


Sunday 24th 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.

Palm Sunday

10.00am Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11.30am St John's
Morning Praise

Catherine Hillcox from Bible Society will be in both Christ Church & St John's informing us about the work of the Bible Society

Easter Sunday

7.00am St Augustine's
Dawn Service

10.00am Christ Church
Easter Praise

11.30am St John's
Easter Praise

For Your Attention

Can you give us a cardboard box?

As part of our interactive walkthrough Easter, we need as many large cardboard boxes, **built and sealed**. Please leave inside the foyer of St John's Church halls on Monday morning.

Services During Easter- Please Join Us

Monday 25 th March	Interactive Journey through Easter for young people and families. St John's Halls 6.30pm
Wednesday 27 th	Holy Week Service @ Christ Church 7pm
Good Friday	Holy Communion, St John's, 7pm
Easter Sunday	Dawn Service 7am St Augustine's Ballyeaston Followed by Breakfast at the Rectory 10.00am & 11.30am Family Celebration in Christ Church & St John's

Annual Church Meeting

Our Annual Church Meeting will be held on **Wednesday 17th April in St John's Church at 7.30pm.**

We would encourage all parishioners to please join us at our AGM. If you need creche or child minding to attend, please let us know and we will facilitate this. This is a great opportunity to thank God for the year past, and to think about the year ahead.

Week of Prayer : 8th – 12th April

At the beginning of each term, we gather as a church family to seek God's direction and blessing in all we do. Please keep the following dates free and make this a priority.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

Pray for Ann Irvine currently in hospital. Pray for Isabel Scott, Winston Jenkins, Betty Robinson Bertha Haugh, Eileen Green & Liz McConnell who are recovering after hospitalisation. Continue to pray for Anna Mitchell along with Laura & Ryan (relatives of Anna).

Please pray that people will come forward to take up important roles in the church for the coming year – we need Wardens to open the Churches on Sundays, and we will need a new Honorary Secretary for the Vestry to look after minutes of the monthly meetings.

Keep the Parish Office informed!

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.

Pastoral visiting

Please remember that Rev Jonny is very willing to visit you at any time. Simply contact him or the Parish Office, and he will arrange a time that suits you.

Thank you

Lorraine Ogilby has been our Select Vestry Honorary Secretary for 13 years. She is now retiring from her position. We thank Lorraine for her incredible service to God's Church and wish her God's blessings as she takes time for a well-deserved rest.

Going deeper

First Things Conference – it's time to book.



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 27th April, from 10.00am-4pm at Moira Parish Centre- (cost £15 which includes lunch).

We have secured tickets. 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

Journey to the Cross

We are having an interactive fun night for youth & children this Monday night as we journey through the last week of Jesus' life. Please invite friends along. We are gathering in St John's Halls at 6.30pm.

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.**

[Please let David know if you have booked for any of these courses.](#)

- 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

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

Mothers' Union

Our next meeting takes place this **Monday 25th March at 2.30pm** in Christ Church Hall.

We are delighted this month to welcome Alison Campbell-Smyth as our guest speaker. Alison's will be chatting about 'Being a Christian Woman in the Workplace Today' drawing on her experiences working within the Northern Health and Social Care Trust.

Whilst we gather as a Mothers' Union Branch our meetings are open to all parishioners and a warm welcome awaits. See you there Vera Jones 07714286682

Good Friday Hot Cross Bun Outreach

We have 35 dozen of Hot Cross Buns organised to give away in both Ballyclare & Ballynure. If you have signed up to help, please join us as we prepare and distribute, **meeting at St John's on Good Friday at 9.30am.**

School Uniforms Scheme

Our recycling scheme will open on **Saturday 30th March in St John's Hall from 10am- 12 noon** for summer uniforms. We are well stocked so if you need outfits for the summer term please come along. For more information, please contact Lorraine on 07799876028 or Arlene on 07510121517. Please note that we cannot accept any more uniforms.

Kintsugi Hope

We have our new course starting on Monday 15th April in St John's at 7.00pm. We still have a couple of places available; if you would like to attend or find out more, please contact Frances on 07791 249025 or Liz on 07779333286

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.

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.

St John's Music Lead: Chris McCabe

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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

