

Kilbride HERALD

St Bride's—where Faith and Fellowship grow

JULY/AUGUST 2019



ST BRIDE'S WINS THE BIG AWARD!

- see page 6 -

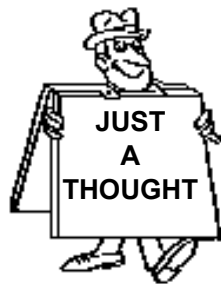
PARISH OF KILBRIDE : ST BRIDE'S CHURCH
- where Faith and Fellowship grow

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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>
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<p align="center">Honorary Secretary Ivan Topping 9334 1916</p> <p align="center">FWO Secretary Ashley Hurst 07890 583 692</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>
	<p align="center">NEXT ISSUE: COPY DEADLINE Sunday 28 July</p>

SO YOU THINK THAT GOD CAN'T USE YOU?

The next time you feel like God can't use you,
just remember...



Noah was a drunk, Abraham was too old, Isaac was a daydreamer, Jacob was a liar, Leah was ugly, Joseph was abused, Moses had a stuttering problem, Gideon was afraid, Samson had long hair and was a womaniser, Rahab was a prostitute, Jeremiah and Timothy were too young, David had an affair and was a murderer, Elijah was suicidal, Isaiah preached naked, Jonah ran from God, Naomi was a widow, Job went bankrupt, Peter denied Christ, the Disciples fell asleep while praying, Martha worried about everything, the Samaritan woman was divorced (several times), Zachaeus was too small, Paul was too religious, Timothy had an ulcer...and...Lazarus was dead!

So what's your excuse? In truth, God can use you to your full potential, whatever your past. Why? Because you aren't the message, you're just the messenger.

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE A NET THAT WAS CAST INTO THE SEA AND CAUGHT FISH OF EVERY KIND. WHEN IT WAS FULL, THE FISHERMEN PULLED IT ASHORE, AND SITTING ON THE BEACH, THEY PUT THE GOOD FISH IN THEIR BUCKETS & THREW THE USELESS AWAY.

The Services at St Bride's



[1] Sunday 7 July
Trinity 3

11.00am Holy Communion

[2] Sunday 14 July
Trinity 4

11.00am Morning Prayer

[3] Sunday 21 July
Trinity 5

11.00am Holy Communion

[4] Sunday 28 July
Trinity 6

11.00am Morning Prayer

[1] Sunday 4 August
Trinity 7

11.00am Holy Communion

[2] Sunday 11 August
Trinity 8

11.00am Morning Prayer

[3] Sunday 18 August
Trinity 9

11.00am Holy Communion

[4] Sunday 25 August
Trinity 10

11.00am Morning Prayer

Please note that there are no "family services" in July and August; these begin again in September. Neither are there any Prayers for Healing, which commence on the first Sunday in September.



**WALK THEN,
AS CHILDREN
OF LIGHT,
FOR THE FRUIT
OF THE
LIGHT IS IN
GOODNESS
AND JUSTICE
AND TRUTH**

KILBRIDE'S FASHION SHOW AT COLEMAN'S GARDEN CENTRE

This event happened just as our last edition was going to print, so we were just able to mention it and no more. Here's the report:

Over 150 ladies gathered in Coleman's Garden Centre to enjoy a fashion show and lovely supper. The clothes being modelled had all been donated to the charity and most were brand new with a small proportion being 'pre-loved'. The ladies had a thoroughly good evening and enjoyed watching 'volunteer' models displaying the beautiful outfits as the models walked through the audience. Coleman's staff prepared a delicious supper which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. All the clothing modelled was available for purchase at the end of the evening and proceeds from the sale of tickets and the clothing ensured that it was an excellent fund-raising event.

Thanks to all who organised and supported the event, particularly the Ladies' Group, and also to Blythwood, and to Coleman's for their generosity in lending us their lovely venue.



KILBRIDE WINS CHURCH OF IRELAND COMMUNICATIONS COMPETITION

Listen up, folks, this is good news: the Parish of Kilbride has won the Church of Ireland Central Communications Board's Annual Communications Competition!

Now that's a bit of a mouthful, but let's simplify it. How did we win it? We entered our Website and it was judged, together with all the other parish websites which were entered, for quality of presentation, strength of content, and outreach potential.

The Parish Website is the work of David Holmes, who maintains it and updates it regularly, and David is to be warmly congratulated on this wonderful achievement for our parish.

The whole aim of establishing a website for Kilbride was to help build up the parish family and

communicate the Christian Faith. We believe that through the website we are doing this in a big way.

Well, our website has been noticed by those on the Communications Board, who feel that the site is worthy as competition winner 2019. The competition was run by the Church of Ireland Press Office but externally and professionally judged

We find this very encouraging, and we do hope that as many of our folks as possible will take a regular look at the site and keep up to date with all that's going on in our parish.



www.kilbrideparishchurch.org

- just take a look!



*David Holmes is presented with the Communications Award 2019
by Scott Hayes of Ecclesiastical Insurance
at a reception in the Guildhall, Londonderry*

A statement by the judges: 'This website has a wonderful landing page with excellent use of menus. It feels inviting and uncluttered. The content is superb – very dynamic and up to date. The website is full of life and tells us that the parish is full of life and energy.'

HOLIDAYS

The Rector says he'll be taking a wee break, but he never says when. What if I need a clergyman when he's away?



The Rector doesn't take a break very often, but he does value his holidays, so you can expect him to be away at some time. The best people to know the Rector's plans are the Churchwardens, so if you can't get the Rector on the phone, speak to a Churchwarden. They'll be able to put you in touch with whoever is looking after emergencies. If the Churchwardens look blankly at you and shrug their shoulders, the chances are that the Rector isn't far away, so phone him again!



Brother David of the Society of St Francis, who preached at St Bride's recently, on the subject "Equipping for Life."



Gavin and Jenna, who were recently married at St Bride's.



Twins Baptised at St Bride's! Amelia and Sophie with mum and dad (Stephen and Felicity), Godparents and the Rector.



Members of the Walking group are continuing their rambles every Tuesday evening. Here they are on top of a mountain.

WATCHMEN FOCUS ON THE WORKINGS OF THE ORGAN

On a recent evening the Rector gave an extremely interesting talk on how the church organ works and there was a chance to see the workings of this magnificent instrument behind the scenes, in an area that few people get to see.

There are literally hundreds of pipes hidden behind the console and the decorative pipes, with levers and rods and wires in abundance and all to make beautiful music. The Rector demonstrated the effect of adjusting stops and how using different combinations can create such a wide range of sounds.

The organ in St Bride's is quite old and has been refurbished a number of times since it was first installed. From time to time it needs a visit from a tuning expert to keep it sounding as well as it does.

The men all enjoyed the talk and the Rector put the organ through its paces as a finale. Everyone enjoyed a cup of tea and a chat in the Parish Room when many questions were asked. A discussion about next year's programme finished off the evening.



Located under the "swell organ" are the swell solenoids, behind which can be seen the tiniest pipes of the "great organ", each one no bigger than a pencil.



Above: The tuning platform and pipes of part of the instrument which is known as the “great organ”, set immediately behind the display pipes, which are seen from the church.

Below: Sitting around the console, discussing an “organ crawl.”



HOLIDAYS CAN BE 'HOLY DAYS'

No doubt you are beginning to look forward to your summer holidays. Just think about it – sun, sea and sand, time to relax and unwind, no deadlines to meet, no responsibilities to shoulder . . . ah, bliss!

We are fortunate to live at a time when workers are encouraged to take time off from work for the sake of their well-being. Most employees are given 4-6 weeks paid holiday each year, plus Bank Holidays. What a blessing that is, and a far cry from the day when the only time workers had off was on church Feast days – the original holy days.

This year, rather than go on holiday and forget God, we might use our time away to become even more aware of God's presence in our lives. Here's how:

- (1) Thank God for recreation. Whatever helps you relax and wind-down is a gift from God to be received with thankfulness and enjoyed to the full.
- (2) Take extra time to sleep and adopt a slower pace. This is how you will

recharge your batteries and be refreshed.

(3) Make space for the relationships that matter to you, especially your family and friends. Enjoy each other's company, talk and laugh together, enjoy unhurried meals.

(4) Notice God in the world around you. Let the beauty of God's creation fill your soul with wonder. Linger and look deeply at everything you see.

(5) Take a good book with you that will nourish your inner life; listen to music that will help you relax. Breathe deeply and walk slowly, there's no need to rush.

Psalm 23:2 comes to mind: 'He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside still waters, He restores my soul.'
Happy Holidays!





A PRIVATE MATTER

There is a limit as to how much of my private affairs I am willing to share with others. I am happy to tell you how I met Yeshua, yet I still keep some things to myself.

My name is Nathaniel, and I used to live in Bethsaida—"the lace of nets". It's a fishing village by the Sea of Galilee.

I have a friend called Philip. We have always been friends, because we are so alike—not brash or loud, and certainly not collaborators or nationalists.

We don't keep ourselves entirely to ourselves—we like to join in endeavours to help other people less fortunate than ourselves.

Soon after we heard about Yeshua, the carpenter from Nazareth who had come to live in Capernaum, the village next to ours, we asked people about him. It appeared that he had begun

preaching in the synagogue, and in the open air, to people by the lake and in the marketplace.

He said that he was fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah, that he had been anointed to preach good news to the poor, recovery of sight to the blind, and so on.

One day Philip called and said he had met him, and asked me to go with him to see him. I was a bit doubtful, but I went. When he saw me, he said to me "Here is a true Israelite; there's nothing false about you."

"How do you know me?" I asked.

"Before Philip called for you, I saw you under the fig tree."

People have often asked me what I was doing at the time, but it is private, and I am quite sure no one saw me, yet he obviously knew all about it—it was a sort of miracle.

"Master, you are the Son of God, the King of Israel," I said, and I meant it.

***The full conversation is in
St John 1:43-51.***

DID YOU **KNOW?**

In our services, we're always talking about "the Creeds." Do you know what "Creed" means?

It comes from a Latin verb, *Credo*, "I believe", and a Creed gives us a summary of what we believe as Christians.

There are three creeds with which we concern ourselves: the Apostles' Creed, The Nicene Creed, and the Creed of St Athanasius. The last two are longer than the first, and they go into more detail.

The Apostles' Creed is the one we say at Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer, and it contains a summary of the belief of the Church. Most of the Apostles' Creed is easy to understand, but there are a few things which might require a greater explanation.

For example, the Creed talks of belief in the holy, catholic

Church. Are we really catholics?

Yes, we are. But we are not *Roman* Catholics. In this case, "catholic" means "universal". Someone once said, "The Church is Catholic because it has the *whole* faith for the *whole* world." That's a very good description.

The Apostles' Creed also tells us that the Church is what we call Apostolic. This simply means that the faith has been handed down to us by the Apostles; it contains the teaching, or doctrine which the Apostles taught.

Also, the Apostles' Creed talks about the "Communion of Saints" - what's that?

All Christian people, living and departed, are united in the Communion of Saints. This is a wonderful thing, and one that we tend to forget. But we should always remember that we are united in the fellowship of Christ's body, the Church.

Lastly, what is the symbol on the right-hand page? Is it a

Christian symbol?



Yes, it *is* a Christian symbol. It consists of the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ, which are Chi (**X**) and Rho (**P**).

This is the earliest symbol used by the Church, and it was probably used as a means by which Christians recognised one another during the days of persecution.



GOD'S FINGERPRINTS

God has signed his signature
Across the midnight sky,
His hands have placed the
stars in space
Beyond the naked eye.
On snowflakes, birds and but-
terflies
And waves upon the sea,
On seashells on the sandy
shore
His fingerprints we see.

Mountain peaks and singing
streams
The clouds, the earth, the land,
Each living thing all bears the
stamp
Of his creative hand.
In colour, texture and design
On blossom, bud and tree,
He leaves his hallmark every-
where
For those with eyes to see.

Kathleen Gillum





CLIMATE CHANGE

The problem is personal

Many scientists are now convinced that the world's climate is changing in dangerous ways. These changes creep up on us slowly and it is easy to think that the problems are too large for us to tackle, but there is a moral challenge here that must be faced.

It is 'greenhouse gasses' which are most certainly the cause of the gradual increase in global temperature since the 1960s. Carbon dioxide is produced by burning fuels, generating electricity and transport. Other gasses are produced in landfill sites, industrial processes and some fertilisers (as well as from natural sources).

The reduction of CFCs, which damage the ozone layer, is an example of what can be achieved by consumer lobbying and choice, by businesses which adapt their production and marketing methods and by international agreement. Third World countries have been given help to switch to alternatives.

Progress has not been so good with the greenhouse gasses like carbon dioxide; many countries

are not meeting their own targets, and the churches, although now on board, have been very slow to react.

What can Kilbride do? We can all help by insulating our homes, using energy-efficient appliances and cutting down on car use. We can compost household waste instead of sending it for landfill. We all contribute to the problem, so we are all morally obliged to contribute to the solution.

The whole problem of Climate Change and “Going Green” is something which we as a parish family need to talk about.

Expect debates and discussions from September.

CLIMATE CHANGE

- we can't blame God for it -

The situation is serious, as are the drastic nature of measures needed to halt change, if not to reverse it. Where does this leave the community of faith? Are we to blame God for deserting us in our hour of prosperity/ Are we, like Job's friends and neighbours, to say “curse God and die”?

Or are we to recognise that however unpalatable this may seem, it is our actions and our collective lifestyle that has brought about this situation?

Fifty years ago the average British citizen travelled five miles a day; now he or she travels 29 miles, and nine of that is overseas air travel. Fifty years ago the average home contained two or three electric motors, a vacuum cleaner, a fridge, and perhaps a washing machine; count how many there are in your home today.

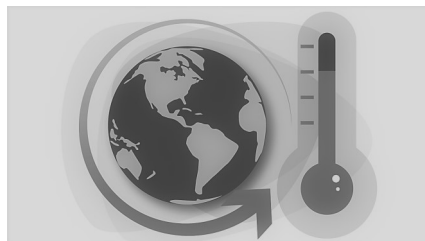
Yet we should not be dismayed. The years of crisis are often the landmarks of faith: the exodus, the

exile, the persecutions under Nero, all of these have led people off aith towards new understanding of the God who is Redeemer as well as Creator, who is with us no matter what, and so will climate change, and our response to it.

Like Noah in Genesis 9 we have been given responsibility for the earth and for managing its fruitfulness; like Moses in Leviticus 25 we have the task of allowing years for the land to rest.

But we have widely ignored these ecological covenants, and we are now paying the price for squandering God's gifts.

Yet of this crisis helps us to focus on using his gifts simply but well, it will be worth the problems of change.



HERE'S A LITTLE SELF-TEST

Dare you to take it!

Your image of God

The following is not a scientific test, but it will help you to assess whether your image of God conforms to the God Jesus reveals.

1 Do you think God has put us on earth as a test, to see if we'll obey his laws? Yes/No

2 Do you think God loves you, no matter what? Yes/No

3 Do you think God will only love you if you stop sinning? Yes/No

4 Do you think God wants you to be happy in this life? Yes/No

5 When something bad happens to you, do you ever think it is a punishment from God? Yes/No

6 Do you think God is in charge of the universe? Yes/No

7 Do you think God is watching to see if you do anything wrong? Yes/No

8 Do you think God will give you special protection if you believe in him? Yes/No

9 Do you think God is far away? Yes/No

10 Do you think God wants us to love him first and people second? Yes/No

How to score: For questions 2 and 4 award yourself 2 points for each YES, and zero points for each NO.

For all other questions award yourself 2 points for each NO, and zero points for each YES.

A score of 16 or more suggests that your image of God conforms to the image presented by Jesus in the Gospels. A score of 10 or less suggests that you need to reflect more deeply on the God Jesus reveals to us.

GENUINE CUTTINGS FROM BRITISH NEWSPAPERS

Commenting on a complaint from a Mr Arthur Purdey about a large gas bill, a spokesman for North West Gas said: We agree it was rather high for the time of year. It's possible Mr Purdey has been changed for the gas used up during the explosion that destroyed his house."
(Daily Telegraph).

Irish police are being handicapped in a search for a stolen van, because they cannot issue a description. It's a Special Branch vehicle and they don't want the public to know what it looks like. *(The Guardian)*.

At the height of the gale, the harbourmaster radioed the coastguard on the spot and asked him to estimate the wind speed. He replied he was sorry, but he didn't have a gauge. However, if it was any help, the wind had just blown his Land Rover off the cliff.
(Aberdeen Evening Express)

And finally, the one that really took the editors of THE HERALD to the fair:



Mrs Irene Graham of Thorpe Avenue, Boscombe, delighted the audience with her reminiscence of the German prisoner of war who was sent each week to do her garden. He was repatriated at the end of 1945, she recalled. "He'd always seemed a nice, friendly chap, but when the crocuses came up in the middle of our lawn in February 1946, they spelt out 'Heil Hitler.'"



GOD AMONG THE RUINS OF NOTRE DAMME

The tragic fire at Note Dame Cathedral shocked the whole world. Seeing such a magnificent building engulfed in flames saddened all who saw the devastation unfold. It was a

monumental blow to the nation of France. It will take years to rebuild this famous place of worship.

One striking image from the fire showed the interior of the church scorched and ruined, its art treasures lost, its contents still smouldering. But high up in the background, unbowed by the flames, stands a golden cross, brightly shining in the darkness of the surrounding debris.

Since the fire took place at Easter, it is hard not to see this picture as a parable. One Anglican vicar made this comment: 'Notice what is left inside, untouched, after the destruction of all sorts of 'priceless' works of arts at Norte Dame Cathedral? The Cross. What an image for Holy Week and what a picture to describe secular Western Europe.'

This picture surely makes us think of the abiding value of the Cross. The words of a hymn come to mind:

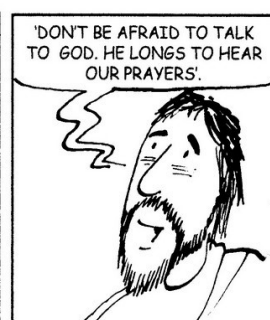
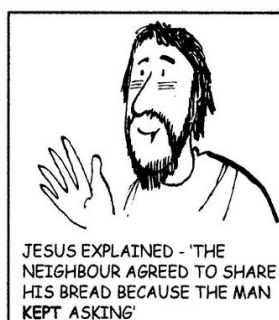
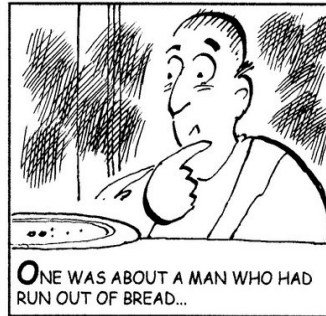
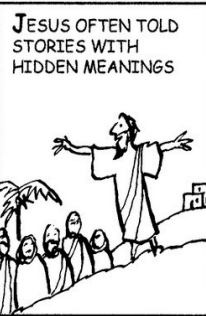
*In the cross of Christ I glory,
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.*

The place of worship may be destroyed, but not the God we worship. The message of the Cross, at the centre of our faith, remains a timeless, undamaged truth. The hymn continues:

*When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me,
Lo! It glows with peace and joy.*

Even among the ruins of our own lives the Cross stands tall, reminding us of the presence of God and His grip on our lives.

The Tale of The Friend at Midnight



MAKING A SPECIAL PILGRIMAGE

You probably know that the Rector has been conducting an annual pilgrimage to the Holy Land for the past 25 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 12-22 May 2020, 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 may find this a very fulfilling encounter.

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 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.

You can bring a friend or a relative, even if they are another denomination—or if they are no denomination at all.

There will shortly be a meeting in the Parish Room (date to be announced) at which you can listen to more details about the pilgrimage, and ask your own questions.

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.'



A Spiritual Journey through the Holy Land

with Canon David Humphries
and the Revd Amanda Adams

12—22 May 2020

***Eleven days based in
Jerusalem and the Galilee***



For full details contact 028 9334 0225