



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

Ballynahinch Baptists welcome priest to pastor's installation



The priest sits on the right hand of Pastor McDade who is in the centre of the front row.

At the recent installation of their new pastor, Gordon McDade, Ballynahinch Baptists welcomed local parish priest, "Fr" Gerry McCrory. This is a shameful betrayal of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and ought to make every Christian grieve over the departure taking place in Ulster.

It is clear from the newspaper report of the service and Pastor McDade's comments at the meeting, that the Roman Catholic Church is no longer viewed by him and his congregation as it has been by traditional Baptists. Men such as John Bunyan and CH Spurgeon, Pastors Willie Mullan and Hugh Orr perceived Rome as a system of

antichristianity and denounced it as a deception of the devil. However, the message of Romanism is now the message of Pastor McDade for

he has stated that he hopes to see the "Kingdom of God being extended through the efforts of the churches in the town working together." He allies himself and his ministry and his flock with the Roman Catholic church. This is emphasised by his being pictured at the service with the local parish priest at his right hand! It is sad to see the whole ecumenical sell-out endorsed by Mr. Billy Culville, the Secretary of the Association of Baptist Churches. He thus involves all those who belong to this association. It was also sad to see the local Elim minister, Pastor Angus Campbell, endorsing this betrayal of Christ and His gospel. One of those who spoke at the meeting was local female Presbyterian cleric, Marisine Stanfield. She said that she hoped that the unity and cooperation within the churches of Ballynahinch would continue. Unity with Rome has been accomplished in Ballynahinch, it would appear!

Report from "Down Recorder" of October 9th, 2002.

Ballynahinch Baptist Church has held an induction service for its new senior pastor, Mr. Gordon McDade. Mr. McDade takes over from Dr. Hadden Wilson who retired in June. Mr. McDade and his wife, Pamela, were welcomed into the membership of the church by Mr. Michael Simms, church elder and induction promises were led by Mr. Robert Harpur, also a church elder. The service was chaired by another of the elders, Mr. Ed McBriar. In response, Mr. McDade, who had been the Associate Pastor at Strandtown Church for the past eight years, thanked the church for calling him to the pastorate and expressed his gratitude to God for His guidance and blessing upon his ministry. He expressed the desire to see Kingdom of God being extended through the efforts of the churches in the town working together. Mr. Billy Colville conveyed the greetings of the Association of Baptist Churches in Ireland and spoke of his admiration for Mr. McDade's zeal and the commitment to the work in Strandtown, which he had no doubt would continue in Ballynahinch. Greetings from the local churches were conveyed by Rev. Marisine Stanfield who expressed the hope that the unity and cooperation within the churches of Ballynahinch would continue. . . . Mr. Stephen Adams, chairman of Evangelical Alliance, closed the service in prayer."