't have to select a name. Mary and Joseph were told by an angel what to call their new baby.

Their Child was given a special name. They were told to call Him 'Jesus' because He would be the 'Son of the Most High God' and 'save His people from their sins'.


This Baby had a name that described who He was and what He would do. We can only speculate on how Mary and Joseph felt about this.

When the angel spoke to the shepherds in the fields of Bethlehem, they were not provided with the name 'Jesus'. Instead, they were told He was their 'Saviour' and 'Christ the Lord'.

At Christmas, in our special services, it is usual to read again the words of Isaiah. He described Jesus with names such as Immanuel (God with us) and Prince of Peace. Our carols, traditional and contemporary, add more names and titles that help us celebrate Christ's coming. We use them to thank God for the everlasting life He gives to us.

As the apostle Peter said (who knew Jesus personally!) 'No other name has been or will be given to us by which we can be saved, only this one' (*Acts 4:12*). Thanks be to God for Jesus who has the Name above all names.

Your friend and Rector,



The Services at St Bride's



Friday 1 January Feast of the Naming of Jesus

11.00am Holy Communion
*followed by refreshments
in the Parish Room*

[1] Sunday 6 January Feast of the Epiphany

11.00am Holy Communion
6.00pm Prayers for Healing

[2] Sunday 13 January Epiphany 2

11.00am Morning Prayer

[3] Sunday 20 January Epiphany 3

11.00am Holy Communion
(Family Service)

[4] Sunday 27 January Epiphany 4

11.00am Morning Prayer
with Holocaust Memorial

Friday 1 February Feast of St Bride

11.00am Holy Communion

[1] Sunday 3 February 5th Sunday before Lent

11.00am Holy Communion
6.00pm Prayers for Healing

[2] Sunday 10 February 4th Sunday before Lent

11.00am Morning Prayer

[3] Sunday 17 February 3rd Sunday before Lent

11.00am Holy Communion
(Family Service)

[4] Sunday 24 February 2nd Sunday before Lent

11.00am Morning Prayer

[1] Sunday 3 March Sunday next before Lent

11.00am Holy Communion
6.00pm Prayers for Healing

*Cover Photo: George Rea
and his trusty satnav.
A couple: Ivan Topping
Most others: David Holmes*

The new year lies before you
Like a spotless tract of snow;
Be careful how you tread on
it,
For every mark will show.

We are
having a few
problems
with the
phone at the
Rectory. If
you find it difficult to contact
the Rector, please phone one
of the Churchwardens. Their
numbers can be found on the
front inside cover of this
magazine.

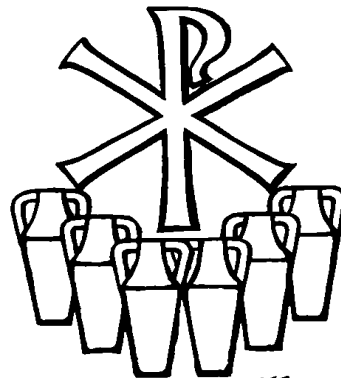


From the Registers

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

23 November
Wilma McVitty

26 November
Lily Andrews



Rejoice with
those who rejoice;
weep with those
who weep.
Be of one mind
towards one
another

BIG HOUSE MOVE FOR THE PARISH

In November the Rector moved house, ably assisted by about half-a-dozen parishioners. It was an experience never to be forgotten, and those who went through it said they could write a book about it—but no one would ever believe that the contents were true!

Since that day, various bodies have been working away in the new house, painting and decorating and getting it ready as a Rectory.

The Rector is very grateful for all the help he has received from the

Vestry Sub Committee and from many others — they all did a fantastic job!

We need to realise, of course, that we have now said a fond farewell to 7 Rectory Road—the house which served us as a Rectory for 123 years. It has been a great house, and we are probably one of the last parishes in the diocese to shed its big Victorian rectory and buy a more compact one, but this is the 21st century and we need to move on.

Now we have to get used to calling No.53 “The Rectory” and No. 7 “The old Rectory”.

The title of this article says



*The new Rectory at 53 Brook Meadow,
off the Ballymena Road.*



Clarence, Alan and Thomas (on the tractor) deliver the winter supply of firewood to the Rectory.

“Big house move for the parish”, but surely it was just the Rector who moved house?

No, it wasn't. In moving the Rectory from one place to another, we moved not only the Rector, but his work in the parish as well— the Rectory is the Rector's place of work as well as his home - so it really was a big move! The Rector is now living amongst his parishioners, which is a very good place for him to be.

MY INFLUENCE

*My life shall touch a dozen lives
Before this day is done;
Leave countless marks for good
or ill,
Ere sets the evening sun.*

*So this the wish I always wish,
The prayer I ever pray;
“Lord, may my life help other
lives
It touches by the way.”*



*The long-awaited interment of the Time Capsule
Above: Glebewardens Jim and Billy place the capsule in the chamber.
Below: A section of the congregation looks on.*





Want to put something in the Herald? The rules are easy to remember:

In every issue there is a little box which bears the deadline date for the next issue; that's the last day on which we can accept copy.

However, if the Herald is already full *before* that date, we just go to print immediately. So if you've got something you want to put into the Herald, it pays to get it in immediately, rather than to hold on to it.

You can send your copy to the Rector, or to Ivan, or to Iris. Give it to them personally, either on a flash drive or on paper. You can also email it to them—just phone them and ask for their email address.

The Kilbride Herald comes out every two months.

Remember, this is your parish magazine, and we want to see you make use of it.

We're also very grateful to our magazine distributors, who get the copies to the parishioners as quickly as possible, so that they don't miss anything. Their efficiency is very much appreciated.

Also, for those who appreciate modern technology, you can read the Herald on-line by calling up the parish website. You'll see the Herald there as a pdf.

Our parish is very modern and up-to-date in this respect!

Highlights of 2018

2018 was a big year for us—celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Consecration of St Bride's. So what were the big events of the year?

On Sunday 4 February we began preparation for the interment of a **Time Capsule**, to be buried in the church grounds in the hope that it would be brought up and examined on the 200th anniversary of the Consecration.

On Wednesday 7 February we rejoiced in the music of the **Ballyclare Male Voice Choir**, who sang in our church.

In Easter Week we held an **exhibition of the history of Doagh** in the Parish Hall. This was the excellent work of Alex Hill and Bob Adams, which attracted good-sized crowds throughout the week.

Sunday 15 April saw a **recital by our Parish Choir and others**, including some folks from the Organ Scholarship Scheme.

Former Rector **the Revd Paul Redfern** preached at Morning Prayer in June, and was warmly welcomed back by our congregation.

From June to August we had a series of **Car Boot Sales**, which brought members of the local community to St Bride's.

The Archbishop of Armagh was the special preacher at our **Thanksgiving Service** on Sunday 10 June.

The Rector conducted a **Pilgrimage to the Six Churches** on Wednesday 13 June, when our parishioners braved the rain to offer thanks to God for the Christians of the past in our own parish.

Friday 22 June was the date of our **Parish Celebration Banquet** at the Rosspark Hotel, for which a good number of parishioners turned up.

On Saturday 29 September we again filled the Parish Hall for “**Class Act**” -organised by Kathryn Hamill.

Canon David Brown preached at our **Harvest Thanksgiving Service** on Sunday 30 September.

On Sunday 1 October we were privileged to welcome the **Ballyclare Branch of the Royal British Legion**, and the Rector dedicated their new standard.

Members of Freemasonry filled the church to capacity on Sunday 14 October, and took part in a colourful Evening Prayer.

On Sunday 21 October we interred the **Time Capsule** in the church grounds.

David Holmes was Commissioned as a Parish Reader on Sunday 28 October—another big step for our parish.

In November we had what is generally known as **the Craic Night**, organised as usual by David and George Rea. The hall was full, and we had to pinch extra seats from the Parish Room. What a fantastic night!

On Sunday 2 December we broadcast **Holy Communion** to the populace on **BBC Radio Ulster**—always a privilege to be involved in this.

DID YOU **KNOW?**

We don't have priests in the Church of Ireland—do we?

Yes, of course we do! There are three orders of clergy in the Church of Ireland—Bishops, Priests and Deacons.

Oh! Why do we have these three orders?

Support for this is found in the New Testament, and it was the only ministry recognised by all Christians during the first fifteen hundred years of the Church's life.

A **Bishop** is the chief shepherd and ruler in the Church. He guards the faith, ordains and confirms—he exercises ministry according to the example of the Apostles.

Almost every other Church of Ireland clergyman you see is a **Priest**.

He preaches the Word of God and administers the Sacraments;

he pronounces absolution and blesses the congregation. He also teaches the people and cares for them through his pastoral ministry.

There are also **Deacons** in the Church, who usually help the Priest in his ministrations. There are not many Deacons in the Church of Ireland. The Deacon cannot pronounce the absolution or the blessing, and he/she cannot celebrate the Holy Communion.

So this is the threefold ministry of Bishops, Priests and Deacons, to which the Church of Ireland adheres most rigidly.

But I thought that the only church which has Priests is the Roman Catholic Church.

That is certainly not the case! The Church of Ireland has always had Priests, ordained by Bishops with the Laying on of Hands throughout the centuries. We regard this tradition as something rather vital—indeed, it is part of what we call the Lambeth Quadrilateral, which we can deal with in the next issue.

BIG DAY FOR DAVID HOLMES



David Holmes (*extreme left*) who was commissioned as a Parish Reader by the Warden of Readers, the Revd Kevin Graham (*centre*). Also included above are the Rector, the Revd Jonny Campbell-Smyth from Ballynure & Ballyeaston (*4th from left*), and his Reader, Michael Ogilby (*extreme right*), also commissioned at the service.

A large congregation attended Evening Prayer in support of David and Michael; the Choir prepared an anthem for the occasion, and the Kilbride ladies offered a lovely supper. We are pleased that St Bride's was chosen to be the venue for this momentous service. Please pray for David and Michael as they continue their work in the service of God.

LEARN FROM THE GREAT BIBLE PERSONALITIES

If you are impatient, sit down and talk with Job.

If you are just a little strong-headed, go and see Moses.

If you are tired and afraid, take a good look at Elijah.

If there is no song in your heart, listen to David.

If you feel cold and lonely, get the beloved disciple John to put his arm around you.

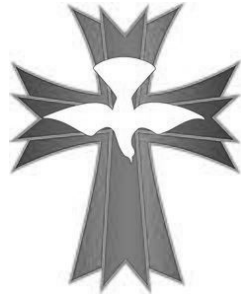
If your faith is weak, read about the apostle Paul.

If you are getting lazy, listen to James.

If you are losing sight of the future, climb up the stairs of Revelation and get a glimpse of the promised land.



At the time of going to press we can announce that Councillor Vera McWilliam was invited to be the special guest at our tree lighting ceremony at Christmas. We are grateful to her for her time at a very busy period of the year. And thanks to all who worked so hard and who supported this event.

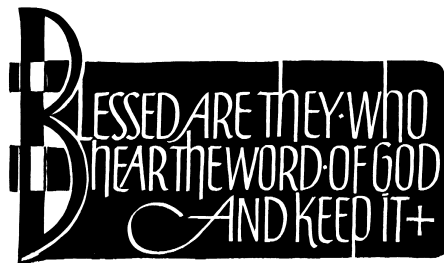


Adult Confirmation

Some adults have expressed a desire to be Confirmed; others have said that they would like to follow the course and decide about Confirmation later. Okay, either option is fine, and both groups of people can do the course together.

The Bishop is somewhat unwell at the moment, and it may be that the rota for Confirmation will be delayed. But there is no reason why we can't start preparation anyway, and we should do that as quickly as possible.

If you are thinking of Confirmation, or of following the Confirmation course, or of getting to know your faith a little better, please **SPEAK TO THE RECTOR AS SOON AS YOU CAN.**



What the Church is to me

A door:

Into an opportunity for service.
Into the most useful life.
Into the best of life's experiences.
Into the most hopeful future.

An armoury:

To get power to fight evil.
To get inspiration to keep doing right.
To get an uplifting influence.
To get a vision of Christ.

An anchor:

To keep me steady in the storm.
To keep me from the breakers.
To guide me in the strenuous life.
To hold me lest I drift from God.
To help me through the time of temptation.





Friday 29 March 2019 ▣ Music ▣ Tickets £12

7.45pm at the Mill Theatre

Live Issue is considered by many to be one of the most popular Country Gospel groups in the British Isles. The group comprises Colin Elliott, Roy Dreaning, Sam Armstrong, Carl Sands and Ivan McLernon. Although they still play at many events in Northern Ireland, they are also regularly performing at concerts and conventions throughout the British Isles and Europe. Live Issue has shared the stage with many Country music legends and their live performances in Nashville have been broadcast across the world.

It is clear when you watch and listen to Live Issue just how much the members of the group love their music, The lads take their ministry

and faith very seriously and believe that God has given them important opportunities to spread the Gospel through their music.

On Friday 29 March the Mill Theatre has ben booked by us—yes, US—the Parish of Kilbride!

We're hoping that you'll come along to hear this very popular group. In fact, we'd advise you to go, because the chat thereafter—in coffee shops and pubs and on the bus—will be about the Mill on Friday 29 March.

***Don't want to be left out?
Then get your ticket and
put the date in your diary!***

BBC RADIO

On Sunday 2 December we broadcast the Morning Service on BBC Radio Ulster at 10.15.

It is always a privilege to work with the BBC, and the producer Dr Bert Tosh, did a very professional job in his usual, relaxed manner.

The choir excelled themselves for the service, as did the readers Ashley Hurst and David Holmes; Beth was a superb organist (as always!) and our guest conductor Ruth McCartney inspired confidence in the ranks!

Thanks also to the congregation, who did their utmost to ensure that the listeners at home got the best out of the service.

In case you're interested, our little service was sent live to the mast at Divis (22 miles away), where it was then relayed to sundry places. With modern technology, Radio Ulster can be picked up virtually anywhere—and we hope

it was!

The Rector has certainly received emails and letters from places near and far, from people who like to hear “a traditional service.”



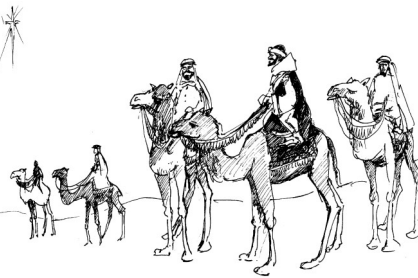
*The BBC transmitting station
on top of
Divis Mountain*



EPIPHANY

'A cold coming we had of it. Just the worst time of the year. For a journey and such a long journey.' ('Journey of the Magi', T.S. Eliot).

In this poem, T.S. Eliot imagines the journey of the Magi to worship Jesus, as told in Matthew 2. This story is at the heart of our celebration of Epiphany, as we remember the astrologers from the East following a star to find the baby: *'Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.'* (Matthew 2:1,2).



The Magi provide a powerful picture of the journey we make in searching for God in our lives. Like them, it requires time and effort (they travelled for months) and will not always be easy! As they followed the star, so we are called to pursue God's light in our lives.

What does this say to us at the beginning of a New Year? Are we ready to go deeper in our relationship with God? Are we looking for new ways to use our time, treasure and talents for Him? It is a great time to offer these things to Him, and like the Magi, commit ourselves to pursue them. His light, through prayer, worship and his Word, will be our guide on the way.



T.S. Eliot used the imagined journey of the magi to reflect on his own spiritual journey. It reveals the pain and doubts he experienced on his long and troubled journey to find the light of Christ. He describes finding Christ as a *'hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death'*. Are we prepared to make this journey for ourselves?

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]*

**Worshipping God
Building the Church
Reaching the People**

