

Sunday 13th October

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

10am Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11:30 St John's
Morning Praise

7pm St John's
2nd Sundays

Wednesday 16th

12pm St John's
Holy Communion

Sunday 20th

10am Christ Church
Harvest Celebration

11:30 St John's
Harvest Celebration

For Your Attention

2nd Sundays Tonight in St John's

Please join us tonight in St John's at **7pm**. Our guest speaker this month will be **Millie Bellew, Down & Dromore Diocese**. Please use this event as an opportunity to invite friends along.

Harvest Celebrations- Next Sunday (20th)

We have much to celebrate and give thanks for. If folk could arrange to decorate both churches on **Saturday 19th meeting at 10.30am**.

On Sunday could children bring some of the following items for Newtownabbey Foodbank: - Soap Powder/Liquid, Washing Up Liquid, Gents toiletries, Diluting juice.

Distribution of Harvest Flowers & Fruit

Could pastoral visitors & any others come to Christ Church on **Monday 21st Oct at 10.30am** to make up bunches of flowers and distribute to the housebound.

Blythswood Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

Once again, we are running our Christmas appeal. If boxes could be returned on our **Family Service (27th)** or by the end of **October**. Leaflets are in both Churches, contact Alwyn or Trish Tweed for more information.

Select Vestry Quarterly News

It's very important for all of us to know the important items which our Select Vestry are dealing with, e.g. Finance, Property etc. Every quarter they will issue an update, and one is attached with this week's sheet or can be collected in church.

Remembrance Day Services

Our Remembrance Day services will be held in both Churches on **Sunday 10th November** at the normal times.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

Also pray for the family of the late **Jean Smyth**. Jean was a long-standing member of Christ Church and sadly died on 4th October. Pray for her daughters Jane, Vera and Nina.

Pray for the family of **Evelyn Boyles** who died recently. Pray for her sons – Alistair, Trevor, and Jeff that God's Holy Spirit would comfort them in their grief.

Pray for **Hilary Scott** as she makes a slow but steady recovery.

Please pray for **Cynthia Banfield** as she continues to support her mum at home after hospitalisation.

Please also pray for **Liz McConnell, and Hilary Smiley**.

Prayer Warriors

The October edition is available for collection in both churches this morning and from your pastoral visitor.

UCB Bible Notes

The latest quarterly edition is now available in both Churches and from your pastoral visitor.

Going deeper

New Wine Leaders Day- Lisburn Cathedral

Revd Tommy MacNeil will be running a leaders' training day on **Friday 22nd November from 10.00am-3.30pm.**

This will be a day of worship, teaching, sharing and prayer ministry. Tommy's theme will be 'Emptiness to fullness- God's vision for your heart, your church, and your community.

Full details and booking can be found on the following link:

<https://www.newwineireland.org/events/leaders-day-lisburn>

Shaping a new generation

Creation Light Party – 2nd November

The Diocese are running a kids' Creation Light Party on **Saturday 2nd November (4-6pm) in Mossley Parish** – Church of the Holy Spirit. This is a free event and celebrating the God who brought light out of darkness. Those attending are encouraged to dress up as something from God's creation for the chance to win a prize! At the event there will be a light parade, crafts, campfire singing and stories, and much more! Booking is essential: <https://forms.gle/vSFGfznrtfSSyo6>

BB Enrolment Service

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

Safeguarding Trust

Revd Jonny and the Select Vestry are committed to upholding good practice in the ministry of children & young people. Safeguarding is overseen by the Select Vestry and the Safeguarding panel. Should you have any queries or concerns please contact the panel immediately: Revd Jonny 07808 479649, Ashleigh Reid 07732 053604 & Pat Craig 07584 929758

Parental Consent Forms 2024/2025

Please remember that all children (under 18) must have an annual parental consent form completed when attending any of our children & youth programmes. Please use the following link to complete one.
<https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/forms/q35jfvuw>

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

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

Mothers' Union

Are you free on a Monday afternoon once a month? Would you like to join others in our United Parish for Fellowship, Faith, and Fun. Why not come along and join us. For more information contact Vera Jones 07714 286684 or Maureen Paige 07546 576654 in St John's or Rosaleen Buchanan 07759 563190 & Catherine Watson 07746 878507 in Christ Church.

Year of Evangelism 2025

Last Sunday Revd Jonny gave exciting news about his vision for 2025 which will be marked as a Year of Evangelism in the Parish. This will involve all church-based groups and will impact the community at large. There will be teaching provided from now until Christmas at our Sunday morning services. Please make every effort to join us to hear more.

WAVE Coffee Morning

Wave is an interdenominational church for people with learning difficulties. Many in our parish are involved with this ministry. A coffee morning has been organised for **Saturday 26th October from 10am- 12.30pm in the Town Hall, Ballyclare** to raise awareness about Wave. For more information, please contact Leigh Henderson.

Memorial Service -Sunday 10th November

On this evening at **6.30pm in St John's** we will be holding a service to remember all our friends and family who over the years have sadly left us. The guest speaker for the evening will be **Ali Knight** who is a counsellor from Coleraine and is the daughter of former Bishop Ken Clarke. Ali brings much experience in walking with people through their grief, and she will share with all of us her thoughts on how to live with the difficulty of loss. Please consider coming along on that evening or invite a friend who you know will find this beneficial.

Partnering

Baby Basics

Baby Basics is a valuable ministry which reaches out to our community and has already helped approximately 75 families this year. Our stock of knitted blankets and cardigans is starting to get **low** so we would really **appreciate donations of knitted items**. We would need **baby-grows for 0-3 months and 3-6 months, ladies' toiletries and baby toiletries**. If you can help, please have a chat with Frances (07791 249025).

Hazaq Coffee

New supplies of cafetiere coffee have arrived. All the proceeds go to the work of **Release International, cost is £6 per bag**. If you would like us to order a different blend or grind: - whole beans, filtered, or espresso, Ethiopian & Indian, contact David.

EasyFundraising

The United Parish is now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise **FREE** donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations really mount up and make a **BIG** difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely **FREE** and only takes a moment.

You can find our easyfundraising page at <https://bit.ly/3Xsb0Jk>

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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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

