

Kilbride HERALD

St Bride's—where Faith and Fellowship grow

MAY/JUNE 2021



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 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>
<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>
<p align="center">Rector's Glebewarden Jim Wilson: 2589 8753</p> <p align="center">People's Glebewarden Billy Robinson: 07799 863 095</p>	<p align="center">Parish Website kilbrideparishchurch.org Parish Webmaster: David Holmes</p>
<p align="center">Honorary Secretary Ivan Topping: 9334 1916</p> <p align="center">FWO Secretary 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 celebration of Pentecost this month could be described as a birthday party for the Church, as we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit to the first disciples (Acts 2:1-13). What are we celebrating?



at

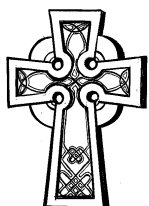
God's Promise: The disciples obeyed Jesus' instructions as they gathered in the Upper Room: *'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised'* (1:4). They met expectantly in prayer for God's promised gift. Just as we look forward to birthday presents, how eager are we to receive more of the Spirit in our lives?

God's Power: *'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit'* (4). The disciples needed the power of the Spirit to be different: not fearfully gathered behind locked doors, but energised to make Christ known. The Spirit can transform our lives into the likeness of Jesus and give gifts to equip our witness. Although the disciples' experience of this power was overwhelming, it was essentially an encounter with God's love. For us, this can be equally emotional or quiet, but all are included, and nobody is excluded from this experience.

God's Purpose: The disciples *'began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.'* (4). The Spirit empowered their witness, so that everyone heard them speaking in their own 'native language' (lit: dialect, v8). We all have a story to tell of God's activity in our lives and it's the Spirit who translates our words and actions into a language that those around can understand! At Pentecost, 3,000 people were added to the church in one day! What do we expect of the Spirit in our day?

Let the Church return to Pentecost, and Pentecost will return to her. The Spirit of God cannot take possession of believers beyond their capacity of receiving Him.

The Services at St Bride's



[1] Sunday 2 May
The Fifth Sunday of Easter
 11.00am Holy Communion
 6.00pm Prayers for Healing

[2] Sunday 9 May
The Sixth Sunday of Easter
 11.00am Morning Prayer

Thursday 13 May
Ascension Day
 11.00am Holy Communion

[3] Sunday 16 May
Sunday after Ascension Day
 11.00am Holy Communion

[4] Sunday 23 May
Feast of Pentecost
11.00am Holy Communion

[5] Sunday 30 May
Trinity Sunday
 11.00am Morning Prayer
*with the focus on 100 years of
 Northern Ireland.*

[1] Sunday 6 June
Trinity 1

11.00am Holy Communion
 6.00pm Prayers for Healing

[2] Sunday 13 June
Trinity 2

11.00am Morning Prayer

[3] Sunday 20 June
Trinity 3

11.00am Holy Communion

[4] Sunday 27 June
Trinity 4

11.00am Morning Prayer

NOTES

Our church is open again for the public worship of Almighty God. Vaccination has meant that progress is being made to bring the Coronavirus under control, but there is still a long way to go, and we simply don't know if there will be another lockdown. Anyway, as long as we're open, the services will be listed in The Herald.

At St Bride's we normally observe Ascension Day, which we will do again this year. (Thursday 13 May).

Please also note the resumption of Prayers for Healing, beginning Sunday 2 May at 6.00pm.

THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY OF HEALING



In Kilbride we have not had any Healing services since the pandemic began. There were many things to be considered, including physical contact, so we decided it was best to leave the practical side of these services until a later time.

However, time has gone on, and as we are now understanding more about both the pandemic and how we deal with it, we now feel we can make some changes to our status quo.

Prayers for Healing will resume on Sunday 2 May at 6.00pm. The "Laying on of Hands" will take place, but there will be no physical contact; in other words, for those who come to the rail, the Rector will hold his hands over the head, but not touch the head, or anywhere else.

Our prayers at that service will

continue just as usual. This will allow us to continue praying for those souls who require or prayers, and those who wish will still be ministered to at the rail.

We invite everyone to come to this short service on the first Sunday of each month.

THE EASTER GENERAL VESTRY

The Easter meeting of the General Vestry was held after Holy Communion on Sunday 11 April, when all matters were conducted as requested by the Bishop.

The meeting was due to take place after this edition of the Herald went to print, so everything will be set out in the next edition.



THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT YOUR FORGETFULNESS

You know the scenario – you go into the lounge, and then wonder what you wanted.

Or you need to make a phone call but can't find the phone. You go to the cash point and forget your pin number. Or your car keys are lost in the kitchen, but even when you find them and go shopping, you forget stuff on the list.

If at times you find yourself living in an annoying brain-fog, the good news is that it is not because you are ill or getting old. To varying extents, everyone does it.

A recent study at the University of Edinburgh has found that forgetfulness is as common in people in their 20s as it is in people in their 50s.



Although some of the people in the study were worried about getting dementia, a neuropsychiatrist at the university reassured them: "People think that if you are starting to forget things – something like misplacing your keys – that is something to worry about. But it is normal."

Good reasons for forgetting things range from the fact that too much was happening in your life at the time, you were stressed about something, not paying attention to what you were doing, or just too busy thinking about something else entirely!

FEWER PAGES HERE?

Yes, there are certainly fewer pages in this edition—and fewer photos as well, so the sooner our folk are able to start regular meetings again, the better.

In the meantime we'll just have to get on with everything we are allowed to do, and keep the parish running by every mean possible.

There's still plenty to be done; the grass-cutters are out and about, slates blown off the church roof have been fixed, and our churchwardens and glebewardens are busy too!

FREEWILL OFFERING FIGURES

GIFT AID SCHEME

**1 January 2020 to
31 December 2020**

Thank you to parishioners who have already signed Gift Aid declarations. We have submitted our claim for last year to the Revenue, and details are shown on the list of Freewill Offering in this magazine.

Please contact us if:

1. You require further explanation about these figures.
2. You have any questions regarding the amounts shown.
3. Your circumstances have changed and you are no longer a tax-payer.
4. You wish to revise your existing declaration.

Gift Aid Secretaries:

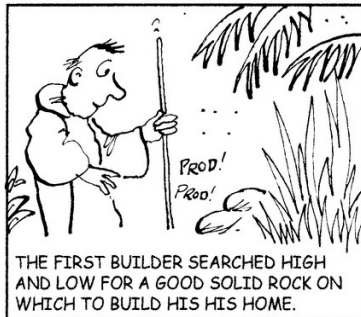
Phyllis Glenn 028 9334 0884

Irene Paget 028 9332 3579

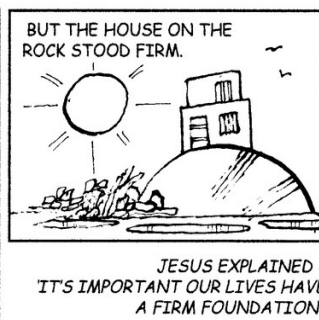
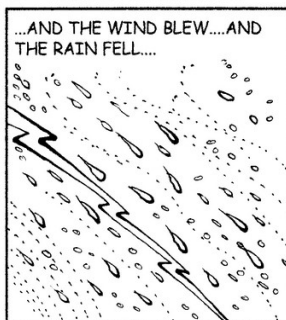
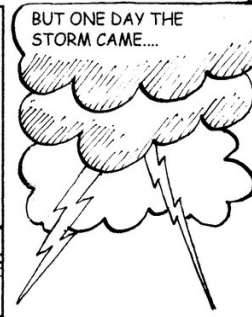
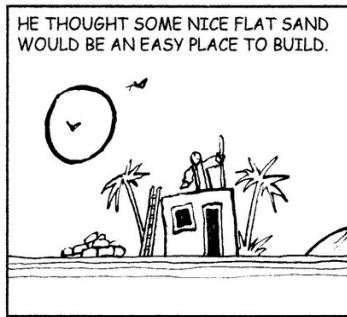
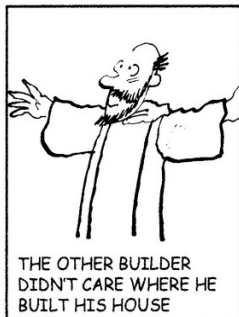
For any FWO queries contact

Ashley Hurst 07890 583 962.

Please note that the freewill offering figures are not available on the website edition of the Herald.



AT LONG, LONG LAST HE
FOUND THE IDEAL SPOT.



JESUS EXPLAINED -
IT'S IMPORTANT OUR LIVES HAVE
A FIRM FOUNDATION.



Last year, despite the Coronavirus Pandemic which led to Kilbride Parish Church being closed during Christian Aid Week, the parishioners raised the wonderful sum of £895.00 to help people living in poverty. A huge Thank You is extended to everyone who gave so generously.

This year Christian Aid Week (Monday 10th - Sunday 16th May) is focusing on Kenya, a country which is constantly battling extreme weather conditions due to the climate crisis.

A cycle of severe drought to severe flooding robs the people of a reliable source of water and crops struggle to grow. The Global Coronavirus Pandemic has added to the crisis as it has made this lack of water even more critical as handwashing with soap and water is vital for the people to stay protected against the virus.



The parishioners of Kilbride have always been very supportive and generous with their giving during Christian Aid Week and, with your help, we would like to continue supporting this most worthy cause. Unfortunately, as last year, there will not be a house - to - house collection.

If you wish to support Christian Aid Week please leave your donation:-

- (a) on the collection plate at the back of the church
- (b) where you normally deliver your freewill offering envelope
- (c) with either Lillian Lyttle or Barbara Rea.

Many thanks!

ASCENSION

Scriptures fulfilled,
Minds opened,
We followed Him to Bethany.
And there was joy in the blessing
Of our risen Lord,
Jesus, God on earth.

And in the blessing
Was the leaving,
And in the leaving
Was the blessing –
His Spirit of life and power
To witness to the world
Of our ascended Lord,
Jesus, man in heaven.

By Daphne Kitching



CHRISTIAN AID RECEIVES A CHEQUE FOR £500 - WITHOUT A NOTE BEING SUNG!

For a number of years now members of Kilbride Parish Choir (and friends) have joined with members of Ballyclare Presbyterian Church to sing Christmas Carols at Belfast International Airport to raise money for Christian Aid.

Everyone looks forward to this annual event as there is always a wonderful atmosphere in the Arrivals area as family and friends are welcomed home for Christmas.

Sadly, however, this was not possible last year due to the Corona-virus Pandemic.

Pamela Gray, who is a member of Ballyclare Presbyterian Church and who organises this annual event, was invited to the Airport earlier this year to receive a cheque for £500.00 for Christian Aid.

She writes " The employees of Belfast International Airport have raised £7,000 for a range of local Charity Initiatives.

The Airport Team has fundraised over the last twelve months despite a challenging backdrop of Covid 19 to give back where it is needed the most. Graham Keddie, the Managing Director of Belfast International Airport says, "

The last year has been extremely challenging for the Charity sector. Due to ongoing lockdown restrictions many have not been able to fundraise or provide support as they normally would."

We are so grateful to the Airport, and we look forward to being back singing in Arrivals later this year. I wanted to share this good news with you and Thank You for your ongoing support."

WHERE'S THE BEST PLACE TO STORE YOUR COFFEE?

Sainsburys, Asda, and Marks & Spencer are among the supermarkets that advise you keep fresh ground coffee in a fridge or freezer after opening.



But Tesco and others advise that you store ground coffee and

beans in a cool, dry place such as a kitchen cupboard.

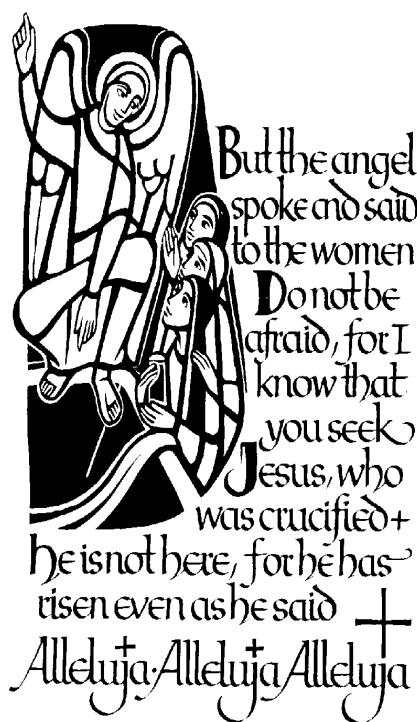
Many coffee experts warn that storing your coffee in the fridge is wrong because coffee easily absorbs aroma, moisture and flavours, and can be tainted by fish, meat and cheese.

Martin Isark, founder of the Can I Eat It website, laments: "So much coffee is spoilt by poor storage, which makes the coffee producers want to weep..."

Paul Rooke of the British Coffee Association adds: "Coffee,

like many food and drink products when exposed to air, will deteriorate. Cool and dry are the key words; the ideal storage is in an inert, airtight container stored in a cool place."

But don't worry about it—just nip round to the nearest coffee shop and get it made fresh on the machine. Everybody's making it now!



HOW LONG, O LORD?

How long until life gets really back to normal, and the pandemic is brought under control?

If you feel like asking God that question, you're in good company. This past year has taken its toll on our relationships, our economy, and on our collective mental health.

'How long, O Lord?' is a question that has been commonly asked by the Bible's poets, as well as many saints down the centuries.



Mother Julian of Norwich, asked the question back in the 14th century. She was no stranger to pandemics herself, having suffered from the plague in 1372.

After much prayer and meditation, she was given an answer that has echoed down the centuries. In her 'Revelations of Divine Love' she wrote that God had revealed to her that:

"All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well." "He said not 'Thou shalt not be tempested, thou shalt not be travailed, thou shalt not be dis-eased'; but He said, *'Thou shalt not be overcome.'*"

That is a promise that we can hang on to: all shall be well in the end. But it is also necessary to add: if it is not well with you today, then it is not yet the end.

This is a perspective on life that is full of faith, of hope, of trust in the goodness and victory of God. The psalms are full of it, and always trust in God for the final outcome.

MAJORITY OF MOURNERS DURING THE PANDEMIC UNABLE TO SAY GOODBYE PROPERLY, A SURVEY SAYS

More than half of young adults have lost someone close to them over the past year, with this age group most active in helping to comfort the bereaved and organise funerals, according to new research.

People aged between 18 and 29 years old have been worst affected by bereavement since the first lockdown last year.

51% report they have lost someone close to them, compared to 31% of people aged 60 or above, a survey says.

In spite of this, the majority of 18 to 29 year olds, 54%, reported that they had been active in helping others cope with bereavement, compared to 26% of people aged 60 or above.

More than a quarter of young adults said they had helped organise a funeral in the last year, compared to 7% of the older age group.

The online survey of more than 2,000 adults showed that nearly three quarters of people – more than seven in 10 - who wanted to attend a funeral over the past year were unable to do so because of the pandemic.

The vast majority of mourners, 89%, said that people had not been able to say goodbye properly to those who have died, while a similar proportion, 84%, said that people had not been able to fulfil the funeral wishes of the person who died.

Overall four in 10 people said they had lost someone close to them since March 2020 from any cause, including Covid-19.

All in the month of May...

It was:

200 years ago, on 5th May 1821 that Napoleon Bonaparte, Emperor of France (1804 – 1815) died of stomach cancer. He was in exile on the island of Saint Helena in the South Atlantic, aged 51.

100 years ago, on 3rd May 1921 that Ireland was divided into Northern Ireland and the Irish Free State (now known as the Republic of Ireland).

Also 100 years ago, on 15th May, that the British Legion was founded.

70 years ago, on 25th May 1951 that the British spies Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean fled to Moscow. They were members of the infamous Cambridge spy ring, and their whereabouts remained unknown until 1956.

65 years ago, on 24th May 1956 that the first Eurovision Song Contest was held in Lugano, Switzerland. It was won by Switzerland.

60 years ago, on 1st May 1961 that betting away from race-courses was legalised in the UK and the first betting shops opened.

40 years ago, on 13th May 1981 that Pope John Paul II was shot and seriously wounded by a Turkish gunman in an assassination attempt in St Peter's Square, Vatican City.

30 years ago, on 16th May 1991 that Queen Elizabeth II became the first British monarch to address the US Congress.

20 years ago, on 7th May 2001 that Great Train Robber Ronnie Biggs returned to the UK from Brazil where he had lived as a fugitive for 36 years. He was immediately arrested and sent to prison to complete his sentence. Released on compassionate grounds in 2009, he died in 2013.

10 years ago, on 2nd May 2011 that Osama bin Laden, Saudi Arabian-born terrorist, died. Founder of al-Qaeda, he was thought to have masterminded the 9/11 attacks on the USA. He was shot dead by US forces in Pakistan.



A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

with Canon David Humphries
and The Revd Amanda Adams



10—20 May 2022

Eleven days based in
Jerusalem and the Galilee

Covid 19 insurance available

Further details from

Canon David Humphries
St Bride's Rectory
53 Brook Meadow
Doagh
Ballyclare
BT39 0QF
Phone: 028 9332 2979