



# CONTACT

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

It's hard to believe that it's Harvest celebrations again. And for the third summer we've had more than our fair share of rain which we thought at times would threaten the crops.

Thankfully all has turned out better than we might have anticipated.

The opposite was true in the story of Elijah, where they were in the situation of pleading for rain to fall on the land.

In the aftermath of Elijah's victory over Baal on Mount Carmel, he discerned that God was about to end the drought that He had brought about. (1 Kings 18:41) Elijah climbed to the top of the mountain where he knelt in prayer. Elijah then told his servant to go back and look for the clouds that would indicate the coming of rain. Seeing nothing, his servant reported this to Elijah.

This event was repeated seven times over before the servant was able to report that a small cloud had appeared over the sea. Soon after, the clouds grew, the sky darkened and heavy rain began to fall.

When his servant had first reported "no cloud", Elijah might have said, "You're not looking properly." But at the second and third "no cloud" he might have wondered whether God had changed His mind about the rain. And by the fifth and sixth time, Elijah might have been asking whether he had ever heard God at all.

But this Bible story teaches us that even when we have discerned the will of God, there is still a need to persevere in prayer. That perseverance was evident in times of revival and church growth. In John Wesley's journal of 1739, he states that they continued in prayer till "about three in the morning." Another Pastor of that day reported "one evening in the spring of 1903, some of our young brethren were found on the mountain... for prayer and it transpired that they had been doing so every night for some months."



**THE FIELDS ARE  
WHITE  
UNTO HARVEST**

Prayer and mission, word and deed are all at the heart of a movement that God uses. History has shown that when God's people pray, they find His heart for the lost and engage with those around them.

We long to see men, women, teenagers and children come to faith in Jesus. We've heard time and time again from Scripture that this is the heart and will of God. And so we must be steadfast and persistent in our prayers. Let's continue to ask for the rain of heaven to fall in our time, on our land and upon our churches in a different form.

As the Chris Bowater song says:

*"The fields are white unto harvest  
but oh, the labourers are so few;  
so Lord I give myself to help the reaping,  
to gather precious souls unto You.*

***Here I am, wholly available - as for me,  
I will serve the Lord."***

**Arthur**

# PARISHNEWS

## HOLY BAPTISM

28th June 2009 - David William Joshua, baby son of Philip and Gayle Greer

6th September 2009 - William Isaac, baby son of Daniel and Andrea Forbes

Heavenly Father, we ask you to bless these two little boys as we welcome them into our Church Family. We ask your blessing too on their parents and all the Family Circle.

## MARRIAGES

1st May 2009 - Louise Finlay and Philip Magee

27th June 2009 - Jason Samuel Graham and Jayne Ruth Lutton

2nd July 2009 - Yvonne Emily Greer and Jonathan Christopher Shannon

We wish these young couples every happiness in their future lives together. We ask that God will be with them, so that they may abide in his love and peace all their days.

## BURIALS

3rd July 2009 - John Brian Osborne Wilson

9th August 2009 - Judith Shirley Miller

There was sadness during the summer for us in Tullylish at the loss of two much loved and respected members of our Church Family.

John had been a committed member of All Saints for many years having served on the Select Vestry. He faithfully attended church each Sunday while his health permitted.

We send our deepest sympathy to Jennifer, sons John, Richard and Simon, to his daughters in law, grandchildren, brothers Walter and Edward, sisters, Mary and Annabel and all the Family Circle.



Judy was a faithful member of our church and was regular in her attendance. Her quiet dignified manner endeared her to all with whom she came into contact.

Our sympathy goes out to her husband Bob, sons Robert, Stuart, Stephen and Keith and their families and the wider Family Circle.

## SYMPATHY

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

We especially remember:

Paul and Norma Mitchell on the death of Paul's mother

Georgie and Bobby Scott and Family on the death of Georgie's father

*Blessed are those who mourn  
for they shall be comforted.*

## OUR THANKS

Many thanks to our Church Family for the well wishes and gifts on Isaac's birth and baptism. It's lovely for Isaac to be brought up in such a loving church.

**Andrea, Daniel and Baby Isaac Forbes**



**COMPASSION**

I would like express my sincere thanks to all those who have shown an interest in Compassion Child Sponsorship. The initial excellent response has been so encouraging.

It has been a privilege for me to have become a link in a chain that will enable a child to rise from poverty and live life in all its fullness.

If you wish to have more information or literature, please contact me.

**Heather Fulton**

**GIRLS' BRIGADE  
MONDAYS  
CHURCH HALL  
NEW RECRUITS WELCOMED**

**Tiny Tots  
&  
Explorers  
3-7 years  
6.15pm - 7.15pm**

**Juniors, Seniors  
&  
Brigaders  
8-18 years  
7.30pm - 9.00pm**

**We ask God's Blessing on Deborah  
as she undertakes the role  
of Captain of The Girls' Brigade.**

# HARVEST THANKSGIVING

## HARVEST SERVICES



### SUNDAY 11th OCTOBER

11.30am: The Revd Mark Greenstreet

6.30pm: The Revd Philip Hilstop

*You are invited to Harvest Supper in the Church Hall following the Sunday Evening Service.*

### MONDAY 12th OCTOBER

8.00pm The Revd Kenneth Graham



### PSALM 65

Psalm 65 is a thanksgiving document.

It focuses on God as the Great Gardener.

In a prayer to God, the psalmist says, "You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it."

The psalmist goes on to say, "You crown the year with your goodness."



This is why we thankfully come to church to "Raise the song of harvest-home."

### THE HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Harvest Festival is such an established part of the Christian Year, one might be forgiven for thinking it has been with us since time immemorial.

In fact the first Harvest Thanksgiving dates only from 1843 and was the brainchild of the Reverend R.S. Hawker for 41 years a Vicar on the Cornish Coast. He was concerned that his parishioners should give thanks to God the creator, for all his generosity. The idea was quick to catch on and soon became one of the most popular festivals of the Christian Year. Nowadays the emphasis is not only on pure thanksgiving for crops harvested but also on the wider concern for the interdependence of all God's people and of the integrity of creation.

### PROVIDENCE AND THANKSGIVING

We live in a bountiful world, and we take far more from it than we give to it - not only from creation itself, but from generations of the past, the fruits of whose labour we enjoy with almost no awareness of the pains and perils that attended their toil.

Lacking such awareness, we become dangerously proud, hard of heart, with a false sense of self-sufficiency and achievement.

Harvest modestly reminds us of how much we owe to forces prior to and outside ourselves; and how much all of us, regardless of station, are in the hands of Providence.

### A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God, who has given us the earth, filled it with every good thing and set us on it as caretakers and stewards, we raise our prayer of thanksgiving to you for life and beauty and grace.

Teach us to pause each day to see what you have made and how it reveals your graciousness to us. Help us live with thankful attitudes. Help us make each day a new beginning full of promise.

Give us the courage to leave behind our pessimism, gloom and self-despising and to recognize every good gift you're waiting to give us.

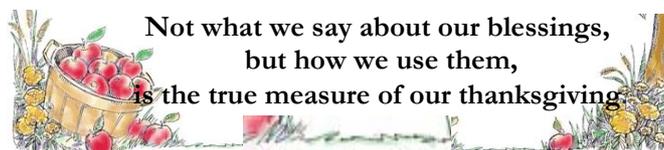
Make us into your triumphant people, whose gift back to you is the love and respect we give to ourselves and our neighbour.

And let your kingdom come through us today and forever. Amen.

### Grace and Thanksgiving

We thank you Lord, for quiet upland lawns,  
For misty loveliness of autumn dawns,  
For gold and russet of the ripened fruit,  
For yet another year's fulfilment, Lord,  
We thank you now.

For joy of glowing colour, flash of wings,  
We thank you, Lord; for all the little things  
That make the love and laughter of our days,  
For home and happiness and friends, we praise  
And thank you now.



Not what we say about our blessings,  
but how we use them,  
is the true measure of our thanksgiving.

# MISSION UPDATE



## CMS IRELAND

During the summer, teams travelled abroad on Mission Experience to places such as Kenya, Uganda, Burundi and Nepal. The reports they have sent back are both positive and heart-warming and are examples of how rewarding such experiences can be.

The teams were made up of diverse groups (not all young) and came from parishes all over Ireland. The general consensus has been that although money can be sent, prayers offered and partners encouraged, there is no substitute for just being there, meeting people, sharing their work and problems and witnessing their tremendous faith and love of God. We give thanks for those who had the courage to step beyond their comfort zones and whose initiative and witness brought joy and blessing to many.

CMSI regrets the death of their Director of Mission, Ian Smith.

Ian joined CMS Ireland in 2007 after serving 23 years with CMS Britain. His passion for mission was evident in his work, both at home and overseas and his tremendous faith was an inspiration to all with whom he came in contact.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Carol and children Luke and Colletta.

**Isabel Whiteside**



## CROATIA OUT REACH MISSION

On 15th June, a team of 12 embarked on their journey to Koprivnica, Croatia, flying from Aldergrove to Luton. After an overnight stop in Luton, we flew on the next morning to Zagreb.

Arriving there in beautiful weather, we were met by Nathaniel and Walter who drove us to where we were to stay for the next seven days.

Nathaniel took us to see the church premises which his church family had moved into in May.

We then went to see the kindergartens where we would be working. Because we were fitting in so much work at four kindergartens, we divided up into groups.

Some of the men erected new fencing and built a wall at Stefica's house.

At one kindergarten, walls, fences and the building itself were painted and the interior of the church was also painted.

Money was also given to Nathaniel to purchase 20 new chairs, which he has done.

We also purchased a new fridge/freezer for Stefica, and she was absolutely delighted.

Please pray for Stefica who underwent an operation for cancer in August and had to remain in hospital for 10-14 days.

We attended a mid-week meeting on Wednesday and Church on Sunday morning. At the service, Nathaniel interviewed Arthur, Ned, Ian and myself. After church, the ladies provided a lovely lunch. In the afternoon, Nathaniel took us to his home for Nathan's 4th birthday.

After the beautiful weather all week, Monday turned wet but we worked on in the rain as we were determined to complete all our tasks. The team worked hard and we pray that we have been a blessing to our brothers and sisters in Christ in that little part of Croatia.

I know that serving God in this way is an encouragement to ourselves as well as others and hopefully helps us grow stronger in our walk with God.

Back home, we had our annual BBQ in August which again was a very successful evening.

Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way throughout the year, either catering, financially or by prayer. A big thank you to Heather Fulton for all work that she does which no one knows about.

To everyone, please know that your dedication is much appreciated.

Please continue to pray for Nathaniel and his ministry in Koprivnica.

**Heather Hanna**



## CROSSLINKS

On the 1st September this year, Trevor Johnson was appointed Ireland Team Leader. Trevor grew up on a farm in South Armagh and his wife Joy whom he married in 1997 grew up in Lurgan. They have four daughters - Emily (9), Lucy (5), Ruby (3) and Molly (1). They are looking forward to meeting many in the months ahead.

Please pray for Trevor, Joy and the girls that they will settle into this new role as quickly as possible. Pray also that many new partners and workers for God's harvest field will be raised up in the years ahead and that they are faithful to the Lord of the harvest and his Gospel.

**Laura Moffatt**

# ORGANISATION NEWS

## AUTUMN LEAVES

Autumn Leaves began their new season by welcoming, not only new members, but also our guest speaker, the Reverend Mark Greenstreet, new Vicar of Seapatrick Parish. We were also delighted that Mark had brought along his wife, Annette, baby daughter, Niamh and one of the family pets, a white Alsatian called Toby.

In words and pictures, Mark told his life story from early days in Watford to reading Theology at Durham and Ordination in 1997. Since then Mark has worked in St Albans, Stevenage, Solihull and for five years Vicar of Halton Parish in Cheshire.

Mark also told us of two near disasters which he experienced - setting fire to a church hall while using a paint burning blowtorch and a rather serious accident on his motor bicycle. The severity of his accident though has not dampened his love of powerful machines.

We look forward to having Mark with us again at our Morning Harvest Thanksgiving Service.

At our second **September** Meeting we were pleased to welcome Alana Diamond, Home Safety Officer with Banbridge District Council.

Alana gave us a comprehensive talk on hazards and dangers to be aware of in each room of our homes - overloading sockets, leaving lighted candles unattended, frayed carpets and unlevel tiles were just a few of the potentially dangerous areas.

As well as giving out some "freebies" we were made aware of free Safety Services which we could use. All in all, we left feeling more safety conscious.

## SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER PROGRAMME

### September

7th The Revd Mark Greenstreet  
28th Alana Diamond - Home Safety

### October

12th Harvest Tea  
26th Fiona Kelly - Fields of Hope

### November

9th Croatia Visit - Talk  
23rd Christmas Shopping Trip

### December

7th Edith Curran - Christmas Flower Arranging  
21st Christmas Lunch



## THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

To start the 2009/10 season of the Women's Fellowship we had a joint meeting with the Men's Fellowship.

Our visiting speaker was Pastor Mark Gordon from Bangor. He gave us a small window into the type of life he led before he became a Christian.

Before starting his talk, Mark read from Matthew 8: 1-5, which refers to the healing of the man with leprosy. Mark said that he could relate to this man as in his younger days he was one of the Bangor Punk Rockers, who, when people saw them approaching crossed to the other side of the street. He went on to tell how he became involved with drugs and the law which landed him in Borstal and eventually jail. After leaving jail, he felt that his life was not worth living but God had different intentions. One night while sitting in a wooded area he gave his life to the Lord. Since then his life has been turned around. He now ministers to drug addicts and alcoholics. He has had several threats on his life but believes his life will not end until the Lord says so. The evening concluded with a delicious supper.

## 2009/2010 PROGRAMME

10th September	Pastor Mark Gordon (Jointly with Men's Fellowship)
8th October	Joanne Blevins What is Health - Body and Mind?
12th November	Visitors' Night Jean Johnston - Doll's House
10th December	Christmas Dinner Ballydougan Pottery
14th January	Pantomime - Portadown Town Hall
11th February	Laura Greenaway Writes from the heart!
11th March	Wendy McNabb Who will tell the Children?
8th April	Holy Week Service
13th May	Annual General Meeting & Pat McEvoy - Gilberry Fayre
Spring Outing	Mystery Tour

We ask God's Blessing on our programme. If you are free on any of the above dates, why not come along for some fun and fellowship?

**Brenda Orr**  
Secretary

Meetings held in Minor Hall, 2.00pm - 4.00pm  
New Members Welcomed

# ORGANISATIONS & MISSION

## BOWLING CLUB

It really is hard to believe but here we are at the beginning of yet another indoor bowling season - did summer actually happen this year or did someone actually press the fast forward button?

We decided to hold only our second ever Open Pairs Tournament before the League and Cup campaign began so that we could get it out of the way and allow us to concentrate on the defence of our title. The entries were up marginally on last year and a good weeks' bowling was enjoyed by all. On the opening night, winners through to the final were Danny McDonald (St Anthonys, C'Avon) and our own Richard Martin. Then on Tuesday night, Glen Harvey (Annahilt) and J. Moffett (St Saviours, P'Down) made it through, followed on Wednesday by Matthew Crawford ( Mossley) and Glen Smith (Cookstown High). The final qualifiers on Thursday were Paul Reid (Ballinderry) and Jal Richardson (St Marks, P'Down).

Finals Night produced some wonderful games of bowls and in a topsy turvy overall Final, the pairing of Dane Jordan and Glen Smith from Cookstown High ran out tournament winners beating the pairing of Sean Conroy and Danny McDonald of St Anthonys, Craigavon.

We were delighted to have the Rector join us at the tea interval not only to say Grace but to welcome everyone to the Club and thank them for their support of the tournament.

In terms of our League campaign within the West Down Zone, we commence with three very tough fixtures, starting with a home game against St Colmans, Laurencetown, an away match versus St Josephs, Poyntzpass and a home match against Dromore NS, the results of which could determine our entire season even after just three weeks! Sandwiched between the P'Pass and Dromore games we have a President's Cup preliminary match away to St Colmans, Annaclone which will hopefully lead us to the first round proper against Magherally and then it's back to the League action with Holm Park, Dromore away, and then Ballydougan at home. This brings us to the Irish Club Championships in Ballymoney and having been so close over the last two years, we sincerely hope to go one better this year and bring the title back to Tullylish.

New members are very welcome and remember we are at the hall every Wednesday night, although every other week we will have a match. But please come along and watch, learn and support.

**E. Campbell**

## CRUSADERS

Another summer has passed, so it's time for the Crusader leaders to return to their duties. This term we will be returning to Gilford Church of Ireland and we are all very excited about our programme. We gladly welcome our new secretary, the fantastic Andrea Forbes, and trust that she will enjoy her new role. Naomi Francey has decided to abandon us again and has left for Bristol, England to do her PGCE, therefore her position as Chairperson has been vacated once again. This time it is her younger brother James Francey who has stepped up to fill in this position. We wish him all the best as Chairperson. Unfortunately Heather Walker has resigned this year, but we would like to thank her for her dedication over the past number of years and wish her all the best in the future.

We are always looking for new members, so if you know any interested 11-18 year old young people, please do not hesitate to contact one of our leaders. We ask that you pray for this new term, for the children to grow in faith and for our dedicated leadership team that they may teach His word week by week. Thank you for your support.



## THE LEPROSY MISSION

Just outside the little village of Hombolo, in Tanzania, is the settlement of Samaria. Many of the 180 people who live in the 49 houses there have been affected by leprosy. Although now cured of the disease, they have come together here because of the pressure forced upon them by a society driven by fear and superstition.

Today they are subsistence farmers. They have no source of income and exist depending on the crops they plant to feed themselves and their animals. They live in homes which are beyond repair.

It is to this spot that Betty, Yvonne and Jimmy have journeyed. The aim of their trip is to continue the house building project and the building of the church which was destroyed by rain. As they work with the people of the village they will seek to show and share the love of Christ.

Please pray for the witness of the whole team and the impact they can have on the local people. Also please pray for safety on the site and safety in all their travelling. Remember too, their families at home that they will know God's peace.