



# CONTACT

The Magazine of All Saints' Church, Tullylish  
Volume 8 Issue 4  
Christmas 2010



## THE RECTOR'S LETTER

### Who is going to be the Christmas Number One this year?

Will it be this year's winner of the X Factor?

But it's not just in the charts that the number one spot is up for grabs. There's an even more important contest going on. A contest where the stakes are higher and the consequences far longer lived. It's the battle to see who is going to be number one in each of our lives.

It's easy at Christmas time to be so preoccupied with shopping and partying that we forget what it is we're supposed to be celebrating. The Bible describes the coming of Jesus as an event of massive significance for God's dealing with the world He made, and for every individual in it.

2000 years ago, a baby named Jesus was born in a town called Bethlehem. Everyone agrees that the baby in the manger whose birth we remember at Christmas was no ordinary child.

But who was He really?  
Jesus was nothing less than God in human form! **The image of the invisible God.**

It's quite a thought - the God of eternity being born into our world. The supreme One who keeps the world turning, wriggling on a bed of straw.

Why do a billion people worldwide believe that Jesus Christ occupies the number one spot in the universe?

Quite simply because **everything** about Jesus backs it up.

The baby in the manger grew to become an extraordinary man. He taught about God like no one before or since. He performed jaw-dropping miracles that only God could do. He demonstrated His mastery over sickness and death. Evil spirits fled at His word, and He even forgave people their sins! But, amazingly, as we look at His life we discover a humble, compassionate and loving servant. Humble and loving enough to leave the wonder of heaven and be born into our world of pain. But why did He Come?

The Bible makes it very clear, Jesus came to reconcile the world to God. He came to make it possible for people to be brought back to God.

Jesus came to put things right - at enormous cost to himself - a Cross!

But death could not hold the author of life. He rose back to life again.

*(Continued on next page)*

# PARISHNEWS

## HOLY BAPTISM

22nd August 2010 - Molly Louise Margaret, daughter of Angela & Keith Crimmins

29th August 2010 - Lewis James, son of Louise & Philip Magee

24th October 2010 - Sophie Jean Savage, daughter of Darren & Fiona

*Heavenly Father, we ask you to bless these little children as we welcome them into our Church Family. We ask your blessing too on their parents and Family Circles.*

## MARRIAGES

28th October 2010 - Jody Jennett and Gavin Rice

*We wish Jody and Gavin 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.*

## BURIAL

5th Oct 2010 - Minnie (May) Bell (née Devlin) May as she was known was one of our older parishioners, who came from a family long associated with Tullylish. She will be remembered as a quiet, gentle lady who with her husband Raymond were regular at worship in All Saints. Since her husband's death 12 years ago May has been in hospital and Nursing Home. Our prayers and sympathy are with her nieces and nephews and all the Family Circle.

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

*All Saints, Tullylish is committed to Safe Guarding Trust.*

## SYMPATHY

We send our deepest sympathy to all those of our Church Family who have suffered the loss of a loved one. We assure them that they are in our thoughts and prayers.

*Loving Father,*

*We pray for all these families, give them support and comfort and the knowledge of your eternal love.*

## From Tullylish to Donegal

On a pleasant November morning, nine parishioners set off by minibus to Glenties, Donegal to renew friendships made a year ago. On the way, they made a detour to visit the grave in Sligo of W.B. Yeats, poet and dramatist and grandson of a former Tullylish Rector, The Rev W.B Yeats. At Sunday Morning worship in Glenties Church, they were warmly welcomed by the Rector, The Rev John Deane. As well as conveying greetings from Tullylish, Arthur, our Rector, also preached the sermon.

We pray for the five churches in Ardara Parish and hope that the links between them and Tullylish will remain strong.

## The Rector's Letter (Continued from Page 1)

Jesus holds the number one spot in the universe, and the number one spot in our hearts and minds, rightfully too. His call to us this Christmas is simple:

Not just to see a baby in a manger, but to see the Son in all His Glory.

“Glory to God in the Highest.”

Jesus would love Christmas - who wouldn't enjoy their own birthday?

May you enjoy the birthday of Jesus and may you know the reality of the One who is full of Grace and Truth with you, this Christmas.

**God Bless You,  
Arthur**



# TOPICAL FEATURES

## Christmas: Where did Christmas trees come from?

There are two early stories that mention fir trees. The first involves St Boniface, who went to Germany in the 8th century as a missionary and found people sacrificing a child to their god under an oak tree. Boniface was appalled, and rescued the child. He then chopped down the oak tree and found a tiny fir tree growing nearby. He gave this to the people and said: "This is a symbol of life. Whenever you look at this tree, remember the Christ-child who is the one who will give you life, because he gave his life for you."

The second early fir tree story involves Martin Luther in the 16th century. It is said that one year he decided to drag a fir tree into his home and to decorate it with candles. He used it as a visual aid, telling people that the candles symbolised Jesus as the light of the world, and the evergreen tree symbolised the eternal life that Jesus gives to us. Many of the people who followed Luther were struck by the idea, and took up the custom.

## Brand New Year

I am your next chance at the art of living. I am your opportunity to practise what you have learned about life during the last 12 months.

All you sought and didn't find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it again but with more determination. All the good you tried for and didn't achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All you dreamed but didn't dare to do, all you hoped but did not will, all the faith you claimed but did not have - these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose.

I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to Him who said, "See, I am making all things new." (Revelation 21:5).

## Our first loyalty

The beginning of a new year is a good time to consider our compelling and sometimes competing loyalties. Our first loyalty must always be to our loving Creator. "You shall have no other gods before me," says the first commandment (Exodus 20:3). Although other loyalties are important (family, country, work), God is the top priority.

The brilliant Christian statesman Thomas More tried to serve King Henry VIII well. But when the tyrant king made unethical demands on More that conflicted with God's standards, More refused to obey.

The terrible consequence was More's beheading. In 1535, just before the sharp blade fell on his neck, More proclaimed, "The king's good servant, but God's first."

## Churches shell out for The Real Easter Egg

*It may seem strange to be including Easter News but nowadays as soon as the Christmas decorations come down, Easter merchandise appears.*

The recently launched "The Real Easter Egg" is the first Easter Egg in the UK to mention Jesus and the events of Holy Week on the box. It is attracting interest already as hundreds of churches and individuals have placed orders for the eggs, due out in time for Easter 2011. The Meaningful Chocolate Co, says: "People can't believe a product like this has never been available in the UK."

The direct sale price of The Real Easter Egg is £4.50 which includes a charitable donation, VAT, handling and delivery to a church single drop off point. 30 pence from each egg will be donated to the charity Traidcraft Exchange and a further 10% will go to Baby Lifeline - buying everything from medical equipment for new mums in the UK to chickens for farmers in Africa. If you would like to consider ordering a Real Easter Egg, visit: [www.realeasteregg.com](http://www.realeasteregg.com)

# MISSION UPDATE



## CMS IRELAND

### Sent with love, received with thanks

The appointment of Ronnie Briggs to the position of Director of Mission of CMSI has been graciously acknowledged by all CMSI supporters both here in Ireland and by Global Partners throughout the world. Perhaps most significantly by the Rt. Revd Jeremiah Taama, Bishop of Kajiado in Kenya where Ronnie has been working for many years. Bishop Jeremiah was happy to share his sentiments with us in our Mission magazine.

He writes, "While we feel sad at losing Ronnie, we also feel proud to have him go to the Society's office to serve the church in a much wider capacity. If Kajiado can give something to CMSI and the church, then we are proud that Ronnie takes up this position as our gift to the church. He and his wife, Maggie come to you in Ireland with our best wishes, our encouragement and our prayers."

We, in turn, thank Kajiado for their gift to the society and the church and pray for Bishop Jeremiah and the Diocesan staff as they adjust to Ronnie's departure.

Our annual CMSI Biblical Quiz is now in circulation and it is available from me in church.

Please have all mission boxes in before the end of the year.

Continue please to pray for CMSI, for those working at home, all our global partners and especially at this time for Ronnie and his family.

### Isabel Whiteside

*Father of all nations, we thank you that we are united as your family with our brothers and sisters across the world. Bless these relationships, remain at the centre of them. May they be based on your values and pleasing to your ways.*



## SOUTH AMERICAN MISSION

Please continue to remember in your prayers, the work of SAMS and especially Beryl Baker who has been ill and recently in hospital. In Beryl's email of 12th October, she does not comment on her own health but that of two others - one being Brownie her little dog who was being taken to the vet the next day - the other was the illness and sudden death of Augustine, a very fit 17 year old whom Beryl had mentioned in her book- *The Big Book of Beryl Baker*.

Please do pray for Beryl who works so hard at treating her patients. It is reckoned she sees around 50 patients per day and even on a Sunday she will not turn anyone away.

A glimpse of good news is that the financial barrier to a nurse named Ruth Cabrera working at the clinic has been removed.

### Louise McClory



## CROSSLINKS

In April, the Rev Eddie Coulter and the Rev Bryan Kerr travelled to Serbia to link up with Mission partners, Chris and Lotta Strajnic to conduct a School of Biblical Training. In the course of the week they gave about 20 talks and workshops on teaching the Bible. Many students spoke warmly of the week's teaching and Chris and Lotta will be included in setting up small preaching groups amongst the students over the next few months.

Crosslinks "Bounce" Camps were also a huge success during the summer with leaders taking seminars on such things as World Religions, Missions and Relationships. I would like to thank all the parishioners who support Crosslinks financially and in prayer.

**Laura Moffatt**

# MISSION UPDATE



## CROATIA OUT REACH MISSION

On Monday, 22nd November, our Annual General Meeting was held at The Haven, Templepatrick. We were privileged to have Pastor Nathanael come to N. Ireland to attend the meeting.

After all the business was dealt with, Nathanael spoke about how his church was progressing. With much emotion he spoke of the recent loss of Stefica, a very devout Christian lady, much loved and who will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

The team here at Tullylish also feel the loss as we got to know her so well in the times we enjoyed fellowship on our projects in Koprivnica. The joy we can share is knowing she is with her Lord and Saviour.

On 28th May, Nathanael celebrated ten years of church planting in Koprivnica and 110 people attended this special service.

There have been new people wanting to become members of the church. Nathanael asked if they would give their testimonies which they did including one who was a former Catholic priest. Seeds have been sown and Nathanael has seen doors opening and prayers answered. Please continue to pray for this ministry in Croatia.

Nathanael really appreciates all the support he receives from Tullylish and the other churches in N. Ireland. Please keep Nathanael, Elizabet, their children and the church family in your thoughts and prayers.

**Heather Hanna**



## LEPROSY MISSION IRELAND

Maisani was born in Eastern Nepal. She married and had one son who died young. When it was discovered that she had leprosy, people in her village brought her

to Anandaban Hospital where they left her. This would be her home from 1967 until her death, aged 83 in 2010.

Here she heard the Gospel message and responded. She would regularly sit in the female ward reading her Bible and praying for the patients. She became a mother to everyone, helping to feed and wash patients who couldn't do this for themselves. She knit socks, sweaters and caps for other patients.

Give thanks and praise to the Lord for the life and witness of Maisani Aama Tamang, who was an inspiration to many. Pray that TLM will never lack the resources to care for those like Maisani.

**Betty Jones**

### An unforgettable motto

Englishman William Carey (1761-1834) is often called the father of the modern missionary movement. In his time, the Church of England had stopped sending missionaries to foreign countries. But Carey had a passion to make Christ known to the unreached. Considering that he started out as a shoemaker, his dream seemed unlikely. Yet while he made and repaired shoes, his mind and heart were focused mainly on his Lord Jesus and God's love.

Shortly after becoming pastor of a small church in England, Carey felt called to work in India. He struggled to get enough funds to make the journey and start a mission there. With little education, he learned several languages, translated the Bible into Sanskrit and set up schools, places of worship and other ministries.

The building in Leicester, where Carey repaired shoes still has his motto stretched across it: ***“Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God.”***

# ORGANISATION NEWS

## 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 in autumnal colours which was the perfect setting for all the delicious food which followed. We were pleased to see many new members.

We had Arthur at our next October meeting showing us slides of the week long bicycle tour which he and Martin undertook, cycling 430 miles around the Diocese of Down and Dromore, visiting 120 churches, some of which were in "the back of beyond". Along the way they were met by some parishioners who provided them with lunches and snacks. The tour which started at Tullylish and finished at Seapatrick raised over £5000, of which £3000 went to the Children's Hospice and £2000 to the Banbridge Church Spire Fund.

At our next meeting we had Mrs Joan Baird who showed us a DVD of life during World War 2. This was very interesting and brought back memories of their childhood to some of the older members and for the younger members it made them feel blessed that they had not experienced any of it. Joan went on to talk about the war graves she had visited in France, especially the graves of young men from the district whose relatives may have never been able to make the journey there. We all enjoyed Joan's talk.

Sheree Nelson was our next guest in November when she gave a talk on American Thanksgiving, a national holiday held on the 4th Thursday in November. The first thanksgiving was celebrated by the Pilgrim fathers who thanked God for their safe journey from England, for surviving their first brutal winter and for their first harvest. Americans look forward to this particular holiday and family members travel great distances so that they can all be at home together. Sheree also told us of the many traditions associated with Thanksgiving especially the food which always includes roast turkey, cranberries and pumpkin pie. Everyone is included, even neighbours who live on their own and have no family.

We are looking forward to our next two meetings - Christmas shopping and Christmas lunch.

If you have time to come along on a Monday afternoon, we would be pleased to see you.

We take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful Christmas and New Year.

**Brenda Orr**

## THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The new season of the Women's Fellowship commenced in October with our guest speaker, Barbara Long, who brought her beautiful handmade jewellery which was available for us to try on and buy. The proceeds from the jewellery help towards the purchase, postage and shipping of basic medicines for hospitals in Zambia.

At our November meeting, our guest was Helen Wilson, an Army Nurse from 204 North Irish Field Hospital. Helen shared with us her experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan which was emotional and moving. We give thanks to God for all such medical teams and pray for their safety and the safety of the troops.

In December we will be going to Brownlow House in Lurgan for our Christmas dinner, followed in January with a visit to Portadown Town Hall to see the pantomime, Aladdin.

Any ladies wishing to join the Women's Fellowship will be warmly welcomed. Also, I would like to wish all our members a very Happy Christmas.

**Laura Moffatt**



## THE GIRLS' BRIGADE

On Sunday, 7th November, 47 girls were enrolled. Our congratulations go to Joanna Sinton and Jayne Ruddock who completed their training and were enrolled as Officers.

Our Company Section enjoyed their Christmas Treat night out when we went to The Wizard of Oz Pantomime in Banbridge. The Explorers and Tinies are looking forward to 4th December when they will be going to Peter Pan's Neverland in Portadown.

Well done to the girls and leaders who took part in the Autumn Ramble in Tullymore and raised £750 in aid of the N.I. Cancer Fund for Children. A big thank you to everyone who supported this very worthwhile cause.

G. B. will finish on 13th December and resume on 10th January 2011.

**Deborah Mulligan**

*Loving Father,  
We thank you for the privilege of meeting together and for the happiness, support and encouragement that we can give and receive at these times. In the name of Christ. Amen*

# BACKPAGE NOTICEBOARD



## CHURCH SERVICES

### Sunday 2nd January 2011

11.30am Family Service - Rev Arthur Young

### Sunday 9th January

11.30am Holy Communion - Rev Arthur Young

### Sunday 16th January

11.30am Morning Prayer - Rev Arthur Young

### Sunday 23rd January

11.30am Service of the Word - Rev Arthur Young

### Sunday 30th January

11.30am Morning Prayer - Rev Arthur Young

### Sunday 6th February

11.30am Family Service - Rev Arthur Young  
6.30pm Healing Service - Rev Canon Charlie Leeke

### Sunday 13th February

11.30am Holy Communion - Rev Arthur Young

### Sunday 20th February

11.30am Morning Prayer - Rev Arthur Young

### Sunday 27th February

11.30am Service of the Word - Rev Arthur Young

### Sunday 6th March

11.30am Family Service - Rev Arthur Young  
6.30pm Healing Service - Rev Liz McElhinney

### Sunday 13th March

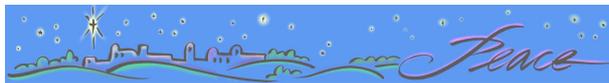
11.30am Holy Communion - Rev Arthur Young  
6.30pm Service of Confirmation  
Holy Trinity Church, Banbridge

### Sunday 20th March

11.30am Morning Prayer - Rev Arthur Young

### Sunday 27th March

11.30am Service of the Word



### A Christmas Prayer

Dear Lord, in this holy Christmas season may we draw nearer to you. How wise you were to reveal yourself in the presence of a little baby, the Christ child. You demonstrated the power and the depth of your love for each of us. Thank you for showing us that Christmas begins in the heart, and for the love that it teaches. Help us now to keep the light of the Christmas message burning brightly all year through. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



## FLOWER ROTA



### JANUARY

2nd J. Wilson  
9th J. Wilson  
16th M. McCracken  
23rd D. Mulligan  
30th The Harrison Family

### FEBRUARY

6th R. Sinton  
13th D. Acheson  
20th B. Orr  
27th The Women's Fellowship

### MARCH

6th K. Alexander  
13th V. Walker  
20th E. Hoey  
27th V. Cochrane



## SOUP/STEW LUNCHES



I would like to thank all who attend our lunches every fortnight, and all the ladies who work so hard in supplying the food, serving and washing up.

We all work together as a team and enjoy what we do. It is nice to have a chat with new people or friends that we don't see very often.

Our last lunch this year will be on 14th December and we will commence again on Tuesday, 18th January.

On behalf of the Rector and all involved with the lunches, we hope that you all have a Blessed Christmas.

Heather Hanna



**DUCK RACE**  
**NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
**11.00am**



[www.tullylish.co.uk](http://www.tullylish.co.uk)