

Sunday 29th March 2026

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 Palm Sunday

10.00 Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11.30 St John's
Morning Praise

Easter Sunday

7am Dawn Service
St Augustine's
Ballyeaston

10.00 Christ Church
Easter Celebration

11.30 St John's
Easter Celebration

For Your Attention

Holy Week & Easter

This week coming is the central reason for our faith. Please make every effort to join us as we journey through this Holy Week, and then next Sunday to celebrate the Hope of Jesus' resurrection

Monday 30 th	7pm	St John's	Youth & Children's Service
Tuesday 31 st	7.30pm	Christ Church	Preacher Andrew Brannigan
Wed 1 st	7.30pm	St John's	Preacher Michael Ogilby
Thurs 2 nd	7.30pm	Christ Church	Preacher Kennedy Chiaji
Fri 3 rd	7.30pm	St John's	Holy Communion Rev Jonny
Sun 5 th	7am	St Augustine's	Dawn Service
	10am	Christ Church	Easter Celebration
	11.30am	St John's	Easter Celebration

Hot Cross Buns

Easter is approaching and on Good Friday morning we will be handing out hot cross buns to our communities in Ballyclare and Ballynure. To make this possible, we will need volunteers who are willing to help us. If you want to get involved, please sign the sheet at the back of the Church, thank you.

Important Annual Meeting – Wednesday 15th April

Please put this date in your diary. Each year we invite everyone to gather to celebrate what God has done in this past year and then vote people into positions for the year ahead. This year is even more special as it's called a Triennial. Every 3 years, additional elections are required – these include a) people to attend the annual Diocesan meeting, b) people who may be called upon to discern a new minister should a vacancy occur within the parish.

Appointment of Church Wardens for St John's

We are still needing people to come forward to help Rev Jonny on Sundays with the practical issues of preparing the church. Would you be interested in helping Rev Jonny in the warden role? This would greatly support the smooth running of Sundays.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

- Yvonne Wells after the recent death of her mother Celia.
- Carrie-Leigh Mc Farland after the recent death of her granny.
- Wendy Trew currently receiving rehabilitation care.
- Joan Crymble recently discharged from hospital.
- Damien O'Hara recently discharged from hospital.
- Don Eastop recently discharged from hospital.
- Winnie Mufakwadziya currently receiving rehabilitation care after discharge from hospital.
- Liz McConnell after recent falls.
- David Wilson's recovery after recent surgery.
- Anna Mitchell's health.
- The number of people in Nursing homes who need to know that their church family has not forgotten them.

April Prayer Warriors leaflet now available

April's Prayer Warriors Leaflet is now available. Please pray regularly for our parish.

Join our Pastoral Visiting Team

In supporting Rev Jonny's pastoral ministry, we have a pastoral visiting team who call with a few parishioners each month. If you would like to be part of the pastoral visiting team, please let Rev Jonny know.

Cooked meals for those coming out of hospital

Meal Train is a programme that assists families who have members recently discharged from hospital to help them with cooked meals. You can either buy or prepare a cooked meal and deliver to the family. To make this possible, we need your collaboration in being part of a team. We already have a family that we are helping over the next few weeks, so get in touch soon via the Office or Rev Jonny.

Going deeper

Week of Prayer 13th – 17th April

Prayer is an important part in our faith, helping us to draw closer in dependence of God. In April we will have our Week of Prayer. We will meet each evening, but in addition to this both churches will be open for an hour during the day time to allow people to come into the buildings and pray silently.

Family matters

In his New Year message, Rev Jonny spoke about how 2026 would be a year to go deeper in many ways. One way was in deepening relationships within family. To resource this, we will be hosting a 6 week series of talks by experts on family issues that we all face. God wants to shape our marriages, our children and our relationships. Look out for these events and invite friends along.

Shaping a new generation

Holy Week Youth & Children's Worship

On Monday evening 30th March, we will be holding a time of worship specifically for young people to help them think more about the journey that Jesus made to the cross. Keep this evening free and come along with your children and grandchildren.

Youth & Children's Programme registration

As our youth & children's programme commences, it is essential that parents & guardians consent for their children to attend. Online consent forms can be found at <http://bit.ly/46njRBz>

Annual BB Display

A huge thank you to our BB Captain Ian Heaney and all the leaders who are shaping the lives of boys in our community. The displays in this past week demonstrated how important this ministry is. We would like to pay particular thanks to Glenda James & Rhonda Barkley who are stepping down from their roles after many years of service.

We need new Boys Brigade Leaders

If you would be willing to become a leader within the BB, get in touch with Ian Heaney on 07849 599257.

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

Ladies Night on Friday 24th April

Join us for a relaxing and refreshing Ladies Night on Friday 24th April from 7.30pm to 9.00 pm at Christ Church Hall.

Enjoy a special **Tropic Skincare Evening**, featuring beautiful, natural, and fresh skincare products. There will be a live demonstration along with refreshments for you to enjoy.

Hosted by the Genesis Arts and Crafts Fellowship, the evening is also an opportunity to support our Church, gracious donations towards Church funds will be warmly welcomed.

We would love to see you there!

Ladies' Badminton Group

Ladies, just a kind reminder that the Badminton Group will not be meeting from 31st March to 7th April (inclusive). We will also have a break during the months of July and August, resuming again in September.

Thank you and see you all soon!

New Quarterly Roundup – we need your help

From recent conversations that Rev Jonny has had with people, he recognises that for some families who cannot get to Sunday services, they miss out on the news around our churches. Therefore from April, a Quarterly Summary will be produced which we would like to deliver to those families who want to stay connected. That's 4 publications per year. We will need a group of volunteers who would then be able to deliver them to those homes. Without volunteers we can't make this happen. If you can help, please contact Maria in the Church Office.

Supporting our church - Easy fundraising

If you buy items online, then please consider registering with EasyFundraising in order that our churches receive a small percentage from your purchases. For example, to date we have received £1,200 through this. Tell your friends and family to sign up soon. For more info go to <https://bit.ly/47Un6jH> ⁶

Partnering

HAZAQ Coffee for sale

We sell ethically sourced, freshly roasted, great tasting coffee from both churches on behalf of HAZAQ. Hazaq is an organisation where the profits go directly to support the work of Release International. Each bag of filter coffee costs £7.50, and you can order from Iris Grimason in St John's or Olive Maze in Christ Church.

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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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

