



C O N T A C T

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

HOPE! Can't live without it!

**“He couldn't bear the thought of spending eternity without you!
He would rather die than let you go!”**

Focus on these two amazing statements for as long as it takes, just to drink in the significance and impact of them. Read and re-read them as many times as it takes to allow the Holy Spirit to bring a fresh revelation of God's Love for you and to you, maybe for the first time, or for the one hundredth and first time. See the extent of Such Love and how far God was willing to go, to have a relationship with us that is worth having,

It wasn't just talk! It was Love in Action! That's **AMAZING LOVE!** And we say: “how can it be that Thou my God, shouldst die for me?”

Well that's what Easter's about, but once a year won't do. Once a month is insufficient. Weekly showers leave you dry. But a solid soaking of God's love every day is what we need.

As someone has said: **“God says everyday that I love you!. The Cross shows everyday that He means it.”**

For three years, Jesus' entire life had been about His mission, with everyone He met, everywhere He met them. He preached it, taught it, performed miracles to prove it and believed so strongly in it that He gave His life for it.

Jesus knew He had to leave the earth for a while, but He wasn't about to take the mission with Him. He wanted to pass it on so that when He was gone, the world was changing and getting ready for His return. So on the day He was going to leave, Jesus gathered His followers on a hill to tell them what He had been thinking.

He said: **“My friends and followers, I'm going to leave you for a while to get things ready in heaven, but don't worry, I'm coming back soon. And while I'm gone, you need to take over the mission, I need you to tell my story. Tell everyone you can about why I came to Earth and what I was about, tell them about my death and resurrection, tell them how they can be in a relationship with God.**

I need you to go into all the world and tell my story. Go into Jerusalem and tell them, go into Judea and tell them, go into Samaria and go to the ends of the earth, even Tullylish. Make disciples out of all nations of the world. Baptize them in my name and teach them to obey everything I've commanded you.”

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PARISH NEWS

HOLY BAPTISM

16 December 2007 - Annie Elizabeth, baby daughter of Lyn and Marc Montgomery

3 February 2008 - Kate Cherry & Emily Georgina May, baby daughters of Simone and Nicholas Stronach

2 March 2008 - Grace Emily, baby daughter of Helen and Edward Campbell

Heavenly Father, we ask your blessing on babies Annie, Kate, Emily and Grace as we welcome them into our Church Family. Bless also their parents and homes.

BURIAL

12th December 2007 - Evelyn Jennett (néé Sergeant)

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Jennett family following the death of their mother Evelyn.

Evelyn came from a family long associated with Tullylish, where she in turn continued to live after her marriage to Joe, and where they raised their family.

To all her family - children, grandchildren, great grandchild, brothers and sisters and all the family circle, we send our deepest sympathy.

We thank God for Evelyn's life, her courage during her debilitating illness and for the love and care of her family.

DEATH

We record the death of Mrs Meta Eakins of Portadown who for many years gave faithful service as our church organist.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to her Family Circle.

SYMPATHY

We send our deepest sympathy to those of our Church family who have suffered the loss of a loved one. We especially remember:

Eileen and Ian Hamilton and the family circle on the death of Eileen's mother, Rita Dennison

Sandra and Geoffrey McCracken and family on the death of Sandra's Aunt Rita

Daphne and Robert Acheson and family on the death of Daphne's aunt

Marjorie and Eric Hodgen and family on the death of Marjorie's nephew Jim and Eric's uncle, Billy

Rosemary Martin and Lillian Hall and their families on the death of their aunt.

James and Yvonne Deans on the tragic death of Yvonne's nephew, Aaron

RECTOR'S MESSAGE

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And He told them about a gift that would authorise them and empower them to do it. **“Now, don't leave Hope! Jerusalem, but wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit that my Father has promised to send you. And I promise to be with you always, to the very end of time.”**

We in Tullylish are the Easter people, but not just at Easter, but everyday! Fulfil those words which Jesus not only spoke 2000 years ago but which He still speaks into our lives and our time with freshness and power.

Jesus told them to be the very first “History Makers.”

Let's be those History Makers today and everyday where ever we are and let's bring that Hope of the Risen, Live, Transforming Jesus into people's lives and hearts.

Let's **Do it More.**

Let's **Do it Together**

Let's **Do it in Word and Action**

As G.K. Chesterton says, **“ We do not want, as the newspapers say, 'A church that will move with the world.' We want a church that will move the world.”**

May you know the power of the Risen Jesus afresh in your life this Easter.

God Bless.

ARTHUR

VOICE OF AN ANGEL

**When I'm lying in the darkness
And I'm half afraid to sleep
I keep thinking of tomorrow
And the thoughts that lie so deep.**

**Then I pray in talking whispers
'Cause I know that somewhere near,
Is the presence of an angel
To hold me through my fear.**

Contributed by a parishioner

MISSION UPDATE



CROSSLINKS

A few weeks ago a few Crosslinks supporters and I had the opportunity to meet with Chris and Lotta Strajinic at Knocknamuckley Parish.

Chris and Lotta are involved in bringing God's word to God's world in Serbia. They are aiming to help meet the many needs there by providing courses that not only train leaders but also enable the trained to become trainers. This is so that they can continue inspiring others in their local regions.

Chris and Lotta are both from Sweden but have Balkan roots. After years of training for ministry in the USA and the UK, in 2001 they returned to Serbia to help the local tiny evangelical church which is about 0.1% of the population.

With such practical training on offer, they hope local churches will be empowered for ministry and growth, enabling them to find their own ways of outreach and church planting. By providing courses that are easy to understand, Bible based and Bible centred, Chris and Lotta aim to help them reach these goals.

The most effective way that we, as a church, can support Chris and Lotta is by becoming a partner with them. Being a partner will give us an opportunity to pray, connect, visit, care and give.

Once again I would like to thank all the parishioners for their support to Crosslinks.

Laura Moffatt

CROATIA OUTREACH MINISTRY

At a recent committee meeting with Muckamore members, we agreed on the new title above.

Nathanael continues his ministry in reaching out to the wider community in Koprivnica. He is encouraged to see the kids' ministry and youth ministry growing.

The ladies' ministry has brought the ladies in church into a closer fellowship with each other. This is also an opportunity to invite friends and neighbours into a fellowship and be able to witness to them. Many church members and their families continue to face opposition at home.

Unemployment is still a big problem in Croatia.

People continue to struggle because monthly wages do not meet the daily needs and bills.

Nathanael, Elizabeth, Suzana, Nathan and Noah are all keeping well.

We are privileged that we have the opportunity of supporting Nathanael in his work of furthering the gospel in Croatia.

He is most grateful to everyone in All Saints' Church for their thoughts and prayers and financial support. Please continue to pray for Nathanael and his family, also Walter and Ivan as they continue the work which God has called them to do.

Heather Hanna



CMS IRELAND

This quarterly update of CMSI is overshadowed by the continuing violence in Kenya. Following the elections in October 07, tribal warfare erupted and brought devastation to the country. Parts of the country are still under siege and death and destruction prevalent.

Our Mission Society is very active in Kenya, especially the Diocese of Kajaido where there is a great sense of Christian development. Bishop Jeremiah Taama, who is no stranger to our Diocese, has this message for us.

***Pray for Kenya and its people
For the Diocese of Kajaido and Nairobi
For peace among the rival tribes
For Mission Partners, agency workers and
humanitarian projects***

Pray that church leaders will have wisdom and strength as they deal with the many people coming to the church for support. Wisdom and sensibility are needed when dealing with people, especially when there is tension amongst various communities. A local paper has this to say about Kenya:

"The twin curses of Africa - corrupt leaders and tribal hatreds - are blighting this nation."

The annual missionary box collection and donations amounted to £430 and has been gratefully acknowledged by CMSI. Many of our parishioners are faithful and generous in their support.

The Fireside Bible Quiz raised £340. The winner was Mrs Florence Woolsey, Brookfield, Gilford. My thanks to all who supported this venture.

Isabel Whiteside



THE LEPROSY MISSION

One of the greatest challenges facing those with leprosy in West Bengal is the need to earn a living. The Bill Edgar Memorial Vocational Centre was started in 1998 to help reduce the stigma and help people affected by leprosy.

Without training, there is little hope of finding work or planning a secure future. Increasing their socio-economic status improves overall quality of life and gives those with leprosy a way to provide for their families. TLM is committed to helping those affected by leprosy to find meaningful work and a future beyond leprosy.

The Bill Edgar Memorial Vocational Training Centre has graduated 608 men and women in 8 different trades, giving them real skills to serve the community.

Remember in your prayers all the VTCs in India and give thanks and praise for the difference they are making to those affected by leprosy.

Betty Jones

ORGANISATION NEWS

AUTUMN LEAVES

The start of our New Year session saw us welcoming David Simpson MLA and MP as our guest speaker. Mr Simpson spoke about local and national politics. On the local scene it is hoped that planning permission will still be granted for the proposed developments which would lead to the regeneration of Gilford. He also spoke of the issues of anti-social behaviour in the area. We also had a useful question and answer session when the main topics were generally about health care and road and traffic problems.

For our second meeting in **January** we had a very enjoyable Quiz afternoon. The first quiz tested our powers of observation when we were required to identify landmarks and logos on buildings around Banbridge. The second quiz was all about identifying confectionery from the clues given. Our knowledge of sweets and chocolate came up the winner here. Many thanks to Marjorie Hodgen for supplying both quizzes.

In **February**, Rosemary McCready entertained us with her story and poetry readings - some humorous and others poignant. She also amused us with some of her very entertaining jokes.

Also in February we had a Craft afternoon when Deidre Fleming came along well prepared and instructed us in the making of photo albums. All our members proved to be very talented and produced excellent work.

At the time of writing we have had one meeting in **March** when we used the newly-installed flat screen television in the Minor Hall to watch a DVD of James Young. For the benefit of our younger readers, James Young was an actor and comedian who died more than 30 years ago but through his portrayal of many different characters still has the ability to entertain us by showing the comic and tragic faces of Belfast and its citizens.

We are now looking forward to celebrating St Patrick's Day with an Irish Stew Lunch in the Minor Hall.

It is still not too late to experience the fun and fellowship of our meetings. We welcome women of all ages. We still have an interesting programme for the remainder of the season including talks on Health Care and a Card Making demonstration.

Our Programme will culminate with a bus outing to Bangor on 26 May.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

A.S.T. Women's Fellowship is a monthly event for women of all ages. If you have joined our church family recently, you are welcome to come along and enjoy fun and fellowship with us.

On Thursday 10th January, our guest speaker was Mrs Margaret Mayne.. Her father was headmaster of Loughbrickland Primary School. She gave an interesting talk on what life was like for her and her brothers and sister being the children of the headmaster of their school.

On Thursday 17th January, a group of ladies and friends travelled to Portadown Town Hall to see an excellent production of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* by the Gateway Theatre Group. A great night was enjoyed by all.

February's meeting fell on St. Valentine's Day and as we focused on God's Holy Ordinance of Marriage, we viewed an excellent presentation of wedding photos dating from 1947 until 2007. Some of the wedding dresses and albums were on display and a number of younger girls modelled the dresses at the end of the night.

We pray for God's blessing upon the remainder of our programme for 2008.

20th March - Maundy Thursday Service

10th April - American/Indian Culture

8th May - Bannwater Crafts

10th May - Trip to Mount Stewart & Newtownards

Rachael Sinton

Secretary



GIRLS' BRIGADE

ANNUAL PARENTS' EVENING

Monday 14th April 2008

at

7.00pm

in

All Saints' Church Hall

Guests: Archdeacon John and Mrs Scott

A Special Welcome to Family and Friends

FEATURES

ORGANISATION NEWS

(continued)

CRUSADERS

After the Christmas break, Crusaders resumed in Tullylish Presbyterian Church Halls. It has been a busy start to the year with final preparations being made for our weekend away to Ganaway in Newtownards.

In order to reduce the cost of the weekend for the young people, Crusaders went bagpacking in Sainsburys, Armagh on Saturday 2nd February and in Sainsburys, Craigavon on Saturday 1st March. Proceeds from these two days will be divided between Crusaders and the Southern Area Hospice, Newry. I am pleased to say that £1200 will be presented to the Hospice which does tremendous work for the people in need of its help and support.

Upcoming events for Crusaders are:

Sunday 16th March

7.30pm - Crusaders 8th Birthday Service

Tullylish Presbyterian Church Hall

Speaker - The Reverend Samuel Newell

All Parishioners and friends are welcome at this Service.

Friday 11th to Sunday 13th April

Crusaders Weekend Away to Ganaway, Newtownards.

Just before Christmas two leaders - Heather Walker and Naomi Francey completed an OCN Level Two Course in Youth Work. This was done through the Down and Dromore Diocese and Youth Link NI.

Heather and Naomi will be presented with their certificates at a ceremony in June.

Heather Walker

Secretary

THE LITTLE THINGS

I come in little things, saith the Lord:

Not borne on the morning's wings

Of majesty, but I have set my feet

Amidst the delicate and bladed wheat.

I come in the little things, saith the Lord:

Yes! On the glancing wing

Of eager birds, the softly pattering feet

Of furred and gentle beasts.

I come in little things, saith the Lord.

Evelyn Underhill (1875 - 1941)

MISSION UPDATE

(Continued)



The South American Mission Society

Thank you all so much for continued support for SAMS. Please continue to pray for the people of Paraguay who have been experiencing all sorts of hardships due to lack of rains and fuel.

Recently there has been an outbreak of yellow fever and some deaths. Eighteen months ago, the government issued warnings that yellow fever could reach Paraguay but no vaccination programme was started. When yellow fever was eventually confirmed, there was very little vaccine in the country.

People have been demonstrating and fighting each other and the authorities to get vaccinations.

Eventually neighbouring countries sent in vaccines.

France alone has just sent two million doses.

There is now a massive clean up campaign to eradicate breeding areas of mosquitoes in the stagnant waters of rubbish dumps.

A new law has been passed to imprison those who do not clean up such areas.

Please continue to pray for the people of Paraguay.

Louise McClory

DEAR GOD

I want to thank you for what you have already done in my life.

I am not going to wait until things in my life look better -

I am not going to wait until people say they are sorry -

I am not going to wait until the pain in my body disappears -

I am not going to wait until my financial situation improves -

I am not going to wait until I get the job -

I am not going to wait until the journey gets easier -

I am not going to wait until I understand every experience in my life that has caused me pain or grief, I am thanking you right now.

I am thanking you because I am alive.

I am thanking you because I made it through the day's difficulties

I am thanking you because I have walked around the obstacles.

I am thanking you because I have the ability and the opportunity to do more and do better.

Most of all, I'm thanking you God.... because you haven't given up on me.