

Kilbride HERALD

St Bride's—where Faith and Fellowship grow

MARCH/APRIL 2021



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

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<p align="center">Rector's Churchwarden Clarence Gibson: 9332 3761</p> <p align="center">People's Churchwarden Diane Hurst: 07595 497487</p>	<p align="center">Parish Hall Organiser Alex Johnston: 9334 9393</p> <p align="center">Caretaker Jean Johnston: 9334 9393</p>
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<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 Timothy Wilson</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">Charity Number: 10 35 70</p>

THE DAILY WALK

A SACRED RITUAL



Under lockdown, a great many of us who rarely walked around our immediate locality are now well acquainted with every nearby driveway, every crack in the pavement, and every pothole in the road!

We have developed views on our neighbours' gardens, on their oddly coloured garage doors, and on their dogs, children and cars.

If we go out at the same time every day, we may even be saying hello to the same people we don't know every day.

For many of us, that daily walk has become the high point of our day. After all, it is one of the few liberties we have left.

Some of us go early, to enjoy the relative peace and quiet. Some of us go midday, to at least see other people, even if we can't talk to them. Others of us opt for dusk, the dark comfort of a street with lit houses and stars in the sky.

Whatever time you most enjoy, make sure you do make the time to go for your walk. Your mental and physical fitness can only improve!

Wear a face mask!

The Services at St Bride's



Please note that all services are subject to change at short notice in accordance with Government legislation. Please listen out in church for notice of any modification.

[1] Sunday 7 March
Lent 3

11.00am Holy Communion

[2] Sunday 14 March
Lent 4

11.00am Morning Prayer

[3] Sunday 21 March
Lent 5

11.00am Holy Communion

[4] Sunday 28 March
Lent 6—Palm Sunday

11.00am Morning Prayer

Monday 29 March
Monday in Holy Week
8.00pm Compline

Tuesday 30 March
Tuesday in Holy Week
8.00pm Compline

Wednesday 31 March
Wednesday in Holy Week
8.00pm Compline

Thursday 1 April
Maundy Thursday
8.00pm Holy Communion

Friday 2 April
Good Friday
8.00pm A Devotion for Good Friday
in Hymns and Readings

[1] Sunday 4 April
FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION
11.00am Holy Communion

[2] Sunday 11 April
Easter 2
11.00am Morning Prayer

[3] Sunday 18 April
Easter 3
11.00am Holy Communion

[4] Sunday 25 April
Easter 4
11.00am Morning Prayer



MORE ABOUT THE SERVICES



What's the point of listing all these services when we just don't know whether we're in lockdown or out of lockdown or what?

It's sometimes very difficult to get accurate information out to our people, as decisions about lockdown are understandably communicated with very short notice, and the Herald only comes out every two months. But if we come out of lockdown, at least placing a service list here means you have some idea of what services you can attend.

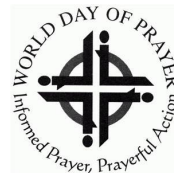
So to simplify the situation, the services on page 4 are the services to be held in St Bride's if circumstances permit.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Please note that, due to Coronavirus, the World Day of Prayer Service which was to be held in St Bride's has had, sadly, to be cancelled.

Please contact Barbara Rea (tel: 028 9332 2207) if you would like a Service Booklet.

You could also contact Barbara if you wish to find out how to follow an online streamed service as provided by the World Day of Prayer website, and if you would like to make a donation.



Wash your hands frequently!



A most pleasant surprise occurred on a Sunday morning coming up to Christmas, when the Bishop turned up at St Bride's to worship with us.

That really shouldn't have been such a shock, as the See House (the residence of the Bishop) is now located within our parish, and St Bride's is the Bishop's parish church. Most of the time, however, the Bishop is "out and about" the parishes in his diocese. But from now on when you take your place in the church, be alert, because the man in the pew beside you just might be...the Bishop!

Jeel al Amal

Thanks to the folks who made a donation to the Jeel al Amal Orphanage over the Christmas period. We don't really make an appeal at that time of year, but the money just comes in anyway! Here's just another wee reminder of the best ways to give to Jeel:



You can give cash if you like; just put it in an envelope and mark it "Jeel." You can put it on the collection plate, whether it comes along the pew or sits on the back table—it doesn't matter. Alternatively, you can



give a cheque. In this case, just make the cheque out to "Kilbride Parish Church" and write "Jeel" on the back. Thanks again to all those who have donated to the orphanage, where the boys are having a difficult time at the moment, due to Coronavirus.

“Zoom School” for Kilbride Kids

Our Sunday School children are back to work, this time on Zoom, thanks to the teachers, who are very willing to give it a go. For the moment they’re meeting on Sunday, and so far things are going well.

Adults also for Zoom

The Select Vestry also continues to meet approximately once a month using Zoom, where the business of the parish is conducted smoothly and efficiently.

●●● GREAT NEWS FOR KILBRIDE ●●●

A new organist has finally been appointed for Kilbride. Timothy Wilson, who has been playing in a temporary capacity, has been invited to take up the position, and he has accepted.

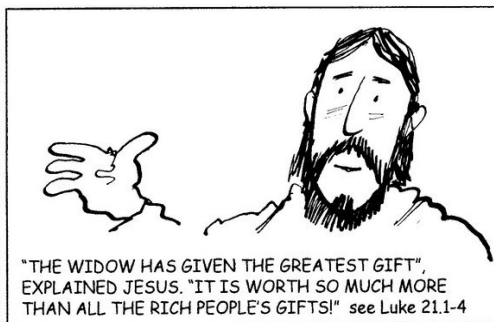
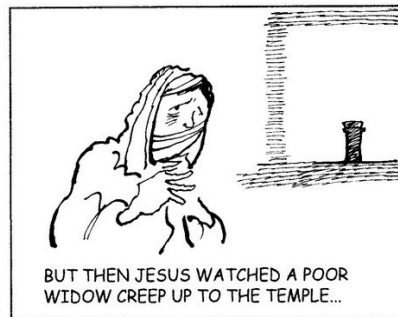
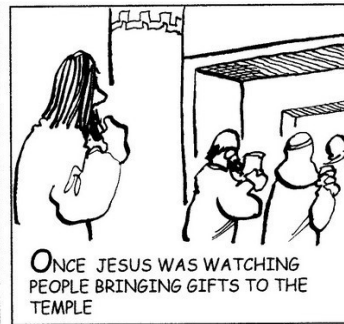
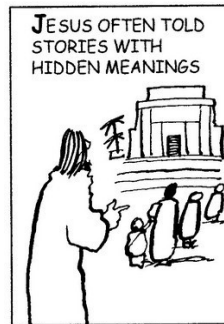
We are very pleased at this news, and we look forward to good times ahead, as we gradually (and hopefully) move back to worship in church.

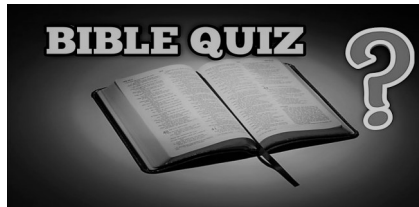
Please remember Timothy and the Choir in your prayers as they work to fill the “gap” created by a long interregnum, and also offer thanks to God for all those who helped us out over past months.

Music is such an important part of the liturgy, and like all aspects of worship, it is carried out *Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam*—“To the greater glory of God.”

Practise social distancing

The Widow's little coins



EASY THIS MONTH!
Answers on another page.

1 How many men did King Nebuchadnezzar see walking in the fiery furnace?

2 What did Noah see in the sky?

3 What were the names of the three disciples who were on the Mount of Transfiguration with Jesus?

4 What was the name of the town that was known as the City of David?

5 Who was Andrew's brother?

6 In the Parable of the Ten Virgins, how many were wise and how many were foolish?

7 Where did Jesus perform his first miracle?

8 Who prayed three times a day at an open window?

9 Who had an occupation as a tent-maker?

10 Where was Jesus when he was arrested?

11 John the Baptist was how much older than Jesus?

12 In what book of the Bible do you find the story of the burning bush?

13 What is the longest psalm in the Bible?

14 What was the name of the special food that God provided for the children of Israel during the forty years in the wilderness?

15 Who in the Bible could carry the title "The Wise King"?

16 What Bible character was turned into a pillar of salt?

17 What type of animal did Aaron fashion out of gold?

18 What was the name of Abraham's wife?

19 What is the shortest verse in the New Testament?

20 What happens when the blind lead the blind?

Green Matters

TEA BAGS

What do you do with your tea bags? For years gardeners have been told that it is good to compost them. Now it seems that you need to rip them open first. According to “Which? Gardening”, tea bags have polypropylene in them, which does not compost. So rip them open and let the goodness out!

WATER BUGS

Bottled water contains more bacteria than tap water. Some brands harbour as much as 100 times more than the permitted limit for drinking water. A team of scientists in Canada found that 70% of popular bottled water brands have ‘revolting’ amounts of bacteria in them.

As one scientist observed; Unsurprisingly, the consumer assumes that since bottled water carries a price tag, it is purer and safer than most tap water. But this is not true. There is no need to drink bottled water in the UK because, we are told, tap water “is so good.”

OUR POLICY

Don’t forget, folks, our Parish has an environmental policy which we are upholding, both at parish level and home level. We committed ourselves to this, and it is important that we stick to it. If you want to look further, take a glance at the EcoCongregation website (just google it), and look through it with a cup of coffee!

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.

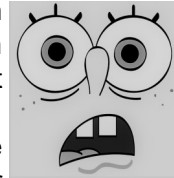
Mountain peaks and singing
streams
The clouds, the earth, the land,
Each living thing all bears the
stamp
Of his creative hand.
In colour, texture and design
On blossom, bud and tree,
He leaves his hallmark every-
where
For those with eyes to see.

Kathleen Gillum



SIGNS OF THE TIMES

We've all seen
them: signs with
bad grammar that
make you cringe.
Like this one
spotted in the car
park of a hospital:



'No patients or visitors passed
this point.'

Or try this one seen in a big
supermarket: 'Thank you for
your patients while we improve
our store.'

Or the one outside a pub: The
Risen Sun excepts no responsi-
bility for bicycles...'

Have you got any that you can
share with us? Please do tell us!

EXAM!

In the examination paper, a
professor wanted the candidates
to sign a form stating that they
had not received any outside
assistance.

Unsure of whether he should
sign the form, a student stated
that he had prayed for the assis-
tance of God. The professor
carefully studied the answer
page and then said, "You can
sign it with a clear conscience.
God did not assist you."

FREEWILL OFFERING

Due to Coronavirus, with folk shielding and unable to get their envelopes into church, our financial reserves have become seriously depleted.

Some people have been very good and have set up standing orders, and others have made sure that someone posts their envelopes through the letterbox of the Parish Room, through Lillian's letterbox, or through the letter box of the Rectory.

Others have very generously made one-off payments, and Gift Aid to the parish has been very good.

We are grateful for these measures, which have undoubtedly been a great help, but with so many people still shielding at home, we are missing a considerable amount of money.

During this crisis, no matter how long it lasts, the work of the parish must continue, and for that we need to replace the money we have

lost.

Do please have a prayerful think about this, and feel free to phone Lillian or Ashley if you have an answer to our problem.

Is there any other way you can get your weekly envelopes to us? Thanks for giving this matter some consideration.



Now this is the Living Bible

His name is Bill. He has wild hair, wears a T-shirt with holes in it, jeans, and no shoes. This was literally his wardrobe for his entire four years of college. He is brilliant. He is kind of profound and very, very bright. He became a Christian while attending college.

Across the street from the campus is a well-dressed, very conservative church. They want to develop a ministry to the students but are not sure how to go about it. One day Bill decides to go there. He walks with his jeans, his T-shirt, his wild hair, and no shoes. The service has already started, so Bill moves down the aisle, looking for a seat. The church is completely packed and he can't find a seat. By now, people are looking a bit uncomfortable, but no one says anything.

Bill gets closer and closer to the chancel. When he realises there are no seats he just squats down right on the carpet. By now people are really uptight, and the tension in the air is thick.

About this time the Rector realises that from away at the back of the church a warden is slowly making his way toward Bill. Now the warden is in his eighties, has silver hair, and is wearing a three-piece suit. He is a godly man—very elegant, very dignified, very courtly. He walks with a stick. As he starts walking toward this boy, everyone is saying to themselves that you can't blame him for what he is going to do.

How can you expect a man of his age and of his background to understand some college kid on the floor? It takes a long time for the man to reach the boy. The church is utterly silent, except for the clicking of the man's stick. All eyes are focused on him. The Rector can't even preach the sermon until the warden does what he has to do. When the warden finally reaches Bill, the church watches as the elderly man drops his stick to the floor. With great difficulty he lowers himself and sits down next to Bill and worships with him so that he won't be alone. Everyone chokes up with emotion.

When the Rector gains control he says, "What I'm about to preach, you will never remember. What you have just seen, you will never forget."

Be careful how you live. You may be the only Bible some people will ever read.

How do you see God?

We all carry round with us a picture of God: a picture in the mind. This picture can have a profound effect on our attitude to ourselves, to our lives, to other people and to our faith. So it is important that our picture of God is not misleading. Jesus reveals God to us. But do we take him at his word? This questionnaire will help you discover your own picture of God.

1. Do you think God loves you? YES/NO
2. Do you think you have to be holy before God will love you? YES/NO
3. Do you think God wants you to despise yourself? YES/NO
4. Do you think God wants you to be happy in this life? YES/NO
5. Do you think God is ready to forgive any sin you may commit?
6. YES/NO
7. Do you think that, more often than not, God is angry with you?
YES/NO
8. Do you think God finds you a wonderful and fascinating person?
YES/NO
9. If something bad happens to you, do you think God must be displeased with you? YES/NO
10. Do you think your life on earth is a test to see if you will keep God's law? YES/NO
11. Do you think God listens to your prayers? YES/NO

For questions 1,4,5,7,10 score 2 points for every YES answer and none for every NO answer.

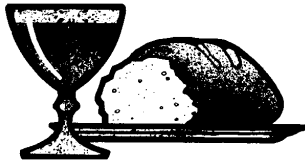
For questions 2,3,6,8,9 score 2 for every NO answer and none for every YES answer.

The higher your score, the more your image of God is in tune with that revealed by Jesus.

A score of less than 8 suggests that you need to attend more closely to the words of Jesus in the Gospel accounts and understand that he shows us in his life what God is like.

FAIR LINEN TO CELEBRATE EASTER

When you go out to dinner at a restaurant or to friends, how do you feel when you see the eating area? If everything is clean, shiny bright and arranged neatly, do you get a good feeling of expectation?



Well, it's just the same at church on a Sunday morning when we come to a Holy Communion service—especially the one on Easter Day! When you enter and look towards the Holy Table it should be ready, attractive, and give you that eager feeling. God is here. Today you will receive him in bread and wine — whether that is by reality or in remembrance—or by a blessing. What an amazing thought!

The Holy Table will have been carefully prepared for this very special occasion. Some churches, just like our own, will cover the front of the table with a coloured frontal to reflect the Church's season. But on top of the table will be laid a white 'fair linen' cloth.

The fair linen symbolises the burial cloth of Jesus and normally extends the whole width of the table and down both sides. The fair linen should be plain with only five flat crosses embroidered on it, to remind the worshippers of the five wounds that Christ received for us. These are usually sewn in white, so they do not contrast, and are placed on the top of the table, in the four corners and in the centre.

The fair linen cloth is always kept 'spotless'; if it becomes soiled, even just a little, it is taken off and laundered. The fair linen cloth is left on the Holy Table for services other than Holy Communion, but for these it is covered with another cloth called a 'dust cover'.

In order to keep it spotless and without creases, the fair linen cloth is always rolled after laundering rather than folded.

**PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID 19
BY WASHING YOUR HANDS OFTEN.**



From the Parish Registers

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

1 January 2021, **David Hamill** *Templepatrick*
15 February 2021, **May Millar** *Halftown*

Phone Number

Some people still haven't caught on to the fact that the Rectory phone number has changed.

That's despite the fact that we've advertised this change with a big ad like this, and have placed it in the Herald in various ways.

You'll always find the phone number on the front inside page of the Herald, in the black box at the very top of

the page. But just in case extra help is needed, here it is again:

028 9332 2979

This is a permanent change; the old number has gone for good!



How to handle Temptation

"I can resist everything but temptation" (Oscar Wilde). During Lent we remember our Lord's experience in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11), when *'He was led by the Spirit.. to be tempted by the devil.'* (1). Temptation is a test of obedience, whether we do things our way or God's way. After 40 days of fasting Jesus was tired, hungry and vulnerable. Like Him, the Devil will attack us at our most vulnerable moments, especially during this pandemic.

The first temptation was to turn stones into bread:

Jesus' ministry was not about meeting His own needs, but being nourished by God's Word. *'We do not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God'* (Deuteronomy 8:3). Like Jesus, we are called to make God our priority and trust Him completely.

The second temptation was to put God to the test:

Jumping off the Temple pinna-

cle would have been a dramatic way for Jesus to gain popularity, but this is not God's way! *'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'* (Deuteronomy 6:16). We too need to learn this lesson!

The third temptation was to worship Satan:

Finally, the devil took Jesus to a mountain to offer Him worldly power. In contrast, His calling as Messiah was marked by suffering and honouring God. *'Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only'* (Deuteronomy 6:13). This is often our experience in living for God.

Jesus stands with us in our temptations. As we claim the promises of Scripture, we will find strength in the power of the Spirit and the victory of the Cross.



A MESSAGE FOR THE CHOIR

You are the chosen of the Lord
To sing his highest praise;
And through the medium of song
To show his wondrous ways.

Yours is the privilege of grace;
Your words his truth express;
Through sacred music you promote
The cause of righteousness.

So lift your voice with one accord
And let your anthems ring;
The people will be richly blessed,
And God will hear you sing.



A DAILY PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH

O God, the Creator
and Giver of all things,
bless our parish in its
work and witness.

Strengthen our faith,
and grant us the spirit
of sacrifice, so that by your grace
we may provide for the needs of
our parish, glorify you, and sanctify
ourselves; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.

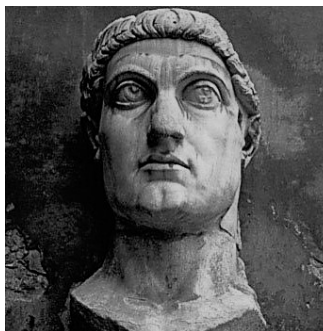


OBSERVATIONS ON MODERN LIFE

Common sense is not a gift. It's
a punishment, because you have
to deal with everyone who
doesn't have it.

Two choir members recently got
married. They met by chants!

**It was 1700 years ago on 7
March 321 that the Roman
Emperor Constantine decreed
that Sunday should be a day of
rest throughout the Empire.**





THE DEVIL'S ADVOCATES

One of the most foolish things a warrior can do is to go to battle without knowing his enemy. The Devil has planted many of his agents among us. Let's expose a few of them:

First is **CHRONIC COMPLAINER**. He is silent only when the church is idle.

His able lieutenant is **EVER OFFENDED**. Disagree with him and he'll take his toys and go home.

Their capable assistant is **AVID ADVISOR**. No matter how hard you try or how well you do, he will always tell you how you could have done better.

Then there is **CHURCH JUMPER**. He is always sure that somewhere there is a perfect church where everyone and everything is in complete harmony. If he finds a church like that, let's hope he doesn't join it; he might spoil it!



WHY SHOULD CHRISTIANS CARE ABOUT THE JEWS?



Jesus said, "Salvation is from the Jews." (*St John 4:22*). Do you believe it? Well, *Jesus* said it, so perhaps you should give it some thought! The Christian Church in general has a habit of taking the salvation and ignoring the Jews!

God tells us that he has an eternal covenant with the Jewish people. In other words, he has entered into a special relationship with them, and it lasts for ever. Christians are also in a relationship with God. So if we are in a relationship with God, it follows that we are in a relationship with the Jewish people as well. But what kind of relationship is it?

A thousand years before Christianity began, the Jewish people were witnesses to the power of a God who saved them from slavery in Egypt by delivering them, and so to the present day they remain living witnesses to God's grace and power.

Everything we know about God comes to us through the Jews. But for hundreds of years they have been persecuted throughout the world. In the 1200s they were expelled from England and Spain, and then within living memory there was the Holocaust.

Although in many parts of the world Christian people have woken up to the results of centuries of hostility towards the Jews, anti-Semitism is still rife in the general populace. So isn't it time we started to care about the Jews?



The Bible can help us make up our minds.

Just what does the Bible say that might help us in this respect?



God loves all people and desires them to be saved by believing in Jesus. [*1 Timothy 2:3*]

God shows no favouritism, but has chosen the Jewish people for a distinct purpose and reason. [*Romans 2:11, Deuteronomy 14:2*]

God's plans for the Jews did not end when Jesus came; they continue today. [*Romans 11:1-2*]



God consistently preserves Israel. [*Malachi 3:6*]

There are many promises about Israel, including their national return to their land. [*Ezekiel 36, Deuteronomy 30, Isaiah 11, Amos 9, Jeremiah 16*].

Friends and enemies of the Jews.

The Book of Joshua tells us of a Gentile friend of the Jews. She is Rahab the prostitute, who certainly believed that the land (then known as Canaan) had been given to the Jews by God. She says "I know the Lord has given this land to you." [*Joshua 2:9*].



A centurion mentioned by St Luke was also a Gentile friend of the Jews. He showed his love for the Jewish people by building a synagogue for them, and through other practical action. Jesus says about him, I tell you, I have not found such great faith, even in Israel." [*St Luke 7:9*].

A Gentile enemy of the Jews in the Bible is Haman, who planned to destroy them. There are other New Testament enemies of the Jewish nation, including Alexander [*Acts 19:34*].

(continued over)

But what about the Arabs?

As well as making certain promises with Isaac, the ancestor of the Jews, God also made promises to Ishmael, the ancestor of the Arabs. The promises were similar, but the promise of the land was to Israel only.

The descendants of Isaac and Ishmael have lived together for many hundreds of years, and it is really only in recent times that enmity has arisen. But God's purpose for the whole region is that the people should live together in peace.



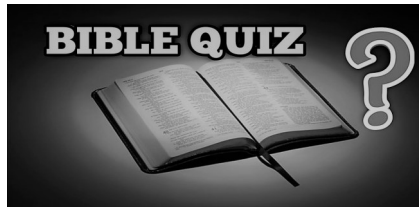
This peace between Jew and Arab is foretold by Isaiah, when the Jews and the Arabs will be a blessing on the earth. All Christians are invited to pray for this reconciliation in Jesus.

In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria and Assyria will come into Egypt, and Egypt into Assyria, and the Egyptians will worship with the Assyrians.

In that day Israel will be the third with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing on the earth, who the Lord of Hosts has blessed, saying, 'Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel my inheritance.' [Isaiah 19:23-25]

JUST A LITTLE NOTE

You've probably noted already that recent editions of THE HERALD are rather short of photos. We've always worked on the principle that the Church is PEOPLE rather than objects, and the lack of people meeting together because of the pandemic means that we've no new photos of people to show you! Well, that's the reason, but we hope the problem will be rectified in due course. Hang on in there!



ANSWERS

- 1 Four. [Daniel 3:25]
- 2 A rainbow [Gen.9:11-17]
- 3 Peter, James and John [St Matt.17:1]
- 4 Bethlehem [St Luke 2:4]
- 5 Peter [St Matt.10:2]
- 6 Five wise and five foolish [St Matt.25:1,2]
- 7 Cana of Galilee [St John 2:11]
- 8 Daniel [Daniel 6:10]
- 9 Paul the Apostle [Acts 18:1-3]
- 10 The Garden of gethsemane [St Matt.26:36]
- 11 About six months [St Luke 1;24-27, 36, 56, 57]
- 12 Exodus 3:2-4
- 13 Psalm 119
- 14 Manna [Exodus 16:14,15]
- 15 King Solomon [1Kings 3-11]
- 16 Lot's wife [Genesis 19:15-26]

17 A calf [Exodus 32:2-4]

18 Sarah [Genesis 17:15]

19 "Jesus wept." [St John 11:35]

20 Both shall fall into the ditch.
[St Matthew 15:14]

**Well,
how did
you do?**



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

HOW TO BUILD A GREAT CHURCH

It takes very little planning to wreck a building or a business, but it takes skilful planning and diligent work to build.

It is easy to kill a church, but it takes thought and persistence to build up one that is a great witness to Jesus Christ. The successful churches in this respect did not just happen; they have been built through persistent effort. Here are just a few suggestions for building a successful church.

1. Never allow a day to pass without taking time to pray for your church and its ministry.
2. Never speak to anyone without praising your Rector and Select Vestry. The criticism will be spoken loud and often; see that the praise is louder.
3. Never fail to be friendly to anyone in all services, especially to newcomers and absentees. Nothing in the world can substitute for old-fashioned friendliness.
4. Never make your church of less importance than social engagements, secular meetings, or anything else. There is no greater power for a church than that of members who quietly but emphatically put it first.
5. Never refuse an opportunity to serve. Be willing to serve in whatever way you are asked. All service ranks the same with God.
6. Attend church every Sunday.