

ST ANDREW'S
KILLANEY



ST IGNATIUS'
CARRYDUFF



CROWN



Rose
'Queen
Elizabeth'

June 2021

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Dear Friends

It will surprise you to know that the current hiatus between 'The Lockdown' and 'Normal life' is a taste of what it means to be living in the age between Christ's First Coming and his Second Coming.



It is the distinction between what is already true - but not yet realised.

If you have got this far, and I fear one or two of our readers will not have persevered beyond the words 'Christ's First Coming', then let me explain further.

We live during an era lasting some 2000 years so far, where Jesus has inaugurated the new kingdom, where death has been defeated, sin robbed of its power and eternal life begun. But while it has begun, it is not fully realised yet.

In today's terms, we can buy the tickets to Portugal or the Balaerics, but we are not sure the flights will actually leave the airport terminal. We hope, we expect, and we plan to go, but the uncertainty is holding us back a little.

As believers, we hope to be freed from sin, we anticipate being forgiven eternally, and we base our lives on those convictions. . . . but we still falter and fail to live up to the standards Jesus set in his perfect life.

I was never the greatest of theologians, and I tend to either simplify or overcomplicate the work of those who are great theologians, but the uncertainty we experience with Covid-19 regulations is akin to the incompleteness of our salvation; the distinction is that while believers can be sure of eternity, the world - and believers too - are not so sure about any imminent end of Covid-19.

In both cases, we tentatively trust in God and his goodness to enable us to make plans for the future, either just creating a holi-day or beginning some grand holy-activity!

"The true believer is not someone who disengages from this world in order to focus on heaven, but rather the one who tries to make this world more like heaven."

"The most radical question which anyone can be asked is not how much their possessions cost, but whether they have found something of value - that is, something that makes living worthwhile."

"The English experience suggested that nobody really doubted the existence of God until theologians tried to prove it." by Alister E. McGrath, English Theologian

Let us use the opportunity this uncertainty in life has given us to make more certain of our place in God's eternal plan, as we receive Christ as Lord of our lives and Master of our Destinies.

Stephen

Mothers' Union

A massive thank you to everyone who supported the 'Mums in May' sponsored walk on 12th May. Vera and I were delighted to be joined by so many of our friends for the socially distanced walk. We were blessed with a beautiful evening and wonderful company. There were a few aching bodies the next day as some people walked much further than even they had anticipated!

The donations are still coming in and the total raised so far is £610.

Well done everyone and thank you for your generosity and support for this very worthwhile cause.



Killaney

Father's Day Drive-In

On **Sunday 20 June** at 12:00 pm we will hold a special drive-in service for Father's Day! The worship in words and music will be held outdoors and we encourage families to come, if possible, and some may want to sit out on the grass in front of the church on your own rugs and picnic chairs. A real outdoor adventure.



As 'the rules' relax we may be able to make more of the day with some refreshments, but do not be afraid to bring your own.

A short service and some family picnics inside or outside the cars!

So why not invite your (old and new) neighbours to come along?

Vestry News

As work begins on the next year's plans for Killaney, the new vestry has begun taking steps to promote outreach to new households in the area, and to continue the careful development of the graveyard pathways.

The new challenges of the Covid era have continued to focus much of our conversations as we try to seek a way forward for worship that is inclusive of people, both who are in different age groups and who experience different qualities of health. Our Sunday School leadership team is being reshaped and possible new volunteers - to play their part for short periods at a time - are being sought.

SMILE AND REFLECT

The language of Church going.

BULLETIN: Your receipt for attending Church Services.

HYMN: A song of praise usually sung in a key 3 octaves higher than that of the congregation's range.

PEW: A medieval torture device still found in many Anglican Churches.

RELICS: People who have been going to Church for so long that they actually know when to sit, kneel and stand.

TEN COMMANDMENTS: The most important - and oldest - Top Ten list.

One day you will realise that material things mean nothing, all that matters is the well being of the people in your life. AMEN

Rota

Flowers: Marie Mack

Sunday School: At last!

After a gap of fifteen months, our Carryduff Sunday Children's Activities are starting again. We begin on Sunday 6th June at Church when children will sit with their parent or guardian for a short time at the beginning of the service and then make their way to the church hall. There, family groups will sit together while a teacher will visit each group to help them with their activities. Tables will be placed 2 m apart to help keep the children's (or family's) bubble safe.

Later in the month, we hope to increase the numbers a little with some J Club Activities, and J Club leaders will get in touch with members to let you know the plans.

During June, activities will take place both indoors and outdoors, and children are encouraged to have suitable clothes with them so they can go outside for some fun and fellowship together again! We can't wait to see you all!

Helen

Vestry News -Carryduff Deputy Organist Retires

8:30 communions will DV start twice/month in June. See calendar.

The newly elected vestry has appointed Sandra Thomas as our Honorary Secretary, taking the place of Joyce McMeekin who announced she was stepping down at the Easter Vestry meeting this year. We thank Joyce and wish her well in her new home in Bangor. She continues to be an avid supporter of our life in Carryduff and we look forward to her continuing involvement in various aspects of church life here.

The vestry has created four focus groups to assist the development of church life: finance, property, youth and development are topics to be pushed forward by these teams and then actioned by the full vestry. Members of the parish - outside the vestry - may be called upon from time to time to assist these groups in their work. Please help if you can.

We have been richly blessed for many years by the faithful and diligent service of Mrs Pat Mees as our deputy organist in both St Andrew's and St Ignatius' Churches. She has announced that she is stepping down from this role and we received the news with an equal measure of sorrow and admiration for all the work she has done on our behalf.

When various full-time organists have come and gone, Pat has always been there to take their place during holidays, and, during vacancies, to hold the fort. She has been a faithful servant of the Lord in doing so.

As she returns to her place within the choir stalls, when such a return becomes possible with restrictions, we wish her well for continuing good health and valued service among us.

Hymns we have loved

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord for the years, we bring our thanks today.
Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.
Lord, for our hopes, the dreams of all our living,
Christ and his kingdom one united aim;
Rulers and peoples bound in high thanksgiving,
Lord of our hopes, our trust is in your Name. ...

By Timothy Dudley Smith

This well-loved hymn was written in 1967 by the Revd Timothy Dudley Smith, who later became Bishop of Thetford. He later confessed: "I wrote it on a train when I was very pressed for time. I'm thankful if something I write gets picked up, but I suspect anyone who does something in a rush later regrets that they didn't find time to apply the sandpaper a bit more!"

Dudley Smith had been asked to write a hymn for the centenary service of the Children's Special Service Mission, now Scripture Union, in St Paul's Cathedral. His commission was to write words that could be fitted to Jean Sibelius's *Finlandia*, as it was to be accompanied by an orchestra with this tune in their repertoire. And so – 'Lord for the years' was written.

Dudley Smith need not have worried about lack of time – his lyrics were a 'hit' in the cathedral on the day, and went on to become so well-loved that George Carey chose the hymn to be sung at his consecration as Bishop of Bath and Wells, and then again later, in 1991, at his consecration as Archbishop in Canterbury Cathedral.

The hymn continued to be widely sung and loved, until in 2002 Timothy Dudley Smith was asked to write an extra verse for it so that it could even be sung around the time of the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

Many of the words in the hymn are true for the Queen herself, as she celebrates her 95th birthday this month. She does indeed thank God 'for the years your love has kept and guided, urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way'...

And so indeed the 'extra' verse added for the Queen has also held true
:

Lord for our hopes, the dreams of all our living,
Christ and his kingdom one united aim,
Rulers and peoples bound in high thanksgiving,
Lord of our hopes, our trust is in your Name.

Magazine delivery

How do you take your Magazine?

We all have our preferred means of communication. You will know that if you have any member of your family who *insists* on only using one messaging service, or *refuses* to use email, or *won't speak* on the phone!

The availability of so many means of contacting one another easily brings its own problems!

Our church magazine has traditionally been printed and delivered to every home with connections to the parish. It has worked well, so why change?

As the risks of distributing magazines reduce for distributors and readers, we hope to make more printed copies available. However, over 100 of our parishioner households receive a digital link each time magazines are printed to enable you/them to download them to your/their devices. We may **misplace our magazine**, but we will probably **not misplace our phones!**

Your options going forward are as follows: we hope you will be able to select at least one of them:

You can receive a **link free of charge** and with no printing cost to us.

You can receive a **posted copy** direct to your letterbox, at extra cost to the parish, but free of charge to subscribers.

You can receive a **hand-delivered copy** to your door, at no cost to you.

Or a combination of email and the printed version.

If you currently receive an email link and would like to **ALSO receive the physical copy**, you need to **let us know**. If you currently receive a physical copy and would like **ALSO** a digital link, please let us know. Sign up on the parish website.

Smile Lines

Egyptian this and that

A group of tourists was watching the re-enactment of an ancient Egyptian religious ritual. One pointed to the statue that was being praised, and asked a nearby local for the name of the god. "Why do you ask?" the local man replied. The tourist shrugged. "Oh, just idol curiosity!"

Ground

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today, it's called golf.

Good Samaritan

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?" A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, "I think I'd throw up."

Website & Contacts

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

<https://carryduff-killaney.down.anglican.org>

Facebook: KandCd at the Crossroads - Twitter #KandCd

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Carryduff Wardens:	Joan Clayton Jenny Montgomery	
Honorary Treasurer:		028 9081 4579
Gift Aid Secretary:	Fiona Moore	
Honorary Secretary:	Sandra Thomas	
Sexton:	Fiona Ellis	
Freewill Offering:	Susan Creber	028 9263 8798
Hall Bookings:	Sandra Thomas	
Killaney Wardens:	David Gill Florence Coulter	 028 9263 9133
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 Joan Nevin	028 9081 4896 028 9751 9366
Killaney	Florence Coulter Bill Connor	028 9263 9133 028 9263 9873

Next Edition

Please have content with the team by June 16th for our Summer Edition



Evidence

I begin this note with the clear assertion that the Gospels are truthful and reliable. Most specifically, you can depend absolutely on what you read about the resurrection of Jesus.

Many people can often be sceptical about gospel truth and, therefore, reliable evidence is a crucial factor. In this respect, the truth of the gospel and the life of faith that flows from it have much in common with the physical sciences.

By way of example, I could mention that for several years I worked as an analytical chemist in forensic science, dealing mostly with cases of drug misuse and accidental poisoning. Occasionally this required me to give evidence to a court. This amounted to a presentation of the outcome of the chemical analysis of body tissue and other exhibits. This was factual evidence provided to the courts in order to reach truthful, reliable conclusions.

Reliable, factual evidence! Yes, the resurrection did happen. There is much incontestable evidence which reputable scholars readily accept. Thus, in his scholarly book “Rational Faith”, the American philosopher Stephen T Davis confirms:

-That Jesus died and was buried.

-That after His crucifixion, his disciples were discouraged, fearful and dejected.

- That soon after the crucifixion several people claimed that the tomb where he had been buried was empty.

- That soon after the crucifixion several people on several occasions claimed to have seen Jesus.

- That his disciples were transformed into committed preachers of Jesus' resurrection and began a movement that grew to become the Christian Church.

All this, taken collectively, amounts to evidence on a large and compelling scale. Furthermore, Davis goes on to state “that people who deny that Jesus was raised have a difficult time accounting for these facts” – some understatement.

Much of the evidence for the resurrection comes from first-hand eye-witness accounts. Among the most telling of these, at least to my mind, is the meeting of Jesus with Thomas, the doubting disciple

Jesus invited Thomas to “....reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” Then Thomas, fully convinced, said to Jesus: “My Lord and my God (John 20 v.27-28).” John’s record of the event and, indeed, of all that the risen Jesus did is very compelling, with much of it grounded in eye-witness evidence.

John’s account of the gospel concludes with a poignant reference to himself. The text states: “This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true (John 21 v.24).”

Evidence, whether it emerges from the laboratory bench or in the written eye-witness accounts of the gospel, is the lynchpin of rational truth. It is very reassuring to note that the sciences and Christian faith are not at odds with each other. They may deal with different areas of truth, but both lean strongly on verifiable, rational evidence and, set against such criteria, the evidence for the resurrection of Jesus is more than very strong. It is incontestable.

Denis Carson

Neighbourhood Watch

In one small rural village the local vet also led the local Neighbourhood Watch group. Late one night the phone rang, and his wife answered. An agitated voice inquired, "Is your husband there?"

"He is, but tell me, do you need him as the vet or the Neighbourhood Watch?" the wife asked.

"Both!" was the reply. "We can't get our dog's mouth open, and there's a burglar in it!"

Talking

Bishop Douglas Feaver, the notoriously outspoken former Bishop of Peterborough, was presiding at his first Diocesan Synod and a man at the back had been droning on and on for some length of time. Finally, a lady called out to protest that she could not hear what he was saying. Bishop Douglas replied: "You should thank God and sit down."

For sale

An estate agent's board outside a redundant church:

FOR SALE. : Suitable for conversion.

On a church notice board:

Visitors welcome. Members expected.

Carryduff - Road Widening



A few years ago, our car park at Killaney was being extended and relaid, the walls were being realigned, and since then repointed: now it is Carryduff's turn!

The A7 from the Saintfield Road Roundabout at the entrance to Carryduff from Belfast has been a bottleneck for traffic for many years, most particularly in the evening rush hour. The increasing traffic anticipated by the building of the new development at [BaronsGrange](#), whose entrance is on the Comber Road, has created the urgent need to widen the Comber Road junction to enable faster flow of traffic in all directions. This is now beginning.

The red brick walls alongside the rectory and church are being removed, and a new arrangement being built in order to allow heavy traffic to drive closer to the existing wall lines. This involves reinforcing the road by adding new banking, which necessarily extends inside the existing wall line. This will involve removing some of the trees and foliage in the rectory garden and nearby, replanting fresh suitable foliage for privacy and noise reduction, as well as rebuilding new steps from the traffic-lights into the church grounds, with newly built brick borders and railings to reflect well on the appearance of the church.

This work will inevitably cause severe disruption to the normal flow of traffic during the months it takes to complete it, and we encourage patience and a suggestion that alternative routes be found for the next few months. This will mean that those who must use the junction can do so, as those who can avoid it will do so. The contractors will often be seen within the church grounds, including gaining access via the rectory entrance.

We do not anticipate that the church will be largely disrupted but some weekend work is planned and information will be shared on the church website, and, in some circumstances, by email with those who have signed up on the website to receive it.

Our main concerns, beyond maintaining the use of our property for worship and the other restarting organisations, is that we are model citizens bringing glory to Christ's name by our response to this difficult season.

Thank you in anticipation.

See also: [A24 road works](#)



A time to celebrate male role models

In the UK, USA and Canada, the third Sunday in June is Father's Day.

It's usually a good time for sons and daughters to take their father to his favourite restaurant, or to watch a favoured sport, or whatever else he enjoys doing.

How will you celebrate it this year? If your own father cannot be with you, how about a Zoom meeting?

How do these special days ever get started, anyway? Well, Father's Day began because way back in 1909 there was a woman in Spokane, Washington, named Sonora Louise Smart Dodd. That year she heard a church sermon about the merits of setting aside a day to honour one's mother. Mother's Day was just beginning to gather widespread attention in the United States at this time.

But Sonora Louise Smart Dodd knew that it was her father who had selflessly raised herself and her five siblings by himself after their mother had died in childbirth. So the sermon on mothers gave Sonora Louise the idea to petition for a day to honour fathers, and in particular, her own father, William Jackson Smart.

Sonora Louise soon set about planning the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane in 1910. With support from the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA, her efforts paid off, and a 'Father's Day' was appointed. Sonora Louise had wanted Father's Day to be on the first Sunday in June (since that was her father's birthday), but the city council didn't have time to approve it until later in the month. And so on June 19th, 1910, the first Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane.

Gradually, other people in other cities caught on and started celebrating their fathers, too. The rose was selected as the official Father's Day flower. Some people began to wear a white rose to honour a father who was dead, and a red one to honour a father who was living.

Finally, in 1972, President Richard Nixon signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father's Day – a permanent, national holiday.



Don't forget our Father's Day Drive-In Service/Picnic on Sunday 20 June at St. Andrew's, Killaney

JESUS HEALS

Who was the first person
Jesus healed?

John 4:46-54

Who did Jesus heal
from fever?

Mark 1:29-31

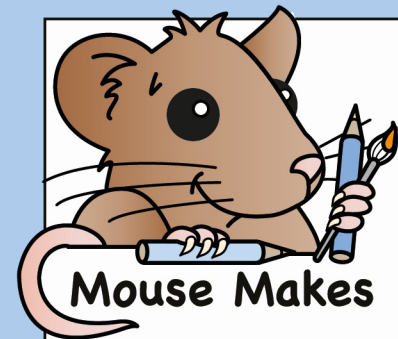
How was the the
paralysed man
brought to Jesus?

Mark 2:1-12

Jesus **healed** and
made the...

SICK	ABLE
DEAD	WALK
BLIND	FORGIVEN
DEAF	ALIVE
CRIPPLED	SPEAK
SINNER	MOVE
MUTE	SEE
PARALYSED	WELL
DISABLED	HEAR

Mouse Makes



Where did the
demons ask Jesus
to send them
when he drove
them out?

Mark 5:1-20

How long had
the man by
the pool been
disabled?

John 5:1-15

What did Jesus say made
the woman well?

Matthew 9: 20-22

How many men were
healed from leprosy?

Luke 17:11-19

What did Jesus heal
Bartemaus from?

Mark 10:46-52



Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead,
how many days had he been buried?

John 11:1-45

"There are **many** things that
Jesus did. If every one of them
were written down, I suppose the
whole world would not have room
for the books that would be written."

John 21:25

International Justice Mission

Impact Report

2020 was a year like no other. Thank you for partnering with us during this critical time. Your prayers and generosity ensured IJM's teams around the world were able to adapt to COVID-19 and provide urgent support to people vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.

A major surge in violence amongst people in poverty has been reported by country leaders and international organisations. The spread of the violence and ensuing restrictions is having an economic impact - the number of people living on less than £1.40/day was projected to increase by 49 million people last year.

Despite the challenges, we saw extraordinary breakthroughs in a number of IJM's projects in 2020. We could not have done this without your financial and prayerful support.

OUR IMPACT TOGETHER, JANUARY-DECEMBER 2020



RESCUE

We partnered with authorities to rescue 8,657 children, women and men from oppression.



RESTORE

Our programs helped restore 517 survivors to health and wholeness.



RESTRAIN

We supported local authorities to ensure 1,228 slave owners, abusers and traffickers were held accountable.



STRENGTHEN

We trained over 155,000+ police, judges, community members and other leaders to combat violence.

(This is live data- numbers could increase as statistics are updated by field offices)

Launch of the Global Survivor Network,

This international group of survivors, including survivors of slavery, police abuse of power and violence against women and children, is taking shape and leading a movement to protect people from violence. The Global Survivor Network will; empower and equip survivors as leaders; meet with local, national, and global leaders to speak into policy, programmes and decisions, enabling survivors to amplify their voices.

Child Marriage Now Illegal, Dominican Republic

On 30th December, following a campaign led by the IJM team, the Dominican Republic government approved a Bill that eliminates all legal grounds for child marriage, and safeguards the fundamental rights of children. Prior to this, the Dominican Republic had the highest rates of child marriage in the Latin America and Caribbean Region, and the law permitted children to be forced into marriage.

Innovative Investigations, Ghana

To combat forced labour slavery of children in Ghana, IJM has partnered with a company that operates earth imaging satellites that collect more than three million square kilometres of imagery a day. This imaging is enabling our team to find children who are held captive in even the most remote areas of Lake Volta and has rapidly increased the speed at which IJM is able to see where trafficking is taking place. In 2020, our team in Ghana rescued 71 children from slavery in the fishing industry and secured three convictions- a record number, despite the pandemic.

6,750 Trapped Migrant Workers Released

During India's national lockdown many migrant labourers became stranded. This was the case for 360 children, women and men trapped in a brick kiln in Tamil Nadu. As food became scarce the labourers pleaded to be freed, but instead, they were brutally assaulted by the kiln owner and his accomplices. IJM was informed and worked with district authorities to release all 360 people, who were transported to their home states immediately. Local advocacy and media of the rescue inspired other officials, leading to the release of 6,750 people from 30 nearby brick kilns.



End OSEC Centre

IJM's End OSEC Centre was established in 2020 to share good practice in tackling Online Sexual Exploitation of Children (OSEC) with governments and stakeholders around the world. In May 2020, the Centre published a thorough analysis of OSEC in the Philippines. One of the report's key findings was that the live streaming of abuse is not currently being detected effectively; it makes several recommendations to remedy this. Another report in October gives consideration to sentencing for OSEC offences. According to the UK National Crime Agency, the UK is the third-largest consumer of live-streamed abuse globally. IJM is actively working with the UK & devolved Governments to address this problem.

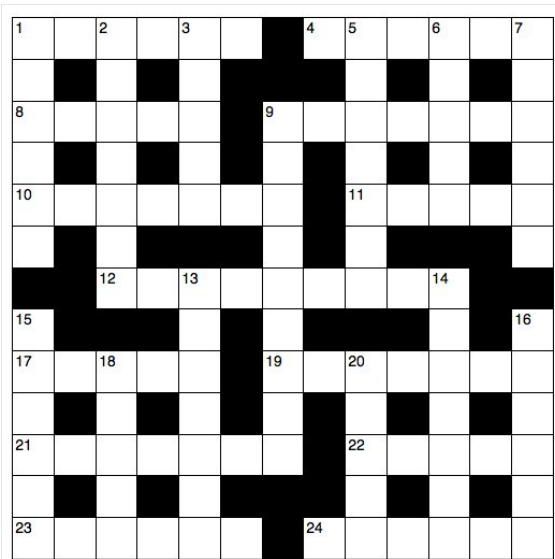
Covid

Since the establishment of our COVID-19 Fund, IJM teams have:

- Partnered with nearly 340 organisations, institutions and NGOs.
- Helped to provide over 38,000 people with direct crisis relief, providing emergency supplies, food, personal protective equipment and other support.
- Reached over 4 million people through awareness-raising efforts about vulnerabilities from COVID-19.
- Helped over 3,000 survivors receive ongoing aftercare services.
- Implemented nearly 570 new violence-response or mitigation efforts alongside our partners.
- Provided over 358 cases of remote assistance to police and public justice officials, including provision of PPE, transport assistance, and consultations.

IJM SAYS:

THANK YOU for staying with us in the midst of this crisis. We are so grateful for your partnership as we work to rescue millions, protect half a billion and make justice for people living in poverty unstoppable.



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)

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 23

Passion.

What are you passionate about? Before you answer let us look at what it means to be passionate: in its modern sense it is a strong feeling of enthusiasm or excitement! So, to rephrase the question, what do you feel enthusiastic or get excited about?

I believe the bible is full of passion. There are three things I would like us to look at and become passionate about; prayer, presence and people.

• Passionate about Prayer

Christ was passionate about prayer; we read in Luke 6:12, "One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray and spent the night praying to God". Luke 22:44 tells us, "And being in anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground." One of the ways to get to know anyone is to talk and listen to them. We were created for a relationship with God and prayer is one way to talk and listen to Him.

I love John 17 where we read how Christ prays for his disciples and all believers. Is there a greater way to feel united with other believers than through prayer? So I challenge you and myself to get enthusiastic and excited and be truly passionate about prayer.

• Passionate about his Presence

We are in God's presence when we pray, but I am thinking more about how we sense His presence as we meet to worship and praise Him in His house. Jesus cleared the temple courts out of a concern for the holiness of God's house. When we meet in a building set apart for worship we should be passionate that God's glory be seen in that place. The Psalmist expresses a similar zeal, like our Lord's, as he writes (Ps 84:1,10)

How lovely is your dwelling place O Lord almighty,
my soul yearns even faints for the courts of the Lord"
"Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of the Lord
than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

Does the thought of spending time in God's house excite us?

Are we thrilled about worshipping God in his house and having fellowship with others?

So I challenge us again to get passionate about spending time in God's house, getting up on a Sunday morning feeling enthusiastic and excited.

• Passionate about People

Christ's death on the cross shows us how much he is willing to suffer for people. The word passion comes from the word meaning suffer: Jesus' death is sometimes referred to as "The Passion" of Christ (Acts 1:3 RSV). He suffered for us.

He invites us to share his passion for people as he commissions us in Matthew 28:19 "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...."

This begs the question, 'Are we passionate about seeing people trusting in Christ as their Saviour and are we passionate about sharing the good news with the lost?'

Two songs I love are "People need the Lord" and "Filled with compassion for all creation".

People need the Lord.
Everyday they pass me by I can see it in their eyes;
Empty people filled with care headed who knows where.
On they go through private pain living fear to fear;
Laughter hides their cries only Jesus hears.
People need the Lord.

and

Filled with compassion for all creation
Jesus came into a world that was lost.
There was but one way that he could save us,
Only through suffering death on a cross.
God, you are waiting, your heart is breaking
For all the people who live on the earth.

And my prayer for all of us comes from the words in this second song:-

Stir us to action filled with your passion for all the people who live on the earth.

Tanya

You may click on the blue text to watch a version of these inspiring songs.

God in the Arts

The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts with 'Christ before the High Priest and the Denial of Peter'. This painting, done in tempera on wood, now hangs in the Museo dell'Opera del Duomo, Siena. Click the picture to see a high quality version.

'I do not know the man', the fearful Peter said

At the end of this month, on 28th June, we celebrate two of the great saints of the early church: Peter and Paul. We might relate more easily to Peter



because his humanity and vulnerability spill out of the pages of the New Testament in everything he said and did. Peter was a fisherman, who was impetuous and headstrong, not once, but over and over again, saying one thing, and doing another. And yet our Lord chose Peter as the rock on which He would build His church, and at Caesarea Philippi Peter acknowledges that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Then, when Jesus is arrested, the same Peter in the High Priest's courtyard declares with an oath, 'I do not know the man.'

That denial is in all four Gospels. We might have expected the evangelists would have had greater respect for this follower of Jesus. But they are not intimidated by his later fame and importance, and they record the episode in vivid detail.

That episode is recorded by Duccio in this month's painting, 'Christ before the High Priest and

the Denial of Peter'. Duccio worked in Siena in the late 13th and 14th centuries. In his paintings Jesus and the saints are no longer remote, austere figures: he portrays them in a natural, simple way. His greatest work was a series of 45 panels called the Maesta.

This month's picture is the first painting to depict Jesus' trial and Peter's denial together. The scene is a two-storey building: the figures above, apart from the High Priest, are all on their feet. Below, the figures are all seated, with the exception of the serving girl. Notice the wonderful array of hair styles and beards that are typical of Duccio's work.

In the painting Peter is recognisable by his halo, like Jesus above. He is in a direct line below Jesus, but just look at the contrast between the two. Jesus is standing with His hands bound in front of Him and His head to one side. Peter below is seated, looking straight at the girl, raising his hand to protest his ignorance and warming his feet by the fire. It needed courage for Peter to be there, but the Gospels tell us how quickly his vulnerability is exposed. As he answers the questions and reveals his Galilean accent, he starts to curse. He denies Jesus three times, and the scene ends in bitter tears. For all the bravado, a human, broken figure leaves the scene.

On his feast day we rejoice in that humanity of Peter, which brought him low, but encouraged him to try again. In Duccio's painting his denial takes place by the fire of the courtyard. It will be by another fire lit on the shore of the sea of Tiberias that Peter will be asked another three questions – not by a serving girl, but by Jesus. This time he will respond with affirmation, knowing that his Lord has come in resurrection glory to bring a new way forward for him and for everyone as He offers life in abundance.

GRACE

The Revd Dr Herbert McGonigle considers the power of God's grace.

The word 'grace' is one of the most important words found in the New Testament. It means God's loving disposition towards us as sinners. God's 'grace' is almost another word for God's love. This grace is the foundation of our salvation. So Paul can say that 'we are justified freely by His grace' (Romans 3:24); 'where sin abounded, grace abounded all the more' (Romans 5:20); 'by grace you are saved through faith' (Ephesians 2:8).

But the word 'grace' is also used in another way in the New Testament. It means the godly character being reproduced in Christians; Christ living in His people by His Spirit and making them like Himself – gracious.

Luke records that as Jesus grew up 'the grace of God was upon Him' (2:40), and that the people wondered at the 'gracious words' that He spoke (4:22). John says that Jesus was 'full of grace and truth' (1:14). The most common benediction bestowed on Christians in the letters of the New Testament is 'the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ' (eg Romans 16:20; 1 Cor. 16:23).

From this understanding of grace comes the reminder and the exhortation that all of us as Christians are 'to grow in grace' (2 Peter 3:18). Our lives should manifest the grace of God in love and compassion and kindness.

But grace is not something we can achieve on our own. True grace is only found in close communion with our Lord Jesus Christ.

Registers

Christian Funeral

5th May Robert Dennis (Robin) Sweetnam,
Castlehill Park, Comber.

*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord;
they are blessed indeed for they rest from their labours*



In Memoriam

Robin Sweetnam from Castleblayney, Co Donegal grew up in Portstewart and Whitehead and worked his entire life with the Northern Bank. He was a popular member of the bank staff wherever he worked and won friendship from his colleagues and customers alike.

Robin married Elizabeth in 1975 and the couple were blessed with three children, Sarah, Stephen and Alastair. They recall how he was a devoted and fun-loving dad who made his children know they were loved and secure.

Robin and Elizabeth had set up home, first in Kerrymount Avenue, then Saintfield Road, and finally, Castlehill Park in Comber. They had started attending St Ignatius' shortly after their marriage and continued as members of the choir until lockdown prevented it. They remained faithful supporters of the work of Christ in the parish.

When he retired, Robin had taken up walking at a whole new level and was a member of a number of walking clubs, including, most notably, the Friday walk in the Mourne. His poor health of the last few years left him undaunted in spirit as he fought with cancer.

We extend our sympathies to Elizabeth, Sarah, grandson Vincent, Stephen, Alistair and daughter-in-law Danielle, and to his brother and sister, Derek and Audrey, and their families. The funeral service took place as strict rules on attendance were beginning to be relaxed and was all the more comforting because of the slightly increased numbers who were able to attend.

Occasional Services

Since the recent relaxation of some of the rules regarding gatherings it is possible to hold baptism, wedding and funeral services in church buildings, with numbers in the congregation rising to the safe capacity of the building (not the fixed number of people as it was previously.).

In **Carryduff** we estimate approximately 50 people may be invited to attend, leaving some spare seats for the team assisting with the service, including stewards, clergy, musicians and undertakers.

In **Killaney** we estimate the number is approximately 25, with room for the Verger, organist, clergy and undertakers in addition to this.

In either situation a list of those attending and their contact numbers should be provided, please, prior to the arrival of the congregations.

Wonders of the Living World

Written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge.

What are the best metaphors we could use to describe biological things? You might be used to hearing phrases like “your genetic blueprint” or “survival of the fittest”, but are they helpful or even accurate? Some of these words fail to capture the wonder and joy of understanding something new about the nature of living organisms.

I learned that one researcher was using the phrase ‘The Snuggle for Existence’ as a way to convey the idea, familiar to biologists, that cooperation is at the heart of the living world. For example, every cell more complex than a bacterium contains minute energy factories, each one containing their own piece of DNA – which makes them a sort of miniature cell, hidden away inside the larger host cell. These ‘mitochondria’, as biologists call them, turn raw materials from the host into chemical energy. In this way, everyone benefits: the mitochondria now have a safe a place to live, and the host receives the energy it needs. There are many more examples of organisms working together to produce something that is more than the sum of its parts, where often the individual parts could not survive on their own.

‘The Map of Life’ is a way of describing the regularities we see in biological processes. Eyes, legs and wings have emerged in the living world again and again, and why not? If the properties of light and gravity remain constant, we should expect living things to find the same solutions to seeing or getting around. When we look at these organisms’ family trees, we see they share a common ancestor that had no eyes, or no wings. These structures have developed completely independently, or you could say that the paths of the living world have converged on the same solution. That’s not to say they had a conscious goal, but that the world has certain properties, and those properties have channelled biological processes in certain directions.

None of these stories give us definite evidence for God. Science simply provides data, which can often be interpreted in several different ways. Perhaps the world just happens to be full of mathematical regularities, maybe there’s an overarching physical law we don’t yet understand, or perhaps there are multiple universes and ours happens to be the one in which life has arisen. But I believe that the observations scientists make about the living world are compatible with the existence of the God described by Christian faith.

See Video: [Click here for video on YouTube](#)



Lesson Readers

Sunday	Carryduff	Killaney
6 June	Liz Fleming	Colin McClintock
13 June	Vera Lowry	Marie Mack
20 June	Joan Clayton	Brian McNeill
27 June	Denis Carson	Regis Calard

Vestry Meetings

Carryduff Vestry is scheduled to meet on Monday 7th June at 7:30 pm
Killaney Vestry is scheduled to meet on Tuesday 8th June at 7:30 pm

Ending on a lighter note. . .

Friend?

Arriving at church to attend a wedding, a formidable looking lady in a large hat was greeted by the usher. "Are you a friend of the groom?" he ventured. "Certainly not," she said indignantly. "I'm the bride's mother."

Curate

As the enthusiastic curate was preparing to move on to his first church as a vicar, a parishioner asked him what he thought had been his main contribution to the life of the church. He replied: "People here didn't know what sin was until I came."

Belief

Our elderly vicar was very devout, but sometimes lost his place during the service. One Sunday as we reached the Creed there was a long silence, so the curate went across to him and gently touched his arm. "I believe in God," she whispered. The vicar smiled back happily. "Oh so do I, so do I!"

The Lord's work

On leaving the local Churches Together lunch, the Catholic priest was heard to say to the Methodist minister: "Well, at the end of the day, we're all doing the Lord's work: you in your way, and I in His."

Out to graze

A group of elderly British tourists were touring Holland by bus. They stopped at a cheese farm where a young guide led them through the process of making cheese from goat's milk. She showed the group a lovely hillside where many goats were grazing.

"These," she explained, "are the older goats put out to pasture when they no longer produce." She then asked, "What do you do in Britain with your old goats?"

A spry old gentleman answered: "They send us on bus tours!"

Crossword Solutions: 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.

Service Calendar for June

Any changes to the pattern below will be indicated on the church website. This will also be announced by email and on Facebook.

8.30 & 10:00 services will DV be held in Carryduff, 12:00 services in Killaney.

30 May Trinity Sunday (White)

10 + 12 Morning Worship
Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17

2 June Wednesday (Green)

10.00 Midweek Communion
1 Peter 1:18-25 Mark 12:18-27

6 June Trinity 1 | Sunday School starts (C) (Green)

10 + 12 Morning Worship
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:31-35

9 June Wednesday St Columba (White)

10.00 Midweek Communion
Romans 15:1-6 John 20:20-26
8.00 Prayer Zoom Time

13 June Trinity 2 (Green)

8.30 Early Communion in St. Ignatius', Carryduff
10 + 12 Morning Worship
2 Corinthians 5:6-10,14-17 Mark 4:26-34

16 June Wednesday (Green)

10.00 Midweek Communion
2 Corinthians 9:6-11 Matthew 6:1-6,16-18

20 June Trinity 3 | Father's Day (Green)

10.00 Morning Worship in St. Ignatius', Carryduff
12.00 Father's Day Drive-In in St. Andrew's, Killaney
Mark 4:35-41

23 June Wednesday | Birth of St John the Baptist (White)

10.00 Midweek Communion
Galatians 3:23-29 Luke 1:57-66, 80
8.00 Prayer Zoom Time

27 June Trinity 4 (Green)

8.30 Early Communion in St. Ignatius', Carryduff
10.00 Sunday Special for Children's Day TBC
12.00 Morning Worship
2 Corinthians 8:7-15 Mark 5:21-24,35-43

Please note: *The early communions are scheduled to allow time for cleaning between them and the subsequent services*