

Sunday 1st September 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

Back to School Sunday

10 am Christ Church
Family Service

11.30 St John's
Family Service

Sunday 8th September

10am Christ Church
Holy Communion

11.30 St John's
Holy Communion

For Your Attention

This Sunday (1st)

This morning, we will be gathering as a Church family to worship and get updates from all those who have been serving over the summer, give gifts to our children and look forward to the term ahead. Please join us at our normal times. The celebrations will continue with some food, treats and fun in the halls after.

Week of Prayer- Commencing on Monday

Every new term we start with a Week of Prayer: -

Monday 2nd - Friday 6th September. We will commence on Monday in St John's at 7.30pm and alternating between churches each evening ie Tuesday will be in Christ Church. Each evening lasts approximately an hour; it is so important to ask God for his blessing, guidance and power for the work we carry out on his behalf.

Worship – starting on 8th September!

2nd Sunday's is a new gathering for followers of Jesus Christ to unite in our love of him. Each evening will be a mix of uplifting worship, teaching from a range of guest speakers and yummy treats as we join in fellowship together. Our speaker for **Sunday 8th September at 7pm** is Simon Henry, National Youth Officer for the Church of Ireland.

Harvest Celebrations

We have much to celebrate and give thanks for; this year our Harvest Services will be on **Sunday 20th October**. If folk could arrange to decorate both churches on **Saturday 19th, meeting at 10.30am**.

New Instagram page

For those on Instagram, we now have an Instagram page. Follow us at **theunitedparish2024**

Pastoring

Please pray for:

Pray for Isabel Scott after recent surgery.

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

Please also pray for Evelyn Boyles, Bertha Haugh, David Wilson, Jean Smyth, Betty Robinson, Liz McConnell, and Hilary Smiley.

Peace in Society & our own community that we can all live in harmony and that anti- immigration protests and intimidation will cease.

Prayer Warriors

The new September edition of Prayer Warriors is available for collection from both Christ Church and St John's or from your pastoral visitor.

Friday Fellowship

Over the last number of years, numbers have been falling at our monthly fellowship meeting. To help planning and to make sure it is viable going forward please let the office know this week.

Going deeper

Small Groups – recommencing in September

Our small groups will be starting back in September week commencing **Monday 9th September**. We have 9 groups meeting 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. Details are as follows: -

Mon. (Eve)	Leigh & Clive's	Tel. Leigh	07774 720241
Tue. (Eve)	Hugh & Olive's	Tel. Olive	07989 687724
Tue. (A 'Noon)	Study Group Rev Jonny	Tel. Jonny	07808 479649
Tue. (Eve)	Tim & Leah	Tel. Tim	07572 817429
Tue. (Eve)	John & Sophie	Tel. Sophie	07745 828268
Wed. (Eve)	Smyth & Reid's Group	Tel. Jonny	07808 479649
Thur. (Morn)	Women's F'ship Group	Tel. Laura	07749 815478
Thur. (Eve)	Bible Study Fellowship	Tel. Grace	07714 336204
Sat. (Morn)	Genesis Art Fellowship	Tel. Lynne	07747 181938

Better still just scan the code to find out more: -



Or use the following link: - [bit.ly_3T7swB2](https://bit.ly/3T7swB2)

Confirmation Classes & 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** classes/preparation will also commence on **8th 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. **Leaflets are available at rear of both churches this morning.**

Shaping a new generation

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)

BB Enrolment Service

Our BB enrolment service this year will be on Sunday 27th October in St John's during Morning Family Service.

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

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.

Project Can Do

We are pleased to be hosting the Redeeming Our Communities 'Project Can Do' programme starting on **Monday 30th September**. We will be exploring the "5 Steps to Well-being" over 5 sessions - Connect, Be Active, Keep Learning, Give to Others and Take Notice. This is a free programme (funded by Impact Network (N.I.)) with guest speakers, self-care resources and refreshments. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this programme or would like more information, please have a chat with Frances (07791 249025). Leaflets in Church this morning.

Thank-you!

We would like to thank Ballylinney Mums & Tots group for a kind donation to help fund various items for Baby Basics.

We also remember with fondness the late Jean Kerr & Jean Pollock who with Andy Pollock ran the Dancing Club in Christ Church Hall for many years donating generous amounts to Parish Funds & The Children's Hospice. Sadly, Andy can no longer run the club on his own, however we would like to thank Andy for the recent donation to Church Funds on behalf of the club.

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-

The new quarterly magazine is available in both Christ Church & St John's. If you are unable to come to church but would like a copy posted out, please contact David in the office.

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

Hazaq Coffee

We have just received new supplies of coffee. The coffee has a brilliant flavour, and all the proceeds go to the work of **Release International**. The supply we have in stock is suitable for a cafetiere and costs £6.00 per bag. If you would like us to order a different blend or grind: whole beans, filtered, or espresso is also available from Ethiopia & India, contact David.

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

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

