

Sunday 20th 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
Harvest Celebration

11:30 St John's
Harvest Celebration

Wednesday 23rd

12pm St John's
Holy Communion

Sunday 27th

10am Christ Church
Family Service

11:30 St John's
Family Service

For Your Attention

Harvest Celebrations-This Sunday

We have much to celebrate and give thanks for, please join us in either Christ Church or St John's.

If you are planning to attend with children or grandchildren, could they 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.

BB Enrolment Service-St John's

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

Blythwood 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.

Remembrance Day Services

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

Our Parish Christmas Card

If you are in Primary School, we would love you to design our Christmas card this year. It can be anything about the Christmas Story. Make it as colourful as you can, and design in in **landscape** (that's sideways). Closing date for entries is **Sunday 17th November**.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

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**. Pray also for **Edith Raj** recently discharged from hospital and **Dorcus Forsythe** who has been admitted to RVH.

UCB Bible Notes

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

Connor Connections

The Autumn edition of the Diocesan magazine is now available in both churches. These are free so please collect your copy this morning.

Those who are ill or in hospital

It is vitally important that parishioners or families let Revd Jonny that they are ill or in hospital. It is not always possible for us to know.

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. Booking is essential: <https://forms.gle/vSFGfZnrwtfSSyo6>
There are very few spaces left.

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

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 died. 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. Please consider coming along on that evening or invite a friend who you know will find this beneficial.

FWO Envelopes 2025

Over the last few years many parishioners have moved from weekly FWO envelopes to Standing Order. We now must order less and renumber existing envelopes. Could you consider the following please

1. If you are using FWO envelopes and either no longer need them or wish to move to Standing Order, please contact David.
2. If you use envelopes could those relating to 2024, be left in before end of December to make transition easier.

Partnering

Baby Basics

Baby Basics is a valuable ministry which reaches out to our community. 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

Minister: Jonny Campbell-Smyth

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(Mon, Wed Fri. Office hours 9 - 1pm

Tue & Thu working from home 9 - 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

