

Billy Derrykeighan

Rectory Ramblings

IT'S NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN

YOU WOULD BE SURPRISED WHEN WORDS FIRST APPEARED

* Virus	1599
* Epidemic	1603
* Pandemic	1666
* Quarantine	1669
* Self-isolation	1834
* Self-quarantined	1878
* Personal Protective Equipment	1934
* Viral	1948
* Social Distancing	1957
* Coronavirus	1968
* Covid-19	2019

Covid-19 is short for COronoVirus Disease 2019

A CONFIRMATION MEDITATION

Everyone of us needs to be loved. If we did not receive love as children from our parents, things go wrong in later life. In old age, when physical and mental powers diminish, we need the love of children and grandchildren. When we come to our final birth of death, the only thing we can take with us is love. One of Tolstoy's short stories has the title "Where love is, God is". So that where we see love, we know that God is still at work, even if he is not perceived or given the credit for it. A Bishop friend of mine, used to ask his confirmation candidates to remember 3 things about God: "**He will never let you go** because he loves you so much; **he will never let you down** for the same reason; **he will never let you off**, not by way of punishment, but because he will never be content until you become what by his help he wants you to be". The original and eternal love will not be satisfied with anything less.

Bishop George Appleton



Can you help?

A descendant of the Rev'd Charles Douglas, who was Rector of Derrykeighan until 1833 is needing help with the family history. The Rector's children were Sarah, John, Robert and Isabella. Isabella married into the Hodges of Mosside and Sarah married a John McCay. If anyone has any knowledge of the family tree, please contact the Rectory and I will put you in touch with the family in North Carolina.

CONFIRMATION

Our latest date for Confirmation (public health advice permitting) is Sunday 16th May in Billy at 10.30am and 4.00pm. The rehearsal for all candidates will be at 4.00pm on Sunday 9th May in Billy.

There will be NO normal Sunday morning services in either church on 16th May.

All guests for the Confirmation are by invitation only and track and trace will be in place.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Churches are re-opening cautiously, so please remain masked, use the hand sanitizer and keep your distance and all will be well. Services will still be shorter with limited singing and are likely to remain so until the whole population is vaccinated.

GRAVEYARDS

My thanks to those who help to clear all the Christmas wreaths from both churchyards, along with many broken vases, pots and items damaged by the weather. I wonder how many thousands of pounds of plastic flowers and holly wreaths are thrown away every year... there must be a better way to remember loved ones? What a waste.

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IN CHURCH WORSHIP

The House of Bishops has re-opened churches from Good Friday, 2nd April. So get your diaries out.

Good Friday afternoon 2-3pm A quiet hour by the cross in Billy Good Friday evening 7.30pm in Derrykeighan

As the rest of Holy Week has been lost to us, this year we will commemorate Holy Saturday (also known as Easter Eve) with a vigil at the tomb. The vigil will begin in Billy at 7.30pm and then the "light of Christ" will be brought down the Castlecat Road to St Colman's at 8.30pm. Please bring some illumination with you - torch, lantern etc as we will not have any artificial light in either church. The Rector will provide candles similar to Christingle candles if anyone needs. No need to bring any books, just bring a light and be prepared to be illuminated. Neither service will be very long, but hopefully will be very atmospheric.

Just as it is too soon to bring back Sunday School, it's maybe also wise not to have a joint service yet, so that is why both congregations have their own services on Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

Holy Communion for Easter Sunday morning in both churches at the usual times.

Hopefully the usual pattern of Holy Communion and Morning Prayer can be re-established. We all need to get back into the habit of Sunday morning worship, when you feel safe to do so.

Christian Aid week will start on Sunday 9th May. Hopefully there will be literature and envelopes for all.

O Lord, help us to remember that beyond our brief day is the eternity of your love. Amen.

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O God, the source of the whole world's gladness and the bearer of its pain, may your unconquerable joy rest at the heart of all our trouble and distress. Amen.



Parish Registers



Christian Burial

St Colman's	4th January	Tommy McIntyre
Billy	9th January	Adrian Kane
St Colman's	1st February	Maxi McLean
Billy	14th February	David Gamble (to B'money Cemetery)
St Colman's	15th February	Dan Hartin
Billy	4th March	Desmond Taggart
St Colman's	14th March	Alex McDonald
St Colman's	18th March	Helen McCaw



Billys Holy Dusters

27th March / 3rd April	Sarah & Jill
10th & 17th April	Brenda & Sharon
24th April / 1st May	Pam & Ivy
8th & 15th May	Isobel & Shirley
22nd & 29th May	Margaret & Jim