



Christmas and New Year

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Killaney & Carryduff News | Dec 2023 to Jan 2024

Dear Friends

May I take this opportunity in print to wish you and yours the blessings of the season, and to express my wish that you encounter the gift of Christ's Nativity in a special way this year?



In Gifts? Give yourself a gift of time to read your (new) bible. Yes, I'm serious. I try, yet occasionally fail, to read my bible every day and I am genuinely surprised how time after time a word, sentence or paragraph makes me pause to think. "I never noticed that!" "I'd forgotten that!" "I think I really needed to read that today!" Those were my thoughts about my readings on some of the days of the week when I wrote this.

Perhaps you will encounter God's gift as you read his word.

In Singing? Music achieves nothing, really, as far as productivity goes, as far as essential services go, or as far as the basic needs of life are concerned. Yet for many people, and perhaps you this year, the seemingly useless process of singing in private or in public, releases a desire that God has placed within us to express emotions, including joy. "I really must join a choir" is often quickly followed by "Would anyone have me?"

Perhaps you will join with the angels as you sing to worship our Lord

In Praying? I wish I could simply say "I enjoy great freedom in prayer . ." (I wish you did too.) But it is always qualified by ". . . sometimes." The positive in that is that God occasionally loosens our tongues in prayer, when we are in the habit of trying to pray. There is a wonderful prayer of blessing that is sometimes used at seasonal services, and I will finish with it in my letter. I am not often able to kneel with a congregation and hear the pastoral leader pray it over us all. But I try to both say it - *and receive it* - at the same time.

Perhaps you will experience God answering this prayer as you make time for him this Christmas and New Year.

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ child
be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**



Stephen

The Fundraising Team invites everyone to a **Christmas Carryduff Celebration. . . .** following our Morning Worship in Carryduff on Sunday 10th December at 10.00 am. Join us in the hall for some Christmas refreshments and lots of Christmas cheer!

Keith Shaw

Mothers' Union

Can you believe it's almost Christmas again?

Our last meeting of the year will be on Thursday December 7th at 8pm in the Mitchell Room. We will be having a festive evening with a sing song, quiz and a bite of supper, so come along and bring your best singing voice. We thought it would be nice to exchange gifts so please bring a small, wrapped gift to the value of no more than £5.00 for a Secret Santa.

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Women's Aid
NORTH DOWN & ARDS

At this time of year we also remember those who are struggling and we would like to donate some gifts to the The Women's Aid Refuge in Bangor. The refuge supports women, children and young people who have been forced to flee their homes because of domestic abuse. Christmas is a particularly difficult time for these families and any gifts, especially for women, and toiletries for teenage boys would be gratefully received.

Our first meeting of 2024 will be held on Thursday 4th January when we will have a representative of the PSNI joining us to talk about that ever present danger of scamming and fraud. They will help us to identify WhatsApp Family impersonation Scamming, Vishing and Smishing, identity fraud and credit and debit card fraud. This promises to be a very useful session and everyone is welcome to come along.

We will also need to collect our Mothers' Union fees at the January meeting. The fees for 2024 are £28.



Bible Reading Leaflet

With this issue most of you will have received a copy of BSNI's annual Bible Reading Calendar. Why? We need food to live, don't we? We need spiritual food to live too!

But we don't just want to live, to exist, on a paltry diet, we need a rich variety of tastes and flavours to help us enjoy our food and thrive!

So, in the annual list of readings, there are excerpts from different parts of the bible, some of which are familiar to you, others less so.

Whether you are beginning to learn about God or are well on in your journey you need to be chewing on some spiritual food regularly and this is one way to do it. Remember you don't have to stop altogether when you miss a day - it is not a competition - just go to the day you are at and read the selection for that day! If you have any questions or require an extra copy for a family member or friend, which we can get for you, please contact the wardens or ministry team



Killaney Notes

Flowers:	DECEMBER	Alison Gray
	JANUARY	Rosemary Davies
Cleaning:	DECEMBER	Brian & Lyn McNeill
	JANUARY	Alison Gray & Anne Mannis



The parishioners of Killaney would like to say thank you to Anne and Harold who ensure Killaney looks its best and remains a warm, friendly and welcoming parish. And thank you to all who have helped throughout the year with the teas and providing food. Also, to the parishioners who clean the Church and provide the flowers. It is very much appreciated. To you all, have a lovely Christmas and happy New Year.

Donations to Killaney Parish Church

Over the past two years significant repairs and maintenance works have been completed within the Church and Hall. To name a few, we've had a new organ installed, replaced interior and exterior lighting, reglazed the iron work windows and upgraded our sound system and screens.

These works are wonderful improvements. However, over recent months the Select Vestry have been contemplating the future needs of the Parish and recently identified the graveyard as a key priority. The Church is looking to create two additional paths which are necessary to facilitate safe access to future graves.

The recent works have depleted our general funds, and with future plans we are asking parishioners to consider making donations to help us complete our next phase of works.

Details of our general fund account are listed below:

Account Name:	Killaney Parish Church
Account Number	92760452
Sort Code	95-03-61

Standing Order Forms are available to take to your own Bank for set up if you so wish, alternatively, the information above can be used to set up standing orders via your online banking.

Thank you in advance for your generous support.
Ruth Watson (Honorary Treasurer)

Christmas is for giving

And for showing that we care
For honouring the Christ Child
With the loving gifts we share
The wise men gave of riches
The shepherds, faith and love
Each gift, in its own measure
Was smiled on from above

A New Year

Renewed hope
New adventures
New ways to give and love
May this be your best year ever

Remembrance Day at Killaney

There was a good attendance once more at Killaney as the community gathered to mark Remembrance Day. David Gill played Flowers of the Forest as an introit, and Abide with Me as a final piece, while Elizabeth Mahood played the Last Post and Reveille as we spent two minutes in silent reflection. Brian Mulholland, our organist, accompanied the singing on our new organ and prefaced the service with a moving rendition of Nimrod.

Bill Connor read the lessons, and Keith Shaw led the worship. It was a good day to be at church together, and we thank all who participated.

Carols for all at Killaney: cold yuletide comfort

Were you there last year? Yes, many of us were.

Unfortunately, the missing part of the picture was the electricity. Increased demand on the local circuit caused yet another break in service, and with twenty minutes to go the church and its Christmas decorations were cast into darkness.

Thankfully, we live in an age where people carry torches with them everywhere, and they also serve as phones and cameras. So, with the piano accompanying the first verse of each carol, and readings using the camera lights, we were able to sense something of the atmosphere. Sadly, it was too cold to stay longer, so the tea supplies in the hall were distributed among the congregation to enjoy in the heat at home.

What about this year? Heat, Heart, and Happy people!!

We take our community responsibilities very seriously, so we have taken steps to reduce our contribution to the strain on electricity locally. We have replaced the lighting system inside the church from high wattage to low wattage lights, saving us money in the long run. We are in the process of updating the floodlights to use less power. Hopefully, these steps have helped reduce the risk of a break in service. It has worked well so far.

Midweek at St Andrew's

We look forward to welcoming our friends from Carryduff to a midweek communion being held in St Andrew's on Wednesday 31st January at 10:00 am. If you haven't been before, why not come along and enjoy worship together in this midweek moment?



Seasonal Services

Please see full calendar for all normal services not included here

Sunday 3rd December

4:00 pm Community Carol Service at Lough Moss

with choirs from Carr, Carryduff and Millennium Schools

6:00 pm Community Christmas Tree Lighting at Killaney

with music and refreshments

Sunday 10th December

10:00 am Morning Prayer in Carryduff

with seasonal refreshments after worship. Donations welcome.

6:30 pm Scouts Carol Service at St Ignatius'

with refreshments to follow

Wednesday 13th December

11:30 am Christmas Midweek Communion

followed by Christmas Lunch in the Church Hall. Please sign up!

Sunday 17th December

3:00 pm Parishes' Carol Service at St Andrew's

a combined parish event for St. Andrew's and St. Ignatius' followed by tea in the hall

Sunday 24th December

10:00 am Family Carols at Carryduff

8:00 pm Christmas Eve Communion at Carryduff

Monday 25th December

9:30 am Christmas Communion at St Andrew's

10:30 am Christmas Morning Service at St Ignatius'

Christmas with the Scouts

The Scouts in all their forms have asked for a Carol Service this year, as always, and we look forward to welcoming them to St Ignatius' on **Sunday 10th December at 6:30 pm**. We look forward to their contributions to make the service a fitting celebration for Christmas and to enjoy their seasonal refreshments afterwards.

Everyone is very welcome to attend.

Singing? What's this about?

We'd like to form a little Men's group (sorry, that should have said a little group for men!) of people who have an interest in praise. Not necessarily strong singers – but who would enjoy playing a part and helping to lead others at a service this Christmas season.

Please speak to Brian up at the organ after Church next Sunday morning if this could be you!

No previous experience or singing ability is necessary!

Brian Mulholland



J CLUB GROUPS and SUNDAY CLUB

Sunday 17th December at 10.00am.

POP-UP NATIVITY

Come, dressed as a nativity character - we have some spare costumes. Everyone is invited; everyone has a part to play.

Of course, any older members of the parish who want to dress up for their part as 'the chorus' can don a shawl, or a tea towel tied with a belt, or whatever. Dressing up is, of course, entirely optional! Adult 'Chorus' members do not need to attend the rehearsal!

A rehearsal will be held on Friday 15th at 7.00 pm. It will last approximately 45 minutes.

After the Nativity presentation, there will be a family celebration in the hall with lots of delicious Christmas treats and a gift for each child.

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY

We are delighted to welcome back 'Build a Teddy Bear Workshop' from Bear Necessities mobile service in Newcatle.

Children are asked to sign up on Carryduff Parish Club Groups fb page.

This is the last event on this season's programme and we extend a warm welcome to everyone to come and celebrate the birth of Jesus in a unique way.

J CLUB and J CLUB PLUS

We are looking for volunteers from our community to assist with our weekly activities and supervision on two Friday evenings of the month from 6.45pm to 8.45pm and/or on the 4th Sunday from 9.45am to 12noon.

We are a Christian based organisation and our programme consists of age-related activities, some outings and an overnight residential.

We have a membership of approximately 90 young people from the local community and the Church.

If you have some spare time in the week and enjoy working with children and teenagers, **would you consider joining our team?**

Volunteers are required to complete a volunteer organisation form and undergo an online Access NI check. We work under the guidelines of the Church of Ireland's Safeguarding Trust policies for children and young people.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact Keith Shaw on 07901935205 or keith_shaw@live.co.uk

**Volunteers
Needed!**



Supporting Others

We thank all in **Carryduff Parish** who regularly give gifts to support others through our monthly mission offerings. Each year the vestry decides which organisations to support with input from some parishioners.

Six organisations receive quarterly donations, with the remainder receiving a yearly donation.

In 2024, the causes supported, and proportions are listed below.

CMSI (Olo Diocese)	24%
Barnabas Aid	15%
Intercontinental Church Society	12%
SAMS	10%
Bible Society NI	8%
Habitat	8%
International Justice Ministry	6%
SU NI and St Petersburg	8%
Christian Blind Mission	3%
Love for Life	2%
The Larder	2%
Friends of the Cancer Centre	2%

Donations to Carryduff Parish Church Fabric Fund

Over the past 18 months the Select Vestry have been contemplating the future needs of the Parish, taking into consideration our ageing buildings.

We are currently awaiting the findings of a survey to outline what we believe will be substantial work needed, specifically around the roofs of both the Church and Hall.

In 2023, we introduced an additional monthly envelope to allow parishioners to donate regularly to the Fabric Fund account in preparation for this significant expenditure.

As we prepare to enter 2024, we would encourage those parishioners who support the Parish via Standing Order that they consider adding a donation to the Fabric Fund Account.

Details of the **Fabric Fund** are listed below:

Account Name	Carryduff Parish Church
Account Number	40070068
Sort Code	95-06-79

Standing Order Forms are available to take to your own Bank for set up if you so wish. Do not use these bank details for any other contribution.

Thank you in advance for your generous support.
Deirdre Shaw/Sandra Thomas (Honorary Treasurers)

Christmas Toy Shop

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council recently launched the Pre-loved Christmas Toy Scheme for 2023. In partnership with Habitat ReStore Lisburn, they aim to help many local families affected by the current cost of living crisis get quality, low cost toys for their children. However, they need a steady supply of toys to be able to continue right up to Christmas.



Toy Donations - Drop Off Locations

1st November - 13th December

Carryduff Recycling Centre Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 9am-5pm

Habitat ReStore Lisburn Mon-Sat 9.30am-5pm

Suitable Toys (for all age ranges)

All toys must be clean, complete and in good working order. Boxed toys and games must be in original packaging. No soft toys.

YES PLEASE

Plastic/wooden toys

Board games and jigsaw puzzles

Play mobiles

Ride on toys and rockers

Dolls and doll's houses

Scooters and roller skates

Small plastic slides and seesaws

Robots

V-tech toys

First musical instruments

Telescopes

Unopened craft kits etc

NO THANKS

Soft plush toys such as teddy bears

Incomplete toys

Broken toys

Stained or marked toys

What will happen to the donated toys?

The toys will be cleaned and checked by ReStore before being displayed in the toy shop. Toys will be sold at a low cost to allow families experiencing financial hardship to afford Christmas toys.

Restore will also liaise with local contacts e.g. Women's Aid, Food Banks to take referrals for access to the toy store with no cost at all. Any leftover toys to be redistributed by ReStore to local charity shops in New Year.

Christmas Toy Shops

Habitat ReStore Lisburn Mon-Sat 15th Nov -18th Dec (9.30am-5pm)

Lough Moss Leisure Centre Tue 12th Dec (10am-2pm) One Day Only

Giving pre-loved toys a second chance

Calendar

26 November	Christ is King: The Sunday before Advent	(White)
8:30	Early Communion C Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46	in Carryduff
10:00	Celebrate at Ten Matthew 25:31-46	in Carryduff
12:00	Sunday Morning Worship Matthew 25:31-46	in Killaney
28 November	Tuesday	
8:00	Parishes' Bible Study Meeting for a cuppa at 7:50	in Rectory
29 November	Wednesday	
10:00	Midweek Communion Daniel 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28 Luke 21:12-19 Writing on the Walls	in Carryduff
11:00	Christmas wreath Making Session 1	in Carryduff Church Hall
7:00	Christmas wreath Making Session 2	in Carryduff Church Hall
3 December	Advent Sunday (Advent 1)	(Purple)
	Who was Jesus? the Word. John 1:1-3 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 John 1:1-3 at all morning services	
8:30	Early Communion	in Carryduff
10:00	Parish Communion	in Carryduff
12:00	Parish Communion	in Killaney
4:00	Community Carol Service At which local school choirs will perform, separately and together	in Lough Moss
6:00	Christmas Tree Lighting with carol music, refreshments and the countdown to the lighting of the Community Tree!	in Killaney
5 December	Tuesday	
8:00	Parishes' Bible Study (closing night) Meeting for a cuppa at 7:50	in Rectory
6 December	Wednesday	
10:00	Midweek Communion Isaiah 25:6-10a Matthew 15:29-37	in Carryduff
7 December	Thursday	
8:00	Mothers' Union & Friends Festive Evening! Don't forget your secret pressie!	in Mitchell Room
10 December	Advent 2	(Purple)
	What did Jesus reveal? The true Light John 1:4-9 2 Peter 3:8-15a John 1:4-9 at all morning services	
8:30	Early Communion	in Carryduff
10:00	Sunday Worship	in Carryduff
12:00	Sunday Worship	in Killaney
6:30	Scout Carol Service With refreshments in hall to follow	in Carryduff
13 December	Wednesday	
11:30	Midweek Communion and Christmas Lunch Malachi 4:1-6 Luke 1:57-80	in Carryduff

17 December	Advent 3	(Purple)
8:30	Why did Jesus come? To make Children of God John 1:10-13 Early Communion	in Carryduff
10:00	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:10-13 A Pop-up Nativity!! John 1:10-13 and other readings	in Carryduff
3:00	Lessons and Carols (Combined) Followed by Christmas refreshments in Hall	in Killaney
20 December	Wednesday	
10:00	Midweek Communion Zephaniah 3:14-18 Luke 1:39-45	in Carryduff
24 December	Advent 4	(Purple)
08:30	When did Jesus come? At this Nativity John 1:14 Early Communion	in Carryduff
10:00	Romans 8:25-27 Luke 1:26-38 Church Family Carols	in Carryduff
12:00	Luke 1:26-38 John 1:14 Christmas Eve Worship	in Killaney
8:00	Luke 1:26-38 John 1:14 Christmas Eve Communion Romans 16:25-27 Luke 2:1-14	in Carryduff
25 December	Christmas Day	(White)
9:30	Christmas Communion Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14	in Killaney
10:30	Christmas Morning Service Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14 (Please note no service on Wednesday)	in Carryduff
31 December	Christmas 1	(White)
08:30	Early Communion Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:15-21	in Carryduff
10:00	Morning Prayer Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:15-21	in Carryduff
12:00	Morning Prayer Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:15-21	in Killaney
1 January	Monday New Year's Day	(White)
11:00	New Year's Day Communion (Please note later time: no service on Wednesday) Numbers 6:22-27 Luke 2:15-21	in Carryduff
4 January	Thursday	
8:00	Mothers' Union & Friends Scamming and Fraud with the PSNI	in Mitchell Room
7 January	Celebrating The Epiphany	(White)
8:30	Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12 (all services) Early Communion ONE	
10:00	Parish Communion	in Carryduff
12:00	Parish Communion	in Killaney
8 January	Monday	
7:30	Carryduff Vestry	in Quin Room
9 January	Tuesday	
7:30	Killaney Vestry	in Killaney Hall

10 January 10:00	Wednesday Midweek Communion with refreshments Colossians 1:1-14 Mark 1:29-39	in Carryduff
14 January 8:30 10:00 12:00	Epiphany 2 Revelation 5:1-10 John 1:43-51 (all services) Early Communion A Sunday Worship Sunday Worship	(White) in Carryduff in Carryduff in Killaney
16 January 8:00	Tuesday Parishes' Bible Study (re-opening)	in Rectory
17 January 10:00	Wednesday Midweek Communion with refreshments Colossians 1:15-23 Mark 3:1-6	in Carryduff
21 January 8:30 10:00 12:00	Epiphany 3 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 John 2:1-11 (all services) Early Communion B Sunday Worship Sunday Worship	(White) in Carryduff in Carryduff in Killaney
23 January 8:00	Tuesday Parishes' Bible Study	in Rectory
24 January 11:30	Wednesday Midweek Communion and Lunch Please let us know you are coming for lunch Colossians 1:24-2:5 Mark 4:1-20	in Carryduff
28 January 8:30 10:00 12:00	Epiphany 4 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 John 2:13-25 (all services) Early Communion C Celebrate at Ten Sunday Morning Worship	(White) in Carryduff in Carryduff in Killaney
30 January 8:00	Tuesday Parishes' Bible Study	in Rectory
31 January 10:00	Wednesday Midweek Communion Colossians 2:6-15 Mark 6:1-6a	in Killaney

Learning from Colossians

The Parishes' Bible Study resumes on Tuesday 16th January with 'tea' at 7:50 pm. We are continuing to read and reflect on the Letter of Paul to the Church at Colossae. Everyone is welcome.

Currently, we can all fit into the rectory sitting room, but we would love to move to somewhere more spacious if needed!

To enable more people to benefit from this event in the parishes, we will be reading selected passages, from Colossians, at the Midweek Communion in January. One of these services takes place in Killaney: on Wednesday 31st January at 10:00 am



A New Age

At this time of year – this Advent season – we tend to look forward eagerly, even expectantly, to the coming of Christmas.

That first Christmas time, with the Christ child lying in a manger, was quite amazing, in that it was gentle, humble and largely unannounced. Yet it has become probably the most celebrated birthday in history.

However, alongside our joyful annual celebration there has emerged an ever-increasing amount of secular extravagance. Arguably this has only a notional connection with the coming into this world of the child born to be our redeemer.

We are told in Matthew's account of the gospel story that wise men came from the east – possibly quite some distance – to visit and to worship this newborn child (Matthew 2 v.1-2). Popular convention imagines that they might have been kings, but the regal posturing of kings did not appear to be in their nature. In essence, they come across as quietly respectful men. They evidently had some element of foresight about who and what they had come to celebrate. I am inclined to think of them as both humble and wise – and perhaps these two priceless qualities often go together.

A new age had come; and now, in our current noticeably secular world, there is an ever-increasing need to present the life of faith in a way that appeals to a rising generation. Arguably this is a challenge which might require us to be both humble and wise.

A new age? Does this Advent season not also prompt thoughts of a second Advent – a second coming? It was a question that the disciples put to Jesus near the end of His earthly ministry. This was their response to some striking comments Jesus made about the “signs of the end of the age” (see Matthew 24 v.4-8; Mark 13 v.3-8). In these texts, Jesus stresses that “many will come in my name, claiming ‘I am he’ and will deceive many.”

He further stated: “.....Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth-pains (Mark 13 v.8).”

We might argue that these words imagine quite a lot about what has been happening across the world during the present year. Yet, we are advised not to jump to conclusions. The “New Age” will come at a time that we cannot know. In the meantime, we, in the active Christian community, have both the joy of the approaching Christmas season and the commission to ensure that “the gospel must first be preached to all nations (Mark 13 v.10).”

Arguably we need to be both active and prepared and, like those first gentile visitors to the manger, we should try to be humble and wise.

Denis Carson

Vestry Revision and Easter Vestry 2024

There is no harm in thinking ahead, so we give you notice of an important process beginning at the end of January in both our parishes. It is called the Revision of the General Vestry Lists.

While you can be a member, in a loose sense, of our parishes just by coming along, there is a legal status which gives a person permission to take part in the government of the local church. Those who contribute to their parish and have reached the age of 18 years, and do not belong to any other parish, may sign up to be a member of the General Vestry. The list of members is revised each February, and names added (who have signed up) and removed (who are no longer residents or are no longer accustomed attenders as non-residents).

Existing 'accustomed' members need to ensure that they have attended in the last three months, and have contributed in a way which can be recorded, while 'resident' members must have contributed to funds. Every so often we go into this in even greater detail than normal and 2024 is such a year.

Paper forms will be available in the porches from mid January, or you may complete one on line to email or print from home at <https://carryduff-killaney.down.anglican.org/2225-2/>

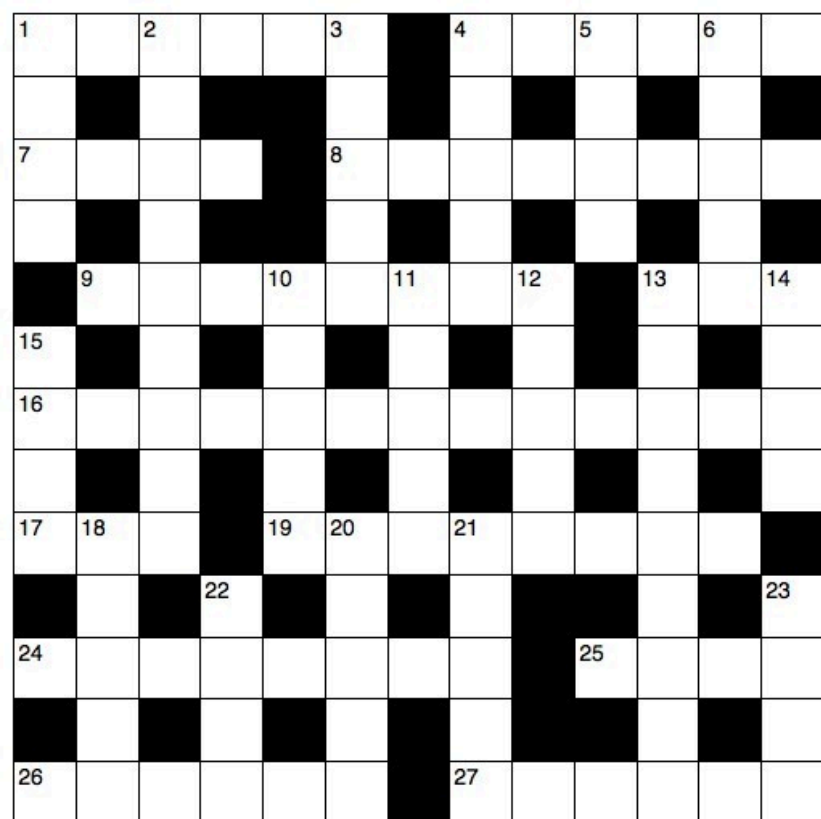
Easter Vestry meetings, where the General Vestry members vote for offices in the church, are due to take place in mid to late March. (Carryduff has chosen Sunday 17 March 2024)

Remembrance Day in Carryduff

The young people of our two uniformed organisations gathered at St Ignatius' Church on Remembrance Day to give thanks for the men and women who gave their lives and served in times of war to preserve freedom. The new Brownie Flag joined the other colours that were processed to the front of the church, and the movement of the flags and the two-minute silence were helped by the music of David Gill's pipes and Elizabeth Mahood's trumpet. Readings were conducted by representatives of the two organisations. Having such a large crowd in the church was a source of great encouragement to the congregation. The theme of the address was "The Hiding Place" by Corrie Ten Boom, and we heard the stories of courage in times of conflict and reliance on the Lord Jesus for our shelter. We thank the group leaders and their team for their preparations and all who contributed to the service.

Death of former archdeacon

We were saddened to hear of the death of the Ven Billy Neill, who served as archdeacon of the Diocese of Dromore when rector of Dromore Cathedral. Billy and his wife Anne had a wonderful spirituality which God used in them to encourage faith and witness in the people they served. They enjoyed a long retirement in Cairnshill. His funeral took place in St John's Orangefield on Wednesday 22 November. We extend our sympathies to Mrs Anne Neill and all who mourn his passing.



Down

- 1 Money owing (Deuteronomy 15:3) (4)
- 2 Conciliatory (Titus 3:2) (9)
- 3 'Do this, whenever you — it, in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (5)
- 4 A group assisting in the governance of the Roman Catholic Church (5)
- 5 One of the gifts Joseph's brothers took with them on their second journey to Egypt (Genesis 43:11) (4)
- 6 'Reach out your hand and — — into my side. Stop doubting and believe' (John 20:27) (3,2)
- 10 Be outstandingly good (2 Corinthians 8:7) (5)
- 11 'What — — that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?' (Psalm 8:4) (2,3)
- 12 Horse's feet (Judges 5:22) (5)
- 13 Notice (Deuteronomy 17:4) (9)
- 14 Comes between 2 Chronicles and Nehemiah (4)
- 15 One of Israel's northern towns conquered by Ben-Hadad (1 Kings 15:20) (4)
- 18 Narnia's Lion (5)
- 20 One of the two rivers in which Naaman would have preferred to wash (2 Kings 5:12) (5)
- 21 Avarice—one of the evils that come from inside people (Mark 7:22) (5)
- 22 Knight Grand Cross of St Michael and St George (1,1,1,1)
- 23 Jacob's first wife (Genesis 29:23) (4)

Across

- 1 Rely (Psalm 62:7) (6)
- 4 'He stretches out the heavens like a — , and spreads them out like a tent to live in' (Isaiah 40:22) (6)
- 7 What the dove carried the olive leaf in, when it returned to Noah's ark (Genesis 8:11) (4)
- 8 Annoy (1 Samuel 1:6) (8)
- 9 Judah's last king, who ended his days as a blind prisoner in Babylon (Jeremiah 52:11) (8)
- 13 'They all — and were satisfied' (Luke 9:17) (3)
- 16 Eliphaz the Temanite was one; so was Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite (Job 2:11; 16:2) (4,9)
- 17 National Association of Evangelicals (of the USA) (1,1,1)
- 19 Popular song for New Year's Eve, Auld — — (4,4)
- 24 Able dock (anag.) (8)
- 25 The number of stones David chose for his confrontation with Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (4)
- 26 Elgar's best-known 'Variations' (6)
- 27 Soak (Isaiah 16:9) (6)

PARISH REGISTER

Funeral Services

The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want

9 November Gordon Shaw, Saintfield

11 November Martha (Muriel) Murphy, formerly Hillsborough Rd, Carryduff

Blessed are those who die in the Lord. They rest from their labours.

Remembering

The funeral of **Mr Gordon Shaw** took place at McBriar's Funeral Home on Thursday 9 November. Gordon was a former parishioner of St Ignatius' Church. He and his wife, Geraldine, were proprietors of Pat's newsagent at Beechill for some 20 years, following his career as chief engineer with BP in Northern Ireland.

At the Thanksgiving Service a tribute to his long life was paid by his son, Gibson, and included humorous references to various episodes of his life. When young, he was a "paperweight" boxer, and after moving to London to seek his fortune, he became a merchant seaman. While there he developed his skills as he studied marine engineering with the navy. Then, after his return to Belfast, he met Geraldine, his wife to be, and eventually persuaded this tall athlete to marry him, a comparative height issue it seems, proving only a temporary obstacle. Gordon's generous heart and great range of skills made him a great source of help and conversation. In recent years he was ill, and tribute was paid by the family to all those who cared for him, and the support of all those present in Saintfield. He was buried at Killaney after the service. We sympathise with Geraldine, Gibson and Justin, their loved ones, children and grandchildren on their sad loss.

A large family attendance met in St. Andrew's, Killaney for the funeral of **Mrs Martha Murphy**, known as **Muriel**, on Saturday 11 November. Muriel (nee Eva) was 88 years of age upon her death. She was the eldest of six children from Belfast, and is survived by them and her three children, Mandy, Michelle and Gregory, seven grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren.

She and her late husband, Billy, owned several shops and Carryduff residents will remember Murphy's Shop on the Hillsborough Road, which, along with shops at times in Moneyreagh and Crossnacreevy, they owned and managed with Greg and Mandy. She loved being out and about and was never a shrinking violet in company, enjoying going out several nights of the week to enjoy competitions. She was, however, not very adventurous with her palette, and the best of European cuisine had nothing to compare with the eggs, chips and peas she truly loved! One of her proudest moments was her attendance at Hillsborough Castle as the only member of the ancillary staff at the police station where she worked to see the RUC presented with the George Cross.

The well attended funeral service was conducted in part by her great nephew Keith Shaw. We extend our sympathy to her sisters and brother, and all the whole family circle.

Seasonal Musings

There are probably two types of people when it comes to Christmas Celebrations: those who look forward to them starting, and those who long for them to be finished! *Which type are you?*

I'm on the fence about this one. On the one hand, I love to see everyone celebrating their family life and their faith in the Nativity of Christ. Yet many people get so worked up about everything being "just right" that I fear they cannot truly be enjoying the meals, the parties, the services, the gifts, and even the cards they receive because they are so quick to judge themselves or others.

That's why, I think, people for the most part want to be able to say "we had a quiet Christmas" when the New Year arrives. Am I completely wrong? Raising expectations for yourself - and for others - nearly always leads to a small amount of disappointment somewhere.

When couples come to prepare for their wedding day I advise them not to make things too complicated. They sometimes allow the "missing button-hole for the Best Man's brother", or whatever little detail it is that goes wrong, to become a nightmare that keeps the organiser awake at night.

So what I aim for is this:

- - make sure the people you love know that you love them with some simple acts of kindness
- - make simplicity rather than complexity the goal for every event.
- - make time to enjoy the events, building in pauses so it does not become a relentless rush.
- - make conversation the priority, not the perfect dish.
- - make the story at the heart of Christmas impact your planning so that God comes first.

Yes, God may be last on this list, so that most readers would get this far. But don't forget God has put you and me first on his list, as he gave us Jesus, the first Christmas Gift, his Son that we can enjoy a life which goes on long after Christmas and New Year but into a perfect eternity.



Stephen

ACROSS: 1, Depend. 4, Canopy. 7, Beak. 8, Irritate. 9, Zedekiah. 13, Ate. 16, Job's comforter. 17, NAE. 19, Lang Syne. 24, Blockade. 25, Five. 26, Enigma. 27, Drench. **DOWN:** 1, Debt. 2, Peaceable. 3, Drink. 4, Curia. 5, Nuts. 6, Put it. 10, Excel. 11, Is man. 12, Hoofs. 13, Attention. 14, Ezra. 15, Ijon. 18, Asian. 20, Abana. 21, Greed. 22, GCMG. 23, Leah.

Rosters December and January

Readers	8:30 am Epistle	10:00 am Lessons	12:00 pm Lessons
3	Raymond	Karen McConnell	Betty Green
10	Jonathan	Tanya Adams	Florence Coulter
17	Edward	J Club	Adrian & Laura Cousins David Gill
24	Ken	Cedric Adams	Viona Crothers
31	David	Vera Lowry	Anne Mannis
7	Mary	Sandra Thomas	Amanda Counsin
14	Caroline	Fiona Ellis	Raine Callard
21	Raymond	Maureen Keeley	Norman May
28	Jonathan	J Club	Anne Mannis

	Flowers	Refreshments at Carryduff	Screens
3		George & Jene Buchanan	Andrew
10	Norah Brown	Sandra & Andrew Thomas	Maureen
17		Fiona Ellis & Joan Clayton	Jenny
24	Rev Ewardson	Jill McPeak & Jan Erwin	Fiona
31	V Frazer		Raymond
7			Andrew
14			Maureen
21			Jenny
28			Fiona

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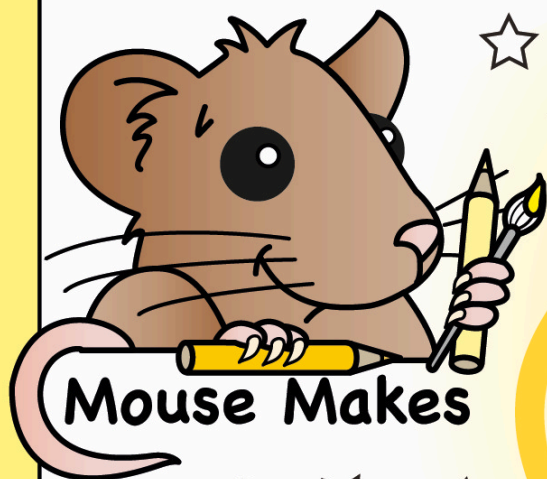
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Gift Aid Secretary:	Fiona Moore	
Honorary Secretary:	Sandra Thomas	
Sexton:	Fiona Ellis	
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Covenants:		
Flower Rota:	Anne Mannis	028 9751 0089
Cleaning Rota:	Marie Mack	028 9751 0350
Parish Panels:	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 Carryduff	Stephen Lowry and Marlene Moore Joan Nevin	028 9081 4896 028 9751 9366
Killaney	Florence Coulter Bill Connor	077 8756 3851 028 9263 9873

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ADVENT
comes from
the Latin
'AD VENTO'
which means
ARRIVAL

In Advent we
celebrate Jesus' birth
and look forward to
the time when Jesus
will come again.



A LONG JOURNEY

Luke 2:1-20

BETHLEHEM

REGISTER • BIRTH

MANGER • INN

SHEPHERDS • FLOCK

ANGELS • JOY

GOOD NEWS • PRAISE

SAVIOUR • CHRIST



THE BEST GIFT OF ALL

John 3:16

GOD • SO • LOVED

WORLD • HE • GAVE

ONLY • SON

WHOEVER • BELIEVES

ETERNAL • LIFE

GOD'S PROMISE

Isaiah 9:6-7

CHILD • BORN • SON

GIVEN • WONDERFUL

COUNCELLOR

MIGHTY • GOD

EVERLASTING

FATHER • PRINCE

PEACE • LORD



AN ANGEL MESSENGER

Luke 1:26-38

ANGEL • GABRIEL

JOSEPH • MARY

FAVOUR • SON

JESUS • GREAT

THRONE • REIGN

FOREVER • HOLY

SERVANT • WORD

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