



Sunday 18th June 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.

This Sunday Fathers' Day

10.00am Christ Church
Family Service

11.30am St John's
Family Service
& Holy Baptism

Sunday 25th June Children's Gift Day

10.00am Christ Church
Family Service

11.30am St John's
Family Service

For Your Attention

Children's Gift Day & Summer BBQ

Please join us on the **25th June** for our end of term Family Service. At 1.00pm join us in the Rectory grounds for our Family Fun afternoon & BBQ. We will have the Bouncy Castles & Activity Run, Slushie and Pop Corn Machines. All we ask you to do is bring yourselves and family along with a rug and chair. If you could bring salads or desserts that would be brilliant. If we get harsh weather, then we will have the event in St John's Hall. **Sign-up is essential for numbers.**

Holiday Bible Club 2023- Booking Details

We are excited that 'Play it by Ear' will be with us again at this year's Holiday Club for children in years P1-P7. The dates 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. Places are limited so please make sure to book asap using the following link.
<https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/events/6i0mm2wa>

Staff Holidays

David will be on holiday from **Wednesday 21st- Friday 30th June** inclusive. The office will be closed and David will not be contactable.

Revd Jonny will be on holiday from **Thursday 29th June-13th July**. Details of pastoral cover to follow shortly.

Sound Team in St John's

We are seeking to recruit a team to support the sound in St John's every Sunday. This is a vital ministry. If you could serve in this way please contact Rev Jonny.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

Please pray for Mervyn Wilson, Maisie Moore, Ed Barton, Bob Ferris, Winnie Mufakwadziya, Winston Jenkins, Mervyn & Hilary Smylie, Victor McCabe.

Please pray for the family of the late Agnes Kelly. Agnes died peacefully on Thursday. Pray that Sarah, Jacqueline & David, Matthew & Jessica, great grandson Harrison, James & Helen will know the comfort of the Holy Spirit at this time. Agnes and her late husband were life-long parishioners of Christ Church.

Holy Communion at Home

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

Prayer Warriors – Summer Edition

We would encourage everyone to be praying regularly for the mission of our parish. The Summer Edition of the Prayer Warriors leaflet is available now and will guide you on the issues that we would appreciate your prayerful support.

News Sheet

The next Edition of the News sheet will be available during the latter half of July.

Services During July

Our Services during July will be Morning Prayer & Morning Praise in respective churches. As Rev Jonny will be away on holiday and also with the youth mission, it will not be possible to offer Holy Communion. Communion services will recommence in September.

Going deeper

The Secret Place- Summer Reading

Always good to have a selection of reading material. Alison from The Secret Place Shop in Ballyclare has put together a table of books which cater for us all. Some of these items can be bought right away or ordered. The books are available on that table at the back of St John's on Sunday's- nothing like the real touch of a book and reading the first few pages! Contact David for more information.

If you wish to browse during office hours Mon/Wed/Fri- please drop in- you might even get coffee & biscuits as well!

Mums' Night Out

Care for the Family are having this night out in Belfast at Dundonald Elim on Wednesday 8th November 7.30pm- 10pm. Effective well-being tools, stories and laughs all for £6 if you book before 19th September. Follow the link for more details: -

https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/events/tourevents/mums-night-out/?utm_source=Campaign+Monitor&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=MNO+autumn+23+TI+STD

Shaping a new generation

Youth Fellowship- Ice Skating & Bowling

This **Sunday, 18th June** we are planning a visit to the Ice Bowl for Ice Skating & Bowling. Leaving St John's at 6:30pm and returning at approx. 9pm. Cost will be £8.00 plus some money for McDonalds. For more information contact Andrew on 07950 846621. Book in using the following link: <https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/events/In9llaht>

Exodus Commissioning Service

As Exodus teams begin final preparations for going away this Summer, a Commissioning Service has been arranged for **Saturday 17th June at 7:15pm** in Wellington Presbyterian Church, Ballymena. Please consider coming along to pray and support our church youth team.

Summer Madness

A few places are still available at the end of this month/early July. If you are interested in going, please contact **Andrew Brannigan asap**.

Treasure Quest

Preparations for our Holiday Bible club are well underway. Pick up a leaflet in church to book children in. The club is for children aged P1 – P7.

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

Using Church equipment

If you are taking any items from the church, for example, projector, mics & stands, speakers, tents, BBQ, it is particularly important that these are booked via the office. This is for several reasons the main one being – **if someone else needs them we need to know where they are or who has them.**

Women's Walking Group

Great weather for an evening stroll. Time to get the walking shoes on. Meeting at St John's **Monday night, 12th** @ St John's Church, 7:30pm.

Rectory Working Group

It is the responsibility of all of us as parishioners to look after and maintain the grounds of all our church properties. While our Rector does his bit and cuts the Rectory grass, there are lots of other jobs that arise throughout the year that can be done by us without having to pay external contractors, such as cutting the hedges, strimming the verges down the drive, clearing the path from the rectory to the church, etc. We are looking for volunteers from both churches to join a Rectory Working Group to take on doing these jobs as and when needed throughout the year. Even if you are not able to operate machinery, being prepared to help clear up cuttings and weeds would be a great help. This will only require a couple of hours of your time two or three times a year, but having a group of volunteers will make these jobs so much easier. Peter Watson will co-ordinate the group via WhatsApp, so, if you are willing to help out in any way, please let him know by calling or messaging him on 07999249757 or emailing him at peter-j-watson@outlook.com.

Partnering

Baby Basics-Update

Many thanks to everyone who donates to Baby Basics which has enabled us to help 43 families this year. In order to continue to support needy families we would appreciate donations of the following items - Moses baskets, toiletries for Mum and baby, Moses basket and cot sheets, baby towels. We also need baby clothes in neutral colours, especially bright ones, as Mum doesn't always know the gender of her baby.

This is an exciting summer for the Baby Basics team as our new mobile unit is due to be installed behind Christ Church Hall. Please pray for the team as we work to get this ready.

Release International- Hazaq Coffee

New supplies have arrived but selling fast. Please remember we can order additional supplies for different coffee making methods along with a section of blends; Hazaq, Ethiopian or Indian. The cost is £6.00 per 250gram bag. All proceeds go to work of Release International; the coffee is ethically sourced and tastes fabulous. Why not visit the website <https://www.hazaqcoffee.com/> or contact David.

CMS Ireland

Now that Rev Jonny has returned from his visit to Tujisaidie & Tumaini in Nairobi, he is keen to provide people with information on our mission partnership. If you would like him to speak at one of your group meetings (Mothers' Union, Small groups etc) please get in touch to arrange.

The summer edition of the CMSi magazine is available in both Christ Church & St John's. Please take a copy in order to keep up to date with the work of the Society overseas. Alternatively click on the link: - https://www.cmsireland.org/_files/ugd/40aba3_d97326cdb22e4a05ad5b85d0fbb18e53.pdf

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
07808 479649

Administrator: David Brown
david@theunitedparish.org.uk
028 93 354814 Office
07732 763827 Mobile
(Mon, Wed Fri. Office hours 9am-1pm
Tue & Thu working from home 9am-1pm.

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

