



# THE UNITED PARISH

Christ Church & St John's

Office open 9.30am-12.30pm Mon.-Fri. Tel 93354814  
www.theunitedparish.org.uk

**Sunday 9th December 2018**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**A Church Community That Reaches Out Into Our Community**

**Revd Jonny Campbell-Smyth & Michael Ogilby**

8.30am Holy Communion In **Christ Church**

10.00am Morning Prayer in **Christ Church**

11.30am Morning Prayer in **St John's**

5.30pm Community Carol Service in **Christ Church**

**Wednesday 12th December 2018**

11.00am Bible Study & Holy Communion at 12 noon in St John's

**Sunday 16th December 2018**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Revd Jonny Campbell-Smyth**

10.00am Christmas Nativity in **Christ Church**

11.30am Kid's Celebration Service in **St John's**

6.00pm Community Carol Service in **St John's**

## **Please pray for:-**

- Eileen Green in Antrim Hospital.
- Anne Magee in Antrim Hospital.
- Cynthia Banfield awaiting eye surgery.
- Shelton Jones as he deals with health issues.
- Billy Clarke in Whiteabbey Hospital.
- Clare Davidson in Antrim Nursing Home.
- May Hayes in hospital.
- Bishop Alan Abernethy receiving chemotherapy.
- Winston Jenkins at home recovering.
- The family of the late Madge McCourt, Madge died a few weeks ago.
- The Heaney Family, Adrienne at home dealing with serious illness.
- Cornett family, member of the family awaiting surgery.
- Louise in Edinburgh suffering from various health conditions.
- Family of the late Lilly Higgins, Lilly died last week aged 101.
- Vera McNeill In Antrim Hospital.
- Members & families in our congregation who are dealing with serious family issues at this time.

## **CRISIS PRAYER LINE**

Praying God's peace and healing for people facing challenging circumstances can bring much comfort. **All requests for prayer should either be texted or phoned to Alison on 07519 805789.**

## **CHANGES TO COMMUNION SERVICE TIMES**

In order to streamline times a little– From **January 2019**, Holy Communion will be held in both Christ Church & St John's on the **First Sunday** of each month. Early morning on the 2nd Sunday in Christ Church and mid week at 12 noon in St John's remain the same. No communion in St John's on **Sunday 30th December** instead **Sunday 6th January 2019.**

**WORSHIP@ST JOHN'S**– Next **Sunday-16th December** we will be holding our Family & Community Carol Service in St John's. We will also be having a Youth Choir of young folk aged 10 and up (no upper limit). The choirs are all meeting at **St John's this Wednesday night at 7:30 pm everyone!- adults & youth,** for more info chat to Olwen.

**PLEASE JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY NIGHT FOR OUR COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE, BRING YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS FOR AN EVENING CELEBRATION WITH REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE SERVICE.**

**SUNDAY 16TH DECEMBER**-Kids Christmas Celebration in St John's & Children's Nativity Service in Christ Church. Please come along dressed as one of the characters from the Nativity Story. Best dressed person/family gets a special gift from the Revd Jonny.

## **CHRISTMAS BOOK STALL– THE GOOD BOOK COMPANY**

**\*\*\*\*Great Opportunity to buy some stocking fillers\*\*\*\***

Stall is open before and after the morning services and everyday in **St John's**. Great selection of books, cards & Cd's for all ages.

**FWO ENVELOPES 2019 & GIFT AID**– Envelopes will be available for collection this morning in St John's & Next Sunday (16th in Christ Church). If you are a tax payer and wish to gift aid your FWO, forms are available at the back of Church or have a word with Peter Watson or Graeme Reid

## **SCRATCH CHOIR-SUNDAY 23RD DECEMBER IN ST JOHN'S**

We plan to have a scratch choir on this Sunday- the last choral success of these budding singers was phenomenal.

A practice is taking place on **Saturday 22nd @ 5.30-6.30pm** in St John's led by the musical Rector- please join us for the next performance!

## **CHRISTMAS JUMPERS- We all have one or want one!**

**Please come dressed to both Christ Church & St John's on Sunday 23rd wearing your woolly friend!**

**HELPING OTHERS-** As we are all planning our menus for the holiday period and the time we will spend with our friends and loved ones sometimes we forget to spare a thought for those less fortunate than ourselves.

**We are asking for your help!!!** Kevin McMahon from the Collinview Restaurant in Ballyclare Golf Club has made a heartfelt decision to give something back to the community.

On Christmas Eve from 12.30pm to 5.30pm, Kevin is giving away free Christmas dinners of Traditional Turkey & Ham with all the trimmings to those who would appreciate and need it the most.

If you know of anybody who would like a meal delivered or if you can help deliver please contact Revd Jonny or David in the Church Office.

**EQUIPPING FOR LIFE-**A few months ago Brother David Jardine told us about the new ministry he was setting up "Equipping for Life"- to help people in the Greater Shankill Area that suffered during the troubles and may still be deprived today. We are asking for volunteers within our Parish or Community, if you could spare an hour or two to help young folk with reading, writing and maths skills to have a word with Revd Jonny.

**NEWTOWNABBEY FOODBANK-** Could we thank everyone for their continued support. At this time of year the team put together Christmas Hampers for distribution. We have been asked to keep the normal food donations flowing but if we could also provide **Tins of Custard, Tins/Boxes of sweets. Thank You.**

## \*\*\*\*CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL \*\*\*\*

A mega thank you to everyone who made this such a wonderful event. It is a great way of celebrating Christmas along with Church community outreach and raising funds for the NI Children's Hospice. Please join us **tonight (9th)** for the Community Carol Service in Christ Church at 5.30pm when we will be joined by Ballyduff Silver Band.

## APPOINTMENT OF ASSOCIATE

Time for some special news in the life of our parish as we are delighted to announce the appointment of our new Families, Youth, and Children's Associate. **Dianne Hamilton** currently lives in Lewes, East Sussex with her husband Luke, where she has been for the past 7 years working in a Church of England parish as the Youth Minister.

Dianne is not a stranger to Northern Ireland as she is originally from here and previously worked as the Youth Coordinator in St Paul's and St Barnabas in York Street, Belfast.

We are so looking forward to having Dianne and Luke join our church family. Please pray for them as they begin the process of saying goodbye to friends and colleagues in England. Pray for their church family, Trinity Church, Lewes as they discern God's direction for them.

We look forward to getting to know Dianne and Luke in the New Year and we pray God's blessing on them in the months ahead.

**THEOLOGY IRELAND 2019 Starting in January** -A course for everyone who wants greater confidence in what they believe, in how to read the Bible and how to pass this on to others. Courses on various nights of the week—course leaflets including booking information in the leaflet rack in St John's and at back of Christ Church.