



# CONTACT

The Magazine of All Saints' Church, Tullylish  
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## THE RECTOR'S EASTER MESSAGE



**CHRIST  
IS RISEN**

### LOCKED UP NO MORE!

#### The God who cannot be kept down

Even though Jesus was alive, His apostles were still acting as if He were dead. They were hiding behind locked doors in the very place where He had shared His Last Supper with them. They were fearful, wondering when the Jews would come and kill them. Peter and John had both seen the empty tomb, John had believed, but Peter still wondered. Mary Magdalene even claimed to have had a conversation with Jesus.

Jesus had a different plan for His fearful followers, and so He came to visit them. Locked doors were nothing to the Resurrected Son of God. Without a second thought, He simply stepped through the wall and appeared in their midst. The disciples were stunned. "Peace," Jesus said. When the disciples witnessed the evidences, saw the nail prints in His hands and the wound in His side, they knew it was their Master and that He had been raised from the dead.

Jesus quickly silenced their celebration. "Peace," He said to them again. "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." Then He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

This was like no other breath they had ever felt before. They felt refreshed and where there had been fear, now they were engulfed by peace.

Remember afresh this Easter, that our Risen Lord Jesus who walked through the wall of the upper room is also able to walk through the walls of our lives, today and everyday. And where there is fear, worry, hurt, concerns or even exhaustion we too can hear and receive that "Peace" which He and He alone can give. Even as He breathed on His disciples, He's there to breathe into your life in a fresh way today.

Defeat in the Easter story had been turned to victory on that first Easter Day - a victory not just for those first disciples but for us also today.

Christ is **RISEN!** It's as true today as ever.

ARTHUR

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## PARISH NEWS

### HOLY BAPTISM

Sunday, 24th December 2006 - Josephine Love and Lydia Strain, twin daughters of Leslie and Richard Wilson, of Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

Sunday, 7th January 2007 - Thalia Catherine Tara, daughter of Catherine and Rory Campbell, of London.

Sunday, 4th March 2007 - Ross John Norman, son of Fiona and Ian Truesdale.

Heavenly Father, we ask you to bless babies, Josephine, Lydia, Thalia and Ross as we welcome them into our Church Family. Watch over them, guide their steps, bless them with health and fill them with joy.

Sunday, 4th February 2007 - Joanna and Mark, daughter and son of Rachel and Peter Sinton.

Loving Father, we thank you that you have brought Joanna and Mark to this point of publicly declaring their faith in you. May they know joy, peace and health in the years ahead.

### CHRISTIAN BURIAL

26th February 2007 - Lydia Leathem

17th March 2007 - Martha Fry

18th March 2007 - Thomas Doonan

Loving God, grant to those who grieve, your special blessing. May they know that your hand is upon them, your arms encircling them, and your heart reaching out to them. For Jesus Christ's Sake. Amen

### SYMPATHY

We send our deepest sympathy also to those members of our Church Family who have suffered the loss of loved ones.

We remember especially:

Barry & Lisa Taggart on the death of Barry's grandmother.

The Robinson Family Circle on the death of Ruth's aunt.

(continued on next column)

Joe and Sylvia Newell on the death of Joe's nephew, Garry and Joe's brother in law, Cyril

Dianne and Stephen Briggs on the death of Dianne's cousin, Garry.

The Fulton Family on the death of Patsy's brother in law.

Robert Acheson and Family Circle on the death of Robert's aunt and two cousins.

Sam and Adrian Walker and their families on the death of their uncle.

### CONFIRMATION

#### What is the meaning of confirmation?

Confirmation is a profession of faith. Those who have been baptised in infancy have a public opportunity of professing their personal faith in Jesus Christ. They confirm the vows and faith which were expressed for them by their parents and godparents at their baptism. Also, the laying on of hands by the Bishop confirms God's commitment to strengthen and protect them in their Christian walk. So confirmation is a commissioning for service as it marks the beginning of a life of active service for Christ.

#### A SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION

March 25th was a very important day in the life of our parish when we were present to witness, with their families and friends, the confirmation of eight of our young people in a moving service conducted by Bishop Harold Miller. We were all joined together as a Church Family to support them and the five candidates from St Paul's, Gilford as they publicly professed their faith in Jesus Christ. Please continue to remember in your prayers all those from our Parish who have been confirmed.

Lewis Coleman

Jane Ruddock

Katie Kildea

Stephen Ruddock

Jonathan Lunney

Joanna Sinton

Jonathan Mulligan

Mark Sinton

# EASTER PRAISE

## CHURCH SERVICES

### HOLY WEEK

#### Wednesday 4th April

Dare 2B Different -Youth Service  
8.00pm

#### Maundy Thursday 5th April

Holy Communion  
8.00pm

#### Good Friday 6th April

8.00pm

### EASTER

#### Easter Sunday 8th April

Family Holy Communion  
11.30am



If you wish to receive Holy Communion in your own home during Holy Week, please contact the Rector. (Tel: 38831298)

## The cross changed everything

Everything has been different since the Son of God climbed Calvary. Life has been different, death has been different, sin has been different, faith and hope and love have been different. The arms of the cross have reached round the wide universe; its head has touched the heavens; its shaft has gone down deep as hell. ... Here was the Church's message from the very day of its birth: "Christ died for our sins."

*James S. Stewart*

## A Prayer for Easter

Lord Jesus,  
Thank you for spending 33 years with us:  
for announcing Love from the high heavens;  
for introducing Love in an obscure manger setting,  
for living Love in a family framework;  
for sharing Love with the poor, deprived and diseased;  
for showing Love to the unlovable and unloving;  
for letting little children feel Love in your arms;  
for suffering on a cross because of Love;  
for losing Love upon the world  
to take up residence in us;  
for your Love that will not let us go. Amen.

*Forrest Nees*

Easter is the great proclamation and promise of God

that nothing can overcome God's love,  
not even the murder of the Son of God.

*Charles Ferrell*

Am I a stone, and not a sheep,  
That I can stand, O Christ, beneath thy cross,  
To number drop by drop Thy Blood's slow loss,  
And yet not weep?

*Christina Rossetti*

Lord, let me be aware  
That you are there  
Next to me.  
And let me see  
That through these tears  
The pain, the grief,  
The hurting heart,  
The sense of loss –  
That You have borne  
All things upon the Cross.

*Kathleen Gillum*

Come, ye saints, look here and wonder,  
See the place where Jesus lay;  
He has burst His bands asunder;  
He has borne our sins away;  
Joyful tidings, joyful tidings,  
Yes, the Lord has risen today!

*Thomas Kelly*

# ORGANISATION NEWS

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our first meeting of the new season got off to a great start when we welcomed Ted Potts - experienced traveller and keen photographer- as our guest for the evening. Through the eyes of the camera we witnessed spectacular glaciers and the snow capped peaks of Alaska. Then we were whisked off to the Atacama Desert of Chile - the driest place on earth. There we saw breathtaking salt flats and steaming geysers. A more leisurely journey followed as we traced the course of the River Bann, beginning with a trickle in the Mourne Mountains and following it until it entered Lough Neagh at Bannfoot. We were pleased to see our own particular part of the Bann as it flowed past All Saints at Tullylish. All the pictures were enhanced with music appropriate to the country and the scenery.

Our guest speaker in February was Ruth Briggs from Home-Start, a charity which recruits volunteers to give friendly support to families with young children who for a variety of reasons are having difficulty in coping. The volunteers, who all have parenting experience themselves, visit these families in their own homes and offer friendship and practical assistance. They can also give reassurance to those in society who may feel isolated and who have no family living nearby. Their aim is to put the fun back into family life. The support is free, confidential and non-judgemental. Ruth stressed that these are not problem families, but rather families with problems. Her talk gave all of us much to think about.

Our March evening was a real social occasion in the form of a "Daffodil Tea." We were greeted on arrival with lovely arrangements of daffodils and attractively set tables. We were served a delicious meal by the committee members and then settled back to be entertained by The Ulster- Scots Fiddle Orchestra who gave us a selection of Scottish, Irish and familiar hymn tunes. Everyone agreed that it had been a very successful and enjoyable evening which raised over £800 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

We would like to thank and congratulate all those who put so much effort into making this evening so enjoyable for all present.

## AUTUMN LEAVES

After our Christmas and New Year break we were pleased to meet up for the first of our January meetings. Billy Seddon came along to give us tips on how to protect ourselves and our homes from the danger of fire. Not overloading sockets, never leaving lit candles unattended, keeping interior doors closed at night and in the event of a fire to have an action plan so that everyone knows how to escape were some of the many tips which he gave us. For our second meeting in January we played board games. Our Rector introduced us to new game called "Taboo" which proved to be a hit.

In February we had an Energy Saving talk. We learned that as most heat escapes through walls and roof, cavity wall and loft insulation of the recommended thickness will reduce our energy bills dramatically. We were told of other simple measures such as only boiling as much water as we need, turning off lights when leaving a room and closing curtains at night to stop heat escaping. Also in February we had Brian Moore from Banbridge and District Talking Newspaper. He told us how he and a group of volunteers provide weekly cassettes containing news and local information to over 100 blind or visually impaired people who find reading a strain.

In March we had a Picture Quiz when we had to identify everyday objects photographed close up or from an unusual angle. It is much more difficult than it sounds. It almost seems impossible that a photo of an aerosol can could produce so many wrong answers. Thanks to Marjorie Hodgen for supplying the pictures. In March also we celebrated St Patrick's Day with a Stew Lunch. With snow falling and icy winds blowing outside, stew never tasted so good. This was followed by home made apple tart and cream and entertainment in words and music by some of the members of the Ulster -Scots Fiddle Orchestra.

As usual we are all grateful to our committee members for all their hard work.

New members are welcome to join us. Age is no barrier. The only qualification you need is to have two free hours, twice monthly on Mondays.