



THE UNITED PARISH
Christ Church & St John's

Bulletin for Sunday 19th April 2020

Sunday Services 11am

We continue to offer online broadcast at 11.00am every Sunday. This will be led by a mixture of people within the parish. This is available through YouTube. If you type into your internet browser **YouTube**. Once this is loaded, search for **The United Parish Ballyclare**.

An easier method is just go to the new website: www.theunitedparish.org.uk and click on '11am worship button'.

Weekday Services 8.30pm

On the same YouTube channel each evening (Monday – Friday) Revd Jonny will lead a short service of Late Evening Office from the Book of Common Prayer. If you would like to join with this, open your prayer book at page 162.

If you do not have a Prayer Book, you can access the liturgy from <https://www.ireland.anglican.org/prayer-worship/lectionary/daily-prayer> and select **A Late Evening Office** from the options.

For those that have phones, you can download the Daily Worship app from <https://www.ireland.anglican.org/prayer-worship/lectionary/daily-worship-app>

New Website!

The new website is up and running. It is packed with information; you will be able to listen and watch services and talks, see upcoming events....and lots more. The website address remains the same: <http://www.theunitedparish.org.uk/>

I-hour Bible Study every Wednesday

Our new online Bible Study started last Wednesday led by Revd Jonny. First week we had 28 folk joining in. Each week we will be looking at one of the Psalms. In order to join the study which is aimed at a level which everyone can benefit please paste the following link into your web browser <https://zoom.us/join> or download the zoom app. You will need a meeting code which is **340-683-336**.

Together!

Some of our local churches and community representatives have come together to help those in need at this difficult time. Volunteers help with the following:

- Phone calls to make sure everything is ok
- Supply of some essential provisions
- Connecting with your local Foodbank
- Collection of prescriptions
- Picking up shopping.

The service is available Monday – Saturdays, 9am – 6pm. To contact the helpline please phone **07907 665885**. For those that would like to contribute to the Newtownabbey Foodbank, we have a large container outside the halls in St John's. This is emptied daily.

This group is also helping to deliver weekly food parcels which have been supplied by the Government. These are provided to people who are in the “shielded” category, i.e. people at most risk, and will have received a letter from their doctor.

Pastoral Care

Revd Jonny is presently trying to ring everyone in the Parish. Unfortunately, during this Covid 19 isolation period both Jonny & Dianne are unable to visit any homes. The Pastoral Visiting team are in a similar situation but ensuring that all parishioners over 70 or those who are vulnerable will receive regular phone calls. **Please remember that you do not have to wait until Revd Jonny phones you- contact him at any time on his mobile 07808 479649.**

Prayer

Please remember our prayer line number is still in use. Please phone or text **07519 805789** if you need prayer or know someone who does.

Sadly, some of our Church family have died recently due to Covid-19- please pray for their immediate family. We especially think of the late Ken Bradbury's family in Scotland at this time. Several other families also have relatives hospitalised due to this dreadful virus. Pray for folk waiting delayed tests or operations, the anxious & depressed, the self-employed, unemployed, and furloughed employees that are facing an uncertain future.

New Honorary Treasurer

At a recent meeting of the Select Vestry, Mr Graeme Reid (Hon Treasurer) stepped down as planned from his role. Mr Lawrence Stanford, member of Christ Church, has now been appointed as our new Hon Treasurer. Graeme and Lawrence will work together now to ensure a smooth transition. We wish Lawrence God's blessings as he takes on this important role within the Church family. We thank Graeme for his many years of service to God.

Parish Finances

Some of our parishioners have been asking us how they should continue to support the church financially through these difficult times. You will shortly receive a letter in the post or by email from the Treasurer and the Rector on behalf of the Vestry with advice and guidance. [This is in no way to be seen as putting pressure on our Church Family at this precarious time.](#) **Please pray for our families who have been affected financially as a result of the Coronavirus. If anybody is facing difficulty at this time, please speak to Revd Jonny in confidence.**

Young Families, Youth & Children.

Parents and children please check out our FB page “The united parish youth, children and families updates”. This page is full of resources and links to resources – both educational and faith based.

Youth please follow our Instagram page ***unitedparishyouth*** - Here you will find links to our mini bible study, videos, encouraging bible verses and information about other ways to get connected!

- **14+ teen bible study via Zoom.** This normally takes place on a Sunday morning but will now happen on Wednesday afternoons at 2.30pm. If you are 14+ and want to take part in this contact Dianne.
- **Post Youth Alpha will also continue via Zoom – We will meet on Friday 24th April**
- **YF – We will be hosting another Zoom games evening tonight (17th April at 7pm).**
Parents, if you haven't received a text message invited your child to join – please message Dianne.

(All Zoom meeting codes will be sent to parents to pass on to your youth – this is to ensure that we have adult consent for your teen to join the meeting).

Families - Dianne will continue to send out information to links and resources via WhatsApp and the FB page. Please text Dianne if you haven't been receiving these, 07840 667183

We are also in the process of organising some online family events – please watch this space for more details.

Babybasics is still supporting new mums via the northern Trust. We also have **Emergency Care Packs** for babies – if you are a parent who is self-isolating and can't get nappies/baby wipes please do message Dianne for a free pack or contact Together Ballyclare on 07907665885, to have a free pack delivered to you.

Church family please do check out our blog – Over this period our youth have been taking it in turns to write a blog - updating us all and giving insight into their lives in lockdown.... We will hear about their challenges, their funny moments, and encouragements. You can find it at ***unitedparishyouth.blogspot.com***