



Sunday 2nd May 2021

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.

2nd May 2021

10.00am Christ Church
Holy Communion

11.30am St John's
Holy Communion

9th May 2021

10.00am Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11.30am St John's
Morning Praise

THE UNITED PARISH
Christ Church & St John's

For Your Attention

Sunday Worship

Our Churches are open again. As numbers are limited, booking is essential. Spaces fill up quickly so don't leave booking to the last minute. Bookings open on Mondays for the following Sunday services and close at 5pm on Saturdays. Book via the following link or contact David <https://theunitedparish.org.uk/reopening-our-church-buildings/>

Our plan is also to create an overflow in the coming weeks to assist with numbers should we not have room in St John's each Sunday.

Holy Communion recommences

Good News – our Midweek Communions have now recommenced on **Wednesdays at 12 noon in St John's** using individual communion cups. There is no need to book in.

Weekly Gathering of Prayer for Ballynure

We desire to see spiritual transformation take place across our parish, so we are encouraging Christ Church members to gather every **Tuesday in the church at 12 noon** to seek God's direction for the mission into Ballynure.

New Vestry 2021/2022

At the AGM last Wednesday the following members were elected:

David Wilson & Petrina Grant (**Rector's Churchwardens**)
David McIlhagger & Shelley Jess (**People's Churchwardens**)
Peter Watson & George Heaney (**Glebe Wardens**)

Select Vestry: Andrew Brannigan, Paul Comins, Colin Ferguson, Luke Hamilton, Leigh Henderson, George McMillan, Lorraine Ogilby, Mark Patterson, Margaret Scott, Lawrence Stanford, Adrian Taylor & Simon Wells.

Pastoring

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

Please pray for:

The following members of our Church Family - Hilary Smylie, Ed Barton, Philip Strange, Cecil Millar, Myrtle Evans, Margaret Scott's continued recovery, Lou & Bertie Cornett's daughter Lorraine, & Vera McNeil's daughter, Sharon. Pray for Karen McCracken's family (wife of Revd Alan) on the recent death of Karen's father. Please also remember at this very sad time Margaret Parkinson & immediate family on the recent death of Leslie who was a much loved parishioner.

Revd Jonny's new contact details

From the month of April onwards if you need to contact Revd Jonny please use the following number **028 93 462725**, and if necessary please leave a message so he can return your call.

Phone Line Services

If you are unable to attend Church a shortened morning service is available on the phone ministry line. For the price of a standard call you can phone **02893 270020** anytime and listen to the Service

Pastoral Visits

Should you require a pastoral call, please let David know and one of the staff team will be happy to call, allowing for COVID safety.

Going deeper

Adult Confirmation – Autumn 2021

Some of us may not have taken the step of confirming our faith. Maybe now is the time to explore this as an Adult? If you are interested in exploring Confirmation, please contact Revd Jonny as soon as possible.

Small groups and Bible studies

Our Small Groups have started back. Please contact the host of these groups or David for the exact start back date. It would be great to build on our numbers. See our website page for more details.

<https://theunitedparish.org.uk/ministries/growing-disciples/small-groups/>

New Small Group

A new small group has recently formed specifically for people who are involved in Youth & Children's ministry, whether in the United Parish or outside. This group will meet on Tuesday evenings, fortnightly. Contact Dianne or David for more details.

The Prodigal Prophet – Tim Keller

If you would like to study our new teaching series on Jonah further, why not purchase via our online bookstore a copy of Tim Keller's book – The Prodigal Prophet.

<https://www.thegoodbook.co.uk/bookstall/theunitedparish/>

The book stall has been updated with a new selection of books for reading over Spring & Summer.

Shaping a new generation

Youth & Children's Leaders - can you help?

Our youth organisations are important and popular in our Church & wider community. Due to a few retirements we presently have an urgent need for BB Leaders in Anchor boys and Sunday school leaders for St John's. These roles are starting in September. If you are interested, please contact Revd Jonny or Dianne asap.

Youth Alpha

Aged 12+, want to explore your faith further?- then Youth Alpha is the place. **Starting 30th April-18th June**, on Friday nights, in St John's Hall from 5.30pm-7.00pm. After completing the sessions you may wish to explore the possibility of being Confirmed. A few additional confirmation meetings will then take place in September with Confirmation in the Autumn. For more information please contact Dianne.

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

Together Ballyclare – Heating & Lighting Scheme

If you live in the greater Ballyclare area, and due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic you, or someone you know, is experiencing difficulty in covering the costs of heating & lighting, we may be able to provide assistance. Phone 07713 928775. **If you would like to support this ministry financially, please contact Revd Jonny.**

School Uniform Scheme

We have recently seen increased demand for school uniforms. We are presently building up our stock levels of uniforms and currently need High/Secondary school uniforms and PE kits. Arlene Gracey is looking after this important ministry. **Arlene will be in St John's Halls every Wednesday morning from 10am-12 noon.** If you have donations or know of people who need help, please call into to see Arlene, or leave your details on the Parish telephone line 02893354814. As an alternative for leaving in items this can be done by leaving the donations into the New2U Fibromyalgia shop at 3 Ballynure Road at the following times:

Wednesday – Thursday, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Saturday, 10.00 am to 3.00 pm

Co-Op Fare Share Starting Monday 10th May

Recently we have been working with Co-Op UK and they have now agreed for us to take the food they will waste and give it to people in our community free of charge. We will be starting to run this from St John's on a Monday morning from 10.00am. We still need a few more volunteers to help out, so if you would be interested in helping please contact Revd Jonny or Frances Wilson on 07834 544802.

Partnering

Baby Basics – items needed.

Due to recent demand we currently need the following items: **Moses Baskets**, Baby Baths, Toiletries for baby, Mum & dad, Baby Towels & Cot Sheets. Items can be placed in the plastic tub outside St John's hall. If you can't get to St John's halls please contact **Frances on 07834 544802**. If you would like to donate to the work of Baby Basics either by regular standing order or by one of payments- please contact David on 07732 763827.

CMSi

The latest quarterly magazine is available in both Churches, giving a wealth of information. We presently have a link with Antony out in Kenya. If you would like to find out more about this link and project please contact Bert Rea in St John's who is our CMSi Church coordinator.

An April Update is now available via our website. Just go to the Latest News Section or click on the link below:

<https://theunitedparish.org.uk/cmsi-april-update/>

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

Minister: Jonny Campbell-Smyth
jonny@theunitedparish.org.uk
028 93 462725

Families' Associate: Dianne Hamilton
dianne@theunitedparish.org.uk
07840 667183

Deacon Intern: Alan McCracken
alan@theunitedparish.org.uk

Administrator: David Brown
david@theunitedparish.org.uk
028 9335 4814/07732 763827
(Office is currently closed)

Prayer Line: **07519 805789**

