

# SONGS OF PRAISES

St Malachy's Parish Church  
Hillsborough  
Friday 2nd Dec. 2011 at 7.30pm

A selection of Traditional Hymns, and  
sacred music for your enjoyment

Featuring

JONATHAN HOUSTON  
ORGANIST

GARVEY SILVER  
BAND

NICOLA PRENTICE  
SOLOIST

WILLIAM WALLACE  
PIPER



CASTLEWELLAN ACC.  
BAND

BRIAN HOUSTON  
FLAUTIST

JULIE BELL  
PIANIST

SARAH, JESSICA  
& ELEANOR  
CHORAL GROUP

## HOUSTY

'COME AND SING ALOUD YOUR  
PRAISES'

Retiring Collection for Church Funds  
EVERYONE WELCOME

## Doctor in the House

Dr Mouner Anis, the Archbishop of Jerusalem and the Middle East, and Bishop of the Diocese of Egypt, will be preaching in Hillsborough Parish Church on Sunday 20 November at 10am and 11.30am.

We will be able to hear first-hand of the various ways in which the Church has responded to the Arab Spring, including-

- how the Church continues to practically support the poorest and most vulnerable communities in the aftermath of the revolution
- about his meetings with the military, senior politicians and religious authorities to discuss the future of



- a new more democratic government
- a brief update on the recent tragic events in Cairo

**Inspiring Quote:** "He that cannot forgive others breaks the bridge over which he must pass himself; for every man has need to be forgiven."

*Thomas Fuller*

## Hangings for the Downshire Centre

It is a long time since Barbara Small asked me to design some hangings, to replace the pieces of linen which Richard Lyness had erected in the church hall to dampen down the noise reflected off the walls.

These did a good job but something more colourful was desired, hence my involvement. I agreed, on condition that help would be at hand especially from Geraldine Gamble, without whose skill none of the pieces would be hanging vertically!

We gathered together a small group who worked in my home one morning per week to produce the pieces which the church volunteers then stitched on to linen which was kindly donated by James Baird.

This was joined to three other layers, all carefully measured, hanging loops applied and after hanging in my home to allow the fabric to stretch, we quilted it, then Brian Sparks did the difficult task of climbing the high ladder, holding on to a by now, very weighty item, and arranging it according to the instructions coming from below! A very fit and patient man, and much appreciated.

The home workers had fun embroidering our names on one of the leaves on each tree, not visible from the floor but we know they are there. On the back of each hanging there is a list of all who worked on it plus the date on which it was finished, as I wanted to acknowledge everyone's efforts.

The Sunday School children and teachers each painted a self portrait, in transfer paints, which we printed onto the background. The hardest bit of this, apart from clearing up (much thanks to Joy Sinnerton) was writing names backwards, sometimes easy, sometimes taking a bit of thought.

We were now down to two volunteers at home, Elise and Lorna had other pressures and time was passing. Laura,

Norma and I now made a tree each as the central features of the next three hangings, Laura hails from Holland so the willow and water were her choice. Laura then left to pursue her career. Norma and I continued at home while church hall ladies continued doing sterling work, stitching, measuring, layering, all the while informally gathering opinions and advice on many subjects, I learned lots and got endless help and support when things were difficult for which I was extremely grateful.

Then came a bit of a hiatus, while we worked on the design for number eight. Our stitchers began making small quilts for a charity called Linus, after the character in the Peanuts cartoon who is always clutching his comfort blanket. These are made with donated fabrics and given to children who have to spend a lot of time in hospital.

Thanks to Jeanette and her team, two coffee mornings have enabled us to buy wadding and threads to continue. The friendly and relaxed atmosphere has encouraged others to join us and the creative abilities of our team are gradually emerging, I love it!

The last hanging went up in August with a great sigh of relief from all, not least my husband, who is now able to access our cloakroom without having to manoeuvre under a large hanging.

Before the Bishop dedicated all the hangings after the Harvest Thanksgiving, Mike made a very nice speech thanking us all for our work, I was surprised and touched to receive a lovely bunch of flowers a totally unexpected cheque, so I went home thinking I would have to acknowledge all the help I have unstintingly received over the years.

We've had fun, made lots of mistakes, travelled hopefully, laughed a lot and eventually made it! Thank you all.

*Judy Cinnamon*



HILLSBOROUGH PARISH CHURCH

Issue 12: November 2011

Saint  
Malachy's

# Outlook

*Curate's note:*

## A family of Faith



Well here we are, almost at the end of October, half term around the corner and half way to Christmas. The parish organisations are back in full swing, all twenty four of them. So, it's business as usual at St Malachy's. However, all we have to do is scratch beneath the surface and see that the external pressures of the world outside our gates are impacting on all of us.

Increasingly, I am seeing the effects of strain within our families, be it through the consequences of illness, bereavement or loneliness. There are the many external pressures and influences on family life, many of which are unhelpful, and have the effect of pulling us in different directions, resulting in strained relationships. There are the threats of losing employment and money worries, even in leafy suburban Hillsborough. Like it or not, the world out there is changing, and not necessarily for the better. So, we are faced with questions like. What is the church going to do? How are we going to support our parishioners? How are we going to support each other?

There are several different responses already in hand:

1) **A Children's Ministry Group** is being formed to look at ways

of supplementing and integrating our existing children's activities, Sunday school, Guide groups and choirs.

2) **Love for Life** - a non denominational Northern Irish based organisation that offers a Christian alternative to the influences on our young people, support to their parents and resources for the local church - offering help with delicate issues such as risk taking behaviours, the internet, relationships and sex, drugs and alcohol and boundaries and behaviour.

3) **Celebrating recovery** - is a Christian support group to help people overcome hurts, habits and hang-ups which is based on the teaching in the Beatitudes. This is an area Deanery initiative from Dromore Cathedral.

4) **Safe & Well** - a project sponsored by the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust, using the knowledge and relationships within the local church - to support our over 65's who may be experiencing problems associated with social isolation.

We are blessed with a very busy parish with a diverse range of activities for people to engage in. However, we could easily fall foul of focusing on our own

favourite activity and losing not only the bigger picture of all aspects of parish life but also of why we are church - to bring glory to God in everything we do.

The Westminster Government talk of the "Big Society", but society is made up of individuals, family and friends. In St Malachy's we are a family of faith, and like all families, we care for each other, particularly when one of us is in need. As we look towards the penitential season of Advent, I ask you to reflect on our Lord's words,

*Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. <sup>32</sup> A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you."*

<sup>33</sup> "Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked.

<sup>34</sup> Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>35</sup> Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother." Mark 3: 31-35 NIV

Brothers and sisters, what one thing can you do this Advent to help your mother, your brother or your sister?

*Mike Dornan*

## A BIG 'THANK YOU' FROM PORT SAID

Our dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we came to Northern Ireland to serve in Seagoe six months ago, and we will be here for another two-and-a-half years.

God was with us as we served Him for the past 10 years in Egypt. As we look back we are truly grateful for the way the Hillsborough Parish supported the Church of the Epiphany, Port Said, with prayers and financial help during the past five years. When we left Port Said for Northern Ireland in April we left behind a thriving congregation and the infrastructure to cater to the large number of members who attend the services, the women and children's meetings, the healing service and the youth meeting with forty to fifty young people every Thursday and Friday.

The tents for the Sunday school, the paved area used for soccer, the laptop and the video projector used in the services, the clinic and the computer room have

all been donated by the Hillsborough church. The projects like the weekly clinic, school uniforms for over a hundred children each year, financial support to ten needy families every month and the summer schools teaching English and computers were funded by the Vestry. The visit of the Youth team from Hillsborough brought great joy to the church, and there were a lot of tears when the team left Port Said.

We also would like to thank you very much for remembering us in prayer when the revolution took place in Egypt. It was a traumatic and dangerous time for us and the church.

God protected us, and our members, and we request you to continue to pray for Egypt during this time of transition as the Christians are facing a lot of persecution. God Bless.

*Raj & Premila*

### One Step At A Time Supper Dance

YET ANOTHER successful supper dance was held on Tuesday 20 September with 106 people attending. A total of £715 was raised for church funds. A big thank you to those who supplied sandwiches and buns, those who helped out on the night and Norman for the music.

*Richard Lyness*

# HILLSBOROUGH PARISH CHURCH

## Contact

Curate: Mike Dornan  
Tel/Fax: 028 9268 3339

## Church Office

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

FLOWER ROTA	
October -	30 Mrs D. Jameson
November -	6 Mrs D. Jameson
	13 Mrs B. Howe
	20 Mrs B. Howe
	27 Mrs A. Ballentine
December -	4 Mrs A. Ballentine
	11 Mrs A. Ballentine
	18 Mrs A. Coulter
	25 Mrs A. Coulter
January -	1 Mothers Union

## AUTUMN SONG

By Roy Gamble, 2011

There's a sadness at  
summer's end –  
A song sung  
For the dying light  
In that equinoctial blend  
Of day and night.  
The infant faces of the leaves  
I scrutinised last spring  
Begin to flare and flame and fall  
And in the melancholic trees  
Robins rehearse sad semi-breves  
Of their winter song.  
Church choirs intone seasonal  
psalms  
And in rural rectories  
Rectors hone harvest homilies,  
And some morning soon,  
I know,  
I'll awake to find the  
swallows flown.

I WOULD like to thank everyone who has been praying for me during my recent operation and recuperation, and also thank those who sent cards and gifts of flowers and food. It was much appreciated. I am delighted to say that I am doing well now, and almost back to good health. Thank you again, and God bless.

*Pat McIlwain*

## Advent and Christmas Services at the Parish Church

**Sunday 27 November: Advent Sunday**  
8.30am Advent Communion  
10.00am Rejoice at 10 and 11.30am Morning Prayer  
(Preacher - Bishop Harold Miller,  
Bishop of Down and Dromore)  
6.30pm Advent Carol Service  
Followed by the switching on of the village Christmas  
tree lights & Mince Pies in the Downshire Centre

**Sunday 18 December**  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Family Service – Nativity Play  
6.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols

**Christmas Eve: Saturday 24 December**  
3.00pm Christingle Service  
11.30pm Midnight Communion

**Christmas Day: Sunday 25 December**  
8.30am Christmas Communion  
10.30am Christmas Morning Worship

**New Year's Eve:**  
Saturday 31 December  
11.30pm Worship to herald in the New Year

**New Year's Day:**  
Sunday 1 January 2012  
8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am Holy Communion

**At St Colman's Church**  
6.30pm Christmas Mass

**At Priesthill Methodist Church**  
Sunday 18 December  
11.00am Sunday School Carol Service  
6.30pm Carol Service

**Christmas Day**  
9.30am Family Service

## BYE BUY CHILDHOOD

As parents and grandparents we are deeply concerned for the safety of our children. Those of us who are older remember a childhood in which we were free to wander country lanes and fields without the need of adult supervision. Sadly those days are but a memory and now parents fear, for many valid reasons, to grant that level of freedom to their children.

However there are now more insidious dangers to the mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children which we often fail to recognize and challenge.

The Mothers' Union in Britain and Ireland has this year launched a campaign called 'Bye Buy Childhood' whereby we aim to challenge those organizations who, in subtle ways, are manipulating our children as a means of accessing our purses. A recent report states that childhood has become a marketing opportunity worth £99 billion

where £350 million is spent each year persuading children to consume. The use of sexualized content is particularly abhorrent.

However, the purpose of marketing is to sell, by creating an incentive to purchase. It is some of the incentives and techniques used, as well as some of the products themselves that cause concern. Young children are influenced by marketing from as young as 18 months and at that age can recognize a corporate label. Between two and three they can associate items with specific brand names. Up to the age of seven, children will generally accept television advertising at face value and do not develop the capacity to understand the marketing message until about the age of 11 or 12.

The NI Assembly has already begun to address the issue by requesting some stores to remove inappropriate items of clothing aimed at young

children from their shelves. We can all make a difference by: analyzing our consumer habits; challenging retailers and advertisers who sell or advertise inappropriately to children; contacting our MP and asking them to address the issue.

Mothers' Union in Ireland have produced postcards to encourage people to complain to OFCOM if they feel a programme is unsuitable for viewing by children and teenagers, and that it should not be shown before the 9pm watershed. These are available at the back of the church.

If you are concerned about the suitability of an advertisement aimed at children contact the Advertising Standards Authority at [www.asa.org.uk](http://www.asa.org.uk) or phone 020 7492 2222

**WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

*Barbara Small*

## Parish register

With joy we record the Marriages of Richard Leckey & Anna Barclay on June 3, Ronald Smallman & Elaine Davidson on July 28, Richard Brudenell & Lynda Dorman on August 17, Oliver Marshall & Rachel McKibbin on August 27, and David Huggan & Victoria Hunter on October 1.

*Those whom God hath joined together*

Also with joy we record the Baptisms of Georgie Kennedy, Rebecca Buchanan, Olivia Barker, Hanna Scott and Abigail Finney.

*Finish the race, keep the faith*

With sadness we record the Deaths of Eileen Boyd, laid to rest on July 20; Betty Ogle, laid to rest on September 1, and of Robert Seeds, laid to rest on the October 1.

*Whosoever lives and believes in Him will never die*



## Blessing and a barbecue

The annual Harvest Thanksgiving was held in the parish church on Sunday, October 2, followed by a barbecue at the Downshire Centre, prepared and served by members of the Events Committee and their helpers.

Guest preacher was the Bishop of Connor, the Rt Rev Alan Abernethy, who also blessed the Centre wall hangings, designed and created by the ladies of the

Sewing Circle, under the direction of Judy Cinnamon and Norma Sparkes.

Geraldine Gamble and Mandy Houston both made presentations – a card, gift and flowers to Judy, and a card and flowers to Norma – on behalf of the Circle and Select Vestry, to thank them for their commitment to the project over many years.

**JUDY'S REPORT ABOUT THE PROJECT: SEE BACK PAGE**

