

# The Derriaghy HERALD

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF CHRIST CHURCH AND ST. ANDREW'S

*December 2019 – February 2020*

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## Christmas

AT CHRIST CHURCH  
AND ST. ANDREW'S

### CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICES

Sunday 22nd December

11.00am at Christ Church - 3.30pm at St Andrew's

### THE FIRST COMMUNION OF CHRISTMAS

Monday 24th December 11.30pm at Christ Church



8.30am  
10.00am

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Christ Church Holy Communion  
Christ Church Family Service -  
Bring your Christmas Jumper and Toys

### NEW SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES FROM 1ST JANUARY 2020

#### CHRIST CHURCH, DERRIAGHY

- 9.00am** Holy Communion  
2nd & 5th Sundays only
- 10.30am** Morning Prayer  
Holy Communion on 1st Sunday  
Family Service on 3rd Sunday
- 6.30pm** 1st & 3rd Sundays only  
1st Sunday - Evening Service  
3rd Sunday - Healing Service and  
Holy Communion

#### ST. ANDREW'S, COLIN

- 12 Noon** Morning Prayer  
Holy Communion on 4th Sunday  
Family Service on 1st Sunday

*Sunday Schools at both Churches during main  
Morning Services*

Parish Website: [www.parishofderriaghy.org](http://www.parishofderriaghy.org)



christchurchderriaghy

Registered Charity Number: NIC 101734

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## The Rector Writes ...

# “PEACE ON EARTH AND GOODWILL TO ALL MEN”

It is a bit of a strange phrase to greet the shepherds with on the hillside the night Jesus was born don't you think? The goodwill part I get; it's the action of extending the hand of grace towards humankind on God's behalf. But as to the peace? How can angels say there is peace on earth when clearly, after 2000 years we still have a terrible state of affairs in many countries? I don't know about you, but I would like to have a word with the person who told them to say that and tell him/her they should have thought of something catchier or more realistic.

The word peace in the Greek language the bible writers used is Eirene meaning the sense of bringing things into harmony with each other. Whilst it can be in the context of the ending of war, it can simply mean “keep holding all things together in perfect balance”. It is where we get the Jewish word Shalom from, used as an exhortation to maintain and be blessed by the continuing peace ushered in that night on a hillside.

So how can we feel blessed by and continue in that peace? We tend to look to Easter and invoke the words of Jesus when he said 'It is done' to mean that all things in the universe are brought back to God by Jesus' death. St Paul in retrospect looks back to that moment saying “For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him [Jesus], and through him [Jesus] to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross” (Colossians 1:19-20)

We think of reconciliation on the cross as the act of bringing peace to all humankind. But this is Act II of a two-parter. Part I begins that night on the hillside. God in dwelling in human flesh (see above quote) brings into harmony, ceases any thought of anger towards us by God. This is a universal action that stretches down the ages to the present. Jesus' death is the completion of that act of God in coming to earth as a baby. Humanity couldn't become God; couldn't save itself; was perfectly unable of reconciling itself to God. God dwells with us, 'pitches his tent among us' (a Jewish phrase from the word Shekinah) and in that simple yet profound act

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on his behalf, initiated by God, he holds things in perfect balance, so that no matter what stupid things we do, no matter how often we muck it up or stray from his commandments, we never stray from his love and grace. In becoming human, God brings harmony to the cosmos. Let that be the warmth that stirs your heart this Christmas

I finish this article by extending on behalf of Melanie, Ellie and myself a Happy Christmas, and a PEACEFUL New Year.

Yours in Christ  
Rev Aaron.

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## MONEY MATTERS

### 1. Spire Refurbishment Appeal and Spire Account

It has been 9 months since the SPIRE refurbishment commenced and the project completion date was initially set as 8th November 2019 and recently, due to slippage, revised to 16th November 2019. However, we have expanded the refurbishment project to include essential repairs to the Rose window and the revised completion date is now the 28th February 2020.

When the scaffolding was erected and work commenced on the spire it was discovered that the Rose window, adjacent to the spire, needed urgent attention in the very near future to avoid further serious deterioration. However, our immediate priority was the spire and we asked Alastair Coey Architects to carry out a survey of the Rose window at a suitable time that did not impinge on the ongoing work to the spire.

We have recently received a Condition Report on the Rose window from Alastair Coey Architects which included an inspection report prepared by Artglass Ltd (NI) recommending that remedial work was necessary at an estimated cost of £33,130 + VAT. Although it would be advantageous if this work could be added to the overall project to arrest the deterioration of the Rose window, especially as we have the skill sets on site working on the spire. To do this at a later stage would no doubt cost substantially more under a new contract whilst deterioration rapidly continues. However, the Parish would find it very difficult to raise funds to cover the additional cost of £33.1K and by adding an addendum to the spire project may have other implications with regards funding from the HLF, and /or Architect and Contractor commitments.

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You will also be aware that initially it was planned to remove a substantial part of the spire stone by stone and rebuild. However, only part had to be removed although significant additional pointing and hand work was needed than first envisaged due to the density and hardness of the existing mortar used when first built. We had concerns as to any cost implications resulting from the above new approach to the spire refurbishment and asked Alastair Coey Architects to provide a financial update. This has taken some time by both Coey's and ME Crowe to address, as it was prudent to wait until well into the refurbishment to assess if other issues resulting in cost implication would arise.

I was recently advised that a cost saving of around £30,000 may result in the overall project and a contingency of £25,000 included in ME Crowe tender may also not be required, with a caveat, that no additional works are identified and required prior to completion. I was somewhat surprised but delighted at the possible overall cost saving of £55K which would appear to cover the cost of repairs to the Rose window and other additional contingencies identified during the spire refurbishment. We asked our Architect's to explore with ME Crowe that an addendum be added to the Spire project to include repairs to Rose window and we submitted a request to the HLF for their support and an extension to the HLF Grant Expiry Date.

#### **I AM HAPPY TO REPORT THAT ALL PARTIES HAVE AGREED**

**CONTINUED SUPPORT** - and we advised Alastair Coey, our appointed project architects, to proceed with the repair to the Rose window.

The completion date for the combined refurbishment of the Spire and Rose window, including certification, is the 28th February 2020. The overall project cost will change but should remain within that initially projected, as follows:-

Stage 1 Development cost	£ 48.5K	<i>Completed and all related to date costs paid.</i>
Stage 2 Delivery cost	£485.3K	
<b>Total projected cost</b>	<b>£533.8K</b>	

The following table sets out the monies raised by the Spire Appeal (income) and monies paid out (expenditure) up to 31st October 2019. On behalf of the Select Vestry, I again thank you all for your efforts and continued financial support.

#### **INCOME**

Year	Description	£
2016	Spire Appeal	£47,169
2017	Spire Appeal	£47,248
2017	HLF Part Grant	£16,400
2018	Spire Appeal	£55,576
2018	HLF Part Grant	£13,120
2018	HLF Part Grant	£1,351
2018	Other Grant	£10,700
2018	VAT Recovery	£6,224
2019	Spire Appeal	£24,644
2019	HLF Part Grant	£195,480
2019	VAT Recovery	£19,660
2019	Other Grant	£21,000

**TOTAL** **£458,572**

#### **EXPENDITURE**

Architect £	Contractors £	Others £	Expenditure
£5,544			£5,544
£600	£1,248	£380	£2,228
			-
£37,342	£3,148	£136	£40,626
	£82		£82
	£251,160	£196	£251,356
<b>£43,486</b>	<b>£255,638</b>	<b>£712</b>	<b>£299,836</b>

**Total**

<b>ACCOUNT BALANCE</b>
<b>Income - expenditure £158,736</b>

#### **2. Country Musical Evening 11th September.**

The Country Musical Evening was a great success and very well supported. A BIG Thank You to the Fundraising Committee especially Mary McBride, who arranged the artistes and others who helped out on the evening raising £1,765 for the Parish Building Fund.

#### **3. Christmas Fayre Saturday 23rd November.**

The Fundraising Committee look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas Fayre so come along, bring friends and neighbours and enjoy seasonal refreshments, a chat and the various stalls.

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#### 4. Autumn Quiz

It is with regret that the Fundraising Committee had to cancel the Autumn Quiz and I know many have expressed their disappointment. Very sorry, but recent events in the parish have stretched our resources as a committee and we have few members so come along and join us, all are welcome. Now the good news, we will be planning a spring quiz as usual !!!!!????!!!!

#### 5. Closing date for FWO and Spire Refurbishment Appeal Envelopes 2019 : Sunday 5th January 2020

The closing date for 2019 envelope offerings to appear in the 2019 Financial Account is again earlier than normal so we can implement new accounting arrangements for 2020 to meet the criteria set out by the NI Charity Commission. Any 2019 envelope offerings received after Sunday 5th January 2020 will be add to 2020 figures.

TTF

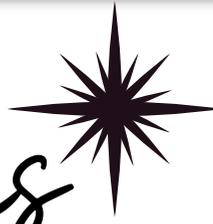
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## MONEY MATTERS

- **Private Holy Communion Services** – it is always a privilege for the Clergy to conduct private Holy Communion services for housebound parishioners who are unable to attend Christmas services. If you would like to receive Holy Communion in your home, please contact the Rector in time for arrangements to be made.
  - As we are having a Service of Nine Lessons & Carols in Christ Church at 11am and in St Andrew's at 3.30pm on **Sunday 22nd December**, there will no evening service at Christ Church on that date.
  - There will also be **no service at St Andrew's on Christmas Day**. St Andrew's parishioners are invited to attend services at Christ Church on Christmas Eve/Christmas Day.
  - **Christingle Services** will take place at St Andrew's on Sunday 5th January at 12 Noon and at Christ Church on Sunday 19th January at 10.30am. As usual, the monies raised through these services will go to help the work of St Columba's Hospital at Hazaribagh in north-eastern India.
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# Christmas



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## HERE AND THERE

- Enclosed with the magazine is an envelope for the **Bishops' Appeal**, which is the Church of Ireland's World Aid and Development Programme. Please place whatever you can in the envelope and return it to church at your earliest convenience. We thank you in advance for your generous support
  - The **Christmas Fair** on Saturday 23rd November, organised by the Fund-Raising Committee, once again proved to be a hugely enjoyable and successful event. It was a real team effort and best thanks go to all who helped or gave donation for the Parish Stall or ballot. To date £1,600 has been for Parish Funds.
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## THE OVER 50'S CLUB

The end of Summer and the beginning of Autumn are usually associated with the completion of natural and manual work before the onset of Winter. For The Over 50s' Club, it was, as for most other organisations, the beginning of a new session which will continue right through to next June.

It was the poet Keats who wrote that autumn was "the season of mists and mellow fruits", so it was appropriate that for our first meeting before the onset of winter we got out of the Parochial Hall and went to Brook Hall Historical Farm on the Ballinderry Road. We learned, not only about the work done by the owner over a number of years in creating a cameo of what a family farm was like in bygone days but we also saw what had been done to restore an ancient church on site which is now used as a location for wedding ceremonies. Here a word of caution may be appropriate. Brides should never leave their wedding cake within reach of a wandering pig which proved to be partial to something more than animal food. Needless to say the day for the bride was saved, and all concerned became good friends and look back on the day with an amazing sense of humour.

Our October meeting was addressed by Dr. Michael McBrien from The Royal Victoria Hospital who spends several weeks each year along with other people from Northern Ireland and other countries as a volunteer doctor on a hospital ship. All doctors, nurses, other staff and crew go to some of the poorest countries in the world to provide, free of charge, proper medical treatment in circumstances where it is almost non-existent. His talk was accompanied by a series of slides showing some of the problems that were dealt with on this fully equipped ship and we were left with a deep sense of thankfulness for what we in this country take for granted.

We were pleased to welcome the new Rector to this meeting on a day when his diary was filled with a range of other commitments.

Looking ahead, we have our usual meeting in November, a break in December to be followed in January by our belated Christmas Lunch, full details of which will be available at the November meeting. In the meantime, a Very Happy Christmas to all our members and friends.

R.S.

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## MOTHERS' UNION



Mothers' Union began the new season on Wednesday 4th September with a service of Holy Communion in Christ Church, and afterwards we held our annual "Bring and Buy" sale in the Church Hall to raise funds for the year ahead. The members were delighted to welcome our new Rector, Rev. Aaron McAlister and his wife, Melanie, to our opening meeting.

In October, the members wrapped shoeboxes in Christmas paper and filled the boxes with small gifts such as hats and gloves, toothpaste and brushes, to be sent to people living in poverty in other parts of the world. Many items that we take for granted are luxuries to people who live with very few personal possessions. 54 boxes were recently delivered to Blythswood Care for distribution before Christmas. Thank you to the parishioners of Christ Church and St. Andrew's and their friends who contributed to this appeal.

Aine Dolan from the Grand Opera House was the guest speaker at our November meeting. Aine had brought along slides showing how the GOH looked when it was first opened in 1895 and the changes that have taken place over the intervening years. How interesting to see the thousands of people queueing to see shows staged by American troops during World War II, and do you remember the days when cars were allowed to park on the road directly in front of GOH?

At present, members are looking forward to the Christmas Outing to Dunmurry Golf Club for dinner, fun and fellowship.

Finally, on behalf of all Mothers' Union members, may I wish all parishioners a Blessed Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

MMcC

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## RAINBOWS

We began our Rainbow year with 8 Rainbows and welcomed 5 new Rainbows, bringing our total number of Rainbows to 13.

We enjoyed playing getting to know-you games and learning about our Rainbow mascots, Olivia and Rainbow Ted.

We are focusing on the Know Myself theme of the new Rainbow programme and the girls will work on the skill builders and Unit Meeting Activities up to Christmas.

We are looking forward to making some Halloween crafts in a few weeks and our Halloween party with the Brownies and Guides.

We would like to welcome Barbara to our Rainbows as a helper. She was a Rainbow leader for 18 years and it's great to have her back and her wealth of knowledge and experience to help us in Rainbows

We would also like to thank the Youth Council for their continued support

**DS & PC**



## BROWNIES

Brownies commenced with 12 girls, 4 of whom flew up to Guides and we had 1 new joining member, bringing our total to 9 Brownies.

We started the year with getting to know-you games and making a Brownie promise coaster. We have started working on the new Brownie programme with the innovate and communicate skill builders. The Brownies also completed 'Future Action Plastic' and made their Pass on Plastic Promise.

As usual, we had a great time at the Hallowe'en party with the Rainbows and Guides. Presently we are planning our Christmas crafts and looking forward to our annual Christmas panto outing.

Wishing everybody a Merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.

**Brownie Leaders.**

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## GUIDES



1st Derriaghy Girl Guides continue to meet each Thursday evening in the Church Hall from 6.15 until 8.15pm. There are currently nine girls in the Guides, with four of these having progressed from the Brownies in September.

Whilst small in numbers at the present time, the girls are fully occupied each week through a variety of activities including crafts, cooking and baking, games and physical activities, trips and outings and, of course a variety of Guiding Badges. The Guides Badge Scheme allows girls to choose from different badges and awards which will help them learn new skills and try new challenges. Some of this on their own, with others being group activities at our regular meetings.

The leaders would encourage any girls between the ages of 10 – 15 who are not already members of Derriaghy Guides to come along and sample what we do at our Thursday meetings. Perhaps parents and friends within the church know girls who might be interested and if this is the case, we hope that they would bring our Girl Guide company to their attention.

For more information please contact Guide Leader, Audrey Marks on 07720600789 or by email: [audreyelizabeth39@btinternet.com](mailto:audreyelizabeth39@btinternet.com)

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## SCOUTS



Scout numbers at present are quite good with 8 Scouts (6 boys & 2 girls), with a good attendance most weeks.

We are still meeting with the Cubs on a Tuesday night but with a few more Cubs due to progress up to the scouts in January we may have to look at meeting on a separate night

The Scouts have been busy doing badge work at present & have just completed their Craft Activity Badge.

They are currently doing their Mechanics Badge, with our ASL Michael Duff putting them through their paces. Michael has brought a 50cc Motorcycle to work on and they have been learning the difference between a 2-stroke engine and a 4-stroke engine. They have also been learning how a gearbox and clutch works, as well as tyre pressures and treads, and routine maintenance required to keep a car/motorbike road worthy

We recently took part in the district dodgeball competition finishing 4th and qualifying for the County Competition along with 1st Lambeg, 1st Hilden and 1st Ballymacash.

The County Competition took place last Thursday 21st November at Wallace High School, Lisburn but unfortunately, we didn't win a game! We were consistent though - 4 games - 4 defeats - we are the Man Utd of dodgeball!

Together with the Cubs we are doing the shoebox challenge for the homeless and this will be part of their Community Challenge Badge.

We are also going with the Cubs on their Christmas treat to the Inflatable Assault Course at the Lisburn Leisureplex swimming pool in early December (Date - TBC) before we break for Christmas.

Anyone between the ages of 11 & 14 years wishing to have fun, make new friends and learn new skills is welcome to come along (Contact - John Mob: 07752 159829).

From Craig, Michael & I, we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

John Hilland (Scout Leader - 1st Derriaghy)

Mob: 07752 159829

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Squirrels have started back with healthy numbers of 14 and 2 new assistant leaders, so on behalf of the unit we would like to welcome Alesha Hilland and Carla Budd.

Beavers have 7 Beavers, having sent 4 up to the Cubs. The Cubs are a healthy 15 and have also passed a couple into the Scout troop.

It's the same old faces leader wise, but it's great that everyone has committed for another years scouting.

At this stage we have all started our staged activity badges and our looking forward to Halloween etc.

### TIPPERARY WOOD CAMP

Camp this year was a roaring success. We had over 20 Cubs and Scouts under canvas, with the

Beavers and Squirrels calling down on Saturday for a great afternoon's fun. Camp theme was a 'back to basics' based programme, with pizzas made in a home-made oven and pioneering skills resulting in a death-defying monkey bridge through the trees.

River walks/campfires/sing songs/toasted marshmallows and wide games resulting in very tired but happy scouters (both young and old) being sent home.

As usual great thanks required for all the leaders, but special mention must go to Mervyn Fleming, who's experience is like gold dust and enthusiasm undiminished.

We look forward to the continued support of the Youth Council over the coming year and would like to thank you in advance for all you do.

**Gordon Burns**

## CHRIST CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY
1st —	5th Mrs T Hull	2nd Mrs C Ross
8th Mrs L Gault	12th —	9th Mrs M McCullough
15th Mr J Hilland	19th Mrs P Jarvis	16th Mrs H Ervine
22nd Miss M Benson	26th —	23rd Mrs D Fell
29th —		

*March: 1st —; 8th Mrs E Robinson; 15th —; 22nd Mrs J Belshaw; 29th —  
Anyone wishing to join the rota, please contact June Belshaw on 9062 3391*

## SAFEGUARDING TRUST

The Clergy, Select Vestry and Parish Leaders are committed to upholding good practice in the Parish's ministry with children and young people. Should you have cause for concern, or suspicions regarding child welfare in the parish, please contact as member of the Parish Panel;

**Rev Aaron McAlister** 20 Derriaghy Road, Lisburn, BT28 3SH Tel: 028 9061 0859  
**Mrs Trudy Hull** 17 Milltown Park, Lisburn BT28 3TH. Tel: 028 9062 1674  
**Mr Robert Stinson** 12 Laganvale, Lisburn BT28 2XA. Tel: 028 9262 1247

## LAST DATES

### MARCH ISSUE OF MAGAZINE

Any articles for publication in the March issue of The Derriaghy Herald should be handed to or emailed to the Rector by Sunday 9th February.

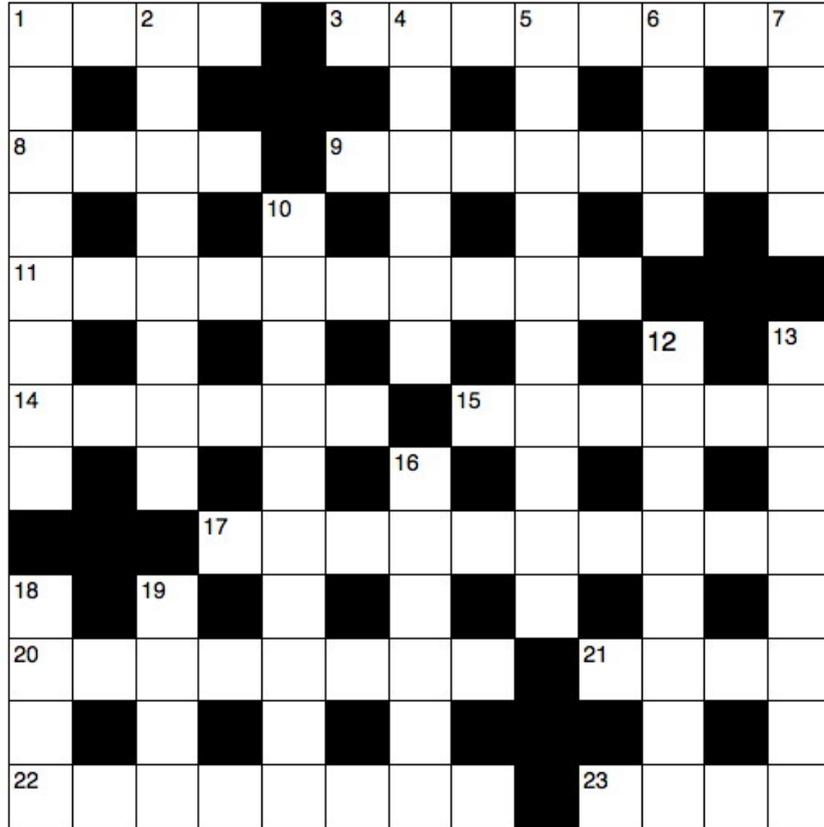
*Many thanks.*

## LOST

Just as the minister began his Christmas Eve service, the electricity in the church failed. The wardens and he found some candles and placed them around the sanctuary. Then he re-entered the pulpit, shuffled his notes, and muttered, "Now, where was I?"

A hopeful voice called out, "*Right near the end!*"

# CROSSWORD



## Across

- 1 'The blind receive sight, the — walk' (Luke 7:22) (4)
- 3 Got (Philippians 3:12) (8)
- 8 Leave out (Jeremiah 26:2) (4)
- 9 Castigated for using dishonest scales (Hosea 12:7) (8)
- 11 Weighty (1 John 5:3) (10)

- 14 'Now the serpent was more — than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made' (Genesis 3:1) (6)
- 15 'Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot — God' (Romans 8:8) (6)
- 17 Because Israel lacked one of these, tools had to be sharpened by the Philistines (1 Samuel 13:19) (10)
- 20 In his vision of the two eagles and the vine, this is how Ezekiel described the latter (Ezekiel 17:8) (8)
- 21 Rite (anag.) (4)
- 22 Nine gigs (anag.) (8)
- 23 'The eye cannot say to the — , "I don't need you"' (1 Corinthians 12:21) (4)

## Down

- 1 'Flee for your lives! Don't — — , and don't stop anywhere in the plain!' (Genesis 19:17) (4,4)
- 2 Principal thoroughfare (Numbers 20:19) (4,4)
- 4 'The tax collector... beat his — and said, "God have mercy on me, a sinner"' (Luke 18:13) (6)
- 5 'The zeal of the Lord Almighty will — this' (2 Kings 19:31) (10)
- 6 'The day of the Lord is — for all nations' (Obadiah 15) (4)
- 7 Specified day (Acts 21:26) (4)
- 10 Deadly epidemic (Deuteronomy 32:24) (10)
- 12 Roman Catholic church which has special ceremonial rights (8)
- 13 Tied up (2 Kings 7:10) (8)
- 16 In his speech to the Sanhedrin, Stephen described Moses as 'powerful in speech and —' (Acts 7:22) (6)
- 18 'Although he did not remove the high places, — heart was fully committed to the Lord all his life' (1 Kings 15:14) (4)
- 19 Tribe (Deuteronomy 29:18) (4)

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# GRAVEYARD RAMBLINGS

At a Vestry meeting just before he retired in 1980, Dean Barr was reminiscing about his time as a Clergyman. He was asked if he would still go into the Ministry after all his experiences. He said he would, but he "would look for a Church without a graveyard".

After working with Jim Belshaw for a number of years as we remapped the oldest section of the graveyard and completed the reregistration, I now know what he meant. The oldest section, the area running from the front gate up to and completely round the Church to the water tap including the right hand side of the main driveway, could be described as a shambles.

We have 1132 grave plots in the old section and 721 in the 1939 and 1961 extensions. With the registration complete, Jim and I have reclaimed approximately 200 graves for reallocation by the Parish. This is very significant for the Parish as a further extension to the graveyard would entail having an expensive ecological survey carried out with no guarantee that planning permission would be granted at the end. Parishioners will see lots of white sticks about the graveyard and these plots are available for re-use. I did mention a number of years ago that some of these plots may have been used before 1899, but, as there is no headstone and all Parish records before 1899 were lost in

the great fire of Dublin in 1922, we have no means of telling.

Some of the problems with the graveyard were identified on maps with notes suggesting areas were over allocated with several people given burial rights for the same grave. Another area has been marked as "There is overcrowding in this area so hopefully burial rights will not be claimed at the next registration". One map is marked "Exact location of some graves is indefinite, i.e. the McComb grave may be elsewhere". Another note stated that Miss Johnston from Ballymacash is buried in the verge along the main driveway. Numbering was also peculiar. Numbers finished at 611 but four

more grave plots were added and numbered 786, 787 and 788 with 775 thrown in for good measure. No sense at all.

Some interesting notes include the grave of Nathaniel Kronhiem who was born in Prussian Silesia, an Israelite converted to the Faith of the Gospel to promote Christianity among the Jews. The Hebrew Inscription on the face of the column translates "Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem". Jim and I hope to have repairs carried out to the marble inlay which sadly is showing the age of time. He is buried at the top of the steps towards the small gate.

A plot was allocated in early 1900 for "The Poor of the Parish". It has never been used.

Up in the higher ground along the driveway is a small headstone to Joshua Murray, who was affectionately known as the "Ballymacash Beggar". He apparently was fed by locals and slept in sheds and outbuildings and on his death locals paid for his funeral and put up a small memorial. Joshua died in September 1894.

Senior Clergy interred include our own Dean Barr, who was Dean of Connor, John Armstrong, the Rector of Ballymoney and Chancellor of Connor and Thomas Brown the Archdeacon of Down.

Thomas Niedermayer, the German industrialist who was head of Grundig is buried here as well. Mr. Niedermayer

was abducted and subsequently murdered by the I.R.A. When his body was found it was interred in 1980. Sadly this murder had a devastating effect on his family with various members taking their own lives in later years.

James Currie, who was Head Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, was buried in 1937 and quite a few members of the Armed Forces are buried or their names are remembered on headstones. These include men who lost their lives in France during the 1st World War and others lost in the North Atlantic in the 1940's.

Two famous Authors have family graves with Iris Murdoch's family interred in the

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top corner above the driveway and fairly close by is the family of Sam McBratney. If you don't know Sam, I am sure many of you have read his wonderful book "Guess How Much I Love You".

Anne Primrose Jury, whose paintings are much sought after, was interred in 1995. Latterly she had been living in Dunfanaghy in Co. Donegal.

On entering the graveyard through the gate from the car park at the Parochial Hall, if you look to your right you will see a

flat marble stone with the inscription Suffer The Little Children to Come Unto Me". This is in memory of those still-born children who have been interred here over the years. Some years back a Memorial stone was put on the area with the name Baby Morrison 15-7-1977 on it and quite often we see two white roses left as well. Sadly no records exist in Parish Registers with any information about children who have been interred here.

The Graveyard is full of tragedies. Complete families wiped out

early in 1900 by illness and epidemic. On the other hand many people have lived well into their nineties and some even saw in the century.

A fascinating place and if you have time to spend, I am sure you will find it enthralling and worthwhile to walk round reading the headstones that are still legible.

**Gerry Fell**

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## 'THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGIN' – BOB DYLAN

Sung canticles and psalms were invented to enable the common person to learn scriptures. Years ago there was possibly only one Bible per church and the minister was maybe the only person who could read. People sang the psalms to help them remember them until such time as they could learn to read. As often happens with church though, we are loath to give something up that becomes very meaningful to us. And so some churches still recite the sung psalms and canticles. If a Rector has to make changes, hopefully they are made with the people in mind not because it suits the Rector. Those of the parish that attend the services now know I have changed the structure of the services. I am a traditionalist at heart, and I love singing canticles and psalms. But I have to give up the singing of such wonders in order that those who do not connect with these pieces of music can once again engage with the canticles and psalms.

To move us forward and hopefully bring new life and new people into the church I made the decision to restructure. I will not abandon the canticles. But I will ... 'mix it up'. Therefore we now sing one psalm or canticle and say the other one or two. We need to give these ancient words back to people and leave a legacy that our grandchildren's grandchildren will appreciate. And I have to say, with everything that I have thrown at you, I am humbled and very proud of the Sunday morning gathering that have embraced the different. You have made my job very easy. Which brings me to my next point. I have thought long and hard about the time structures of the services. It was brought to my attention at the first vestry meeting I chaired. And those of you who attended my institution will remember the Archdeacon of Connors' remarks that we need to change the times. 'Why?' I hear you say, 'We've managed up to now'.

Our Diocese is under constraints as is the Church of Ireland north and south. And the short of it is, we have to make effective long-term changes in order to survive. You as a parish have been very fortunate to have had a curate or retired minister to help you in one church when the Rector was in the other taking the morning service. But a curate is a luxury. Stipendiary (paid) curates are ordained to serve in one church for a period of three years. A Non-Stipendiary Minister or NSM is vastly more valuable to the

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Diocese because they can be moved to a parish at the Bishop's request to help out in vacancies or other times. But what happens when they go? The minister is then unable to get to two churches.

Imagine therefore, the Rector being able to be at both morning services and staying for a while with each congregation and talk over a coffee about pastoral issues that might have been raised during the service. Imagine having the best of that Rector by him being with you every week instead of twice a month. I have only seen each church a handful of times. I feel that is unfair to you.

Looking ahead long-term, change is not a whim, it is a necessity, because unfortunately the truth is that you may never get another curate. The four curates in Connor are part time and there is no certainty that any curates will come to Connor next year. And the NSM vocation doesn't exist anymore as it is being phased out. Existing NSM's are the last.

So what am I saying? Simply this: that beginning the 1st of January 2020, we need to change the times of both churches. One church will not be made the lesser of the other. So both are changing. I realise this will upset you, and I apologise for that. The Rector's time has always been split between two churches. That doesn't have to be the case any more. After consulting the Select Vestry who made it clear that change will upset the congregations, it was also recognised there is a need for this.

*Therefore, I propose the following:*

- The 9.15 Holy Communion 1 on the second and fifth Sunday will only move forward 15 minutes to start at 9.00.
- A morning service will begin in Christ Church 30 minutes earlier at 10.30 and the service in St Andrews will move back to 12 noon.
- The evening service will stay but will be reduced to two Sundays per month; the first Sunday which will be either Evening Prayer 1 or Compline or Late Evening Office, and the third Sunday will be a Service of Healing and Holy Communion 2. Both services will be at 6.30pm.

With the reduction of services I can develop ministry around the remaining services, for instance youth ministry. It is with the burden of leadership I have to make these changes, but I believe once the shock of these new times are behind us, we will benefit from it as a whole. Please feel free to come and speak to me directly if you have concerns.

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## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

### HOLY BAPTISM

*"Unless a person is born of water and the Holy Spirit, they cannot see the kingdom of God" – John 3:3*

**3rd November**

**Oscar Robert Patrick Mulcahy**

### CHRISTIAN BURIAL

*"I am the resurrection and the life" – John 11:25*

**9th September**

**Marion Johnston**

**9th October**

**Wesley Waterworth**

**24th October**

**Kathleen Elizabeth Graham**

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## CROSSWORD ANSWERS

### ACROSS:

1, Lame. 3, Obtained. 8, Omit. 9, Merchant. 11, Burdensome. 14, Crafty. 15, Please. 17, Blacksmith. 20, Splendid. 21, Tier. 22, Singeing. 23, Hand.

### DOWN:

1, Look back. 2, Main road. 4, Breast. 5, Accomplish. 6, Near. 7, Date. 10, Pestilence. 12, Basilica. 13, Tethered. 16, Action. 18, Asa's. 19, Clan.

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# SERVICES AND READERS AT CHRIST CHURCH (11.00AM)

*The readings for any given Sunday will be emailed/delivered to the scheduled reader no later than the previous Friday*

December	V	1st	1st Sunday of Advent	HC	Mr J McCullough
	V	8th	2nd Sunday of Advent	MP	Mrs E Fell
	V	15th	3rd Sunday of Advent	FS	—
	V	22nd	4th Sunday of Advent	Carols	—
	W	29th	1st Sunday of Christmas	MP	Mr C Ross
January	W	5th	2nd Sunday of Christmas	HC	Mrs H McAdam
	W	12th	1st Sunday after the Epiphany	MP	Mrs M McCullough
	W	19th	2nd Sunday after the Epiphany	FS	—
	G	26th	3rd Sunday after the Epiphany	MP	Mr L Jarvis
February	W	2nd	Presentation of Christ in the Temple	HC	Mrs J Nimmon
	G	9th	3rd Sunday before Lent	MP	Mrs P Fleming
	G	16th	2nd Sunday before Lent	FS	—
	G	23rd	The Sunday before Lent	MP	Mrs I Graham
March	V	1st	1st Sunday in Lent	HC	Mr C Prentice
	V	8th	2nd Sunday in Len	MP	Mr J Boyd
	V	15th	3rd Sunday in Lent	FS	—
	V	22nd	4th Sunday in Lent	MP	Mrs H Neagle
	V	29th	5th Sunday in Lent	MP	Mrs M Tinto

HC = Holy Communion; MP = Morning Prayer; FS = Family Service

OT = Old Testament Reading; NT = New Testament; E = Epistle; G = Gospel reading;

Liturgical Colours: G = Green; R = Red; V = Violet; W = White