


# Sunday 24th 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  
Family Service

11.30am St John's  
Family Service

## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023

10.00am Christ Church  
Holy Communion

11.30am St John's  
Holy Communion

# For Your Attention

## Fellowship Fridays

Our monthly fellowship will start again in Christ Church Hall this **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> 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.**

## Men's Curry & Pool Night-Please book by Wed!

There's nothing like a good curry and game of pool on an Autumn night. We have booked the Namaste restaurant, Ballyclare on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 8:00 pm**, followed by a few games of pool. Book your place using the link.

<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 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 7:30pm** at Dundonald Elim. Contact Alison on 07973 709261 for more info.

## Harvest Weekend

To celebrate the harvest weekend in the parish, we will be hosting an afternoon tea in Christ Church halls on Saturday afternoon, **14<sup>th</sup> October from 2pm-4pm.**

Thanksgiving services will be held in both Christ Church & St John's on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October**. Please come along on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>** to decorate both our churches, meeting at **10.30am**. Please bring along food items which can be donated to Newtownabbey Foodbank along with flowers for distribution to housebound parishioners. Can children bring food items on Sunday and if the pastoral visitors could meet on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> 10.30am** at Christ Church to deliver flowers.

# 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, Victor McCabe & Anna Mitchell.

Please pray for Bryan & Sandra Vaughan, Bryan's father is presently extremely ill.

## 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 folks, please contact Jonny to discuss.

## Going deeper

### Small Groups- We are spoiled for choice!

Our small groups have all started back- numbers are increasing in each group. 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- the best kept secret!

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.

### 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.**

### Tuesday Bible Study Group

The group will be meeting as normal in Christ Church Hall this **Tuesday (26<sup>th</sup>) @ 2pm.** Revd Jonny takes this group- if you need transport to Christ Church, please contact David in the office.

### UCB – Bible Notes

This quarters edition is still available. Copies in both churches, from your pastoral visitor or office.

# Shaping a new generation

## Youth Fellowship

YF is on this Sunday night with bowling to Airtastic and some eats at McDonalds. Can you book in using the following link: -

<https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/events/kf9hubhn>

For more information contact Andrew on 07950 846621

## 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>

## 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 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Holy Trinity, Carrick, Revd Alan McCann:	<a href="mailto:rector@holytrinity.org.uk">rector@holytrinity.org.uk</a>
23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	St Peter's, Belfast, Revd Brian Lacey:	<a href="mailto:brianlacey@stpeterbelfast.org">brianlacey@stpeterbelfast.org</a>
15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	All Saints Antrim, Ven. Stephen McBride:	<a href="mailto:archdeacon@connor.anglican.org">archdeacon@connor.anglican.org</a>
23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	St Nicholas's, Carrick Revd Chris St John:	<a href="mailto:christopher.stjohn@btinternet.com">christopher.stjohn@btinternet.com</a>
27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Glebe Hall, Ballyrashane, Revd Amanda Adams:	<a href="mailto:aeadams@hotmail.co.uk">aeadams@hotmail.co.uk</a>

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.

## Hall Keys

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

# Partnering

## Blythswood -Shoe Box Appeal

We have been taking part in the Christmas Shoe Box appeal for many years collecting usually between 50-100 every year.

These gift boxes make such a difference to adults & children in Eastern Europe. Leaflets and some empty shoeboxes will be available in both churches from next Sunday (1<sup>st</sup> Oct) The boxes need returned by Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October to each church.

Alwyn & Trish Tweed are coordinating this year's appeal for more information contact **Alwyn on 07733 238175.**

## 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. We had a wonderful morning recently to celebrate with our referrers and the organisations who donate to us. We would also like to celebrate with the parish so we are organising an open day on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October from 2.00 to 4.00** and would love to see as many as possible join us to see how we support families in need. A huge thanks to our team of amazing volunteers who are so dedicated in serving in this ministry.

## 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.

## Bishops' Appeal

Shocking news & tragedy surrounds us. Libya has a difficult political situation, but its people are suffering with the recent flooding. In our seats this morning we have envelopes if you would like to consider donating via the Church of Ireland Bishops' Disaster Appeal or use the following online link: <https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/donate>

# 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  
Office 028 93 354814  
Mobile 07732 763827  
(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](mailto:logilby@gmail.com)) or Mobile 07588 039093

