

# Kilbride Herald

St. Bride's - where Faith and Fellowship grow



Rev. Canon David Humphries retires as Rector

September - October 2023

# **Parish Of Kilbride: St Bride's Church**

## **- where Faith and Fellowship grow**

**Rector-in-Charge:** Rev. John McClure (07841 866414)

**Parish Reader**

David Holmes

**Rector's Churchwarden**

Vacant - see rota

**People's Churchwarden**

Vacant - see rota

**Rector's Glebewarden**

Jim Wilson: 2589 8753

**People's Glebewarden**

Billy Robinson: 07306 303337

**Honorary Secretary**

Ivan Topping: 9334 1916

**FWO Secretary**

Fiona Charlton: 07504 813779

**Gift Aid Secretaries**

Phyllis Glenn: 9334 0884

**Organist & Choir Director**

Timothy Wilson

**Sunday School Superintendent**

Eleanor Graham: 9334 0000

**Honorary Treasurer**

Lilian Lyttle: 9332 3311

**Parish Hall Organiser**

Alex Johnston: 9334 9393

**Caretaker**

Claire Patterson: 07745 721069

**Parish Website**

[kilbrideparishchurch.org](http://kilbrideparishchurch.org)

Parish Webmaster: David Holmes

**Holy Baptism**

This is by arrangement.  
Please contact the Secretary  
at the phone number above.

The Rector-in-Charge  
would be grateful for information  
about hospital admissions  
and discharges.

**Kilbride Herald Editorial Panel**

David Holmes, Iris McCormick  
& Ivan Topping

Charity Number: 10 35 70



## The Services at St. Bride's

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### **Sunday 3 September**

*Trinity 13*

11.00am Holy Communion

### **Sunday 10 September**

*Trinity 14*

11.00am Morning Prayer

### **Sunday 17 September**

*Trinity 15*

11.00am Holy Communion

### **Sunday 22 October**

*Trinity 20*

11.00am Morning Prayer

### **Sunday 29 October**

*Fifth Sunday before Advent*

11.00am Morning Prayer

### **Sunday 5 November**

*Fourth Sunday before Advent*

11.00am Holy Communion

## ***Harvest Thanksgiving***

### **Sunday 24 September**

*Trinity 16*

11.00am Morning Prayer



### **Sunday 1 October**

*Trinity 17*

11.00am Holy Communion

### **Sunday 8 October**

*Trinity 18*

11.00am Morning Prayer

### **Sunday 15 October**

*Trinity 19*

11.00am Holy Communion

## ***Remembrance Sunday***

### **Sunday 12 November**

*Third Sunday before Advent*

11.00am Morning Prayer  
and Act of Remembrance



## Rev. Canon David Humphries Retires

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The morning service of Morning Prayer on 20th August was the last service for our Rector before he retired on 31st August after almost seven years as Rector of Kilbride Parish Church. It was a normal service of Morning Prayer but many visitors from other churches and organisations came to wish him well. Representatives from Antrim and Newtownabbey Council, Ballyclare Victoria Flute Band, various Masonic lodges and many personal friends came to show their respect and wish him well in his retirement. To mark the occasion a collection had

been made and a gift cheque was presented to David by Ivan Topping, Secretary of the Select Vestry. Ivan paid tribute to the wonderful service that David has given to Kilbride during his time as incumbent, also mentioning his work outside of the parish with the organ scholarship scheme and in particular his leadership of a number of pilgrimages to the Holy Land during his time at Kilbride, the last one being in May of this year accompanied by Bishop George Davison. David has led more than twenty five pilgrimages to the Holy Land during more than three

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decades of ministry. On behalf of the members of the Select Vestry and the parishioners of Kilbride Ivan thanked David for his ministry and wished him a long and productive retirement. David Holmes then paid a personal tribute to the Rector for the help he had given him in his role as Parish Reader for Kilbride and presented him with a photo-book containing photographs taken during the Rector's ministry. The church choir

sang an anthem entitled 'A Clare Benediction' written by John Rutter. Following the service everyone enjoyed refreshments in the Parish Hall where they were able to chat with David and offer their own personal tributes and good wishes to him as they said goodbye. On behalf of the church wardens during David's time in Kilbride Iris McCormick read a poem she had written about David.



## **Rev. John McClure**

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During the vacancy in Kilbride, as a result of Rev. Canon David Humphries' recent retirement, Rev. John McClure will assume the duties of the parish of Kilbride on a temporary basis. John was formerly rector of St Jude's, Muckamore, St Catherine's, Killead and Gartree, Crumlin before retiring due to ill health. It is wonderful to know that, following treatment, he has made considerable progress towards full-health and is looking forward to looking after our parish until a new rector is appointed. John is well-known to many of our parishioners and will be made very welcome by everyone in St Bride's.



## Wedding at St. Bride's

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St Bride's was the venue for a very international wedding on 12th August as Olivia Jackson married Dmitre Ratnayake, the occasion shared by their family and friends who came from across the globe to be part of their special day. The service was conducted by our rector, Rev. Canon David Humphries, who was officiating at his last marriage service before retiring at the end of August. Organist

for this special service was Dr. Joe McKee, OBE. During the signing of the register Esther Dickmann sang Panis Angelicus and Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring. Olivia and Dmitri are pictured on the back page leaving the church amid a blizzard of confetti. Best wishes go to them both from everyone in St Bride's. May they have a long, happy and blessed marriage.

## Baptism

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During the morning service with Holy Communion on 20th August our rector performed his last baptism as rector. The little boy was presented by his parents Anthony and Anna Hill, together with godparents Colin and

Lauren Hill. He was baptised Arthur Alexander Hill. It was wonderful to have four generations of the Hill family in church for the occasion with proud great-grandparents Alex and Beth Hill in attendance.

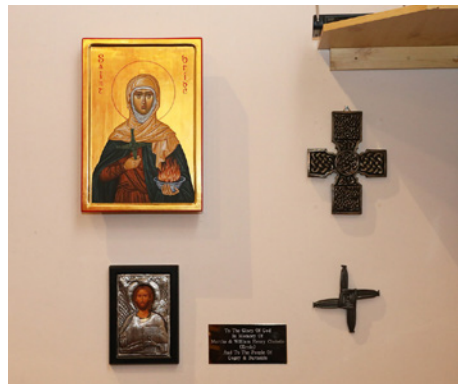


## Dedication of Christie Family Gifts

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The Christie family from Burnside has had a long association with St Bride's and at the morning service on 23rd July a number of new wall decorations were dedicated in memory of Martha and William Henry (Ernie) Christie as well as to the community of Cogry and Burnside. Many of the Christie family and their friends were in attendance for this special service conducted by our rector. These new additions to the church wall complement similar gifts

given by the Christie family some years ago. The congregation was invited for lunch, very generously provided by the Christie family, in the Parish Hall at the end of the service. In addition to a very tasty lunch the family also provided a beautifully decorated cake which had the cross of St Bride on top. Our Rector was given the honour of cutting the cake which was also enjoyed by all.





## 1st Kilbride Scout Group

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### Meeting times

**Squirrels** - Wednesday evenings  
from 5:45pm until 6:45pm.

**Beavers** - Wednesday evenings from  
7:00pm until 8:00pm.

**Cubs** - Monday evenings from  
6:30pm until 7:45pm.

**Scouts** - Monday evenings from  
8:00pm until 9:30pm.

1st Kilbride Scout Group Registration  
Night (new members for all sections)  
was on Monday 4th September but  
if anyone couldn't make that evening  
please contact the Group Scout  
Leader (Simon Charlton) for more  
details of how to join.

Contact Simon via email  
**kilbridescouts@hotmail.com**  
or by phone **07900 053885**



## 1st Kilbride Guide Group

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### Meeting times

**Rainbows** - Thursday evenings from  
5:45pm until 6:45pm.

**Brownies** - Thursday evenings  
from 6:50pm until 7:50pm.

**Guides** - Thursday evenings  
from 7:45pm until 9:15pm.

**Rangers** - Thursday evenings  
(2nd and 4th Thursday of each  
month) from 8:00pm until 9:15pm.



## Kilbride Parish Ladies Group

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All meetings are at 7:30pm in the Parish Room unless noted otherwise;

**Wednesday, 13 September 2023** - Team games and quiz.

**Wednesday, 11 October 2023** - Chair fitness with Rachel Patterson-Wilson.

**Wednesday, 8 November 2023** - Patchwork Quilts/Crafts.

No meeting in December

## Badminton Club

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Badminton Club starts again on Tuesday 12 September at 8:00pm. New members will be made very welcome. For more information please contact Fiona Charlton on **07504 813779**.

## Poppy Display

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### Can you knit or crochet?

Fiona Charlton is organising a display of poppies for inside the Church this November and will need lots of knitted or crocheted poppies. If you are interested in helping create the display, there will be flyers circulating which will include two knitting patterns and a crochet pattern. If you have a pattern of your own that you would prefer to use that is also ok. Finished poppies should be about 4 inches across and will be arranged together to create an impressive display for Remembrance Sunday.

The patterns include instructions for making standard red poppies, however poppies can also be knit or crocheted in purple to commemorate the animals from the wars. Finished poppies can be given to Fiona at any time, however ideally she would need them by the end of September so that the display can be assembled.

Thanking you in advance for your help. If you would like any more information on this please contact Fiona Charlton on **07504 813779**.

## History of Hymns

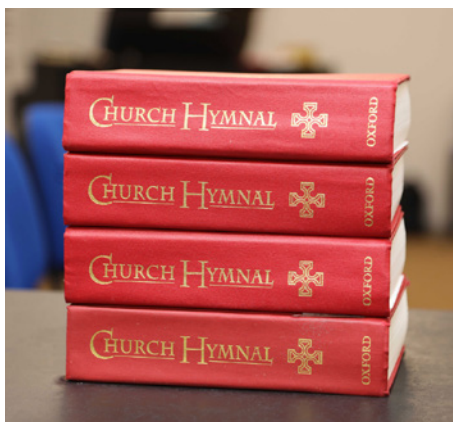
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This is a new section in The Herald where the history of some of our well-loved hymns will be explored.

Given it is now the season of the year for harvesting God's bounty the first hymn featured is 'We plough the fields and scatter' which has been popular with many generations of worshippers. 'We plough the fields and scatter' has its origins in Germany originally being a poem written by Matthias Claudius (1740 - 1815). As a young man Claudius had turned his back on Christianity but in 1877 he became ill. During this period of illness he renewed his faith and was inspired to write a number of Christian poems. In 1782, and following a dinner invitation from a friend who asked him to bring one of his Christian poems with him, Claudius wrote a new poem for the occasion. He gave it the title 'Wir

pflügen und wir streuen' and based on Psalm 144 it extended to 17 verses! It was published that same year and was later set to music in 1800, credited to Johann A. P. Schulz. It was then published in various German hymn books but the publishers omitted many of the verses and often decided to start at verse 3, which opened with the words 'Wir pflügen und wir streuen' (translated - 'We plough and we scatter').

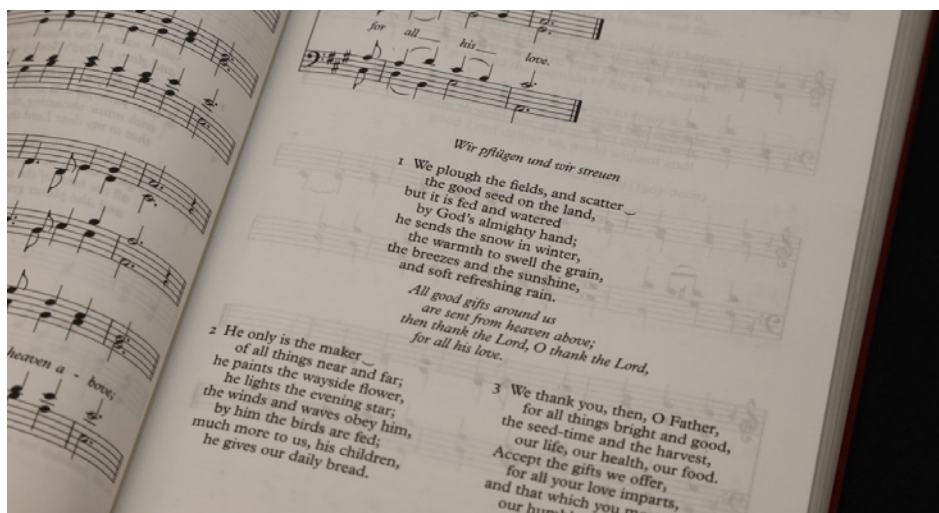
Its translation into English followed some years later as an Anglican rector's daughter called Jane Montgomery Campbell (1817 - 1878), from London, had been translating many German hymns into English. Jane was a singing teacher and a poet in her own right, but she was also a gifted linguist and German scholar. As she worked on this hymn she didn't



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use a literal translation of its opening line but adjusted it a little to retain the original feeling that the poet had in mind, that of giving thanks to God for the harvest. On completion she taught it to her pupils in her father's parish school and it and other translations

were later published in Charles Bere's Garland of Songs and Children's Chorale Book. It has also been published in numerous hymn books and has been enjoyed by many in the ensuing 150 years.



## Church Website

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Have you ever visited the church website to find out what special services and events are planned or for news of what has been happening in the parish? The website contains a lot of very important and useful information that everyone should find interesting and informative. It is updated on a regular basis by our webmaster, David Holmes, and he is

keen to get details of anything that is happening in relation to the parish of Kilbride. Contact him with anything you think might be of interest using the contact page on the website or in person at the church.

**The website address is  
[kilbrideparishchurch.org](http://kilbrideparishchurch.org)**

## Interregnum in Kilbride

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You may hear the term ‘interregnum’ mentioned in Kilbride over the coming months and you may well be puzzled as to its meaning. It’s fairly obvious that it’s a Latin word, but one that is rarely used in everyday conversations. Many words in our everyday language have Latin origins and indeed Christian services used to be conducted completely in Latin which was fine for the scholars of the day but not so useful for the common people attending church!

Eventually everything was translated into English but with many words still having Latin origins. A strong legacy of Latin usage does still remain in medical and legal circles.

Getting back to this unusual word - is it something we should be anxious about it as it sounds rather ominous? No, as it literally translates to ‘between reigns’ or ‘between offices.’

The dictionary defines an interregnum as the following; “a period when a country or organisation does not have a leader.”

A famous interregnum in English history followed the execution of Charles I in 1649 when England was ruled as a commonwealth without an established monarchy. Oliver Cromwell was the leader of the English revolutionary leaders of the

commonwealth who established himself as “Lord Protectorate” over the entire commonwealth. The interregnum ended with the re-establishment of the monarchy in 1660 and the ascension of Charles II to the throne. It has taken another 362 years to have another King Charles as monarch!

What does an interregnum mean in the context of the Parish of Kilbride?

It is the period between the retirement of our former rector, Rev. Canon David Humphries, and the appointment of his successor. The process for finding a replacement rector has already started and a small group of people (four in number), collectively called the Parochial Nominators, has been tasked with identifying and recruiting a new rector. The Parochial Nominators were elected at the last General Vestry a few months ago and they will work very closely with Bishop George to select a suitable person. The process can take some time and each nominator will be extremely busy over the coming months.

Please pray for them, individually and collectively, asking God to give them guidance and to grant them sound judgement in this important task.

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Lord, call to this your church and ours  
a true shepherd, a person of God,  
a minister of Christ;  
and make us, with them,  
a church joyful in worship  
and united in witness,  
working, caring, praising, loving,  
to the glory of your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen.

Please pray also for our former rector,  
Rev. Canon David Humphries, as  
he begins his well-earned retirement  
after more than three decades in the  
service of Christ. May he enjoy a long,  
happy and blessed retirement.

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## Somme Commemoration Service, 2nd July, 2023

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Rev. Canon David Humphries again  
conducted this annual service in  
Ballyclare War Memorial Park where  
he remembered the fallen of this major  
battle during World War 1. Many men  
from the Ballyclare area, including

some from our own congregation, died  
on the first day of battle, 1st July 1916.  
Wreaths of poppies were laid at the  
war memorial by local politicians and  
the Royal British Legion.





## St Bride's Parish Church Rambling Group

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The church rambling group has been busy over the summer and has enjoyed walks in some very picturesque parts of Co. Antrim and Co. Down. The core of the group is made up of parishioners from St Bride's but many others from various local churches have joined in, all with common goals; to enjoy our countryside, to keep fit and to enjoy the camaraderie that comes with walking with like-minded people. The walks have taken the group to places like Carnlough on the scenic Antrim coast, Scrabo tower in Co. Down and the now annual trip to Rathlin island on the north coast to name a few.

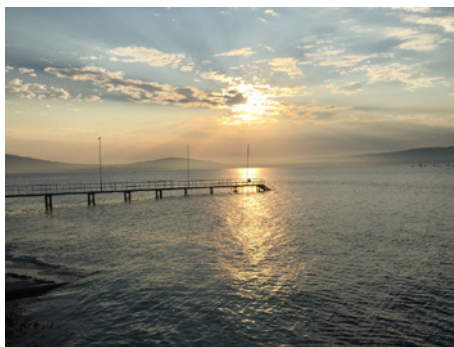
In mid-summer the three main hills overlooking Belfast were 'conquered' in consecutive weeks, Divis, Cavehill and Carnmoney, none of which were for the faint-hearted. The season finished at the end of August and the last walk took the group around the very historic and interesting Titanic quarter in Belfast. It's all over for another season but look out for dates for the new walking season in the church website early next year, with the season beginning again in May. Please also visit the Parish News page of the church website to see numerous photographs of some very beautiful locations explored by the group.



The rugged coastline of Rathlin Island



## The Rambling Group at Knockagh Monument



Sunset over Belfast Lough



Minnowburn Bridge, Belfast



Cavehill above the clouds



Lough Neagh



Olivia Jackson married Dmitre Ratnayake on Saturday 12th August.  
Photograph by Marty Galbraith