

# Sunday 10th March 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.

## Sunday 10th March 2024 Mother's Day

10.00am Christ Church  
Morning Prayer

11.30am St John's  
Morning Praise

## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024

10.00am Christ Church  
Morning Prayer

11.30am St John's  
Morning Praise

# For Your Attention

## Rural Deanery Services

These are always a fantastic opportunity to meet others, visit different churches and listen to weekly teaching as we journey towards Easter.

**Wed. 13<sup>th</sup> March Antrim**

Wed. 20<sup>th</sup> March, Kilbride

All services start at **7.30pm**, this year's theme is 'Grounding',

**Pick up a card in church this morning providing all the details.**

**Ven. Stephen McBride**

Revd John McClure

## Services at Easter.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March

Youth & Children's Service, St John's 6.30pm  
'The Story of Easter'

Maundy Thursday

Agape Meal & Service, Christ Church 7pm

Good Friday

Holy Communion, St John's, 7pm

Easter Sunday

Dawn Service 7am St Augustine's B'Easton  
Followed by B'fast in Christ Church Hall

10.00am & 11.30am Easter Sunday Celebration  
in Christ Church & St John's

**No organisations should meet during Holy week unless approval sought from Revd Jonny.**

# Pastoring

## Please pray for:

Pray for Winston Jenkins, & Betty Robinson in hospital. Bertha Haugh, Eileen Green & Liz McConnell who are recovering at home after hospitalisation. Pray for Ann Irvine in Rathmena Nursing Home. Continue to pray for, Mervyn & Hilary Smylie, & Anna Mitchell.

## Prayer Warriors

The March edition of Prayer Warriors is now available in both churches and from your pastoral visitor, please pick up a copy- more can always be printed!

## Let us Know!

We strive to provide good pastoral care within our parish. We need to always try and keep our records updated- we depend upon people and families to provide us with current information if relatives are moving into a nursing home or going into hospital. Information provided to us is treated confidentially and data is stored securely.

## Pray for the staff

We are blessed to have many active ministries within our Parish; it can be demanding on everyone. The staff team try whenever possible to take a Saturday off. Please pray that Jonny, David & Chris can spend precious time with their families at weekends. The Revd Jonny is always on call and can be contacted in the case of a **pastoral emergency**.

# Going deeper

## First Things Conference



As Christians, our call is to be people rooted in truth, yet the world often presents conflicting narratives. **Gospel Partners within the Church of Ireland** are therefore joining together for this one-day conference that will seek to unite, encourage and release the evangelical movement within our Church.

The event will take place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April, from 10.00am-4pm at Moira Parish Centre- (cost £15 which includes lunch).

We have secured tickets so please contact the parish office to buy one. For more details speak with Rev Jonny. We will also share car lifts to make it easier for travel.

Further information on the link: - <https://www.cief.church/1st>

# Shaping a new generation

## Who was St Patrick?

Time to find out on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March** in St John's Church & Hall. Play it by Ear Drama Company will be performing their St Patrick's Show and Connor Children's Council will be providing crafts and activities in the halls. There is also a colouring competition which children can take part in by printing, colouring, and bringing along the colouring sheet. (Attached or from Church) Everyone who takes part will get a prize and the overall winner will be announced on Facebook after the event.

**Shows will be at 11am and 1pm and booking is required.**

**The following Diocesan link will take you to the booking page:-**

<https://connor.anglican.org/event/patricks-story/>

**Each show will be followed by crafts and games in the hall.**

**Pick up a leaflet & colouring sheet in Church this morning.**

## Safeguarding Training

A further series of Safeguarding Trust training sessions have been organised for across Connor Diocese in the period from April 30 to June 27. This training is for clergy, staff and volunteers who have not undergone safeguarding training in the last three years. **It's compulsory if you are involved with children in the parish to complete this training.**

- 30 April 2024 – Ballyrashane Gebe Hall at 7pm – Canon Amanda Adams
- 8 May 2024 – St Nicholas', Carrickfergus, at 7pm – Rev Chris St John
- 21 May 2024 – Holy Trinity, Carrickfergus, at 7pm – Rev Dr Alan McCann
- 20 June 2024 – Derryvolgie, Lisburn, at 7pm – Rev James Boyd
- 24 June 2024 – St Bartholomew's, Stranmillis, Belfast at 7pm – Canon Kevin Graham
- 27 June 2024 – Antrim Parish Centre, Antrim, at 7pm – Ven Dr Stephen McBride

All registration requests for these events should be emailed to David McGrory, Connor Safeguarding Trust Compliance Officer, at [davidmcgrory@connordiocese.org](mailto:davidmcgrory@connordiocese.org)

# Reaching Out & Welcoming in

## Register of Vestry Members & Easter Vestry

The Register of General Vestry members has now closed after being open for the month of February. A review of all amendments will be conducted at the March Select Vestry meeting.

Our Annual Easter Vestry (AGM) will be held in April. We would encourage parishioners who are on the register to please join us at our AGM. We have produced a new leaflet **‘What’s it all about then?’ in church this morning.**

## Help Required – Holy Week

To help with our Easter outreach & services we need a few volunteers. A sign-up sheet is in both churches or contact David in the office.

### **Needed: -**

1. Monday help & preparation along with refreshments  
(This is a Youth Service so help from parents & those with creative skills would be appreciated)
2. Help with Agape meal on Maundy Thursday.
3. Help with Hot Cross Bun giveaway on Good Friday.

## Gift Ministry

Thank you to the generosity of folk donating their beautiful china cups & saucers. We have been able to repurpose them into candles. If you know of anyone in the Parish who would welcome a gift, after a bereavement or lengthy illness, please contact Laura or Sandra in St John’s.



# Partnering

## CMSi- News

The Spring edition of 'Inmission' is available in both churches. Packed with information & facts about global mission. **Please pick up a free copy.**

- **CMSI Shine at CITI in Dublin** on Sat 23 March 10.30am – 3pm. An opportunity to meet other CMSI members, hear inspiring stories of Mission and to take part in the AGM – free lunch is provided, and lifts are available from Belfast. <https://www.cmsireland.org/shine> - Contact [rogerthompson@cmsireland.org](mailto:rogerthompson@cmsireland.org) or Mob 07754684662

**“Hands Out” Children’s Resource 2024** – Free Resource for Churches, Sunday Schools, Schools and other Children’s Groups. Focus on Refugees with Bible teaching, age-graded lessons, videos, crafts, service outline etc. info at <https://www.cmsireland.org/childrens-resource>

## Release International- Hazaq Coffee

New supplies will be arriving shortly. Available at back of St John’s or Church office. The cost is £6.00 per bag with all proceeds going to the work of Release International.

## Munch on Mondays

The food table is open on Fridays for a limited period from **Friday 23rd February to Friday 22nd March**. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this ministry, please let them know that free food will be available outside St John’s from 11.00am

# 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](mailto:logilby@gmail.com)) or Mobile 07588 039093

