

Sunday 11th August 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 am Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11.30 St John's
Morning Praise

Sunday 18th August

10 am Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11.30 St John's
Morning Praise

For Your Attention

Worship - 2nd Sundays in St John's

Each month, from September, a new worship gathering will commence on the 2nd Sunday evenings in St John's. The purpose of the gathering is to allow more time for praise and teaching, with guest speakers each month, and the Youth worship team leading our praise. We are incredibly excited that the church is growing with people who desire to come into the presence of God. Our speaker for September is Simon Henry, National Youth Officer for the Church of Ireland.

Card Machine for Church giving

We have recently acquired a new card machine which is positioned at the rear of St John's Church. This is to facilitate parishioners or visitors who may not have a FWO envelope or Standing Order, or for anyone who simply wishes to just donate to God's work in the parish. The machine will take credit or debit cards and will also recognise phone payments. It's very easy to use and totally secure – a poster with operating instructions is on the wall at the machine. If you have any difficulty using the machine, please contact either Lawrence or David.

Pray For Our Country

The scenes on the media and the actions even in our local community by a small minority of anti-immigration protestors has been extremely disturbing. As Bishops George & Alan have stated, Jesus said: 'In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.' (Matthew 7:12) If we truly wish to build a society which espouses Christian values and which is at peace with itself, let us treat every person with the same care and respect that we would want to be shown to us and to our loved ones.

On behalf of the church, Rev Jonny through the assistance of community representatives has reached out to provide support to those in our community who have been recently affected. Please continue to pray that we can be a strong witness of God's love to everyone.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

Pray for Isabel Scott who is recovering well in hospital after surgery.

Pray for Irene Howard presently in hospital. Pray for Hilary Scott, & David Metcalfe recovering after recent hospitalisation.

Please also pray for Roberta Crawford, David Wilson, Jean Smyth, Winston Jenkins, Betty Robinson, Liz McConnell, and Hilary Smiley.

UCB Bible Notes

The Autumn Edition is now available in both Christ Church & St John's, and from our pastoral visiting team. This is a great daily devotional to start or end the day on a positive, inspirational way.

Save the date – Week of Prayer

Every new term we start with a Week of Prayer. Keep the evenings of the Monday 2nd - Friday 6th September free - more details to follow.

Contacting David – Parish Administrator

David's mobile number has changed, he is now contactable on **07368 110722**, 9am-1pm Mon- Fri. Outside of these hours please leave a message and he will return your call the next day.

New preaching lectern

Agnes Kelly was a faithful parishioner, regularly attending Christ Church. Sadly, she died in June 2023. As a gift to the parish, the family have provided a preacher's lectern which will be used in St John's each Sunday. This will be dedicated this Sunday, and we thank the family of the late Mrs Kelly for their generous gift.

Going deeper

New Horizon 2024

If you were unable to get up to the New Horizon Christian conference held in Coleraine, you can listen to the recordings by visiting the following link: <https://newhorizon.org.uk/play-audio-channel/>

Small Groups – recommencing in September

Our small groups will be starting back in September week commencing **Monday 9th September**. We have 8 meetings 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/>

Confirmation & Adult Baptism

Any adults who would be interested in **Adult Baptism**, who haven't yet been baptized, these are being planned for **29th September**.

For those who wish to make a public declaration of their faith, **Confirmation** preparation will also commence in September with Bishop George joining us for a special service in November. If you are interested in either adult baptism or Confirmation, please have a chat with the Revd Jonny.

Shaping a new generation

Holiday Bible Club bookings

If you have a child in P1-P7 that would like to attend please see the flyer for details, and book asap, as spaces are limited. Book at <https://bit.ly/44Jehag>

Consent Forms 2024/2025

The new year/term is about to start in September. If your children/youth are attending any of our church-based programmes, then it is most important that a consent form is completed. We have made a few changes to the form which can be found and completed using the following link. <https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/forms/q35jfvuw>



Even better just click on the QR Code: -

Due to our Safeguarding policy no child can attend a group without a consent form being completed. Consent forms are also available from the office or in Church.

(Note that the Boys' Brigade have a separate consent process)

Planning for the new season

Youth & Childrens' leaders will soon begin to plan for things recommencing in September. If any leaders would like support and help, please get in touch with Rev Jonny who would be very happy to attend any planning meetings.

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

School Uniform Scheme

St John's Hall will be open for uniform collection **Mon. 12 Aug 7pm-8pm & Wed. 14 Aug from 10am-12 noon**. We have an excellent selection of uniforms for local Primary & Secondary Schools. We cannot accept any further trousers or shirts, but we would welcome PE Kits & Blazers. For more information, please contact Lorraine on 07799 876028 or Arlene on 07510 121517.

Using the Halls

Organisations using the hall will start again from Sunday 8th September. Revd Jonny encourages all church-based groups to attend the week of prayer which is happening the week before (see note on page 3).

New Waste bins

You may have seen new green and brown bins at St John's. The brown bin will take **garden & food waste only**. The green will take general, cardboard, bottles & glass. The Boys' Brigade recycle tins separately so these can be left bagged in the hall porch area. From September we will also have recycling bins in our internal premises which can be used for items such as tins, plastic, glass etc.

Churchsuite- do you use it?

Churchsuite is our Church database: we would encourage parishioners who have a phone, computer or tablet to use it. It has many facilities including your personal information, giving, rotas upcoming events etc. David is running 2 events on **Wednesday 28th August 10.30am & 7.30pm in St John's Church**. If you are using it and want a wee refresher or if you're not using it and want to get started this is a good place to start. Could you let David know that you plan to attend.

Partnering

Munch on Mondays

We would like to offer tea and coffee to the people who come to the Munch on Monday's food table. To do this, we need some extra help. If you would be interested, please have a chat with Frances 07791 249025

CMSi News-

CMSi Summer Snippets magazine along with the latest update from our brothers & sisters in Nairobi available in church or use the links:

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<https://theunitedparish.org.uk/cmsi-link-letter-june-2024/>



The CMSi Annual Ignite conference is on from the 13th-14th September. Full details can be found by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.cmsireland.org/ignite>

Newtownabbey Food Bank

The Foodbank that we feed into is short of the following items: - **Soap Powder/Liquid, Washing Up Liquid, Gents toiletries, diluting juice.** If contributions can be left in Christ Church or St John's on a Sunday. St John's office on a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday morning, or in the tub at St John's Church Hall. Any queries please contact Sandra on 07999 580548. Thank You

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 07368 110722

(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

