

St Bride's—where Faith and Fellowship grow
JULY/AUGUST 2018



The Primate and The Revd Clyde Irvine join the Rector at the church door after the big Thanksgiving Service.

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

Reader Emeritus

William Harper

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

Lilian Lyttle 9332 3311

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

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 12 August



THE GIFTS GOD GIVES US

If we are not practical, it's good to know we can call on plumbers and electricians to sort out our house problems. Some people are gifted with practical knowledge and skills, and we could not do without them.

Other people are more creative and artistic. Such folk may not be able to build a house, but they can fill it with beauty and meaning through their music, painting, sculpture and books.

The Bible mentions Bezalel and Oholiab, who lived in Moses' time. Bezalel's specialty was working with metals; cutting and setting jewels and carving wood. Oholiab was an engraver, a designer and a weaver. Together, these two men had great skill, understanding and creativity, and made the Tabernacle the beautiful dwelling that it was.

Many years later, King Solomon commissioned Huram, a native of Tyre, to make objects for the Temple out of gold, silver, bronze, iron, stone and wood. He also made coloured cloths and linen. Without Huram's expertise, the magnificence of the Temple in Jerusalem would not have been realised or remembered!

Such people should encourage us as we seek to discover God's plan for our lives. We, too, are called to be faithful in serving God through using whatever particular gifts He has given us. Faithful obedience is what matters, not whether or not we end up in a position of responsibility, or in a quiet backwater. 'Success' for a Christian is not fame, but a deeper walk, and more fruitful walk, with God.

In fact, the majority of Christians are called to serve God without fame or recognition. Our aim should be to simply love God and to express this in the service of others, with whatever skill or gift we have been given.

The Services at St Bride's



[1] Sunday 1 July Trinity 5

11.00am Holy Communion

[2] Sunday 8 July Trinity 6

11.00am Morning Prayer

[3] Sunday 15 July Trinity 7

11.00am Holy Communion

[4] Sunday 22 July Trinity 8

11.00am Morning Prayer

[5] Sunday 29 July Trinity 9

11.00am Morning Prayer

[1] Sunday 5 August Trinity 10

11.00am Holy Communion

[2] Sunday 12 August Trinity 11

11.00am Morning Prayer

[3] Sunday 19 August Trinity 12

11.00am Holy Communion

[4] Sunday 26 August Trinity 13

11.00am Morning Prayer

[1] Sunday 2 September Trinity 14

11.00am Holy Communion 6.00pm Prayers for Healing

CONTACTING THE RECTOR

Over the summer, the Rector just might take a couple of days off! Phone him several times in the day; if you still can't get him, phone a church warden (numbers on front inside page). The warden will be able to tell you if he is on holiday or just 'out'. If the Rector is away, the warden could also tell you who is covering for him, and give you the phone number.

Needless to say, this is for emergencies only, and non-urgent business should be kept until the Rector is available.



A few members of our walking group giving themselves a well-earned treat after a gruelling evening walk. They've more recently been up Cave Hill, Slemish—and probably a dozen other places by the time this edition of the HERALD goes to print. To find out where they're going next and join them, just have a word with David Holmes (the big guy on the right).



THEY'RE STILL TALKING ABOUT IT!

The Exhibition on the History of Doagh run by Alex Hill and Bob Adams is still the subject of a great deal of discussion in and around the parish.

People were amazed that a little place like Doagh had so much history—and a large amount of it related to the Church of Ireland parish.

One interesting result of the presentation was that it helped older parishioners to remember the past, and to talk about it.

Conversations ranged from the narrow-gauge railway and the souterrains to the Independent Row and 'Silver John.'

As well as parishioners, quite a few visitors came to the exhibition, including Deputy Mayor Vera McWilliam, who felt that the way everything was presented set the scene very well.

We thank everyone who was involved—Alex and Bob, the folk who laid on the tea, and others who supported us each night, especially Beth and Betty, who readily identified and welcomed visitors.



A LITTLE BIT OF QUID PRO QUO

The Rector and some parishioners recently had a chat with Mr Alan McDowell from Coleman's Garden Centre—and it proved to be a very successful meeting for all of us.

How can they help us? How can we help them? Wait and see! What we can simply say at this stage is that we are obtaining assistance with some fund-raising efforts over the next few months, (don't worry, they're not making cash donations, and neither are we), and so some mutual assistance is likely to grow.

So it wouldn't do any harm if you wanted to buy a few plants there—and have your morning coffee as well! Watch this space!



Three cups of coffee a day can do you good. At least, scientists at the University of San Paulo have found that people who drink three cups of coffee a day have fewer calcium deposits in their arteries, which means you have a better blood flow, and hence less heart disease.

On the other hand, the European Food Safety Agency advises that no more than *four* cups of coffee should be drunk in a day. Too much caffeine may increase heart problems and overall anxiety.

PROFESSOR'S INVENTION TO BE USED AT KILBRIDE



It was Frank Pantridge, a native of Hillsborough, who invented the portable defibrillator, which is now widely used in Northern Ireland and beyond, and which has been, quite literally, a lifesaver.

Some months ago an anonymous parishioner provided the money to donate a defibrillator for the parish, and on a recent evening in the Parish Room, lessons were given in how to use it.

Those in attendance also revised their knowledge of how to give CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) while waiting for the device, which restarts the heart through means of an electric shock.

Many people are frightened to use a defibrillator, thinking that they

might do the patient more harm than good. The chances of this happening are virtually impossible. Once the defibrillator is operating, it gives simple instructions to the first-aider, even assessing the patient through the pads which are put on the chest.

Lots of public places now have difibrillators, including churches, shopping centres, train stations, airports, offices and schools.

At the moment, plans are being devised to have our defibrillator in the right place in the parish hall during the week, and in the church on Sunday.

Thank you to quite a few people who came to the training session. Let's hope you will never be used in this capacity—but better to be safe!

Professor Frank Pantridge was a physician and cardiologist from Northern Ireland who transformed emergency medicine and paramedic services with the invention of the portable defibrillator. Although he was known worldwide as the "Father of Emergency Medicine", Frank Pantridae was acclaimed in his own country, and was saddened that it took until 1990 for all front-line ambulances in the UK to be fitted with his lifesaving device.



Learning CPR in the Parish Room.



PRIMATE ROLLS IN FOR BIG SERVICE

The Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland was the special guest and preacher at the big Ser-



vice of Thanksgiving on Sunday 10 June.

Archbishop Richard Clarke preached a stirring sermon which is presently on the diocesan web-

site for anyone who could not get to the service.

We were also delighted to welcome The Revd Clyde Irvine who was Rector of Kilbride from 1969 until 1974, and his wife Mildred. Many senior parishioners were so pleased to see them after such a long time. Other folk, including Paul and Betty, were on holiday and couldn't be with us on the occasion.

A lot of people worked very hard to allow us to offer thanksgiving





to God in a special way. The choir excelled themselves, and both organist and choir director made a very significant contribution to the service.

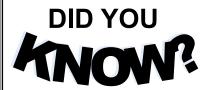
Also, much preparation had been done beforehand by people like the Churchwardens and those who did the flowers—a truly magnificent job, and those who prepared the tea in the parish hall are also to be thanked for their excellent service.

All in all, everyone worked very hard for the Service of Thanks-giving—a big thank you to all.

The Service of Thanksgiving and the Pilgrimage to the Six Church-

es bring to a close our period of celebration which has lasted about a year.

From now on we will be concentrating on the present—but especially the future, as we begin to build our parish up—spiritually, financially, and in every other good way, so that we may maintain our Christian witness in this wonderful neighbourhood of Kilbride and beyond.



PRAYING FOR THE DEAD. DO WE? DON'T WE? SHOULD WE? IS THERE A CHURCH OF IRELAND POSITION?

Prayers for the dead were said by the Pharisees in the Jewish Synagogues, and it would have been entirely natural for the Jewish Christians to continue this practice in their Christian worship.

Nowhere is this practice condemned in the Church of Ireland. It is really a matter of opinion to be left to the individual, but the 'departed' are remembered at every service of Holy Communion.

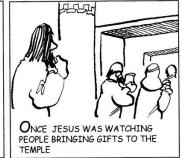
Certainly prayers relating to the dead help to make us more aware of the reality of life "beyond the veil."

But when we think of the faithful departed, it is important that we keep in mind the central and supreme position of our Lord Jesus Christ as the one mediator between God and man; and what we should most certainly do with the saints is to thank God for them and pray for his grace to help us follow their good examples.





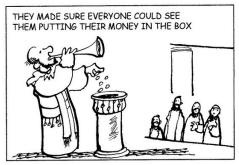






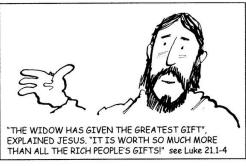












From the Rector's Desk



Dear Parishioners,

After such a long period of celebration, it is necessary for us to turn back to reality and take a good look at ourselves as a parish family.

We have many strengths as a group of Christian people, but we also have weaknesses, and one of our most concerning weaknesses is that our income no longer meets our needs.

For some time now, there has been more money going out of our accounts than there is coming in, and to leave that situation without attempting to put it right would be foolish, as in simple terms, we will soon run out of money!

We must bite the bullet! So in the month of September we will be holding what people used to call a Stewardship Campaign.

In Kilbride there has not been such a campaign for a long time, and while a few people review their Freewill Offering every year, others don't do it unless they're asked to. This results in a diminishing of the value of our weekly offering over a period of time, as prices rise steadily—but our offerings do not.

The plain fact of the matter is that all our possessions belong to God – and that includes our money—so we do need to make sure that God is getting back a very reasonable amount of what he has already given to us!

This brings up all sorts of questions: What does the Church spend our money on anyway? Does the Church not get money from central funds? If we're short, just spend less—that'll sort it out! Well, it's not just as simple as that—which is why we'll be running a stewardship campaign in September.

What we're asking right now is that all of our people pray about this situation, asking God to show us how to conduct it in the right way. We're serious about this, and we'll conclude it as quickly as possible—but only when we've managed to sort matters out.

We believe we can rely on all our people to help. Thanks.

Your friend and Rector,



BEWARE ADDICTIVE GAMES

How will your children be spending their time this summer? Hopefully *not* in playing too many highly addictive video games such as Fortnight. Fortnight pits 100 players against each other and is free to play on mobile phones and consoles. Since its launch last July, it has been downloaded more than 40 million times in the UK, and has been endorsed

by numerous celebrities from footballers to rappers.

But experts are concerned. Anne Longfield, the Children's Commissioner, says: 'Many parents are really worried about the power some games and apps have over their children's lives, and the way they encourage them to keep buying new features...'

Nigel Huddleston, a Tory MP, warns: 'Some highly addictive games consume huge amounts of young people's lives, when that time can be spent on more valuable, real-world activities.'



People who carry out voluntary tasks within our parish are worth celebrating.

For example, those who provide and display flowers week by week labour faithfully—and they make the church look splendid!

And don't worry—if you do another job, we'll probably get around to mentioning you in due course!

A THOUGHT...

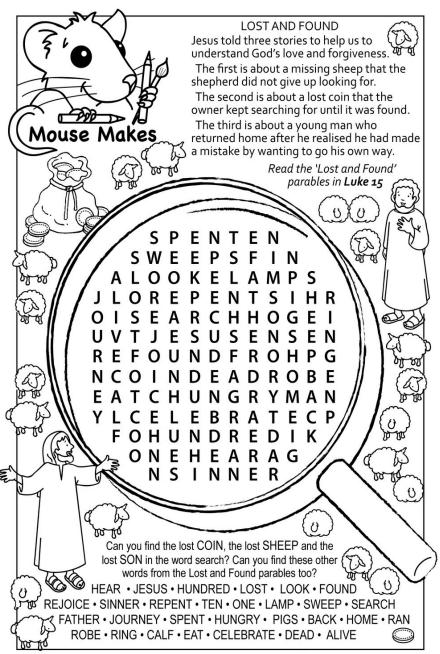
The recent Blue Planet II series exposed just how much plastic waste is an issue in our seas. The Prime Minister has called plastic waste 'one of the great environmental scourges of our time.' The best estimates suggest 10 million tonnes of plastic ends up in our oceans, contaminating and killing sea life. How should we view this issue from a Christian perspective?

When God created the universe, He saw 'everything He had made, and indeed, it was very good.' (Genesis 1:31). He calls us to share in His care of creation: 'Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves on the ground.' (Genesis 1:28). Our rule over living creatures is not an excuse to exploit them in a selfish way. As those who made in the image of God, we are entrusted to care for them with responsibility and trustworthiness.

Why do the sea creatures being killed by plastic matter? Because of human rebellion against God (see Genesis 3), our relationship with God and His creation was damaged. No longer do we live with living creatures in harmony and interdependence. Yet after the flood, when Noah rescued the animals in the ark, they are included in God's everlasting promise to protect the earth: 'I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you, and with every living creature that was with you.' (Genesis 9:9,10).

What is our response to be? Where is God calling us, as His people in this time and place, to make a stand in protecting His creation? Time for a plastic revolution? Absolutely!





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MAKING A SPECIAL PILGRIMAGE

You probably know that the Rector has been conducting an annual pilgrimage to the Holy Land for the past 24 years, and within the Church of Ireland he is considered to be something of an expert on life and culture in Israel and the West Bank, as well as having an in -depth knowledge of the holy sites.



The next pilgrimage is 14—24 May 2019, and booking usually opens about now, as it takes almost a year for pilgrims to prepare for such a spiritual journey.

Each year the people of St Bride's are the first to be invited on pilgrimage, whether you are new to the Holy Land or have been many times before.

For those who go, reading the Gospels will never be the same again.



By visiting the Holy Land we are standing with our brothers and sisters there too. To have the chance to meet the 'living stones', the local Palestinian and Israeli Christians who are the ongoing living Church in the region, is humbling.

The pilgrimage will include the sites where the most important events in our Lord's life and ministry took place: in Jerusalem and the surrounding area and further north in Galilee. Although we always include the major sites, each pilgrimage is different from the one before in quite a few ways.

Pilgrimage is not for everyone, but





if you have never been on pilgrimage in the Holy Land you have the opportunity to join us.

Our journey is a life-changing as well as a faith-changing experience.

You are invited to come on the journey and to share in this great opportunity to see those places we

read of in the Scriptures.

Further details are available from the Rector, who will be delighted to discuss matters with you. There are also brochures on the table at the back of the church; feel free to take one.

St Jerome said, 'Five Gospels record the life of Jesus. Four you will find in books, and the other you will find in the land they call "holy". Read the fifth Gospel and the four will open to you.'







THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS

at the Service of Thanksgiving, beautifully arranged in St Bride's colours.