

Dates for your diary - Christmas 2012

9th December; Armagh 10.30am - Sunday School Carol Service.

Tuesday 11th December; **Church Council**, 7.45pm in Killymaddy

13th December; Lisanally Special School Carol Service in St. Marks, Church of Ireland, 7.30pm

16th December; 9 Lessons and Carols, 10.30am followed by 'After Church Christmas Treat' in the Lynn Hall

23rd December; Killylea Carol Service, 3.00pm with the Killylea Silver Band

Tuesday 25th December – Christmas Morning; combined Service in Armagh at 9am followed by tea, coffee & mince pies in the Manse.

Sunday 30th Dec. 2012 Sunday Service led by Mr. Tommy Glenny,

Armagh 10.30 am & Killylea 12noon

Watchnight Service 11.15pm led by Elizabeth Archer



THE LINK

Christmas 2012

A message from Rev. Denis

Every year we celebrate Christmas. Every year we try to make it meaningful. But instead we end up with Shopping; Spending; Credit cards; Traffic jams and Busyness. A non-stop exhausting expensive December! Somehow Christmas has become something we barely survive.

Have you ever stopped to think 'How would Jesus celebrate?' Would he race from one event to another? Would he spend money on stuff people didn't need? **OR** would he give generously to meet real needs? Would he make time for the people around him?

Imagine for a momentWhat if Christmas looked a lot more like Jesus? This Christmas, What if you bought less stuff? One less present! A few less gift cards! And used that money to bless someone in need! What if you carved out time; unhurried, quality, uninterrupted time to truly celebrate with the people in your life?

What if **worship** was more important than a perfect Christmas? Because let's be honest, consumerism does not equal happiness; memories; contentment; fulfilment; meaning. When Christmas begins with worship it all becomes meaningful.

This Christmas can be different. This Christmas make less mean more; less spending, more giving; less hurry, more time; less me, more **Jesus**.

Have a simple blessed Christmas.



Killylea Youth Club

At a recent evening of the Youth Club **Cherith Anderson**, who recently completed a course at the Faith Mission in Scotland, gave a very interesting talk on preparing for the Olympics.

Cherith is seated left in middle row. Hilary Gillespie, leader, is keeping a watchful eye from the back row.

Annual MWI Coffee Morning & Sale

The ladies of Armagh MWI would like to thank all those who supported their annual coffee morning and sale on Saturday 10th Nov.



It is a major event in our calendar and so much effort is put in which makes it extra special to report that the total raised was £1180.

There was cakes, jams, perfumery, gifts, books and bric a brac and of course George never lets us down on the vegetable stall.

Downstairs several of the



ladies were concentrating on managing the coffee shop, with great professionalism.



In addition the Abbey Street Kids had their stall selling their handmade cards and crafts and raised a total of £251 for the Sunday School.

Looking forward to doing it all again next year.



**SOUL MATES:
THE MOVIE**

SPEAKER: ROSS JONAS	WORSHIP LEADER: BETH MCKENDRY	DATE: 1ST-3RD MARCH 2013	VENUE: SHANKILL PARISH, LURGAN	AGE: 9-13
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Costs: Early Booking Price: £13/£30 (children) £16/£18 (adults)
 Normal Booking Price: £26/£28 (children & adults)
 Booking opens: 31st January 2013
 Early booking closes: 29th January 2013
 Weekend Booking and Seminar & Workshops Booking closes: 2nd February 2013

IMYC



Ms. Rennie Liggett

Annie Rowena Liggett was born on the 4th July 1918. She was the youngest child of the late Robert John and Annie Jane Liggett (n'ee Agnew) of Tullyhue House, Tandragee. Annie Rowena, better known to her friends as Rennie, attended the local primary School in Tandragee. Later she went to the Prep dept of Portadown College where she stayed to complete her Senior Certificate in the mid 1930's. She then went to Queens' University Belfast to study Botany and Zoology, where she obtained an honours degree with the intention of going into research. However, the outbreak of war upset her plans and for a time she worked in the tax office.

In the early 1940's Rennie decided to teach and as her subjects were not in ready demand in Northern Ireland, she went to England and taught in Leamington and Windermere, coming back to the province in the early 1950's. Rennie taught for a number of years in Londonderry Girls High School.

She came to Armagh in the 70's where she taught at the Armagh Girls High School. Rennie finished her teaching career in Armagh.

During her lifetime Rennie was a keen photographer and for a time developed her own photographs. She also enjoyed Pony Trekking and Mountain walking. For many years she was a member of the Queens University Field Club and went on many of their trips both home and abroad. Rennie travelled widely in France, Germany, Spain, Austria and to Russia when it was still part of the U.S.S.R. She went to Australia and New Zealand where she had a number of relations, and also went on several cruise holidays.

Rennie was a keen gardener. She was a member of the Gardening Club in Armagh, a Friend of the Museum and a faithful member of Salter's Grange Women's Institute. She played bowls and was interested in handicrafts particularly Carrickmacross Lace at which she was quite accomplished. She was a lifelong member of the various Methodist Churches in the places where she worked.

Ms. Liggett died on 14th Nov.2012 at Hockley Nursing Home where she had been a resident for about 5 years. She will be fondly remembered by all her friends at Abbey Street Methodist Church.

Rev. Denis.



Memorial Service for Marina Livingstone

This was held at the Killymaddy Methodist Mission Hall on Sunday, 4th Nov.2012. £535 was collected at the Service and the money given to the Newry Hospice. The Photograph shows the Livingstone family after the service with Wesley handing over the cheque to Neville and Myrtle Pogue who received it on behalf of the Hospice.



Killymaddy Carol Service

The photograph shows the Drumsallen Primary School choir after the Carol Service on Sunday 2nd Dec.2012. The choir included Aaron & Rachel Gillespie, Richard, Kyle & Jessica Livingstone and Rebecca Livingstone. Also pictured are the school principal, Mrs. Elaine Williamson and Rev. Denis Maguire.



Ready for a day's shopping in Lisburn!

Ladies from Armagh, Killylea & Killymaddy enjoyed their day shopping in Lisburn. First stop was morning coffee or Ulster Fry at Dobbies



Rev. David Latimer from 1st Derry Presbyterian Church with Clergy from Armagh at the United Service in St.Mark's on Sunday 18th Nov.2012

Pilgrimage to Iona

By Liz Switzer

In September 2011 ten of us from the Armagh area led Kiran Wimberly from Celtic Spirituality set out for a week's stay with the Iona Community. Travelling by bus, train and three ferries we eventually arrived on the little island off the west coast of Scotland. When St. Columba first set out from Derry in 563 AD to spread the gospel he made the journey with twelve of his followers in a coracle.



We met up with other groups some from Sweden, others from England, Scotland and America and after a filling vegetarian dinner settled in for our weeks stay. During the week we shared in worship, discussion groups and chores. It was almost like being a student again (just a few years ago!!). We slept in little rooms built to medieval proportions, me in the top bunk and Sadie Somerville in the bottom bunk. At 7.45 am the bell rang, the signal to wash and get dressed for breakfast at 8.15am. Worship was then held in the Abbey church with other visitors from the island joining in.

After our household chores were completed (toilet cleaning, preparing veg. etc.) we had our morning workshop. The theme of our week was 'the Hope for Reconciliation.' We had many interesting discussions in our groups led by David Coleman in his colourful top, sandals and long-flowing locks. We considered our relationship with God, with our family and with our neighbour and indeed with ourselves.

After a hearty lunch we had different choices in the afternoon; crafts, music, talks etc. Evening worship was held at 9 each evening. This varied in form with a different emphasis each day; hospitality, needs and concerns of the world, healing, creation, and Holy Communion on the Friday. The evening Communion service was particularly moving as we sat around tables lit only by candlelight and passed the bread and the cup to each other.

Our young leaders were from many countries; Germany, Japan, Ireland and stayed for 6 months to 3 years. They brought a great freshness and energy to our worship. Other highlights of the week included the pilgrimage around the island, the 'ceilidh' in the village and a journey by small boat to Fingal's Cave. At each stage of our journey we were mindful of the **Celtic Pilgrimage Prayer**;

God, be with us in every valley,
Jesus, be with us on every hill,
Holy Spirit, be with us on every stream,
every cliff's edge, every green pasture;
every moor and meadow,
in the crest of the waves on the sea.
Each time we rest and each time we wake up;
God be with us every step we take.

Since Columba first landed in his little coracle in 563 AD many things have happened.



Several of the students spent time here and had discussions with each other about what they were writing. One I was pleased with was the graffiti stand. I asked them to write down a question they would want to ask God. There were a lot of questions and it will be these questions I will take next month when we can talk, discuss and debate with each other.

I was delighted recently when Probat the boy's hostel warden in Jobarpar and his wife Priti had a lovely baby girl. I was also so pleased when they asked me to give her a name. I choose Elizabeth as it's my first name and my Granny's name (someone I was very close to). This family often ask me to pray for their daughter Elizabeth Digi and for them as a family. Prayer is so important to them.



Probat as the boy's hostel warden also leads the boys twice daily 6.30am and 6pm in prayer and praise at the local church. I occasionally join them in the evening and listen to them early morning as I am preparing for the day. These are special times for me.

Once again this has been another busy and different month for me. I am so grateful for those who make contact via e-mail Facebook, send letters or gifts and who are constantly praying for me. I especially give thanks for the time spent with students in Old Dhaka and the positive feedback I have received from them. Please continue to pray for CBSDP and especially the community health programme as it goes through a changing process and for my position within this department. For many ill ladies I encountered at Dhamsor and for many children throughout Jobarpar area who have sat or sitting school and government exams. John Wesley stated "Prayer is where the action is." I want to be involved in that action every day.

God Bless
Pat

An update from Mission Partner, Pat Jamison in Bangladesh

Hello Everyone.

I was given a book by a friend recently entitled 'What happens when women pray.' I have found it quite enlightening and have tried to focus more on praying first and planning second. For someone who is extremely organised and whose focus on planning is paramount this is not at all easy although I do try more and more every day to focus on prayer and then plan.

A few months ago while visiting Jobarpar, Rev. Shourabh Pholia came to my home for some tea and a chat. He as well as being Dean of St Thomas Cathedral and Principal of the theological college, is also pastor to the Mission Partners in Bangladesh. We got chatting and I shared the idea I had about doing a prayer time somewhere and if St Thomas with the students would be a good start. He not only thought it was a good idea he has also asked me to come once a month to 'do something' with the students. They have a youth fellowship which includes theological, several university and older college students. I started at the end of July talking about prayer. As I had been unwell and other things had been organised August and September I returned this month and it appeared to be a success.



Above is a stand which I set up asking them to think of a place and or a situation in Bangladesh they felt where prayer was needed. All of them placed a pin in an area and several left post-its with situations and areas in need of prayer. Above is another where I placed a magna-doodle and asked them to write or draw something they wanted to hand over to God and then erase it.

The following is a brief outline of the history of the settlement on Iona;

1. St. Columba died 597 AD
2. After 200 years there were many raids especially by the Vikings. Many monks were martyred.
3. The Book of Kells is thought to have been written on Iona and taken to Ireland for safe-keeping in 814 AD.
4. After 1200 AD the Celtic monks were ousted to be replaced by the Benedictine and Augustinian orders under authority of Rome.
5. In 1560 AD an Act of the Scots Parliament decreed the monasteries be demolished. The monks of Iona were scattered and their manuscripts destroyed.
6. The buildings decayed over the centuries and in 1899 the 8th Duke of Argyll handed over the island to the Church of Scotland.
7. In 1910 the Abbey Church was restored.
8. From 1938 The Iona Community restored the other buildings led by Rev. George MacLeod using young unemployed men from Glasgow and student ministers.

So now you too can visit the site and maybe spend a few days on the island. There are good hotels and hostels on the island. Think of St. Columba as you make your journey through life.

The Celtic Way of Prayer by Esther de Waal

I am surrounded by Christ, in every direction.

He is present in every dimension in my life.

He is beneath me in the certainty of the ground beneath my feet.

He is beside me close at hand, walking with me,

on my level, seeing things with the eyes that I see.....

I shall see and find Christ in others:

in hearts and tongues and eyes and ears

of all whom I meet on my journey