

St Columbanus

Ballyholme



10 Years of Walking
Afternoon Tea anyone?
Summer Programme Details
Luwero Visitor

..On the way together..



The Parishioner

July / Aug 2014

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

The Rambling Rector

Please spare a thought and a prayer this July and August for the two members of our parish team who really go into overdrive. Last summer, between holiday schemes and residentials, our Youth Worker Jade Irwin spent no more than three consecutive nights sleeping properly in her own bed. Greater love...! It means so much to us that our young people are led by someone so gifted and so dedicated, and who longs for those in her care to grow and mature in the faith and worship of Christ and his Church. Jade was joined last September by our Children's Worker Laura Jeffrey and since then we have all seen what can be achieved for God by the right person, with the right skill-set and above all the right heart. Combining her ministry role at St Columbanus with her studies at Union College, Children's Church has grown steadily and Laura has been ably supported by her regular Sunday team of Tracey Andreasson, Julie Monaghan, Amanda Thompson and Neil Devlin. On behalf of our whole church family, a heartfelt thank-you to them all and to Paula Foye, Catherine Taylor and Gareth Boal who take up the reins in September.



SED



WANTED

Helpers for the Monday morning coffee. A few hours by lots of people makes it easier all round. How about some men lending a hand too?

Contact Karen on 9127 4912

Restoration Project - More than a Building Appointment of Architect - Stage Two

We are moving closer to appointing an architect-led multi-disciplinary Design Team to deliver our Restoration Project. Tenders have now been issued to the four final firms from Stage One of the selection process (Pre-qualification Questionnaire). Stage Two selection will be made on the basis of price and quality (which also includes a design element and a presentation to a select panel). The firms have until the end of August to prepare their Stage Two submissions. We anticipate that a firm of architects will be appointed in September 2014. Please continue to pray for all those involved in the process.



Hospital/Home visits



Letting the clergy know is crucial through the summer months when the normally reliable lines of communication with the hospitals often break down – if you haven't told us yourself that someone is sick at home or in hospital you must assume we do not know!

Going to Church on Holiday

Every summer in Ballyholme we look forward to the company of tourists, day trippers and holiday makers at many of our Sunday services and we hope to make them all warmly welcome. Welcoming the stranger is one of the most basic expressions of our Christian faith and, the Scriptures make clear, it is also a blessing to us as we welcome them. In exactly the same way when we go on holiday it is up to us to bless other churches with our presence, to give them a chance to welcome us. It is also fascinating to see how other Christians do things; even if language barriers mean we can't follow the whole of the service often there will be a word or a theme for us to take away. If you are making the trip to somewhere further afield this summer the Intercontinental Church Society have a helpful website to point you to the nearest Anglican Sunday service (address below). Go on: be brave. You'll be glad you made the effort and so will those who greet you!
www.ics-uk.org/churches





“The hundred year old man who climbed out of the window and disappeared”

by Jonas Jonasson



This is a laugh-out loud book. On his hundredth birthday Allan Karlsson decides to skip his party in the Old People's Home where he resides. The Mayor is going to be there and the Press and the bossy Matron with whom Allan does not get on. Shortly before the party is due to start he climbs out of his bedroom window into a flowerbed in his slippers and makes his getaway.

He manages to reach the local station and boards a bus. His journey involves criminals, several murders, a suitcase full of money and incompetent police. As his adventure unfolds we learn about his past – his expertise with incendiary devices, his travels and encounters with various world leaders – Franco, Trueman, Stalin, Mau, with Russian and American spies and the making of the atom bomb. The whole story is so wonderfully ridiculous it is hilarious and unputdownable.

I loved the happy ending.

Laura Gilbert

Church Finance Update

As we head off on our holidays a short update on Church finances for you the Parishioners of St Columbanus. The Church expenditure over the first five months (up to 20 May) was £78,825 which exceeded our income of £71,944 by £6,681. This has been due to a number of factors:

- Increased utility costs.
- A number of unforeseen bills.

Added to the fact that the months of July and August traditionally sees our income fall, primarily because there is no money coming in for hall rental and customarily the Free Will Offering from envelopes and the collection plate offering reduces. Coupled with this, increase in expenditure will probably mean a reduction in planned work which would normally happen over the summer months.

Over the past few months we have put in place a number of ways of increasing our income. You may be aware that from April 2014 the Government are giving businesses, including charities, a £2,000 National Insurance Allowance on payments of employer's National Insurance and we have entered into this scheme, which will see our employer's NI contribution reduced by that amount this year. We also claimed back £186 from the VAT man for work carried out on the Church. Finally from 1 April this year charities that qualify can claim gift aid on small charitable donations, such as money placed in the collection plate, up to £5,000, which gives the Church another £1,250 in gift aid.

The subject of moving away from Free Will Offering envelopes to direct payments from your bank is always on the agenda, but it is perhaps more important these days. The benefits to the Parish include:

- A reliable flow of money which allows for financial planning.
- Reduced cash being stored, counted and transported to banks, with the decreased risk on volunteers.

As you are aware it is simple to set up a direct debit payment from your bank.

The Church Bank of Ireland sort code is 90-20-71 and account number - 9242 8425.

If you use e-banking most banks have a facility to electronically set up a regular payment from your account, which makes it even easier to part with your hard earned cash.

If you do decide to set up a direct payment from your bank please let us know for our records by contacting Kelly at the Parish office –

Telephone 91274912,
or, email – office@ballyholmeparish.co.uk

Thanking you in anticipation

Roy Lawther *Honorary Treasurer*



Just Older Youth

Song of Solomon 2:12

Flowers appear on the earth,
the season of singing has come,
The cooing of doves is heard in our land.

God's Bouquet

You must bloom where you are planted
In the garden we call life,
And bring some special beauty to
Each corner where there's strife.

Perhaps you're but a dandelion
Wishing you were a rose
Yet in this place of growing things
You're the one God chose

It's up to you to finish what
The good Lord has begun
By growing just the way you should
And face the rising sun.

There's room for you if you choose
In a glorious array
Of beauty from God's garden
That He'll add to His bouquet

Anon



As we look forward to summer, the prospect of warm weather and time to 'recharge the batteries', we want to express our thanks to all the volunteers who work quietly in the background – the kitchen teams, cooks, servers, Jim's taxi company, coffee morning helpers, and everyone who plays a part in the success of Monday Coffee mornings, Cinema Club, The Wednesday Club and Friday lunches. Thanks also to our faithful friends and Church family who join us each week, we hope to see you all again in September! On Friday 9th May, we welcomed from Kajiado Diocese, Mary Taama, wife of Bishop Jeremiah who opened and blessed our Parish Centre. Mary joined members of the mission committee, Canon George Mitchell and Daphne Mansley for lunch, and we gave thanks for so many who have come and gone from our new facilities since they opened in 2006.

Karen



The Wednesday Club



On the first Wednesday of June, instead of our monthly meeting in the Parish Centre, 43 of us headed off to the Stables in Groomsport for afternoon tea. A selection of sandwiches, scones and a delightful trio of desserts were presented for our enjoyment, and boy, did we enjoy them!

As usual, the craic was good, and the chat never stopped – a thoroughly good afternoon and a perfect way to round off our season.

We will meet again on 3rd September – so hope to see you all then.

We would love to see some new faces as well, so please, don't be shy, come along and see what we are about.

Sue



Elizabeth and Rita



Jeremy and June



Phyllis and Ruth

Taking that final step back home

A journey around world religions eventually brought Andrew Cuthbert back to the Church of Ireland and St Columbanus parish in particular. In June Andrew was the only adult from Ballyholme at the confirmation service in the parish church at Drumbeg when his journey back to the church of his youth was finally completed.

Andrew has been lucky enough to have travelled extensively over the years, experiencing many world religions - when he was 18, he lived in Madagascar for several months.

“In every country that I visited I went to a church, mosque or temple and I have always read widely. I also have a massive interest in Philosophy,” he explained.

“The idea of Jesus seemed almost beyond me. But I came to a new understanding recently,” added Andrew.

He obviously has an in-depth knowledge of world religions, talking knowledgeably about his friend who is a Sikh and about Hinduism. Andrew has also visited a Buddhist temple in the unlikely setting of Ballymena as well as attending Quaker meetings.

“I experienced so many but when I came back to the Church of Ireland I knew it was right for me,” he went on.

His journey back to the Church of Ireland, and St Columbanus in particular, properly began back in January after he and his wife Gillian had their daughters Sophie (6) and Olivia (3) baptised in Groomsport church.

At that stage they were not regular church goers but Andrew was beginning to think seriously about becoming a member of a congregation. He wanted to go to church but was content to go anywhere.

Gillian was quite happy to go along – provided she got to choose the church, which turned out to be St Columbanus!

And, in a way, Andrew says it has been like a coming home for the Cuthbert family.

“The sermons are very open, they allow you to think but also give you clear messages,” he added.

The next logical step for Andrew was to be confirmed and the parish magazine article on the forthcoming confirmations sealed the deal for him.

When he was a teenager, Andrew had ‘opted out’ of confirmation as he had felt the time wasn’t right. Now, however, he had no such misgivings, rather lots of questions.

“It was not about logic or having to make sense. It was a leap of faith, you have to trust in something that is beyond your understanding,” he added.

He really enjoyed the lead up to his confirmation and said he found the time he spent with Simon ‘inspirational’.

As the only adult confirmed from St Columbanus in the church at Drumbeg, Andrew said he didn’t feel at all nervous. There was a fascinating mix of participants including three people from the Church of South India and ones from as far away as New York and New Delhi.

Andrew’s family, including his granddad, were there to see him being confirmed as well as curate Alistair Morrison.

Although Andrew confesses to probably working too much, he cherishes spending whatever spare time he has with his family.



Lorne was the venue for our evening outing in May. This was a very suitable location as there was very little walking for the older members. Thirty two members were present and all agreed that the cold buffet provided was excellent.

Many of the members had seconds and why not? The food would only have gone to waste. Needless to say, the same applied to the desserts. We enjoyed the tea /coffee with shortbread and chocolates to finish the meal. During the dessert, a 20 question quiz sheet was handed out to which the answers were 'SWEETS'. The one which seemed to cause the most trouble was: A nomad - any ideas?

After the meal, Ruth gave a report on the year's events from January to December 2013, and this was followed by a report from Susan McNair, our Treasurer, on the finances of the branch.

Two of our members were fortunate to have been allocated tickets to attend the General Meeting in the Waterfront Hall on Saturday, 21st June and also to the service in St. Anne's Cathedral the night before.

Please keep Sunday 21st September 2014 free for the annual church service at 6.30pm.

Enjoy your summer break. Ruth Ruttle

Answer to question above: A DRIFTER.

Kids' corner

It's summertime, and SCHOOL'S OUT! It's starting to get sunnier and Jumpin is nearly here!

Everyone loves the film 'Frozen'; my favourite part is where Olaf the snowman sings about all of the great things you can do in summer. He sings about fuzzy

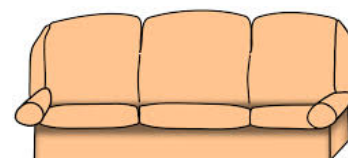
dandelions and buzzy bees, summer breezes and blue skies. We all have favourite thing about summertime - mine are spending time by the seaside, and all of the flowers that grow in the sunny weather! What are yours? Maybe spending time with your family, maybe the beach - maybe ice cream!

God is the God who made all of these things - he knows how much we love the

sunshine and the sea and he loves to see us enjoying them! He's the God of summer as well as winter, and He is with us always, whether we are in school or in Children's Church or on our holidays. Let's remember to thank God as we're having a great time for how he has made all of the beautiful things that help us enjoy summer!



Friends sympathized as our curate complained that his back was really sore from moving furniture. "Why don't you wait till your teenage son gets home?" someone asked. "Well, I could," our curate replied, "but the couch is easier to move if he's not on it."



Around the Parish



Wednesday Club Afternoon Tea



Parish Golf Outing

Beaver Prize Giving



Annual Cricket Match



Canon Eridard from Luwero Diocese in Uganda was one of the delegates to the CMSI Anniversary celebrations and for part of his stay in Northern Ireland he was hosted by Ballyholme Parish. He talked to some of our young people at the Drop in Homework Club; he also took part in the Wednesday Communion Service. When he visited the Folk

Museum he was interested in the livestock, all so much bigger than those found in Uganda; and also the rural life of Ulster 100 years ago, so similar to Ugandan rural life today.

There were many discussions with Alistair as they travelled around the Ards peninsula and he was very pleased to survive the ferry crossing across Strangford Lough with no mishap! He was delighted to catch up again with Rory and Denise who shared a meal with him. Kiwoko Hospital is in Luwero Diocese and Rory and Denise were married in Luwero Cathedral. Canon Eridard's eldest son works in the labs at Kiwoko Hospital. Isn't it a small world when we find so many connections across the miles?

Please remember Rory, Denise and Gideon in your prayers as they settle back into life in Kiwoko after their recent very busy Home Assignment.

Please also pray for Gideon as he settles into his P1 year with a new teacher to whom life at Kiwoko Hospital will be a new and hopefully enriching experience. Christine Wilson



Ballyholme Seaside

That's the name we gave our group of walkers from around the Parish, joining together to celebrate CMS Ireland's 200th Anniversary.

Hard to imagine that on 22nd June 1814 in Dublin and on 24th June in Armagh the Hibernian Church Missionary Society was established in Ireland. 200 years later CMS Ireland continues to help God's people play their part in God's mission.

Therefore in that celebratory mood we gathered at Belfast City Hall shortly after 8.30 am on Monday 5th May for the Belfast City Marathon. The Ballyholme Ten, clad in very striking



green tee shirts, were warmly welcomed into the CMSI family of walkers from other Parish Support groups.

Belfast was buzzing that morning; runners limbering up, walkers warming up, multi coloured tee shirts and lycra all brightening up grey rain-laden skies above. Laughter, chatter and smiles everywhere.

That carnival atmosphere was infectious. We put our best feet forward and they carried us easily along the selected 8 miles and not even the dreary drizzle of the Sydenham By-Pass could dampen our spirits.

We had much to chat about, many other charity groups to learn from, and much to celebrate at the golden gates of

Ormeau Park, enjoying our Goodie Bags and a welcome cuppa to complete the morning.

A huge thank you to all the members of our Parish who supported us. A total of over £1,000 has been collected so far. Here's to the next 200 years!

Yvonne Manogue

TEN YEARS OF WALKING!

Who could resist the idea of celebrating the St Columbanus Walkers' tenth year? So we did it in some style, at Arnolds Hotel in Dunfanaghy in early May.

Nineteen of us met up for a weekend of walking, kite flying, and far too much eating. The centre of Dunfanaghy is a small square with a market house built in 1847 and a quay built in 1831 formerly used to export corn. There are several art galleries and craft shops, and a museum situated in part of a former workhouse. Just outside the village is a three-mile-long sandy beach known as Killahoey Strand and down the road to Horn Head the beautiful Tramore Strand.



Arnolds made us most welcome, right down to having our very own St Columbanus menus! And Eleanor baked a great Anniversary cake complete with walking boots, poles and a water bottle!

Friday evening saw us gathered for dinner and then on the Saturday we headed off a few miles down the road to Ards Forest for the 13k walk. The weather was bright and sunny until lunch time at which stage of the walk we had got about half way when the heavens opened so we sheltered for lunch and then most of us set off again in heavy rain for another hour's walk.



The Forest walks vary between tracks in the trees, beaches, rocky shores and a salt marsh and there are many features of historical and archaeological interest. Having, we thought, earned our afternoon tea, we set off by car for the Ards Friary on the edge of the Forest by Sheephaven Bay. The house, built in 1708 was taken over from the Stewart Barns family by the Capuchin Franciscan Order and it in turn outgrew the premises and moved to a new



building - which is where the lovely coffee shop is - so we managed to keep up the tradition of refreshments after our walks. Sunday was a beautiful day, warm and sunny and we visited the stunning Tramore Strand, walking through the sand dunes for about a mile and a half before dropping down on to the spotless beach.



Peter Harris got to fly his kites on the way there and Geographer Brian managed to 'rescue' some interesting rocks, one of which had Fools' Gold in it.

After lunch we dispersed to different locations including the other end of the two mile Tramore Strand and Glenveigh National Park.

This outing cemented further the friendships made over the ten years and we look forward to the next 'big' one!

Betty

Summer is a time for freedom, faith and fun. Umbrellas can be stored away; tans for everyone! Meeting friends at summer schemes and barbeques all round, Mission trips and seaside swims, with rubber rings so no-one drowns. Energy levels at an all time high, running down to Jumpin! Ready, steady, go go go for some X-Cess rave fist-pumpin! True friends getting ready for adventures at Kilbroney, Inspired by speakers, and the awesome tuck-shop means no-one can be moany! Making memories at water fights and late fires under the moon, Everybody hoping that September doesn't come too soon.



Summer Youth & Children's Programme



Summer 2014: Are you going to stand there, or are you going to do something?

This summer is JAM-
PACKED with fun activities
for children and young
people from Ballyholme
Parish to get involved with!

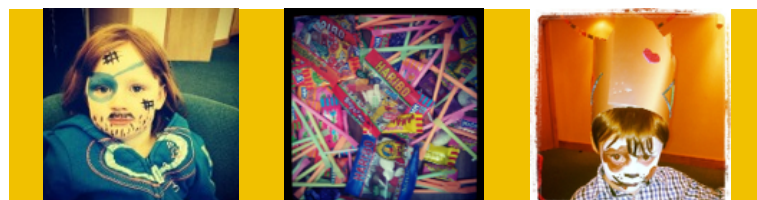
**JUMPIN SUMMER
SCHEME:** 21-25 JULY
FOR KIDS GOING INTO
P1 IN SEPTEMBER
THROUGH TO THOSE
WHO HAVE JUST LEFT
P7. EMAIL
LAURA@BALLYHOLMEPARISH.CO.UK
FOR A
REGISTRATION FORM &
INFO, OR GET ONE FROM
THE PARISH OFFICE. IF
YOU WANT TO BE A

**LEADER GET IN TOUGH
WITH JADE OR LAURA!**
X-CESS: 18-22ND
AUGUST FOR YEARS 8 -
14. EMAIL
JADE@BALLYHOLMEPARISH.CO.UK
FOR A FORM
AND INFO OR CALL INTO
PARISH OFFICE. IF YOU
WANT TO BE A LEADER
GET IN TOUCH WITH
JADE!

SUMMER MADNESS:
27TH JUNE - 2ND JULY
FOR YEARS 8 - 14.
CONTACT JADE FOR
MORE INFO. ALL SNACK/
FOOD DONATIONS
WELCOME TO KEEP US
GOING!

M&D'S THEME PARK:
6TH JULY FOR YEARS
11+. CONTACT JADE
FOR INFO.
KILBRONEY
ADVENTURE CAMP:
27TH JULY - 1ST
AUGUST FOR YEARS
10-12 (AS OF
SEPTEMBER 2014)
CONTACT JADE FOR
INFO.

**SUNDAY SERVICES AT
BALLYHOLME PARISH
ARE 10.30AM
THROUGHOUT THE
SUMMER. WE WILL DO
OUR BEST TO BE FAMILY
FRIENDLY!**



When wondering what I should write about for the Quiet Corner in the Parishioner, it seemed to me quite appropriate that I should talk about *my* 'quiet time' which I endeavour to have each morning.

I find the time spent reading the Daily Bread Bible verses and commentary, and bringing my plans and problems to the Father in prayer, helps me prepare for the day ahead. The stillness of early morning and the peace, which is kind of hard to find once I get involved in the busy-ness of the day, help me focus on the love, support and protection which the Lord has promised when I come to Him for guidance. Psalm 103 tells of God's great love for us and the following is a poem by an unknown poet which says it all:-

"Though the cover is worn and the pages are torn and though places bear traces of tears,
Yet more precious than gold is this book worn and old that can shatter and scatter my fears.

When I prayerfully look in this precious old book as my eyes scan the pages I see,
Many tokens of love from the Father above who is nearest and dearest to me.

This old book is my guide, 'tis a friend by my side, it will lighten and brighten my way.
And each promise I find soothes and gladdens my mind, as I read it and heed it to-day".



Margaret Parr

Cricket match tied for a second successive year!

For a second year in a row the annual Parish Cricket match ended in a tie! In a low scoring, but exciting and fiercely contested game, both the Curate's XI and the Rector's XI scored 45 runs apiece. However, there was uncertainty at the end of the match as the Rector's team claimed a mistake had been made in totalling up its final score and that it had scored one more run to win the game. But in the spirit of the game the captains declared the game a tie, again!

In the face of tight bowling and good fielding the Curate's XI struggled with the bat. A damaging four wicket maiden over from Peter McIlwaine left the 'young ones' on 13 runs for the loss of seven wickets. However a sterling effort from man of the match, Ben Johnson (14 runs) and Davy Vance (7 runs) brought the final total to a semi-respectable 45 after 15 overs. At the half way point the feeling in the Curate's team was that a quick breakthrough would be required if there was any chance of making a game of it. Tight fast bowling from both Andrew M. and Davy Vance restricted the Rector's openers. The big breakthrough came in the fourth over when Andrew M. plucked out of the air a fierce drive from Peter McIlwaine (Andrew's one handed catch was the 'champagne moment' of the match, and the first of his three amazing catches).



The game was on.

Andrew Goudy (15), Gareth McCullough (9) and Neil Devlin (8) provided stern resistance, but pressure began to mount on the Rector's XI as Matt Cowan took four quick wickets in his two allotted overs. Former Ballyholme Youth Workers Richard Gullen and Sam Johnston turned out for the Rector's XI, only to return to the pavilion with a duck each. Andrew M. pulled off his second amazing catch to dismiss Sam, a low, full stretch taken at first slip.

With two wickets still standing an announcement was made that the scores were level. And with light fading

and nerves fraying on both sides, Ben Johnston took his fourth wicket of the game. This left the Rector to come in at number eleven and hit what could have been the winning run. However, stranded at the non-striker's end Simon's big moment was snatched from him as Alistair bowled Richard Gillen to secure a tie.

The result was a fitting end to an enjoyable contest. Bring on the replay next year!

OUR WORSHIP

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>July</p> <p>6th Trinity 3
 8.30 Holy Communion
 10.30 Family Service
 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Parish</p> <p>13th Trinity 4
 8.30 Holy Communion
 10.30 Holy Communion
 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Methodist</p> <p>20th Trinity 5
 8.30 Holy Communion
 10.30 Morning Service
 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Presbyterian</p> <p>27th Trinity 6
 8.30 Holy Communion
 10.30 Morning Prayer
 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Parish</p> | <p>August</p> <p>3rd Trinity 7
 8.30 Holy Communion
 10.30 Family Service
 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Presbyterian</p> <p>10th Trinity 8
 8.30 Holy Communion
 10.30 Holy Communion
 7.30 United Service Holy Redeemer</p> <p>17th Trinity 9
 8.30 Holy Communion
 10.30 Morning Service
 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Methodist</p> <p>24th Trinity 10
 8.30 Holy Communion
 10.30 Morning Prayer
 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Parish</p> <p>31st Trinity 11
 8.30 Holy Communion
 10.30 Morning Service
 7.30 United Service Ballyholme Presbyterian</p> |
|---|---|



There will be no creche supervision in July or August, but the creche room will be available for parents and children and a children's table will be available in church.



- July**
- 6th Muriel Ryan
 - 13th Dorrie Nesbitt
 - 20th Caroline Jones
 - 27th Maureen Johnston
- August**
- 3rd Mary Moore
 - 10th Yvonne Manogue
 - 17th Anon
 - 25th Marion Milligan
 - 31st Edna Rosbotham



- July**
 No Coffee in Parish Centre
- August:**
- 3rd:** Michael & Sharon Hatch, Pauline Baird
 - 10th:** Jim & Liz Murdock, Susan Stockton
 - 17th:** Fiona Jackson, Maaiké Harvey, Eppie Bates
 - 24th:** Jill Owens, Daphne Moore, Barbara Wallace
 - 31st:** Ella Walker, Jacqui & Neil Devlin

BAPTISMS

- 8th June:**
 BENJAMIN ANDREWS,
 son of Claire & Alan
- 8th June:**
 SOPHIE McCULLOUGH,
 daughter of Lynne & John

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



FUNERAL

- 30th May:** Frank Brennan, late of 7 Windermere Drive
- 10th June:** Joy Seale, late of 39 Baylands Fourth Ave.

