

PASSWORDS

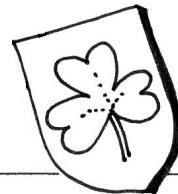


THE MAGAZINE FOR ST MARY MAGDALENE PARISH
DONEGALL PASS

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www.st-marymagdalene.org.uk

March



2011

An Irish Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the sun shine warm upon your face
May the rain fall soft upon your fields
And until we meet again
May God hold you in the palm of His hand!

March 2011



MARCH SERVICES



SERVICE	MINISTER	READER (Morning Service only)
<u>Mar 6th—Sunday before Lent</u> 11.00 am Holy Communion 6.30 pm Holy Communion	Rev T P Kerr Rev T P Kerr	Libby Garstang <i>2 Peter 1-v- 16-21</i> (Page 219)
<u>Mar 9th—Ash Wednesday * (See Page 11)</u> 7.30 pm Holy Communion (<i>St Mary Magdalene</i>) 7.30 pm Holy Communion (<i>St Aidan's</i>)	Rev A McCartney Rev T P Kerr	---
<u>Mar 13th—1st Sunday in Lent</u> 11.00 am Morning Prayer 6.30 pm Holy Baptism (<i>St Aidan's</i>)	Rev S Heaney Rev T P Kerr	Ann Sheppard <i>Genesis 2 -v- 15-17</i> <i>& 3 -v- 1-7</i> (Page 2)
<u>Mar 17th—St Patrick's Day</u> 11.00 am Holy Communion (<i>St Aidan's</i>) 12.30 pm Holy Communion (<i>St Mary Magdalene</i>)	Rev T P Kerr Rev T P Kerr	---
<u>Mar 20th—2nd Sunday in Lent</u> 11.00 am Holy Communion 6.30 pm Evening Prayer	Rev T P Kerr Rev T P Kerr	Jane Stewart <i>Romans 4</i> <i>-v- 1-5 & 13-17</i> (Page 145)
<u>Mar 27th—3rd Sunday in Lent</u> 11.00 am Family Service 6.30 pm Holy Communion (<i>St Aidan's</i>)	Rev A McCartney Rev T P Kerr	Various

*Readers read the First Lesson of the Day—taken from the Pew Bible.
 Readers should confirm their reading with the Rector/Minister*

Thursday Lunchtime Services

These continue to take place in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit at 12.30 pm—
 followed by lunch in the Bistro.

Please note the service of Holy Communion on St Patrick's Day and make every effort to attend, even if it is not your normal practice to come to the Thursday services. You can also enjoy the delicious lunch afterwards!



The Rector writes . . .

Mar 2011

Dear Parishioners

LENTEN OBSERVANCE

Traditionally, Lent is a time when we give up our favourite goodies. It is a time of sacrifice. It is designed to bring us closer to those who are on the fringes of our society who may be experiencing great need in their lives. When my wife Carol and I worked in Saudi Arabia we encountered the tradition of *Ramadan*. This six-week period was central to the teaching of Islam, the Muslim faith. During this time the vast majority of Muslims do not eat or drink anything during daylight hours. In our home of Tabuk in Saudi, a cannon was fired across the town to signal dusk and only then did they eat and drink.

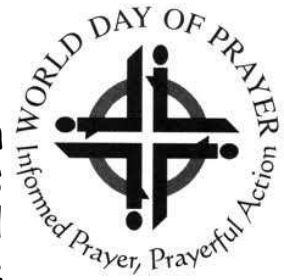
Theologically, I have little in common with our Muslim friends, but nonetheless, they give us an excellent example of self-sacrifice. For many of us Lent is a time of self-sacrifice that will hopefully bring us closer to God and to others.

Let us also remember that by His self-sacrifice on the cross, Jesus Christ gave Himself for our salvation. May we encounter that reality of Christ's love that brings us back to God and may we draw even closer to Him on our Lenten journey.

May God bless you at this Lenten period.

The Rector

Women's World Day of Prayer



This month - on the first Friday in March - women in our local churches will join with millions of others around the world with one aim in mind - to pray. The Women's World Day of Prayer has in recent years become a global, ecumenical movement of informed prayer and prayerful action, organised and led by Christian women.

The service is written by a different country each year and that country then becomes the focus of the world's prayers on the day itself. It begins as dawn breaks over the islands of Tonga in the Pacific and continues across each continent until the last services are held back in the Pacific, on the islands of Samoa, circling the world in prayer for 36 hours.

By then the day will have been celebrated in over 170 countries and over 5,000 services will have been held throughout the United Kingdom.

The origins of Women's World Day of Prayer date back to the late 19th century when Christian women in the USA and Canada began a variety of activities in support of women's involvement in mission, at home and abroad. But it was not until the 1930s that Women's World Day of Prayer services began in Britain.

This year 2011 the worship material has been prepared by the women of Chile. Its theme, 'How many loaves have you?', is appropriate as bread is eaten at every meal in Chile, and is very much part of everyday life.

Although organised and led by women, this is essentially a day of prayer for everybody, as Christians demonstrate their solidarity with 'sisters and brothers' in other countries. So - all are welcome to attend! Locally, we are meeting in St Aidan's church on Friday 4th March at 7.30 pm. Please make every effort to be there.

LENTEN LUNCH

A Lenten Lunch in aid of the
Leprosy Mission
will take place on:
Sunday 27th March
after the church service.

We will be having a special speaker from Leprosy
Mission

*Please support this event
In order to assist with catering, can you please
write your name on the sheet at the back of the
church if you plan to attend.*



Fighting leprosy – how you can help

This year, just under a quarter of a million people worldwide will realise that they have contracted a dreadful disease: leprosy. In the years to come it will destroy their bodies and the lives of their families, as it has done to millions before them.

Statistically, it is expected that half of these new lepers will be found in India. So it is no wonder that the Leprosy Mission has established a specialised hospital there to treat people with the disease—drawing people from miles around. The staff there work long hours to provide treatment to meet the needs of desperate outpatients, many of whom have no other access to adequate leprosy treatment.

So what is leprosy? It is caused by a bacterium which attacks the nerves. If

left untreated it can cause anaesthesia, paralysis, blindness and even shortening of the fingers and toes. There is a cure for leprosy, a course of drugs called multidrug therapy. These kill the bacteria but cannot reverse any nerve damage or disability that has already been caused. As many people are terrified of catching the disease it can also often lead to intense social exclusion, resulting in a person losing their job, home, family or marriage prospects.

The Leprosy Mission is asking for Christians in the UK to pray for these people, and to help them in a practical way this year with some financial support for the hospital. If you can help, please ring 01733 370505 or visit www.worldleprosyday.org.uk.

There is only one piece of news from the BB camp this month and that is to announce of the birth of a baby girl to Bill and Elizabeth (Captain and Officer of the company). We send our best wishes and congratulations to the new mum and dad and a warm welcome to Sarah Gwen.



Well, it really was worth waiting for! The Guild enjoyed a delicious post-Christmas in Rockmount Golf Club in February. It really was a lovely afternoon, rounded off by a splendid performance by our own Leila Webster. We are indebted to Leila for her willingness to share her talents with us. We certainly had a good laugh!

Our February meeting was one we'll not forget in a hurry. Our special speaker was Mrs Lavinia Abrol who outlined her life journey as told in her book 'A Sparrow's Tale'. I think everyone was moved by Lavinia's tale and inspired by her faith and conviction.

Our 9th March meeting happens to fall on Ash Wednesday. We will be attending church at 7.30 pm for a service of Holy Communion and afterwards adjourning to the hall to hear about the work of Christian Aid. Mrs Debbie McDowell, a volunteer for the organisation will be telling us about her recent trip to Malawi.

Guild members are invited to attend the Women's World Day of Prayer—this year to be held in St Aidan's at 7.30 pm on Friday 4th March. Please see article on Page 4.

Joan Rodgers—President

CROSSLINKS MISSIONARY SOCIETY

God's word to God's world

If money for Crosslinks is brought to church on Sundays and I am unable to attend, could you please give your donations to Cecil Dunwoody.

*Thank you
 Lena Lemon—Honorary Secretary*

The 5-minute sermon

What will you get out of Lent and Easter this year?

It depends on one aspect of your inner life. If it is not working well, then Easter will be useless to you, even though you attend all the Lent talks, go to all the services in Holy Week, and eat Easter eggs until you are sick.

So what is it? Forgiveness. Not from God to you, but between you and other people. Your willingness - to forgive other people. Everyone has something to forgive. You'll have been hurt by various people throughout your life. Being a Christian does not alter it. But being a Christian does alter the way we are expected to deal with it. Why worry about it now, in Lent? Because we are looking forward to Easter, and when we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say the words: 'forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us.' Easter is all about Jesus dying on the cross to forgive us our trespasses. As we forgive those who trespass against us.

On Sundays when we go up for Holy Communion, the minister summons us with the words: Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours.... come to the

Lord's table, eat the bread and drink the wine - his flesh and blood, shed for us on the cross. BUT ONLY if we are in charity with our neighbours....

And Easter is the actual historical event that we commemorate in the bread and the wine.

So this Lent, just how willing are you to forgive others? If you harbour bitterness, then Easter will not do you any good this year. Jesus put it like this in Matthew chapter 6:

'For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.' That is scary!

Paul concludes in Colossians chapter 3: 'Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.'



For Sale



Fed up with ironing?

Why not treat yourself to this labour saving iron press?

Cost £130.00—as new

Highest offer secures

☎ phone 90641779 or email: info@st-marymagdalene.org.uk

(Proceeds to church funds)

Anniversaries in 2011

article by courtesy of Rev Canon Kenneth Ruddock

In church life there are two very significant anniversaries celebrated this year. One is the anniversary of the birth of the Reverend John Monsell, former chaplain of this church (1843-46). He was born in Londonderry on 2nd March 1811. It is said that Rev J Monsell wrote a hymn for each Sunday of the liturgical year. We regularly sing some of his most famous and well-loved hymns as part of our Sunday worship:

- *Christ is risen, Halleluiah*
- *I hunger and I thirst*
- *Lord of the living harvest*
- *Father, blessing every seed-time*
- *Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness*
- *Fight the good fight with all thy might*

The second date of great significance in 2011 will be the 400th anniversary of the King James Authorised Version of the Bible. It was initially priced at 10 shillings loose-leaf and an extra 2 shillings if bound! But what a price from the angles of devotion, spirituality, meditation and influence on the English speaking world. It was paralleled only by the works of William Shakespeare.

The Church of Ireland “Safeguarding Trust” Policy operates in this church. Panel Members are Rev Terence Kerr, Mr Cecil Dunwoody and Mrs Catherine Irving. Notices to this effect have been placed in the church and halls.



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

A day hemmed in prayer will not easily unravel

Don't forget...
Clocks forward



27 March

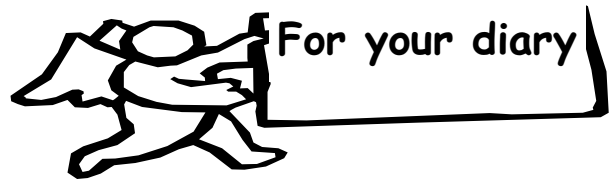


How to get to heaven

"If I sold my house and my car, had a big car boot sale and gave all my money to the church, would I get into Heaven?" the teacher asked her Sunday School class. "No!" the children all answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the grass, and kept everything neat and tidy, would I get into Heaven?" Again, the answer was, "No!"

"Well", she continued, "then how can I get into Heaven?" A 5-year-old boy shouted out, "You gotta be dead



Women's World Day of Prayer	Fri 4th Mar <i>(St Aidan's)</i>	7.30 pm
Ladies' Guild	Wed 9th Mar	7.30 pm
Select Vestry	Mon 14th Mar	7.30 pm
Antiques Fair	Sat 19th Mar <i>Teas rota: Jacqueline & Kate</i>	12.30-4.00 pm
Lenten Lunch	Sun 27th Mar	12.15 pm
Snooker Club	Tuesdays	7.00 pm
Midweek Services	Thursdays	12.30 pm
BB	Thursdays	6.30 pm onwards





for our younger readers



TRAVELLING WITH THE WORD

We take cars, buses and trains for granted today but years ago it was far more difficult to get around. Let me tell you about 2 people who lived centuries apart but travelled all over England spreading the good news.

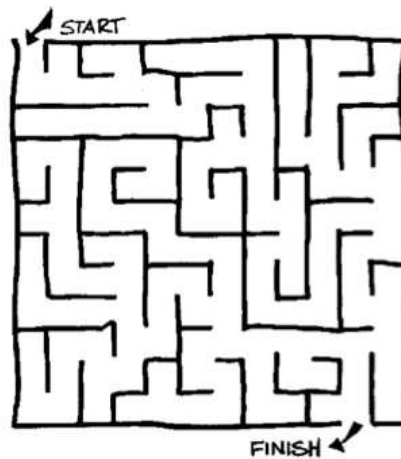
The first is St Chad who lived in the 7th century and walked every where throughout the Midlands converting the ancient kingdom of Mercia to Christianity. When he was given a horse he didn't want to ride until the Archbishop insisted that if he rode it would help him to convert more souls for Christ.

The 2nd is John Wesley who travelled the length and breadth of England on horseback. In the 50 years before he died in 1791 he travelled over 250,000 miles preaching some 40,000 sermons saying 'I look upon the world as my parish'.

Both covered huge distances and reached out to so many people way before the advantages of modern communication like the Internet!

WHERE TO?

Can you travel your way through the maze to find your way to the jokes?



What do you give a horse with a cold?

Cough
Stirrup!

Which snakes are found on cars?

Windscreen
vipers!

What do you call a laughing motorcycle?

A Yamahahaha!

What do bees do if they want to use public transport?

Wait at a buzz stop!



✂ Articles for the March magazine should be with Kate Irving by Sunday 13th March 2011.



Flower Rota—March



Mar 6th..... Mrs N Reilly & Mrs R White—in memory of their mother
 Mar 13th..... Mr & Mrs B McMillan
 Mar 20th..... Mrs G Stewart—in memory of Geordie & Elizabeth
 Mar 27th..... Mrs C Irving

all who are ill or in need:

- Annie
- Betty
- David M
- David S
- Desmond
- Lily
- Martha
- Raymond
- Ronnie
- Sadie, Jim and John



We also pray for all clergy who minister within our parish and for renewed numerical growth

Could you please make sure that you let the Rector know of anyone who is in hospital or unwell.

Midweek Lenten Services—Diary Dates

Ash Wednesday—9th March	7.30 pm	Holy Communion (both in St Mary Magdalene and St Aidan's)
Wed 16th March	7.30 pm	St Mary Magdalene
Wed 23rd March	7.30 pm	St Aidan's
Wed 30th March	7.30 pm	St Mary Magdalene
Wed 6th April	7.30 pm	St Aidan's
Wed 13th April	7.30 pm	St Mary Magdalene
HOLY WEEK		
Tues 19th April	12 noon	St Aidan's—followed by lunch in church hall
Wed 20th April	12 noon	St Mary Magdalene—followed by lunch in church hall
Maundy Thursday—21st April	7.30 pm	Holy Communion—St Aidan's
Good Friday—22nd April	7.30 pm	Liturgy of the Cross—St Mary Magdalene



Puzzle Corner

Sudoku—try your hand at this easy puzzle and follow it with the wordsearch below:

			5	6	7	1		4
				9	1	2		
1			4			5	8	6
	3							9
4	5						6	1
6			9				5	
8	2	3			9			5
		4	6	3				
9			2	8	4			

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- Daffodils
- Weather
- Cold
- Wet
- Leek
- David
- Wales
- Patrick
- Ireland
- Ash
- Wednesday
- Lent
- Forty
- Wilderness
- Prayer
- Fasting
- Spiritual
- Reflections
- Temptation
- Devil
- Glory
- Power
- Stones
- Angels

D	N	E	D	A	F	F	O	D	I	L	S	E
R	E	F	L	E	C	T	I	O	N	S	P	L
S	L	A	W	D	D	N	I	N	E	A	I	D
G	I	S	E	A	S	E	K	N	T	O	R	Y
W	V	T	V	T	S	L	R	R	W	L	I	R
A	E	I	O	L	Y	E	I	R	E	A	T	O
L	D	N	E	T	D	C	H	E	D	D	U	L
E	E	G	R	L	K	S	K	R	N	W	A	G
S	N	O	I	T	A	T	P	M	E	T	L	O
A	F	W	E	A	T	H	E	R	S	W	E	F
K	A	W	C	I	L	R	S	S	D	L	O	C
Y	T	S	O	E	I	R	E	L	A	N	D	P
I	L	R	D	N	S	N	R	E	Y	A	R	P