

The Columban

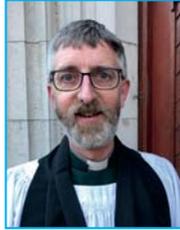
ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH, KNOCK, APRIL 2018



The latest parish news, events and notices

"He is Risen"

James Steidl



THE RECTOR'S EASTER VESTRY ADDRESS 2018

VISION

Vision is the theme of my Easter Vestry Address this year as it aptly describes our work in St Columba's.

The Oxford Dictionary gives several definitions of "**Vision**" which include:

1. The ability to think about or plan for the future with imagination or wisdom.
2. The faculty or state of being able to see.

The word '**vision**' appears frequently throughout the Bible. Many of these **visions** will be familiar from our Sunday School days, including the call of Samuel in the Old Testament and the conversion of Paul in the New Testament.

Here in St Columba's we also have a vision – to faithfully serve the risen Christ with confidence, by working together as a strong, united church family.

This ability to '**see**' is something which we all too-often take for granted. In the world of optics, **vision** can be described using many different terms – **short sight**, **long sight**, and presents a range of common vision conditions e.g. needing lenses for a range of distances, or a muscle imbalance which causes an increased difference in prescriptive lenses between each eye. We have all heard of lazy eye – a condition which is often remedied by "patching" the good eye.

These terms also apply to our '**Vision**' at St Columba's. We do not want to be too **short-sighted** as we will miss the big picture. **Long sightedness** will mean we miss the "here and now". We need everyone to join in, to prevent the imbalance of those who attend and support the church versus those who do not. We currently have 116 families who have not made any recognised financial or practical contribution to the parish. In January, they all received a letter encouraging them to reconnect with the parish, which included a Standing Order form as we were unable to send them a statement.

We need to have a range of foci, which enables us to deal with the present yet prepare for the future – a bit like bifocal or multifocal spectacles.

Let us not be lazy in our involvement in church and organisations, or patch over the issues. Our combined **vision** will allow us to work together for the greater good and to face any issues in an honest and dedicated manner.

Our **Vision in St Columba's over this past year has been to create an all-inclusive culture, where everyone feels valued, important and included, and where their opinions are respected and listened to. Our **Vision** for the future includes strengthening and developing our work in our local community, assisting more people in need, and bringing people together to spend time with God and each other. The only way for a parish to develop further is to be together as one united family. Family is much stronger together than apart.**

As the famous American Author Mario Puzo famously quoted, "the strength of a family, like the strength of an army, is in its loyalty to each other.

FINANCE

STANDING ORDERS

During 2017 we asked more parishioners to consider changing to Standing Order instead of using Free Will Offering envelopes. Standing Order is the quickest, most convenient and safest method of financial giving. We have **seen almost 200 families who have already made the change. I am delighted to report that around 45% of those parishioners who contribute financially now do so through Standing Order. While this is encouraging, we need more families to follow their good example.**

This reduces the costs of envelopes to be ordered and labelled as well as the practical difficulties and implications of lodging money each week following the closure of our local First Trust bank in Ballyhackamore at the end of July 2017. The great benefit of giving through Standing Order is that you do not have to **look** for envelopes or cash on Sundays!

Our 'Vision**' is to have everyone on our database contributing in a recognised manner and being proactive in our parish life.**

GIFT AID

In 2017, we received £23,243.00 from Gift Aid alone which is fantastic! There is plenty of time for everyone to still consider helping in this way – let's **see** the number of Gift Aid donations in the parish increase in 2018! If you haven't already signed a Gift Aid form, please contact Karen Patterson in the Parish Office, as it will add an extra 25% to your financial contribution at

no extra cost to yourself. **If it were not for the Gift Aid income in our annual accounts, there would have been a deficit of £10,779.**

CHARITY

In our charitable 'Vision', we have contributed to many worthy charities during the past year, and our Charity and Mission envelopes have also been put to good use with £1,100 to be made to each of the following important organisations:

The SOS Bus	The Down Cathedral Appeal
Lagan Search & Rescue	The Dean's Sit Out
Dementia NI	Fields of Life
The Simon Community	Jengana

Fields of Life and Jengana each received an additional **£2,030** which was reallocated from the Zambia Fund following the end of our parish link through CMS. The Bishop's Appeal received **£1,649** and Marie Curie received **£2,539** from our Charity and Mission envelopes.

This does not include the charities who have received gifts from our All Age Worship tea and coffee donations each month, e.g. Help for Heroes received **£712.10**, Mission to Seafarers received **£124.50**, St Vincent de Paul received **£443.80**, NI Hospice received **£130.50**, to name but a few! I would like to thank **Suzanne Allen** who works hard liaising with parishioners to select which charities we will support, and for organising the very popular refreshments after the All Age Worship services.

Our Christian **vision** of helping those in need does not stop there, as we also exceeded our previous gifts to Christian Aid, by raising **£3,720** following the humanitarian crisis in East Africa, the worst since 1945.

It is most rewarding to see that collections for world disasters in church have been exceptionally well supported this year, and this is in addition to funds from the Lent and Harvest lunches as well as voluntary donations from families in the parish to Church and Hall funds.

Contributions to **CAP** in December were very generous, and it was great to **see Murray and Pam Hunter** taking the food items to St Christopher's on such a frequent basis. We will continue to support this valuable work throughout 2018. It is worth remembering that people need food all year – not just at Christmas! Please remember when you are shopping that you can add an additional item or two, or use vouchers, or even use multi-purchase offers to provide additional items to donate. You will be helping give people in our local community the basic human right of food.

During December and especially at our Christmas Day All Age Worship service, children presented gifts for the NI Children's Hospice. This collection was once again extremely well supported by parishioners.

I thank everyone for their generosity at this busy time of year for the food and children's gifts, which were gratefully received by both worthy charities.

On Sunday 7th May last year, I invited Jonathan Hall from Jonathan Hall Opticians in Kings Square to talk about his charity work in Sierra Leone, as part of Vision Aid Overseas. The proceeds from the refreshments after the service raised **£464.88**. We have donated a further **£1,535.60** from our Carol and Christmas services to Vision Aid Overseas, which shows how well this charity is supported by St Columba's.

Our Carol Service gift alone has provided eye tests and spectacles to **307** people in Sierra Leone, which will be a life-changing experience for them and will allow them to carry on their own important work as market traders, teachers, nurses, shop keepers and farmers.

According to James 2: 14-17, "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead."

CHURCH ROOF

In addition to further developing our support for Mission and Charity organisations, we need to **review** the findings in the recent Quinquennial report about our church roof.

This Inspection, which was carried out in January 2017, stated that while "the situation of the roof is being reviewed and monitored on a frequent basis"; it strongly recommended that the roof needs to be replaced before the next inspection due in 2022.

We have just completed significant repairs following recent storm damage to the slates, which cost £5,000, although part of this expense was met by our insurers. Due to its age, the church roof is in need of constant repair and we cannot sustain these repair bills as it is becoming increasingly difficult to get roofing contractors to carry out necessary repairs.

The roofing defects consist primarily of slate slippage caused by nail sickness (nails corroding, slates disintegrating at nail holes), breakdown of lead abutment flashings and porosity of the parapets all due to ageing. The lead valley gutters showing signs of splitting are also reaching the end of their useful life.

The intensity of the inclement weather we are now experiencing compared to that at the time the church was first constructed is also leading to moisture ingress. Damage caused to existing fabric from moisture ingress includes:

1. Discolouration and salt damage to internal plaster surfaces.
2. Staining to internal ceiling timbers.

To date, due to carrying out constant repairs, we have managed to avoid permanent damage to furnishings and fixtures. However, this cannot continue as we risk damaging some aspects of our beautiful church fabric.

The re-roofing costs are estimated to be in the region of approximately £200,000 plus £25k for remedial works.

Costs are exclusive of vat at 20% and professional fees at 4/5%.

The Select Vestry have agreed to open a Church Roof Fund which will be specifically for this project, and to demonstrate their commitment to this work they have transferred £10,000 from our unrestricted funds to launch this initiative. At our meetings, we have already commenced work sourcing grant funding to assist with our fundraising initiatives over the coming years. However, as our church building is not listed and is located in a conservation area, there are unfortunately many forms of grant assistance which we are not eligible to apply for. This also means that we have to adhere to certain criteria with regard to the use of materials and fabric modifications.

This undoubtedly will be a major project requiring focused 'Vision' from us all, which will enable us and future generations to continue worshipping Almighty God in our beautiful church. This essential work will not be without its financial and practical challenges.

On Sunday 10th June we will celebrate our Patronal Festival which will be not only be an opportunity for us all to give thanks for the life of St Columba, but for the ministry and blessings we receive from our parish church. At all of the church services on that day, every family will have an opportunity to make an early voluntary donation to the Roof Fund using the Gift Aid envelope which will be issued to every home in the June Columban. This can be placed on the offertory plate at our Patronal Festival Services on Sunday 10th June or on another Sunday that month if that is more convenient.

Following the wonderful success of the Painting Appeal, where Gift Aid allowed us to achieve and surpass our goal, **I hope that you will see this opportunity to assist again and will give it your full support.** It is only by everyone giving of their best that we will achieve our goal of replacing the roof. Further fundraising events will be required over the coming years for the replacement of the church roof.

MUSIC

Our church services here in St Columba's are greatly enriched, Sunday to Sunday, by wonderful music. In addition, the inspirational music provided by **Dr Joe McKee** and his team has been enjoyed at other key events during the church year.

On Saturday 16th May, we enjoyed a wonderful **visual** and auditory feast at the Spring Recital, performed by the Parish Choir, along with guests, to raise funds for the Choir Funds & Choral Scholarships. A lovely reception followed, with many parishioners enjoying the conviviality and fellowship.

The Choir, led by Dr Joe McKee, produced some magnificent music during our Patronal Festival weekend. At our Patronal Eucharist at 10.30am on Sunday 4th June, we welcomed **The Right Revd Patrick Rooke, Bishop of Tuam, Killala and Achonry**. At 7.00pm, we welcomed **The Revd Helene Steed, Rector of St Mark's, Dundela** along with members of the Belmont District Churches. It was most encouraging to **see** the large attendances at these events.

The Parish Choir, assisted by some special guests, held the much-anticipated Choir Concert on Saturday 24th June at 7.00pm. This concert has become an annual event which is fast becoming a "must attend" for many people, who eagerly await the date each year for their calendars! Refreshments followed on the lawn, however such was the excitement and chat at the back of church that many people didn't quite make it that far!

We have a date in the diary for our Spring Recital on Saturday 21st April at 7.30pm– so "keep an **eye** out" for more information soon!

We hosted our Advent Carol Service on Sunday 3rd December, when we were once again joined by the Choir from Cregagh Presbyterian church. The music and singing were magnificent, and there were many complimentary comments from those who attended, including **Mr Aidan Jennings, Area Commander, Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service, and Mr Alan Todd, Assistant Chief Constable, PSNI**, who read lessons during the service.

Our Annual Carol Service was held on Sunday 24th December, and we were extremely fortunate to have so many people participate in and enjoy this service. We **saw** large numbers in attendance, (in fact so many that people who arrived just before the service started were unable to sit with partners!) and the music was exceptional. I thank Dr Joe McKee, the Parish Choir and the lesson readers for their hard work on that inspirational occasion, which was hugely appreciated by everyone in church.

Our Christmas Services were enjoyed by record numbers of parishioners and it was most encouraging to see people take time out from busy diaries and

schedules, to spend time together in church or to listen to the recorded services online.

I wish to convey my personal thanks to our Parish Organist and Choral Director, Dr Joe McKee, for his deep commitment, hard work and loyal support which he generously expresses in so many ways. I also thank Brian Clements and choir members for giving so much of their time and talent throughout the past year, which has enabled us to receive immense blessing from such musical excellence at our services. It has also been a delight to welcome our Organist Emeritus Gerald Hill and guest organists who have contributed so much to our worship, especially at Choral Evensong, enabling Dr Joe McKee to conduct the choir.

CHURCH SERVICES AND CONFIRMATION

On Sunday 30th April, The Bishop of Down and Dromore, the Right Revd Harold Miller, administered the rite of confirmation in Mount Merrion Parish, where **Sophie King** and **Kent Irwin** joined other candidates to be confirmed.

On Sunday 25th June, I presented **Daniel Sadlier, John Kerr** and **Bill Craven** to the Bishop for confirmation in St Mark's Parish Church in Newtownards.

Both occasions were enjoyed by the families and friends who attended these significant services to support the candidates as they became full communicant members of the Church of God. The 'Vision' of these families in their request for Confirmation, and their active participation in our services, together with the support they received from St Columba's highlights another important part of parish life.

Our Sunday School Prize giving on Sunday 11th June was very well attended, when we heard **Adam Moore** read the lesson, and seven children assisted in leading us in the prayers. Everyone involved enjoyed the service, the congregation enjoyed seeing the children participate and the excited children received their prizes for their hard work.

FUTURE VISION

Attendances at our services are continuing to grow. New families are joining, and we have had an increase in baptisms and weddings this year – all are a cause of celebration and reflect the warmth and friendship which exists among our parishioners. This relationship spills over into the local community and has seen increased attendances at key events such as our concerts and services. The value of this is immeasurable. People who are non-parishioners but who are involved with our organisations demonstrate such enthusiasm to support our parish at many different occasions. As Rector, I greatly value this participation which is an important part of our work in St Columba's.

At Harvest, we enjoyed a beautifully decorated church, as we joined together to give thanks for the food provided by our farmers and local workers. After the service, we enjoyed a most delicious lunch, carefully prepared and served by our catering committee. Many people thoroughly enjoyed the services and lunch, and plenty of compliments were made! I thank the catering committee for their hard work in preparing and serving such exceptional food – not just at the Harvest Lunch, but at so many parish events throughout the year. It was wonderful to **see** such fellowship.

Gifts to the Parish

We have been extremely fortunate to receive some wonderful gifts from parishioners who wanted to help the parish. We had a beautiful new Altar Frontal cabinet installed at the West End of the church, which was crafted by the same company who built the refreshment's point at the back of church. **This matches perfectly matches the furniture at the back of church, and was most kindly gifted by the Cadden Family in memory of Yvonne, who was a most loyal parishioner.** The altar frontals need careful storage and this cabinet prevents damage to the beautiful fabric of our church.

We have also received a beautiful painting, which you may have **seen as you entered the Church hall this evening, which was generously donated by the Art Club in memory of their founder and leader Bob Killen.** The artist was Vida Shaw, who painted the delightful Narin Beach, Portnoo, Co. Donegal. It was selected by the Killen family from a choice of three, and it demonstrates the wonderful teaching and enthusiasm given by Bob to all the Club members.

On Sunday 18th February, I dedicated a beautiful portable Font, which holds the Baptism Bowl kindly donated some years ago by Jennifer Johnston. The font is a most delightful gift which allows parishioners to clearly **see** baptisms in church, and to help the families celebrate these significant occasions. **The font was kindly gifted by the Launchbury Family and its modern design allows for easy movement, but the sturdy and strong design permits a secure fitting for the baptism bowl.** Once again, the wood perfectly matches the wood used for the Refreshment Point at the back of church.

I thank everyone for their generosity and thoughtfulness and hope that these practical gifts can be enjoyed by future generations.

I invite you all to take time to view these items when you are in church on Sunday, and to spend a moment in thankful reflection of the kindness of our parishioners.

EVENTS

25th Anniversary of Ordination

On Thursday 15th June, at our 10.30am Thursday morning Holy Communion, I marked the 25th Anniversary of my Ordination. After the service, I could not believe my **eyes** as the parishioners had arranged a surprise party, which also celebrated my 50th birthday the following day and a few weeks later marked the 10th Anniversary of my institution as your Rector here in St Columba's. It is not often that people can get one over on me, but this was certainly the case on this occasion! When I recently visited my Optician for an eye examination, I discovered that changes had occurred in my optical prescription meaning new spectacles – perhaps a sign of the blur of passing years?!! What a year for cakes, celebrations - and of course candles – but we are definitely not counting those!!

HOG ROAST AND BARN DANCE

Friday 15th September **saw** us enjoying our Hog Roast and Barn Dance, organised by the Fundraising Committee and kindly hosted by **Clodagh and Tony Reid** at their home. The hog was beautifully prepared by Corries Butchers, and our catering committee assisted with the salads and drinks. This was our major fundraiser for the year and we raised around **£2,310** after expenses. It was a well-enjoyed event by parishioners, neighbours, family and friends! There was lots of food, dancing and craic!

CHRISTMAS

Our Annual Children's Christmas Party was held on Saturday 2nd December and was enthusiastically enjoyed by the younger members of our parish. This event continues to enthral our children and is always much-anticipated. It is always a source of great encouragement to **see** these young people enjoying the season!

On Thursday 21st December, we hosted Holy Communion for our Senior Parishioners, which was followed by seasonal refreshments in the Choir Vestry. It was most rewarding to **see** so many people come along and spend time enjoying the friendship and fellowship.

PARISH QUIZ

Bloomfield Collegiate School was the venue for our Parish Quiz evening on Friday 26th January. We had tables of 6 people and the Quiz Master was **Billy McAlpine**. Excitement was palpable as everyone arrived to prepare for the fun. And what a night it turned out to be! Prizes included an £80 voucher for the Culloden Spa, bottles of various alcohols and other goodies, making the demand for ballot tickets very high! Everyone quickly took their seats and decided on their team names, which included a table of clergy and their wives, or "The Holy Table" as it was quickly christened!

A delicious supper was provided by the catering committee to compliment the evening.

I thank our Fundraising Committee for all of their invaluable assistance in preparing and hosting this popular event, along with Billy McAlpine for his role of Quizmaster, markers Karen and Kieran and the sound technician Jim Best. I also thank our catering committee for once again serving beautiful food, and to everyone who donated prizes for the ballot or helped in any way to make this such a wonderful evening which raised **£1,300** for our Building Fund, and Bloomfield Collegiate School for the use of their premises.

ORGANISATIONS

Our parish organisations have continued to thrive. Our **Young Families** group met for Wine & Cheese supper in the Rectory on Friday 24th March 2017. The evening was a wonderful success, with plenty of fun and laughter.

They met again on Friday 19th January 2018 at Acapulco, in Ballyhackamore, where the evening was spent in joyful chat and enjoying delicious food. These evenings are an excellent opportunity to spend time with people of a similar age group, to share experiences and to have some relaxing time away from the stresses of everyday life – and even the kids! Our **vision** of inclusiveness is displayed at these events as we meet up with others whom we may not have the opportunity to speak to often. To **see** such friendship and laughter together as people engage in the local eateries, promotes our **vision** of community in an exceptional manner. Do come along to future events if you can!

Railway & Model Club are now into their fourth year! They have held open days for everyone to **see** the projects they are working on. This is an example of how, when people are passionate about a hobby, that it can be shared with others. They recently hosted tea and coffee at the back of church and had a display railway for everyone to enjoy in the Baptistry. They are a most popular group to visit!

We would be delighted to see some new organisations start up, so if you are interested in running a new group, please contact me. They can be informal, formal, meet monthly, quarterly or weekly - just whatever suits.

We need everyone to be INvolved for the parish to Evolve!

Every family in the parish needs to contribute time, expertise, finance, talent or whatever they can to assist their parish. We have some families who neither attend church nor participate in any events. If you fall into this category, I would ask you to consider how you would like to become an INvolved parishioner. Is there something we are missing – perhaps a group or event you feel would benefit the parish? Is there something missing from

our services which would encourage you to attend? Or something we can do to help you settle back into worship and fellowship? If so, please contact the Parish Office or myself to discuss what we can do to help you join us! Our church family together provides something that cannot be put into words – and the feeling of friendship and belonging can only be achieved if you join in. Come along and see for yourself how rewarding and enriching life can be as an involved parishioner at St Columba's. Make a difference to your own life, that of your family, and your community. There is nothing to lose, but plenty to gain!

Using the Church Hall more frequently can maintain heat, as well as allow us to use the property to the maximum for the benefit of parishioners and the local community.

2017 APPOINTMENTS

I was delighted to appoint **Rachel Leacock** as the new leader for Doves, following on from the wonderful success of Moira Saunders, who inspired the Doves to become involved in new ways. Rachel has wonderful experience as a teacher and will continue to develop this enthusiastic group of young children and encourage new activities.

Due to family and work commitments, Amanda Fee has been unable to continue as Brownie Leader and has had many conversations to ensure that Brownies can continue in St Columba's. This has resulted in our Brownies moving temporarily to Knock Methodist Brownies while **Lisa Boyle**, who is one of the parents, completes the required training. Following her training, I look forward to welcoming the Brownies back to St Columba's in the Springtime.

Patricia Wilson retired from her role as Sunday School Teacher in 2017, after many years of valued involvement with Sunday School and Mums and Tots. I thank Patricia for her hard work and enthusiasm. I appointed **Rachel Albery** to succeed Patricia. Rachel is a nursery teacher with a lot of experience and is well known as Canon Walter and Barbara Laverty's daughter.

Jill Gillespie's term of office as leader of Mothers' Union concluded and she was succeeded by **Barbara Laverty**. Barbara brings a lot of experience and **vision** to the Mothers' Union Group through her work in St John's Parish, Orangefield. Barbara will undoubtedly use her exceptional list of contacts to develop the programme of events for Mothers' Union, as well as encouraging new members.

Also, with Mothers' Union, **Helen Coates** was elected to lead the Ladies Bowling Club. Helen succeeded Phyllis Newton, who has most effectively led the organisation for many years.

Eleanor Launchbury was elected as Chairperson of the Ladies Guild and has quickly taken on the many tasks involved in leading this enthusiastic and busy organisation.

I would like to welcome our new leaders to their roles and wish them every success and enjoyment as they reach the mid-way point of our activity season. Thank you to all of our hardworking and dedicated leaders and members of our Parish Organisations. Your conscientiousness and kindness are most gratefully appreciated.

Following on from the great success of our Christmas Tree Festival in 2016, I invited the Parish Organisations to decorate the church for Christmas. This was carefully coordinated by Patricia Clements with full support and enthusiasm from Eleanor Launchbury. The organisations were given a selected area of the church to decorate. The result was spectacular, and many visitors to our church complimented the beautiful environment, which helped to enhance our worship at this most important time in our church year. Patricia and her team of helpers created a wonderful space for us to enjoy our church services as together we joined in the preparation and celebration of the birth of Jesus. I thank everyone involved for their hard work and dedication during this particularly busy time.

GDPR (GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION)

As part of the preparation work for the 25th May deadline for compliance with new laws in Data Protection, we are legally required to review and update our parish database.

In 2013, we undertook a complete review and update of each parishioner's contact details by supplying a Columban magazine with an enclosed survey, called "Champion our Church", delivered to every home in the parish. I subsequently undertook the task of a parish visitation to collect those forms which had not been returned by the required date – approximately 50% of our parishioners! This data was updated on the Parish Database and the surveys subsequently shredded, in accordance with Data Protection.

Each month the Clergy schedule visits to parishioners are published in *The Columban*, and we check and update parishioner's records during these visits where necessary. Canon Walter Laverty visits our housebound Parishioners on a regular basis. Our parish records are constantly being updated, and all visit dates are recorded. Please note that NO pastoral information about any parishioner is ever recorded.

GDPR is opt-in rather than opt-out, which means that unless we have full cooperation between parishioners and St Columba's, we are obliged legally to remove persons from our database. Each family will have the responsibility of remaining in contact with the parish regularly, whether by financial giving or by attending services and organisations.

We must be **visibly** following these new legal guidelines, and you will **see** posters and information on display shortly. Currently, we have around 450 families on our database, of whom around 100 or so fall into the lapsed category.

Every family will have their opportunity to “opt in” by completing the Consent Form which will also be included in the June Columban. This will allow us to update your contact data on our system. Completed forms can be left in the box at the back of church throughout June or they may be returned directly to Karen Patterson in the Parish Office. We are legally obliged to complete this important piece of work in June as we do not want to be penalised by excessive fines for non-compliance.

Through the hard work and conscientious approach taken by our Parish Administrator, Karen Patterson, we have always taken a very robust and detailed approach to Data Protection and have already successfully taken many measures to safeguard data. We currently store our parish database using an encrypted software package, and the information is then password protected. The computer itself is also password protected and the office is securely locked. This multi-faceted approach means that parishioners and I can be extremely confident that data stored in the Parish Office is secure.

Financial Giving and Gift Aid records are stored on the Parish Database, under an encrypted and password protected software package. This allows our Parish Administrator Karen Patterson full access to recording gifts and donations and permits her to submit Gift Aid Claims along with Gift Aid Secretary, Jack Dunlop. ***Karen is the ONLY person who can access personal financial details, can print statements or answer questions regarding financial giving.***

Gillian Sadlier, our Honorary Treasurer has a parish laptop computer which she uses exclusively for her work as Honorary Treasurer. Gillian’s laptop is password protected and her software is also encrypted.

THANKS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my clerical colleagues ***Canon Ken Smyth, Canon Walter Laverty***, and our Diocesan Reader ***Karen McAlpine*** for the hard work and effort they put into everything they do here in St Columba’s. Each one, in their individual ways, often quietly behind the scenes, go about the work of encouraging us all in our faith.

Thank you to the Glebewardens, ***Jim Stevenson*** and ***Mark Reid*** for the vital work that they do behind the scenes to maintain our buildings and the site.

I also thank our Parish Administrator ***Karen Patterson***, Churchwardens ***Jonathan Stewart*** and ***John Kerr***, Sacristan ***Murray Hunter***, Sexton ***John Proctor***, Crucifer ***Mark Laverty***, Premises Convenor ***Stewart Beckwith***, cleaner ***Kate McGrady***,

Columban editor **Billy McAlpine** and Webmaster **Ivan Roche** for their invaluable support to me and the parish.

I thank the Select Vestry for all that they do to assist the Parish in many ways, and for the professional manner in which our meetings are conducted. Thank you also to **John Macpherson**, our Secretary of the Select Vestry, for his timely responses and articulate planning. Thank you to our **Honorary Treasurer, Gillian Sadlier**, and Assistant Honorary Treasurer, **Victor Dukelow**, for the hard work they do, often at extremely busy times in their own lives, and for their guidance and assistance in all financial matters. I thank members of the Mission Team, Finance, Fundraising, Property, Staffing and Catering Committees for the hard work and commitment they demonstrate.

CONCLUSION

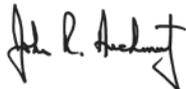
As you can see, we have had another very busy and successful year. People have joined together to celebrate, worship, share fellowship and create new bonds in St Columba's.

Our **vision** is to faithfully serve the Risen Christ with confidence by working together as a strong united church family, to continue along this path of discipleship, building our church congregation, contributing to the local community and becoming more **visible** as we continue faithfully to serve the Risen Christ.

2 Chronicles 16: 9

"For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the entire earth, to strengthen those whose heart is true to him"

Together let us use our **vision** to enhance our parish, reach out to those in need, and to bring those who have not experienced parish life here in St Columba's to join us, whether they are members of our parish who have not attended our church services or parish organisations for some time, or are members of our local community. A warm welcome is assured for all!



PARISH PRAYER

God, our Heavenly Father, make the door of our Church wide enough to welcome all who need human love, fellowship and a Father's care; but narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and hatred. Here may the tempted find help, the sorrowing receive comfort and the penitent be assured of your mercy. And here may all your children renew their strength and go on their way in hope and joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Bishop Thomas Ken 1637-1711

SERVICES IN APRIL

Sunday, 1st	Easter Day		(White)
8.15am	Holy Communion		
	Reader	Jayne Martin	Acts 10: 34-43
	Gospel	Karen McAlpine	John 20: 1-18
10.30am	Holy Communion		
	Reader	Canon Ken Smyth	Acts 10: 34-43
	Gospel	Karen McAlpine	John 20: 1-18
	Intercessions	Patrick Good	
7.00pm	Holy Communion		
	Reader	Esther Templeton	Ezekiel 37: 1-14
	Gospel	Clergy	Luke 24: 13-35
Thursday, 5th			(White)
10.30am	Holy Communion	<i>followed by refreshments in the Choir Vestry</i>	
Sunday, 8th	The Second Sunday of Easter		(White)
8.15am	Holy Communion		
	Reader	Joe McKee	Acts 4: 32-35
	Gospel	Karen McAlpine	John 20: 19-31
10.30am	All Age Worship	<i>followed by refreshments</i>	
	Reader	Emily Morrow	John 20: 19-31
7.00pm	Late Evening Office		
	Reader	Fiona Haldane	Luke 24: 1-12
Thursday, 12th	The Annunciation of our Lord (Transferred)		(White)
10.30am	Holy Communion	<i>followed by refreshments in the Choir Vestry</i>	
Sunday, 15th	The Third Sunday of Easter		(White)
8.15am	Holy Communion		
	Reader	Billy Nelson	Acts 3: 12-19
	Gospel	Karen McAlpine	Luke 24: 36b-48
9.30am	Family Communion		
	Gospel	Junior Churchwarden	Luke 24: 36b-48
	Address	Caroline McCartney	
10.30am	Morning Prayer	<i>followed by refreshments hosted by Sunday School</i>	
	Reader	Alan Boyd	Micah 4: 1-5
	Reader	Joyce Stevenson	Luke 24: 36b-48
	Occasional Prayers	Rachel Leacock	
	Address	Caroline McCartney	

6.30pm **Confirmation Service in St Molua's**
No Evening Service in St. Columba's

Thursday, 19th **(White)**

10.30am **Holy Communion** *followed by refreshments in the Choir Vestry*

Sunday, 22nd **The Fourth Sunday of Easter** **(White)**

8.15am **Holy Communion**

Reader	Elizabeth Miller	Acts 4: 5-12
Gospel	Karen McAlpine	John 10: 11-18

10.30am **Holy Communion**

Reader	Brian Acheson	Acts 4: 5-12
Gospel	Clergy	John 10: 11-18
Intercessions	Karen McAlpine	

7.00pm **Evening Prayer**

Reader	Murray Hunter	Exodus 16: 4-15
Reader	Michael Sadlier	John 6: 30-40

Thursday, 26th **Saint Mark the Evangelist (Transferred)** **(Red)**

10.30am **Holy Communion** *followed by refreshments in the Choir Vestry*

Sunday, 29th **The Fifth Sunday of Easter** **(White)**

8.15am **Holy Communion**

Reader	Paddy Malone	Acts 8: 26-40
Gospel	Karen McAlpine	John 15: 1-8

10.30am **Songs of Praise**

7.00pm **Healing Service with the Laying On of Hands**

Reader	Eileen Anderson	Mark 16: 9-16
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Readers and Intercessors: If you cannot read or lead the prayers on the appointed day, please arrange a swap with someone else on the rota and let the Churchwardens know. We are always delighted to add new names to the Rota of Readers and Intercessors. If you would wish to serve your church in this way, please contact The Rector (02890 471514).

The readings are from Year B of the Revised Common Lectionary and are printed on our parish website: www.coiknock.org

PARISH LENTEN LUNCH

The days leading up to the annual Parish Lenten Lunch were instilled this year with a tangible spirit of “can do” amongst the many volunteers of *Team St Columba's*. Whilst the catering committee prepared assiduously behind the scenes, a squad of willing parishioners turned out to clear the steep hill down to the hall of snow and ice caused by this year's extended and bitter wintery climate, with cars parked ingeniously on the hill overnight to preserve their hard labour until the following morning.

The All Age Worship service proceeded on Sunday, 4th March at the customary later start of 11am, a service truly enhanced by the beautiful reading of Katie Allen, the singing (“Praise Him”) of the Sunday School children and the prayers of Emily Morrow, Hazel and Robert Macpherson, under the careful guidance of Rachel Leacock and Joyce Stevenson. In place of the normal sermon, Fransuer Mukula, Religious Education master at Campbell College, gave an inspirational address and slide presentation on the Northern Ireland based Christian charity, *Jengana*, of which he and his wife, Rachel, were the founding directors nine years ago. He explained that he himself had been raised as a child in the slums of Nairobi but had been able to benefit from a good education through the generosity of others. *Jengana*, relying entirely on voluntary donations, now reached out to the most deprived and abandoned young children in the slums of Nairobi, offering free primary and secondary schooling, and thereby real life opportunities, as well as a home for orphans built entirely by visiting teams of volunteers. Charles Auchmuty spent a memorable three weeks in Kenya working for *Jengana* in August 2016, and Henry will be doing the same this summer.

Following the service, parishioners descended the ‘snow free’ hill unimpeded to enjoy a delicious and plentiful lunch of quiche, potatoes and salad, followed by an enticing selection of tray bakes and tea or coffee, beautifully presented and served by the hard working members of the catering committee, to whom a huge vote of thanks was readily given by all present. The ‘long table’ layout, bedecked with lovely daffodil arrangements, a poignant reminder of spring, was once again a great success. An abundance of good craic, fellowship and laughter filled the hall, amid the lively antics of energetic children running from end to end. Before Gift Aid, a grand total of **£1,643** was generously raised for the Church Hall Refurbishment Fund.

N.B. On Saturday, 10th March, a coffee morning was held in the Rectory on behalf of *Jengana*, every penny of which went directly to supporting the work of this impressive and deserving charity.

Ian Noad



ST COLUMBA'S PARISH CHURCH KNOCK

PARISH OFFICE BEARERS 2018-2019

RECTOR – The Reverend Canon John R Auchmuty

ASSISTANT PRIEST – The Reverend Canon Ken Smyth

ASSISTANT PRIEST – The Reverend Canon Walter Laverty

DIOCESAN READER – Karen McAlpine

RECTOR'S CHURCHWARDEN – David Kelly

PEOPLE'S CHURCHWARDEN – Richard Caldwell

JUNIOR CHURCHWARDENS – Sophie King & Daniel Sadlier

RECTOR'S GLEBEWARDEN – Jim Stevenson

PEOPLE'S GLEBEWARDEN – Mark Reid

HONORARY SECRETARY – John Macpherson

HONORARY TREASURER – Gillian Sadlier

ASSISTANT HONORARY TREASURER – Victor Dukelow

SELECT VESTRY

Rector, Churchwardens, Glebewardens,
Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Assistant Honorary Treasurer,
Suzanne Allen, David Craig, Andrew Ellis, Andrew Hirst, John Kerr,
Elizabeth Leonard, Moira Saunders, Jonathan Stewart, Mark Wilson

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

Niall Armstrong, Murray Hunter

PAROCHIAL NOMINATORS

Victor Dukelow, Patrick Good, Elizabeth Leonard, Linda Wilson

SUPPLEMENTAL PAROCHIAL NOMINATORS

David Craig, Moranne Noad, Karen McAlpine, Andrew Ellis

DIOCESAN SYNOD MEMBERS

Patrick Good, Elizabeth Leonard, Hollie Wilson (Under 30)

SUPPLEMENTAL DIOCESAN SYNOD MEMBERS

David Craig, Elizabeth Miller

Thought for the Month



April is a very special month. Spring has arrived after the cold dark days of winter, the garden is showing signs of life and the birds are singing. I was confirmed and Billy and I were married in St. Columba's in April, our daughter Jayne was baptised, confirmed and married there and as a parishioner for over 70 years St. Columba's has been a cornerstone of my life.

We have just celebrated Easter and the Resurrection of Christ reminding us of the renewal of life so I asked our five millennial grandchildren to let us know how today's generation view life from their perspective with their "Thought for the Day".

Joseph (12)

"Snow, O' the snow, a clean white sheet covering the ground, a duvet the grass, fresh and cold from God's sky.

O' snow how you put smiles on children's faces Just their thought of making a snowman lifts them off their feet.

Snow you are wonderful but you disappear so quick, O' snow please don't go away wouldn't you like to stay."

Caitlin (15)

"I've always found it difficult to write a song. There are so many ideas in my head but no way of putting pen to paper. I believe it is a matter of taking one idea and building upon it. Lyrics can be fascinating, opening so many doors"

James (18)

"Having become accustomed to mindlessly flicking through textbooks and revision notes, my daily routine has turned rather dull. But this has also given me a lot of time to reflect on the rewards after. All I can hope is that my hard work and optimism will pay off in later months, and make myself and my Nana and Papa proud" (Upcoming "A" levels.)

Matthew (21)

"To think we have a pre-set path in life can be comforting, but also limiting in many ways. It may give us the idea we have no choice. If we imagine life as an untouched field of snow, it gives us the potential to create our own unique paths." (Studying Chemical Engineering)

Thomas (22)

"I was on a tiring run in the park the other day and then someone walking in the opposite direction clapped me and cheered me on. It was very motivating-I sped up and it really made my day. And people say Londoners aren't friendly." (Studying International Development Studies)"

The younger generation have much to thank God for, as we all have, and we thank Him for His Blessing every day of our lives.

Our sincere thanks to Norma Black for sharing these 'Thoughts' with us. The May 'Thought for the Month' will be written by Adrian Clements.

Hospital Visiting

The Clergy would appreciate being informed if parishioners are in hospital, going into hospital, are being transferred or if they have been discharged, and will be pleased to offer them pastoral support. This will allow for better use of clergy time and resources, allowing them to visit as many people as possible. Please do not assume that they already know this information.



Please telephone the Rector (9047 1514) or Canon Ken Smyth (9145 8706) to enable them to take careful note of the details. **Thank you.**

Clergy Parish Visiting

It is always a great privilege for the Clergy to visit parishioners in their homes. If you would like to request a Clergy Visit, please telephone the Rector (028 90471514) or Canon Ken Smyth (028 91458706). In addition to requested Parish Visiting, the Clergy will be visiting parishioners in the following districts during April:

Rector

Woodcroft Park, Holywood
Ballyrainey Road, Comber
Ballyrogan Park
Milecross Road
Mount Stewart Road
Teal Rocks, Newtownards
Hillsborough Road, Comber

Canon Smyth

Bridgelea Avenue, Conlig
Miller's Park Avenue, Newtownards
Movilla Mews, Newtownards
Newtown Crescent, Newtownards
Dalton Glade, Comber
Dermott Road, Comber



MAY PARISH MAGAZINE

Any articles or photographs for publication in the **May** parish magazine should be handed or emailed to the editor, **Billy McAlpine**, by **Wednesday, 11th April**.

His contact details are:-

10 Old Quay Court, Holywood BT18 0HT
Tel: **9042 4390** Email: **colmgad@outlook.com**

We all love to see photographs of people enjoying our Church activities. So we can all benefit fully from this and for reproduction purposes, it is very important that photographs are clear and in focus.

Many thanks

RAILWAY AND MODEL CLUB

I hope that many of our readers were able to see the layout and models, at the church, when we provided coffee/tea, after the morning service. The club members were really pleased when Canon Smyth used the 'n' gauge layout, as a visual aid, during his talk to the children. The table full of plastic, wooden and matchstick models, was a great talking point. Our next event will be our Annual Open Day, at the end of June....hope to see you there.

Our Open Day will give us the opportunity to show off our new room. Yes....the Select Vestry have given permission for us to use the smaller of the two minor halls. We will be decorating soon. (Please don't tell our wives!!!) This additional space will allow us to work on the new railway layouts, the airfield layout, harbour model and other models. Wow!

Are no ladies going to join us?

In the meantime - *keep 'er rollin'!*

David

MUMS AND TOTS

We have had to cancel twice this winter which is unprecedented, however, in between we have had busy lively, fun mornings. We will start back on Friday, 13th April after our Easter break and look forward to welcoming the return of familiar faces and greeting new ones. All are welcome.

Anne

SUNDAY SCHOOL

1st April	Easter Sunday, 10.30 am Holy Communion
8th April	10.30 am All Age Worship
15th April	9.30 am Family Communion
22nd April	10.30 am Sunday school and Crèche
29th April	10.30 am Sunday school and Crèche

The children received a lot of praise for their enthusiastic singing of Praise Him, Praise Him in the All Age Worship service in March. Well done also to Katie Allen who read so clearly.

I hope you took time to look at the colourful Easter decorations on the two notice boards created by the children in Sunday school.

The 'Smartie' tubes are due back by 22nd April. Thank you for your support.

Joyce

AFTERNOON GROUP

We welcomed Marion Gibson as our speaker to the February meeting of the Afternoon Group. To a record turnout Marion told us what it was like being the younger sister of Lord Eames and the problems that led to. She talked about life as a wife of a young rector and how kind the rector of St Columba's had been to both of them. She explained how she had come to be enrolled into the Mother's Union in our church.

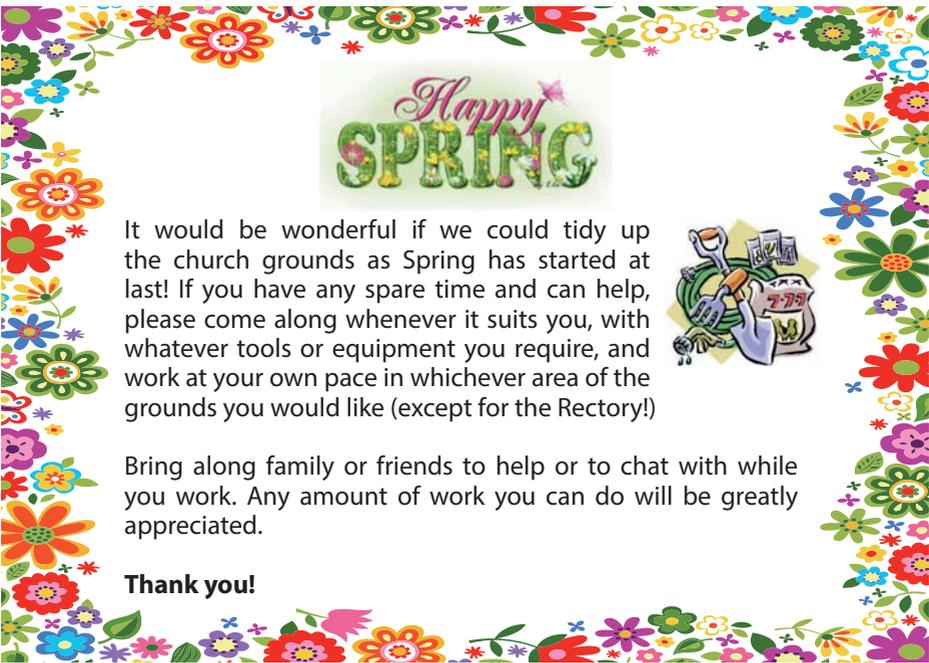


Marion went on to explain how as a widow with a young son she embraced social work. Her work with the Red Cross around the world made our lives seem very boring and uneventful. She finished by telling us about the trauma teddies and the important part they play in the lives of young refugees arriving in Northern Ireland.

Marion's visit was an outstanding success. Old friendships were renewed and new friendships were firmly established. She is a lovely lady.

On Monday, 9th April we hope to hold a vintage afternoon tea party to raise funds for the church restoration fund. Everyone is welcome to attend and you can be assured you will not go away hungry.

Joy



Happy
SPRING

It would be wonderful if we could tidy up the church grounds as Spring has started at last! If you have any spare time and can help, please come along whenever it suits you, with whatever tools or equipment you require, and work at your own pace in whichever area of the grounds you would like (except for the Rectory!)



Bring along family or friends to help or to chat with while you work. Any amount of work you can do will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

LADIES GUILD

I am not a gardener but I enjoy a party in the garden, or even a "garden party" !!!!!

Like many others here I have enjoyed some lovely walks in Mount Stewart gardens, so it was a privilege to welcome Neil Porteous their Head Gardener to our February meeting.

Neil began with a little history of Lady Edith Londonderry and the beginnings of the gardens. A lady of vision who enjoyed experimenting and to facilitate this she sponsored expeditions to collect plants from far afield. Lady Edith marvelled that plants from the Himalayas could grow next to plants from Australia in a Northern Ireland garden. Neil explained that the micro climate at Mount Stewart allowed this to happen. Lady Edith kept diaries and using these Neil is now writing a history of the gardens.

The experimental tradition continues at Mount Stewart and Neil had just returned with another batch of plants from Australia. He showed us pictures from the expeditions and it was interesting to see that many of these need lots of TLC in the greenhouses before they are ready to plant outside but he made us all smile when he proudly showed us a magnificent rhododendron which he purchased in Lidl for £3 !!!!!

Future plans are exciting too. As technology improves Mount Stewart plan to use it in a revolutionary new public greenhouse but personally I was intrigued by the path that leads to this facility - it is heated!!! It appears that as you step on this revolutionary material heat is released, sadly it will be a few years yet until it is opened.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Our speaker for 18th April has been changed and Yvonne McKee will entertain us with "MY QUILTING JOURNEY:"

Our Annual General Meeting is 16th May. This is perhaps the most important meeting of the year, a chance for you to put your name forward to help with the running of YOUR Ladies Guild or encourage a friend to volunteer.

Next year we will celebrate our 60TH ANNIVERSARY so come along with ideas, explore our history and help to plan our future.

Imelda



MEN'S CLUB

We had a busy spell last month with hosting two events in our calendar along with our regular club nights. As I mentioned in our last article we firstly welcomed family and friends to our annual social evening held in the hall on the 12th February. Everyone had an enjoyable evening of bowling followed by refreshments. I have included a few pictures of the evening. The following Monday saw a large contingent from St Colmcille's arrive for our yearly fixture. A fun filled and competitive night was anticipated and we were not let down. The match swung backwards and forwards until eventually we emerged triumphant. The hall was filled with laughter as we renewed old friendships and made new ones. Going forward we are preparing for all our finals over the next few weeks culminating in our Annual General Meeting on the 23rd April prior to our dinner on the 27th April. Plenty to keep our officers busy. We look forward also to hosting the tea and coffee following the Monday night service in Holy week. Until next time



John

PAUSE

The official first day of spring has passed (and hopefully the snow), the rain is always with us but the sunlight is appearing and we are enjoying more hours of daylight. Now is the time to go out, meet some people and have a chat. It is great to meet up with friends but also meet people you either have not met before or someone you don't really have an opportunity to talk to, apart from the occasional greeting.

Pause provides an opportunity to meet and chat over a cup of tea or coffee. If you are free come and join us on:

TUESDAY, 10TH APRIL at 10.30am at: JACK'S COFFEE SHOP for tea/coffee etc.

It is in Eastside Visitor Centre in CS Lewis Square. You can have a walk afterwards!

We look forward to seeing you there. If you need help with transport please contact me.

Eileen



We have come to the end of a cold period with the adverse weather causing a lot of disruption, hopefully we are moving into a more settled period. It was encouraging to have a good attendance at the meeting in St John's Orangefield when members from local branches met to share fellowship and to hear our Diocesan President relate her experience as a delegate attending the United Nations International Conference for Women at the United Nations building in New York City. We heard about the challenges facing women in different countries and of recurring themes. It was an enlightening talk but I was reminded that in general change begins locally as individuals work to make a difference in their particular set of circumstances and situations. We can do that here in St Columba's among our friends and neighbours. As part of an international organisation Mothers' Union strives to make a difference to the lives of women and their families throughout the world by developing and financing programmes identified by women in communities to address known needs. The job of implementing plans and developing skills begins at the point of need and the lives of women, children and communities are enhanced. A tiny ripple in the pond spreading outwards. I believe our giving to Mothers' Union overseas is used effectively and changes the lives of women and their families and ask that you bring their overseas gifts to the April meeting. Yvonne will be happy to receive your donations.

Tuesday 10th April 8.00 p.m. Parish Hall. 'The Connswater Community Greenway' We will be hosting an open meeting and invite parishioners and friends to attend. The greenway project has been developing for 10 years and it has revitalised an area of east Belfast through the provision of a series of walkways and bridges which connect people and places along the course of the Connswater, Knock and Loop rivers. Michelle Bryers, who has been part of the development team from the start, will be the speaker. We look forward to a good attendance.

Additional Diary Dates for April.

Monday, 9th Diocesan Festival Service 8.00 p.m. St Mark's Dundela

Wednesday, 18th Diocesan Council Meeting Magheralin 7.30 p.m.

Saturday, 28th Coffee Morning with the Young Families group 10.30 – 12.00 in the church hall.

Summer Outing

Saturday, 26th May we will be travelling to Moville, Co Donegal to view the displays at a Flower Festival. We will stop for morning coffee and have lunch after viewing the floral displays. There are a few places still available on the bus. Please contact Joyce if you would like to come along for the day.

Barbara

The members of the Mothers' Union and the Young Families Group Invite you to a **COFFEE MORNING, ST COLUMBA'S KNOCK, SATURDAY, 28th APRIL 2018 10.30am – 12.00noon.** Proceeds for church funds.

St Columba's Parish Church, Knock, Belfast



CONCERT

Caroline McCartney *soprano*

Ramesh Wilson *tenor*

Gary Hunt *bass / baritone*

The Parish Choir

Joe McKee *Choral Director*

Brian Clements *Assistant Organist*

Saturday 21st April 2018 at 7.30pm

Voluntary Contribution to support our Choral Scholarship scheme.

There will be light refreshments after the concert.

THANK YOU

Thank you very much to all those who supported so generously the Coffee Morning in the Rectory to raise money for the Jengana projects which I will be working on during my visit to Kenya in July.

The total amount raised before Gift Aid was £2,100 which is a fantastic result. All this money will go directly to further develop the projects in Kenya. I really appreciate all your support and look forward to sharing my experiences when I return home.

Henry Auchmuty

ACTIVITY GROUP

The Activity Group continues to meet each Tuesday evening apart from 1st Tuesday of the month when we attend the Mothers' Union branch meeting. As this is our 30th year we have enjoyed a weekend break to Newcastle and have some outings planned over the next few months our next being in April 2018 to see 42nd Street in the Grand Opera House.

At present we are busy with this year's church fundraiser which is a puzzle sheet asking you to name towns in Ireland BUT you have to work out which ones. *New members to our group would be made very welcome.*

Maureen

APRIL FLOWER ROTA

Sunday, 1st April

Easter Lilies by Caroline Cramp

Sunday, 8th April

Wendy Killen

Sunday, 15th April

Muriel Arndell

Sunday, 22nd April

Carol Willis

Sunday, 29th April

Pam Hunter

SIDESPERSION'S ROTA

Sunday, 1st April

Eleanor and Geoff Launchbury

Sunday, 8th April

Louise and Stephen Mercer

Sunday, 15th April

Helen Armstrong and Jack Dunlop

Sunday, 22nd April

Elizabeth and Hugh Miller

Sunday, 29th April

Lilias Smith and Pauline Darke

PARISH ORGANISATIONS

New members are always welcome at any of our organisations!

Sunday	Sunday School <i>Bubbles (3-5 years)</i> <i>Splash (5-8 years)</i> <i>X-treme (8-11 years)</i> <i>The Grid (11-14 years)</i>	2 nd , 4 th and 5 th Sundays 10.30am	Superintendent: Joyce Stevenson 9058 3381
	Crèche	2 nd , 4 th and 5 th Sundays	Lynn Ryan 07955 479065 Claire Hirst 07949 298473
Monday	Craft and Hobby Circle	1 st and 3 rd Monday each month 10.30am	Carol Willis 9079 9997
	Ladies Bowling	2.00pm	Helen Coates 9065 8977
	MU Afternoon Group	2 nd Monday each month 2.30pm	Joy Montgomery 9029 5427
	Mens' Club	7.30pm	John Robb 9058 1438
Tuesday	Ladies Badminton	10.30am	Gillian Popplestone 9080 3799
	Ladies Badminton	2.00pm	Kyleen Clarke 9079 7155
	Activity Group	Except 1 st Tuesday 7.30pm	Maureen Irwin 9079 5155
	Mothers' Union	1 st Tuesday each month 8.00pm	Barbara Laverty 9573 8743
Wednesday	Brownies	6.30pm	Amanda Fee 07739 039750
	Doves	6.30pm	Rachael Leacock 07891 714119
	Railway and Model Club	7.00pm	David Beattie 9028 5868
	Bible Study Group	7.30pm	Eileen Anderson 9020 3684
	Ladies Guild	3 rd Wednesday each month 7.45pm	Imelda Shepherd 9079 7683
Thursday	Art Club	9.30am	Billy Nelson 9048 3889
	Choir	7.30pm	Dr Joe McKee 07976 294574
Friday	Mums and Tots	10.00am	Anne Clarke 9065 1412
Bi-monthly	Pause	As arranged	Eileen Anderson 9020 3684
Monthly	Youth Etc. <i>(11-15 years)</i>	As arranged	David Kelly 9079 6658
	Young Families	Social events as arranged	Emma Macpherson 9028 2076

Requests for the occasional use of the church halls must be submitted to the Premise's Convenor.

WHO'S WHO IN ST. COLUMBAS

Parish website: www.coiknock.org

Rector	The Reverend Canon John R Auchmuty	St. Columba's Rectory 29 Kings Road BT5 6JG 028 9047 1514 johnauchmuty@yahoo.com
Assistant Priests	The Reverend Canon Ken Smyth	3 Mount Royal Bangor BT20 3BG 028 9145 8706
	The Reverend Canon Walter Laverty	6, Hanwood Heights Dundonald BT16 1XU 028 9573 8743
Diocesan Lay Reader	Karen McAlpine	readercolumba@gmail.com
Rector's Churchwarden	David Kelly	028 9079 6658
People's Churchwarden	Richard Caldwell	028 9079 3163
Junior Churchwardens	Sophie King and Daniel Sadlier	
Rector's Glebwarden	Jim Stevenson	028 9058 3381 07973 392448
People's Glebwarden	Mark Reid	028 9028 4367 07810 648167
Honorary Sexton	John Proctor	028 9087 0526 07989 469773
Select Vestry	Rector, Churchwardens, Glebwardens, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Assistant Honorary Treasurer, Suzanne Allen, David Craig, Andrew Ellis, Andrew Hirst, John Kerr, Elizabeth Leonard, Moira Saunders, Jonathan Stewart, Mark Wilson	
Honorary Secretary	John Macpherson	10 Sandhill Gardens BT5 6FF 028 9028 2076 jdmacpherson@hotmail.com
Honorary Treasurer	Gillian Sadlier	70 Kensington Road BT5 6NG 028 9040 3278
Assistant Honorary Treasurer	Victor Dukelow	028 9029 0625

Gift Aid Secretary	Jack Dunlop	028 9065 4103
Parochial Nominators	Victor Dukelow, Patrick Good, Elizabeth Leonard, Linda Wilson	
Diocesan Synod members	Patrick Good, Elizabeth Leonard Hollie Wilson (under 30)	
Organist and Choral Director	Dr Joe McKee	07976 294574
Assistant Organist	Brian Clements	028 9079 3641
Sidesperson's rota Co-ordinator	Rosemary Coffey	028 9754 2198
Crèche rota Co-ordinator	Lynn Ryan	07955 479065
Magazine Editor	Billy McAlpine	028 9042 4390 colmaged@outlook.com
Parish Webmaster	Ivan Roche	028 9514 0141 ivan.roche@me.com
C of I Gazette Distributor	Moranne Noad	028 9079 3704
Bible Reading Fellowship notes	Evan Preston	028 9048 9884
Church flowers	Eleanor Launchbury	028 9028 1204
Premise's Convenor	Stewart Beckwith	028 9048 6622
Crucifer	Mark Laverty	028 9573 8743
Parish Office Administrator/ Financial Giving Secretary	Karen Patterson Office hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am-1.00pm	 028 9065 6891 office@coiknock.org



CHURCH CAR PARKING

When parking to go to church services or Parish Organisations please be sensitive to the residents in the local community by taking care not to block entrances or pavements.

Thank you!



Facebook

St Columba's Parish Church is now on Facebook. **'Like'** our page to see updates on events, services and photos. Search coiknock on Facebook or Messenger to find us easily.

For those who are new to St Columba's and would like more information about the life and membership of the parish, please give your name and phone number to our Churchwardens or contact the Parish Office during office hours Monday-Friday, 9.00am-1.00pm on 028 9065 6891.

Pastoral Care: If anyone has a pastoral concern and would like to speak to someone, please contact the Rector (028 9047 1514) or Canon Ken Smyth (028 9145 8706).

SAFEGUARDING TRUST

The Rector, Select Vestry and parish leaders are committed to upholding good practice in the parish's ministry with children and young people. Should you have cause for concern or suspicion regarding child welfare in the parish, please contact:

The Rector**028 9047 1514**

Patrick Good**028 9065 6908**

Elizabeth Leonard**028 9065 3162**

