

CROSSROADS



MARCH 2022



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St Andrew's Killaney | St Ignatius' Carryduff

Dear Friends

Scented Living

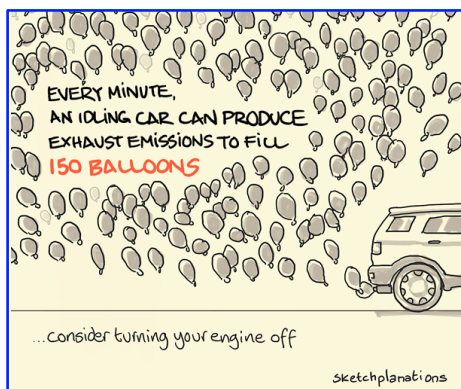
I read this recently:

Poor air quality is the biggest environmental risk to public health in the UK. Every minute, an idling car produces enough exhaust emissions to fill 150 balloons with harmful chemicals, including cyanide, NOx and PM2.5. The microscopic pollutants can result in a range of health problems - from heart and lung disease to strokes and cancer and have been shown to be particularly damaging to children. [Link](#)



It was a statement regarding the environment that astonished me. A related article suggested that **idling for more than ten seconds** is more damaging than turning the engine off and on again.

I think what helped me stop and think was the simple graphics which accompanied it as follows:



I am afraid I am now starting to get edgy when people in car parks, including the church car park, leave their engines running, creating huge volumes of noxious gases as they wait for someone to appear from a shop or school or club. We all need to think again about this. That includes me!

Of course, there are other ways in which we can create a noxious atmosphere - by what we say, how we write or tweet, and the way we treat other people, especially those who

differ from us in some way. How many times have we said of someone - within our own homes at first - that they are a bit odd, a bit strange, a tad different? I think when we recognise differences, it is only fair to acknowledge that we may appear just as strange to them. If we took the time to get to know those people, we may adjust our cold mindset, and realise that they, too, are made in God's image, and worthy of respect.

A final thought as I reflect on the airs we create around us: Mary, a woman named in John's Gospel as a sinner, worshipped Jesus by pouring expensive ointment on his feet, a scent which filled the room in which they met (and made the disciples feel a bit cheap perhaps). What acts of kindness and beauty will we perform in the coming days, which will enrich the quality of the atmosphere where we work, or relax or congregate with one another?

Be a perfumer, not a stinker when you wait in the car, queue in the shop, or contribute to the conversation. All the best

Stephen

World Day of Prayer

In Carryduff Parish Church at 7:30 pm Friday 4th March

The Service has been written by Christian women from England, Wales and Northern Ireland and the theme is 'I know the plans I have for you'. We encourage women, men and young people (in any order) to come to enjoy the service. We hope to have Michelle lead the worship, and to see lots of friends present, including those from all the various neighbouring churches who routinely host the event.

Please note the time is 7:30 pm, as some previous communication may have been in error.



St Ignatius' Gift Day: Sunday 6th March

Sunday 6th March 2022 is our Parish Gift Day.

Each year we encourage parishioners to make an extra donation to assist the parish in some planned development, usually with regard to maintenance of the property.

In recent years we improved the facilities at the hall, and we now are able to offer much improved gents and ladies toilets for all who use our halls and church as members of the parish and as visiting hall users. Prior to that, our focus was on repainting the interior of the church, and the replacement of the carpets in the church building and Jeremy Taylor Chapel.

The Select Vestry determines which project has reached its time and makes an appeal to all parishioners to give money to make the project possible. This usually happens at Harvest Time; we missed the opportunity to do so last year. Instead, we decided to wait until people had a better idea of their situation and make this appeal to you in March.

Much money has been spent by the developers of a local housing programme to make the access to Comber Road easier for road users. The work is almost completed and, as a result, the poor state of the east wall of the church, with staining from the surrounding trees, had become an eyesore. We employed the painter to clean, repair and refresh the exterior of the whole complex and this has now been done. Our appeal is for this work, now completed, so that as a church we can recover from the downturn of the pandemic years, and present a new fresh face to the world as we invite people to come back to worship.

An envelope has, in most cases, been delivered with this issue and we ask you to return it by hand at worship or by post to the church office in March.

A special Gift Day Service will be held in St Ignatius' Church on March 6th.



Mothers' Union

Heather Brown came along to our February meeting to chat to us about her experience as a foster carer supporting young unaccompanied immigrants. Heather has fostered a young man from Afghanistan and is presently caring for 2 boys from South Sudan. These young boys are forced to leave their homes for a variety of reasons. They may be persecuted for their faith, their political beliefs or the ethnic group they belong to. Sometimes they are trafficked and used as forced labour or even sexually exploited. Their journeys are dangerous, very traumatic and can last for several months or even years. They arrive in Northern Ireland afraid, cold and hungry. Initially, they go to a residential unit before being placed, either with a foster carer or in supported living, where they will stay until they reach the age of 18. The role of the carer is to provide a safe, warm, loving home, and to help the immigrants integrate into society, as well as helping the interaction with social workers and solicitors. Heather has found this experience challenging but extremely rewarding. She was initially unsure if fostering was for her but, after praying, felt that God was encouraging her to take a leap of faith and at least give it a try. She really felt that with the Lord on her side nothing was impossible. Matthew 25: "I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me in."



As mentioned in last month's magazine there will be no MU meeting in March. Instead, we will attend the World Day of Prayer Service 4 March.

We would like to remind members that subscriptions (£25) for 2022 are due.

Down and Dromore Lent Appeal 2022. Bishop's Big Bike Ride

The diocese is asking all parishes to be involved in raising funds for two Bishop's Appeal projects being supported specifically by Down and Dromore, one through Christian Aid and the other through Tearfund. The Christian Aid project is in Honduras, working with their local partner organisation in eight communities that are particularly vulnerable to climate change. The Tearfund project is in Jordan, helping to mobilise the Anglican church there to work amongst Jordan's poorest communities.

As part of this, we look forward to seeing our bishop, David McClay, arrive on his bicycle on Monday 21st March at 9:30 am as he visits every group of parishes in the diocese. He will be with us for fifteen minutes only. He looks forward to seeing a few parishioners present for the occasion. If you would like to be there, just turn up at about 9:15 am as his timings are approximate only. We can bring or send along some money to help with the fundraising side of his effort, but he is more interested in seeing people rather than money on each of the six days of the cycle ride around the diocese.

St. Andrew's - - - - - NEWS & VIEWS

Rosters

Flowers: Viona Crothers

Cleaning: Sandra Cousins, Adrian Cousins



Used stamps?

Marie is collecting used stamps for a charity for rescued animals. If you have any stamps would you please put them in the box at the back of the church.



Food Bank Thanks

Ballynahinch's Food Bank team expressed great delight and thanks to the parishioners of Killaney who donated foodstuff and other items at our first collection in February. We will continue to collect goods on the first Sunday of each month as we come to church; if you cannot come on that Sunday - for some reason - you can always drop them in the week before so Brian can deliver them on the one trip.

Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Fireside Quiz £1

A new fun fireside quiz will be made available shortly to churchgoers: if you wish to purchase a copy, parishioners will be happy to supply them to you. We have had several months of slightly reduced church income, as the annual report will show next month, so this is one small way of recovering as people get back in the way of church going after the last two years.

HM Queen's 70th Jubilee Weekend: 4-7 June 2022

Our parish will be holding a special service and event on Sunday 6th June 2022 to mark the 70th Anniversary of God's gift of an inspiring and capable monarch as Head of State of our country and commonwealth. The Select Vestry are meeting to discuss how best to celebrate the event by creating an atmosphere of thanksgiving by all, by recalling living memories from a few, and by marking the event in a more long term way as we hold a first official public event at the newly refurbished Church Hall. Your ideas are a welcome addition to add to 'the pot' and we encourage you to share them with vestry members.

Don't forget Ballynahinch Food Bank collection on 6th March

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS at SAUL and DOWNPATRICK

You are warmly invited to our diocesan St Patrick's Day celebrations on Thursday 17th March. The highlight is the Festival Service at Down Cathedral (11.45am), although you are welcome to attend Holy Communion at Saul (9.15am) and to join the Prayer Pilgrimage to the Cathedral (10.15am).

Simon Guillebaud will speak at the Festival Service on the theme, **Radical Discipleship, Radical Mission**.

Simon is an author and founder of the Great Lakes Outreach in Burundi and has lived in a war zone for many years. His love for Jesus is 'infectious'.

Following the service we will provide a complimentary 'Picnic in the Pew' so please plan to stay around!

For more details go to the diocesan website: downanddromore.org

A fresh LUKE

Bishop David has filmed forty devotionals for Lent that take a fresh look at the Gospel of Luke and the lessons that will shape our living. He says:

"Living lives of fruitfulness and fullness requires us to discover what following Jesus looks like and what loving Jesus means in times of uncertainty and change. The story of Jesus as told by Luke is transformational when we allow his story to change our story. I invite you to join me each day in Lent for a few minutes to look again at Luke's account of Jesus then, and what that means for us now."

The short films will be released early each morning on the diocesan website, [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts. Follow the links on www.downanddromore.org.

- 1 Luke 1:1-4
- 2 Luke 1:5-24, 67-80
- 3 Luke 1:25-56
- 4 Luke 1 57-80
- 5 Luke 2
- 6 Luke 2
- 7 Luke 3
- 8 Luke 3:23 to 4:13
- 9 Luke 4:14-30
- 10 Luke 4:38 to 5:32

- 11 Luke 5:33 to 6:49
- 12 Luke 7
- 13 Luke 8:1-21
- 14 Luke 8:22-56
- 15 Luke 8:22 to 9:27
- 16 Luke 9:28 to 10:12
- 17 Luke 10:13-37
- 18 Luke 10:38 to 11:4
- 19 Luke 11:1-36
- 20 Luke 11:37-54
- 21 Luke 12:1 to 13:30
- 22 Luke 13:31-35
- 23 Luke 14:1-35
- 24 Luke 15
- 25 Luke 16
- 26 Luke 17:1-19
- 27 Luke 17:20 to 18:14
- 28 Luke 18:15-17
- 29 Luke 18:18 to 19:10
- 30 Luke 19:11-48
- 31 Luke 20:1-26
- 32 Luke 20:27-40
- 33 Luke 20:41 to 21:4
- 34 Luke 21:5-36
- 35 Luke 21:37 to 22:23
- 36 Luke 22:24-65
- 37 Luke 22:66 to 23:25
- 38 Luke 23:26-56
- 39 Luke 24:1-35
- 40 Luke 24:36-53

J-Club Kids

March Programme

J Club

We meet on Friday evening at 6.45 and finish at 8.15 on 4th, 11th, 18th March.

Activities will include crafts, baking, painting, games, and, of course, the tuck shop. The fun and games are centred around the theme based on a Bible message, which is explained during the kids' talk and short video, and will conclude the evening's programme.

On **Sunday 27th March, Sunday Special** will be held in the Church Hall at 10.00am. We plan to finish at 11.30am. This is for all primary age children in J Club and Sunday School. To sign up, all children who wish to attend, should go to the Carryduff Parish J Club Facebook page and follow the link **or** go to the TicketSource website- <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk> and search for "Carryduff Parish J Club Groups."

During the next number of weeks, subject to the decision of the Select Vestry, we hope to be able to lift all COVID restrictions. We are open to all primary age children.

To join the organisation please contact Keith 07901935205 for further information



...I haven't the heart to tell her the bishop went home 20minutes ago!

Charitable Donations 2022 (Carryduff)

We hope to allocate funds given to the Mission Fund using the monthly envelopes with the weekly FWO envelopes as follows: a percentage of the actual funds donated is given to each of the following causes both in quarterly amounts for the first few larger percentages, and at the end of the year for the rest.

- CMSI - Olo Diocese in South Sudan
- Christian Aid - international Relief
- SAMS - South American Mission Society
- ICS - Intercontinental Church Society
- Bible Society NI - Bible translation, production, distribution
- HFHNI - Habitat for Humanity
- International Justice Ministry - challenging slavery in the modern workplace
- Scripture Union NI - Encouraging bible reading in schools and homes
- Scripture Union - St. Petersburg - a project to assist a remote outpost
- CBM - Christian overseas disability charity
- The Larder (Boring Wells) - assisting people from St Christopher's Church
- Friends of Cancer @ City Hospital - a fresh cause started this year
- Love for Life - helping young people in schools make good decisions

If you wish for more information on any of these, please let us know and we will focus on them in the monthly magazine.

Just for Fun: Best

The reporter was interviewing the town's oldest woman. "And what do you find is the best thing about being 104?" he asked. "That's easy," she said. "No peer pressure."

Young and old

A baby-sitter is a teenager acting like an adult . . .
. . . while the adults are out acting like teenagers.

Have you ever considered that..

- ~ A bird in the hand is safer than two over your head.
- ~ A narrow mind and a wide mouth usually go together.
- ~ A penny saved is a ridiculous waste of time.
- ~ A stitch in time would have confused Einstein.
- ~ No woman ever shot a man while he was doing dishes.
- ~ We need to save the earth. It's the only planet with chocolate.
- ~ Some people have a way with words, others do not have a way.

Easter Vestry Meetings 3rd April 2022

Carryduff 10:00 am Killaney 12:00 pm

At these meetings the following matters will be handled

- Opening act of worship
- The presentation of the Annual Financial Report
- The nomination of Rector's Warden and Glebe Warden
- The election of **People's Warden and Glebe Warden**
- Proposal and election of up to **12 members of the Select Vestry**
- The nomination and election of **Diocesan Synodspersons** (3 from Carryduff, 1 from Killaney)
- The nomination and election of **Parochial Nominators** (3 from Carryduff, 1 from Killaney)
- Supplemental Synodspersons and Nominators as above.
- The election of an eligible person to audit next year's annual report.

These steps are much quicker when we ask for nominees prior to the meeting, so that voting slips, (if required) can be prepared in advance. Forms to enable this will be available in church and we encourage you to complete it (and sign the proposal) before the start of April.

Please nominate one or more persons to the highlighted offices on the list above. Those who serve in any office, particularly that of parochial nominator, should be people of faith, and commitment to the church.

Slips will be printed on Friday 1st April.

For your information

General Vestry: all signed up members of the parish

Church Wardens: two parishioners, one elected by the General Vestry.

Glebe Wardens: two parishioners who assist with the management of property, one elected by the General Vestry.

Select Vestry: a group of 12 people elected from the General Vestry, along with the rector and churchwardens.

Diocesan Synodspersons: four people (3 from Carryduff and 1 from Killaney) elected at the General Vestry Meeting every three years. (There are supplemental members, too, who act when a synodsperson resigns etc.)

Parochial Nominators: four people (3 from Carryduff and 1 from Killaney) elected at the General Vestry Meeting every three years. (There are supplemental members, too, who act when a nominator resigns etc.)

Flowers in Carryduff Church

Thanks to Elizabeth Johnston and a very small team of assistants St Ignatius' Church has had a steady supply of flowers to display at both the East Wall and Entrance to the church. Some of these have been fresh flowers, but not many.

We want to resume the pattern of giving parishioners the opportunity to provide and display flowers going forward, sometimes in thanksgiving for e.g. an anniversary or a wedding, sometimes in memory. To facilitate this from APRIL 2022 the Flower Roster will be provided for you to sign up with your offers of help.

With this in mind we ask for some help, please:

- If donors are willing, we recommend you arrange and display the flowers yourself.
- We want a small team of amateur arrangers to make themselves available to help donors who feel they are not able to display the flowers.
- We seek guidance from donors if they wish their fresh flowers to be left in church, or distributed to some person or place afterwards.
- We would like volunteers to distribute the flowers if requested to do so.

As we set this up we ask you to add your names to the lists in church, please, as donors/arrangers, donors, arrangers, distributors. We do not need much help, but many hands make light work, and this will enable one or two to 'manage' the process without having to do so every week. Thank you.

Lilies for Easter

With the arrival of near-normality in our parishes, some of the patterns of old are being started up again to help you.

In Carryduff, in recent years, members have had the opportunity to donate the cost of a lily for use on Easter Day in the Church. It has been a delightful and simple gift which has had the impact of awakening a sense of hope in our hearts with the arrival of the Day of Resurrection. In addition, those donating each lily have been able to give it in memory of someone, if they choose, and this has enabled us who share the Easter Hope to rejoice with the saints who have gone before us.

While we hope that the impact of Brexit, the NI Protocol, and protests in favour or against the afore-mentioned issues, will have no effect on our attempt to acquire the right number of flowers, we hope you will be understanding in the unlikely event that the "Easter Lilies" turn out to be a good imitation!

To donate a lily, please make a donation of £10 to cover cost with a little to spare by completing the forms in church or by leaving a message with the wardens or ministry team members.



Canon Cecil Wilson

It was with sadness that we heard of the recent death of Canon Cecil Wilson. Cecil spent a number of months with us during the interregnum, following the appointment of Willie Nixon to Drumbeg Parish. Cecil was a 'breath of fresh air' and endeared himself to us all in both parishes. He had a unique style of leading worship and never shied away from trying 'new' things. He was a team member, always ready to listen and to share his ideas with others. His preaching reflected his experience of the African church and, in particular, his visits to South Sudan where he was loved by the people in Maridi diocese.

Cecil was a calm and reassuring pastor, always willing to give of his time to support and advise. On a personal note, I appreciated his encouragement and his wee smile of approval. I have lost a good friend.

Cecil will be missed by many people, but, most of all, by his wife, Barbara, and his daughters, Judith and Sarah, and their families. May they know the presence and peace of Jesus, comforted by the assurance that Cecil has heard His words of commendation, "Well done, good and faithful servant".

Marlene Moore

Quotations for meditation during Lent

The need of the world is to listen to God. – Albert Einstein

A religion that does not begin with repentance is certain to end there, perhaps too late. – Anon

You cannot starve a man who is feeding on God's promises. – Anon

Time spent on the knees in prayer will do more to remedy heart strain and nerve worry than anything else. – *G D Stewart*

Some people treat God as they do a lawyer; they go to Him only when they are in trouble. – *Anon*

The self-sufficient do not pray, the self-satisfied will not pray, and the self-righteous cannot pray. – *L Ravenhill*

We talk about heaven being so far away. Yet it is within speaking distance to those who belong there. – *D L Moody*

Christ's sheep are marked in the ear and the foot; they hear His voice and they follow Him. – *Anon*

How is it that nobody has dreamed up any moral advances since Christ's teaching? What was there in His heredity and His environment to account for this unique teacher, and the remarkable fact that no greater has ever looked like emerging? – *Michael Green*

The yearning of man's heart is homesickness for God. – *Anon*

Seek Christ, and you will find Him, and with Him everything else thrown in. – *CS Lewis*



Services March

Wednesday 2 March Ash Wednesday

(Purple)

- 10:00 Midweek Communion at Carryduff
2 Corinthians 5: 20b - 6:10 Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21
- 7:30 Ash Wednesday Service
Reading: Matthew 6:1-21

Sunday 6 March 1st Sunday in Lent

(Purple)

- 8:30 Early Communion ONE at Carryduff
Romans 10: 8b-13 Luke 4: 1-13
- 10:00 Parish Communion - Gift Day at Carryduff
Romans 10: 8b-13 Luke 4: 1-13
- 12:00 Parish Communion at Killaney
Romans 10: 8b-13 Luke 4: 1-13
- 7:00 SNATCH: Sunday Night at Church Hall Mitchell Room
Martin Luther meditates on the bible as he prays

Wednesday 9 March First Week in Lent

- 10:00 Midweek Communion at Carryduff
Jonah 3: 1-10 Luke 11: 29-32
- 7:30 Lent Service
Reading: Our Father in heaven

Sunday 13 March 2nd Sunday in Lent

(Purple)

- 8:30 Early Communion at Carryduff
Philippians 3: 17 - 4: 1 Luke 9: 28-36
- 10:00 Morning Worship at Carryduff : The Sending Church
Acts 11: 19-26
- 12:00 Morning Worship at Killaney : The Sending Church
Acts 11: 19-26
- 7:00 SNATCH: Sunday Night at Church Hall Mitchell Room
Love Your Church 8: Sending - Acts 11: 19-26

Wednesday 16 March Second Week in Lent

- 10:00 Midweek Communion at Carryduff
Jeremiah 18: 18-20 Matthew 20: 17-28
- 7:30 Lent Service
Reading: Hallowed be your name

Sunday 20 March 3rd Sunday in Lent

(Purple)

- 8:30 Early Communion at Carryduff
1 Corinthians 10: 1-13 Luke 13: 1-9
- 10:00 Morning Worship at Carryduff
1 Corinthians 10: 1-13 Luke 13: 1-9

12:00	Morning Worship	at Killaney
	1 Corinthians 10: 1-13 Luke 13: 1-9	
7:00	SNATCH: Sunday Night at Church Hall	Mitchell Room
	George Herbert uses poetry in prayer	

Wednesday 23 March Third Week in Lent

10:00	Midweek Communion	at Carryduff
	Deuteronomy 4: 1, 5-9 Matthew 5: 17-19	
7:30	Lent Service	
	Reading: Your kingdom come	

Sunday 27 March Mothering Sunday (Lent 4) (Purple)

8:30	Early Communion	at Carryduff
	2 Corinthians 5: 16-21 Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32	
9:45	Sunday Special for children in Church Hall	at Carryduff
10:00	Morning Worship	at Carryduff
	Luke 15:1-9	
12:00	Morning Worship	at Killaney
	Luke 15:1-9	
7:00	SNATCH: Sunday Night at Church Hall	Mitchell Room
	Augustine teaches the meaning of Proverbs 30:7-9 for prayer	

Wednesday 30 March Fourth Week in Lent

10:00	Midweek Communion	at Carryduff
	Isaiah 49: 8-15 John 5: 17-30	
7:30	Lent Service	
	Reading: Your will be done on earth as in heaven	

Parishes' Teaching Programme

Love Your Church: The series ends on 13 March with a focus on Loving a Church that sends.

Read the passage in preparation: Acts 11:19-26

Prayer in Lent: If you have problems with prayer, then join the club!

We will address this in the next few weeks as we look at people in churches who have had useful ideas to help them as they try to pray. We will look at some of the prayers in the bible to help us discover how the ancients interacted with God. We will also try some practical exercises in prayer. The programme will take place during the whole range of services and Snatch events. A reading list is provided on the back page.

Before you come, take a long look at your own experiences of prayer, maybe writing down what you find easy and what makes you struggle. As you take part in SNATCH, the Midweek Lent Services, and Sunday Morning worship, consider the steps you need to take to deepen your regular encounters with God. We are all learners in this, so get on board as, together, we learn to pray!



To Receive and Respond

There are some striking words in the first chapter of John's record of the Gospel. He writes of Jesus that "He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him (John 1 v.11)."

The implication here is that people of Jewish heritage found it difficult to grasp the immense significance of the absolute godliness of Jesus. His presence, his example and his teaching startled – even threatened – the Jewish religious establishment. The very strict Pharisees and Scribes – the teachers of the law – were seriously unsettled. Ultimately they plotted to destroy Him, to have Him put to death.

Having stated this, it is also necessary to confirm that Jesus' disciples – that close knit group of loyal and faithful companions – were all Jewish. They responded fully to Him, even to the extent of giving their entire lives over to Him and his message.

In his post resurrection commission to the disciples Jesus directed them to the Scriptures and said: "This is what is written. The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem (Luke 24 v.46)."

We know, of course, that during his earthly ministry, Jesus had great popular appeal among the rural public. Then, when his disciples (now referred to as apostles) first proclaimed the message of the risen Lord in Jerusalem there was, again, considerable public interest and support. In other words, many members of the (Jewish) general public both received the message and responded to it. A great many people were baptised.

The real problem was not the Jewish people as a whole but the self-important religious establishment. They clearly had a fear of Jesus' amazing personal humility and the extent of his public support. In short, they were unable to receive the gospel or to respond to it; and they stood in the way of the everyday (and more receptive) Jewish public.

The apostle Paul encountered a similar situation in synagogues in various places during his missionary journeys. His Gentile (i.e. Greek and Roman rather than Jewish) hearers were rather more receptive and more inclined to respond to the message of personal salvation; more willing to accept the Christian faith. Thus, the closing chapter of the Acts of the Apostles records Paul's observation: "Therefore I want you to know that God's salvation has been sent to the Gentiles, and they will listen (Acts 28 v.26)."

The challenge remains - the same issue that was so difficult for those self-important Scribes and Pharisees of Jesus' time is still very much out there. How difficult it can sometimes still be to both receive and to respond to the call of Jesus. The contemporary Christian thinker, John Stott, gets to the

crunch of it rather more succinctly than I could. He states, quite simply, that “becoming a Christian.....is nothing less than a resurrection from the death of alienation and self-centredness, and the beginning of a new and liberated life.”

It is our privilege not only to receive the word but also to respond to it. There are innumerable ways in which we might seek, like Paul, to influence society with Christian values.

Denis Carson

Lent - A season to enrich us all

Lent encourages us to examine how we're getting on. It's especially useful for people who have been practising Christians for some time. We're used to saying prayers, going to church and trying to express our faith in action, but the routine may have become a bit jaded. We would like to beef it up, but the very busyness of living gets in the way.

Self-examination doesn't demand grovelling or self-abasement or flagellation. It means going into the open space of the wilderness with Jesus and trying to imagine what He was facing, as He prepared Himself “in the power of the Spirit” to embark on His life's work.

What might His temptations mean for us here and now? They offered Him short cuts. Turning stones into bread could solve the world's poverty gap in a stroke. It would relieve us of our responsibility to combine generosity with ingenuity and put right the world's grotesque inequalities. Jesus responded to that temptation by quoting scripture, “Human beings cannot live on bread alone”. It speaks volumes for the 21st Century.

Then Jesus was tempted to do a deal with the devil, on the pretext that collaboration would deliver results. “God alone is due our homage”, was His rebuff, quoting scripture again. Since everyone worships something or someone, it would be a valuable exercise to consider carefully what or who takes pride of place in our schedule. It's a tough one. What do we love most, and do we need to adjust our priorities?

Magic was the next option. Jump off the temple roof and you'll be OK. Jesus dismissed this offer with the words, “Don't put God to the test”. While that stunt wouldn't appeal to many Christians, there's a breed of phoney preachers today who promise financial success and perfect health to their followers.

Others reduce the Gospel to the single word, 'love', as though acquiring a sunny disposition could solve humanity's problems. The definition of love in 1 Corinthians, Chapter 13, suggests something quite different. That Chapter could provide the whole agenda for Lent and beyond.

MISSION FOCUS: SOUTH SUDAN

One hundred years ago last month the Gospel was brought to Maridi diocese in South Sudan by a CMS missionary, Rev. William Haddow. After only two years he died of black water fever but, during those two years, eight people had become Christians.

The centenary celebrations, lasting four days, were opened by Archbishop Justin. Thousands of Christians from different dioceses attended and the diocese of Down and Dromore was represented by the director of CMSI, Jenny Smith and her husband.

Jenny said in her report, “ The contrast with the old ways was brought home to me. There was singing, drama, dance and speeches. Then the Baka cultural group arrived. They seek to preserve cultural traditions and they came in traditional dress of cloth, skin and leaves, bringing clay pots, gourds, spears, baskets, bows and arrows and some chickens. They demonstrated different aspects of traditional life with one part related to sickness and death. The traditional healer visited a sick man and performed some rituals, but to no avail. Burial rites involved slaughtering two chickens before the body was buried. I was struck by the hopelessness of people in the face of death, by the grip of fear and the search for some external power to help. The Church here stands boldly against syncretism and compromise, boldly proclaiming Christ crucified.”

The diocese of Down and Dromore has a strong link to the church in South Sudan, and we in Carryduff have supported Maridi and Olo dioceses. Financial support is needed but prayer support is of greater importance. When we pray we acknowledge our dependence on God and our belief that He ‘is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think’.

South Sudan became independent in 2011 and is the world’s newest country. Despite this, inter-tribal unrest and conflict led to civil war which lasted for five years, during which thousands were killed and millions were displaced or fled the country. The peace deal that was signed is still fragile and, in spite of the country’s rich oil reserves, South Sudan is in desperate need of aid and investment. MAF (Missionary Aviation Fellowship) records that malaria, diarrhoea and pneumonia are rampant, more than half of women endure a sexual attack before the age of 18, and a third will become pregnant before they turn 15.

UNICEF reports that only 60% of the population has access to clean drinking water and the same percentage lacks a basic toilet, resulting in a high incidence of waterborne diseases.

South Sudan is struggling politically and economically. Insecurity, hunger and the large number of refugees and displaced people afraid to return home make daily living a joyless existence for the many.. This young country desperately needs our prayers. Please pray for its people and for the Church, including Bishop Moses (Maridi) and Bishop Tandema (Olo) and all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

2 March: Ash Wednesday | A Time to admit you are sorry

Have you done something which haunts you? Which makes you feel restless and defensive, every time you think of it? Why not deal with it this month, and put it behind you? Whatever your mistake has been, consider what the Bible has to say to you: 'I have not come to call the virtuous but sinners to repentance' said Jesus. (Luke 5.32)

'Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon'. (Isaiah 55.7)

'Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing'. (Joel 2:12-13)

God is inviting you to come to Him this Ash Wednesday. What a wonderful offer! Make the most of it and remember how the prodigal son was welcomed back by his compassionate father.

Reading in Church: BUT I AM SHY

Practise by reading to your dog, who won't be critical of your mistakes, or interrupt you.

Dogs who listen to people reading are being used in schools and prisons across the country. It is all a part of The Kennel Club's Bark and Read Foundation, which was first set up to give children the confidence to read out loud to specially trained support dogs.

More details at: <https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/about-us/charity-work/bark-and-read/>



Four books for March

The Bible: a story that makes sense of life By Andrew Ollerton, Bible Society, £11.99

The Bible has been called the greatest story ever told. This book explores how the story of the Bible not only helps us understand our own lives, but also gives us a framework for making sense of life in general. We can see how the narratives in the Bible mirror the narrative arcs we go through.

Wherever you stand with the Bible, whether you are seeking to find out its meaning for your own life or just want to know more about its stories, this book is a fantastic starting point.

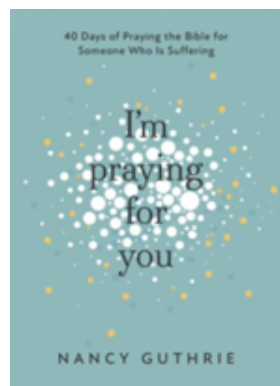


I'm Praying for You – 40 Days of praying the Bible for someone who is suffering By Nancy Guthrie, 10Publishing, £6.99

Through 40 carefully chosen scripture passages, Nancy Guthrie opens the wealth of Scripture that teaches us how to pray for those who are hurting. She shows us how the Bible provides us with a vocabulary for prayer that enables us to ask God to achieve what He intends in and through suffering.

Bible Stories Every Child Should Know By Kenneth N. Taylor and Jenny Brake, 10Publishing, £16.99

This newly illustrated collection



of more than 120

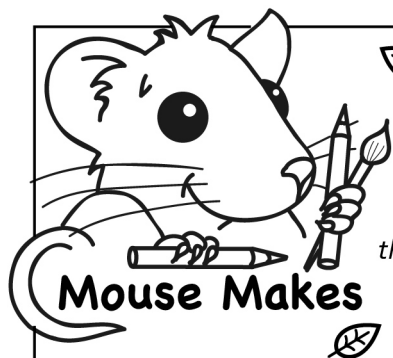
Bible stories from Kenneth N. Taylor's Classic Bible Storybook present the truths of the whole Bible in language that is understandable for children. Reading this book will help young ones love the stories of the Bible and may even help adults fall in love again with God's Word.



Incomparable: Explorations in the Character of God By Andrew Wilson, 10Publishing, £9.99

This book explores 60 names and descriptions of our Creator. Each chapter includes biblical insights and revelations that will enrich your faith. Selah moments allow for a time of reflection and worship. Practical applications, with help, connect each truth with your daily life.





GOOD FRUIT OR BAD FRUIT?

Jesus said:

*"No good tree does not produce bad fruit,
nor does a bad tree produce good fruit. Each
tree is known by its own fruit..."*

*...Good people bring good things out of the good
they stored in their hearts. But evil people bring evil
things out of the evil they stored in their hearts.
People speak the things that are in their hearts."*

- Luke 6: 43-45

During LENT ask God to help you through His Holy Spirit to turn your hate to **love**, your impatience to **patience** and your unkindness to **kindness**, so we can be like a good tree that grows good fruit.



READ
Luke
6: 27-45

How did Jesus
say we should
treat others?

Look up
Luke 6:31

S P E A K A E S D
B R O F R U I T E
L A F G I V E O H
E Y O O H E A R T
S P R O D U C E R
S A G D A B H D E
B R I N G O W N E
A E V I L O V E V
D R E P E N T E K

Do

_____ to everyone
who asks you
Luke 6:30

_____ for those who
are cruel to you
Luke 6:28

_____ those who
curse you
Luke 6:28

_____ to those that
hate you
Luke 6:27

_____ and you will be
forgiven
Luke 6:37

Find these words from **Luke 6** in the word search above.

GOOD • BAD • FRUIT • TREE • HEART • EVIL • EACH • OWN • STORED
PRODUCE • BRING • SPEAK • REPENT • FORGIVE • LOVE • BLESS • PRAY • GIVE

Science and a sense of the Transcendent

What is the difference between a cathedral and a physics lab? Are they not both saying: 'Hello'? - Annie Dillard

Scientists often speak of a reality beyond the objects they are studying, and for some this is encountered in powerful – if rare – episodes of wonder and awe. The Christian writer



J.W. Sire quotes this line from Annie Dillard in his book *Echoes of a Voice*, which explores spiritual or 'transcendent' experiences.

In his analysis of these experiences Sire describes moments that are "emotional, intellectual, highly charged, usually sudden, unannounced, often odd, some weird, others glorious", and places them on three different levels:

A material object that points beyond the material reality. For example, someone might develop a sense of what is good and evil, based on the actions of others.

Experience of "something personal...just behind the surface of what we are directly experiencing, often something with which one feels at peace or even at one, or, perhaps, as dangerous or threatening."

A felt presence that has a specific character or presence, e.g. holiness, or inspiring humility, fearful awe or wonder.

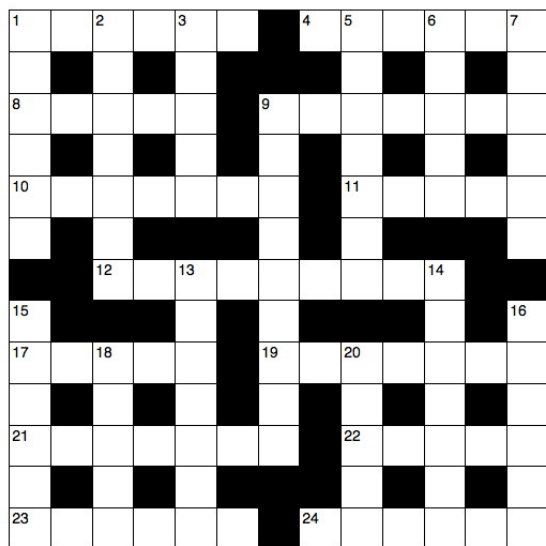
According to Sire, level 1-2 experiences are fairly common but level 3 is rare. He gives a wide range of examples, including scientists. Some of these people are religious or interested in spirituality, others are atheists. Some of their moments of transcendence carried a particular meaning, others simply sparked curiosity.

The famous geneticist Francis Collins described several significant moments when he was young: "being transported by the experience of looking through a telescope", or "a Christmas Eve where the descant on a particularly beautiful Christmas carol...left me with a sense of unexpected awe and a longing for something I could not name".

These experiences meant that when Collins was faced with the question of belief in God, "all [his] arguments seemed very thin". Now, as a fully-fledged scientist and a believer in God, he is able to say that "for a scientist who occasionally is given the remarkable privilege of discovering something not previously known by man, there is a special kind of joy associated with such flashes of insight."

Most of us are not scientists, but we may well have had experiences like this in different contexts. How can we, in our engagement with scientifically minded individuals, make connections through our shared experience of the transcendent? Can we listen as well as explain, finding some common points of connection?

Crossword



Across

- 1 Arouse (Song of Songs 2:7) (6)
- 4 Extinguish (Isaiah 1:31) (6)
- 8 "They — —," you will say, "but I'm not hurt!" (Proverbs 23:35) (3,2)
- 9 Unhappiness (Nehemiah 2:2) (7)
- 10 Jewish (7)
- 11 Dirge (anag.) (5)
- 12 'A truthful witness gives honest — , but a false witness tells lies' (Proverbs 12:17) (9)
- 17 Paul quoted from the second one in his address in the synagogue at Pisidian Antioch (Acts 13:33) (5)
- 19 'Do not use your freedom to — the sinful nature' (Galatians 5:13) (7)
- 21 'As you can see, he has done nothing to — death' (Luke 23:15) (7)
- 22 Name applied by Isaiah to Jerusalem (Isaiah 29:1) (5)
- 23 'All the people — — one man, saying, "None of us will go home"' (Judges 20:8) (4,2)
- 24 Lazarus, who was carried by angels to Abraham's side when he died, was one (Luke 16:20) (6)

Down

- 1 Appalled (Job 26:11) (6)
- 2 'In an — to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea' (Acts 27:30) (7)
- 3 Expel (Acts 18:16) (5)
- 5 'But I have a baptism to — , and how distressed I am until it is completed!' (Luke 12:50) (7)
- 6 'Of the increase of his government and peace there will be — — ' (Isaiah 9:7) (2,3)
- 7 Hurry (Psalm 119:60) (6)
- 9 'For I desire mercy, not — , and acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings' (Hosea 6:6) (9)
- 13 One of its towns was Sychar, where Jesus met a woman at Jacob's well (John 4:5) (7)
- 14 Shouting (Acts 7:57) (7)
- 15 Arachnid (Isaiah 59:5) (6)
- 16 One of Paul's first converts in Philippi was Lydia, a — in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (6)
- 18 Donkeys (5)
- 20 Raked (anag.) (5)

Answers on page 22

Lesson Readers

Day	8:30 am Epistle	10:00 am Lessons	12:00 pm Lessons
6 Mar	Mary Hewitt	Karen McConnell	Annie Kirkpatrick
13 Mar	David Patterson	Cedric Adams	Brian McNeill
20 Mar	Edward Darling	Trevor Dunlop	Norman May
27 Mar	Raymond Scott	Jenny Montgomery	Gary Crothers

WONDERFUL MOTHER

God made a wonderful mother,
A mother who never grows old.
He made her smile of the sunshine,
And he moulded her heart of pure gold.
In her eyes he placed bright shining stars,
In her cheeks fair roses you see.
God made a wonderful mother,
And he gave that dear mother to me.

Perfect Days?

Good days are not hard to find - but a perfect day? What would be involved in making one of those?

A wise lady called Ruth Smeltzer offered this suggestion:

“You have not lived a perfect day, unless you have done something for someone who will never be able to repay you



Crossword solutions

ACROSS: 1, Awaken. 4, Hit Quench. 8, Sadness. 9, me. 10, Semitic. 11, Ridge. 12, Testimony. 17, Psalm. 19, Indulge. 21, Deserve. 22, Ariel. 23, Rose as. 24, Beggar.

DOWN: 1, Agast. 2, Attempt. 3, Effect. 5, Undergo. 6, No end. 7, Hasten. 9, Sacrifice. 13, Samaria. 14, Yelling. 15, Spider. 16, Dealer. 18, Asses. 20, Drake.

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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Diocesan Readers:	Marlene Moore mrm-moore@hotmail.co.uk Keith Shaw keith_shaw@live.co.uk	028 9081 4896 079 0193 5205
Parish Reader:	Jenny Montgomery	
Office:	Jenny Eralp killaneyandcarryduff@icloud.com	028 9081 3489
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	028 9081 4896
	Joan Nevin	028 9751 9366
Killaney	Florence Coulter	028 9263 9133
	Bill Connor	028 9263 9873

Next Edition

Please add content by Wednesday 16th March for the April Edition

Developing how you Pray

We will be challenging ourselves during Lent to take the business of prayer more seriously than we do at the moment. Wherever we are on our prayer journey, we will seek to progress in our encounters with God by his grace.

The Lord's Prayer, the prayers of wise believers in the past, sharing our personal trials and delights in the place of prayer: these topics will appear during the season of Lent.

Be open to the challenge, and be ready to change.

Here are 21 readings from the bible to help us understand prayer.

☒ Tick each one as you read them during March



- ☐ 1. Moses' prayer for the Israelites (Exodus 32:7-14)
- ☐ 2. Hannah's prayer (1 Samuel 1:9-18)
- ☐ 3. Hezekiah's prayer re the king of Assyria (2 Kings 19:14-19)
- ☐ 4. Hezekiah's prayer for health (2 Kings 20:1-11)
- ☐ 5. God's promise to hear prayers from the temple (2 Chron 7:11-18)
- ☐ 6. Nehemiah's prayer (Nehemiah 1:4-11)
- ☐ 7. David's prayer of repentance (Psalm 51:1-19)
- ☐ 8. God refuses to answer the prayers of a wicked people (Isa 1:10-17)
- ☐ 9. Daniel's practice of prayer (Daniel 6:1-12)
- ☐ 10. The Lord's prayer (Matthew 6:5-15)
- ☐ 11. Jesus curses the fig tree (Matthew 21:18-22)
- ☐ 12. Jesus prays in Gethsemane (Mark 14:32-42)
- ☐ 13. Ask, seek, knock (Luke 11:5-13)
- ☐ 14. The persistent widow and the unjust judge (Luke 18:1-8)
- ☐ 15. Praying in Jesus' name (John 14:8-14)
- ☐ 16. Jesus prays for His disciples (John 17:1-19)
- ☐ 17. Jesus prays for other believers (John 17:20-26)
- ☐ 18. The Spirit helps believers to pray (Romans 8:26-30)
- ☐ 19. Paul's prayer for the Philippians (Philippians 1:3-11)
- ☐ 20. The effective prayer of faith (James 5:13-18)
- ☐ 21. Prayer from a heavenly perspective (Revelation 8:1-5)