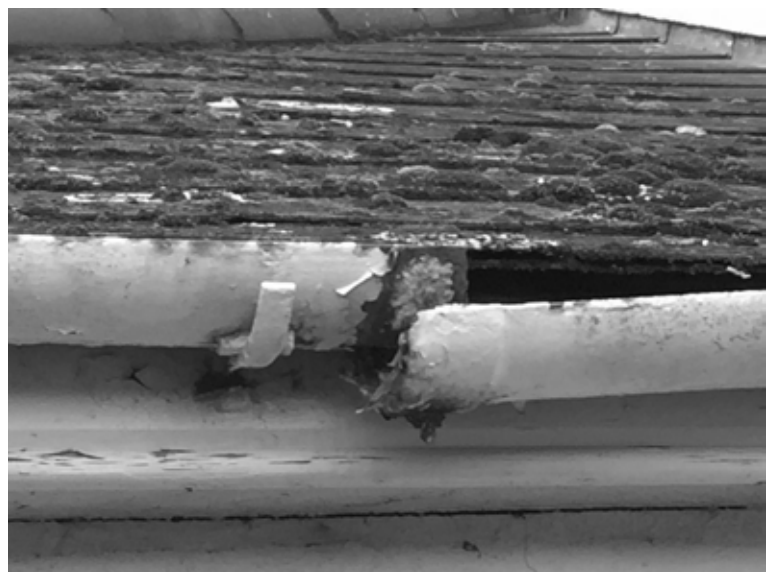


St Columbanus

Ballyholme



Laura heading to Scotland
Children's Church Review
Rectory Renovation - Latest



..On the way
together..

The Parishioner

July / August 2017

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

The Rambling Rector

Four years are about to end for someone whose contribution to the growth of our parish is plain for all to see. Laura Jeffrey came to us as Children's Worker having decided part way through her first year at university that God's plan for her was not a career in medicine. In addition to delivering an ever-expanding children's programme, perhaps Laura's real contribution has been to establish the role. A structure is now in place whereby mums, dads and volunteers feel supported and resourced and whereby our children are growing in their faith and enjoying Church. The next chapter for Laura was always going to mean a move from Ballyholme but I am happy to report that this autumn Laura will take up a place at Inverness on a full-time Theology degree and explore options for service and ministry in the Episcopal Church of Scotland. It's also good news that as God raised up Laura for us four years ago, so He has someone waiting in the wings. Our prayers please for Paula Lown as she prepares to take over in September, and our blessings and sincere appreciation to Laura as she and Laurie pack up for the Highlands.



SED



Hospital/Home Visits

Letting the Rector 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 or in need of a visit you must assume Simon does not know and get in touch. He visits the hospitals every week and would rather be informed a number of times than not at all – or immediately after he makes it home from Dundonald. Likewise with home visits. As people come and go on holiday over July and August it is harder to notice when some people are missing from Church. Don't think that no one cares, think instead that no one knows and make a phone call. Also remember please that Simon is currently without the back-up of a curate to share the pastoral workload: there is only one pair of clergy hands eager to respond to hospital and other calls, not two!

Going to Church on Holiday

It's about lots of things being the same but other things being completely different. It's about a sense that Church is bigger than our version of it. It's about recognising that God so loved the whole world and not just the small corner we call home. Whatever the language, I've never gone to Church on holiday in any country and not come away with at least one word from God to hold on to. Planning where we will go to Church on holiday is not always possible, but often it's been those times when we've just turned up and walked in randomly somewhere that have been the most memorable. Moreover, it's the low turn-out experiences that particularly stand-out for me, the feeling that you have lifted the spirits of the few who have showed up faithfully and made the point that their worship and witness is not in vain. In the words of the old hymn: "as o'er each continent and island... the voice of prayer is never silent, nor dies the strain of praise away."



SED





The Walkers in New Territory

The great thing about the outings with the St Columbanus Walkers is that most of us often find new pastures. This one was the gem of the Benburb Valley Park with its numerous trails along the River Blackwater and the Ulster Canal and on the second Saturday in June fourteen of us gathered at the Servite Priory in Benburb. Some of it was familiar to Robbie who had kayaked on the Blackwater before, but for the rest of us it was a new experience.

The Servite Priory was a beautiful old Manor house built by the Bruce family in the 1880's. It has had several owners before becoming a priory and centre. It was, in its long history, the private residence of the Bruce family, an English and American Army hospital during the Second World War, and since 1947 a priory and conference centre run by the Servite Order. They very kindly promised soup and sandwiches on our next visit (we'll be back) and they are opening a café in six weeks. Worth a visit.



Brian had done the research so off we set downhill passing Benburb Castle. It's a plantation bawn built in 1611 by Sir Richard Wingfield and sits on a cliff above the River Blackwater. Benburb itself was the site of a famous battle between the Irish Confederate Army under Owen Roe O'Neill and the Scottish Covenanters and an Anglo-Irish army under Robert Munro. The battle ended in a decisive victory for the Irish Confederates and put paid to the Scottish

hopes of conquering Ireland and imposing their own religious settlement there.

After the rain the week before the 56 mile long Blackwater was in some parts in full spate, fast flowing and making a great noise over the rapids and in others, tranquil and quiet. It rises near Fivemiletown and flows along the Clogher Valley forming the border between the North and the Republic and enters Lough Neagh North West of Portadown. The river banks were lush with vegetation and trees and full of birdsong. There was much evidence of the linen industry, with the remains of mills and mill races. Now and again we glimpsed the Ulster Canal, in a sorry state, overgrown and sometimes impossible to see.

The Canal does not recognize state borders and approximately 50% is in Northern Ireland and 50% in the Republic. In the early 19th century the linking the lowlands around Lough Neagh with the Erne and the Shannon commenced. Its 46 miles was finished in 1842 but it was an ill-considered venture, with the locks built narrower than the other Irish waterways, preventing through trade, and an inadequate water supply. It was an abject failure commercially. It finally closed in 1931.

Of course none of this detracted from our enjoyment of the four mile walk which took us to the turning point at Milltown where we saw the linen mill which turned out black linen for lining men's suits for Harrods! Heading back on the other bank we saw an old mill with its waterwheel still intact, finishing up back at the Priory from where the view stretches 30 miles to the Mourne, past the cathedrals of Armagh and the sacred Gullion.

We ended up at the Linen Green for refreshments, which some thought we wouldn't be able to have as it was very busy, but did!

Betty



Joy

Just Older Youth



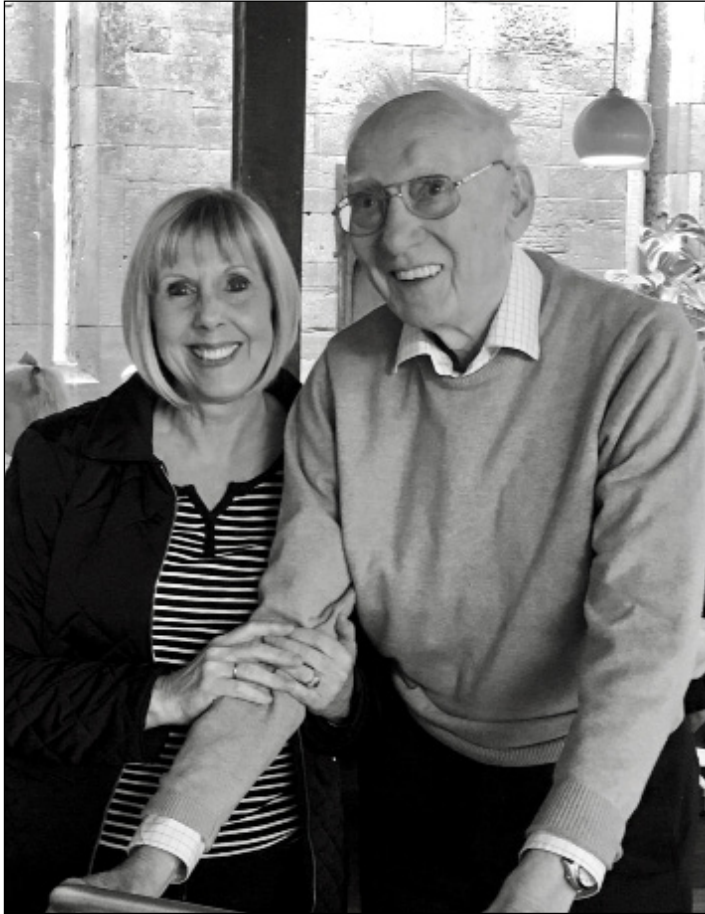
The Wednesday Club

Our final meeting was held in Coffee Cure at the Bangor Castle, where 26 of us met up and had a really lovely afternoon tea. The chat and craic were good, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon. Anne and her staff were most attentive and couldn't do enough for us - we certainly went away full up.

We now have two months to enjoy the summer and we will all meet up again on the first Wednesday in September (6th) in the Parish Centre.

See you then.

Sue



Karen and Ron



Daphne and Lilian



May, Muriel, Rita and Kathleen



Etta and Elizabeth



Margaret, Ruth and Joan



Just Older Youth



Ann, Miriam, Agnes, Sue and Eileen



Pat and Audrey

What goes around comes around

His name was Fleming, and he was a poor Scottish farmer. One day, while trying to make a living for his family, he heard a cry for help coming from a nearby bog. He dropped his tools and ran to the bog.

There, mired to his waist in black muck, was a terrified boy, screaming and struggling to free himself. Farmer Fleming saved the lad from what could have been a slow and terrifying death.

The next day, a fancy carriage pulled up to the Scotsman's sparse surroundings. An elegantly dressed nobleman stepped out and introduced himself as the father of the boy Farmer Fleming had saved.

"I want to repay you," said the nobleman. "You saved my son's life." "No, I can't accept payment for what I did," the Scottish farmer replied, waving off the offer.

At that moment, the farmer's own son came to the door of the family hovel. "Is that your son?" the nobleman asked. "Yes," the farmer replied proudly.

"I'll make you a deal. Let me provide him with the level of education my son will enjoy. If the lad is anything like his father, he'll no doubt grow to be a man we both will be proud of."

And that he did.

Farmer Fleming's son attended the very best schools and in time, he graduated from St. Mary's Hospital Medical School in London, and went on to become known throughout the world as the noted Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of Penicillin.

Years afterwards, the same nobleman's son who was saved from the bog was stricken with pneumonia. What saved his life this time?

Penicillin.

The nobleman's name? Lord Randolph Churchill. His son's name? Sir Winston Churchill.



The club was delighted to be offered the conservatory at the Stables Restaurant, Groomsport, for their annual dinner & prizegiving. Everyone enjoyed the food and the splendid surroundings.

The evening commenced by remembering those members no longer with us, followed by grace by Canon Simon Doogan our Club President.

Club Secretary Derek Coates with assistance from Heidi Doogan presented the perpetual trophies to the winners.

The Ladies Singles was won (not for the first time!) by Roberta Munnis playing some of her best bowling of recent times. After winning the cup three times in the previous four years the ever youthful Margaret McMeekin had to settle for runner-up spot this year.

The Men's Singles again went to Martin Bleakley who now has his name on the trophy 13 times in 26 years. An incredible record. Derek Coates also pointed out that Martin was in particularly devastating form this year having destroyed him in an early round and doing the same to his final opponent Stanley Officer.

The Pairs Cup is always very interesting as the format groups a weaker player with a stronger one. Of course it's an advantage to be fortunate enough to be paired with Martin Bleakley. This year it was Tommy Quigley who had a big smile on his face when the draw was announced! Their opposition was Gilbert McClure and Jenny Jenkins. Unfortunately for Gilbert and Jenny it was a very one-sided affair. Martin was his usual self and was well supported by Tommy (with or without his glasses!) to run out easy winners.

In its eight years of running, the Walsh Cup handicap competition has always had a different winner. This year the finalists were Martin Bleakley and May Henry. May had been playing very well during the season but the handicaps still meant Martin was giving her two shots.

Martin soon pulled back the handicap and after seven of the eleven ends was ahead 9-5. Things started to get a bit tense when May took a controversial end and then commenced in pulling back the score, ending up 8-9 behind with one end remaining. As happens now and then to even the great players, Martin just couldn't get the one bowl he needed close to the jack and May took two shots to win 10-9 and be the first two-time winner and also a back to back result. One to remember by both players!!

The Rinks trophy is for the best scores accumulated throughout the season and the result kept until prize night, was won by the closest of margins by Roberta Munnis on 109, followed by Martin B. on 108 and May H. on 106.

Chairman Stanley Officer finished off the evening by thanking all who helped keep the club and competitions going throughout the year, and also Simon and Heidi for supporting us. He reminded everyone the club will start the new season with the AGM on Wednesday 6th September 2017 at 7.30 followed by our usual club night.

All new members welcome

Contact Derek Coates 02891455471



The aim of pastoral care is to convey God's love and mercy to people as we demonstrate concern and reach out to those in need. It is rooted in and is an expression of God's love.

You may like to learn more about pastoral care in the context of:-

*Helping others informally or formally in your daily relationships;
A particular role you have in the church;
Specific community or workplace settings; or
Exploring a calling to become involved in pastoral care.*

If so, you may like to attend the Resourcing Pastoral Carers Course run by Jean Pillar a Regional Trainer from the Association of Christian Counsellors (ACC).

This course aims to enable participants to develop their understanding of pastoral care from a Christian perspective and to become more effective in relating to and caring for people and communities around them.

The training comprises trainer led group sessions, reading and reflective practice to allow participants to apply what they have learned. The training takes place on Thursday evenings from 7:15pm to 9:30pm, beginning on Thursday 21 September 2017 through to 2 November 2017 and there is also a session on Saturday 14 October from 9:45am to 3:15pm. All the sessions are held in Carnmoney Presbyterian Church.

The course costs £70.00 but Down and Dromore Diocese will pay £20.00 bringing the cost down to just £50.00! In addition participants will need to purchase or acquire a book for the book review part of the reflective practice.

Please contact the Parish Office at office@ballyholmeparish.co.uk or telephone 028 9127 4912 (weekdays 9am to 12pm) to get a leaflet giving full details of the course, plus an application form.

The closing date for applications is Thursday 17 August 2017.

I attended this course at the beginning of this year. It helped me develop my understanding of pastoral care and it was good to meet others and learn from their experiences. I'm happy to discuss any queries or concerns. You can email me at johnstonecm30@gmail.com or telephone 028 9145 9623.

Christine Johnstone



PRIZEWINNERS – SEASON 2016/17

LADIES SINGLES

Winner: Berry Cup Roberta Munnis
Runner Up: Conn Cup Margaret McMeekin

MENS SINGLES

Winner: Nixon Cup Martin Bleakley
Runner Up: Wilson Cup Stanley Officer

HANDICAP SINGLES

Winner: Walsh Cup May Henry

PAIRS

Winners: Pairs Cup Martin Bleakley
& Tommy Quigley

RINKS

Winner: Trenier Cup Roberta Munnis

MU Report



Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Summer weather as we know in Ballyholme does not dampen our spirits ... 4 seasons in one day or even in one evening cannot spoil our Fellowship and Fun!

So it was with 2 great Gatherings we shared in recently with some of our MU members.

The first was Saturday Shopping Spree to Dundrum Shopping Centre in Dublin. What a fun day we had, right from the 8.15am pick up, with dark skies overhead, to Sunshine Smiles aboard our coach, returning safely at 7.00pm, welcomed by the biggest downpour ever (alas for the paper carrier bags laden with "Penny's" from Primark!!)

Aboard that bus, we had such fun ... Ruth's quiz for this year was the best yet!! Especially her clues!!! The return journey ballot was much enjoyed. These two little extras boosted our fun and our funds for our Stained Glass MU Window proposed for Autumn completion, thanks everyone for their generosity. Incidentally we permitted 2 gentlemen to share in our coach journey and very well behaved they were too, mind you I didn't allow them to sit together!! (that's a teacher of 30 years speaking!!)



Finally another smiles/sunshine/showers event was our June Celebration High Tea on Monday 5th June. What a brilliant evening we shared in together... the venue was Surburban Cafe at Ballyholme, which Peter the owner opened especially for us.

His newly refurbished seating and decor was surpassed only by the menu... Summer salad with Quiche or Chicken, followed by Pavlova or Sticky Toffee Pudding, much to chat about over our teas & coffees!

Thank you to Peter and his staff for a super evening, a lovely way to affirm our friendship in Ballyholme MU. Thanks too to Lynne Savage for the lovely little party bags for home time!! (no party is complete without them)

Well that's us in MU off for Summer break... but our friendship continues on & on & on... some cappuccinos or cuppas through July and August, especially in Suburban.

See you all First Monday in September in Parish centre @ 8.00pm for some Home Grown Fun!!! All welcome, why not bring a friend!!!

Many Blessings

Yvonne Manogue





On Saturday 20th May we were privileged to spend an evening in the company of Audrey Assad in the beautiful surroundings of our newly restored Church. Audrey even commented on the effect of the evening sun shining through the stained glass windows depicting the Saints.

Audrey is a critically lauded songwriter and musician but she is also an author, speaker and producer. She was born in New Jersey to a Virginian mother and a Syrian father and was raised in a Plymouth Brethren household.

People of all ages came from far and wide to attend this event. A person sitting near to me had travelled nearly 100 miles from Buncrana Co Donegal to hear Audrey sing. Behind me was Alison, a school friend of mine, her daughter Susan and grandchild Lucy who was born in

January this year. I reckon Lucy must have been the youngest member of the audience that night!

Audrey held a concert in Dublin the day before performing in St Columbanus. She told us that this was her first time in Northern Ireland and it had been her dream to come here.

Audrey played a keyboard and sang a selection of her own worship songs as well as her version of "Bridge Over Troubled Water", a song she told us she had enjoyed listening to when she was young.

Audrey spoke openly and honestly about the pain and trauma that provided the inspiration for her song writing.

At the end, Billy Fyffe summed up the night perfectly when he thanked Audrey for sharing her heart with us and giving us an evening of healing, peace, comfort and love.

It was a truly moving event, one not to be forgotten and I'm just so glad I was there.

Christine Johnstone



Jim Beckett celebrating his 90th birthday with friends at the Friday lunch club

JESUS' DAD'S NAME

A Sunday school teacher asked her class, "What was Jesus' mother's name?"

One child answered, "Mary."

The teacher then asked, "Who knows what Jesus' father's name was?"

A little kid said, "Verge."

Confused, the teacher asked, "Where did you get that?"

The kid said, "Well, you know, they are always talking about Verge n' Mary."



Having auctioned his little blue Peugeot to launch the Restoration 2016 appeal, you will remember that the Rector cycled the parish that cold, wet winter until the departure of our curate Alistair Morrison.

It was at that stage that a delighted, slim but somewhat bedraggled, Simon took delivery of “Florence”, the Fiat Seicento which was the canary-yellow trademark of Ballyholme’s much-missed former Churchwarden

Laurence Manogue. The car was to be for Simon’s use until someone with a greater need presented themselves.

With Rory returning from Kiwoko in May but remaining on the CMS Ireland payroll for the remainder of 2017, it seemed to all concerned that it was time for a change of ownership. Laurence always took a close interest in the life of our mission partners in both Kajiado and Kiwoko and so having agreed with the Manogue family that a second car for the Wilsons would be very much in the spirit of Florence’s late owner, the DVLA did the needful and Rory now has four bright yellow wheels to see him through his GP’s training rotation.

Now in its seventeenth year and passing on to its tenth owner, Florence cannot be expected to go on for ever, but there seems a reasonable chance that she will see the Wilsons through to the start of Rory’s NHS salary towards the end of this year.

So don’t be afraid to give a wave if you see a day-glow Italian flash on the highways and byways of Ballyholme – and don’t be startled if the driver is wearing a beard and a colourful African shirt!



The Reverend Philip Kennedy

1 July 2017 is a red letter day for one of our parish families. Richard and Sandra Kennedy’s eldest son Philip will be ordained deacon in Southwark Cathedral to serve in the parish of St Michael and All Angels in Croydon, South London.

After Bangor Grammar School, Philip graduated in Music from Cambridge University. Following a placement in North London, he was accepted for ordination training in the Church of England, and took up a place to study theology at St Stephen’s House in Oxford.

Philip values his association with St Columbanus very much and during his holidays is frequently with us at the early Communion service on Sundays and on Wednesday mornings. Through his love of choral music and choirs Philip also has long-standing connections with St George’s High Street and St Anne’s Cathedral and he has deputised at the organ

from time to time in a number of churches in the wider Belfast area.

Your prayers for Philip this summer would be much appreciated as he settles into his new parish and role. Philip has two younger brothers who have both been part of our Youth Fellowship: Ross who studied in Edinburgh and has recently started a new job in London and Andrew who is studying at Exeter University, shortly to begin his year abroad in Spain.

The March magazine carried a detailed article on the Rectory and reported that extensive repairs were needed to water-proof the exterior of the house, and to improve the quality of external wall insulation. The following options were considered –

- Traditional external rendering with wall insulation provided inside the house at a later date.
- Exterior insulation and rendering.

A number of quotations were obtained, and at the May meeting, the Select Vestry decided in favour of the second option. The decision was based on the following –

- A competitive quotation was obtained.
- Waterproofing and external wall insulation would be both be provided in one operation.
- External painting would not be required.

A competitive quotation was also obtained to replace the rain water guttering around the house, which will be completed at the same time.

The contract was awarded to BlueBuild Energy from Newtownards, who have carried out similar works to a number of houses in the Ballyholme area. It is hoped that the works will be programmed for late July/August. The works will be extensive, and will consist of the following elements –

- Erection of scaffolding around the perimeter of the house.
- Chipping off and removal of existing plasterwork.
- Fitting of an external layer of insulation to the outside face of the house.
- Application of external render.
- Replacement of rainwater guttering.

'Before and after' photographs of other Blue Build projects are available on the BlueBuild Energy website. The work is expected to take at least a month and comes with a full guarantee.

Simon and Heidi have been very touched by a number of families offering them temporary accommodation. However, while there should be no need to vacate the Rectory during the external works, once interior re-decoration is scheduled the situation will be reviewed.



DOWN & DROMORE BIBLE WEEK 2017

Tuesday 29 August – Friday 1 September 2017 with Bishop Greg Venables.

The Bible Week is four nights of Bible teaching, worship and ministry for the Diocese of Down and Dromore but anyone is welcome to come along and there is no charge. The event is timed to bring encouragement from the Word of God as parishes prepare for the busy autumn term and is well supported, although if you have never been, we would love to see you there this year.

“A Stolen Life: A Memoir” by Jaycee Dugard



This shocking true life story details the unimaginable horrors that Jaycee Dugard endured during 18 years of captivity in a suburban backyard in California.

She was just 11 when she was abducted from near her Lake Tahoe home by Phillip and Nancy Garrido in 1991 and held prisoner by them for 18 years. During that time she gave birth to two daughters, fathered by Phillip Garrido, before she was finally released in 1999, aged 29 years old.



Those stark facts alone cannot even begin to convey the horror of what Jaycee would endure during her captivity but this compelling book does not shy away from the details of her abuse.

Written in Jaycee’s own words, it is not a polished account and the story at times seems disjointed as it zigzags backwards and forwards between events but I think this makes it all the more raw and absorbing.

Ultimately, Jaycee, who is now 37, does not regard herself as a ‘victim’ nor does she want to be defined by what happened to her. I felt the book was also an uplifting testament to the power of the human spirit to not only survive but to forge ahead to build a rich and rewarding life. Jaycee and her two ‘beautiful daughters’ as she calls them, live a fulfilling life, in defiance of what she was subjected to. She has gone on to write a second book “Freedom: My Book of Firsts.”

Rosie Lawther



Summer Sundays: July & August

For a number of years we have been bringing our 10 and 11.30 congregations together for a combined act of worship at 10.30am throughout July and August. For the benefit of anyone new to the parish, we thought a quick word on the flavour and format might be timely.

During the summer, the first Sunday of the month is an all age service, the third Sunday is Parish Communion (the children go out for a film and then return at Communion time for grapes) and the other three Sundays will be either Morning Prayer, a Service of the Word or

Holy Baptism. The choir will be with us every Sunday and some of our 10 o’clock singers will give a lead at various points too.

The liturgies, hymns and songs will appear on the screen but those who prefer to use the Prayer Book (on Communion, Baptism and Morning Prayer Sundays) and the Hymn Book (as and when) are welcome to do so. No crèche is organised for July and August but a craft table for the children will be set out every Sunday.

The atmosphere for our combined service is relaxed. Everyone loves to see the children coming and going and the preacher each Sunday will do their best to cater for a mixed age-range. The idea is to enjoy praising and praying as God’s people together. If some of us feel we are doing things slightly differently to normal, we know it’s only for a short run of Sundays and that we will be back to the familiar routines in September.

As usual 8.30am Holy Communion happens each Sunday through the summer. Evening services are shared with the other local congregations as we move around the four Ballyholme churches for a shorter time of worship at 7.30pm followed by fellowship and tea.

YOUTH-news

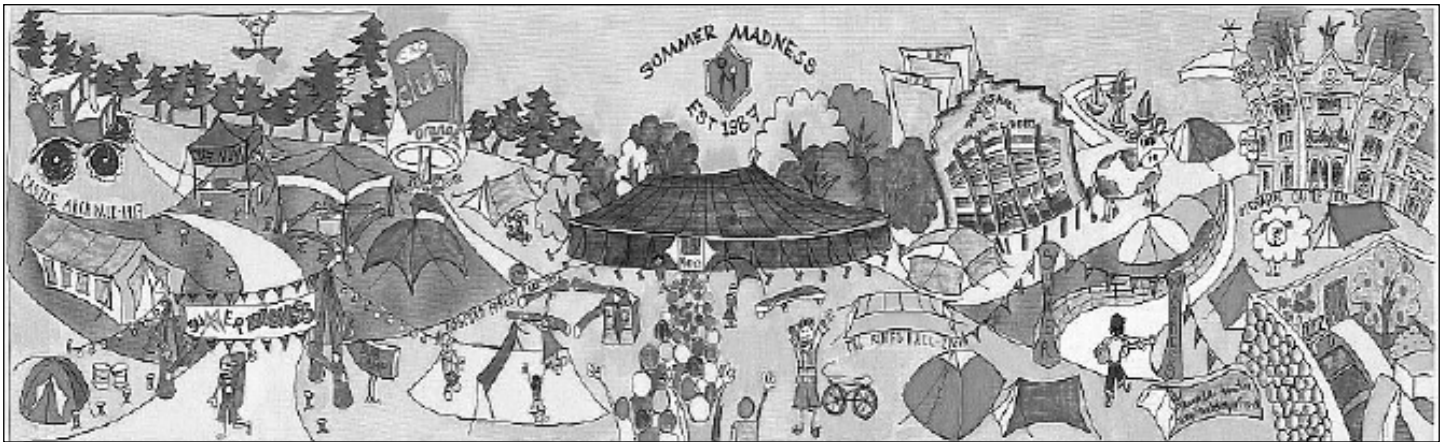
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news [nooz]

Summer is here! The young people have finished class, completed their exams and now have the dreaded wait for results. In the meantime, the school is out for summer and the holidays are jam packed in Ballyholme Parish for young people.

At the beginning of July, a small group of young people will be travelling up to Glenarm Castle for Summer Madness! Summer Madness is a festival that brings together young people and groups from across the island of Ireland and from every background, for a chance to celebrate, connect and explore the significance of faith in their culture and community. We will be pitching our tents for the festival and enjoying the speakers, music, arts and seminars all around Glenarm.

X-CESS



X-Cess comes around quickly after Summer Madness and Jumpin. This year we want to make X-Cess the best one yet! The afternoon is going to be coined 'TRIBE WARS' where young people will be split into groups i.e. tribes and will compete against each other in a whole host of activities and games including archery, laser quest and an old school sports day. Our evening programme is full with talent shows, games, a disco and our big Oscars night at the end of the week. X-Cess is always an amazing time for the young people and it always enables the leaders to build relationships with the young people and invite them to church and our youth programmes in September. X-Cess 2017 will take part on 14-18th August



2017. More information can be found at www.xcess17.tk

Summer comes and goes very quickly. I am very excited for all that is planned for the young people. Please continue to pray for all our young people as they embark on a full summer schedule. It is going to be a great time of relationship building, challenging ourselves in our faith but, also, a lot of fun.

Billy Fyffe

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: THE LAST FOUR YEARS

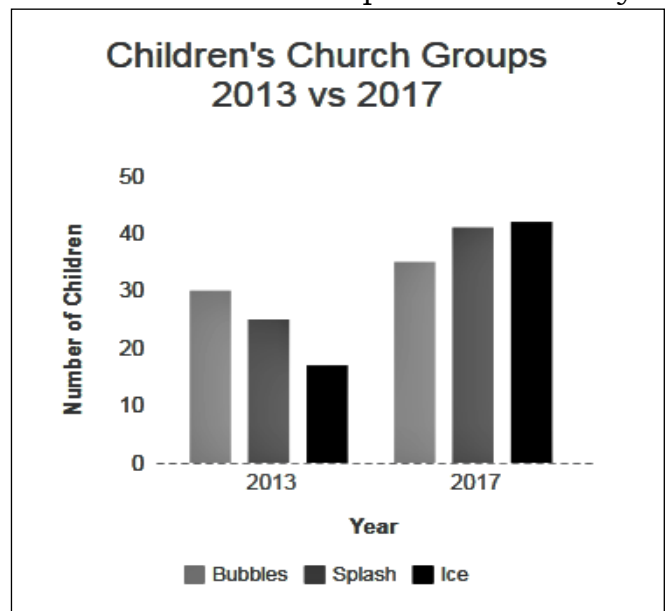
Believe it or not, since I arrived at Ballyholme in September 2013, we have seen four years of Children's Church come and go. A lot has changed since then, so it's time to take a look at the story of our children's ministry and how things have progressed since then.

Children's Church is open to all children from age 3 right up to the end of P7. Numbers have increased over the last four years, from 79 in 2013 to the 119 children now on our books. This is partly because several new families have joined us – this year alone, three lovely families who are long-time Jumpin attendees joined us at Children's Church, showing that, if there was ever a doubt, Jumpin is a wonderfully worthwhile and precious part of our ministry. However, we are also retaining more of our children – previously, as children grew older we saw less and less of them, with numbers at Bubbles (our largest group) declining as the children went through school. Now, our kids are continuing to participate right up to the end of primary seven.

Another aspect of our children's ministry is Praise Kids, which began in 2014 – initially because the children wanted to sing, but it has become so much more than that. Looking back to our childhoods, most of us will remember the songs we learned in Sunday School before we remember anything else about it! Praise Kids gives us a chance to take apart the lyrics of our songs and explore what they're really saying about God. We spend our weekly meeting talking about the reasons why we can praise God, learning songs that speak of His goodness and giving thanks together for the things he has done in our lives.

Of course, it would be untruthful to suggest that this has always been an easy ride. People have moved on to other places at various points and are much missed, and our time in St Columbanus College presented a few hiccups for us – but overall, the story of the last four years has been a positive one. It has been a fruitful combination of the

volunteers who make our children's programmes happen, the parents who fulfil their baptismal promises through bringing their kids to worship, the members of our congregation who pray so faithfully for our children, and ultimately the grace of God who wants us all to know our place in His story.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH: THE LAST FOUR YEARS



Of course, while numbers and charts are useful in showing us what we are doing well and what we can improve on, they aren't the whole story. They don't show us the joy of seeing the children grow to understand that they are unconditionally loved by their heavenly Father. They don't illustrate the growth the children have experienced in their knowledge of the bible, or the confidence they have developed in their prayer lives. These things are the real story of our children's ministry, and the true legacy of all those crafts cut, hours logged and prayers prayed.

For me, the last four years in Ballyholme have been a joy – both professionally and personally. I have experienced many things I couldn't have dreamt of, from running the monster that is Jumpin, working from the midst of a building site, travelling to Uganda – I even picked up a husband from the café across the road!

It has been a wonderful chapter for me, and now is the time to draw it to a close. Laurie and I will be moving to Inverness, Scotland as I begin a full time bachelor's degree in Theology at the University of the Highlands & Islands. It is an exciting new chapter of the story God has written for me, and I know that another wonderful chapter of children's ministry will begin with the lovely Paula Lown, who takes over in September. Paula has led our Bubbles group for the last three years and has a deep love and true gifting for children's ministry. Already, she has welcomed our kids into her heart, and so there can be no better person to lead our children's ministry over the next years.

Thank you for letting me be a witness to your stories and a part of the story of this beautiful parish. For all the prayers, cups of coffee, words of encouragement and love you have given to me, I will always be grateful. Ballyholme Parish will always hold a cherished place in my heart, and I am truly excited to hear what God has planned ahead for you.

Laura



OUR WORSHIP

July

2nd Trinity 3

8.30 Holy Communion
10.30 All Age Service
7.30 United Service Ballyholme Presbyterian

9th Trinity 4

8.30 Holy Communion
10.30 Summer Sunday Service
7.30 United Service Ballyholme Parish

16th Trinity 5

8.30 Holy Communion
10.30 Parish Communion
7.30 United Service Ballyholme Methodist

23rd Trinity 6

8.30 Holy Communion
10.30 Summer Sunday Service
7.30 United Service Most Holy Redeemer
Sheridan Drive

30th Trinity 7

8.30 Holy Communion
10.30 Summer Sunday Service
7.30 United Service Ballyholme Presbyterian



July

2nd Muriel Ryan
9th Ann Browne
16th Janice Hewitt
23rd Robin Jones
30th Maureen Johnston

August

6th Mary Moore
13th Anon
20th Pamela McNutt
27th Edna Rosbotham

Children In Church

A Sunday school teacher asked her children as they were on the way to church service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping!"

August

6th Trinity 8

8.30 Holy Communion
10.30 All Age Service
7.30 United Service Ballyholme Parish

13th Trinity 9

8.30 Holy Communion
10.30 Summer Sunday Service
7.30 United Service Ballyholme Methodist

20th Trinity 10

8.30 Holy Communion
10.30 Parish Communion
7.30 United Service Ballyholme Presbyterian

27th Trinity 11

8.30 Holy Communion
10.30 Summer Sunday Service
7.30 United Service Ballyholme Parish

FUNERALS

26th May: Margaret Barr, late of Fermore Road

31st May: Ada Angus late of Churchill Park

31st May: Roberta Coursey late of Kingsland Nursing Home

9th June: Beryl Gray late of Kilmaine Road



Appreciation for Gardeners

I did think that last year might have been the end of our wonderful display of azaleas. But no, the green fingers of our friends Harry and Marty once again showed us their skill and commitment to our show of colours as seen in June in our Parish Centre.

Thank you boys.

Pat Williamson



Please note during July & August there will be no coffee in the Parish Centre

Parish Office: 91274912
Rectory: 91274901
Prayer Line: 07531806167
Transport: 07599794968

Church Readers Rota:

Freda (11.30)

91467624

Thelma (10.00)

91453602

Web Site

www.Ballyholmeparish.co.uk

