

Sunday 20th August 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 in praise, hearing God speak to us, sending us out equipped for the week ahead.

This Sunday

10.00am Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11.30am St John's
Morning Praise

Sunday 27th August 2023

10.00am Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11.30am St John's
Morning Praise

For Your Attention

Ordinand Placement

As part of their training in the Church of Ireland Theological Institute, all ordinands are required to organise training placements.

Andy Brooking will be coming to the parish for 10 Sundays between Sept - November to gain experience. Please welcome Andy his wife Joy and daughters Niamh & Orlaith into the Parish.

Back to School Sunday – 3rd September

Christina Baillie (Youth Officer for Connor Diocese) will be our guest speaker at our Back-to-School Sunday on 3rd September. This service provides the entire church with an opportunity to hear the stories of how members of the congregation have been serving God over the summer. Please pick up a leaflet in church this morning and invite a friend. BBQ etc in St John's starting 12:45pm. To give us some idea of how much food to order would you please book in using the following link: -<https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/events/5z7dpiiy>

Save the Date-Church Weekend

Every two years we take the opportunity as a church family to have a weekend away. Our 2024 Church weekend will be held on 2-4 February in the Kilbroney Centre, Rostrevor. We will have guests joining us for the weekend, leading our worship and teaching. There will also be a full youth & children's programme. Save the date in your diary now and watch out for more information.

Thank-You!

A massive thankyou to all the leaders and helpers that made our holiday bible club such an enormous success. We had 80 kids registered for the week with 65+ regularly attending every day. Please continue to pray for the children that have been shaped in this past week, that seeds have been sown in their lives and that we see them and their families back in church.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

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

Save the date – Week of Prayer

Every new term we start with a Week of Prayer. Keep the evenings of the Monday 4th- Friday 8th September free-more details to follow.

Holy Communion at Home

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

Change of Date!

Due to the 3rd of September being back to school Sunday, the monthly Holy Communion Services in Both Christ Church & St John's will be held at the usual times on Sunday 10th September instead.

Tuesday Bible Study @ Christ Church

The Bible Study group will start meeting again on Tuesday 12th September at 2pm in Christ Church Hall. Revd Jonny will be leading the group and new members are always very welcome. The study is pitched at a level which is suitable for us all.

Going deeper

The Secret Place- Reading Material

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!

Small Groups

Our small groups will be starting back in September week commencing **Monday 11th September**. We have 8 meetings at various times during the week and evenings- offering bible study, support, care for each other and fellowship. It is so important as a member of the parish to try and be available to join one. You can find out more by visiting:- <https://theunitedparish.org.uk/ministries/growing-disciples/small-groups/>

Mid-Week Communion

Mid-week Holy Communion will recommence after the summer break on Wednesday 6th September at 12 noon. This is an ideal opportunity to take 30 minutes away from the busyness of life to take part in a short service and reflection based on a Lectionary reading.

Shaping a new generation

Youth Surfing & Fishing- Fully Booked.... but!

The Youth trip to the North Coast at the end of August is fully booked Andrew will be in touch with the group over the next week to firm up the arrangements.

Save the Date

The Annual Boy's Brigade Enrolment Service will be held on Sunday evening, 22nd October at 6.00pm. All BB boys from all the sections should attend with their families.

Sunday School Leaders

Shaping our children is vitally important for every parent, but even more important is their spiritual growth. To assist in this, the church needs more Sunday school leaders. Could you help by being part of a rota? If so, contact Rev Jonny.

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.

Exodus Teams-Summer Celebration

An evening for team members, parents, and supporters to hear about, celebrate and give thanks for our summer teams. Saturday 2nd September in Greenisland Presbyterian 7pm-8pm

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

Royal Bits & Pieces

Canon Derek Kerr will be hosting an evening called 'Royal bits & pieces' on Friday 10th November 7.30pm in Christ Church Hall, Ballynure. Derek is a wealth of information on the Royal family, and with his stories and memorabilia that will be a great night to invite friends and family. A supper will also be included. Book your place at: - <https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/events/ljnjl n l f> or contact David in the office.

School Uniforms

The school uniform scheme is open this coming week on **Monday 21st & Wednesday 23rd 7.00pm-9.00pm**. We have a vast selection and if your child/teenager needs uniforms, please pop along, and see the team we have a great selection of uniforms (in great condition) which are available **free of charge**.

Hazaq Coffee

We have just received fresh supplies of coffee from Release International. It's still only £6.00 per bag. A bargain compared to what's in the Supermarkets, great taste and all the proceeds go to help the work of Release International. Available in St John's on a Sunday Morning or from the office on a Mon, Wed or Friday.

Using the Halls

Organisations using the hall will start again from Sunday 10th September. Revd Jonny encourages all church-based groups to attend the week of prayer which is happening the week before (see note on page 3).

Partnering

Baby Basics-Update

Many thanks to everyone who donates to Baby Basics which has enabled us to help **52 families** this year. In order to continue to support needy families we would appreciate donations of the following items - **toiletries for Mum, baby and cot sheets. Outfits in neutral colours for age 0 - 3 months and 3 - 6 months would also be appreciated.**

Please continue to pray for the Baby Basics team as we will be busy during the summer moving into our mobile unit.

CMS Ireland

If you are interested in the work of CMSi and mission, then the Ignite Annual Conference is the event to attend on Friday 21st & Saturday 22nd September. Full details by using link:

<https://www.cmsireland.org/ignite>

Copies of latest quarterly newsletter available now in 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) or Mobile 07588 039093

