



THE UNITED PARISH  
Christ Church & St John's

## Bulletin for Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020

### 1-hour Bible Study every Wednesday

The online Bible Study is becoming extremely popular, last week we had 31 taking part. It is led by Revd Jonny and each week we look at one of the Psalms. In order to join the study which is aimed at all levels 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**. Please join the group at 7.20pm to smooth out any technical glitches so we are ready to start at 7.30pm. Last week's notes can be found on the following link: <https://theunitedparish.org.uk/notes-from-22nd-april-bible-study/>

### New Website!

The new website is up and running. It is packed with information and easy to navigate. You will be able to listen to, watch services and talks, see upcoming events, and download hard copies of talks, sermons etc. The website address remains the same: [www.theunitedparish.org.uk](http://www.theunitedparish.org.uk)

### Sunday Service 11am

This week we have our normal Sunday Service which broadcasts at 11.00am. If you type into your internet browser **YouTube**. Once this is loaded, search for **The United Parish Ballyclare**. An alternative method is to just go to the website [www.theunitedparish.org.uk](http://www.theunitedparish.org.uk) and click on the "online worship button" If you miss it don't worry you can watch it later by following the same method as above. We also are running a Kids Online Church this week which will be broadcast at 10.30am (See under the Parents & Children's Section).

### 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.

## 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 the Covid-19 disease. We especially think of the late Ken Bradbury's family in Scotland at this time. We also need to pray for Carrie Millar and her daughter who have also lost a close relative recently. Give thanks that Fiona Thompson's brother has been taken off a ventilator please pray for his continued healing.

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.

## Scammers

Please remember that no one from the Church will ever call at your home asking for FWO envelopes. This is a hoax and if it occurs please contact Revd Jonny on 07808 479649 or David our Church Administrator on 07732763827.

## Parish Finances

Some of our parishioners have been asking us how they should continue to support the church financially through these difficult times. Details of how to donate either by card or standing order are on our new website under the section “giving” or just click the following link:

<https://theunitedparish.org.uk/giving-during-covid-19/>

**Please remember that 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 currently, please speak to Revd Jonny in confidence.**

## 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.

**If you would like to volunteer in this rewarding outreach, please contact Revd Jonny on 07808 479649. Given the nature of the volunteer roles you must be available during the mornings and afternoons.**

# Young Families, Youth & Children.

## Parents & 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.
- Each week an email has also been going out to parents with some **Sunday School resources** – if you haven’t been receiving this email please contact Dianne [dianne@theunitedparish.org.uk](mailto:dianne@theunitedparish.org.uk)
- **Online kids church** – this Sunday we will have our first online kids church – all parents/carers of Sunday school children will receive an email with a link to a non-listed YouTube video. (this is to ensure safeguarding)

## 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 24<sup>th</sup> April at 730pm***
- **YF – We will be hosting another Zoom games evening on *Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 730pm*** Parents, if you have not received a text message inviting your child to join – please message Dianne.

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**(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).**

- **CONNOR TAKES THE CASTLE**

Connor diocese is running a residential event on the **4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> September.** (We recognise that under the current circumstances this event may or may not take place – but they are allowing us to register now and pay on arrival) we would love to encourage our youth (secondary school aged children) to join us for this weekend!

**VIP Access:** The first young person from each parish will be entitled to VIP access. This will include a limited-edition branded t-shirt and VIP access across the weekend.

The cost of the weekend is £50 - The weekend will be in Castlewellan Castle, with sessions, activities, great food, and lots of fun. Further details of the weekend are available on <https://connor.anglican.org/children-youth/youth/whats-coming-up/> If you have any questions, contact Christina Baillie on [christinabaillie@connordiocese.org](mailto:christinabaillie@connordiocese.org).

Please do sign up online at

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSchRmPVejiOIXYIOX7swOmFt0tnRF0f7gfv2-IJLaDX-cc39Q/viewform>

And then email Dianne to let her know that you are going.

## Families

Dianne will continue to send out information to links and resources via WhatsApp and the FB page. Please text Dianne if you have not been receiving these, 07840 667183

- **Church Family Quiz - Our** first event is an online family friendly quiz via Zoom on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 6pm** (join us at 5:45pm to get yourself settled and make sure your technology works)  
**To access the quiz go to** <https://zoom.us/j/97388987452> or go to zoom.us in your web browser, then join meeting and the meeting ID is 973-8898-7452 we look forward to seeing you!
- **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 the following link [unitedparishyouth.blogspot.com](http://unitedparishyouth.blogspot.com)