



Sunday 7th May 2023

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.

7th May 2023

Coronation Celebration

10.00am Christ Church
Holy Communion

11.30am St John's
Holy Communion

14th May 2023

10.00am Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11.30am St John's
Morning Praise

For Your Attention

Sunday Service

This Sunday (7th) we are having a Coronation Service incorporating Holy Communion. After the Service, please join us for Coronation Cake and Refreshments in either Christ Church or St John's.

Commissioning Service - CMSi

Revd Jonny is heading to Kenya to our CMSi Partnership in Nairobi. It is so important that we ask for the power of the Holy Spirit to guide, protect and be with Revd Jonny as he travels. On **Sunday 14th May** we will have an Act of Commissioning - please try and attend for this important service in both churches.

Holiday Bible Club 2023

We are excited that 'Play it by Ear' will be with us again at this year's Holiday Club. The date this year will be **14th - 18th August** and the theme is **Jonah & The Whale**. If you would like to be involved in the preparations or help with crafts, music etc please give your name to Revd Jonny or David in the office.

Youth Mission Family Quiz night – 2nd June

Keep the date free- **Friday 2nd June- St John's Hall**. A Family Quiz Night followed by supper. Quizmaster: - the famous Jimbo McDowell.
<https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/mypage/adventureawaits48>

Women's Summer Walking Group

As it's a Bank Holiday on Monday 8th May- walking shoes can take a break, no walking this Monday.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

Please pray for Maisie Moore, Ed Barton, Agnes Kelly, Roy Cleland, Bob Ferris, Mervyn Wilson, Winnie Mufakwadziya, Gill Clayton, Mervyn & Hilary Smylie, Victor McCabe.

Pray for Revd Roger Thompson as he travels with CMSi in Burundi & Rwanda Pray for Fiona & the family that they know the comfort of the Holy Spirit & also for Roger's safety & wellbeing.

Pray for Revd Jonny as he prepares for his visit to Nairobi within the next few weeks.

Holy Communion at Home

If you are housebound and would like a home communion from Revd Jonny, please arrange through David in the office.

Staff Leave

The Church Office will be closed this Monday 7th May. Revd Jonny can be contactable in cases of pastoral emergency.

Prayer Warriors

The May edition of the Parish Prayer booklet is available from your pastoral visitor or can be collected from either Christ Church or St John's.

Going deeper

Walk Through The Bible – Remember to book

Do you feel at times that you don't understand bits of the Old Testament? Rev Jonny has arranged for an organisation called Walk through the Bible to come and host a virtual tour through the Old Testament. Starting on the **Friday evening, 16th June** and then again on **Saturday (17th) morning**; this will be such an opportunity to learn & discover information from The Beginnings right through to the Prophets. Tickets cost £15 for the event or £20 to include lunch on Saturday. Children aged 11-17 go free if they are accompanied by an adult. Book and pay at

<https://theunitedparish.org.uk/>

Make sure you pick up an invitation in Church this morning.

UCB Bible Notes

The next quarters edition covering May, June & July is available in both Churches, from your pastoral visitor or Church Office. This is such a great daily devotional and its free!

Parish Giving

At our recent AGM the Treasurer, Lawrence Stanford highlighted that presently 33% of our registered parish, -100 households give nothing to God's work in our parish.

We recognise that the current economic climate is difficult for everyone, however the Treasurer showed that for every £1 we receive from parishioners, we are spending £1.05, and that is after careful budgeting. We would ask everyone to consider their current giving to the Lord. This is not to be seen as putting pressure on people to give but if you wish to increase your FWO please speak in confidence to our Hon Treasurer Lawrence Stanford (07743 316400) or collect forms from the church or from our website. Thank you.

Shaping a new generation

Sunday School & Youth Leaders needed

As we approach the end of another busy year for our children's & youth programmes, we need to think ahead to September. If you would be interested in helping out at Christ Church or St John's please have a chat with Revd Jonny or any of the existing leaders.

Exodus Vision Night – Friday 9th June 7:30pm

Partnering with Exodus this year has been wonderful for our young people going to Tarragona. A Vision Night is being organised for all parents, youth leaders and Church leaders across Greater Ballyclare to hear about the possibilities for the future in our town. Book your place at <https://forms.gle/yeuc3ucXBgn9BxzL9>

Consent Forms – Important

If you are new to the Parish or just visiting and your children are attending Sunday School or any youth organisation, it's so important that a consent form is completed before the children attend. **No child can be left unless a consent form is completed.**

Safeguarding Trust

Revd Jonny and the Select Vestry are committed to upholding good practice in the parish's ministry with children & young people. Safeguarding is overseen by the Select Vestry and the Safeguarding panel. Should you have any queries or concerns please contact the safeguarding panel immediately:

Revd Jonny 07808 479649, Ms Ashleigh Reid 07732 053604 & Mrs Pat Craig 07584 929758.

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

Screens @ Christ Church

On Sundays where we need to use the screen in Christ Church it is currently operated by Rev Jonny while he also leads the service. Volunteers are urgently required. Full training will be given- it's pretty straight forward. Please give your name to Christine or David in the office if you might be interested. Many thanks.

Social Media

We would like someone to oversee the updates to our Facebook page which occur regularly through the week. Can you give a small amount of time to this?

Mothers' Union

We would like to thank Hilary Scott for the many years of service as Branch Leader to the Mothers' Union in the Parish- Hilary has decided to retire but will still be remaining active in the group. Congratulations to Vera Jones who will be taking over leadership for the next number of years.

Partnering

Baby Basics-Items required

We have received 32 referrals this year from Northern Trust staff and various charities. A huge thanks to all who have donated to us as this allows us to continue to help needy families. In the last week we have received 2 donations from organisations outside of our parish - the Larne Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre and The Hygiene Bank, Ballymena. The Hygiene Bank donates to us on a regular basis; if anyone would like to contribute to their work, they now have donation points in Ballyclare in Boots North End and Boots The Square. **The main items we need at the moment are the smallest sizes of baby clothing as we have now partnered with Tiny Life.**

Release International- Hazaq Coffee

We have 1 bag of the Ethiopian blend for cafetieres in stock. The cost is £6.00 per 250gram bag, best before July 23. All proceeds go to work of Release International; the coffee is ethically sourced and tastes fabulous. Available in church this morning or contact David.

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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Tue & Thu working from home.

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) or Mobile 07588 039093

