

# Kilbride HERALD

*St Bride's—where Faith and Fellowship grow*

MAY/JUNE 2023

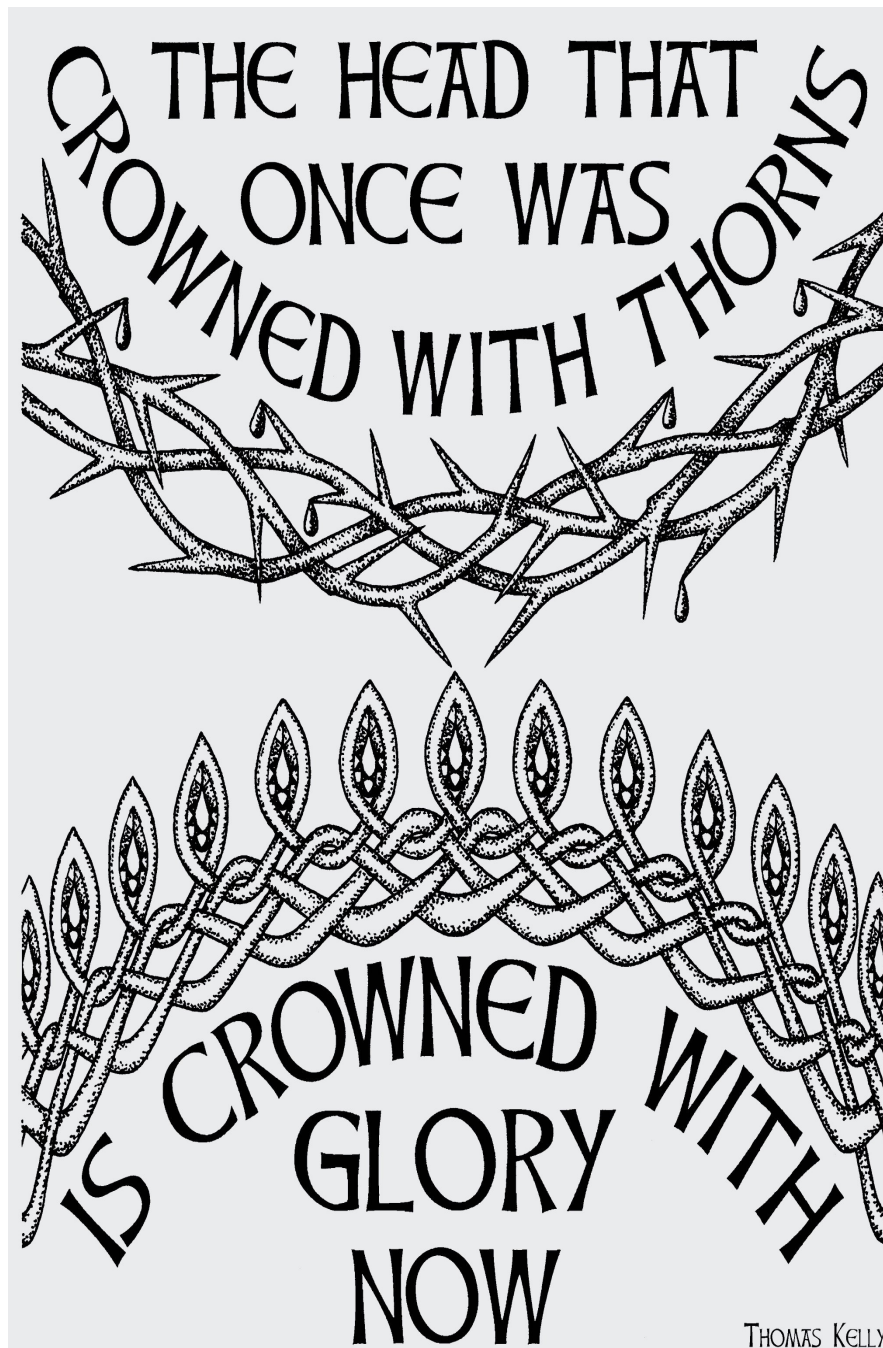


**The Wednesday Witness attendees  
during Lent this year.  
Tea in the Parish Hall.**

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

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<p align="center"><b>Organist &amp; Choir Director</b> Timothy Wilson</p> <p align="center"><b>Sunday School Superintendent</b> Eleanor Graham: 9334 0000</p>	<p align="center"><b>The Rector would be grateful for information about hospital admissions and discharges.</b></p>
	<p align="center"><b>KILBRIDE HERALD</b> If you have an article to contribute, contact the Rector or the Churchwardens.</p>
	<p align="center"><b>Charity Number: 10 35 70</b></p>



# Wednesday Witness

The Wednesday Witness series during Lent was very successful this year. The congregation averaged 50 each week, and each session consisted of a short musical recital followed by a homily by the Rector, then tea in the Parish Hall, which most of our members of the congregation were able to attend.

Recitals included Dr Joe McKee (organ), Stephen Hamill (organ), and our Parish Choir. Some visitors from local churches attended as well, and were made most welcome.

This year the Rector's homilies were based on certain places in the Holy Land which he described for us in detail, then he read the Bible to tell us what happened there, and his addresses elaborated on these events.

The excellent attendance gave great encouragement to those who came, and all went away enthused with the friendship and spiritually enlightened with the fellowship and teaching.

The photo (*opposite page*) shows Stephen Hamill at the Hill organ. He was already aware of the history of this instrument, and was pleased to be playing it. Both Stephen and Joe McKee were able to skillfully show off the organ's most prominent features to the amazement of those present.

All-in-all, a very successful Lenten Wednesday Witness series.



*Stephen Hamill at the Hill Organ in St Bride's.  
Stephen was one of our Wednesday Witness guests.*

**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.**

## The Services at St Bride's



**[5] Sunday 30 April**  
**4th Sunday of Easter**  
 11.00am Songs of Praise

**[1] Sunday 7 May**  
**5th Sunday of Easter**  
 11.00am Holy Communion

**[2] Sunday 14 May**  
**5th Sunday of Easter**  
 11.00am Morning Prayer

**[3] Sunday 21 May**  
**Sunday after Ascension Day**  
 11.00am Holy Communion  
*Canon David Brown*

**[4] Sunday 28 May**  
**Feast of Pentecost**  
 11.00am Holy Communion

**[1] Sunday 4 June**  
**Trinity Sunday**  
 11.00am Holy Communion

**[2] Sunday 11 June**  
**Trinity 1**  
 11.00am Morning Prayer

**[3] Sunday 18 June**  
**Trinity 2**  
 11.00am Holy Communion

**[4] Sunday 25 June**  
**Trinity 3**  
 11.00am Morning Prayer

**[1] Sunday 2 July**  
**Trinity 4**  
 11.00am Holy Communion

Please note that Pentecost Sunday (28 May) is always Holy Communion, and rather than change some of the surrounding Sundays, leaving people confused, it was decided to leave the other Sundays as they normally are.



**On 6<sup>th</sup> May His Majesty King Charles III will be crowned alongside his wife, Queen Camilla, in Westminster Abbey.**



How can we pray for him, as he approaches this important event? Paul says: *'I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.'* (1 Timothy 2:1,2).

*For God's presence* – to guide every aspect of King Charles' life as he prepares for his Coronation and future roles. At his Accession, he was proclaimed Defender of the Faith, the Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Charles has talked about *'the Sovereign's particular relationship and responsibility towards the Church of England – the Church in which my own faith is so deeply rooted.'*

*For God's wisdom* – as he provides leadership that will honour God and promote the wellbeing of our society. King Solomon prayed for wisdom for himself: *'So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong.'* (1 Kings 3:9).

*For God's love* – to strengthen all relationships within the Royal Family; for reconciliation, understanding, forgiveness and good communication.



## THE LIFE OF A LOCAL HISTORIAN

On an evening in March, the men of the church, with a few ladies, thoroughly enjoyed a talk given by local historian Ronnie Hassard on a local writer called Archibald McIlroy.

The McIlroy family lived on a small farm near Ballyclare and Ronnie described the life that Archie led in the 19th century and early 20th century.

McIlroy wrote a number of books in various genres including Ulster-Scots.

With Ronnie on that evening was Jack McKinney who is no stranger to Kilbride and he read short extracts from some of the books as well as telling amusing stories of what life was like at the time in Ballyclare and surrounding areas.

Following the talk, light refreshments were enjoyed and everyone was able to chat further with Jack and Ronnie.

A thoroughly entertaining evening, and thanks must go to both gentlemen for taking time to come to the men's group





## WORK OF ABAANA REVEALED TO THE LADIES

**Abaana is a Christian charity working for the benefit of less privileged children in Africa.**

Since 1998 Abaana has been building schools, homes for street children, providing clean water, and operating a medical centre. It runs rehabilitation projects for street kids and people devastated by war, and sponsors children through education.

Ballyclare Presbyterian Church has strong connections with the organisation and three ladies from the church came to give the Ladies' Group an extremely interesting talk on the work of the charity. The Ladies' Group was delighted to hand over a cheque for £300 to Vera McWilliam, Pamela Gray and Heather Knox from Ballyclare Presbyterian Church to help with the wonderful work that the charity does. Our good friend Vera McWilliam also came to represent the church.

If you would like to learn more about the charity's work please go to our website and follow this link - [Abaana](#)



**The Chrism oil which will be used to anoint His Majesty The King on 6th May 2023 has been consecrated in Jerusalem.**



In a special ceremony at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem the oil was consecrated by the Patriarch of Jerusalem, His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilus III, and the Anglican Bishop of Jerusalem, the Most reverend Hosam Naoum.

The oil has been created using olives harvested from two groves on the Mount of Olives at the Monastery of Mary Magdalene and the Monastery of the Ascension.

The Monastery of Mary Magdalene is the burial place of His Majesty's grandmother, Princess Alice of Greece.

The olives were pressed just outside Bethlehem, and the oil was blessed with essential oils—sesame, rose, jasmine, cinnamon, neroli, benzoin and amber.

The coronation oil is based on the oil used at the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, the formula of which has been used for hundreds of years. It will also be used for the anointing of Her Majesty the Queen Consort.

## **The Archbishop of Canterbury has said:**

“I am honoured and grateful that His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos III and Archbishop Hosam Naoum have consecrated the oil that will be used to anoint His Majesty The King. I want to thank especially His Beatitude for providing this Coronation Oil, which reflects the King’s personal family connection with the Holy Land and his great care for its peoples. I am also delighted that the Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem shared in the consecration of the oil.



“Since beginning the planning for the Coronation, my desire has been for a new Coronation Oil to be produced using olive oil from the Mount of Olives. This demonstrates the deep historic link between the Coronation, the Bible and the Holy Land. From ancient kings through to the present day, monarchs have been anointed with oil from this sacred place. As we prepare to anoint The King and The Queen Consort, I pray that they would be guided and strengthened by the Holy Spirit.”

## SOME FACTS ABOUT THE KING

He was born at 9.14pm on 14<sup>th</sup> November 1948, to Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip, at Buckingham Palace in London.

He has been heir-apparent to the throne since he was three years old.

He is the first monarch in British history to have earned a university degree. From 1967 to 1970 he studied history at Cambridge University.

He can speak Welsh. He spent two months learning the language in 1969, as he prepared to become the Prince of Wales. He still speaks it today.

He is a keen watercolour painter, a published author, and a music lover, who played the cello at Cambridge. He has done some TV: making a guest appearance on Coronation Street, and presenting the BBC weather forecast.

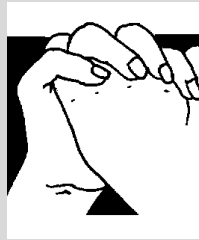
As Prince of Wales, he founded nearly 20 charities. Together, they raise £140million each year for good causes. He is passionate about the environment, speaking out against plastic pollution as early as 1970. He has planted many trees during royal engagements.

Aged 73, King Charles III is the oldest monarch ever to be crowned in British history. He became King on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022, after the death of his mother, the Queen, in Balmoral.

As head of the Commonwealth, King Charles III is monarch of each of the 14 Commonwealth realms: Antigua & Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Belize, Canada, Grenada, Jamaica, New Zealand, Papau New Guinea, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, the Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu. As King, he's also the only person in the UK who can travel abroad in the Commonwealth without a passport and drive without a licence.

King Charles III has two children, Princes William and Harry, and five grandchildren. Prince William is next in line to become King and was named the Prince of Wales in 2022.

## **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.

***Please pray for the King.  
(See page 7).***





## **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK (14th - 20th MAY)**

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who so generously supported Christian Aid Week last year. An amazing total of £1040 was raised which was shared equally between supporting the ongoing crisis in Ukraine and the farmers of Zimbabwe.

This year Christian Aid Week is concentrating on Malawi where farmers are not only having to deal with the effects of the global climate crisis but are also struggling to survive the cost of living crisis. The erratic cycle of drought, floods and storms has caused harvests to fail and the last twelve months have seen food, fuel, fertiliser and school fees doubling in price. One such farmer is Jen who is pinning her hopes on a drought resistant, soil-revitalising, high protein crop called pigeon pea.

Please support Christian Aid Week as your gift could help lift Jen and many other farmers out of poverty by enabling them to plant good quality seeds, obtain a fairer price for their crops and therefore build happier futures for their children.

Please leave your donation on the collection plate in Church or with Lillian Lyttle or Barbara Rea. Christian Aid Week daily devotional booklets are available at the back of the Church.

Very many thanks,  
Barbara

# The Season of Easter

**Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins. We are forgiven. Christ has risen! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in His joy! Hallelujah!**

The Good News of Jesus Christ is a message so simple that you can explain it to someone in a few minutes. It is so profound that for the rest of their lives they will still be 'growing' in their Christian walk with God.

**Why does the date move around so much?** Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt, and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for the first Good Friday: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April 30 AD or Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 33 AD with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these two Fridays to be the most likely.



Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox,

which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are complicated and involve something called an ‘ecclesiastical full moon’, which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22<sup>nd</sup> March, which last fell in 1818. The latest is 25<sup>th</sup> April, which last happened in 1943.

**Why the name, ‘Easter’?** In almost every European language, the festival’s name comes from ‘Pesach’, the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word ‘Easter’, however, seems to come from *Eostre*, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in ‘Eostur month,’ but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like *Eos* and *Aurora*, whose names mean ‘shining in the east’. So, Easter might have meant simply ‘beginning month’ – a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

**Finally, why Easter eggs?** On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures. On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it’s easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.



## WHY EASTER WILL NEVER GO AWAY

**How do you make sense of the Resurrection? Dead men don't rise, so why believe that this particular dead man *did* rise?**

At the end of St Luke's gospel we read that: "they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement" (Luke 24:4). This is highly significant. The Gospels do not show us a group of disciples who were in a receptive frame of mind. After the crucifixion, they were in hiding, frightened and scattered. Then suddenly, they came out of hiding and were totally different; excited, joyful. By Pentecost they were confident, with one firm message: 'You crucified Jesus, but God raised Him up!'

How did they know this? Because of direct personal experience. Some of them had visited the tomb of Jesus: it was empty. Others claimed to have seen and touched the risen Lord. Were they hallucinating? People can hallucinate in groups – when taking drugs, for example. But of course, each one will see a different hallucination. But the disciples all saw the same thing. Or rather, the same person. Jesus.

Were they lying? Jesus had died a humiliating death as a criminal. Perhaps they wanted to rescue His good name. So, did they pretend they had seen Him?

This theory has a big problem. Their preaching led them into trouble with the authorities. They were beaten and imprisoned and some of them killed. People will die for ideas and causes which they believe in passionately. But not for things they have made up. We might suffer for our convictions, but we will not suffer for our inventions.

What about the 'swoon' theory? That Jesus didn't die on the cross, despite terrible wounds? That He recovered in the tomb, and then escaped? That the disciples nursed Him back to health? But Roman soldiers knew when a man was dead; and there was the guard on the



tomb. Also, the events which followed simply don't fit. If the disciples had been hiding Jesus all along, they would have kept very low-key, and out of the way, so that the authorities did not come after Him again.

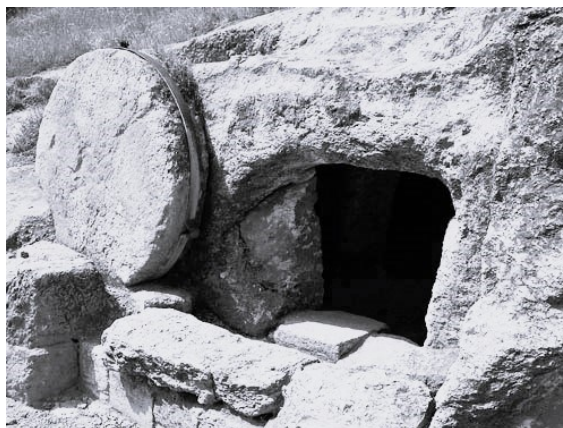
Besides, to preach that God had raised Jesus from the dead – which is exactly what they did preach – would have been a lie. Beatings and threat of death would soon have loosened their tongues. Inventions crumble under pressure; convictions hold fast.

Another reason for believing in the Resurrection is this: Jesus' continuing impact. Thousands and soon millions of people in every generation since have shared an inescapable sense of being 'accompanied' through life. Though unseen, they identify this presence as the Risen Lord.

Sometimes this experience of meeting Jesus is gentle and fitful. Sometimes it is dramatic and life changing. This reminds us that the resurrection of Jesus is not just an interesting historical puzzle. It is a vital, present day reality. It brings wonderful comfort, assuring us of the central Christian truths: death is dead; Jesus is alive; God is love.

This central notion was captured, most movingly, by the great Albert Schweitzer: 'He came to those men who knew Him not. He speaks to us the same word: "Follow thou me," and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfil for our time. He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal Himself in the toils, the conflicts, the suffering which they shall pass through in His fellowship, and, as ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience who He is.'

**Have a joyful – and a  
challenging – Easter!**



# St Patrick's Night Hooley

A number of parishioners and friends came together this evening to celebrate St Patrick's Day and had a lot of fun playing Housey Housey (a little bit like Bingo) in the Parish Hall. The only difference was that no money changed hands—we played for tiny little chocolate bars in the shape of a bunny rabbit!

Concentration was needed as the numbers were called out by the



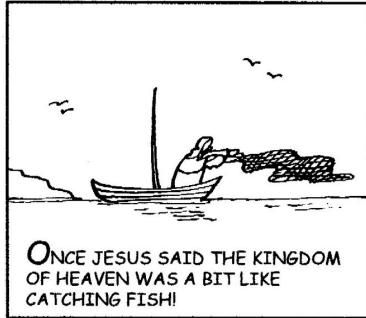
caller Clarence Gibson, assisted by the Rector, and excitement mounted as numbers were crossed off until eventually the call went up that there was a winner.

Prizes were presented for

completion of a line and then of a box. At the halfway point a delicious supper was served by Diane, Agnes and Dorothy, who had been working hard in the kitchen, and entertainment was provided by George and David Rea on their accordions. A very enjoyable evening was had by all.

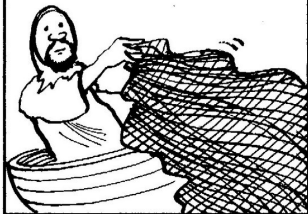
# The parable of the Fish and the Nets

JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



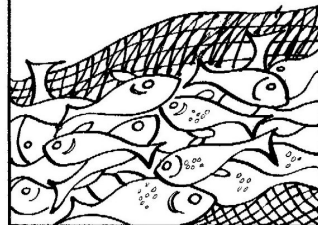
ONCE JESUS SAID THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN WAS A BIT LIKE CATCHING FISH!

WHEN PEOPLE GO FISHING THEY THROW THEIR NETS INTO THE LAKE...

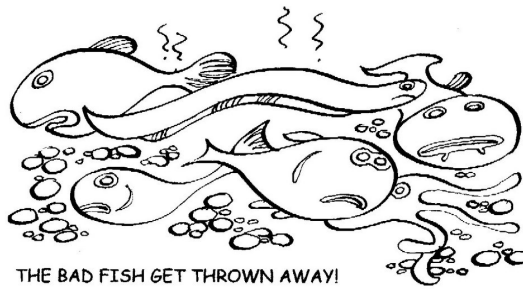
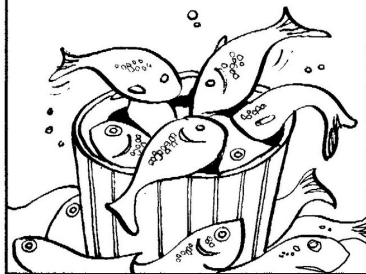


...WHEN THE NETS ARE FULL, THEY PULL THEM TO SHORE

ONCE ON SHORE THE FISH HAVE TO BE SORTED OUT.

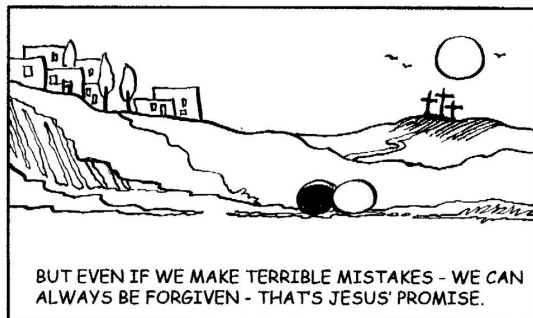


THE GOOD FISH GO INTO BUCKETS



THE BAD FISH GET THROWN AWAY!

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT WE TOO WILL BE SORTED LIKE THE FISH. WE CAN CHOOSE TO DO GOOD OR BAD THINGS WITH OUR LIVES.



BUT EVEN IF WE MAKE TERRIBLE MISTAKES - WE CAN ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN - THAT'S JESUS' PROMISE.



**The Oil for the Coronation**