

Sunday 17th November



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

9:00 Christ Church
Holy Communion

11.00 St John's
Confirmation Service

Wednesday 20th

12pm St John's
Holy Communion

Sunday 24th November

10:00 Christ Church
Family Service

11.30 St John's
Family Service

For Your Attention

Confirmation Sunday

Our Confirmation Service with Bishop George will be this **Sunday (17th), in St John's, at 11.00am.** This will be a joint service as we have timing and accommodation issues to consider.

This is such a celebration for those that are being confirmed. After our service we will continue the joy with a time of fellowship: - the customary 'Pudding Party'- please join us.

Our Parish Christmas Card-Deadline Approaching

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 **landscape** (that's sideways). Closing date for entries is on **Monday 18th November.** **Please leave your painting/drawing into the church office as we need to get cards printed for posting & delivery**

Christmas Tree Light Switch On

Our children and grandchildren will know how many sleeps until Christmas Day! It's not that many until the lights are switched on in Ballyclare- **Saturday 30th November.**

We are planning to have our Light Party in St John's starting at 6.30pm. **We need a team to make this happen- if you can help, please contact David asap.**

Mothers Union & Friday Fellowship

The Mothers Union are very kindly providing an afternoon tea for our Friday Fellowship on **Friday 29th November at 2.30pm** in **Christ Church Hall.** If you plan to attend contact Vera or Sophie.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

Please pray for **Brian & Robina Falls** on the recent sudden death of their son **Ian**. Also pray for **Jennifer & Mark Patterson and family**. **Jennifer** has lost a dear brother & friend. May the whole family know the comfort of the Holy Spirit at this challenging time.

Please pray for **Dorcus Forsythe** in respite care recovering from recent surgery.

Pray for **Hazel Bingham**, also **Carrie Millar, Betty Robinson & David Metcalfe** in hospital. **Alan McPherson** recovering from recent surgery.

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

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

Please also pray for **Hilary and Mervyn Smiley**.

UCB Bible Notes

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

Those who are ill or in hospital

Please let Rev Jonny know if parishioners or families are ill or in hospital. Don't ever feel that it is any inconvenience, as Rev Jonny wants to support everyone as much as possible.

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

Diocesan Youth Christmas Party

The Christmas Party is being held on **Friday Dec 6th from 7pm-9pm @ Church of the Good Shepherd in Monkstown**. If interested in attending, please contact Andrew (Brandy) on 07950 846621

Safeguarding Trust

The Select Vestry are committed to upholding good practice in the ministry of children & young people. Safeguarding is delegated to 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. Details of our policies can be found at <https://theunitedparish.org.uk/about/safeguarding/>

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>

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

Church & Hall Heating- St John's

Cold & damp N. I. weather- nothing like it! Warm welcome and heat always in The United Parish. We have reset the heating for all the organisations & groups meeting. The heating temperature is controlled by a wall thermostat at the pulpit for church and on wall in hall, near door. **It should always be sitting at 20.** If it gets too warm – move it down, too cold move it up **please return to 20 when leaving.**

Early Morning Holy Communion

As we are having Holy Communion on **Sunday 17th at 9.00am** there will be no 8.30am service in Christ Church on **Sunday 24th November.**

Partnering

Baby Basics

Recently we have been very blessed in respect of donations from both individuals and organisations. **However, our stock of baby grows for ages 0-3 and 3-6 months is very low, and we would really appreciate your help.** If you can help, please have a chat with Frances (07791 249025).

Shoe Box Appeal

Thank you to everyone who helped with our appeal. We have had another good year with **60 shoeboxes and £86 in donations.** These gifts bless many less fortunate than us.

Hazaq Coffee-Order for Christmas

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 for Christmas gifts: - whole beans, filtered, or espresso, Ethiopian & Indian, contact David.

Sign Up To Donate- Ideal at Christmas!

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!

As we approach Christmas many of us will be doing online shopping- this is such an easy opportunity to help the church!

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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(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

