

Children enjoy 'Light Party'

On Sunday November 3, All Saints Day, children from St Bartholomew's Parish in Stranmillis were treated to a 'Light Party.'

After enjoying games the children made take-home crafts reflecting the theme of light, and thought about how they should be people through whom the light of God should shine.



After the obligatory party food the children and leaders made their way into the darkened church with their glo sticks to spend a time in worship. During this time they were encouraged to pray for themselves and any issues that concerned them.

Later one of the children disclosed how he had used this time to pray about the forthcoming AQE tests.



The rector of St Bartholomew's, the Rev Kevin Graham, said: "It was a timely reminder to everyone at St Bartholomew's, and indeed for all of us, to remember all children involved in these examinations during the month of November. "

Take part in a Bible reading marathon

Seventy-two hours, a hundred voices, one Book. On the three days leading up to the start of Advent, people from across the town of Newtownards are invited to come and be part of a continuous public reading of the Bible in St Mark's Church, Newtownards

"Our aim is that before the busyness and distractions of the run up to Christmas get a hold, we would find a light for our way as a community from God's Word," says St Mark's rector, Revd Chris Matchett.

Families, schools, churches, businesses and public services will all be taking part

Prayer for Today

Gracious God, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of life and the word of your kingdom. Renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen *Methodist Worship*

and everyone is welcome to come and listen to the readings, enjoy some refreshments and hear the story of God's loving plan for us all.

When: 9.00 am on Thursday 28 November until 10.30 am on Sunday 1 December (Advent Sunday).

Sign up! - For more information, and to sign up for a reading slot (particularly between 9.00 pm and 9.00 am) please contact St Mark's Parish Office
Tel: (028) 9181 3193 or email:
office@stmarksnewtownards.org.uk

Killaloe Dean appointed

The Rev. Gary Paulsen has been appointed as Rector of the Killaloe and Stradbally unions and Dean of Killaloe.

Gary, 54, and has been ordained for ten years. He came to the Limerick and



Killaloe Dioceses from our link diocese of Saldahna Bay, in South Africa where he had been serving as a parish priest in Paarl, in the midst of Western Cape's famous wine lands. He is currently rector of the Adare group of parishes, and just to keep him extra busy is looking after the Rathkeale Group while the Priest in Charge there is on sick leave. His appointment comes after a long vacancy for the Killaloe parochial group and no

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doubt his new parishioners are looking forward to his arrival.

The date of Gary's institution and installation as Dean has yet to be finalised.

Pilgrims prepare for visit to the Holy Land

A group from the Diocese of Connor will travel to the Holy Land tomorrow, Tuesday November 12 for an 11-day pilgrimage.

They will be led by the Dean of Belfast, the Very Rev John Mann, who led the first diocesan Holy Land pilgrimage in March 2011. The Ven Stephen Forde, Archdeacon of Dalriada, will represent the Bishop of Connor who is currently in Korea attending the Assembly of the World Council of Churches.

The 20 pilgrims from Connor will be joined by 11 people from First Larne Presbyterian Church. Their trip gets underway at Belfast City Airport, from where the pilgrims will fly to London Heathrow and on to Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv. Their first two days will be spent in Jerusalem, followed by an optional trip to Masada and the Dead Sea.



There will be a visit to Mount Zion and Bethlehem, and the Sunday will be spent meeting the people of Jerusalem at St George's Cathedral, in the city, or on one of two optional trips.



On the Monday the pilgrims move via Caesarea, Haifa and Acre to Tiberias, and the second part of the pilgrimage takes in Jesus's lakeside ministry, Nazareth and Northern Galilee before the pilgrims depart for home early on Friday November 22.

In Jerusalem pilgrims stay in the three star Golden Walls Hotel overlooking the city walls, and in Tiberias the hotel is the four star Ron Beach on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.

Liturgy Collection gifted to RCB Library

The liturgical collections of the late Canon Brian Mayne (1934–2012) have been donated, most generously, to the RCB Library by his family.

Canon Mayne, who was a long standing member of the Liturgical Advisory Committee and the Committee's Honorary secretary from 1989 to 1999, was the editor of the *Book of Common Prayer 2004*, the excellence of which owed much to the breadth and depth of his liturgical knowledge. This is reflected, too, in his collection of books, pamphlets and periodicals from many parts of the Anglican Communion as well as from other traditions. Over 1,000 individual items as well as runs of journals will provide a most

valuable resource for ordinands, researchers and casual browsers.

The collection will now have a permanent home in the RCB Library as a reference collection. The books, through the good offices of Canon Mayne's friend and colleague, the Revd Brian Cadden, have been transferred to the Library where they have been shelved. It is hoped to begin cataloguing them shortly and adding the titles to the Library's on-line catalogue which may be consulted at www.library.ireland.anglican.org

Schools AGM

The AGM of the Church of Ireland Primary School Management Association will be held in the Church of Ireland College of Education, tomorrow, Tuesday at 2pm.

The guest speaker will be Fr David Tuohy SJ, author of a recent book on denominational education and politics. In the evening, as part of the 1913 Lockout Centenary celebrations the Archbishop of Dublin will attend an ecumenical Service of Remembrance for deceased SIPTU members in the University Church, St Stephen's Green.

A rector reflects

As I said..an ordinary priest reflects, by the Rector of Whitechurch, Canon Horace McKinley, with a forward by the Bishop of Cashel & Ossory, will be launched in Whitechurch Old Schools on Friday evening by the Archbishop of Dublin and Dr Harold Hislop

Mission to Seafarers all-Ireland conference

Mission to Seafarers, north and south, held their first All-Ireland conference in October explore how they could work

closer together.

For many years The Mission to Seafarers in the north (British) and south (Irish) of Ireland have operated on a separate basis. With a view to having a more unified approach and refreshing the outreach of Mission to Seafarers in the island of Ireland, The Mission, north and south, asked International Headquarters in London, to facilitate this all-Ireland conference to explore how they could work closer together for the better care of seafarers and representation of this ministry in Ireland.

They met on October 17 and 18 in the City North Hotel, Gormanstown, County Meath under the guidance of Canon Ken Peters, Director of Welfare & Justice, and Nicky Wynne, Director of Development.

More than 20 staff and volunteers from north and south attended and participated with great enthusiasm.

The Rev Colin Hall Thompson said: "The first day the concentration was on local and global development of the Mission to Seafarers, particularly relationships between headquarters and the local ministry. Of particular interest was a case study on redeveloping a port centre ministry. This threw up strategic thinking on issues including finance, staffing/ volunteering, ship visiting, relationship with port authorities and the community round about etc.

"The second day majored on regionalisation, particularly discussing the idea of the island of Ireland becoming a region within the 'Global Family' of Mission to Seafarers with a regional council overseeing this concept.

"We were delighted to welcome the new Liaison Bishop, Michael Jackson, Archbishop of Dublin, to assist us with these deliberations. Having been brought up to date (over lunch) with our deliberations, he quickly grasped the

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situation in the Port of Dublin and the potential of an all-Ireland Council."

Colin continued: "We are very grateful to him for accepting the position of Liaison Bishop for Mission to Seafarers in Ireland, for giving of his time and taking our deliberations to an even deeper level with his shared thoughts. He gave his blessing to the concept and challenged us to deliver an outline document appropriate to governance.

"The presentations of Nicky Wynne and Canon Ken Peters inspired the group immensely, perhaps particularly how much we can achieve in the care of seafarers through practical and spiritual support, and with the help of the United Nation's 'Maritime Labour Convention 2006' which was inaugurated on the 20th August 2013. The fellowship and sense of purpose between the representatives south and north was palpable."



***On the eleventh day of the
eleventh month - We will
remember them***