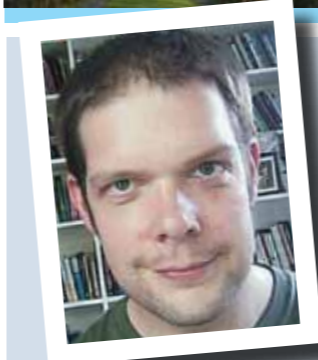


Saint Malachy's

Outlook

Rector's note:

It's time for me to answer God's calling and move on



When I was appointed Rector back in 2008, I had just been accepted to study for a doctorate in Belfast; but it was pointed out to me, quite rightly and wisely, that it would be impossible to fulfil the more-than-full-time demands of being Rector of Hillsborough alongside part-time study. These facts remain the same. However, over the last while, I have become increasingly convinced that God continues to call me to go deeper into theological study, and I have always been determined to respond, as well as I may by his grace, to God's calling on my life, wherever it may lead me. So, since Hillsborough still needs

and deserves a full-time Rector, I have therefore decided that I will step down from my current role, and have accepted an invitation to work part-time as a Curate in Holywood Parish, so that I may also spend two days a week at Union Theological College in Belfast. I didn't expect to spend the rest of my working life in Hillsborough; but nor did I expect my time here to be as short as it will prove to be — although, in total, I will have spent five years here when I leave, which will be some time in the middle of August. This has not been an easy decision, for many reasons, and many people will think it a strange one. However, if God calls me

to step down from a place of such honour, and to reduce my income, in order to study him more, and simply to be obedient, hopefully the last lesson I will leave in Hillsborough is that sacrifice for God is joy in itself. Moreover, although I hope that I have made some difference here, I believe that it is for someone else to lead this parish into the next significant stage of its growth and development — and I will always pray this for Hillsborough; I remain convinced of the potential in this place to be a shining beacon of the Gospel. We will miss you, and we will miss Hillsborough. But when God calls, we must follow.

Let's Work Together

Firstly, may I reassure everyone that I am not going anywhere and secondly, say how inspiring it is to see Simon following what is so obviously God's call on his life. Over the last couple of weeks, I have had the opportunity to reflect on Simon's recent announcement that he will leave us to follow his call to further theological study and I, probably like yourself, have gone through a series of different reactions. Initially, there was the purely practical reaction of how we will cope to ensure that the core elements of parish life are maintained. Then there was the sense that somehow it was up to me to "find answers on how the parish will cope with all the uncertainty of the interregnum", closely followed by "how I can help individual parishioners who are struggling with this change?" But then I was right back to how we would cope with everything. Thankfully, I was able to spend a couple of days at the end of

last week with my post-ordination training group, on a retreat led by Alan Abernethy, the Bishop of Connor, which helped put things back into perspective. In St Malachy's, we are a worshipping community in God's church, a branch of His family, and like most families, when there is a bit of a crisis, our reaction is probably - "my family, this church, is important to me, how can I help". I was drawn to 1 Peter 5: 1-4 "Here's my concern: that you care for God's flock with all the diligence of a shepherd. Not because you have to, but because you want to please God. Not calculating what you can get out of it, but acting spontaneously. Not bossily telling others what to do, but tenderly showing them the way." (The Message) Brothers and sisters in Christ, we have a short term family difficulty, and we need to come together to support each other in whatever way we can, and if we do that, we will come out of this time of discomfort and uncertainty, a stronger church,

Curate's note:

a more caring community of faith and a kinder family for each other. God will be faithful so pray that, even now, He is preparing the heart of our new rector, a person who can build on a renewed, God-given foundation of faith.

Mike Dornan



Music in May at Hillsborough Castle

THANK you to all of you who supported the Events Committee at Hillsborough Castle on 19 May. A glass of wine, excellent Arco String Quartet greeted all those who joined us for the evening. A programme of music and song in the Throne Room followed, provided by the N.I. Fire & Rescue Service Band and Cantabile. We were delighted to provide the venue for the first public

performance of Cantabile, but actually they were so terrific that the audience found this hard to believe! The evening raised over £400 for church funds which was a bonus for an event which was designed as a social evening for the Parish. Thank you to the performers and catering crew for making this evening such a success.

Val Pitman OBE
SECRETARY, EVENTS COMMITTEE

The Annual Vestry Meeting was held in the Downshire Centre on Wednesday 11 May at 7pm

1. Opening

The meeting began with a Bible reading from St John's Gospel and prayer.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from David Brown, Ann Curley, Colin Darling, Victoria Gallop, Aileen Herdman, John Mercer, Chris Mitchell, Bill Murphy, Adam Perkins, Maura Pringle, Jacqui Townsley

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the 2010 Annual Vestry Meeting were circulated, approved and signed.

4. Rector's comments

The Rev Simon Richardson told the meeting that, in view of the longer agenda this year to accommodate the tri-ennial election of Nominators, he would restrict his comments to those of gratitude for service to the church. He wished to thank:

Rachael Gillespie for her work as Parish Secretary

Kenny Dougherty for a multitude of jobs as Sexton

Julie Bell and The Choir, especially for their musical contribution to the Mothers' Union Service the previous Sunday

The Rev Mike Dornan (Curate) Danny O'Hara (Youth Co-ordinator)

Kerry Markwell (Sunday School superintendent) and all teachers/helpers

Dalia Bickute (Cleaner)

Moyra Richardson, Jane McCullough and all singers and musicians for their contributions to Rejoice at 10

Outgoing Churchwardens Tanya Howe and Peter Hunter. He cited a couple who had stayed with the Parish because of the warmth of welcome they had received.

Glebe wardens John Cochrane and Mark McCullough. John was standing down after many years service, and had the gratitude of the whole Parish for his hard work during a particularly busy year.

Noel Martin and Dermott McCurdy for their work on the new Rectory.

All members of the Select Vestry, and particularly Derek Gallop (Secretary), Iain Gillespie (Treasurer) and those who

were now stepping down: John Cochrane, Colin Darling, Richard Lyness, David Mercer, Chris Mitchell and Barbara Small.

Parochial Nominators for the past three years:

Dermott O'Callaghan, Niall Howe, Graham Spence and Barbara Small

and Supplemental Parochial Nominators:

Niall Eames, Richard Lyness, Kerry Markwell and Jenny Williams

Diocesan Synod Representatives:

Chris Buckland, Denis Small, Phoebe Pratt and Jenny Williams and Supplemental Diocesan Synod Representatives:

Matt Flenley, Beryl Howe, Barbara Small and Sheelagh Benham

5. Presentation of Accounts (attached)

Treasurer Iain Gillespie circulated a Statement of Accounts for the year ended

31 December, 2010 and highlighted the following:

Closing Balance as a Summary of all Accounts = £56,000.

Stewardship Campaign realised a 14 per cent increase in Giving, less than anticipated.

Special mention should be made of the significant contributions from One Step At A Time dance classes (Richard Lyness), Ballet classes, Pilates and Catering.

The Rectory Project had been self-financing, and full details will appear in a future edition of Outlook.

Thanks were expressed to:

■ Ivan Boreland for servicing Gift aid

■ Barry & Geraldine McKeown for co-ordinating Free Will Offerings

■ Lynn Bunting and Rachael Gillespie for their work in the Parish Office

■ The Finance Council Kenny Dougherty for his help in securing competitive rates

■ Auditors Edward Gorringer and Brian Hatwell

Matters Arising

1. Gift Aid: Jenny Williams asked if GA was being claimed on all donations, including Free Will Offerings. Treasurer confirmed this was the case, where parishioners had indicated this wish.

2. Sound System: Dermott O'Callaghan noted that £25,000 had been spent on a new system which was still imperfect, despite final payment. Rev Richardson agreed that there was still work to be done to improve it, but that no additional cost would be involved.

Auditors

The Treasurer proposed that Edward Gorringer and Brian Hatwell, having indicated their willingness to stand again, be re-appointed as Auditors. Seconded

by Tanya Howe, and carried nem con.

Approval of the Statement of Accounts was Proposed by Matt Flenley, Seconded by Denis Small and carried nem con.

6. Appointment of Rector's Office Bearers

Rev Richardson announced the following appointments:

Rector's Church Warden: Stuart Harvey

Rector's Glebe Warden: Mark McCullough

7. Election of Parishioners' Office Bearers

The following were proposed and elected for the forthcoming year:

People's Church Warden	Proposed	Seconded
Kathryn Baird (uncontested)	Peter Hunter	Elizabeth Law
People's Glebe Warden	Proposed	Seconded
Adam Perkins (uncontested)	Matt Flenley	Mark McCullough
Select Vestry	Proposed	Seconded
Julie Bell	Derek Gallop	Elizabeth Henderson
Simon Walker	Alistair Jameson	Noel Gillespie
Mandy Houston	Barbara Small	Jeanette Shannon
Alistair Jameson	David Mercer	Dermott O'Callaghan
Iain Gillespie	Denis Small	Alistair Jameson
Derek Gallop	Peter Hunter	Matt Flenley
Julie Bell	Noel Gillespie	Denis Small
Simon Walker	Mark McCullough	Tanya Howe
Mandy Houston	Tanya Howe	Elizabeth Henderson
Alistair Jameson	Mark McCullough	Lesley Harvey
David Mercer	Alistair Jameson	Lesley Harvey
Denis Small	Noel Gillespie	Pauline Heaney
Peter Hunter		
There being just 12 nominations, all nominees were elected unopposed		
Parochial Nominators	Proposed	Seconded
Stuart Harvey	Tanya Howe	Pauline Heaney
Cathryn Law	Pauline Heaney	Matt Flenley
Barbara Small	Mandy Houston	Elizabeth Law
Jenny Williams	Angela McCurdy	Elizabeth Henderson
Mark McCullough	Graham Spence	Denis Small
Dermott O'Callaghan	Noel Gillespie	David Mercer
David Mercer	Iain Gillespie	Alistair Jameson
Niall Howe	Tom Curley	Dermott O'Callaghan
Iain Gillespie	Jenny Williams	Cathryn Law
Kerry Markwell	Iain Gillespie	Tanya Howe

All present were asked to complete their voting form, with the following result:

Elected	Supplemental	Seconded
Barbara Small	Niall Howe	
David Mercer	Stuart Harvey	
Iain Gillespie	Mark McCullough	
Dermott O'Callaghan	Cathryn Law	
Diocesan Synod Members	Proposed	Seconded
Jenny Williams	Angela McCurdy	Lesley Harvey
Chris Buckland	Derek Gallop	Tanya Howe
Derek Gallop	Noel Gillespie	Jenny Williams
Moyra Richardson	Jenny Williams	Mandy Houston
Peter Hunter	Eunice Gillespie	Moyra Richardson
Kathryn Baird	Jenny Williams	Angela McCurdy
Julie Bell	Graham Spence	Elizabeth Henderson
Jane Brown	Jane McCullough	Lesley Harvey

All present were asked to complete their voting form, with the following result:

Elected	Supplemental	Seconded
Kathryn Baird	Peter Hunter	
Chris Buckland	Julie Bell	
Derek Gallop	Jane Brown	
Jenny Williams	Moyra Richardson	
Diocesan Synod Member (Under 30)	Proposed	Seconded
Jane McCullough (uncontested)	Tanya Howe	Matt Flenley

The Meeting closed with prayer.

HILLSBOROUGH PARISH CHURCH

Contact

Rector: Simon Richardson
Tel/Fax: 028 9268 8839
email: rector@hillsboroughparish.org.uk

Church Office

Opening times: weekday mornings
9:30am — 12:30pm
Tel/Fax: 028 9268 8839
email: sec@hillsboroughparish.org.uk

FLOWER ROTA

June -	5	Mrs B. Small
	12	Mrs B. Small
	19	Mrs A. Boreland
July -	3	Mrs H. White
	10	Mrs H. White
	17	Mrs A. Stewart
	24	Mrs A. Stewart
	31	Mrs M. McCleary

SUMMER MADNESS

SOME of our young Christians are looking for food and shelter ... to help them experience all sorts of Madness. Members of the Youth Group will be attending Summer Madness, Ireland's Premier Christian Festival, at the King's Hall Complex in Balmoral, Belfast, from July 1-5. This year's theme is The Last Word.

The purpose of the event is to encourage young people to reflect on issues that confront them in their social and spiritual development and engage with the world and contemporary culture. Summer Madness supports the exploration of values and beliefs in ways that relate to young people's experiences, needs and faith outlook.

Young people come to the event with widely different experiences of church, faith and life and we aim to create an atmosphere in which everyone feels comfortable and is able to ask questions as well as have a lot of fun! Campers are welcome from all denominations as well as those with none.

Everyone attending from our youth group needs to provide accommodation and something to eat.

- Do you have a two or three-man tent they could borrow?
- Could you provide them with a one-pot meal for eight people?

If the answer is YES to either or both of these questions, please contact the Parish Office on 92 688839. Thank you for your support

GIRL GUIDES

AN additional person is needed urgently to help with the Guides on Monday evenings (7.30pm-9pm) from September.

One of the current Guide leaders is about to depart on maternity leave, and another is no longer eligible to hold a Warrant under the constitution of the Guides Association.

If you feel you are in a position to assist, please contact the Church Office (9268 8839) or Brenda Lucas (9268 2307) as soon as possible. Many thanks.

ANYONE FOR CRICKET?

The gentle sound of leather on willow will be the order of the day when the St Malachy's Cricket Match takes place in the grounds of Rockport School near Holywood on Saturday 11 June.

Those willing to put themselves to the test, and their shins in the firing line, will represent a Richardson X1, captained by Matt Flenley, and a Harty X1, captained by Derek Gallop.

The match will be a 20-overs-a-side competition, starting at 2pm. Each member of each team (other than wicketkeeper) will be required to bowl two overs.

The occasion is intended to be a family day, and the venue is perfect for children to run around safely and have fun, while their parents enjoy strawberries & cream and liquid refreshment on the boundary.

Rumour has it that captains Flenley and Gallop will be meeting in Bangalore next week, each with a bag of rupees, to conduct a bidding war for the services of their



Captain and fitness fanatic Matt Flenley warms up for the big match on June 11

players - in the manner of the Indian Premier League Twenty-20 competition.

Among those available for selection are organiser Stuart Harvey, Brian Hatwell, Colin Darling, Adam Perkins, Dave Brown, Graham Spence, Colin Reid, Mike Dornan, Peter Markwell, Simon Ballantine, James Wright, Simon McCartney, Iain Gillespie, Andrew Stewart, Danny

O'Hara, Julie Bell, Mark Jones, Chris Buckland, Jim Kirkwood, Ken Allen, Arvon Williams, Luke Williams, Jonny Howe and Niall Howe.

Mark McCullough and Phil Marchant have bravely volunteered to supervise the drinks.

Derek Gallop said: "It will be a privilege to play with whoever joins my team. Everyone appears to be in the peak of physical condition.

"Unfortunately the same can't be said about my kit, which last saw action 14 years ago. I believe my whites may be suffering from terminal moth, and my bat from teenage woodworm. We shall know — when the first ball is struck.

A confident Matt Flenley said: "My team will be spoken of in hushed tones in the future, such will be their impact on world cricket. Years from now, people will remember the day that they took to the field to live up to the cricketing ability of the one after whom the team was named."

Please support the event. Everyone welcome.

"forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

— Further reflections on the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer is a wonderful, complete and perfect prayer designed for our total well-being, both physical and spiritual. As we come to the fifth petition, this emphasis on the whole person can be seen in the use of the little word "and". The first three petitions stand separate and in their own right. However, the Greek translation shows the next three joined by "ands". Thus this fifth petition reads, "and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us". It does seem that Jesus is teaching us that just as we need daily bread for physical well-being, so we also need daily forgiveness and God's daily protection for our spiritual well-being.

This fifth petition has two parts: the first part looks to our spiritual needs as Christians, the second part to our Christian responsibility to act as our Saviour, Jesus, acts. Whilst both clauses in this petition are important, we must recognise that forgiving others is not a prior condition for our reconciliation

with God, our salvation. Our reconciliation is by God's grace; we bring nothing to this except faith — "not of works lest any man should boast".

Beyond that, the words of Jesus in the first clause point to the fact that people who are reconciled to God through faith in His redeeming work at Calvary, that is Christians, will still sin; we will fail each day to meet God's standard, to give God His proper place in our lives. Hence, when we pray "forgive us our sins", we acknowledge two deep and profound truths: firstly, that we continue to sin and hence owe God a debt; secondly, that only God can forgive us these debts.

In the second clause, "as we forgive those who sin against us", Jesus presents the reality that in this life, we will be hurt in many ways by other persons, and in many different circumstances. The wording is strong: Jesus assumes that they will be forgiven. There is here a very important concept that with God's forgiveness there is an obligation,

the forgiven must forgive. Indeed, this is so important that Jesus re-emphasises it later in the same chapter as the Lord's Prayer; for this reason, some suggest that this petition on forgiveness is the most important part of the prayer, but perhaps that goes too far. So, to say "as we forgive those who sin against us" is no small thing: it is what God requires us to do, no matter how difficult. Forgiveness is hard work for us mere mortals since some wounds are deep and hard to bear, yet we must try.

Why? Firstly, whilst it is true that to forgive is a gift to the one forgiven, it does not free them from being guilty: but it does leave God as the righteous judge. Secondly, the true benefit of forgiveness of others is to the one forgiving. It closes the door on bitterness and keeps open the door to God's guidance, love, fellowship and abiding presence.

Bill Murphy



Jeanette Shannon (left) and Bunty Hawkins



Bunty Hawkins received certificates from Lady Christine Eames



Representatives from Hillsborough's link branch in Blessington, Co Wicklow



Ladies from Hillsborough Parish prepare to take tea



Back row: Rev Simon Richardson, Jeanette Shannon and her daughter Louise McCambley, Lord Eames and Canon Robert Howard. Front row (from left): Roberta Rodgers and Ruth Mercer



Marking 100yrs in Hillsborough

Lord and Lady Eames were guests of honour at a day to mark 100 years of the Mothers' Union in Hillsborough.

Lord Eames gave the address at a special thanksgiving service, held in St Malachy's Parish Church, which was attended by Mrs Ruth Mercer (All Ireland President) and Mrs Roberta Rodgers (Diocesan President) who both gave readings, and Canon Robert Howard (Mothers' Union Chaplain) who led the Act of Dedication. The service was led by the Rev Simon Richardson and prayers by Mrs Barbara Small. An offering was given to assist the Mothers' Union Overseas Relief Fund.

Also present were representatives from many local Mothers' Union branches, from the Hillsborough

branch's link in Blessington, Co Wicklow, and ladies from Hillsborough Presbyterian Women, Broomhedge/Priesthill Methodist Women and St Colman's Reilly's Trench.

At a tea held afterwards in the Downshire Centre, branch President Mrs Jeanette Shannon made a presentation to Lord Eames, and gifts of flowers to Lady Eames (a former World President of the Mothers' Union), Mrs Mercer and Mrs Rodgers.

Another special guest at the event was Mrs Bunty Hawkins (daughter of Canon Matchett, former Rector of the Parish Church) who first joined the Mothers Union 64 years ago, and who still regularly attends meetings. She received flowers, and certificates from Lady Eames, and also helped Jeanette cut the commemorative cake.