



Sunday 5th May 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
Holy Communion

11.30am St John's
Holy Communion

Sunday 12th May

10.00am Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11.30am St John's
Morning Praise

For Your Attention

This Sunday

Maybe you've not been out to church for a while? Why not join us this Sunday. Rev Jonny will be continuing our series on Romans.

Office Closed

The Church office will be closed on Monday 6th May for May Day & also Friday 8th May as members of the parish will be at General Synod.

Holiday Bible Club: Can you help?

The Holiday Bible Club - 'All Stars' will be running in August from 19th - 23rd, 10am- 12 noon. We now need to build a team to help: Volunteers each day, welcome teams, set builders, arts & crafts, etc. We are having a meeting on **Wed 15th May in St John's Hall at 7.30pm** to plan the event. Please come along and join us.

St John's Carpark

The carpark is now open & functioning again after the maintenance. The Select Vestry has agreed to install two bollards at the top of the carpark which are removable & lockable. This will ensure that parishioners and hall users can access parking spaces. If you require further information, please contact David in the office or a member of Vestry.

CMSi-Urgent Appeal

Please go to page 7 to find out more, please collect one of the A4 update sheets in Church this morning.

Select Vestry Meeting this week

Please note that Select Vestry is meeting this Wednesday at 7:30pm

Pastoring

Please pray for:

Pray for Lorraine, Michael, Jude & Jacob. Sadly, Lorraine's mum died on Thursday; may they know the comfort and peace of the Holy Spirit at this sad & challenging time.

Pray for Hilary Scott recently admitted to Antrim Hospital.

Pray for Sharon Ames & Winnie Larmour recovering after recent hospitalisation.

We have a considerable amount of illness presently in the Parish, many are awaiting tests or procedures.

Please pray for Edith Raj & Roberta Crawford, David Wilson, Pray for good health for Isabel Scott, Winston Jenkins, Betty Robinson, Bertha Haugh, Liz McConnell, and Hilary Smiley. Continue to pray for Anna Mitchell along with Laura & Ryan (relatives of Anna).

Pastoral Visiting & Home Communion

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.

UCB -Word For Today

The next quarters devotional covering May, June & July is now available (free of charge) in both churches and from your pastoral visitor.

Prayer Warriors

The May edition of prayer warriors is now available in both Christ Church & St John's. Please collect a copy.

Going deeper

New Irish Arts- 30th Birthday Concert



The New Irish Orchestra which a number of our parishioners are members of are holding their 30th anniversary concert in the Waterfront Hall on 28th September. Tickets are almost sold out. We have managed to secure 10 Tickets (great seats) for this special night. Join us as we enjoy the New Irish Choir and Orchestra, fabulous Youth Choirs and special guests including Laura Story from Nashville. The Tickets are priced at £30 each and are available from David in the church office.

8 Speakers-8 Topics

Our neighbouring Diocese of Down & Dromore will be a hosting a week-long series of teaching every evening from Sunday 12th - Sunday 19th May considering different aspects of Church Growth. These evenings could be incredibly valuable as we think about growing deeper in our own parish. We would encourage those in our small groups or involved in ministry or simply want to grow further in your faith to attend some of them. Full details can be found on the link: - <https://www.downanddromore.org/news/2024/04/grow--8-speakers-and-8-topics>

Shaping a new generation

Special Educational Needs Training

On **Wednesday 12th June** the Diocese have planned an evening of training in St John's Parish, from 6-9pm. It is planned to support clergy, children and youth leaders, to engage children and young people with additional needs in their programmes and activities.

For more information and to book your place, please contact.

Victoria Jackson victoriajackson@connordiocese.org or

Christina Baillie christinabaillie@connordiocese.org

Exodus 2024- The Really Big Fundraise

This year we are blessed to be sending thirteen people on an Exodus Youth mission team to Tarragona in Spain. Various fundraising events are now planned for the coming months – **a flyer of these is available in Church this week- please collect one.** The first event will be a coffee morning in St John's on Saturday 8th June. The team fundraising page is

<https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/mypage/team-26-2024>

Revd Jonny & The One Million Steps!

To help with the fundraising for Exodus, Rev Jonny is setting himself the challenge of walking one million steps starting April 1st and finishing no later than June 30th. He is also inviting people to walk with him any day. Just get in touch via his mobile. Updates on his progress will be via the parish Facebook page. If you wish to support him, go to the following website or donate via the office

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/1millionsteps>

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

An Evening of Music

Do you fancy an evening with Musicians from New Irish Choir & Orchestra?

First Ballyeaston Presbyterian Church are holding a concert on **Saturday 18th May at 7.30pm**. Seats can be pre-booked by scanning the QR code below or contacting Des on 07955 623699.

There will be a collection to defray expenses with any surplus funds donated to Macmillan Cancer Support.



Praise In The Square

As part of the May Fayre, a special night of worship & praise has been organised for Sunday 26th May starting at 6.30pm in the Square!

Partnering

CMSi News -Serious Flooding

Many of you will have heard about the serious flooding both on the news and social media in Nairobi where we have our mission link. Sadly, the area that Antony and the team live and work in has been devastated by flooding. In Church this morning we have an updated news sheet describing and showing the devastation.

CMSi have set up an emergency financial appeal to support their partners at Tujisaidie Self-Help Group as they give urgent help to victims. If you would like to donate, please go to <https://www.cmsireland.org/tujisaidie> and scroll down to the donate button. Alternatively send cheques made out to CMSI to CMS Ireland, Sir Thomas & Lady Dixon Park, 1st Floor, 245a Upper Malone Road, Belfast, BT17 9LA.

Baby Basics

So far this year we have received 32 referrals to help families who are struggling to purchase all that they need for their babies. In order to continue to support these families we would really appreciate donations of baby baths as well as vests and babygrows for girls aged 0 - 3 months and 3 - 6 months. Many thanks.

Newtownabbey Foodbank

We still accept donations for the Foodbank. These can be left in Christ Church & St John's on a Sunday or into the office on a Mon, Wed, & Friday or in the tub at St John's Church Hall. For more information, please contact Sandra Vaughan on 07999 580 548

UCB Coffee Morning

UCB are having a Coffee Morning & Cake Sale in First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Memorial Hall (beside Fire Station), on **Saturday 11th May, 10.00am-12.30pm**. All proceeds go to the work of UCB.

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.

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: - Rachel Wilson (Hon. Secretary)

honsec@theunitedparish.org.uk

