



Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**WELCOME** to the United Parish. We hope that you feel at home in our church family. It is our prayer that you will know the love that God has for you today as we join together in praise, hearing God speak to us, sending us out equipped for the week ahead. If you are new, please pick up one of our Welcome Packs.

**20<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

10.00am Children's Nativity  
Christ Church

11.30am Children's Nativity  
St John's

6.30pm Adult Nativity  
St John's

**27<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Due to new Covid regulations  
Services will be online this morning.

THE UNITED PARISH  
Christ Church & St John's

# For Your Attention

*We hope you will join us this Christmas*

13<sup>th</sup> December

**DRIVE IN Joint Churches Carol Service** 5pm & 7pm  
at the Sixmile Leisure Centre Carpark  
(BOOKING ESSENTIAL – Please call 07907 665885 or book online)

20<sup>th</sup> December

**Children's Nativity** (Pre-recorded)

10am , 1130am   
11am  YouTube

**Adult Nativity** (Pre-recorded)

630pm    YouTube

24<sup>th</sup> December

**Christmas Eve Communion**

11pm 

25<sup>th</sup> December

**Christmas Day Family Service**

930am , 11am  

 Christ Church, Ballynure

 St Johns, Ballyclare

 Facebook live at 11am - <https://fb.me/e/lpvCMI98T>

 YouTube YouTube Premiere – The United Parish Ballyclare

*All services are subject to government guidelines.*

For more information or to book a place at a service/drive in, go to

[www.theunitedparish.org.uk](http://www.theunitedparish.org.uk)

## Back in our buildings – book your place

It is important that you book for each of the Services over this Christmas period. We have limited seating, but it would be great to see you out. Go to our website ([www.theunitedparish.org.uk](http://www.theunitedparish.org.uk)) where you will be able to book ahead. Or you can phone Revd Jonny or David to book your place. Please remember that we continue to provide services online and via our telephone service (**02893 270020**).

## Online Services Over Christmas

For folk who are unable to attend Services. We will still be showing pre-recorded services over Christmas, online via our YouTube channel – **'The United Parish Ballyclare'**. The Christmas Day Service will be streamed online using the following link: <https://fb.me/e/lpvCMI98T> Midweek online Compline Services will recommence on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January (break on 23 & 30 Dec). Updates constantly appearing on our website [www.theunitedparish.org.uk](http://www.theunitedparish.org.uk) & our Facebook page regarding any changes to physical services due to the new Covid restrictions.

# Pastoring

Remember our **Prayer Line (phone or text)**  
**07519 805789** to request prayer

Please pray for:

**Myrtle Evans, Alyson Stanford, Margaret Scott's continued recovery, Lou & Bertie Cornett and their daughter Lorraine, Lesley & Margaret Parkinson, Errol Agnew, and the family of the late Sharon Cooper. Let us also pray for all the people that we know in residential & nursing homes, this year has been so difficult for them.**

## Week of Prayer – January 2021

As you all know we start every new term in the Parish with a week of prayer. Due to the new Covid restrictions we still plan to have this virtually via Zoom. The Zoom Meeting Code is **868 1015 7950** and the password is **153792**. Starting **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January @7.30pm** lasting approximately an hour.

## Staff Holidays

Both Dianne & David will be on holidays from Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> December to Mon 4<sup>th</sup> January. Revd Jonny will be on call over Christmas in case of a pastoral emergency.

# Going deeper

## Small groups and Bible studies

Our Small groups are taking a break over Christmas and will be starting up again via **Zoom from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022**. Watch this space for UpToDate information. The only group meeting this week will be the **Mid-Week Bible Study** which will meet on Tuesday night from 7pm on the following zoom code **876 2253 5799** with password **153792**.

## Books!

We now have an online bookstore partnering with the Good Book Shop. We have selected books that would make great presents for all family members which are at discounted prices. After Christmas we will put up a new selection of books which will appeal to all age groups in the months ahead. Go to the front page of our website to order your books [www.theunitedparish.org.uk](http://www.theunitedparish.org.uk)

# Shaping a new generation

## Sunday School

Sunday School will recommence in the New Year.

## Parenting Course - Parent Talk The Primary Years

This is a six-session course facilitated by Dianne Hamilton and Joanne Lewis. It is a mix of video and discussion and will run on Friday evenings via zoom at 730pm – 930pm. Great opportunity to discuss challenges you face and share the things that work well.

The dates are 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan. You will have missed the first few sessions, but it is not too late to join to join in please contact Dianne.

## Upside Down Christmas Story Book

Every primary school has been given a free book produced by the Parish telling the story of our Christmas Theme 'Upside Down Christmas'. Look out for them in their school bags.

We would also like to sell these to any of you who would like to give your wider family a copy, at a cost of £2. There is a limited stock, but they will be available by contacting any of the staff team.

# Reaching Out & Welcoming in

## Love Thy Neighbour

Christmas Turkey Hampers will be ready for collection on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December from St John's Hall, (2pm-4pm & 7pm-9pm). We have approximately 50 hampers to deliver on Tuesday afternoon and evening. **If you can help deliver a few please contact Jonny or David asap.**

## Newtownabbey Foodbank

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Foodbank over the last year. We have made a difference to so many in what has been a difficult year. Collections will start again in the New Year.

## FWO Envelopes

If you have freewill offering envelopes for 2020 these should be **given in or collected by Christmas Day** for them to be counted and banked before the end of the year. If you would like us to collect your envelopes please contact Revd Jonny, David Brown, or Lawrence Stanford (Treasurer). We will arrange a specific time to call with you. During this year we have been blessed with the level of financial giving. Many parishioners have switched to monthly standing order which they find more convenient. If this is something you would like to consider, please contact David on 07732763827.

## Salvation Army Christmas Appeal

We would like to thank all those in the congregation who contributed gifts to this year's appeal. Many in Larne & surrounding areas will have suffered redundancy during 2020. Jeannie & Errol had a full carload of gifts which were taken to the Salvation Army in Larne for distribution to those in need- we know they have been greatly appreciated.

# Partnering

## Mission Allocations

Each Christmas, the Select Vestry allocates a portion of our income (our tithe) to bless many charities and mission organisations that we either partner with or we want to support. God richly blesses us and therefore we must bless others rather than keep God's gifts to ourselves. 2020 has been a difficult year for many organisations and so the need to bless is even greater. The list of Charities and amounts donated are as follows:

Hope 365 Ballyclare	700.00
Newtownabbey Street Pastors	300.00
CMS Ireland (UDP & Tumaini)	2000.00
Greater Ballyclare Youth for Christ	1500.00
GBYFC supporting Danny's role	700.00
SAMS Ireland	300.00
Release International	1500.00
Care for the Family	300.00
Christians Against Poverty	300.00
Women's Aid	300.00
UCB Bible Notes	300.00
Summer Madness	300.00
Ballyclare Family Focus	300.00
Divine Healing Ministries	300.00
Emma McCallion (Valencia Project)	1500.00
Equipping for Life	300.00
The Secret Place	300.00
Exodus	700.00
The Christian Institute	300.00
The Big House Project	300.00
Mindwise	300.00
St Nicholas Belfast Church Plant	700.00
Gafcon Conference in St Annes's Belfast	300.00
Both Lives Matter	300.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£14100.00</b>

# OUR VALUES

Jesus at the centre

Offering a **pastoral** heart

Going **deeper** with God

**Shaping** a new generation

**Reaching** out and welcoming in

**Partnering** in the Gospel

## CONTACT US

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Prayer Line: **07519 805789**

