

Sunday 17th September 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 24th September

10.00am Christ Church
Family Service

11.30am St John's
Family Service

For Your Attention

Fellowship Fridays

Our monthly fellowship will start again in Christ Church Hall on **Friday 29th September at 11:30am**. Please join us for a time of fellowship along with refreshments and a catch up. **If you need transport and would like to attend, please contact your pastoral visitor, Sophie, or David in the office.** Pick up a leaflet in Church this morning giving all the dates to Christmas – why not give one to a friend.

Who has the tallest Sunflower?

You may remember at the beginning of Summer we gave out Sunflower seeds at one of our family services, and Rev Jonny promised that the family who grew the tallest would receive a special gift. The winner will be announced at our next Family Service. Email your photo to Rev Jonny at jonny@theunitedparish.org.uk or text him on 07808 479649.

Men's Curry & Pool Night

There's nothing like a good curry and game of pool on an Autumn night. We have booked the Namaste restaurant, Ballyclare on Saturday 30th September at 7:30pm, followed by a few games of pool. Book your place at : <https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/events/kiqkvbzh>

Mums' Night Out - By Mums, for Mums!

Care For The Family are running a series of night outs in N. Ireland. We have block booked 6 tickets at an early bird price of £6- bargain! The event is on **Wednesday 8th November 2023, 7:30pm** at Dundonald Elim. Contact Alison on 07973 709261 for more info.

Hall Keys

Can the person who has taken the hall keys for St John's please return these immediately. Thank you.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

Pray for the family of Tony & Catherine Hanna. Tony's mother died recently. We pray for the entire family that they would know God's arms surrounding them in their grief.

Pray for Louise McIlhagger who is currently in hospital. Pray for Margaret Parkinson and Eileen Greene who are recovering after being in hospital. Continue to pray for Maisie Moore, Bob Ferris, Winnie Mufakwadziya, Mervyn & Hilary Smylie, and Victor McCabe.

Holy Communion at Home

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

Going into Hospital or illness

If you are going into hospital, have been admitted or ill, please contact Revd Jonny as he doesn't always know details.

Parish Visitors

We have a pastoral visiting team who support Revd Jonny in visiting parishioners. If you have a little time and would be interested in visiting a few folk, please contact Jonny to discuss.

Staff Holidays

Revd Jonny will be on annual leave from **18th- 24th Sept** inclusive. Revd Ian Magowan will be providing **emergency pastoral care** during this period. Ian is contactable on 07810 636167

Going deeper

Welcome to Andrew Brooking

Andrew Brooking is a student at the Church of Ireland Theological Institute, and he will be with us as part of his training for 10 Sundays commencing this Sunday. Please welcome and encourage Andrew when you see him.

Small Groups- We are spoiled for choice!

Our small groups have started back last week. We have 8 groups meeting 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/>

Midweek Communion

Midweek Holy Communion has recommenced again on Wednesdays at 12 noon in St John's. This is an ideal opportunity to take 30 minutes away from the busyness of life to take part in a short service. Canon Derek Kerr will lead the service this week.

Genesis Art & Craft Fellowship

As a church community that loves a creator God, we wish to create a safe and welcoming space to encourage and develop people's God-given talents, through artistic discovery, skill development & creative communication.

The group will meet every Saturday morning in **Christ Church Halls, Ballynure from 9:30am.**

Shaping a new generation

Youth Fellowship

YF is on this Sunday night, meeting at St John's, looking at the subject 'What is Faith?'. Bowling & Pizza trip is planned for later in the month so watch out for details.

Parental Consent Forms 2023/24

If your children/youth are attending our programmes, then it is essential that a consent form is completed. **Due to Safeguarding policies no young person can attend a group without a consent form being completed beforehand. Consent forms are also available from the office or in Church.** To complete the form online, go to <https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/forms/inuv4mrc>

Mentoring for Uni Students

When young people leave for Uni, it is important they know their church family are continuing to pray for them. In order to them, we are introducing a simple mentoring programme where adults from the Church will commit to staying in touch with a student to offer support & prayer. If you're a student who would value this or you're an adult who would like to support a student, get in touch with Rev Jonny.

Safeguard Training

All Church-based Youth & Children's Leaders must demonstrate they have received safeguarding training in this past year. If you have not received training the following dates are available: -

10 th Oct	Holy Trinity, Carrick, Revd Alan McCann:	rector@holyltrinity.org.uk
23 rd Oct	St Peter's, Belfast, Revd Brian Lacey:	brianlacey@stpeterbelfast.org
15 th Nov	All Saints Antrim, Ven. Stephen McBride:	archdeacon@connor.anglican.org
23 rd Nov	St Nicholas's, Carrick Revd Chris St John:	christopher.stjohn@btinternet.com
27 th Nov	Glebe Hall, Ballyrashane, Revd Amanda Adams:	aeadamsh@hotmail.co.uk

Sessions start at 7pm. When you attend a course, please advise office so we can update our records.

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

Mothers' Union

Our new season of Branch Meetings will commence on **Mon 25th September at 2.30pm in Christ Church Hall.**

We look forward to welcoming back existing members and extend a warm welcome to all ladies in the Parish, interested in joining our fellowship. Mothers' Union is a global, women-led volunteer movement, living out our faith, supporting individuals and families.

Varied programme planned for 23/24 - details revealed on the 25th! Further information can be obtained from Vera on 07714286684 or Hilary 07740869671.

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.

Church Weekend 2024

Every two years we take the opportunity as a church family to have a weekend away. Our 2024 Church weekend will be held on **2nd-4th 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.

Harvest Afternoon Teas in Ballynure

In order to celebrate the harvest weekend in the parish, we will be hosting an afternoon tea in Christ Church halls on Saturday afternoon 14th October. If you could help with the event, please get in touch with Jonny or David in the parish office.

Partnering

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 22nd & Saturday 23rd September**. Full details by using link: <https://www.cmsireland.org/ignite>

Copies of the latest quarterly newsletter available now in Church.

Baby Basics – Open Day

Due to the support of the Church of Ireland Priorities Fund, we now have a new unit at the back of Christ Church halls, dedicated to the ministry of Baby Basics. So that we can celebrate this with all in the parish, we are organising an **open afternoon** on **Saturday 21st October from 2pm-4pm**. Thank you to all the team who have made the new unit so well. Special thanks to Hilary and Frances who have put in an incredible number of hours in recent weeks.

Release International

Fresh supplies of coffee have arrived. Available from the back of St John's or Church Office. Cost is £6.00 per bag; all funds go to help the work of Release International.

The Secret Place

This is your last chance to pick up a book before the stall in St John's takes a break until Advent/Christmas. If you owe funds for any books please bring into the office, please. Thank You

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 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

