

# Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2022

**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.

## 20<sup>th</sup> November 2022

10.00am Christ Church  
Morning Prayer

11.30am St John's  
Morning Praise

## 27<sup>th</sup> November 2022

8.30am Christ Church  
Holy Communion

10.00am Christ Church  
Family Service

11.30 St John's  
Family Service

# For Your Attention

## Christmas Dinners – 5<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> December

It's time to begin the Christmas celebrations. We would like to invite you to a Christmas dinner in Brothers Restaurant. The women will gather together on Mon 5<sup>th</sup> December and men on Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. Book your place at our website [www.theunitedparish.org.uk](http://www.theunitedparish.org.uk)

## Advent & Christmas fast approaching!

Suddenly it just seems to have arrived. Advent is such an important time in the Christian Calendar and starts on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

We have our Christmas Trees arriving next week so it would be great to have a group of folks gather together in both Christ Church & St John's on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> @10.30am** to give the Church a festive feel.

## Christmas Hampers

This year we are planning to provide our elderly parishioners with a small hamper. Plans are well under way for items etc. If you would like to give a financial contribution to help with the cost please contact David in the office, many thanks.

## Community Carol Singing- Ballynure

The 3 churches in Ballynure are coming together for Carol singing door to door around the village in aid of NI Hospice. This will happen on Tues 6th December from 6.30 - 9pm, meeting at Ballynure Methodist. There will be refreshments afterwards. Please let Rev Jonny know if you can come along by 27th November.

# Pastoring

## Please pray for:

Pray for Trina, Maurice & family on the death of Trina's father. Let us also pray for Helen Osborne recently out of hospital. Albert & Eileen Green recovering after Covid, Betty Robinson in Clonmore nursing home, David Metcalfe, Barbara Bankhead, Achie Blair, Hilary Smylie, Audra Irvine, Maisie Moore, Sadie Wilson, Billy Clarke. Jim & Robina Stewart as Jim settles into Rylands Nursing Home.

## Weekly Prayer Meetings extended!

We have two slots when we can meet and pray for our community & church. Join us on a Thursday evening in Christ Church halls at 7:30pm or a Monday morning in St John's Church at 10.30am.

## Prayer Warriors

The November edition of Prayer Warriors is available for collection in both Churches.

## Pastoral cover

Revd Jonny will be annual leave from **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> - Monday 21<sup>st</sup>** November. In case of **pastoral emergencies** please contact Rev Ian Magowan on 07810 636167

## Monthly Fellowship

No fellowship Circle on **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November** but instead we will meet on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December @ 11.00am**. Holy Communion in the Church followed by a Christmas buffet lunch in the hall. Please contact Sophie or David if you need transport.

# Going deeper

## Alpha - New Year Start!

Alpha starts January 2023. Please start praying for the event and think of people that you could invite, especially those who are exploring the Christian faith.

## Clive West Lecture

The annual Clive West Lecture will be held in St Nicholas' Parish Church, Lisburn Road on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Rev Tim Ward and the subject is 'Understanding God'. Tim lectures at Oakhill Theological College. Please consider attending.

## Theology Ireland

Many of us would like answers to big questions: -  
Why bother with Church? What do we do when we are at Church?  
Do we need Church?.... and many more.

Starting in January 2023, Revd Dr Earngey from Moore College, Australia will be running a few evening courses at The Halls, Cadogan Park, Belfast or if travelling is a problem, you can join the lectures online. For more info see <http://www.theologyireland.com/>

## Thursday Small Group- Bible Study

Great news. The Thursday morning women's bible study is full up. If you would like to set up a similar, please get in touch with Revd Jonny.

## Tuesday Bible Study change

For those who attend George Colclough's bible study on Tuesday evenings, it has been agreed to now reschedule this to Tuesdays at 2pm fortnightly and relocated to Christ Church Halls. This will help more people attend. To provide support to George, Rev Jonny will lead these bible studies. This change will commence from January 2023.

# Shaping a new generation

## Youth Fellowship!

All our Youth & Children's ministries are governed by Safeguarding policies to protect all of us. Therefore, as our YF becomes more popular we need extra leaders to remain compliant with safeguarding. Presently we need more volunteers and until such times as they increase, we will have to move to a fortnightly gathering. If you can help, please contact Andrew Brannigan or Revd Jonny. **YF will meet again on Sunday 20th November.**

## Serve - Mission Trip to Europe!

In the summer of 2023, we plan to offer in partnership with Exodus, the opportunity for our young people (16 and over) to take part in a Mission Trip with Exodus to Europe. Brochures are available in both Churches. To find out more please contact Revd Jonny or Tim on 07572 817429.

## Christ Church Youth

We have now started a youth bible study on Sunday mornings in Christ Church. (Family Service Sundays is a week off as everyone comes into church). We will next meet on If you have a young person post-primary, please come along. The group meet in Christ Church halls during Sunday services.

# Reaching Out & Welcoming in

## Christmas Lights Switch On!

The Christmas lights are being switched on in Ballyclare on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November from 4.30pm-6.30pm.

After the switch-on we welcome the community back to St John's Hall for eats and a get together. If you would like to help the team looking after this event please contact Lorraine Cardwell, Paul Reid or Andrew Brannigan.

## Mothers' Union

Mothers Union will be on Monday 28th November @ 2.30. This will be our last meeting of 2022. Our speaker at this meeting will be Liz McCabe chatting about Christmas preparations. Everyone welcome.

## Warm Welcome Spaces

We have warm buildings and space, and yet many in our community cannot afford to heat their homes. Through a UK wide initiative called Warm Welcome Spaces, we are planning to open St John's Church Hall possibly on a Thursday afternoon during the winter months. Folks in our community can turn up and enjoy some fellowship, warmth and a cuppa. We need 2 volunteers each week to be present. Could you help being a part of a rota? If so, please contact David in the office.

## Winter Coats Scheme

Many thanks to everyone who donated to our winter coats appeal. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our parish and the local community. Thanks also to the team of willing volunteers who have helped to make this possible.

# Partnering

## Release Partnership Plans

As our partnership with Release International develops and grows, we feel now is the time to put in place sustainable partnership plans for the next 3 years of this ongoing relationship. If you would like to be a part of these discussions to create these plans, please speak with Rev Jonny or Lisa Willett.

## CMSi requests prayer for Kenya

CMSi have produced a prayer letter to support our brothers & sisters in Kenya who are experiencing a devastating drought. Please take a copy of the prayer leaflet from church or check our website update at <https://theunitedparish.org.uk/lastest-news/>

## Salvation Army Christmas Family Gifts Appeal

Many in our community are struggling so let's try and help if we can. Every year we collect new toys and gifts for children aged up to 16 years old. Please consider giving to this appeal, - gifts need to be with us by Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December. It's hoped that Captain Philip Cole from the Salvation Army will be joining us at our evening Carol Service on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>.

## Hazaq Coffee by Release International

We have entered a trial partnership with Hazaq coffee, operated by Release International. Every month we will have for sale 250g packets of fresh bistro cafetiere coffee. 100% of the profits of Hazaq go to support the persecuted communities which Release help. The cost of each bag is £6.00. This is a fantastic opportunity to enjoy good coffee and also help the work of Release International. For more details see <https://www.hazaqcoffee.com/>. Look out for the coffee being available at our coffee times at the end of church.

# 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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Any items for publication in the News Sheet  
must be with David by **12.00 noon on Thursday**

If you have a matter which requires the attention of  
the Select Vestry you can contact them in the  
following way: - Lorraine Ogilby Hon. Secretary  
([logilby@gmail.com](mailto:logilby@gmail.com)) or Mobile 07588 039093

