

Church of

St Columbanus

Parish of Ballyholme



September 2009



High School Musical The Photos!



The Parishioner

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

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◆ **Magazine Contact email:**
office@ballyholmeparish.co.uk



The Rambling Rector

Now I know a little of what it feels like to have teenage children: that late night/early morning ritual of lying awake listening for the front door to open and the feet to tip-toe upstairs. Let's just say until all 27 of our young people were safely back in Ballyholme after their African and American adventuring a niggle of preoccupation refused to go away! Mind you, in our line of work as clergy that niggle never completely goes away. We probably feel it

most keenly as we pray through the list of parish families each week. There are the names we know and the names we don't know and believe me when I say that the burden we carry for the latter is one of the heaviest weights of our ministry. I'm sure that sounds strange to some of you, it's probably a clergy thing! But ask yourself, what sort of parent doesn't worry until they hear the last of their children arrive safely home each night? What sort of God wouldn't yearn for His children as a hen yearns to gather her chicks under her wing?



The Shack

Author William Paul Young



The story is simple; Mack's young daughter is abducted and killed on a family camping trip. Obviously this changes his life and makes him bitter towards God.

The book is about a week-end Mack spends with God, at the invitation of God, at the place where his daughter was killed.

Find a comfortable chair, relax, and enjoy the writer's craft. Along the way discover a fresh picture of a God you will want to know better, because this story has the power to open your eyes about man's relationship with God.

The book is both compelling and insightful of the way God loves us.
Published by Windblown Media. Price £7 paperback

George Lunn

Indoor Bowling Club

The new season commences in the Parish Centre (main hall) on Wednesday 9th September at 7.30pm. The enthusiasm and support of our members is reflected by having two nights - Wednesday and Saturday. Membership is currently 30 and is well balanced between male and female. Our Membership Fee is terrific value at £15 (= approx. 25p per night!!)

The Club is always looking for new members and especially younger ones and you don't have to be a member of the parish to join. The Club can supply bowls, together with expert tuition, and a few weeks free trial, so you can 'try before you buy'.

Why not come along on the 9th and enjoy the fun, friendship and challenge of indoor bowls? For further information call Derek on 91455471 or 07710 112 002 or the Parish Office on 91274912.

Howzat!!!!

We were the guests of Bangor Grammar and School Head of Cricket (and Ballyholme parishioner!) Mr Chris Harte supplied us with all the kit and accoutrements we needed. He had just come back from Ulster Schools' 4 run victory over the MCC at Campbell. Truly, a feast of cricket for Mr Harte. Modesty prevents this correspondent mentioning the one 6 scored during the course of the evening. Someone used the word 'historic' and maybe it was, I don't know.

Not that this wasn't a serious game, not for a second, but it may tell you as much as you need to know if I say that everybody got a bowl and everybody got a bat - and some more than once.

In all his years as a Senior League umpire another Ballyholme Parishioner Mr Ivan Reid - who stood at both ends - had never seen anything like it. We were grateful for his years of experience and peaceable spirit as the desperation of the closing run chase took over.

Mrs Roberta Munnis dotted the scorebook and was kept unusually busy at the task, while her husband 'the beardless wonder' Norman gamely transferred the information to the laser display scoreboard - we were indebted to them both.

The Seniors were disadvantaged before the game even started: we had no key for the gates until Mr Harte arrived and climbing over the wall expended far too much energy for any one to expect a truly fair contest to follow.



Stanley 'the Knife' Officer was as lethal with the ball as with the bat - tearing his trousers on the climb over the wall really riled him.

You'll see from the team photograph why our cameraman Don 'Vetorri' Todd won the prize for the cutest cricketer on the pitch: 22 yards can

seem a very long way indeed to some people.

It would be no exaggeration to say that David's bowling was unplayable. What David lacked in timing (now, now, don't be sensitive Dave!) he more than made up for in the

fluffy cuddliness of his bottle green YF hoodie so, as ever, ten out of ten for identifying with the young people. He played a captain's innings at the crease but at least he didn't score the winning runs - and whilst he made the boundary rope once or twice he didn't actually clear it to make a 6. Ahem.

The quality of sledging surpassed anything you'd see at the Winter Olympics.

It probably wasn't such a good idea to schedule the game for the same night as the Crafty Stitches. Taking the whole context of the match into consideration the only 'exceptional' thing was my 6 - 'exceptional' not my word there.



What's on your iPod (or MP3 Player)?



GEORGE LUNN

George is a retired Marketing Manager, now Silver Surfer, who enjoys walking, reading and gardening.

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 All I have | Beth Nielsen Chapman |
| 2 I know you by Heart | Eva Cassidy |
| 3 Over The Rainbow | Eva Cassidy |
| 4 You raise me up | Josh Groban |
| 5 The closest thing to Crazy | Katie Melua |
| 6 Benedictus / Adiemus | Karl Jenkins |
| 7 Nella Fantasia | Russell Watson |
| 8 From a distance | Bette Midler |
| 9 Fauré Requiem Agnus Dei | John Rutter |
| 10 Eyes of Blue | Paul Carrack |

Walking with the Lions

IRFU Charitable Trust Walk 2009

A team of 47 IRFU Charitable Trust and British Lions rugby supporters left the Emerald Isle on 24th June 2009 and travelled to South Africa, to complete the challenge of a 100k walk for the charity and to support the Lions in the 2nd and 3rd test matches.

We arrived in Cape Town and, yes, the rumour was true, we were staying in the same hotel as the British Lions team.

The walk was, thankfully, divided over a 3 day period. The first part took place on the day after our arrival. The venue was a wine region in the Stellenbosch area. It was an unexpectedly steep mountain walk! Definitely a challenge and not for the faint hearted. The spectacular views from the summit made up for the endurance test of climbing to the top. The second walk was thankfully on the flat, along the coast passing through Camps Bay, finishing at our hotel. This was the longest of the three walks. The greatest challenge with this walk was the weather, temperatures hitting approx. 21°C. Mercifully we had an excellent back up team providing us with much needed water at every possible opportunity. Walk 3 was from Muizenberg Beach to Boulders, where we celebrated completing the 100k challenge, with the many penguins that frequent this area.

We enjoyed hospitality from local rugby clubs prior to the two test matches which we enjoyed watching despite losing the series. I cannot explain the atmosphere at the end of the 3rd test when the Lions won 28 -9 and did a lap of honour to thank their faithful fans.

Free time!!!! Was spent in a variety of ways. Visits to, Robben Island, Cape of Good Hope, diving to see sharks, safari, helping to build a house with the Niall Melon trust in a shanty town.

One of my most memorable moments was a convoy of 60 coaches, each filled with Lions supporters, travelling with police escort from Soweto Rugby Club to Paris Park Johannesburg, to watch the 3rd test.

Stories and photographs of the IRFU CT tour can be shared in detail at your request (and risk). John and I would like to thank everyone who sponsored us for the IRFU Charitable Trust walk. At no time were the seriously injured rugby players in Ireland very far from our thoughts and prayers. This was the reason why 47 people even thought of taking part in this venture.

We both hope we will be blessed with good health so we will be able to join with this wonderful team of charitable people to take part in their next challenge.... New Zealand 2011 World Cup!

Liz Doherty

EXPLORE 2009

Following the success of the 2009 Lenten course, we (Simon and Stephen) have put our heads together and planned a whole year of fellowship and study. The idea is to alternate home group meetings with times of core teaching at the church on a month on, month off basis; and again like the Lenten course to run parallel sessions in both the morning and the evening, so that folk would have a choice of coming to either or both.

The name of the study programme is "Explore" and follows the theme of "Exalt" and "Extreme" putting the focus on the cross of Christ as the centre of our Church life and worship experience.

In September we kick off with a two session course entitled exploring the Church of Ireland which will hopefully give us some insight into who we are from the point of view of our unique history and traditions. We aim to make

the material light and entertaining and there will be plenty of opportunity for discussion and questions.

In October we revert to our Home Groups for a two session study of Genesis where we will explore the main themes of Genesis chapters 1 and 2.

In November we plan a four session course entitled "Exploring Our Gifts" in which Rev Dr Pat Mollen, Director of the Church's Ministry of Healing, will be examining the subjects of Prayer, Faith, Healing and Forgiveness.

Folk who are presently not involved in a Home Group would be encouraged to join one but there is no pressure, you would be more than welcome to attend the core sessions only or vice versa. Why don't you give it a try and come along to our first session? Any enquiries please speak to Stephen.

Rev Stephen Smyth

After the long summer break, an easy recipe to ease you back into making desserts to enjoy!

Honey, almond and raspberry yogurt ice
Serves: 8

A fruity frozen yogurt alternative to ice cream

Prep time: 10 mins, plus overnight freezing

50g icing sugar,
300 g frozen Raspberries,
4 tbsp clear Honey
500g plain low-fat Yogurt
75g Almonds



Method

Line a standard 900g (2lb) loaf tin with freezer film. Sift the icing sugar over the frozen raspberries in a bowl and then drizzle over the honey. Stir well together and mix in the yoghurt and almonds.

Spoon into the lined loaf tin, levelling off the surface. Cover the top with freezer film and freeze overnight.

Turn out of the tin and, using a serrated or electric knife, cut into slices.

Mothers and Toddlers Group

Restarts on

Thursday 10th September

in Parish Centre

10.00 - 12 noon

All very welcome

**women
and
girls**

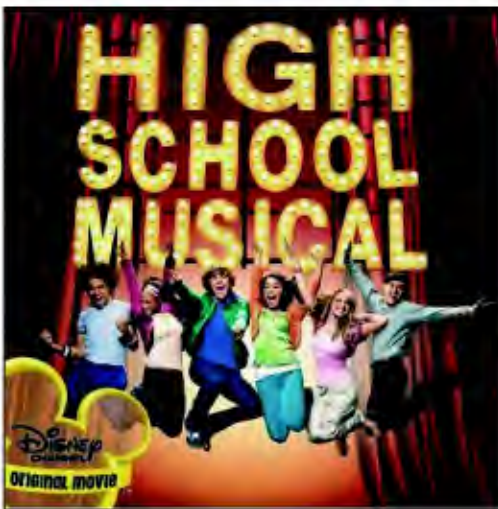
WAGs invite you
to the 1st night of their
2009-10 season

Table Quiz

Monday 14 September
8.00 pm
Kajiado Room

New members welcome!
Bring a Friend or several...

Welcoming all gals...



The Photos



Someone who always hits the right note!

He's been a familiar figure at the front of our church for many years but organist and choirmaster Ian Bell has many more strings to his bow!

Ian has been acting principal at Movilla High School since last October and prior to that had been vice principal for three years. During his teaching career he was in Movilla from 1984-86, then Wallace High School in Lisburn for six years before returning to Movilla in 1993, where he has remained ever since. He is married to Eleanor whom he

met through their shared love of music - she was secretary of the choir of which Ian eventually became conductor. Eleanor herself was a member of Belfast Cathedral Choir and was talented musically but "gave that all up when the family came along", said Ian.

A Coleraine man originally, Ian has been in St Columbanus church for 23 years - their eldest son Timothy is 23 later this year. Ian started in the church in the second week in September and Timothy was born on the 20th Sept. The first person who came to see Eleanor and the baby in hospital was Jack Mercer and as Eleanor had never been introduced to him, she didn't know who he was!

Ian's father was very musical and sang in a number of choirs while his mother was also very artistic, involved in poetry, literature and drama. All the children were actively encouraged to take part in speech and drama and from a young age, Ian had diplomas in speech and drama before he achieved them in music. Music was a common theme running through the family - Ian's older brother was in the Irish Guards' band for years.

After leaving school, Ian achieved a music degree at Queen's University and was then faced with a difficult choice - should he go on and do his Masters; apply to attend LAMDA (the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) for a theatre production course or undertake a teacher training course. After tossing around all these ideas, and taking into account that he had just become engaged, Ian plumped for the teacher training. "I wasn't sure about the professional theatre world. I would have loved to do it but it would have been difficult to earn a living," he said.



There is no doubt that Ian loves his job. "I really do enjoy teaching and the interaction with young people. I love to see them blossom as they go through the school and come out as confident young people," he added. He also derives great pleasure from the many other things he is involved in - he has been musical director for a number of musical groups throughout Northern Ireland; he was involved with the Arts Council for a number of years and with the Ulster Youth Theatre where he worked with

James Nesbitt, producing *West Side Story*. At present, he is Musical Director of Ards Choral Society

For Ian, it's all about the "buzz" he gets when working with a choir or any musical group and it didn't get any better than the recent success of his revived Upstage Downstage company's production of *High School Musical*.

Following a purple patch from 1996 to 2002 when they put on musicals such as *Godspell*, *Joseph and Oliver*, the company had been dormant but, as Ian put it "It was the right time to start up again".

Such is Ian's professionalism - by his own admission, he is a "hard taskmaster" - this was no amateur production but a full theatrical experience with professional touches. "Our productions have never been just a 'wee church hall' group. We have to make people believe that they are really going to miss out if they don't go and see it," he added. And go they did, in their droves, ensuring that *High School Musical* was a resounding success although Ian added that he has never had a production so fraught with difficulties.

However, far from resting on his laurels he revealed, with a glint in his eye, that he already has another production in mind but resolutely refused to give any clues as to what it will be. Now that he has the "nucleus" of a successful company he is very excited about the next project and is looking at the possibility of involving more young people.

His eldest son Timothy is following in his footsteps, starting his PGCE course in September while younger son Adam is going into his final year at Bangor Academy.

Rosie Lawther



Where are they now?

The Rev. David Bell

When did you begin your ministry in Ballyholme?

I came as a very green curate to Ballyholme in June 1991.

First impression of the parish and people?

On the day I started work, I was greeted by the outline of a body drawn in chalk on the concrete near the back door of 61 Windmill Road.

First impressions of the people were that they were welcoming and good humoured.

It was a delight living by the sea; I still miss that sometimes.

What are the highlights (pleasant or otherwise) of your time here in St Columbanus?

I had the opportunity to work with a young rector who gave time to train me.

Alan listened to me, offered advice when needed, which was often, helped me to discover my gifts and gave me opportunities to grow and develop.

I'll always be thankful for that and consider myself fortunate as many of my colleagues had a rotten time in their curacy years.

As mentioned already, I enjoyed living by the sea and being part of a church that was in many ways colourful and vibrant.

When did you leave and what was your next move?

I stayed for three years and moved to Coleraine in summer 1994.

Most of my time was spent leading a small church on Ballysally Estate, but I also helped out at St. Patricks on the main shopping street in Coleraine. We had a very happy six and a half years in Coleraine.

Where are you now?

In the heart of Hugo Duncan land; in the middle of nowhere, but Cookstown would be the nearest town.

I lead two small country parishes - St. Andrew's Ardrea and Desertcreat.

Hobbies

I still play a lot of guitar and enjoy it when it takes me to interesting places, but have taken up two new hobbies since leaving Ballyholme. When I was 38 I was inspired while at a short conference to start reading for pleasure. I'd often read for work, but never for pleasure.

It's unusual if I don't have several books on the go; some are about being a follower of Jesus, some are novels or war history books.

Glancing at my shelves now I can see 'The God Delusion' by Dawkins, a few novels by Sebastain Faulks, a couple of John Irving books including my fave 'A prayer for Owen Meany.' Others include 'Perfume' by Patrick Suskind, a couple of musical biographies, some Stephen E Ambrose books, and some Christian books by John Ortberg, Philip Yancey and Gordon MacDonald, the latter being the man who inspired me to read !

My other recent hobby is photography.

I tend to keep a camera in the car and snap away on school runs!

If you're on the web you can find some of my efforts if you google flickr dingerthetwinger.

Family details

I'm still married to the same hot woman - Alison.

We have three children - one of each.

Alexandra is 11 and is so like her mum.

Dan is 10 and is so like his dad.

Bryony is five and we are not at all sure where she came from !

Favourite music to listen to in the car/home?

I'm passionate about music and listen to all kinds of everything.

I'm currently listening to Van the man, the violinist Joshua Bell, Crowded House, Keb Mo and the Cellist Yoyo Ma.

Leisure books found on your bookshelf.

See under hobbies !



Remember:

Monday morning coffee restarts

On 7th September

from 9.30 - 12 noon

And

Friday lunches restart on

11th September at 12.30 p m

Golf, Golf, Golf

Don't forget 25th September at Mahee Island. All details

will soon be phoned through by

Harry to people on the golf list. If you think you are not on this list, and are interested in joining in, please phone him on 07790520916



on The Way... ...have your say!

Taking the best of the past into the future

Tuesday 29 September 7.30 to 9pm

The Parish Centre:

How can we build on the success of our youth and children's ministry?

As mentioned in the summer magazine, a blue sky response form will be in circulation this month specifically on the subject of our youth and children's ministry. We have set aside Tuesday 29 September as our discussion night and while naturally this conversation is open to the whole parish we hope parents will make a special effort to attend. If both parents wish to come we will try to offer some volunteer baby sitters (contact Sue in the office if you'd like to take us up on this).

At the time of writing the rector and vestry are preparing a reflection statement on the responses you made to the first 5 questionnaires. Copies will be available for everyone who attended the discussion sessions and anybody else who wants one.

FT@7: Parish Prayers
 First Thursday Prayers: 7am & 7pm
 The Choir Room

As many of you know we meet on the first Thursday evening of each month for an hour of prayer for all aspects of the life and ministry of our parish. While a number of people come along faithfully each month we know there are others who would gladly be there at another time if we could arrange a second session. From September we thought we would try two separate hours of prayer on the same day, one in the morning for people on their way to work and one in the evening which will finish early enough to free people to give themselves properly to other things. Thursday 3 September will be our first attempt so why not make a special effort to join us, either at 7am or 7pm (or both!) and let's see how it goes.

Mothers' Union



To begin our new season we are having an Opening and Enrolment Service on Sunday 20th September at 6.30 pm. If anyone would like to be enrolled into Mothers' Union please contact me on 91451150. Our first meeting will take place on Monday 5th October at 8.00 pm in the Parish Centre. All new and existing members will be very welcome.

Pat Davidson

It's Smartie Time Again



Tubes of Smarties will be given out on Sunday 6th September. We hope you enjoy the Smarties and then start to fill the tubes with 20p's. These will then be collected on the first Sunday in October - harvest!

Money raised will go towards helping our overseas partners.

Advance Notice: Harvest Supper in the Parish Hall on Fri 2nd October.

WANTED!

Pat Peel's Men's Keep Fit class has room for more!

Mondays at 10 am in the Parish Centre, starts September 7th.

Also remember Ladies, your class follows at 11 am



NEED A LIFT?

Don't forget to give Jim Shaw a ring if you need a lift to church or the Parish Centre. His phone number is 07599794968



TAI CHI

Notification of a change of venue for those who previously attended in the parish hall.

Need some exercise after the summer? Come along to a Tai Chi class. Tai chi is easy to learn and you can get started even if you aren't in top shape or the best of health. It is low-impact, slow-motion exercise. Although Tai Chi is slow and gentle and doesn't leave you breathless, it addresses the key components of fitness - muscle strength, flexibility, balance, and to a lesser degree, aerobic condition.

Classes are held on Friday mornings at the Borough Gym Hamilton Road, Bangor

Beginners: 11.45 to 12.45 pm

Advanced: 10.30 to 11.30 am

Classes start on 25 SEPTEMBER 2009

Contact Pamela McNutt 077 429 44 44 2

In this month's youth page I want to share with you lyrics to a song by an American band called Lifehouse. It turned in to the theme song of our summer last year and we still hold it dear!!

Lifehouse - Storm

*how long have I been in this storm
so overwhelmed by the ocean's shapeless form
water's getting harder to tread
with these waves crashing over my head*

*if I could just see you everything will be alright
if I'd see you the storminess will turn to light*

*and I will walk on water and you will catch me if I fall
and I will get lost into your eyes and everything will be alright
and everything will be alright*

*I know you didn't bring me out here to drown
so why am I 10 feet under and upside down
barely surviving has become my purpose
cause I'm so used to living underneath the surface*

*if I could just see you everything will be alright
if I see you the storminess will turn to light*

*and I will walk on water and you will catch me if I fall
and I will get lost into your eyes and everything will be alright*

*and I will walk on water you will catch me if I fall
and I will get lost into your eyes and everything will be alright I know
everything is alright
everything's alright*

This song was a battle cry for me when things have been tough, let the Lord our God be our rock!!

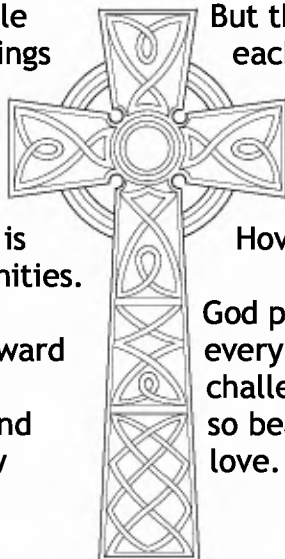
grace and peace

dc

The Quiet Corner

For many children and young people September brings a lot of new things and experiences - new school uniform, maybe a new school, or going to University for the first time, new subjects to learn, new teachers, new friends to make - life is full of new possibilities and opportunities.

Some people may not be looking forward to anything new - there will be the same job, the same routine. And perhaps others are dreading the new experiences of unemployment and financial difficulty.



But there is one thing which is new for each of us every day. As John Keble put it in the hymn 'New every Morning':

New mercies, each returning day,
Hover around us while we pray.

God pours his grace lavishly on each of us every day so that we can meet all the challenges of our daily lives, and in doing so bear witness to his faithfulness and love.

Jill Boal

St Columbanus Walkers - Dunluce to the Giants Causeway

Thankfully no one, unlike the kitchen in Dunluce Castle, fell into the sea from the spectacular cliff top walk that was part of the Dunluce to Giant's Causeway outing in early July.

The Castle was the back drop to the start of our July eight mile walk which took us through a 'Kissing Gate' (more like an ordinary gate with no further enticement than to open it and walk through!) then via the beach at Portballintrae, round Runkerry Head to the Giant's Causeway and back, part of the return being on the path by the Bushmills Railway.

Nineteen turned out on this beautiful sunny day and we asked ourselves, "Why would you spend lots of money travelling abroad when the Antrim Coast is simply stunning?" It was great to welcome Marty and Sue to the group again and to congratulate them and Silke and Thomas on their wedding anniversaries!

The walk took us across the River Bush by the wooden bridge where we saw a memorial headstone to pilots from New Zealand and Australia who had crashed there during WW2 and onto the Bushfoot Strand. Up then to the headland at Runkerry and round the spectacular two mile cliff walk to the Causeway. We had lunch at the half way mark (and thanks to Silke for the cookies and buns!) The route back was by way of the railway path back on to the Strand and hence to Dunluce.

The Cottage Coffee Shop at Dunluce saw us succumb to the tempting cake and scones - a great way to round off a memorable day.

The next walk is to Castlewellan Forest and Slievenaslatt.

It's approx six miles and we meet at 9am on 8th August in the Church car park.



Info from Betty on
9146 5372
or
Leslie on
9146 6689

Betty Armstrong

Worship at St. Columbanus

Wednesday 2nd September
10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado room

Sunday September 6th 13th after Trinity
8:30 Holy Communion
10:00 All Age Worship
11:30 Morning Prayer
6.30 Holy Communion

Wednesday 9th September
10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado room

Sunday 13th September 14th after Trinity
8:30 Holy Communion
10:00 Dedication Service
11:30 Parish Communion
6.30 Youth Service - Summer '09 reflections

Wednesday 16th September
10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado room

Sunday 20th September 15th after Trinity
8:30 Holy Communion
10:00 Morning Worship & Children's Church
11:30 Morning Prayer
6.30 Holy Communion & M.U Dedication

Wednesday 23rd September
10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado room

Sunday 27th September 19th after Trinity
8:30 Holy Communion
10:00 Parish Communion
11:30 Morning Prayer
6.30 Healing Service

Wednesday 30th September
10.30 Holy Communion - Kajiado room



September
6th
Heather Johnston, Maureen Aiken, Ann Shaw
13th
Margaret Parr, Vicky Hayes, Dawn McFerran
20th
Janice Hewitt, Michael & Sharon Hatch
27th
Yvonne Manogue, Pauline Connolly, Jean Law



September
6th Yvonne Manogue
13th Maureen Cameron
20th Pat Williamson
27th Mandy King



Parish Office: 91274912
Rectory: 91274901
Curatage: 91271922
Prayer Line: 91470438

WEDDINGS

11th July: Gary Boyd & Sarah Holmes, 34 Stonebridge Gardens, Conlig
18th July: Justin Ho, 17 Kinwood Grange and Kenda Brown, 24 Ballycrochan Ave
24th July: John Bell, 68 Grove Park & Christine Robinson, 9 Holborn Court

BAPTISMS

26th July: PATRICK DAVID PETER SHANNON, son of Tony & Sarah (Thanksgiving)
2nd August: PATRICK ALEXANDER KERR, son of Gail & Stephen
2nd August: AUSTIN JOHN ROBERT LOOKER, son of Paul & Kelly

Any articles for inclusion in the October magazine should be left in the Parish Office by **Mon 7th September**



September
6th NO CRECHE
13th
Julie Monaghan 91452582
Rhonda Magennis 9145 0772
Carol Majury 9127 4776
20th
Patricia Robinson 9127 0477
Rachel Robinson
Jennifer Hatch 9147 2565
Fiona Olivia 9146 1306
27th
Maureen Aitken 0977 185 069
Sarah Tweedie 9127 3272
Gillian Fletcher

N.B.

Cara, our creche co-ordinator for the last 3 years is stepping down, so if anyone feels they would like a turn at organising the creche, please let the office know. Creche may not be able to continue unless a successor is found quickly!