

Church of

# St Columbanus

Parish of Ballyholme



February 2009



## 100 not out!

Recollections from Joan  
on Page 5



# The Parishioner

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

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COVER: The New Year's Day Walk - photo Betty Armstrong

We are really keen to have more pictures! Please send good quality photos to Sue in the Parish Office, or email them to Office@ballyholmeparish.co.uk

# The Rambling Rector

'I'm new to this house, but the people who used to live here got your magazine and you've kept delivering it'. So began a conversation in the Ballycrochan area last spring. The person concerned was washing his car in the front drive. 'Well do you want me to keep delivering it?' asked the person with the bundle of Ballyholme *Parishioners* in her hand. 'If it's no trouble, yes please' came the response. 'Would you be interested in coming along some Sunday?' ventured the lady. No doubt her heart was in her mouth! The gentleman washing his car had moved to the area at Easter and where going to Church was concerned he had made a promise to himself. He had decided that he would wait until

someone issued him a personal invitation. It came that day last May and he hasn't looked back. I'm sure he won't mind me telling his story because it underlines both the primary function of this magazine and the immense value of the work expended on preparing and circulating it. Every month more than 1,000 copies of the *Parishioner* land on more than 1,000 doormats and over and above whatever information and pictures fill its pages, each one of those magazines constitutes an invitation to be part of our worshipping, witnessing parish family. In other words, if you're reading this we want you to know loud and clear that you matter to us, you matter to God and we would love to see at Church this Sunday.

SED

It was dry and very cold for the first of the St Columbanus New Year's Day walks but that didn't deter the sixty five who turned out for the inaugural event! There were lots of babies in buggies, children and dogs as well! Our route took us from the Church to Banks Lane, then back round the Bay to Ward Avenue, Ballyholme Road, Sheridan Drive and thence to a heartening soup and roll lunch in the hall.

A big thank you to Ann and Karen for preparing lunch, to Harry for organising the hall, to Peter, Norman and Rosemary for supplying the rolls and to Fiona, Geoff, Maureen, Norman and Roberta for keeping everyone safe.

Betty



Goes to Timothy and Jane Smyth, for brilliantly organising the Carols & Curry evening. It was a great success, not least the distribution of the chosen menus. No mean feat!

## Parish Away Day: Saturday 14 March

While a number of people expressed an interest in our planned weekend at the Share Centre the general response seemed to be that given the current financial climate it was simply too expensive - especially for families. Accordingly we have decided to run instead with an Away Day on the Saturday of the same weekend.

We will converge on the Jethro Centre in Lurgan and the emphasis will be on the usual three Ballyholme priorities: fun, fellowship and food and the theme will be 'On the way' - Simons's first impressions in Ballyholme. We leave the Church car-park at 9am and leave the Jethro Centre for home at 3.30 that afternoon. The cost will be £15 for adults and £10 for children (2 course meal and refreshments included) and there will be a separate charge for those who want to travel by bus.

## LE JEU AVANT TOUT

When the nominators went about their business of looking for a new rector, they overlooked one important question. They forgot to ask if he had ever managed a football team, and that is how we ended up with a cricketer as Rector. However those of us who were wondering if the annual challenge match between the Youth Fellowship and the Elderly Fellowship would go ahead need not have worried. On Boxing Day morning despite the lack of a manager a lot of old men rose from their rocking chairs and like homing pigeons obeying some old dormant, atavistic instinct made their way to the Valentine Playing fields to do battle with the team assembled by the YF player manager, Dave Benitez, Rafa's young nephew. En route they even came across a couple of other migrating birds, John returning from Kent and Jerry from London, and redirected their flightpath to the Theatre of Dreams.

A number of the original team of the nineties have now realised that they have had too many birthdays and have retired, or become Bishops. Others have followed their doctors' advice and their wives' dire threats and taken up new posts. Don is now the team photographer, Stanley is the official walker of Honey, the team mascot, while Norman was there as life President of the veteran team's fan club. But Alan, Robbie, Willie and Spike continue to defy medical science and common sense to keep the average age of the team respectably high.

The rest of the team is supplied by a number of twenty and thirtysomethings who were original members of the YF in the first matches and who now sadly realise that their football future is behind them. Special sympathy goes to Peter J who stepped up to the senior team this year for the first time. The advantage of this more youthful team profile is that the spectators can now see something that at times resembles a football match, but we lose the variety, the silliness and fun of watching old bodies trying to obey impossible, youthful instructions from their brain.

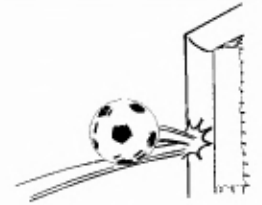
The match itself started well for the oldies. Stephen B took a pass from John, broke down the left and crossed for Stephen O to score with a fine shot. Ten minutes later the YF grabbed an equaliser against the run of play. David C took a corner which was not properly cleared and Mattie fired home a great shot into the bottom corner. Stephen O restored the lead with his second goal and then thought he had completed his hat trick, but his effort was disallowed as the referee spotted a blatant push. The older team continued to have the upper hand but Connor in the YF goals produced a number of fine saves.

The YF took control of the second half as Anno Domini took its toll of the veterans. Michael hit a

fine effort just wide and David dinked a neat shot over Richard, but it lacked power and was cleared, before Graham took advantage of a defensive error to go round the keeper and tuck the ball in with his left. The seniors almost struck back and the earth shook as Spike landed after an attempted diving header. Graham put the YF in the lead for the first time with a clever lob from eighteen yards following a corner. Mattie made it 4-2 with a fierce drive from twenty yards as the substitutes David V and Adam started to dominate midfield. To add insult to injury the YF went 5-2 ahead even though the Elderly Fellowship team had managed to add their three substitutes without withdrawing any players. This 4-5-4 formation had its reward when Stephen B took a good pass from Ryan to run through and score. However Adam restored the three goal advantage with a good effort to make it 6-3. Christopher almost reduced the leeway, but pulled his shot wide, complaining that the skintight jersey had affected his balance. An interesting subplot of the second half was the contest between David's laid back, leisurely left footed skills and Richard's heroic goal keeping. One save in particular left David flabbergasted, frustrated and flat on his back. Despite the cold this was an enjoyable way for the spectators to pass Boxing Day morning with the match played in a really good spirit. Our thanks goes to Stephen senior for his efficient and sympathetic refereeing, to Sue for washing the kit and to all who played or watched.

There may be a chance of revenge for the old men before next Christmas as Simon was among the spectators. Rumour has it that this was not from a love of football but rather a spying mission to see if there was talent for a challenge cricket match. He should have been encouraged by what he saw. Richard could easily convert from goalkeeper to wicket-keeper, there were a few square legs and enough candidates for silly mid-on and silly mid-off among the silly midfielders.

WMB





Even after months of planning and fundraising, it is hard to imagine that by the time you are reading this I will be settling into my flat in Kathmandu, Nepal where I shall be living and working for the next five months!

This Short Term Experience Placement (“STEP”) with CMS Ireland began in September when I started volunteering with the staff in their Belfast office. This has been a brilliant experience and I owe all the staff there a very big thank you. Over the past months, I have been blessed with the opportunity to be involved with a whole range of CMS Ireland work. From personnel work to inventing games for the Annual Project (their children’s and youth resource). From visiting parishes who wish to be linked with CMS Ireland and a Global Partner to being part of CMS Ireland Sunday. Some of the most valuable experiences have been the conversations which I have had with CMS Ireland staff members about mission, the church, discipleship and much more. These have been so challenging and thought provoking - a real inspiration to learn and to think more about mission.

It is with this preparation that I now start out on the second phase of my S.T.E.P. I’ll admit, I am a little nervous - not only about how I am going to fit everything into my suitcase (although that is a concern!) - but about what lies ahead in everything that goes along with stepping into a completely new culture, new language, new environment. However, I am reassured by the firm knowledge that whatever is new to me, is not new to God in his plan for me, so I will put myself into his loving care for every aspect of my time in Nepal, and beyond. That being said, I am very much looking forward to learning the language, to experiencing the culture and to making friends and to meeting people about whom I have heard so much!

## Namaste! (Hello!)

I will be staying just five minutes walk from H.D.C.S., a Nepali Christian organisation, where I will be working as a communications advisor four days a week. They have found me a flat to stay in, which I will share with an American lady called Lisa. One day a week, I will be with Sundar Dhoka church, helping them with their communications with international sponsors and craft magazines and anything else they may need my help with. I am looking forward to meeting everyone at H.D.C.S. and Sundar Dhoka, and to becoming involved in all the work that they do. I am sure the work will be both challenging and rewarding! I am also looking forward to meeting new friends, exploring Kathmandu (and beyond!), and experiencing Nepali culture in my free time.

I would like to take this opportunity to give my warmest thanks to all my family, friends, all at St. Columbanus and of course everyone at CMS Ireland who have supported me in the past months as I have prepared for Nepal. It is very humbling and heart warming to know I am going with the help, best wishes and prayers of so many.

I am also very grateful to all of you who are supporting me, financially and in prayer, during my time in Nepal. If you would like to support me financially, please contact the CMS Ireland Office on 028 90775020 for a donation envelope or sponsorship form.

If you would like to keep in touch while I am away, please do - my email is [sarah@cmsireland.org](mailto:sarah@cmsireland.org). It would be great to keep up to date with what is happening at home! You can also check [www.cmsireland.org](http://www.cmsireland.org) for my blog.

My best wishes and prayers for a Happy and Joyous 2009!

Sarah Hutchinson

## GLENADA 2009

*Where the mountains of Mourne .....*

Our annual three night break in May to Newcastle Co Down, is now being organised. We stay in the Glenada Conference Centre, where we enjoy good food, company and lots of craic.

Each room has its own en-suite bathroom and tea and coffee making facilities. Transport is provided to and from Newcastle, so no need to worry about making your way there.

If you think you might be interested in joining us this year, please contact me through the Parish Office, and I will send you all the details.

Karen



## Quite "I do" in Uganda

**L**uweero Cathedral, Uganda was filled with love, celebration, joy, praise and prayer for the wedding of Rory and Denise on 6 December.

From early morning all available transport ferried hospital staff, friends and their families from Kiwoko while many others travelled the main road from Kampala. As the Cathedral filled up with guests in brightly coloured clothes, the Kiwoko Hospital choir and traditional drummers led praise, until Denise entered the church to the music of Nkosi Sikele Africa (God Bless Africa), the South African National Anthem.

Canon Trevor Stevenson, from Fields of Life, the charity for which Denise formerly worked, led the ceremony. Prayers in English, Lugandan, Bankole and German reflected some of the many nationalities represented. In his sermon Shadrach Lukwago spoke on the Creation in Genesis and about God giving special things to special people. A choir of 26-orphaned children, performed a sketch and sang to celebrate this special day. As the Service



concluded Denise and Rory left the cathedral to 'Be Thou My Vision'.

The reception was held in the grounds of the nearby Cathedral Guesthouse where marquees provided shade from the sun. Dr and Mrs. Rory Wilson arrived at the reception in the hospital ambulance - horns blaring! For 450 guests a number of cakes were needed. One was a traditional three tier white iced cake, one a green Irish shamrock as well as three traditional African mud huts. The

cakes were cut and as is traditional in Uganda, Denise first fed a piece to Rory and he then fed her a piece, to loud applause! Speeches followed including one from Niall who brought greetings and best wishes from St. Columbanus and CMS Ireland.

Traditional dances were performed by the trainee nurses from the hospital while gifts were presented to the newly weds before all 450 guests were served with a sumptuous meal. It was late afternoon when Denise and Rory headed off on their honeymoon, a few days in a Ugandan safari park.

## 100 NOT OUT!

**A**s Ballyholme centenarian Joan McQuoid celebrated her birthday this week she maintained that keeping "busy and active" was the secret of her longevity.

Chatting to her many friends at the Wednesday club, Joan still seemed slightly bemused at all the attention she had attracted.

Recalling her childhood, Joan lived along the seafront near Pickie and, as a young girl, had attended the Miss Weirs' school.

"The school had boarders and, at night, I went back to do my lessons and homework with them. I lived nearby but walked there and back by myself. That's not something you see children doing now," she recollected.

Indeed, this was a theme she went back to again when she reminisced about times gone past. The third of four children, Joan married at just 22 and came to live in Ballyholme in one of the first houses built in her street - and has never moved. During the war Joan worked with the Red Cross and, on one memorable occasion, had to accompany a blind patient to England for treatment.

"I had never been further than Donaghadee at the time and when they called for me in the ambulance I had to sit on the floor with the patient as there was only one seat for the driver," she chuckled.



Worse was to come when she was confronted by a "tiny" plane and she again had to sit on the floor of the aircraft for the flight to England. Once in England, her nursing skills so impressed the Matron that she was invited to stay.

Joan, however, refused as she wanted to get home to see her husband John who was on leave from the army. After the war John ran a well known grocery shop for many years in Ballyholme.

Joan's current passion is writing poetry and much of her work is "sparked off" by events that have happened to her.

What with her telegram from the Queen as well as the many good wishes from friends and family, it looks as if Joan will have plenty of inspiration for her verses for some time to come.

Rosie Lawther



1

1. Annual Boxing Day match; another YF move fails (Dave on the ground again!)

2. The former Miss Northern Ireland Catherine Milligan loses interest in the match after meeting the Rector

3. The Christmas Bazaar



2

4. Margaret and Patricia preparing the Christmas lunch.

5. Parishioners eagerly awaiting lunch.

6 and 7. Switching on the Christmas tree lights And carol singing.



3



4



5



6



7

## CHRISTMAS GOLF OUTING

**O**n Monday 29th December, 29 hardy souls, including the Rector, turned up to do battle at Helen's Bay Golf Club.

The course was successful for some, and the winners were:-

Ladies: 1st Liz Doherty      Runner Up Jem Moran

Men: 1st Chris Moran      Runner Up Garth Coey

A good time was had by all, and helped get rid of some of the Christmas excess!

The next outing will take place on **Friday 27th March** at Donaghadee Golf Club. Meet at 10.00 am for a bacon buttie, tee off at 11.00, and a meal to follow.

Numbers are needed to book the catering, so please contact me as soon as possible if you intend taking part.

I can be contacted either at home at 91467275, or on my mobile 07790520916.

Harry Browne

## Hospital and Sick Calls

**T**he pastoral staff can only respond to information received. Please always get in touch when a family member or friend is taken unwell and would be glad of a visit - especially if they have been admitted to hospital.

We would rather be told several times than not know at all. Equally, so no one has a wasted trip, it's extremely helpful to hear from you when your loved ones have been safely discharged home.



## THE WEDNESDAY CLUB



**O**ur first meeting of the Wednesday Club took place on a cold, crisp afternoon, but much to our delight, we had 48 members present. Our speakers this month were organised by Jane Copeland of H.A.P. We were given a very entertaining talk on how to take care of ourselves in the home and how to avoid trips and unnecessary falls by Mark. Lynn followed this with details of a "Good Morning" call, arranged by Age Concern. Everyone agreed, it was a very helpful and informative afternoon.

We wished our oldest member, Joan McQuoid a very happy 100th birthday, and then finished our meeting with customary scones, traybakes and a welcome cup of tea.

Sue

## MOTHERS' UNION NOTES



**O**ne of our indoor members, Mrs Joan McQuoid, celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday on the 4<sup>th</sup> January.

The Diocesan President, Roberta Rogers and Indoor Members Secretary, Hilda Arnold visited Joan and presented her with a card from Mary Sumner House.

Our meeting on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February is our "Overseas Night" and Bring and Buy Sale. Maureen Hunter, Down and Dromore Diocesan Secretary, will speak on the work of Mothers' Union. Would members please bring their Overseas Boxes to the meeting.

Pat Davidson

## CAROLS & CURRY

**O**n the last Sunday of 2008, despite complete overindulgence by most during the Christmas period, over 70 people descended upon the church hall for a night of fun in the form of 'Carols and Curry'! And what a night it turned out to be! Before being fed we had to sing for our supper, and so, led by our musical trio, Carols could be heard resounding from the main hall. Soon, thanks to the excellent service of The Wok, our senses were indulged with the wonderful smell of curry and other equally tasty dishes.

Before long everyone was enjoying food, wine, and conversation! To finish off a very enjoyable evening Simon hosted a quiz based on the 'Snowman' film.

The evening presented a great opportunity for people to get to know each other in an informal atmosphere, without the distraction of children! Our thanks go to everyone who contributed in making the evening such a success! Perhaps this could be the start of similar such events throughout the year!?



Jane

## Magazine make-over

It was in February 1991 that the Parishioner first went to press. As we begin our rebrand 18 years later our first duty is to honour the ones who have compiled and edited it so faithfully over that whole time: **Sue Bleakley, Irene Long and Don Todd.**

Rather than hamper or restrain any 'blue skies thinking' these three special people very graciously delegated the task of formatting to two new team members, both with a background in journalism, Betty Armstrong and Rosie Lawther. You'll agree they have really given it the Trinny and Susannah treatment! David Cavan and Daniel Smyth were also involved in the graphics at the early stages and so our thanks to everyone concerned.

With Sue, Irene and Don now back at the copy-desk we hope you like what you see. Apart from the lay-out and the font, the basic aim was to make the overall magazine more engaging and above all to include more photographs. Of course it's still a work in progress and will take a few months to settle down so please bear with us in the meantime and do get in touch if you'd like to be involved on the production or the delivery side.

Simon

## ST COLUMBANUS WALKERS - JANUARY 2009

Saturday 3 January saw the Walkers heading for Ballyrone, one of those areas of 'lesser spotted Ulster', well off the beaten track and likely to provide its quota of surprises. Approached via Katesbridge, the starting point was at Crabtree Hill. A few hundred meters uphill, the Green Road was a rough lane crossing fields and drumlins, emerging at Annahinchigo Lake. The view was captivating - not a breeze on the mirror-like surface, flights of waterfowl reflected as they winged overhead and all framed by the sweep of the Mourne in the background. Then it was over stiles, through gates and alongside the River Bann, with lunch outside Ballyrone Presbyterian Church.

This circular route took us along 3km of track through Lackan Bog, an Area of Special Scientific Interest which is home to over 13 species of Dragon Fly - good

reason perhaps for a return summer visit. Emerging from the Bog we found ourselves close to Crabtree Hill and after a quick change of footwear it was off to Castlewellan for the traditional session of afternoon tea and chat.

Next month's walk will be on the Granite Trail which follows the route of the old funicular railway to the quarries above Newcastle. A bit of a climb but lots to see and discover!

We would love you to join us on Saturday 7 February meeting at 9.00am in the Church car park. More info from Betty on 9146 5372 or Leslie on 9146 6689.

Leslie Adams



## Children's Church - How it works!

Children's Church runs each Sunday morning except the first in the month. Parents leave children to the Parish Centre around 10.10am and we bring the children back into Church at 10.45 so they can rejoin parents or carers. We start with a song together and then children are split into age groups from P1- 4 and P5-P7. Each week a bible story is introduced using age-appropriate craft, games or other activity.

A fantastic team of students and parents help out on a weekly basis. We are very aware that what children experience at Children's Church will feed into their faith journey and will have a huge impact on their future relationship with God and the Church. We have a really short time with our kids and our challenge is to make it a fun and caring place to be on a Sunday morning.

Janet



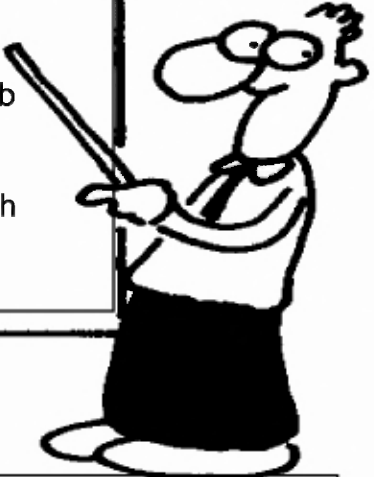


**LENT COURSE - SHEPHERD'S PIE!**  
 A six week study of the Lord's Supper

**W**e start with a Communion Service on Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday -and run weekly thereafter. You have a choice of the morning or evening study sessions, and the mood will be relaxed and informal in good company.

- \* Tuesdays 10.30 am in the Kajiado Room, beginning 24th Feb
- \* Wednesdays 8.00 pm in the Kajiado Room beginning 25th Feb

**Any questions?** - Please phone the Church Office  
 or speak to the Rev. Stephen Smyth




**SCHOOL FOR PRAYER (2)**

**D**o you ever worry about praying - who, what, when, where? Do you ever feel that yours are inadequate and less effective than others? You are not alone. Most of us have these concerns.

Do please join us for our next session on Sunday 22nd February, for a short time of peace, reflection and fellowship with no pressure to take an active part.

Meg Barnard

At our second School for Prayer meeting in November led by Stephen, these questions were addressed, bearing in mind that prayer is a personal communication with the Lord and is as private or as public as we choose. Taking the example of Psalm 139, we were led through a thought provoking experience from the perspective of David, the definitive writer of 'prayers' or 'songs'.

**THE PARISHIONER**

**I**t's that time of the year again, when we are asking for your support to keep *The Parishioner* going for another year. Your support in the past has been really tremendous, and so at the beginning of another year, we would ask you to make a donation of **at least £5** towards the cost of printing the magazine. Enclosed with the magazine is an envelope marked "The Parishioner". This can be left on the offering plate on Sunday, handed to the Church wardens, or simply left in the office.

Many thanks for your continuing support, and if you have any comments about our magazine, please let us know.

**WAGS THANK YOU**

**T**hank you to everyone who supported our Santa Letter fundraiser.

We are delighted to have raised £133 towards the Parish Building Fund.

**WELL DONE!**





What a great way to bring in the new year, with a quote from everyone's favourite TV talk show host, behind Jonathan Ross (before Sachs-gate), and Jeremy Kyle and of course Parky... OK, maybe not everyone's favourite but surely the person who has made the most cash out of their time on TV (apparently \$2.7 billion). I feel this quote was somehow

fitting to the way I ended my 2008 at work. It's strange to be half way through my THIRD year and just as I start to feel comfortable I go and do something that made me feel the exact opposite and I'm sure has the people around me wonder what I was up to.

The night was Christmas Eve and up until then the festive season was going to plan. The first term of the year had been an overall success. Children's carol service had gone well (I hope) and the Christmas X-Alt service had been a big hit. The last service to organise was the spanking brand new 5 pm Family Service on Christmas Eve. Should be easy, I thought (hence why I will NEVER be a rector). I had asked someone to help with music and had a little 2 min talk in my head. 4.30 pm came around and I realised just how much more needed to be done, and that's when it all went a bit Pete Tong (wrong). Having decided to be all cool and new, we were going to use the projector and screen, although I had only a couple of the carols ready to go on the computer.

So this led to the service starting late, as I tried to get the words on the screen. Unfortunately, the words came in stages and so some songs had to be sung from memory by the congregation, some words appeared half way through a song and only on the very odd occasion were the right words there at the right time. All these mistakes were magnified 200x by the number of people that showed up. For what was meant to be a 'wee family' service, turned out to be around 200 people. So as the mistress in 'Allo Allo' used to say 'I will say this only once'. I am very sorry for my lack of organisation and ask for people to search inside themselves to find their good natured sense of humour and forgive me, especially those who brought out family and turned up on time to sing some carols. My thanks goes to Sam Johnston, who very kindly led us in the carols so well, and our blessed Rector Rev Doogan who gave me a bit more time to get things sorted by stepping in with a well timed sermon. You know you are in the right job when you have a sermon for every occasion! So that is the last we will talk about this 'interesting' evening. Amen.

So, onto things more relevant to youth matters. This month I would like to point you in the direction of the youth website and in particular the youth blog, (Blog is a short hand term for web-log), basically an up-to-date youth news, where I try and keep people informed of the day to day things of youth ministry and other thoughts that might cause people to be challenged and/or encouraged. Please check it out for more insight into what we are doing.

# The Quiet Corner

God dwells among the lowliest of men. He sits on the dust-heap among the prison convicts. With the juvenile delinquents He stands at the door, begging bread. He throngs with the beggars at the place of alms. He is among the sick. He stands in line with the unemployed.

Therefore, let him who would meet God visit the prison cell before going to the temple. Before he goes to Church let him visit the hospital. Before he reads his Bible let him help the beggar standing at his door.

If he visits the prison after going to the temple, does he not by so much delay his meeting with God? If he goes first to the Church and then to the hospital, does he not by so much postpone beholding God? If he fails to help the beggar at his door and indulges himself in Bible-reading, there is a danger lest God, who lives among the mean, will go elsewhere. In truth he who forgets the unemployed forgets God.

God my Lord I believe You are present everywhere. I believe that Your presence is specially found among the poor, the needy, the fatherless or motherless orphans and the sick. By working for social justice, freedom, peace and unity, I know that I am working with You for Your kingdom.

But with all this awareness I still fail to find you among the poor and the needy... I still crave for power and position... I crave for all the comforts the world can give... I love wealth... I love security...

Help me, Lord, to realise the needs of those downtrodden.

Help me, Lord, to strive for the betterment of my brothers and sisters.

Help me, Lord, to be a man for others.

Otherwise give me the courage to say that I am not a Christian any more.

Toyohiko Kagawa based on Matthew 25:31-46

## crèche



### February

4th: NO CRECHE

11th:

Maureen Aitken 91464141

Sarah Tweedie 0977185069

Rhonda Magennis 91450772

18th:

Sandra Jackson 9145 0925

Carol Majury 9127 4776

Gillian Fletcher 9127 3272

Jennifer Hatch 9147 2565

25th:

Susan Stockton 91274670

Zoe Pierpoint 91457866

Rosie Lawther 91456722

## COFFEE TIME

Feb 1

Ann Shaw 91466198

Joanne Bishop 91451061

Vicky Hayes 91455774

Feb 8

Dawn McFerran 91466378

Janice Hewitt 91468017

Yvonne Manogue 91469707

Feb 15

Michael Hatch 91472565

Sharon Hatch 91472565

Pauline Connolly 91472226

Feb 22

Jean Law 91479239

Pat Adair 91270998

Jill Owen 91473961

## Flower Rota

February

7th Pat Shannon

14th Daphne Hamill

21st Ann McMurray & Marie McKee

28th Kay Lowry

## BAPTISMS

7th December: SAM DYLAN COEY, son of Garth & Tracey

3rd January: KATELYN HOPE DUNCAN, daughter of Rob and Mandy

## FUNERALS

17th December: Heather Kerr, formerly of 50 Riverside Rd

17th December: Mary Moffett, formerly of Grovehill Gardens

22nd December: Richard Elborn, formerly of Glenburn Park

15th January: Georgina Nellins, late of 1 Crosby Flats

*If you are unable to make your date please arrange a swap with another helper using telephone numbers provided.*

### Confirmation

A number of adults have made tentative suggestions over the last number of months that they might like to be prepared for Confirmation, or in some cases, for Baptism and Confirmation. Although there will be no service of Confirmation for young people in Ballyholme this year the Rector would be glad to meet any adult who wants to talk through the sort of commitment and practicalities involved. The idea would be to prepare candidates to be presented at another Confirmation service elsewhere in the area.

# Our Worship

## Sunday 1st February 4th after Epiphany

8:30 Holy Communion  
10:00 Family Service  
11:30 Morning Prayer  
6.30 Healing Service

## Sunday 8th February 3rd before Lent

8:30 Holy Communion  
10:00 Morning Worship & Children's Church  
11:30 Parish Communion  
6.30 X-alt

## Sunday 15th February 2nd before Lent

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

## Sunday 22nd February Sunday before Lent

8.30 Holy Communion  
10.00 Parish Communion & Children's Church  
11.30 Morning Prayer  
6.30 Space on Four: School for Prayer

## Women's World Day of Prayer Coffee Morning

**A** Coffee Morning in aid of The Women's World Day of Prayer will be held in Groomsport Presbyterian Church Hall on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2009 from 10.30 am. to 12.00 noon. Please support this event if possible.

The Service will be held on Friday evening 6<sup>th</sup> March 2009 in Ballyholme Presbyterian Church at 7.30 pm. Hopefully, the Service will be well attended by parishioners from St Columbanus' Church.

Ballyholme Parish Representatives:-

Ruth Ruttle Telephone 91450130  
Yvonne Manogue Telephone 91469707



## Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal 2008

**T**his year we had 168 shoeboxes to send to the collection centre at Ballycrochan Presbyterian Church. Altogether 4,824 boxes were sent from there to Belarus.

So well done and many thanks to everyone who contributed. These boxes will have given a great deal of pleasure to many children who would otherwise have had no present at all to bring some Christmas love and happiness into their lives.

Carole Caruth

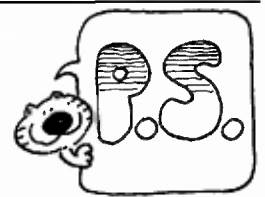
## Home Visits

**T**he pastoral staff make a systematic visitation of parish households and are always glad to meet you and your families in your own homes. If you have not seen them on your doorstep yet, it may be that you are only in at night-time when they are often engaged on other parish work.

They will always be glad to make a time to call if that is more suitable but if you feel you would like a visit at home for any reason please get in touch with the clergy directly or leave a message in the Parish Office.

## Remember

**T**he clergy are pleased if they get their own names right in the porch on Sundays, never mind yours: please don't tell them anything on your way out of Church that you expect them to remember!



Press a note into their hands by all means or just telephone later but it's not fair to tell them important things on a Sunday - their minds are on other matters!

Any articles for inclusion in the March magazine,  
should be left in the Parish Office by **6th February**

