


Sunday 21st January 2024



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 28th January

08:30am Christ Church
Holy Communion

10.00am Christ Church
Family Service

11.30am St John's
Family Service

For Your Attention

Parish Weekend-Don't forget to book ASAP

We have our parish weekend in Rostrevor from 2nd-4th February 2024. **If you plan to go, could you please book in so we can finalise numbers.**

<https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/events/uzuq4yih>

Sunday 4th February Joint Service in St John's

On **Sunday 4th February** we want people to join us in Kilbroney. As the staff will be away at this there will only be **one joint service** that morning in **St John's Ballyclare**. This will commence at the earlier time of **11.00am**. No Service will be held in Christ Church, but it is recommended that those folk who won't be at the weekend meet in St John's. No Children's programmes will operate that morning.

Freewill Offering Envelopes 2024

Slowly but surely, they are being collected. If you still need your set of envelopes could these be collected from the Church Office immediately (Monday, Wednesday, or Friday). Any remaining after the end of January we will assume are no longer required. If you would like to switch to standing order method of donation, please contact David in the office. Many in our church family have moved to this method for convenience.

Above & Beyond- Exodus Youth Mission

Planning has already started for this summers mission to Spain. **We would like to finalise numbers asap.** The date of the mission team going to Valls, near Tarragona is **19th-30th July**. An information leaflet is available from Revd Jonny. Please advise him if your young person would like to go. Closing date is **Monday 22nd January**. Anyone aged 15+ in June 2024 can come.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

It is with deep sadness to us all that Bob Ferris died at the start of 2024. Please continue to pray for Hilda, his brother Greg and all the family circles, may they know the presence and comfort of the Holy Spirit at this challenging time.

Pray for Robina Stewart Anne Irvine & Bertha Haugh in hospital.

Continue to pray for Liz McConnell, Mervyn & Hilary Smylie, & Anna Mitchell & Winston Jenkins.

Friday Fellowship-Postponed

The next meeting of the fellowship planned for **Friday 26th January** has been cancelled. Sophie has been organising the meeting for well over a decade and now needs help and support to run it.

Sadly, without support the group will not be able to meet.

This would be a tragedy as it provides fellowship to many. If you could help on the last Friday of every month, please contact Sophie on 07745 828268 or David in the office.

Going deeper

Mid-week Holy Communions

Mid-week Communions recommenced last week and continue on a Wednesday at 12 noon. Car parking available in Church Car Park.

Theology Ireland – event with John Ortland

Said or sung, memorised, or quoted, the Psalms universally have shaped Christian thinking, living, and devotion. They plumb the depths of humanity and reach the heights of God's sovereign faithfulness. Theology Ireland are hosting a series of 4 sessions from 29th Jan – 9th Feb 2024 with speaker John Ortland, a prolific writer and theologian from the US. For more information go to

<http://www.theologyireland.com/>

Save the Date!

It's quite a while away- good to get it into your diary.



Shaping a new generation

The Battles Young Christians Face Seminar

The date is a little downstream but good to get booked. Ray Ortlund from America will be talking and encouraging teenagers on how to deal with some of these battles. This is a free event on Friday 2nd February 2024 from 8-10pm at 1 Cadogan Park in Belfast BT9 6HG and is hosted by Theology Ireland. Booking via the link: <http://www.theologyireland.com/youth>

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

Mothers' Union

We will gather again in Christ Church on **Monday 22nd January** to thank God for his blessings in 2023 and to ask for his guidance in 2024. A service of Holy Communion will start at **2.30pm** led by our Revd Jonny, during which Vera Jones will be commissioned as our Branch Leader: followed by refreshments and a catch up in the hall. All members past and present are invited to attend along with members of our congregation who are interested in finding out more about Mothers' Union and perhaps joining our monthly meetings. Further information from Vera Jones 07714 286684

Register of Vestry Members & Easter Vestry

The Register of General Vestry members will be open for the month of February for review and addition. Anyone who would like to register as a new member of the church can use the forms at the back of church (Residents for those living inside the parish boundaries or accustomed for those living outside the parish boundaries) or from our website: <https://theunitedparish.org.uk/resources/forms/> An updated useful guide to Vestries will be available within the next few weeks. A review of all amendments will be carried out at the March Select Vestry meeting.

Partnering

Baby Basics

Thank you to everyone's continuing generosity. During 2023 we have been able to support 90 families. Presently we are so well stocked that we cannot take any further donations at this time.

Kintsugi Hope-Contact Frances or Liz

Kintsugi Hope is a Christian organisation which runs well-being programmes covering issues such as self-awareness, honesty, dealing with loss and disappointment, building relationships, resilience, etc. Our lives are busy and sometimes we can become overwhelmed and negative about ourselves. Kintsugi well-being groups are for everyone, and they help us to understand our true value and worth and to become the people God created us to be.

We plan to set up a group soon where we can get together to chat informally over a cup of tea.

If you would like to join us or would like more information, please contact Liz (07779 333286) or Frances (07791 249025).

Please pick up an information flyer in Church this morning.

CMSi-Quarterly Magazine

The winter edition of 'Inmission' is available in both churches.

Packed with information & facts about global mission.

Please pick up a free copy.

Release International- Hazaq Coffee

New coffee supplies have arrived at the office. All proceeds go to the work of Release International, £6.00 per bag- available from David or at the back of St John's.

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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(Mon, Wed Fri. Office hours 9am-1pm
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St John's Music Lead: Chris McCabe
chris@theunitedparish.org.uk

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

