



THE UNITED PARISH

Christ Church & St John's

Office open 9.00am-1.00pm Mon.-Fri. Tel 93354814
www.theunitedparish.org.uk

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**

Wednesday 19th December 2018

12.00 noon Mid Week Holy Communion Service in **St John's**
(No Bible Study this week but come along for tea, coffee and a chat
at 11.15 am before the Service)

Sunday 23rd December 2018

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Revd Jonny Campbell –Smyth

10.00am Morning Prayer in **Christ Church**

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

6.00pm 9 Lesson's & Carols in **Christ Church**

Tuesday 25th December 2018

Christmas Day

Revd Jonny Campbell-Smyth

8.30am Holy Communion in **Christ Church**

9.30am Christmas Family Service in **Christ Church**

11.00am Christmas Family Service in **St John's**

Monday 31st December 2018

Revd Jonny Campbell-Smyth

11.30pm New Years Eve Service in **Christ Church**

Sunday 6th January 2019

The Epiphany

Revd Jim Stewart & Michael Ogilby

10.00am Holy Communion in **Christ Church**

11.30am Holy Communion in **St John's**

Wednesday 9th January 2019

12.00noon Holy Communion in **St John's**

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.**

Please pray for:-

- Eileen Green recovering at home after hospitalisation
- Anne Magee at home after hospitalisation.
- Jamie Reid recovering at home after hospitalisation.
- Cynthia Banfield at home 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 Whiteabbey hospital.
- Bishop Alan Abernethy receiving chemotherapy.
- Winston Jenkins recently admitted to Mater Hospital.
- The Heaney Family, Adrienne at home dealing with serious illness.
- Cornett family, member of the family awaiting surgery.
- Family of the late Lilly Higgins. Lilly recently died aged 101.
- Vera McNeill at home recovering after hospitalisation.
- Members & families in our congregation who are dealing with serious family issues at this time.

Revd Jonny on annual leave 1st-6th January inclusive, emergency pastoral cover will be available, contact Revd Jonny on 07808 479649 and he will direct.

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 every 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**

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 are available for collection this morning in both Christ Church & St John's. 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 @ 5.00-6.30pm** 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 **ASAP**.

******CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL ******

A mega thank you to everyone who made this such a wonderful event. It proved to be a great way of celebrating Christmas along with Church community outreach and raising funds for the NI Children's Hospice. A total amount of £3100 was raised (Excluding Expenses)

BIBLE READING STUDY NOTES

For many years the Parish has had an arrangement to provide Scripture Union Bible Study Notes to parishioners. 2019 is approaching fast and I am finalising the order. All existing subscriptions will be renewed unless I hear otherwise. New members to the list are always welcome.

The current price is £17.00 p.a and the Notes are produced quarterly. UCB offer free Study Notes available in our Churches and the Bible in a year App is also available. Please contact me if there are any queries - either in Church or via David in the Church Office .**Vera Jones**

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.



Great job opportunity with Greater Ballyclare Youth For Christ.

Come be part of the team with the exciting role of Part-Time Assistant Youth & Schools Worker, on a 6 month fixed term, majoring in all of the local Primary and Post Primary Schools. Email board@gbyfc.org for more details. Closing date for applications 12pm Thursday 20 December 2018.

Church Office will be closed from Monday 24th December & reopen again on Monday 7th January.

WEEK OF PRAYER-7-11th January 2019 Each Evening, 7pm-8pm. Monday St John's, Tuesday Christ Church, Wednesday St John's, Thursday Christ Church, Friday Home. Please join us, we all know the importance of prayer.

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.