

St Columbanus

Ballyholme



Restoration Progress Report
New Youth Worker
Fun Summer Activities

..On the way *together*..

The Parishioner

September 2016

The Parish Centre continues to be as usual open every weekday morning.

So our new PM is a regular Churchgoer. As a person who guards her privacy, it's one of the few things we have been told about Mrs May. Of course some will say she's embarrassed to admit it but therein lies the irony: in an age when prejudice and discrimination are legally proscribed, most practising Christians will know only too well what it is to be pilloried for their faith. Whether with private suspicion or public scorn, some will regard the occupant of Number 10's weekly appointment with God as a sign of personal weakness, if not a reason to question her motives and judgment. Surely better a Prime Minister who knows she is accountable to a power higher than the passing fancy of the electorate. Better someone who knows that on her own she does not have all the answers – who sees the need for a corrective to the ego-maniacal tendency at work in all of us. It won't make her perfect, but maybe she'll be clearer about her imperfections. And who would begrudge the lady one hour a week telephone call and meeting free, a sixty minute reminder that despite appearances, she's not really in charge at all.



SED.

Where is your Chair

In the conservatory? On the patio perhaps? Maybe you've got a balcony, a summer house, a man/woman-shed or a shady quiet spot in the garden.

At some point this month there is bound to be a chair and a moment where you could join the many parishioners who are using our year-long programme of daily devotionals. Easily accessed from the parish website or available in four week printed handouts on Sundays, just a few minutes each day will do – though some people are finding they want to spend much longer.

The format is simple with some opening word of praise, the Bible reading itself and then a short reflection and some prayers based on the passage of the day.

Also, there are three versions on offer: one for adults, one for teenagers and one for children, all three written specially for our own Ballyholme parishioners.

If you haven't had a chance to look and get involved yet, what better use to make of the long September evenings than to join your church family in making this year of physical restoration a year of spiritual transformation.



It's that time of year again! **SMARTIE TUBE TIME**

Collect your tube
at church on 4th September

Enjoy the Smarties!
Fill the tube with 20ps
or any suitable coins*
Bring back the filled tube

on 16th October
To any Harvest Service

** All the money goes towards the
support of our Mission Work*

The Crafty Stitchers

Classes start on

Tuesday 20th September
at 7.45pm

Get your needles and thread
ready

New stitchers welcome





Just Older Youth

This is a prayer posted in St. Peter's Church, St. George, Bermuda, the oldest Anglican Church in the western hemisphere.

Lord, thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old. Keep me from becoming talkative, and from the particularly fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details. Give me wings to get to the point. I ask for grace to listen to the tales of others' pain. Help me to endure them with patience. Seal my lips on my own aches and pains - they are increasing and my love of rehearsing them is becoming stronger as the years go by.

Teach me the glory lesson occasionally, that it is possible that I may be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet, I do not want to be a saint - some of them are hard to live with - but a sour old woman is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Make me thoughtful but not moody, helpful, but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all - but thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

(from an unnamed Mother Superior)



Summer 2016 is coming to an end and as we approach Autumn we are looking forward to the start of our Seniors programme and the completion of our Church renovations.

Wednesday Club resumes on 7th September, Monday coffee on 12th September followed by Friday lunches on 16th September.

It can be a daunting prospect to come to any of the above on your own but we would really love to see some new faces, you won't be left on your own and you can bring a friend with you too. Lifts are arranged to and from the Parish Centre.

If you would like to have a chat about our programme please ring me at the Parish Office. Be brave- take the first step- you won't regret it!

God bless.

Karen

My Favourite Place

Once upon a time a little girl couldn't wait to read her own bedtime stories. With no siblings to distract her she could read by the time she started school at 4 years and 2 months. When she was 8 she moved to Bangor from Portadown with her parents. They and the furniture van arrived on a Friday and the following Tuesday mother asked a neighbour where the library was. They walked from Brunswick Road to Hamilton Road and joined the Library. That was 21st May 1940 and I've been a regular visitor ever since.

My earliest favourites were Little Women and after hearing Uncle Mac reading Winter Holiday on Children's Hour on Friday afternoons (signature tune The Skaters Waltz) I read all of Arthur Ransom's books many times. I'm also a fan of Charles Dickens and Jane Austen but am open to all suggestions.

I still go to the Library regularly (6 books out at a time) and get great pleasure from my reading.



Flo Huggins

Billy Fyffe (or William Thomas Robert Fyffe to give him his proper title!) took up his role as Ballyholme Parish Youth Pastor on 6 July 2016 and when I met him recently he told me a bit more about himself and his role in the Church.

Billy grew up in Magheralin a village on the main Moira to Lurgan road beside the River Lagan before spending his latter years in Dromore.

Billy's involvement in the Church began when one of the leaders from his local Church encouraged him to lead a Kids Club and a Drop in Centre. From those early beginnings Billy spent a year volunteering for Youth for Christ and another year working in the Church of Ireland Youth Department where he took part in a host of things including Kids Clubs, Drop in Centres and street work.



Billy is well experienced in youth work having spent 2 years as a Youth Leader in Killyleagh and prior to joining Ballyholme Parish he worked in Donaghadee Parish for 3½ years whilst completing his degree in Youth and Community Work with Practical Theology. Billy achieved a 2:1 degree and will be graduating in London on 18 October 2016.

Billy's role as Ballyholme Youth Pastor will see him working with the young people of the Parish to help them develop socially and spiritually through different programmes and events as well as mentoring on an individual basis. Another key role for him will be to work with others in the staff team to help develop the Family Service by leading worship and assisting with the music.

Billy's love for music began in his early teens when he was inspired to pick up his guitar as a result of watching the various bands and groups he saw in Church. Billy's musical talent grew and developed and soon he was leading worship, writing songs and playing gigs around the country. He has also worked as a DJ in various countries including UK mainland, Germany and North America.

Since joining us in July, Billy's feet have scarcely touched the ground what with Summer Madness, X-Cess and Jumpin and after he spoke to me he was heading down to Kilbroney in Rostrevor. Although exhausted by the intensity of it all, Billy enjoyed every minute of it. The programmes went really well and Billy loved getting to know the young people and their parents. When things calm down a bit he is looking forward to getting more settled into his new home in The Bay.

Billy doesn't get an awful lot of spare time but he likes to relax by spending time with his girlfriend Jane, other friends, doing a bit of DJ work, playing a bit of football and most importantly supporting his favourite team Glenavon - his second love next to Jane!

Having had an uncle who worked for Fyffes I had to ask him if he was in any way connected to the famous fruit importers. All I can say is he told me his father works in Angola where Fyffes is based!!

Christine Johnstone

From Trassey to Newcastle - July

For the eight walkers in July the Mourne Rambler bus was a first. From Newcastle bus station it took the group to the road junction near the Trassey Track car park where the seven mile walk back to Newcastle started.



From the car park the track led into Tollymore and through the forest which was a real treat with a great variety of trees and lots of wild flowers everywhere. The good weather brought plenty of people to the park, walking and cycling.

The walk was fairly strenuous with the usual switch back tracks gaining height then losing it again. The last section was on the Newcastle Way back into the town, from where it was off to Balloo to the coffee shop for refreshments, always a favourite.

From Cavehill to Clifton Street - August

Little did we know beforehand the connection between the two locations for our August outing. Cavehill Country Park was the walk destination and the Clifton Street Cemetery was the 'cultural interest' follow up. The link was that Belfast's famous Presbyterian United Irishman, Henry Joy McCracken whose memorial gravestone we saw in the Cemetery, had hidden in Cavehill after they were defeated in Antrim, while his sister Mary Ann (buried alongside his memorial) arranged his escape to America. However, he was seized on the way to the ship, tried by court martial, and hanged at Belfast market house, High Street, on July 17, 1798.

The country park was busy with lots of people of all ages walking the various routes. We took the loop track from Belfast Castle, upwards and round the side of the hill and past one of the caves, from where we had a great panoramic view of Belfast (including a bear in the Zoo). Another turn and more upward movement took us to McArt's Fort when out of the blue it rained – blocking our anticipated wider aspect view. McArt's Fort on the summit of the hill, is an example of an old ráth or ring fort used as a dwelling and stronghold in former times. It is believed that the fort's inhabitants used the caves to store white foods for the winter and may have served as a refuge during times of attack. However when the rain cleared the hill afforded long views – we could see Strangford Lough and the Mournes.

The route down to the Castle is by way of a gravel path and steps past the quarry and through the trees back to the start.

Then after lunch it was off to meet Joe Baker, our guide for the Clifton Street Cemetery tour. Joe certainly was passionate and hugely knowledgeable about the subject, which is part of the Glenravel History Project. He gave us an eloquent potted history of what was originally the poor house - Clifton House (where Colin Bell used to work) and then took us to the Graveyard. As there is just so much history attached to this place, Joe gave us an overall picture which included the astonishing fact that there were 14500 people buried there. Among its most famous names are McCracken. Apprenticed to the linen trade, Henry Joy was in charge of a cotton factory by the age of 22. However, he was more interested in politics than in business and helped to establish the first Society of the United Irishmen in Belfast in 1791.

He was hanged at the Cornmarket. He and his sister Mary Ann were the grandchildren of the founder of the News Letter and she was woman who packed a lot of causes and living into her 96 years. However Mary Ann ought to be remembered as an extremely impressive and formidable individual in her own right. Also interred in the cemetery are the whiskey blenders Dunvilles and thousands of cholera and famine victims. It's worth a visit – see <http://www.cliftonstreetcemetery.com/>

The next outing is to the Gobbins (hopefully it will be open again). Details later. BA.



Progress Report 2

Building work is continuing well at St Columbanus. The site was closed for the July fortnight but work resumed on 25th July and progress has been good.

Since the first report, the main contractors have replaced lead-work to the tower and have provided an additional outlet to the tower roof to ensure water dissipates from the tower easily. The finial was also refurbished before scaffolding was dismantled in this area.



View of Tower



Internal View of Rose Window



View of Sanctuary

The majority of lead upgrading works has been carried out and work in relation to reinstating slipped slates and replacement of missing and damaged slates has been completed.

Electricians have removed all redundant cabling and fittings and have commenced rewiring within the sanctuary area. The mechanical subcontractor has been carrying out 'first fix' works, getting ready for installation of the new heating system within the Church. The concrete subfloor has been laid and insulation has been delivered to site and will be laid on top of the subfloor prior to the installation of the heating pipe-work and floor screed.

The Vestry has been completely stripped out and alteration works are being carried out in the tower to provide improved toilet facilities.



The stained-glass windows were carefully removed by CWS Glass and new timber frames are now being fabricated for the windows located in the main body of the Church. The frame to the 'rose window' in the gable wall of the Church is of course sandstone.

Progress Report 2 Continued

There has been deterioration of this stonework, which is particularly evident on the interior elevation. Stonemasons have visited the site and have surveyed the stonework so that they can carry out the necessary repairs to the frame before the stained glass is reinstated. Closer examination of the sandstone cross revealed structural instability and cracks within the sandstone and the existing cross has been carefully taken down and a new cross is currently being made by specialist conservation stonemasons.

The new NIE substation should arrive on site in the next few weeks and works in this regard should be complete at the beginning of September.

The design team is continuing to work closely with all contractors on site and very much appreciate the helpfulness and cooperation of client representatives and contractors alike.

8th Bangor Rainbows Pack

Events attended by Rainbows during
2015-16

Mount Stewart & Hedgehog Heroes Day. (tied these days in with the RSPB Hedgehog badge).

Story teller from RSPB

Santa @ Lorne House

W5 trip

Farm Fun Day @ Ark Farm

Fairy Fun Day @ Lorne House

Lorne Walk 2016

Walled Garden

Adventureworld

Also we had Debutots and a dance instructor come to the hall.

Karen

Much gratitude to Karen Heasley and her team who give up their time to ensure the Rainbows enjoy fun and educational experiences.



First Aid Training Sessions

In partnership with the Parish Health and Safety Committee, we would like to invite everyone, especially leaders of any organisations to attend and receive both First Aid and D Fib Certification. Two 3 hour sessions: 17 & 18 October at 7pm in the Parish Centre. Please contact Parish Office to register.

Golf Society

Next outing is Friday 23 September 2pm Donaghadee Golf Club. Contact Harry Browne 07790 520916 to book a tee!

New! Parish Directory Pull Out

In recent years we have issued a Parish Directory with the September Issue of The Parishioner.

This year, in an effort to reduce costs during our Restoration we have created a handy pull out version.

Will Grigg's on fire!

Parish Centre 12 Sept at 7.30pm

Our own Neil Brittain, Head of Communications at the Irish Football Association will be giving us the low down on all the thrills and spills of Norn Iron's Euro 2016 campaign.



The good news is the Friday lunches have started again! I have been going to the Friday lunches for the past 4 years and recently I had a word with Karen Baker the Pastoral Assistant to the Elderly who told me how the lunches began.

I was surprised when Karen told me the lunches have been going for about 10 years. At that time the Reverend Alan Abernethy was the minister of St Columbanus Parish and he and Karen were keen to reach out to the wider Ballyholme community and in particular the more senior citizens. Offering lunches on Fridays seemed to be a practical way of extending the hand of friendship to our neighbours some of whom may live alone and may not otherwise get the chance to share a meal with others.

Karen Baker and her willing band of 30 volunteers attended training and achieved Health and Hygiene certificates before getting down to the practicalities of catering for 50 people each week. Karen is supported by a wonderful team of dedicated, diligent volunteers who all have their own roles to play in producing a mouth watering menu of 6 main courses and puddings.

It's all very much a team effort. Karen does the shopping each week, and there are teams who come in early to arrange the main hall in the Parish Centre and set the tables and other teams who do all the clearing away and washing up. The food is cooked on the premises by another 6 teams, each of which has its own "signature dish" which is made using fresh meat, poultry and vegetables. The menu includes well known favourites such as cottage pie, stew, chicken in a mushroom sauce, steak casserole, chicken pie and sausages. The puddings include such delights as pavlova, lemon tart, profiteroles and ice cream. This is followed by tea or coffee and a selection of biscuits. The suggested donation towards the lunch is £5.00 and you wouldn't get better value anywhere else in Bangor!

Karen told me that many friendships have been formed and grown over the 10 years that the lunches have been running. So while the food is important, for some the Friday lunches are the highlight of the week and a time to enjoy spending time in the company of others.

The lunches are open to all and people of any faith or none are more than welcome to share lunch, laughter and friendship on Fridays at 12:30. I have met some new friends and also come across people I had not seen in a while for example Miss McCormick who taught me English at school!

Karen and her team would love to see some new faces so please feel free to come along and try the lunches for yourself. You can bring along a friend or come down and get the chance to make some new friends.

Christine Johnstone



Around the Parish

Church Picnic





Maasai Ladies at Osinoni Hideaway Retreat Centre

It was a bright Monday morning in Oltiasika as seven local Maasai ladies made their way up the hill to the Retreat Centre called Osinoni Hideaway, for a training seminar.

It looked like the first day of school as they were somewhat shy and awkward. However, for some of them, they had not experienced a first school day, as they had never set foot in school in their lives. For others, they had only been educated for a few years at Primary level, before dropping out of the system. Consequently most of them could neither read nor write.

They were welcomed by Maria and myself. Maria had been recruited in 2004 to Osinoni Hideaway and trained up and after we returned to N.Ireland, she moved on to another job. She is presently employed by a Lion Conservation Project where our son Philip also works. She had now returned to her original home area to train these new ladies how to work in the Retreat Centre. She saw this as a way to say thank you for the chance she had received in life as a result of her training and also to help encourage the women of her own community.



Our family has known Maria since she was a little girl as she used to play with our eldest daughter, Susie when we lived at Oltiasika from 1987 – 90. Twenty years later, when Susie was studying Social Anthropology in Queens University, she returned to Oltiasika to complete her dissertation on the effects of education on Maasai girls, and Maria helped her obtain her information as they both travelled around the villages, interviewing the girls. Now, here was the same Maria helping me many years later.....

It was challenging to teach these women without anything being written down, so it was all practical learning. However, within a short time they had all gelled together as they made beds, prepared rooms and cooked some 'strange' food, like pasta and mincemeat which they had never even seen before! It was such a joy to watch them find something in themselves that they never knew existed.

In our final session, we shared the verse with them from Proverbs 3v5,6. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths."

They felt this verse was very relevant as they had so little understanding of what they were doing at first. However, as we prayed at the beginning and end of each day, so God did

direct their paths and lead them to better understanding.

After 3 days, they left as a group of happily chattering ladies, with new-found knowledge and Maria had also been greatly blessed through her teaching. Now, as we await our first group of visitors – a team of 30+ from Limavady Grammar School – I have no doubt these women will give of their best to make them feel welcome. May God bless all their efforts and give them a real sense of being valued.

Maggie Briggs



YOUTH-NEWS

youth [youth] (youths) news [nooz]

“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”
John 10:10

Summer Fun and Games

It has almost been a month since I started in my role as Youth Pastor and it has been full of fun, community and surprises. I started my time getting preparations for X-Cess underway and meeting with the leaders who would help make X-Cess a success. It is very encouraging to have a leadership team who are enthusiastic to be involved in serving wherever they can. I would not have been able to do X-Cess without them.

Our theme for X-Cess 2016 was “Life To The Full.” The aim behind this was that the young people attending could see that following God and being a Christian isn’t a boring life but a life that is full and exciting. We wanted to do this through the activities, events and the example of the leaders.

X-Cess 2016 started with an afternoon of getting to know each other through an art workshop delivered by Laura Jeffrey. There were many new young people who attended X-Cess so this was a great opportunity to get to know the young people and introduce myself. Monday was the platform for each afternoon activity throughout the week. The afternoon activities focused on community and team building. We took full advantage of the beautiful weather on the Tuesday and headed to Ballymacconnell beach to play games, hang out and jump in the water. Wednesday and Thursday saw us stretch our legs and walk down to Bangor and Ward Park for a photo scavenger hunt and big lawn games.

Dundonald Ice Bowl was our destination for our Friday afternoon activities where some of the young people bowled and others ice skated. It has to be noted that little James Nicholl beat big Andy Beech in the bowling. These afternoon activities set us up for the evening and, as the week went on, it was amazing to see young people coming out of their shells and many of them making new friends and memories along the way.

The evening activities were some of the best memories I have made in my youth work career. I do not think I have laughed more at some of the antics of the leaders and young people. We had questionable dancing from all at the UV Rave on the Monday night. Tuesday saw us playing ultimate frisbee with the sunset lighting up our evening. Wednesday night was messy in a good way with leaders and young people getting involved in messy games with the girls beating the boys. Thursday night was definitely my highlight of the week seeing young people stepping up to showcase their talents to win the big prize of a voucher for Victoria Square in Belfast. We had singers, dancers, a magician and Andy Beech singing High School Musical in a dress. You can ask him about that one. This was an encouraging night as we had many last minute sign-ups due to nerves but every young person was fantastic and made me proud. Ellie Shevlin won the prize with a beautiful rendition of a song called “La Vanille”.



YOUTH-news

youth [youth] (youths) news [nooz]

Summer Fun and Games continued



We finished the week off with a blast. We had our formal and the young people got all dressed up in their best for a night of food, cheesy disco, chocolate fountain and mock tails.

Each night we had 'main stage' which involved various games such as the leaders challenge which ended up with a leader getting pied in the face. We had a slot during main stage where we interviewed leaders on what "life to the full" meant to them. I believe this was a special time as the young people were able to hear different perspectives on Christianity and living the Christian life. This led on to our speaker for each night. We were blessed to have a different speaker each evening. We had

Robbie Gilpin from Newtownbreda Baptist who shared his testimony on the Monday night. Jade Irwin spoke a powerful message on the beach on Tuesday and Andy Hamilton shared some life advice on the Wednesday about living life to the full and holding nothing back. Joel Robinson from Helens Bay Presbyterian shared with us on Thursday about what the Bible says about living life to the full. I finished the week off sharing about my history of having terrible haircuts and how what I thought was a good idea turned out to be disastrous (these haircut photos may come at a later date). I invited each of the young people to a "life in all its fullness" and accept Jesus as their Saviour. It was very exciting to see many of the young people say yes and pray with me that evening.

Before X-Cess started I was very apprehensive about how the week would go due to having very little time to prepare. It was so encouraging for me to see all the leaders come together with the young people and it was one of the best youth weeks I have experienced. The young people are already talking about next year and want to see X-Cess happen more regularly. I am looking into the possibility of having X-Cess on the last Saturday of each month as this would be an opportunity for young people to come together and invite new friends to the youth activities at the Parish.

I am very excited about the new year beginning in September. I am starting to have conversations with young people and leaders about the youth work in the Parish and how we can better facilitate their needs in all our activities and programmes.

we can better facilitate their needs in all our activities and programmes. Please pray for me as I meet with the young people and get to know them away from the busyness of X-Cess and Jumpin.

I want to thank everyone for their warm welcome and all who have helped me settle into The Bay and life in the Parish. I am very excited for my future in Ballyholme and I am praying for God's blessing on the church and all ministry throughout the Parish.

Billy Fyffe



Time is a funny thing, when you want it to fly by it creeps along but the same can not be said for when you want it to stand still.

As we wait to return to our own church building the subject of time will be heavy on our minds. Does St Columbanus College already feel like home or are you itching to get back to the familiar? Has time stood still or are you wondering where the weeks have gone since the big move up the road?

Whatever way you feel about it, there is no disputing the fact that time changes things. Perhaps when you first heard we would have to up sticks and adopt a new home for a few months you were outraged, or maybe you were just glad to still be able to come together for praise every Sunday.

No doubt now your feelings will be different.

Ten years ago our congregation went through a similar period of uncertainty as our new Parish Centre was built, but here we are today.

However, our present is one with more challenges as a key obstacle time has brought being the drop in numbers nationally attending Church.

It is a sad fact that more people have fallen away from their church with congregation numbers dropping not only within the Church of Ireland but across the board.

In Western countries especially there has been a decline which has gone hand in hand with an increase in atheism.

But there are still Christians out there who will fight for their right to worship, to have a church building for services and to spread the Gospel.

In Russia president Vladimir Putin recently brought in tighter restrictions on missionary activity and evangelism outside of churches.

It is his bid at stopping the spread of terrorism and extremism, but many Christian groups have spoken out against it.

Thousands of groups from churches in Russia have come together in the wake of this to pray and fast against the move.



So here in Ballyholme we are extremely fortunate we do not have to battle to worship. But perhaps we could learn a lesson from the passion some of our brothers and sisters show in other countries.

If we focus that into spreading the word of God we may never have to worry about a time in the future when we would have to close our doors for good.

Sarah Guy



Old stained-glass window frames removed ready to be replaced with new timber frames

Kids Corner!

This summer our hall became an underwater kingdom, complete with balloon bubbles and crepe paper seaweed lining the walls as Jumpin Under the Sea took place!

Over 120 children attended each day, and were kept busy with sea-themed crafts and games, with a few new ideas that we hope will become Jumpin staples- thanks to Jump, Jiggle and Jive for leading a dance and hula-hooping extravaganza, and to our own Kelly Keenan for leading children's yoga with a twist!

Most importantly, the children were told stories of God – his love for them and his extraordinary power. Morning sessions focussed on stories such as parting the Red Sea, calming the storm, walking on water and our own call to be fishers of men. Along with this, the children were encouraged in worship and in prayer, as well as learning by heart the week's memory verse – "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good – His love endures forever!" Psalm 107:1



Unbelievably, the summer is almost over – gone are the long days at the beach and the summer holidays, but that means it's time to get excited about the new term of Children's Church, which begins on Sunday 11th September 2016! Here is a sneak peek of what we will be up to over the next term!

There will be a short parents' meeting directly after the first session on Sunday 11th September.

Our young leaders will take the kids into the Sports Hall for games and you will have the chance to meet the new Children's Church leaders, hear about upcoming big dates and discover a little more about Jigsaw and what your children will be learning. **Please pop down to the Ice classroom straight after the church service!**



Date	Theme
11th September	Armour of God
18th September	Armour of God
25th September	Armour of God
2nd October	All-Age Worship
9th October	Harvesting
16th October	Harvest – Children's Presentation
23rd October	Joseph & His Brothers
30th October	Joseph & His Brothers
6th November	All-Age Worship
13th November	Water into Wine
20th November	Stilling the Storm
27th November	Walking on Water
4th December	Nativity Rehearsal
11th December	Nativity Rehearsal
Saturday 17th December	Nativity Dress Rehearsal
18th December	Nativity Play
25th December	Christmas Worship – 10am



Interdenominational Divine Healing Ministries has organised a special day of prayer for our land to help people find God's peace. This will be held on Saturday 17th September 2016 at St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast and is open to everyone. The Cathedral will be transformed into a quiet, private prayer space. If your peace has been disturbed for whatever reason, maybe from experiences in the past, why not come and spend some time with God in an atmosphere of godly calmness?

Quietly between you and Him you can lay down any of the things that disturb: forgive those who have hurt you: say sorry where you may have hurt others; and make a commitment to help build a better future for our land.

The focal point will be a large plain wooden cross right at the front of the Cathedral. All the prayer will be in silence. This is a time for people to come as individuals before God, and through that encounter, however long or short, to find His peace. We trust that through the time that people spend in prayer they will be helped to find the Peace of God. We hear a lot of talk about dealing with the past; seldom do we hear any talk about God or Forgiveness, yet this dimension is absolutely vital.

This special day of prayer is the vision of Billy Moore, a lay-reader in Lisburn Cathedral who is responsible for the outreach work in the Hillhall Estate. Billy and Dean Sam Wright have asked Divine Healing Ministries to organise the whole event. It just so happens that DHM have recently completed seven years of prayer for the renewal and revival of the faith in this land. We see this event on September 17th as a natural continuation of all those years of prayer.

There will probably be many other stages on the journey, but we will allow the Lord to guide us one step at a time. This day of prayer is an attempt to help everyone to find the peace of God. People may come and go they please. The hours of prayer will be 9am to 6pm. Please keep that date in your diary – Saturday, 17th September at St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast.

Bro. David Jardine.



3rd Bangor Scout Group 2016/17

Parents meeting for registration, fees and information on upcoming events will be held on **Thursday 8 September at 7.00pm** in the Church Centre.

Sections resume as set out below:-

Squirrels Friday 16 September at 6.00pm
Beavers Thursday 15 September at 6.30pm
Cubs Thursday 15 September at 7.30pm
Scouts Friday 16 September at 7.30pm

If you need to check about availability of places for your son or daughter please contact the appropriate section leader on the numbers in the new Parish Directory.

Parent and Toddler Group

resumes

Thursday 15th September
in Church Centre

Play and games, socialising,
mixing with other children.



Table Tennis News

The new season is nearly upon us once more see the News in the Pews for the start date.

We have a wide age range from 8-80 and also abilities, but the underlying factor is fun, and on Monday nights you can hear the laughter emanating from the Parish Centre.



We would be delighted to welcome new members. Don't worry about your standard or if it has been years since you played.

Stanley Officer 91461650

OUR WORSHIP

Sunday 4th September Trinity 15

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 All Age Service
11.30 Morning Prayer

Wednesday 7th September

10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado Room

Sunday 11th September Trinity 16

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Morning Worship
& Children's Church
11.30 Parish Communion
6.30 United Service - Kajiado Room

Wednesday 14th September

10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado Room

Sunday 18th September Trinity 17

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Morning Worship
& Children's Church
11.30 Morning Prayer

Wednesday 21st September

10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado Room

Sunday 25th September Trinity 18

8.30 Holy Communion
10.00 Parish Communion
& Children's Church
11.30 Morning Prayer

Wednesday 28th September

10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado Room

BAPTISMS

24th July

Charlotte Jane Whiteside,
daughter of Ryan and Jenny
Whiteside

**Noah Samuel David
Shackels**
son of Dawn Shackels

September



4th: Tracie Andreasson
11th: Mandy King
18th: Marion Milligan
25th: Pat Williams

Parish Office: 91274912

Rectory:
91274901

Prayer Line:
07531806167

Transport:
07599794968

Church Readers Rota:
Freda 91467624
Michelle 91271327

Web Site [www.](http://www.ballyholmeparish.co.uk)

Ballyholmeparish.co.uk



Children's Church Helpers

September

4th: No Children's Church

11th: Amanda Thompson, Sarah Tweedie, Geoff & Gillian Young

18th: Stefan & Tracie Andreasson, Gareth & Janet Boal

25th: Sarah Benton, Emma Darragh, Jacqui & Neil Devlin, Heather Dickey



Indoor Bowling Club

The Indoor Bowling Club starts its new season
on

Wednesday 7th September at 7.30pm with the AGM,

followed by the usual bowling.

Come along, join us and have
some fun.

For further information please
contact club secretary Derek Coates
on 02891455471.



We commence our
meetings following the
summer break on

Monday 5th September at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre.
Cup Cake Night ???

New members welcome, come along to see what we do.

Yvonne Manogue Branch Leader

Tel: 91 469707

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families