

St Columbanus

Ballyholme



Easter Vestry 2014
Parish Accounts Report
A Honking Good Time
A Word from Roy

..On the way together..



The Parishioner

May 2014

The Church is open every weekday morning for private prayer and meditation

The Rambling Rector

The Radio Times has got awfully expensive.

But it was worth the £1.80 a few weeks ago for Justin Webb's piece 'Behind the times'. Changes in social behaviour have come thick and fast, he was saying, and they have brought with them changes in what it is acceptable to say and even to think. But does that then make it acceptable for those who express moral or religious reservations about social change to be treated as idiotic or nasty and, accordingly, to be starved of the oxygen of publicity? If you think about it, the easiest way of shutting-up people whose views we disagree with, is to label those views as no longer socially acceptable.

Personally, I thank God I live in a time of fewer and fewer social and political 'hang-ups', especially in Northern Ireland. There is much less ignorance and prejudice about than there used to be and that has to be a good thing. But I'll confess I'm slightly less glad I live in a time when ancient Christian family and ethical values are glibly dismissed as out of touch, irrelevant or just plain old fashioned. 'Nobody thinks that anymore', we're constantly told. Oh really?

SED



SAINT GEORGE'S PARISH CHURCH BICENTENARY



St George's Parish Church, High Street, Belfast, is celebrating its Bicentenary from 2013 to 2016. The first Bicentenary Annual Lecture is on Thursday 8 May 2014 in St George's, starting at 7.30pm.

'The Reformation – this stupid and pernicious tragedy?'

Speaker: Rev Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch

followed by a discussion chaired by Dr William Crawley

Diarmaid MacCulloch, DD, FBA, FRHistS, FSA, Professor of the History of the Church at Oxford, Fellow of St Cross College, Oxford, and prize-winning author, has written extensively on the sixteenth century and beyond it. His *History of Christianity: the first three thousand years* (Penguin Press) and the BBC TV series based on it first appeared in 2009; the book won him the Cundill Prize, the world's largest prize for history, in 2010. His three-part TV series for BBC2, *How God made the English*, was aired in March 2012. His latest book is *Silence: a Christian History*. He was knighted in the UK New Year's Honours List of 2012.

Dr William Crawley is a journalist, broadcaster and presenter of the BBC Radio Ulster Sunday Sequence programme.

The tickets are £5 (minimum donation) payable at the door of St George's on the night. There is car parking in the multi-storey car park beside the church.



Limited seating so please arrive early.

(There will be an event at Belfast City Hall on the same evening. The Roads Service has advised that there may be an impact on access to Wellington Place, Donegall Square North and Chichester Street. If you are approaching from the west and north side of Belfast you may encounter slight delays but you will not be restricted in getting into High Street).

Tribute

The newly-arrived minister was asked to take a funeral at short notice. At one point in the service she said: "As I did not know the deceased, is there anyone here who would like to say a few words of tribute?" There was silence for several minutes and then a voice at the back was heard to say: "His brother was far worse."



The Walkers at Oxford Island and Craigavon Lakes

Astute checking of the weather forecast ensured that the Walkers weren't soaked to the skin on their outings to Oxford Island and Craigavon Lakes. The heavy rain had stopped by Lisburn and the eight of us enjoyed two lovely walks in warm weather which necessitated, at times, some shedding of coats and jumpers. Oxford Island's woodlands and marshes were alive with birds, rabbits and squirrels and in contrast, the Lakes sported dozens of youngsters enjoying canoeing and banana boating. Our next date is our 10th Anniversary weekend in Dunfanaghy.

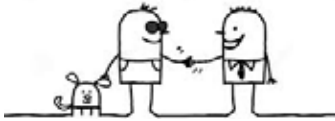


Miscellaneous observations on life....

Compassion is difficult to give away because it keeps coming back.

Aspire to inspire before you expire.

Thinking of going on holiday? Look in the mirror. If you look like your passport photo, you probably need the trip!



Don't wait for people to be friendly, show them how.

Assumption is the mother of all foul-ups.

Be different. Conform.

Boldly going nowhere.

Can atheists get insurance for acts of God?

Car service: If it ain't broke, we'll break it.



Serenity is not freedom from the storm, but peace within it.

A smile is a curve which helps to put things straight.

When we run away from our problems they will be waiting wherever we go. - John Gray

A Honking Good Time!

If you'd told me back in September that this year I would be learning how to tap dance like a frog, I would never have believed you – and yet, that's exactly what ended up happening when I joined in the Upstage Downstage production of Honk!



Honk! is the story of the Ugly Duckling set to music, bright costumes and some farmyard banter. It follows the tale of Ugly, a duckling who doesn't quite fit in, and his adventures as he learns who he truly is.

Through him we journey with a Cat with a love of French cuisine, a flight crew of Greylags, a beautiful Swan and a Bullfrog looking for love, along with a colourful cast of lakeside animals.

Upstage Downstage are an incredibly talented group of young people.

Led by maestro Ian Bell and choreographer extraordinaire Timmy Bell, they commit so much time and energy to their performances, and many of them deserve a shining career on the stage! I am already missing the fun of the show – here's to the next one!



Laura Jeffrey



Congratulations to parishioners Bill and Margaret Parr, who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary recently



Just Older Youth

Genesis 6: 14,19 & 22

So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

11 lessons from Noah's Ark

1. Don't miss the boat.
2. Remember we are in the same boat.
3. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
4. Stay fit. When you are 600 years old, you may be asked to do something really big.
5. Don't listen to critics. Just get on with the job that needs to be done.
6. Build your future on high ground.
7. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
8. Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs and they all arrived at the same time.
9. When you're stressed, float awhile.
10. Although designed by God, the Ark was built by amateurs. The Titanic was designed and built by professionals.
11. Remember, no matter the storm, when you're with God there's always a rainbow waiting.



The Wednesday Club



This month, over 30 of our members were very interested to hear our speaker Sarah from Christian Aid, tell us how they helped with the recent typhoon catastrophe in the Philippine Islands. Because Christian Aid was already in situ before the event, they were perfectly placed to be of the most help. They also remained there long after the cameras and the news teams left. Help was given by providing food parcels and temporary housing – much of it taken to the outlying islands by small boats, as other means of transport were virtually impossible. She finished her talk with an update of the aid that has helped the population of Haiti, 4 years after the terrible earthquake, that destroyed so much. After our usual tea and buns, the draw this month was won by Phyllis Tenner. Sue



Sarah from Christian Aid with some of the Wednesday Club helpers



Robina



Alistair with Lillian, Pat and Doreen



Margaret

Easter Vestry 2014

Passion Sunday has become another one of those days when the St Columbanus Church family all comes round for lunch. When it emerged a few months back that Rory and Denise Wilson would be home from Kiwoko on leave in April and May, the Vestry and our Missions Committee put two and two together. It was decided to host a CMS Kiwoko fund raising lunch and so the Rector's first vote of thanks on the day was to Rory and Denise for being with us and leading our worship – All Age Worship Kiwoko style! This was quickly followed by a vote of thanks to those who had prepared and served our beautiful Easter Vestry lunch, especially Karen Baker and Ann Browne.

Next to be welcomed were our outgoing Rector's Churchwarden Maureen Wilson and People's Churchwarden Ian Foster whose dedication and warmth Sunday by Sunday has been appreciated by the whole parish. Leslie Adams was duly elected as Secretary to the meeting and the Rector paid Leslie fulsome thanks for his role as Honorary Secretary over the previous twelve months alongside the co-ordination he has given to our Health and Safety Sub-Committee. Roy Lawther gave his Honorary Treasurer's report (see later) and recognised the vital support he had been given over the last year by Kelly McCullough, Anne Adams, Harry



Williamson and John Peel and in a security role, Larry Cheshire and Leslie Adams. In terms of preparing the final parish accounts Mark McBride received the gratitude of the meeting for all his work since the beginning of February. Geoff Young was thanked in advance for agreeing to serve as Honorary Auditor. Stephen Baker as Rector's Glebewarden presented a very clear and helpful breakdown of the core glebe works and associated costs and both Stephen and Geoff Hewitt, the People's Glebewarden, received hearty applause for all the work they had overseen (graciously assisted by Harry Browne). The Rector went on to acknowledge the commitment and enthusiasm of all the members of the staff team, noting in particular the excellent first impressions made

by Laura Jeffrey, our Children's Worker since last September, and the invaluable contribution of this year's Children's Church leaders: Tracie Andreasson, Neil Devlin, Julie Monaghan and Amanda Thompson ably assisted by Joan Dales. The Rector also mentioned behind-the-scenes work throughout the year by two important groups: the Health and Safety Sub-Committee (Leslie Adams, Larry Cheshire, Joan Dales, Ann Browne, Kelly McCullough, Stephen Baker and Geoff Hewitt) and the Restoration Appointments Team (Rev Alistair Morrison, Ivan Humphreys, James Perry, Stephen Baker, Geoff Hewitt, Christine Rankin and Ian Foster). Vital progress is being made by both these ad-hoc bodies with dozens if not hundreds of working hours clocked up between them.

In terms of the Rector's report, Simon directed the more than 100 people present to the mission plan on the parish website affixed to this year's statement of accounts. Simon explained that on Monday 24 March Bishop Harold had visited Ballyholme as part of his tour of all the parishes in the diocese to hear our plans for Mission 2015 and beyond. Present on the night were the staff team (excepting Ian Bell and Ann Browne who were at the dress rehearsal for Honk!), Leslie Adams, Roy Lawther and vestry members Joan Dales, Geoffrey Hewitt and Vicky Hayes. After an introduction and overview by Leslie setting the spiritual scene, presentations were made on four specific areas: Children (Laura Jeffrey), Young People (Jade Irwin), Community (Karen Baker) and Church (Alistair Morrison – outlining our restoration plans). The overall thrust of Mission 2015 is to think missionally about who we are and what we do as a parish – to remember that we exist as a Christian community to look outwards rather than inwards.

After a word of appreciation from Yvonne Manogue on behalf of the Missions Committee and a vote of thanks to the Rector by Leslie Adams on behalf of the parish, the Grace was shared at 2.20pm. People left grateful for a smooth and efficient meeting and in an upbeat spiritual mood, looking forward to God's leading and blessing in the year to come.



Glebewardens Stephen Baker & Geoff Hewitt

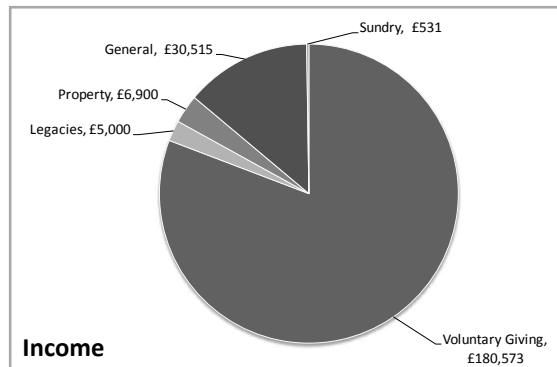
PARISH ACCOUNTS 2013

As with the last three years the Select Vestry presented a report and financial accounts in the format recommended by the Church of Ireland. They are a simplified version of the accounts previously presented and comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", produced by the Institutes of Chartered Accountants and the Charities Commission.

The aim of the simplified accounts is to make them more understandable to all. Highlights of the accounts include:

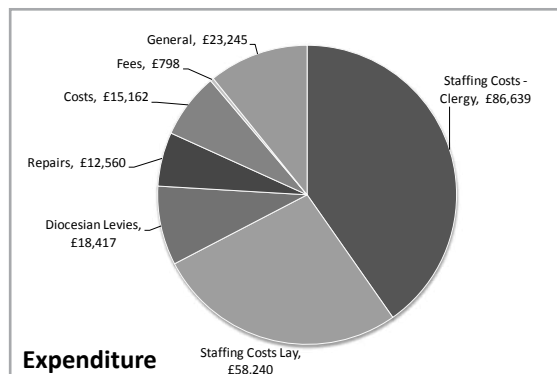
Income:

- Total Income increased from £221,137 to £223,520, an increase of £2,383 or 1%.
- Voluntary planned giving through envelopes and standing orders (including the tax reclaimed) was £180,573, an increase of £3,012 or 1% from last year (£177,561).
- Income from other sources, such as Catering, Legacies, Hall rental decreased slightly by £629 from £43,575 in 2012 to £42,946.



Expenditure:

- Expenditure increased from £209,810 to £215,059 an increase of £5,249 or 1%.
- Our share of the costs of the diocese was £18,417 and represents just over 9% of our total expenditure.
- Running costs have increased.
- Despite changing suppliers, heating and lighting has increased by 0.9%.
- Repair costs increased by £3477, a 38% rise. This was largely due to repairs to the Organ.



The outcome for the year was that we had a surplus of income over expenditure of £8,460 (last year it was a surplus of £11,326).

Mission

Our giving to mission during the year totalled £14,603. Mission income comes from two sources:

1. Specific collections and gifts during the year totalling £5,708.
2. Money from the general fund available for distribution by the Mission Committee, this is transferred to the Missions account after the Easter Vestry each year and amounted to £10,000 last year.

Home Straight

The Home-Straight appeal, which was launched at the beginning of Lent 2010, has been a huge success. You the congregation responded with incredible generosity to enable us to reduce the debt to £11,785 in December 2012. You will recall that we cleared the Parish Centre debt in December 2011 and the Beverly Gardens mortgage in December 2012 and as announced at last year's Easter Vestry we paid off the Ward Ave refurbishment loan in March 2013 to leave us debt free.

As announced at last year's Easter Vestry the parish received a very generous legacy of £170,237. The Select Vestry took the decision to invest this money for future use.

And so to 2014:

- The Home straight appeal was renamed "The Parish Development Fund" last year and any money raised for future development is lodged in that account.
- The restoration project will gather momentum, with the appointment of an Architect in the autumn. Plans will be put in place by the Select Vestry to start fund raising and gathering the capital in 2015 to finance the project.
- Our aim is still to increase the number of Parishioners who pay by Standing Orders. This will:
 - Provide regular income.
 - Reduce the cost of purchasing envelopes.
 - Reduce the administrative burden of counting and banking the money.
- Financial stewardship. The Select Vestry will investigate further ways of reducing our costs over the next year.

Rev Canon Simon Doogan
Rector
1st April 2014

Roy Lawther
Treasurer

Easter Vestry Elections

At the Easter Vestry meeting on 6th April, the following were elected to office for the year 2014/15.

Rector's Churchwarden: Christine Johnstone People's Churchwarden: Jonathan Stockton
Rector's Glebewarden: Stephen Baker People's Glebewarden: Geoff Hewitt
Vestry Members:

Leslie Adams (Honorary Secretary), Ann Browne, Larry Cheshire, Joan Dales, Vicky Hayes, Christine Rankin, Ian Foster, Patricia Robinson, Susan Stockton, Gillian Young, Ivan Humphries, Yvonne Manogue. Roy Lawther, Treasurer, co opted to Vestry.



Diocesan synodsmen:
Jill Boal, Jim Shaw, Freda Woods,
Leslie Adams
Supplementary Synodsmen:
Hugh Caruth, Tommy Walker, Norman
Munnis, Ann Browne
Junior Synodsmen:
Jade Irwin, Nicola Gullen
Parochial Nominators:
Don Todd, Karen Baker, Patricia
Robinson, Leslie Adams
Supplementary Nominators:
Ruth Ruttle, Roy Lawther, Pat
Davidson, Kelly McCullough
Honorary Auditor: Geoff Young.

Around the Parish



MU Spring Sale & Coffee Morning



Family Fun Day



Honk



Easter Vestry



Happy Birthday CMS Ireland

2014 marks the 200th Anniversary of a CMS presence in Ireland. This is a significant landmark for the Church in Ireland. It's a chance to look back in thanksgiving at how God has used Christians from Ireland to help transform lives and communities throughout the world. It's an opportunity to look out at our world today and consider the task of mission in the 21st Century. It's a time for looking ahead – to seek God's vision and guidance for the future as CMS Ireland continues to equip the Church in mission.

This is a time for looking back, looking out, looking forward.

Plans are underway for the main celebration events in May. Over 30 global delegates have been invited for a two-week programme which will include the *Changing Times* events in Armagh City Hotel - a two-day conference (including a special Evening Celebration open to all on Friday 16th May, 7:30pm).

A number of folk from Ballyholme are taking part in CMSI's **Big 200 Challenge** at the Belfast Marathon on 5th May - raising money to help cover the cost of bringing the global delegates to Ireland. If you haven't yet committed to sponsoring the Marathon team, or coming along to the Changes Times evening celebration on Friday 16th, then speak to Yvonne for more details.



A word from Rory:

Thank you everyone for the warm welcome. We got back to Bangor in time for St Patrick's day and have enjoyed saying hello to lots of old friends at various events around the parish and while walking on the beach/

feeding the ducks/shopping in Tesco's.

Almost every Sunday we are in a different parish that in some way supports the work of Kiwoko Hospital. It is a great way to enjoy the variety of Church of Ireland Sunday morning services, but the down side is that we don't really have a chance to settle properly into Ballyholme. We really enjoyed Sunday 6th April at St Columbanus. Thank you to everyone who engaged fully with the singing and actions!

Thank you also to the Mothers' Union members who have donated knitting needles etc to the Mothers' Union at St John's Kiwoko. Men – don't feel left out - you can play your part too - if anyone has an old mobile phone no longer in use, then we can put them to use to facilitate our community work. If you don't see us around, then you could leave them (with charger if possible) in the Parish office, or bring them along to our Commissioning service on Sunday evening 8th June in St Columbanus.

Thank you everybody for the ongoing support for Kiwoko Hospital and particularly the Wilson family. We are blessed to have such an actively supportive home parish.

Rory, Denise + Gideon.



Christian Aid Week 11th- 17th May

We would appeal to anyone with a little free time on their hands to put their name down as a collector. This would entail about half an hour giving the envelopes out and about an hour and a half collecting them in again.

In the light of the recent displaced millions who are depending on hand outs of food and bedding etc, it is incumbent on us as Christians to do what we can to help. If you can help, please put your name on the sheet at the back of the church.

Thank you

Stefan & Julio

Castles, Candy and Craic!

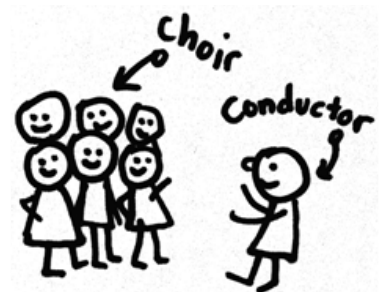
The 5th of April saw our annual Family Fun Day happen with a bounce! In high style, children ran into the hall, gripping their candy floss, racing each other to the bouncy castles to see who could bounce the highest. This event truly was a family event with parents and grandparents enjoying a quiet cuppa in our relaxing café, while the children ran around the different stalls and games on offer which were hosted by our adolescent young people. We had a wide variety of fun activities on offer. Colourful hairspray and dress-up photo booths, a police wagon, carnival games, face painting, slime, the craft corner, messy cupcake-decorating, and even Irish and African cultural stalls! With opportunities to laugh, eat a lot of sugar, win prizes and even learn something, this was an event well worth attending, and I am sure will continue to be a highlight on the calendars of many families.



In Children's Church, we LOVE to sing. Everyone knows how much I love *Every Move I Make*, and we all have so much fun sharing our favourite worship songs and learning new ones – even sharing them with the grown ups in church sometimes!

We all love to sing - but when we sing in church, we are not just making noise but are praising God for all of the wonderful things he has done for us! We do this by using our voices to sing, our bodies to dance and our mouths to smile. So because we love to worship so much, we now have a Junior Choir!

Junior Choir meets on Wednesday afternoons at 4.30pm, and if you are in Splash or Ice (P2-P7), you are very welcome to come along. We will learn more about music, about worshipping God, and will have a lot of fun! We'll even help to lead worship in our all-age services at church. All you need to join is a sense of fun - you don't need a voice like Harry Styles, you just have to want to sing! Bring yourself and bring a friend!



(And just an advance notice - June 15th will be our Children's Church service, so invite your parents, aunts and uncles, grannies and granddads and everyone else you love, to hear all about the things we've been doing this year!)

The Quiet Corner



I am such a 'worrier' that I even worry about worrying (even writing this article caused anxiety!) I know that this is completely against what God wants and so hate letting Him down. When I worry I know it creates a gap between God and me and I know I am the one putting the distance between us, God hasn't moved. I have always taken huge courage from my favourite verse in the Bible – Matthew Ch 6 v 34.

“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”

This verse has always provided comfort. To realise that God knows that I worry and is giving me advice on how to handle it is reassuring. One day at a time! It's a green light to worry less and focus more on God. Over the years as my faith has grown I find that my anxieties have decreased. I also have realised that most of my worries come from loving fiercely – I can live with that! On the other

hand, my nature has made me sensitive to other people's worry - I can spot the child in my class who hasn't quite grasped something or the friend who has something on their mind and can offer help and a listening ear. God made me this way – I may as well make some use of it!

I love the story of Jesus walking on water. Not because of the obvious miracle that this was or for the fact that the disciples realised who Jesus actually was, but because of the comfort for me in this story. Peter walked out to meet Jesus but when he saw the water churning beneath his feet he began to worry and sink! As soon as Peter asked for help Jesus 'reached out without hesitation' and pulled Peter towards Him. His help was immediate. Isn't it a comfort to know that although Jesus doesn't want us to worry He will be there to help us 'without hesitation' when we do? By focusing our eyes and hearts on Jesus we learn to trust him, even through difficult situations, making it easier to hand our worries and concerns over to Him. I know that as a worrier, this is something I need to continue to work on.

Michelle Savage



March was a very busy month for our Branch. At our normal meeting on Monday 3rd we welcomed Councillor Dr John Barry who gave a very interesting talk on 'The Politics and Economics of an Ageing Society' and 'What are our Obligations to Future Generations?'

On Friday 7th March many of our members attended the Women's World Day of Prayer service in the Church. Some members took up the collection, others acted as stewards, and more helped to prepare the hall for the supper after the service under the leadership and guidance of Karen and Ann. What would we do without this pair! Many thanks to all who brought tray bakes, fruit loaves and helped to make this evening a

very joyous occasion.

Thank you to the parishioners who donated items for sale at the Coffee Morning and Sale on Saturday 22nd March. We appreciated those who came to support this event for Mothers' Union Overseas Projects. The amount raised to date is £788.20. Ann and Janice also donated some of the money raised from their knitted chicks. They put much effort into producing these little fluffy fellows, so if you haven't already purchased one I am sure they would be delighted to sell a few more

Members, don't forget the **Evening Outing to Lorne on Monday 12th May.**

There is still time to book your supper.

RUTH RUTTLE (Branch Leader)

OUR WORSHIP

Sunday 4th May Easter 3

8.30 Holy Communion
 10.00 All Age Service
 11.30 Holy Baptism
 6.30 Holy Communion

Sunday 18th May Easter 5

8.30 Holy Communion
 10.00 Morning Worship & Children's Church
 11.30 Morning Prayer
 6.30 6-8 - Columbanus room

Wednesday 7th May

10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado Room

Wednesday 21st May

10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado Room

Sunday 11th May Easter 4

8.30 Holy Communion
 10.00 Morning Worship & Children's Church
 11.30 Parish Communion
 6.30 Deanery Service at St. Comgall's

Sunday 25th May Easter 6

8.30 Holy Communion
 10.00 Parish Communion & Children's Church
 11.30 Morning Prayer
 6.30 Informal Holy Communion- Kajiado Room

Wednesday 14th May

10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado Room

Wednesday 28th May

10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado Room

Parish Office:
 91274912

Rector: Canon
 Simon Doogan

Rectory:
 91274901

Curate: Rev. Alistair Morrison
 Curatage: 91271922

Prayer Line: 07531806167
 Transport: 07599794968

Church Readers Rota:
 John 91467243 or
 Freda 91467624



May

4th: JoAnn Coulter, Nicole
 Watson, Patrick Crothers

11th: Edna Morrison,
 Gillian Fletcher, Carole
 Majury

18th: Lynsey McDermott,
 Ann Shaw, Ella Walker

26th: Irene Bell, Susan &
 Jonny Stockton



May

4th: Jane Fitzsimons

11th: Heidi Doogan

18th: Joy Conn

25th: Joan Larmour

Children's Church Helpers

May

11th: Deborah

Galbraith, Gareth
 Boal, Fiona Oliva

18th: Karen Hunt, Debbie
 Hunter, Gillian Jones

25th: Michelle Savage, Gerry
 McCaughan, Kelly McCullough



FUNERALS

1st April: Peter McWilliam,
 late of Manselton Park

5th April: Victor McNulty,
 late of Windmill Court

Found

On the church
 noticeboard:
 Contact lens
 found in church.
 See vicar. If you
 can.



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May

4th: No crèche

11th: Heather
 Glasgow, Rosemary
 Thompson, Angela
 McCartney, Elaine Mcnamara

18th: Katherine Newman,
 Helen and Patrick Crothers
 Maureen Aiken

25th: Violet Davidson, Ann
 Browne, Ashleigh Birkett, Jodi
 Smith

