

CONTACT

The Magazine of All Saints' Church, Tullylish
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Christmas 2008



When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was a baby, lying in the manger. After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child.

The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen.

Luke 2:15-17,20

Has anyone ever told you something that seemed so incredible that you said, "I have to see it to believe it"? It must have been that sense of amazement and curiosity that caused the shepherds to hurry to Bethlehem. Don't we wish there had been a modern-day news crew on the scene so we could see with our own eyes what they saw?

But it was just as the angels had told the shepherds, and that was enough for them. The shepherds believed what the angels had told them about this baby and the baby became their Saviour and ours.

But the shepherds must have run into a tremendous dilemma when they told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. *Luke 2:17* Apparently "all who heard the shepherds' story were astonished." *Luke 2:18*

Those astonished people were likely divided into two camps. Some believed, while others did not. Some probably said, "That sounds crazy." And probably shrugged their shoulders in apathy saying, "That's interesting but I don't need a Saviour."

What has been your response to seeing Jesus?

Like the shepherds, have you believed? Like the shepherds, have you told others about Him? Like the shepherds, have you glorified and praised God for Jesus?

"May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ Child be yours this Christmas."

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your love, support and encouragement over another year. I pray that you all may know the peace and the lovely presence of our Saviour Jesus this Christmas time.

**God Bless,
Arthur**

PARISH NEWS

BURIAL

22nd October 2008 - George Bicker

The Church Family of All Saints was greatly saddened to learn of George's death and the large attendance at his funeral was testament to the high regard with which he was held in the parish and wider community. Our Rector paid a fitting tribute to his life and his strong faith.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Joy and Angus at this difficult time. We also send our sympathy to George's brothers - Raymond, Nelson and Kenneth and their families.

SYMPATHY

We send our deepest sympathy to those of our Church Family who have suffered the loss of a loved one.

We especially remember:

Rosemary Martin and Lillian Hall and their family Circles on the death of the uncle of Rosemary and Lillian

Edith and Albert Curran on the death of Edith's brother, Sandy

Ernest and Meryl Wilson on the death of Ernest's brother

Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.

St Matthew 5:4

Loving Father, as we thank you for the joy of Christmas, we bring before you those of our Church Family for whom this season is clouded by the loss of a loved one. Keep them from sadness and despair. May the song of the angels find an echo in their hearts. May they know the consolation of your love.

For Jesus Christ's Sake.

All Saints, Tullylish is committed to Safe Guarding Trust.

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Amid all the bustle and glitter of this season, we take time to remember those faithful members of our Church Family who, for a variety of reasons, are unable to worship with us.

Loving Father, we pray for those confined to their homes,

those no longer fit to be out and about, those in hospital or nursing home.

May each of these our friends, know that they are still much remembered, much valued, and much cared about.

I BELIEVE IN THE CHURCH

I believe more profoundly in the church every hour that I live. We can make our money and our witness go further through the church than through any independent movement.

We can do more constructive work through the church than any other way in the world.

That is my deepest conviction. I have watched all kinds of independent movements, and my conviction steadily deepens that Christians are doing the wisest thing possible when we link our lives with the church.

George W. Truett (1867-1944), Baptist Pastor

Lord Jesus Christ

Child of Bethlehem and Son of God:

Help us this Christmas to join our songs of glory to those of the heavenly host, that the joy of the church on earth may be heard in the praise of heaven.

Amen

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

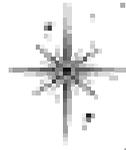
CHRISTMAS WORSHIP



CHRISTMAS AT ALL SAINTS

SUNDAY 21st DECEMBER

11.30am Christmas Family Service
& Sunday School
6.30pm Carols by Candlelight



You are invited to share fellowship with us in the Church Hall following this service.

WEDNESDAY 24th DECEMBER - Christmas Eve

11.15pm Holy Communion

THURSDAY 25th DECEMBER - Christmas Day

10.30 am Christmas Day Family Service



Almighty God,
you make us glad with the yearly remembrance
of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ:
Grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our
redeemer,
we may with sure confidence behold him
when he shall come to be our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

O God who has made this most hallowed night
resplendent with the glory of the true Light; grant
that we who have known the mysteries of that Light
on earth, may enter into the fullness of his joys
in heaven.

One Solitary Life

Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He worked in a carpenter's shop until he was 30. For three years he was an itinerant preacher. He had no credentials but himself.

While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against him. His friends, the 12 men who had learned so much from him and had promised him their enduring loyalty, ran away and left him.

He went through a mockery of a trial. He was hung on a cross by having a nail driven through each of his wrists and another hammered through his feet. When he was dead he was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Yet I am well within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched and all the parliaments that ever sat and all the kings that ever reigned, together, have not affected the life of man upon the Earth as has this one solitary life.

Phillip Brooks (1835-1893), adapted



A Message For All Our Readers

A Christmas Blessing

May you have the Spirit of Christmas, which is Peace,
The Gladness of Christmas, which is Hope,
The Heart of Christmas, which is Love,
The Gift of Christmas, which is Christ.

Ada Hendricks

MISSION UPDATE



Church Missionary Society Ireland DR Congo - The Present Crisis

Please continue to pray for an end to the ongoing fighting in Eastern DR Congo. Hundreds of people have died and more than 25,000 have been displaced from their homes as conflict once again threatens to tear this country apart.

Pray that politicians and military leaders will find a way to bring peace.

Remember those who have been forced from their homes as a result of fighting in the area surrounding Rutshuru.

Pray that they will find shelter and food as they search for refuge.

Pray for Bishop Bahati of Bukavu Diocese as he tries to find ways of responding to the needs of those who have been bereaved, injured and displaced.

Pray also that church leaders will have wisdom among the brokenness caused by this violence.

Remember all our mission partners in DR Congo as they deal with the wide ranging effects of the conflict, those who have lost loved ones in the fighting and all church leaders as they support their brothers and sisters in Christ in the worst affected areas around Rutshuru and Goma.

Isabel Whiteside



The Leprosy Mission N. Ireland

Each year we send out medical students to experience life working in leprosy hospitals.

In India there are 18 Leprosy Mission hospitals but in Nepal only one, which is twinned with the Leprosy Mission N. Ireland. It is located 18 miles outside Kathmandu, Nepal's capital.

Two sisters, Caroline and Claire recently spent six weeks there. Caroline was there on her elective placement, while Claire, who is now in 2nd year medicine, was there in a research capacity.

Here are some of their reflections:

"Both of us enjoyed the valuable surgical experience we gained from helping to assist in theatre. Most of the operations performed were amputations or reconstructive surgeries to prevent further deformity and improve function. We feel very blessed and are very thankful to have had the opportunity to spend

a short time there. We left with the realisation of the powerful things that can be accomplished by those who love God and a lasting impression of the importance of hope and encouragement."

Please continue to pray for the work of the Leprosy Mission.

Betty Jones



Croatia Out Reach Mission

On 13th November, Nathanael arrived in Northern Ireland on an eleven day visit.

Arrangements had been made for him to speak at various churches. He was also able to attend Mandate in Belfast.

We were privileged to have him visit All Saints to preach at our morning service on Sunday 16th November. We had a powerpoint presentation in which we were able to see photos of parts of Croatia. We had also the chance to see some members of his Church Family and the various meetings and organisations that take place there. Nathanael returned home on Tuesday 25th November.

On New Year's Day we will be having a Duck Race Fundraising event. You will find fuller details in this issue. Why not come along and support the work in Croatia and enjoy a couple of hours of fun and fellowship?

Please continue to remember in your prayers Nathanael, Elizabet, their children and Church family.

Heather Hanna



South American Mission Society

Heavenly Father,

We acknowledge that mission is meaningless without your blessing.

May the boldness of your Spirit continually transform SAMS as a mission agency.

May the gentleness of your Spirit lead our mission Partners in all they do and say.

May the gifts of your Spirit equip us to serve one another and the wider community.

We worship you, now and always, through Jesus Christ, the Lord of all,

Amen

Louise McClory

ORGANISATION NEWS

THE GIRLS' BRIGADE

All Saints' was once again filled to capacity for The Girls' Brigade Enrolment Service. Parents, relatives and friends joined with the 42 girls who were to be enrolled along with their leaders.

Muriel McCracken was enrolled as Captain, Betty Jones, Lisa Taggart, Kim Aughey and Deborah Mulligan as Officers, Joanne Sinton and Jayne Ruddock as Sub-Officers and Eileen Hamilton, Joan Newell and Evelyn Ruddock as Helpers.

A Company Section sang beautifully "You're the Word of God the Father" while Explorer section very enthusiastically sang "Jesus Loves Me." No doubt Jean and Jonathan spotted many potential future choir members.

Rachel Coleman read the lesson and Chloë Moffatt did the prayers.

This season we have had a varied programme. The Explorer Section have had scripture lessons, choral speaking, games and badge work. They have also had a visit from Evelyn Hanna of Banbridge Library for a story-telling evening.

The Company Section have also been busy with First Aid and have had a visit from Elaine Elliot from Heart Start.

Jill Acheson also came along for two weeks, teaching the girls the importance of skin care, and make-up application. Jill also demonstrated manicure and pedicure technique.

The girls also had a very interesting talk from Adam on healthy eating. Adam also pointed out the importance of exercise.

As part of their badge work the girls the girls have also been cooking pizzas and producing chicken stir-fry.

All the company and leaders have had a great night out at the pantomime in Banbridge where they enjoyed "Beauty and the Beast."

The Captain and Officers would like to thank Arthur for all his hard work and enthusiasm and for opening our meetings and taking company Scripture lessons each Monday night.

Thanks also go Jill, Adam, Catherine, Elaine and Rachel who have all helped with badge work.

Central to everything we do, we continually strive to uphold our motto - "To seek, serve and follow Christ."

Muriel McCracken

AUTUMN LEAVES

At our first meeting in October we celebrated the Harvest Season with a Thanksgiving tea. We arrived to find the Minor Hall beautifully decorated by Brenda who had brought all the decorations back from Canada. It was the perfect setting for all the delicious food which followed.

Continuing with the food theme, we had Mrs Ella Jameson at our next October meeting. Ella demonstrated the art of bread making. It wasn't long until the smell of freshly made soda bread, wheaten bread and pancakes transported us back to childhood days. Ella told us how she had learned to bake when as a very young girl she stood on a chair beside her grandmother watching as she baked. Naturally we sampled all the warm bread straight from the griddle.

In November, Arthur our Rector, transported us to the sunnier climes of Australia where we travelled from beaches to the Blue Mountains stopping off in between at Sydney and Canberra. We also learned much about the Worship and people of St Peter's Church.

Also in November we made a start on our Christmas shopping when we had a shopping trip to Sprucefield. Our thanks to William for safely driving us there and back.

We have an exciting Christmas programme yet to come with flower arranging and Christmas lunch. We hope to share all that with you in our next issue.

2009 PROGRAMME

- 5 January - Pastor Maxwell
- 19 January - Panel day
- 2 February - Bessie Thompson
- 16 February - Taste and Try
- 2 March - Citizens' Advice
- 16 March - Stew Day
- 30 March - Mariead McCree
- 20 April - Visit to Garden Centre
- 11 May - Tea on the lawn at Rectory
- 25th May - Outing

It's still not too late to join in in our fun and fellowship.

ORGANISATION NEWS

BOWLING CLUB

Having safely negotiated their inaugural Pairs Tournament recently, the members of All Saints' Indoor Bowling Club have now turned their attentions to the 2008/2009 League and Cup campaign in the West Down Zone. At the time of writing I am pleased to confirm that we have safely negotiated 1st round ties in both Cup competitions, beating St Joseph's Poyntzpass in the Presidents Cup and Annaclone in the Down Shoes Cup. Whilst Cup competitions are indeed important it will be the League title that All Saints' will be looking to regain as they let it slip in the closing weeks of last season and after six matches we are in pole position to do so as we head the League by 2 pts.

The opening week saw us travel to newly promoted Ballyvarley where we claimed 6.5pts from the possible 7 and then it was on the road again as we travelled to 1st Dromara where we claimed 5pts after a very close encounter. Neighbours and also newly promoted Dunbarton were the visitors to Tullylish in week 3 and All Saints showed no mercy when claiming maximum 7pts with comfortable wins on all four rinks. After an impressive Presidents Cup win at home to St Joseph's we went into our next League fixture against Dromore Non Subscribing (away) in good form. However a heavy defeat for yours truly meant our first defeat of the year and only 2pts. I am still being reminded about it!! It was back to normality in week six when we despatched current League Champions St Colman's Lawrencetown by 4.5pts to 2.5pts and then we hit top spot with a super maximum 7pt haul at St Joseph's Poyntzpass (again!!) – the 1st 7pt haul away to them in All Saints' history. Our last competitive game before breaking off for our two weeks of National Championships was at home to Annaclone in the Down Shoes Cup where we recorded a comfortable win rounding off an excellent start to the 2008/2009 campaigns in all disciplines.

Having been beaten in last year's final of the prestigious Irish Indoor Bowling Association Club Championships in Ballymoney All Saints' made the same trip two weeks ago and having exacted revenge on last years winners (Cookstown High) to progress to the Quarter Final stages they came up short against Co. Armagh's Cranagill BC therefore exiting and returning home empty handed.

All Saints' will hope to qualify for the same event again next year and now knowing they can overcome 'The Big Guns' they will look to go that bit better and bring this title home also.

Please be reminded that we are always looking for new talent therefore we cordially invite anyone to come along and try. Wednesday nights is our match or Club night so please feel free to drop in and make yourself known to us.

E Campbell

CRUSADERS

Crusaders resumed again for a new term on Sunday 21st September, when we had a superhero theme and our very own version of "Who wants to be a Millionaire?" – our version was "Who wants to be a smarty pants?" with up for grabs smarties instead of pounds!!

On Saturday 13th September, eleven of us travelled to Portstewart Baptist church for Kickstart Conference. This was a chance to meet with leaders from other groups and have a chance to speak to them to see what they do in their groups. It also gave us the chance to meet the new Director of Urban Saints (formerly Crusaders) in Ireland - Wilson Beare. Wilson spoke of the vision he has for Urban Saints in Ireland and to see it grow in the future. He is keen to see what all the groups are doing and is eager to go round and meet them all. The conference was a great success and our very own praise band led the worship.

Please remember Crusaders in your prayers and the following prayer points:

- * Naomi Francey (one of our leaders) who is in Argentina
- * Emma & Lindsay (two of our leaders) who are at university in Scotland and England
- * our weekend away in April - for the preparations needed for it and for our speaker Wilson Beare.
- * our leaders here at Tullylish that we may all work well together.
- * the Crusaders - that new members will continue to come and that they will enjoy their time with us every Sunday night.

Heather Walker
Secretary - Tullylish Crusaders

BACK PAGE NOTICEBOARD

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 4th January 2009

11.30am Family Service - The Rev Arthur Young
6.30pm Healing Service - Rev Charles McMullan

Sunday 11th January

11.30am Family Holy Communion - The Rector

Sunday 18th January

11.30am Morning Prayer - The Rev Arthur Young

Sunday 25th January

11.30am Service of the Word - The Rev Arthur Young

Sunday 1st February

11.30am Family Service - The Rev Arthur Young
6.30pm Healing Service - The Rev Joanne Megarrell

Sunday 8th February

11.30am Holy Communion - The Rev Percy Patterson

Sunday 15th February

11.30am Morning Prayer - The Rev Percy Patterson

Sunday 22nd February

11.30am Service of the Word - The Rev Arthur Young
8.00pm RBP Annual Praise Service - The Rector

Sunday 1st March

11.30am Family Service - The Rev Arthur Young
6.30pm Healing Service - The Rev David Bailie

Sunday 8th March

11.30am Holy Communion - The Rev Arthur Young

Sunday 15th March

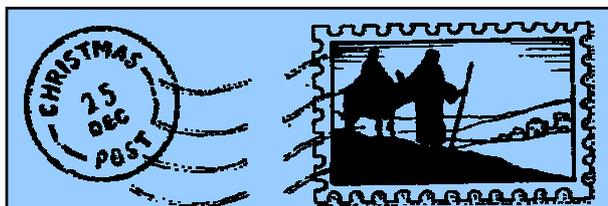
11.30am Morning Prayer - the Rev Arthur Young
7.00pm Crusaders Birthday Service - The Rector

Sunday 22nd March

11.30am Service of the Word - The Rector

Sunday 29th March

11.30am Morning Prayer - The Rev Arthur Young



CHRISTMAS STAMPS

Your first Christmas cards may have started to arrive. Please save your used stamps and help The Leprosy Mission by putting the stamps in the box provided on the table at the back of the church.



CRUSADERS



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

10th January 2009

Bag Packing @ Sainsburys' Craigavon

11th January 2009

Welcome Back!

25th January 2009

Youth Rally in Loughbrickland

15th March 2009

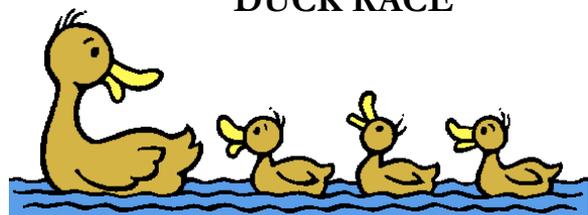
Birthday Service @ All Saints', Tullylish -
Speaker Rev. A Young

17th to 19th April 2009

Weekend Away to Shannaghmore.

FORTHCOMING EVENT

DUCK RACE



When: New Year's Day

Where: Tullylish

Time: 11.00am

Entry: £2 per duck

First Prize: £50

Second Prize: £25

The Year is closed, the record made,
The last deed done, the last word said.
The memory alone remains
Of all its joys, its griefs, its gains.
And now with purpose full and clear,
We turn to meet another year.

A Very Happy 2009!

