

CROSSROADS

St Ignatius and St Andrew

June 2016

Parish Magazine

I
St Ignatius
CARRYDUFF

A
St Andrew
KILLANEY

Dear Friends

“Look at the birds of the air...Consider the lilies of the field” were words of Jesus used to encourage all of us to learn from nature around us. In particular, Jesus wanted people to see how God had created a rich supply of resources to help his creatures survive and thrive. “They neither toil nor spin yet your heavenly Father feeds them”.

Recently, we bought a new type of bird seed, new to us, which is very attractive to garden birds. From nowhere, so it seemed, a dozen or more little birds of five or six varieties started making regular visits to our garden, creating a cheerful flurry of noisy activity which helped transform our garden.

In the early hours our newly sensitised ears hear a panoply of songs emerging from the well fed wildlife of the rectory garden. It is inspiring stuff.

I have learnt a few lessons from watching them in action:

- Large birds - too big for the feeding device - hang about the edges to see what falls nearby: I learn that just hanging around a richly resourced community has spin offs from which I can benefit.
- In daylight hours the birds feel safe to feed, but at dusk they stay away: I learn that opportunities need to be taken before they pass.
- Birds come back to the same perch time and time again, having begun to digest the food they have just eaten: I learn that I can gain little from one experience of blessing and need repeated exposure to God’s love.
- Pigeons, doves, blackbirds, goldfinches, chaffinches, blue-tits, robins, greenfinches, crows, magpies and even a heron have found a welcome in our garden since we started providing the specialised food: I learn that the smallest effort of generosity brings blessings to a huge variety of others.

Consider God’s world this summer! Let me know what you learn!

Stephen Lowry

Notices in a church news-sheet:

- Organist required: to work with small but trying priest and congregation.
- The Low Self Esteem Support Group meets Thursday. Please use the back door.
- Weight Watchers to meet at 7pm in the church hall. Please use large double door at the side entrance.
- There will be a shared supper at church this Sunday – with prayer and medication to follow.
- The minister would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.
- The students will be presenting Shakespeare’s Hamlet in the church basement Friday at 7pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

smile

here

Carryduff Sunday School

Send-a-Cow charity

The Sunday school collection has raised an amazing **£120.00 !!**

Well done to all the children and a very big thank you to everyone who helped us raise this amount.

The children are now deciding what gifts they will “send” to Africa, and they will let you all know in a few weeks time.

Diary Dates

12 June - Prize giving and a short presentation about the Send a Cow charity will be held during the service. The children will then go to their end-of-year treat to Funtastic (Carryduff Business Park, Comber Road). Parents of the younger children can accompany their children and join in the fun. The older children can be collected at 12.15.

Please let us know if your child will be joining us.

19 June - J C Special Sunday: with J Club and Sunday School in church.

26 June - No Sunday School— **Parish Picnic** There will be no Sunday School during the summer months.

We wish you all a very good summer and look forward to seeing you all back in Sunday School on the **11 September**.

Olwen and Jill

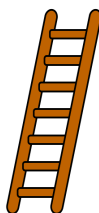
Mothers' Union: Help needed

The Mothers' Union has a catering engagement at the church on **Wednesday 6th July**. We need members and friends to help on the day or to bake for the occasion. If you feel you could help please contact Mary Hewitt or Joan Nevin.

Thank-you, Mary

Work Party: Help Wanted

In May the work party volunteers began various tasks around the property at Carryduff. This annual effort by volunteers ensures the church, halls and grounds



remain in good condition for the following winter. It may be that you would like to help but are not sure if your help is needed or your skills useful!

To find out more, contact Dave Nevin or Mark Rourke with your questions or offers. Dave can be contacted by phone or email as follows: 07505 183908 and nevindavid@hotmail.com Thank you in anticipation of your interest.

Bible Society

Commissions new Leader

On June 19th at 7.00 pm in The Church of the Resurrection, Elmwood Avenue, Catherine Little will be commissioned as General Secretary of Bible Society in Northern Ireland. Catherine is a member of the church at Queen's and the service will be conducted by the Rev



Barry Forde, chaplain at Queen's. The chaplaincy is a combined venture between the Methodist and Church of Ireland churches. This is a fitting place from which Catherine will be helped and supported in her ministry to the whole church and beyond. Everyone is welcome.

Golf Society

The Golfing season started with our first ever visit to Ardglass Golf Club where twenty members had a super round of golf, followed by an excellent meal and the usual banter, as our new captain—Gordon Hunt—conducted the proceedings and presented the prizes. Three members had scores of net par or better, no mean feat on this tricky course.

Gordon presenting the prizes to the top three winners.

Other winners were:

Norman Uprichard – Longest Drive.

John Stewart & Sam Browne – 2s Kitty.

The May outing at Bangor was held as the magazine was being prepared.



Ardglass - 21 April 2016
Winner - Sam Browne



Ardglass - 21 April 2016
Second - Trevor Crowe



Ardglass - 21 April 2016
Third - John Stewart

Golfers of all standards are welcome to join us at any of the remaining outings:

Thursday	23 June	Temple	@ 1.30 pm - Captain's Day
Thursday	28 July	Edenmore	@ 1.30 pm
Thursday	19 August	Rockmount	@ 1.30 pm
Thursday	15 September	Spa	@ 1.30 pm - Anniversary Day

Wesley McCamley (Secretary)



Thoughts of a lone walker

Recently I have been walking along some country roads in our neighbourhood. I'm not fanatical about it; I just find it refreshing and hope that it's good for my general health. So it was that on a cool, dry Saturday afternoon in late April I set off along Killynure Road West. In no time at all I was passing Cheeky Cherubs nursery, and the thought of it made me smile. I smiled even more as I waved to a passing motorist who spontaneously returned my greeting.

A few horses in a roadside paddock took a look at me and one of them, coated and saddled, snorted a kindly welcome. Then, just round a bend, a young couple wearing jodhpurs managed to ignore my greeting. One up for the horses.

Turning into Killynure Road I caught sight of a male pheasant appearing over a hedge and landing at the roadside in front of me. It glanced up and raised its tail feathers. I think it was saying "Hi there, good to see you." At any rate it made me feel welcome.

I pressed on past a profusion of bright yellow whin bushes and found myself greeted by two friendly donkeys while, in an adjoining field, a family of rabbits grabbed my attention. Then my ear picked up a whirring sound as I was overtaken by a helmeted, hard pedalling bunch of MAMILs (middle aged men in lycra). They had no time to raise a hand in greeting, but I sensed their enjoyment of the open road and, just like the donkeys and the rabbits, they enhanced my day. So, too, did the panoramic view of the Dromara hills and, beyond them, the Mourne Mountains as I turned into Oughley Road.

I was still appreciating that view when a tractor pulling a trailer came along. Its driver responded to my raised hand with an exuberant wave. That seemed to set a tone since, within the next few minutes, another half dozen drivers and a man on a motorised lawnmower all made me feel welcome. There were some further delights in the form of herds of contented cattle and a flock of sheep with a great many healthy looking spring lambs among them. I suppressed an unseemly thought about mint sauce.

Turning into Drumalig Road I couldn't help but notice lots of roadside bluebells, a great abundance of oxeye daisies and some wayside primroses. All of this complemented the deep yellow of the whin bushes and, of course, the dandelions. I might not have noticed any of this had I simply been driving through the countryside. But, if you walk and take time to look around, there is much to see that can enrich your experience of life. That sentiment called to my mind an observation by the painter Vincent van Gogh that "the best way to know God is to love many things."

As I approached Rockmount Golf Club another betracted farmer gave me a wave. Then some quite classy cars passed by on their way in to the golf course. I raised my hand as

usual in greeting. None of them responded - perhaps a lone anoraked back packer is below the radar for Saturday afternoon golfers.

Never mind. Lots of other people, and quite a few animals, had cheered me and enriched the quality of my day. In any case I conjectured that not only they but also the self-absorbed golfers and the jodhpurred young lovers all belonged within what is sometimes called the BOMFOG (brotherhood of man, Fatherhood of God – no I didn't make that up).

I saw much that was life enhancing on that walk. It also gave me an opportunity to think beyond the everyday and, thereby, appreciate that "if we walk in the light, as He does, we have fellowship with one another.....(1 John 1.v7)."

Denis Carson

5th June Gran Fondo Cycle Race: Change of Service Times



For the third year a major international cycle race takes place in Northern Ireland in these months. Last year the Gran Fondo passed through Moneyreagh on one side of Carryduff, and through Middle Road in Killaney Parish, closing down parts of Moneyreagh, Ballygowan and Saintfield for most of the day in the process. This year the route has been amended to incorporate Comber Road and Killynure Road in Carryduff so both parishes are affected on a Sunday this year.

On Sunday 5th June, in Carryduff, the two morning services will merge: Holy Communion from 9.00 to 9.30, and the main Morning Service will move from 10.30 to 9.30 am, leaving time for the congregation to scatter before the Comber Road Crossing is closed by the PSNI at 10.45 am until 3.15 pm. We will ensure the service is over by 10.30 am and we will not have refreshments that day to enable people to leave promptly.

The traffic lights will be suspended and "gated access" will be provided to all cars to pass through the junction to and from Saintfield when no cycles are crossing from Church Road to Comber Road. Killynure Road will be closed too.

While there is no impact of service times in Killaney, we remind worshippers from Saintfield and Middle Road to ensure they are not "trapped" by the closed roads if they want to get to church that day.

For more information on the cycle run, and road closures etc. Visit: <http://www.granfondogiroditaliani.com>

Euro 2016

Few of us could believe the unfolding success of our own Northern Ireland football team as the qualifying round for Euro 2016 progressed. A bit like Leicester City, Premier League Champions, the local boys worked hard as a team, supported their manager and gave it their all. The result? A place in the Euro 2016 Finals.

Let's enjoy the fruits of that success together; would you be interested in making plans to watch some of the matches together in Carryduff Church Halls? Interested? Get in touch with Stephen at the rectory. We have a TV Licence for Carryduff Parish Halls so it is all above board and legal!

Wherever you watch the matches, let's give the lads our good wishes. Details of the times of NI Matches, excluding what is known as the 'Round of 16', and quarter and semi-finals, but including the final, are on the Diary: just in case!

Are you going? Send your pics to the "KandCd at the Crossroads" Facebook page!

Group C

12 June 1700 Poland v NI

16 June 1700 Ukraine v NI

21 June 1700 NI v Germany

Round of 16: 25, 26, 27 June

Quarter Finals: 30 June, 1, 2, 3 July

Semi Finals: 6, 7 July

Final: Sunday 10 July 2000

N Ireland v ?????

Remember you read it here first!!!



Divine Healing Ministries

DHM will be holding its Annual Day of Prayer for Renewal and Revival of Faith at St Anne's Cathedral on Saturday 18 June 2016, 10.30am to 3.30pm. This event will conclude 7 Years of Prayer for Renewal and Revival of Faith.

Speakers at the event will include:

Bishop Ken Clarke

Very Rev John Mann

Rev Charles McMullan (West Church Bangor)

Pastor David Hamilton (Manchester)

Joan Weir (DHM)

Sr. Eibhlin Hegarty (DHM)

4 speakers from YWAM, Scripture Union, Youth Initiatives & St Louis House (names TBC)

Sunday 29 May Trinity 1

Green

- 9:00 Holy Communion 2 in Carryduff
Galatians 1: 1-12 Luke 7: 1-10
- 10:30 J C Special in Carryduff
Luke 7: 1-10
- 12:00 Morning Prayer in Killaney
1 Kings 18: 20-21, 30-39 Psalm 96 Luke 7: 1-10
- 6:30 Evening Prayer in Carryduff *Final evening service until Autumn*
Galatians 1: 1-12

Tuesday 31 May

- 7:00 Spring Work Party in Carryduff

Wednesday 1 June The Visitation

White

- 10:30 Midweek Communion
followed by Refreshments
Zephaniah 3: 14 -18 Luke 1: 39-49

Thursday 2 June

- 10:00 Sit here for the present : a play by Dan Gordon
in Carryduff Primary School (Contact Stephen)

Sunday 5 June Trinity 2

Green

- Roads closed at Carryduff Church corner from 10.45 to 3.15 pm**
- 9:30 Parish Communion (Combined) in Carryduff
Sunday School as normal but note the early time!
- 12:00 Parish Communion in Killaney
Psalm 146 Galatians 1: 11-24 Luke 7: 11-17

Tuesday 7 June

- 7:00 Spring Work Party in Carryduff

Wednesday 8 June St Columba of Iona

White

- 10:30 Midweek Communion followed by Refreshments
Micah 4: 1-5 John 12: 20-26

Sunday 12 June Trinity 3

Green

- 9:00 Holy Communion 2 in Carryduff
1 Kings 21: 1-10, 15-21a Luke 7:36-8:3
- 10:30 Children's Day & MP Service in Carryduff
- 10:45 Funtastic: Sunday School Trip in Carryduff
Children leave after prizes and presentation of their Send-a-Cow project.
- 12:00 Morning Prayer in Killaney
1 Kings 21: 1-10, 15-21a Psalm 5: 1-8 Galatians 2: 15-21
- 5:00 Poland v NI

Monday 13 June

- 7:30 Select Vestry in Carryduff

Wednesday 15 June Magazine Materials for July/August in Office and Editor Green

11:30 Midweek Communion with Fellowship Lunch in Carryduff
2 Kings 2: 1, 6-14 Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-18

Thursday 16 June

5:00 Ukraine v NI

Saturday 18 June

10:00 Diocesan Training (Youth) in Carryduff Church Hall

Sunday 19 June Trinity 4 Green

9:00 Holy Communion 2 in Carryduff
1 Kings 19: 1-4, (5-7,) 8-15a Luke 8: 26-39

10:30 J C Special in Carryduff

12:00 Morning Prayer in Killaney
1 Kings 19: 1-4, (5-7,) 8-15a Psalms 42; 43 Galatians 3: 23-29

7:00 Commissioning of Catherine Little in Queen's

Tuesday 21 June

5:00 NI v Germany

7:00 Spring Work Party in Carryduff

Wednesday 22 June

No Midweek Communion this week in Carryduff

Thursday 23 June

7:00 European Referendum in Polling Stations. Poll closes at 10.00 pm.

Friday 24 June

11:00 Magazine Assembly Team in JTC

Sunday 26 June Parish Picnic Sunday Trinity 5 Green

9:00 Holy Communion 2 in Carryduff
2 Kings 2: 1-2, 6-14 Luke 9: 51-62

10:30 Morning Prayer in Carryduff *followed by picnic*
2 Kings 2: 1-2, 6-14 Psalm 77: 1-2, 11-20 Galatians 5: 1, 13-25

12:00 Children's Day *followed by picnic*
Luke 13.18-21 Our shorter service will be led by the children

Tuesday 28 June

7:00 Spring Work Party in Carryduff

Wednesday 29 June St Peter Red

10:30 Midweek Communion followed by Refreshments
Acts 12: 1-11 Matthew 16: 13-19

Parish Picnic & Barbecue Sunday 26 June from lunchtime

in Delamont Country Park, situated on the A22 Downpatrick to Comber Road (BT30 9TZ).

You may travel by Crossgar. For free entry to the park see Churchwardens for vouchers.

The train ride features every weekend and on 26th there are 2 special events:

Buzzard Bush Craft 11am–2pm (to book call 028 4482 8333)

Model Air Craft Display 2pm–4pm



MISSION
MATTERS



ICS

Intercontinental Church Society

Intercontinental Society, or ICS for short, is one of the missions we have supported in Carryduff over a number of years. Despite this, few people know much about it so, hopefully, the following will give you some helpful information.

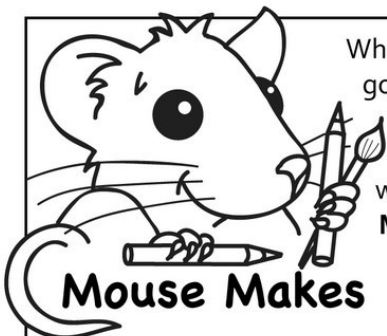
The roots of ICS go back to the Evangelical Revival at the end of the 18th and early 19th centuries. Initially, it was a ministry to English-speaking people in the colonies but, by the mid-1800's, chaplaincies had been set up in Europe, and it was called the Colonial and Continental Church Society. In 1958 it became the Commonwealth and Continental Church Society, and in 1976 the name was changed to the Intercontinental Society as, by then, nearly all the Society's work was carried on outside the Commonwealth countries.

There are 23 chaplaincies in Europe, and other churches in the Diocese of Europe are associates of ICS. Seasonal chaplaincies on camp sites and in other tourist areas on the Continent operate from May until September. These provide an opportunity for people on holiday to go to a Sunday service. In the event of illness or some other crisis, the chaplain is there to give both practical and spiritual help, if needed.

The mission statement of ICS is 'Mission and Ministry in English for Everyone'.

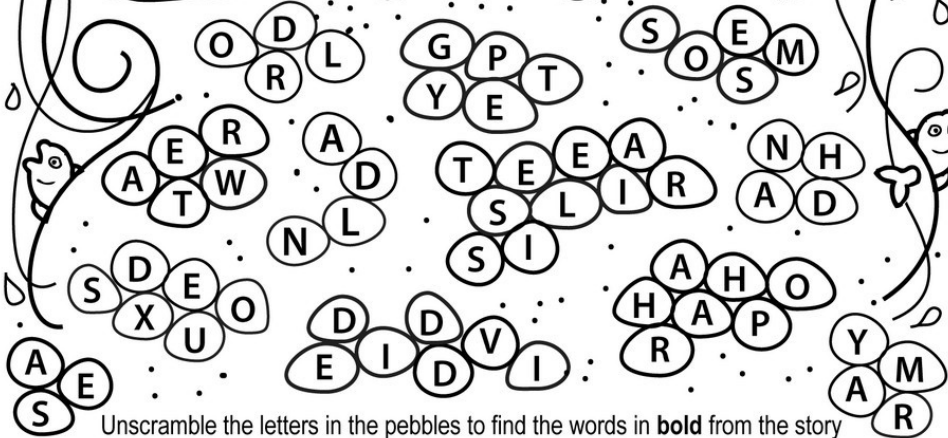
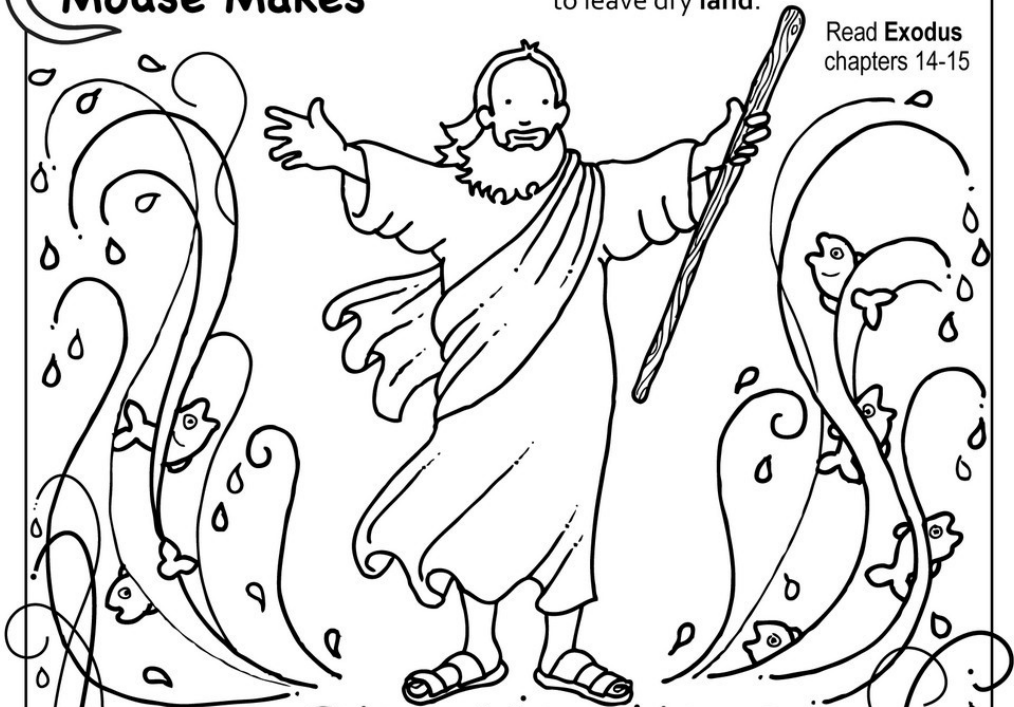
Until last year our financial support helped the chaplaincy in Famagusta in Cyprus. Sadly, it had to close, so the Select Vestry has decided to redirect our giving to Izmir in Turkey, where an opportunity has arisen to work with the Diocese of Europe to develop ministry amongst the sizeable population of English speakers and to encourage the ongoing ministry of the ancient church of St John the Evangelist. Izmir is the biblical city of Smyrna, mentioned in the book of the Revelation. Today, it is an important, strategically placed city, and unlike other parts of Turkey, it has an openness to the Christian faith, which reflects a strong Christian heritage from the past. Given the numbers passing through and living in Izmir, ICS believes that this is a unique moment for the church to be a place of welcome, reaching out to those of a different faith or none at all. To that end it is hoped to appoint a Minister with a heart for the Gospel and a yearning to see people wishing to find out more about Jesus.

There is free literature in the Jeremy Taylor Chapel giving up-to-date news about ICS and prayer needs and requests. Please do take it and learn more about this Anglican mission society.

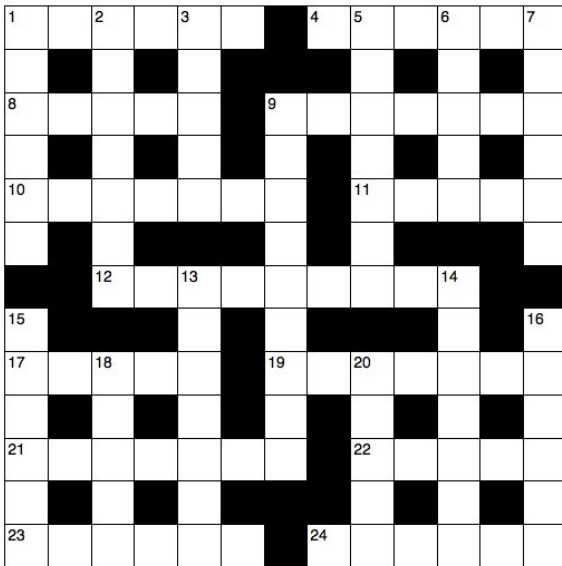


When **Pharaoh**, the King of **Egypt**, let the **Israelites** go free, God led them across the desert to the **sea**. But Pharaoh changed his mind and came after them with his **army**. The Israelites were terrified and cried out to the **Lord** for help. **Moses** told them, "*Do not be afraid*". He held his hand out over the sea and the **water** divided to leave **dry land**.

Read **Exodus** chapters 14-15



Unscramble the letters in the pebbles to find the words in **bold** from the story



Down

- 1 Fasten (Exodus 28:37) (6)
- 2 Art bite (anag.) (7)
- 3 'The people of the city were divided; some — with the Jews, others with the apostles' (Acts 14:4) (5)
- 5 Contend (Jeremiah 12:5) (7)
- 6 Possessed (Job 1:3) (5)
- 7 Sheen (Lamentations 4:1) (6)
- 9 'You love evil rather than good, — rather than speaking the truth' (Psalm 52:3) (9)
- 13 Large flightless bird (Job 39:13) (7)
- 14 They were worth several hundred pounds each (Matthew 25:15) (7)
- 15 'A — went out to sow his seed' (Matthew 13:3) (6)
- 16 How Jesus described Jairus's daughter when he went into the room where she lay (Mark 5:39) (6)
- 18 The part of the day when the women went to the tomb on the first Easter morning (John 20:1) (5)
- 20 Narrow passageway between buildings (Luke 14:21) (5)

Answers on page 14

Across

- 1 Military tactic used by Joshua to attack and destroy the city of Ai (Joshua 8:2) (6)
- 4 Place of learning (6)
- 8 'When Moses' hands grew — , they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it' (Exodus 17:12) (5)
- 9 Unpleasant auguries of the end of the age, as forecast by Jesus (Matthew 24:7) (7)
- 10 Stronghold to which girls in King Xerxes' harem (including Esther) were taken (Esther 2:8) (7)
- 11 Where Saul went to consult a medium before fighting the Philistines (1 Samuel 28:7) (5)
- 12 Propitiation (Hebrews 2:17) (9)
- 17 Turn away (Jeremiah 11:15) (5)
- 19 So clear (anag.) (7)
- 21 'I have just got — , so I can't come': one excuse to be absent from the great banquet (Luke 14:20) (7)
- 22 Long weapon with a pointed head used by horsemen (Job 39:23) (5)
- 23 Musical beat (6)
- 24 What the Israelites were told to use to daub blood on their door-frames at the first Passover (Exodus 12:22) (6)
- 27 One was given in honour of Jesus in Bethany (John 12:2) (6)

PARISH REGISTERS

Killaney

Holy Baptism:

20 April Isla Jill Fenton
Carryduff
 Robbie William Buster Tommy Givan-Young
Crabtree Road, Ballynahinch

"As for me and my house, we shall serve the Lord. "

Funeral Services:

2 May Henry (Harry) Nicol
Ringdufferin Nursing Home
 Margaret Helena (Helen) Forsythe
Bresagh Road, Boardmills

"I am the Resurrection and the Life", says the Lord. "

The Queen's 90th Birthday Afternoon Tea Party

Were you born in 1926?

The Mayor invites you to join him to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday at an Afternoon Tea Party on Monday 6th June at the Island Hall, Lagan Valley Island 2.00 pm - 4.30 pm.

To book a place, please contact the Mayor's Office on 028 9250 9331 or
 Email mayors.secretary@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk
www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk

Killaney Wisdom and Craic

I've learned...

That I can always pray for someone when I don't have the strength to help him in some other way.

That opportunities are never lost; someone will take the ones you miss.

That no matter how serious your life requires you to be, everyone needs a friend to act goofy with.

A young minister had been invited to be guest preacher at a church. He went to see the verger and asked nervously, "What do you think I should preach about?"

"About 10 minutes", replied the verger.

Love and friendship are rich gold threads which run through the tapestry of life making it sparkle and glow with warmth.

Carryduff Rotas for June

Lesson Readers

9.00

- 5 Service at 9.30 am today
- 12 Raymond Scott
- 19 8.30 am today Caroline Taylor
- 26 David Patterson

10.30

- 5 9.30 am Vera Lowry
- 12 Sunday School
- 19 J Club
- 26 Ken Fletcher

Intercessions

- 5 9.30 am Jacky McDowell
- 12 Marlene Moore
- 19 J Club Team
- 26 Stephen Creber

Communion Assistants

Keith Shaw
Jacky McDowell

Flowers

Arranger: Belle

- 5 9.30 am Audrey Good
- 12 Ken Ellis
- 19 E Johnston
- 26 M McKinley

Welcome Team

- 5 9.30 am Irene & Eunice
- 12 Adrienne & Vina
- 19 J Club with Pamela & Jean
- 26 Wesley & Malcolm

Keynote Operators

- 5 9.30 am Raymond
- 12 Maurice
- 19 Kameron
- 26 Fiona

Refreshments

- 5 None
- 12 Barbara & Ken
- 19 J Club
- 26 Brownies & Guides

Killaney Rotas for June

Flowers

Marie Mack

Lay Assistant

Marie Mack

Cleaning:

Brian and Lynn McNeill

July AND August Rosters will be in next month's magazine

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Ambush. 4, School. 8, Tired. 9, Famines. 10, Citadel. 11, Endor. 12, Atonement. 17, Avert. 19, Oracles. 21, Married. 22, Lance. 23, Rhythm. 24, Hyssop.
DOWN: 1, Attach. 2, Biretta. 3, Sided. 5, Compete. 6, Owned. 7, Lustre. 9, Falsehood. 13, Ostrich. 14, Talents. 15, Farmer. 16, Asleep. 18, Early. 20, Alley.

CONTACT US

The WEB

See service times, current news sheets, all magazines and recent news at:

killaney.down.anglican.org or carryduff.down.anglican.org

Facebook: KandCd at the Crossroads - Twitter #KandCd

The People

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Carryduff	David Johnston	
Wardens:	George Buchanan	
Honorary Treasurer:		028 9081 4579
Gift Aid Secretary:	Robin Sweetnam	028 9187 8476
Honorary Secretary:	Joyce McMeekin	
Sexton:	Derek McKinley	028 9081 3898
Freewill Offering:	Susan Creber	028 9263 8798
Hall Bookings:	Elizabeth Dunning	028 9081 3369

Killaney	Bill Connor	028 9263 9873
Wardens:	Marie Mack	028 9751 0350
Verger:	Florence Coulter	028 9263 9133
Honorary Secretary:	Colin McClintock	
Covenants:	Viona Crothers	028 9751 9637
Flower Rota:	Anne Mannis	028 9751 0089
Cleaning Rota:	Marie Mack	028 9751 0350

Parish Panels:

The Parish Panels seek to help ensure that children and their leaders experience a safe and secure environment in their youth work.

Panel Members are Stephen Lowry *and*

Carryduff	Marlene Moore	028 9081 4896
	Joan Nevin	028 9751 9366
Killaney	Florence Coulter	028 9263 9133
	Bill Connor	028 9263 9873

Next Month is the Summer Magazine for July and August

Please email Stephen *or* Marlene by Wednesday 15 June

Make up TEAM Friday 24 June at 11.00am

Mothers' Union The Bishop's Royal Tea Party

Recently, Bishop Miller and his wife hosted a very special event to celebrate the 90th birthday of Her Majesty The Queen.

Those of a similar age to the Queen, including our own Mrs Jeannie Cotter, were invited by our Diocesan President, Mrs June Butler, to afternoon tea in St Donard's Parish Centre. Everything had been tastefully prepared for the occasion.



The room was decorated with red, white and blue bunting and balloons. The 'guests' were entertained by the Percy French Players, otherwise known as the 'French Fancies', and some ladies shared their memories of their 90+ years. A special cake was cut by Mrs Barbara Smith; at aged 100 years she was the oldest member present. The delicious food, which included shortbread bearing the impression of the crown and MU logo, was served by the ladies of St Donard's.



Bishop Miller presented each member with a copy of the book, 'The Servant Queen and the King she serves', and the Trustees gave to each of them a small cross carved out of olive wood from the Holy Land.

The afternoon received media coverage and some members were interviewed by BBC TV for the early evening news at 6.30. Some of us watched it!

Hopefully, the Queen enjoyed her birthday celebrations as much as the ladies who honoured her did, in St Donard's that day.

Mary Hewitt

