

Kilbride HERALD

St Bride's—where Faith and Fellowship grow

MARCH/APRIL 2023



Members of the Grounds Team who undertook the second clean-up of the Winter. Don't forget the photographer!

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: 9332 2979 E-mail: wdhumphries@hotmail.com

<p>Parish Reader David Holmes</p>	<p>Honorary Treasurer Lilian Lyttle: 9332 3311</p>
<p>Rector's Churchwarden Clarence Gibson: 9332 3761</p> <p>People's Churchwarden Diane Hurst: 07595 497487</p>	<p>Parish Hall Organiser Alex Johnston: 9334 9393</p> <p>Caretaker Jean Johnston: 9334 9393</p>
<p>Rector's Glebewarden Jim Wilson: 2589 8753</p> <p>People's Glebewarden Billy Robinson: 07306 30 33 37</p>	<p>Parish Website kilbrideparishchurch.org Parish Webmaster: David Holmes</p>
<p>Honorary Secretary Ivan Topping: 9334 1916</p> <p>FWO Secretary Fiona Charlton</p> <p>Gift Aid Secretaries Phyllis Glenn: 9334 0884 Irene Paget: 9332 3579</p>	<p>HOLY BAPTISM This is by arrangement. Please contact the Rector at the phone number in the top panel.</p>
<p>Organist & Choir Director Timothy Wilson</p> <p>Sunday School Superintendent Eleanor Graham: 9334 0000</p>	<p>The Rector would be grateful for information about hospital admissions and discharges.</p>
	<p>KILBRIDE HERALD Editorial Panel Iris McCormick, Ivan Topping, The Rector</p>
	<p>Charity Number: 10 35 70</p>

MOTHERS' DAY OR MOTHERING SUNDAY?

On 19th March most churches will celebrate their 'mothers'. £millions will be spent on Mother's Day gifts and cards, and children will give flowers to women in church. It's a joy to honour mothers for their love and caring, but our blessings are lessened when we forget the Day's original purpose.



The Mother's Day we know today began on 12th May, 1907, in America, when a woman called Anna Jarvis held a service in her late mother's church to honour her work of organising women's groups to promote friendship and health. The idea spread, and in 1914 Mother's Day was declared an official celebration.

But the European Mothering Sunday goes back to the 16th century, and was altogether more faith-based. On the fourth Sunday of Lent people went 'a-mothering', going to their 'mother' church, the main church in the region, for a special service. In those days domestic servants rarely had free days, but they were given a day off during Lent, so they could go along with their mothers and families.

Times changed, and by the 1900s Mothering Sunday had largely changed into Mother's Day – a celebration of mothers more than mother churches.

Many Scriptures describe the mothering qualities of God, for example Isaiah 66:13 – 'As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you.' We also see it in women without children. I remember a spinster head teacher in a poor district in Wales mothering and bringing the best out of 'her' children. We see it in our housing and care homes, in older women who have never been mothers as well as those who have, as they comfort a carer who has had a miscarriage, or who needs encouragement.

We see it in pastors, and in men who nurture others. Let's thank God for His gift of 'mothering', wherever we find it.

HOLOCAUST VICTIMS REMEMBERED AT KILBRIDE



Holocaust Memorial Day was 27 January, but in recent years in Kilbride Parish Church it has been observed on the nearest Sunday to that date.

During the service of Morning Prayer this year, a very informative talk was given jointly by the Rector and parish reader David Holmes. Together they described the events leading up to the Holocaust, why Jewish people and other groups were targeted for humiliation, discrimination and eventual extermination by Hitler and the German Third Reich.

The events of the Nuremberg trials were described when many of the people who perpetrated these atrocities were held to account with many being executed. In the aftermath of the war Jewish people were still viewed with suspicion by many nations and Jewish refugees were shunned by many including Britain.

Other genocides in the years since were remembered and prayers offered that they should never happen again. The commemoration ended with the lighting of six candles representing the six million Jews who died in the Holocaust.

Did you know that you can read the current edition of the Kilbride Herald on-line? Or you could look up any edition from the past six years. Give it a go! Just log on to the Kilbride Parish Church website and follow the instructions.

ALL IN THE MONTH OF MARCH

It was:

300 years ago, on 8th March 1723 that Sir Christopher Wren, English architect, died. Best known for designing St Paul's Cathedral.

100 years ago, on 4th March 1923 that Patrick Moore, the amateur astronomer, TV presenter, writer and musician was born. Best known for presenting the TV astronomy show *The Sky at Night* for over 50 years. (Died 2012)

80 years ago, on 13th March 1943 that the final liquidation of Krakow Ghetto in Poland took place. 8,000 Jews were transported to Plaszow labour camp, 2000 more were simply killed in the streets, and the rest were sent to Auschwitz.

Also 70 years ago, on 26th March 1953 that Dr Jonas Salk announced that he had completed the first small-scale test of a polio vaccine. Larger tests began in February 1954, and mass vaccinations began in April 1955.

65 years ago, on 2nd March 1958 that the first land crossing of Antarctica was completed by the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition, led by Vivian Fuchs. The team of 12 men travelled 2,158 miles from Shackleton Base to Scott Base (via the South Pole) in 99 days, using six vehicles.

60 years ago, on 22nd March 1963 that the British Secretary of State for War, John Profumo, made a statement in the House of Commons in which he denied there was any impropriety in his relationship with Christine Keeler, a model who was also in a sexual relationship with a drug dealer and a Soviet naval attaché. (In June he admitted he had lied, and resigned.)

50 years ago, on 8th March 1973 that the citizens of Northern Ireland voted in a referendum to remain within the United Kingdom. That same day the IRA carried out its first bombing in Britain since WWII, planting car bombs in London. One person died, 200 were injured.

The Services at St Bride's



At first glance, the list of services below looks terribly complicated. It isn't really! Remember that this list includes the services of Holy Week as well as the Lenten services at 11.00am on most of the Wednesdays. We would encourage as many of our folk as possible to come to these Wednesday services.

Wednesday 22 February
Ash Wednesday
11.00am Holy Communion

[1] Sunday 26 February
Lent 1
11.00am Holy Communion
6.00pm Prayers for Healing

Wednesday 1 March
11.00am Recital and Homily
followed by tea

[1] Sunday 5 March
Lent 2

11.00am Holy Communion

Wednesday 8 March
11.00am Recital and Homily
followed by tea

[2] Sunday 12 March
Lent 3
11.00am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 15 March
11.00am Recital and Homily
followed by tea

Friday 17 March
Feast of St Patrick
Transferred

[3] Sunday 19 March
Lent 4 (Mothering Sunday)
11.00am Holy Communion

Wednesday 22 March
11.00am Recital and Homily
followed by tea

[4] Sunday 26 March
Lent 5
11.00am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 28 March
Easter General Vestry
**7.00 Holy Communion

Wednesday 29 March
11.00am Recital and Homily
followed by tea

HOLY WEEK

[1] Sunday 2 April

Lent 6 Palm Sunday

11.00am Holy Communion
and Palm Sunday Procession
6.00pm NB: *No Prayers for Healing*

Monday 3 April

Monday in Holy Week

8.00pm Compline

Tuesday 4 April

Tuesday in Holy Week

8.00pm Compline

Wednesday 5 April

Wednesday in Holy Week

8.00pm Compline

Thursday 6 April

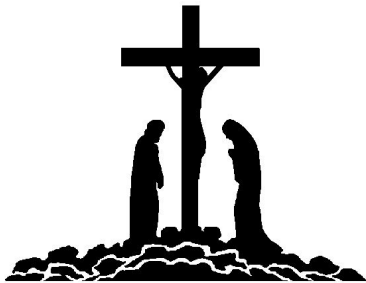
Maundy Thursday

8.00pm Maundy Eucharist

Friday 7 April

GOOD FRIDAY

8.00pm A Devotion in Readings
and Hymns



[2] Sunday 9 April

**FEAST OF THE
RESURRECTION**

11.00am Holy Communion

[3] Sunday 16 April

Easter 2

11.00am Holy Communion

[4] Sunday 23 April

Easter 3

11.00am Morning Prayer

[5] Sunday 30 April

Easter 4

11.00am Songs of Praise

WATCHMEN UNDETERRED BY HEAVY SNOW

The Watchmen held fast to their January appointment at St Bride's when eight loyal and steadfast members turned up amidst the ice and snow of a foul evening to hear David Holmes give an illustrated talk on the Revd Parker E Major, sometime Rector of this parish for a period of forty years.

David's talk was well worth the effort made to get to the Parish Room, and a cup of tea on arrival soon warmed everyone up to a satisfactory standard.

The excellent delivery by our parish reader generated much discussion, and members were astounded by the volume of information that David produced. When the Revd Parker Major was instituted to Kilbride there was no rectory, so he lived in accommodation in Fisherwick Lodge while a satisfactory building was erected on a site at what became Rectory Road. Mr Major lived there with his wife and housekeeper.



The pulpit in church is dedicated to the Revd Parker Major, and a brass plaque attached to the base can still be seen. Located on a wall in the vestry is another plaque, bearing the words of a thanksgiving speech addressed to him on his retirement due to ill health.

This talk by David Holmes was a most interesting and enthralling delivery for the Watchmen's first meeting of 2023. Thanks, David, for the great effort involved!



Gardeners Are about to start a new grass-cutting session, as Spring is almost here.

In Kilbride we're very lucky to have such beautiful grounds, and the setting of the church building in the beautiful area of Kilbride Hill helps our church to be known throughout the area.

However, to have that reputation takes a lot of work for our grass-cutters and groundsmen. They work very hard, and we sometimes wonder if their work is fully appreciated.

We need to expand our grounds team, and new members will be welcome. You don't have to turn up at a certain day or time—you can cut the grass whenever you like. Someone will show you how to get out the equipment and put

it back safely, then away you go!

Of course, if you *do* want to work with someone else, that can be arranged too.

Last year was a difficult one for our grounds team. Autumn was late, and the usual clean-up had to be divided into two clean-ups in order to get the remaining leaves lifted off the stones.

So here we are, nearly ready to begin again, and to keep our beautiful grounds in order. New volunteers will be most welcome!

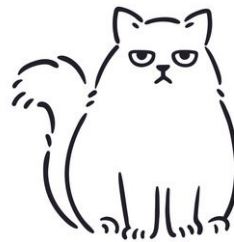
By the way, did you notice our lovely wild flower beds which we introduced

last year? Keep a look out for them when the time is right!



If you've got a cat, you'll find this funny and laugh about it; if you haven't got a cat, you're missing out on life!

A German Shepherd, a Doberman and a cat all died and went to heaven. They all came face-to-face with God, who wanted to know what they believed in.



The German Shepherd said, "I believe in discipline, training and loyalty to my master."

"Good," said God, "Sit down at my right side."

To the same question, the Doberman said, "I believe in the love, care and protection of my master."

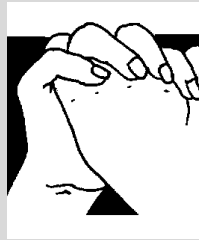
"Aha" said God, "You may sit to my left."

Then God looked at the cat and said, "What do you believe in?"

The cat answered, "I believe you're sitting in my seat."



Prayers for our Parish



In the past few weeks we've been concentrating a lot on prayer. We invite you to use these next few pages in your daily devotions. There are many prayer topics here—designed to help those who have a genuine desire to pray for our parish and its people.

Here is a way in which we can all play a valuable role in God's work. Will you take up the challenge?

Pray for our parish and all its people, that through our public worship we may be awakened to the wonder of God's love for us.

Pray that more and more of our people may see the necessity of weekly worship in church with their Christian brothers and sisters.

Pray that our worship may constantly undergo renewal, and that it may never become mere ceremonial observance.

Pray for our Rector, who has the cure of souls in the parish, and who requires your prayers in order to adequately perform his role.

Pray for all those who lead the worship, especially the Rector and David Holmes, that through their own preparation for the task, and in the way which they perform it, they may encourage all our people to worship in spirit and in truth.

Pray for those who take lightly our Lord's command to partake of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and ask that ways may be found to show the importance of participation in this respect.

Pray for Timothy our Organist, and the Choir, that they may always be aware of their high calling, and give of their very best at all times.

Pray that we may be a truly friendly and welcoming parish family, and that no visitor or stranger in church may ever feel alienated or ignored.

Thank God for the spiritual growth and renewed vision which



has gradually come about in our parish, and for the success of every effort to bring us closer to God.

Pray continued spiritual renewal in the life of our parish and all its people, and for the success of every effort to bring us closer to God.

Pray for a willingness to change according to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, in whatever department of parish life that change is required.

Pray for George our Bishop, living in our parish, that he may have strength to manage the daily problems of parishes and people. Pray for his wife Nadine and his children in their daily lives, and in the role to which God has called them all.

Pray for all those who have the care of our young people, especially parents, godparents and guardians. Pray that they may be given strength and motivation to keep the promises made at the baptism of their children, to bring them up in the Christian faith by their prayers, teaching and example.

Pray for the parish Sunday School, and for teachers Eleanor,

Ashley and Angela. Pray that the children may be eager to learn, and the teachers eager to teach the things of God.

Pray for God's guidance as to how he wants our parish to further develop.

Pray that those whom God is calling to work with the young may be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and offer their services in love and sacrifice.

Pray for Doagh primary School, Kilbride Central Primary School, Tildarg Primary School, the Thompson Primary School, and other schools around the parish, that the family atmosphere may continue, and that teacher-pupil relationships may flourish.

Pray for members of the Select Vestry, elected and appointed to look after the fabric, furnishings and finance of the parish, that they may use the gifts of God to carry out their work to his glory and to the benefit of all people.

Pray for each and every home in our parish, that they may be images of God's kingdom. Ask God's blessing on families—on every man, woman and child, and pray for the maintenance of family life.

Pray for all those struggling with

an ever-widening of family problems, that they may have strength and guidance to overcome them.

Ask God's special blessing on those families which are broken and divided, and pray that their members may still be united in the family of our parish.

Remember those who live alone, both senior citizens and younger people, that they too may feel part of the family of God in the Parish of Kilbride, and share the love of a family.

Ask God's continued blessings on the development of the Healing Ministry within our parish family, that more people may realise the important role they can play by praying for those who are ill, especially together in church once a month.

Pray for the sick and suffering; those who are anxious or depressed; the housebound; the lonely; those who mourn the loss of loved ones, those suffering from Coronavirus, and all in special need of God's healing blessings. Pray that they may be granted healing of body, mind and spirit, and the awareness of God's comforting presence at all times.

Pray for all parish volunteer workers, in whatever capacity, that

they may perform their function with enthusiasm and cheerfulness, and that we may never take their work for granted.



Thank God for all the faithful souls who have lived, worked and died in our parish, and who have worshipped him in our parish church. Thank him for the founders of St Bride's Church, and for those who allowed our beautiful church to be built.

Thank God for allowing us the privilege of worshipping him and witnessing for him in our parish, and thank him for our fellow-parishioners, and for the sense of fellowship which exists among us.

Pray for the vital work of Environmental Stewardship which exists within the parish, that we may willingly adhere to the principles of our Environmental Policy and encourage others to join the cause.

Thank God for all in Holy Orders who have served our parish in times past, and especially for the Revd Paul Redfern, the Revd Colin Hall-Thompson, the Revd Clyde Irvine, the Revd Roy Cox, and the Revd Bob Raynor, former rectors of our parish.

Pray for a greater sense of peace



in our land, and for an end of hatred and sectarianism.

Ask God how we, as individuals and as a parish, can best make our contribution permanent and lasting peace, and a greater understanding of our beliefs and cultures.

Ask forgiveness for our part in the bitterness of our society, and pray for the visible unity of the whole Christian Church, which we know to be our Lord's will.

Pray for other churches within our parish; the congregation at Kilbride Presbyterian Church and at Doagh Methodist Church, and the Christian group meeting in the Torrens Hall.

Pray for local councillors, other local leaders, and all who have a voice in the community, that words may never be spoken hastily or without thought.

Pray for the members of the PSNI, that they may always work for a greater sense of trust with the public.

Pray for the members of the security forces, magistrates, and all connected with Law and Order.

Pray for all MLAs and all who represent our people in public office.

Pray for the love of Christ in the hearts of all our people.

Pray for the people of Turkey and Syria, who are suffering because of the devastating earthquake, with many thousands of people dead, and countless numbers injured. Try to bring to mind the horrific suffering of these people, and ask God to help them by whatever means he desires. As well as offering your prayers, offer to God your money and practical means as well.

"We must repent of our prayerlessness and make prayer a priority."

- Billy Graham

PARISH WORK HAMPERED BY 'PROFESSIONAL' THIEVES

On a night in February, thieves broke in and stole two lawnmowers from our container. This proved to be a minor nuisance, particularly as we had to replace locks and repair damage to vandalised property. Please remember to pray for these anti-social elements. It is quite disappointing and frustrating that these folk are prepared to operate in our community, but praying for their repentance and change of attitude is the best thing we can do.

MOST ORGANISATIONS HAVE DISAPPEARED FROM THE HERALD

Where are you? Come on, folks! The Herald only comes out every two months. Is it really a difficult thing to get some information out to the parish now and again? Believe it or not, a lot of people depend on the Herald for information about what's happening, and a parish can only be seen to be active when information about what they've done or are doing is communicated.

And please note, we're talking about ALL organisations, which means that YOUR ORGANISATION is included in our irritation. So come on, folks, let's get moving on this!

PLEASE NOTE THE TIME OF THE EASTER GENERAL VESTRY MEETING

The Service of Holy Communion before the Easter General Vestry meeting on Tuesday 28 March takes place at 7.00pm, 30 minutes earlier than usual. This is because this a 'triennial year', which means we need that extra 30 minutes at the meeting.

TIME FOR SOME GOOD NEWS?

If you can't bear to watch or read the news, you're not alone.

Newly published research shows that more than seven out of ten news publishers are concerned about increasing levels of 'news avoidance.'

More and more people are turning away from the news because it's just too difficult to take. And that may present an opportunity for Christians to present our life-giving gospel message.

The Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism has published its '*Journalism, media, and technology trends and predictions 2023*' report, based on a wide-ranging survey of 303 news leaders in 53 countries. It explores the latest developments in journalism and the priorities for the year ahead.

One area of deep concern was increasing levels of 'news avoidance' with 72 per cent of publishers worried about the phenome-



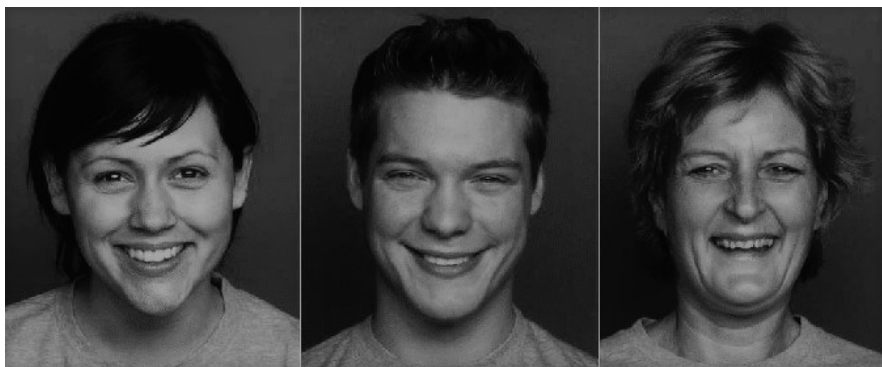
non. Many readers and viewers were avoiding news, especially, says the report “around important but often depressing topics like Ukraine and climate change.”

Does this widespread ‘news avoidance’ have any messages for the Church and for Christians generally? Well, maybe two.

The first is for ourselves. How guilty are we of scrolling past bad news on our social media feed, switching off the TV or radio, or pausing a podcast when the subject matter becomes tough to take? That’s tempting to do, but it’s important for Christians to be aware of events and trends across the globe, to enable us to pray intelligently, and to be able to support organisations and people working to make the world a better place.

The second is about how we present our gospel message. We have ‘good news’ to proclaim, while we are living in a time when people are turning away from news of any kind, seeking instead to look for entertainment and distraction. In our preaching, in our personal testimonies and in the wide range of ways that we communicate the gospel message of ‘abundant life’ through Jesus Christ, we are called to be positive and upbeat.

In a world that is turning away from bad news, we have good news to offer. Our mission is to present this good news in ways that can catch the attention of a distracted world that’s tired of the gloom and looking for something better.



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew chapter 18 verses 21-35

Jewish teachers used to say you only had to forgive people three times before getting revenge, so Peter asked Jesus..



A NOTE ABOUT FREEWILL OFFERING 2022

With this copy of the Herald you should receive some pages about last year's Freewill Offering. This will not be 'stuck in', but will come on separate pages.

There is also a note from Phyllis (below).

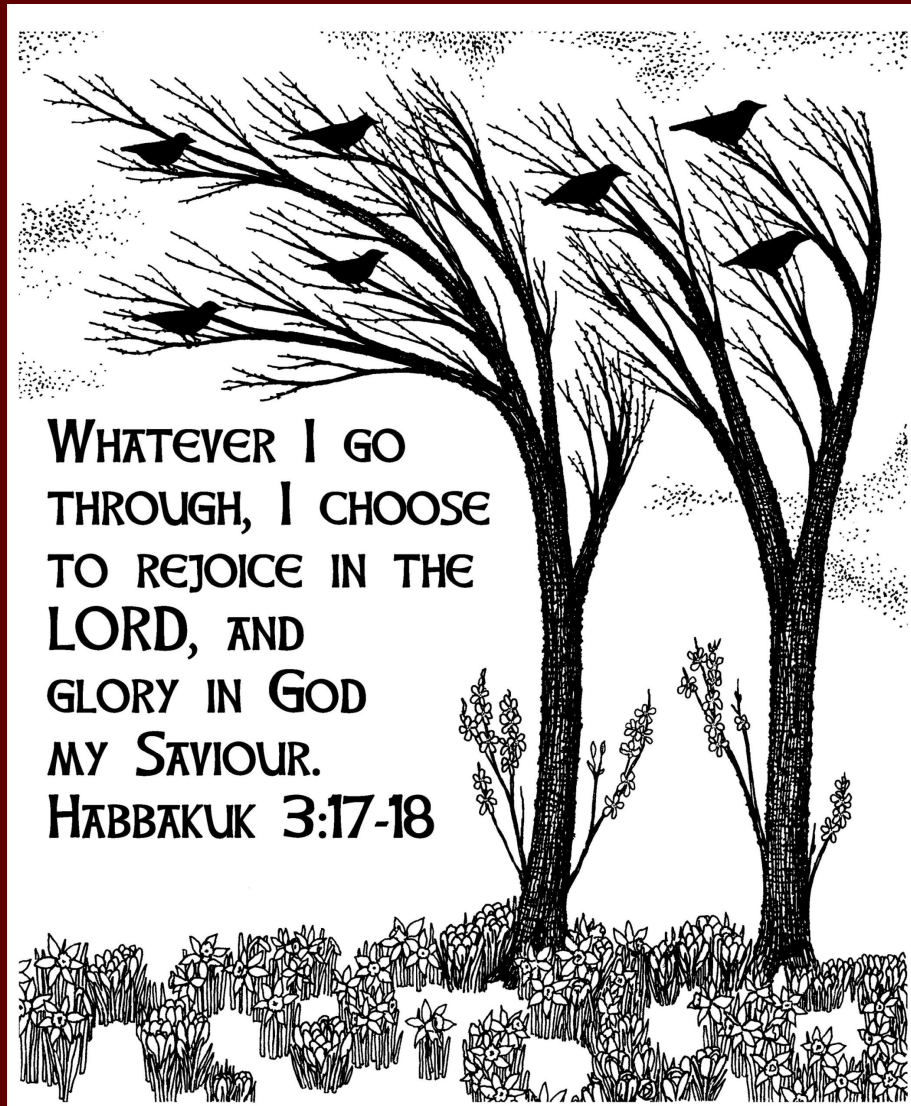
GIFT AID SCHEME REPORT 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

THANK YOU to parishioners who have already signed Gift Aid Declarations. We have submitted our claim to the Revenue for last year, and details have been shown on the FWO list. This includes FWO, Standing Orders and any extra payments.

Phyllis
028 9334 0884

This magazine is late!

Yes it is, and we apologise. The computer had to have a new drive fitted, and it took a bit of an effort and quite a bit of time. Our thanks to Gary from Ballynure Road, who did the job—and did it very well. There are a few other things wrong with the computer as well, but we decided that the urgent things were enough to be going on with for the moment.



WHATEVER I GO
THROUGH, I CHOOSE
TO REJOICE IN THE
LORD, AND
GLORY IN GOD
MY SAVIOUR.
HABBAKUK 3:17-18