

# December 2024 & January 2025 **CONTACT**



"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace". Isaiah 9:6

**"CONNECTING WITH THE LORD,  
ONE ANOTHER AND THE COMMUNITY"**

Christ Church Website Address: [www.christchurchlisburn.co.uk](http://www.christchurchlisburn.co.uk)

Email: [christchurchparishlisburn@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchparishlisburn@gmail.com)

## **Worship for December 2024**

### **Sunday 1st December – Advent Sunday**

8.30 am Holy Communion – 1 Thess 2: 1-16

11.30 am Morning Worship – ‘Entrusted with Gospel’ [1 Thess 2: 1-16]

4.00 pm Messy Church in the Hall

### **Sunday 8th December – Advent 2**

11.30 am Morning Worship – 1 Thess 4: 13- 5:11 – ‘Being Ready’

6.30 pm Healing Service with prayer and the laying on of hands

### **Sunday 15th December – Advent 3**

11.30 am Morning Worship – 1 Thess 5: 12-28 – ‘Grace in a community’

### **Sunday 22nd December – Advent 4**

11.30 am Nativity with our children and young people

6.30 pm Carol Service with the parish choir – Preacher: Bishop Fanta Clarke (Refreshments in the hall after the service)

### **Tuesday 24th December – Christmas Eve**

11.15 pm Christmas Eve Communion

### **Wednesday 25th December – Christmas Day**

8.30 am Holy Communion

10.30 am All Age Worship for Christmas Day

### **Sunday 29th December – Christmas 1**

11.30 am Morning Worship and Carols

### **Tuesday 31st December – New Year’s Eve**

6.30 pm Watchnight Service

## **Worship for January 2025**

### **Sunday 5th January – Christmas 2**

8.30 am Holy Communion

11.30 am Morning Worship

### **Sunday 12th January – Epiphany 1**

11.30 am Morning Worship

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

### **Sunday 19th January – Epiphany 2**

10.30 am Morning Worship

Recognising the 20th anniversary of Institution of Archdeacon Paul Dundas

Preacher – Rev Peter Jones

Refreshments in the hall after the service.

### **Sunday 26th January – Epiphany 3**

11.30 am Family Communion

## **Rector's Corner**



### **Harvest Thanksgiving**

Our Harvest season of services and events was slightly longer this year but complemented what Gareth had been sharing on ‘stewardship’ over a number of weeks. Gareth organised a CAP money course over 2 Tuesdays which Alan Crawford facilitated and I am encouraged by the small group of people who took time to explore these issues but support the important matter of stewarding our ‘money’. I hear so much about the challenges of the ‘cost of living’ and I would think we could repeat the course next year to help people in these matters.

Gareth did also mention about a small group of people to explore ‘creation care’ in our context. Please do speak to us on this matter. I do love the wonder of a church surrounded by trees and the blanket of leaves in autumn. Thank you to all who decorated our church so beautifully. I am also conscious of people’s generosity to the Harvest Mission Appeal which is around £4,800.00 and that will make a huge difference locally and globally.

### **Mental Health First Aid Course**

We have begun this 4 week course with Susan and Jackie from Links Counselling with 18 people attending. The funding from MindMatters allows us to address the crucial area of mental ill-health and create ways to support one another further in the life of the parish. More details of the sessions to follow next time.

### **Remembrance Sunday**

I am grateful to all who helped facilitate the 2 services particularly the clergy, our organist Ross, choir, men’s choir, welcome teams and all on AV. It was encouraging to live-stream both services. Above all, on such a day to speak words of hope, peace and reconciliation to all gathered including members of the Royal British Legion, civic leaders, cadets and parishioners. The sun even made an appearance to allow a drier parade.

### **Archbishop of Canterbury**

Archbishop Justin Welby resigned from his role on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November after the damning Makin report into the abuse by John Smyth and the church’s silence about these abuses and the care for his victims. We pray for all who have been traumatised by abuse by clergy or lay people in the church.

## **Dementia Care**

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November, we facilitated a period in our Tuesday Coffee Morning to hear the story of Allison Batchelor who is living with dementia. She shared her story, its challenges and joys. Our own Maureen Doran shared about Lisburn Community Dementia Care and its work, support and outreach when they meet once a month in our hall. We valued their inputs and sharing of stories and information. In particular hearing about '**The HERBERT PROTOCOL**', which helps to trace missing people with dementia. The form can be downloaded from the PSNI website.

In the same week, the Acorn Club for our seniors welcomed Michael Cochrane to speak on his role in working for Prison Fellowship and this vital ministry in our prisons with a team of staff and volunteers across 3 prisons and as they work in the community. The Mothers' Union welcomed Val Thom who works for Church Army in the Zacchaeus Project in Armagh Diocese with a focus on outreach to bands and their community. She shared the story of their beginnings and outreach with the bands forum and at parades. We can pray for people like Michael and Val and their roles in reaching out with the love of Christ in two very different environments.

## **Advent**

We live in a world where Christmas has been in our face from September and yet many have fatigue by the time of the 25<sup>th</sup> of December! The 12 days of Christmas only begin on Christmas Day. We do need to plan and budget well in these days but also take time to enjoy this season in its fulness. We are deeply challenged to focus on the love of God in the gift of Jesus as the babe of Bethlehem, the Saviour of the world. When we watch advertisements, we are encouraged to spend and indulge ourselves.

Advent is the beginning of the church's year and is a time of preparation for the 'coming of the Saviour' and his return. We will use the Advent Wreath to focus on Christ's coming at our services from the 1<sup>st</sup> December.

We have our monthly Messy Church in the hall at 4.00 pm and it always is an informal gathering for children, parents and grandparents with plenty of crafts, food and worship. Many children love an Advent calendar, but I wonder which do you choose? Have you walked into the Faith Mission bookshop to look at one which looks forward to Jesus' coming? Why not order 'God's Big Promises Advent Calendar' by Carl Laferton from the Good Book Company? It includes family devotions as well.



Do use the daily readings to draw close to the story of Christ's coming but also preparing ourselves for his second coming as judge. Take time to find that quiet place to ponder the wonder of the plan of salvation for the world. There are a couple of books to recommend for the Advent season but you can sign up to devotionals through organisations such as Tear Fund by going to the website and clicking on the link for 'A Living Hope': *'The One True Story'* or *'The One True Light'*, by Tim Chester [The Good Book Company] *'Unexpected Jesus'* by Anna Robbins and *'A Strange Christmas'* by Krish Kandiah [Cover to Cover series available in Faith Mission Bookshop] *'The Adventure of Christmas'* by Ed Drew, a book for all the family, again from the Good Book Company.

We will host the Lisburn & Castlereagh PSNI Community Carol Service on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00 am in the church with local schools singing. There will be light refreshments in the hall after the service. Do invite friends to this Carol Service and to our worship at Christmas.

We do think of others at this time of year and we will donate gifts to Lisburn Foodbank [selection boxes, chocolate yule logs or mini chocolate rolls] and the Salvation Army [gifts for all the family, vouchers or cash] on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

The Christmas bauble scheme this year will be for the Leprosy Mission NI. See the notice in this magazine for information.

## **Christmas**

The nativity is on Sunday 22nd December at 11.30 am with our KLIC and JAM groups taking part. We have our parish Carol Service with our choir at 6.30 pm and this is followed by refreshments in the hall provided by the GFS. It is a joy to have **Bishop Fanta Clarke** speak at our Carol Service on the story of Christmas. Do invite friends and family to the services over Christmas. I am aware that people travel to be with family. Seek out a local church and worship with them.

We gather on Christmas Eve at 11.15 pm for our Communion Service and then on Christmas Day we have an early Communion service at 8.30 am followed by an all-age family service at 10.30 am. Our children and young people can bring some of their Christmas gifts to this service.

Our Watchnight Service at 6.30 pm on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> December will be followed by a cuppa in the church.

As we journey this year through Advent to Christmas, we pray for light into the darkness in places such as Ukraine, Sudan, Israel/Gaza/Lebanon.

We pray for the persecuted church where it may be costly to celebrate the coming of Jesus in a public way.

Around 2000 years ago, Jesus was born in Bethlehem, bringing light into the darkness of the world then. Not only do we need light, love and peace but salvation. Mankind needs salvation. We are imploding as a world but yet we often think we can shape our own destiny without any reference to Jesus. I pray we would take time to draw near to the One who was born in Bethlehem to save us from our sins, to draw us back to the Father, to bring us peace and to walk in the ways of the Father and worship Him.

***“Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.” [Luke 2: 13,14]***

Looking ahead into 2025, there will be a very special weekend, ‘**Deep and Wide**’ which reflects the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my institution as Rector of this parish which is Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January. We would ask that parishioners put the dates of the 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> January in your diary as we have a Barn Dance on the Friday night at 7.30 pm. On Saturday we have a programme of teaching and fellowship for all ages from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm. We are delighted that the Rev Peter Jones who is rector of Mossley parish will share on Saturday and then on Sunday at the service at **10.30 am** as we will have time for fellowship and food after this service. We also will have Victoria Jackson and Play it by Ear helping shape the activities on the Saturday. This is a weekend to give thanks for the last 20 years but also to shape our witness and ministry as a parish in the coming years. I do hope you will see this an opportunity for you to grow in your relationship with the Lord and one another.

Blessings in the name of the One who came as Saviour of the World.

*Paul*

## **Church Family Matters**

### **Baptisms**

29 Sept Michael William Kernohan  
03 Nov Gabriella Summer Flo Dorman

### **Bereavements in the Parish**

Lillian Spiers

SAVE THE DATE

17-19

JANUARY  
2025



# CHRIST CHURCH PARISH WEEKEND

*at home*

**FRIDAY**  
7PM  
CÈILIDH  
CELEBRATION

**SATURDAY**  
11AM - 5PM  
TEACHING AND  
FELLOWSHIP

**SUNDAY**  
10:30AM  
ALL AGE  
WORSHIP

HONOURING OUR PAST, SHAPING OUR FUTURE  
JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE RICH HISTORY OF OUR  
CHURCH AND CRAFT A VISION TO GUIDE US FORWARD

**Connecting with the Lord, one another and the community**

## The Curate Writes



In our recent sermon series, we explored the concept of stewardship, a call to manage all that God has entrusted to us with care and intention. Stewardship isn't just about financial giving, though that's an important part; it encompasses how we interact with the world, our bodies, our resources, and each other.

The series began with a focus on **environmental stewardship**. We were reminded that the earth is God's creation, entrusted to us not only for our benefit but as something we're responsible to care for and preserve for future generations. By practicing sustainability in our daily lives, we honour this responsibility. In particular we focused on the creation narrative and the idea that in the dominion that God has given to us over the world we have a responsibility to care for all that has been created.

In this series we also touched on the theme of our **personal stewardship**, particularly concerning substances like alcohol. This involves being mindful of how our choices affect our health, mind, and spirit, as well as the well-being of those around us. Stewardship, in this context, is about respecting the body and mind that God has given us and asking ourselves what is my motivation if/when we reach for such substances. Our motivation in all we consume should be honouring God and seeking to be more like him.

A key topic in the series was our **stewardship of relationships**. We are called to care for one another, supporting each other's needs and nurturing a sense of community. This includes being there for friends and family, and extending compassion and service to those beyond our immediate circles. We are called to love one another, regardless if we like each other or not. Living alongside others can often lead to friendship or to conflict (or in some cases, even both). Christ called us to love everyone with the same love that he has shown us.

Of course, in these series we also took the time to dive into **financial stewardship**, which holds a special emphasis in scripture. Our financial resources are gifts from God, and using them wisely is an act of faith. This doesn't just mean giving generously but also managing our resources responsibly, so we're able to contribute to God's work on earth in a meaningful way. Our CAP money course was there to help equip all to be able to manage our finances in difficult times for everyone. We too in the

church are seeing costs rise and are seeking to always find new ways to ensure we continue to meet the needs of others. To see the hungry fed. The naked clothed. The weak protected.

The series challenged us to see stewardship not as a duty, but as an invitation to live intentionally, honouring God in every aspect of our lives by how we manage and care for all we've been given. At the centre of it all the most important factor is our heart. We should never serve just from a sense of duty or subjection, but rather to see our service and stewardship as a way to live for God and honour him with all that he has entrusted us with.

*Gareth*



## **Decorating the Church for Christmas**

will take place on  
Friday, 13th December at 9.30 am

*All help will be greatly appreciated.*  
**Please come along and help decorate Christ Church for Christmas this year.**



## Lisburn Police Community Carol Service

Monday, 9th December  
at 11.00 am in Christ Church

*All parishioners welcome to this Service*

Refreshments will be served in the Hall  
afterwards

## Sunday School Nativity

Sunday, 22nd December  
at 11.30am

Young people's participation in  
nativity play, readings, music and  
song



## Christmas Carol Service

Sunday, 22nd December at 6.30pm

*Carols and Special Anthems  
with  
The Parish Choir, Men's Choir  
and Bishop Fanta Clarke  
speaking*

*Come and join the praise*

Refreshments and  
Mince Pies  
afterwards



## Christmas Day (25th December)

**8.30 am**

Christmas Communion with Hymns

**10.30 am**

All Family Worship for Christmas Day  
Taking Part: Praise Group

*Children can bring a toy along to this Service*



## Lisburn Foodbank

As the build up to Christmas begins, the Lisburn Foodbank will be putting together food parcels which will be filled with standard food items. They will also be doing Christmas bags filled with luxury Christmas treat items to bless those who are struggling financially this winter. These Christmas bags will be handed out along with food parcels.

**The Christmas Collection for Lisburn Foodbank will take place  
on  
Sunday, 1st December**

Please see below the list of items, if you would like to give, which have been allocated to Christ Church.

### Selection Boxes



**Chocolate Yule Logs  
or Mini Chocolate  
Rolls** (expiry date no sooner  
than 23rd December)



### Gifts for Salvation Army (adults and children)

will be received  
on  
**Sunday, 1st December**

Salvation Army are also accepting vouchers (Tesco, Sainsburys, Asda etc) or cash and they can purchase items on your behalf.

*Time restraints and quarantine procedures have to be adhered to in the Salvation Army depot and so the timescale for receiving and distributing gifts is now much earlier.*







## **Christ Church Christmas Tree Bauble Appeal for the Leprosy Mission**

Hi folks

Yes, it's that time of year again and we are, of course, running our Christmas Bauble Appeal.

This year we have changed who the money is going to as Fields of Life would like the School to be independent and are monitoring the situation.

The Uganda team have decided another very worthwhile cause is the Leprosy Mission.

So, from early December you can:-

- ◆ Post your short message in the post box in the church porch
- ◆ Contact me on 07753825210 (Janice).
- ◆ See Iris in the Parish Office

All messages should be in an envelope clearly marked with your name, telephone number and a short message.

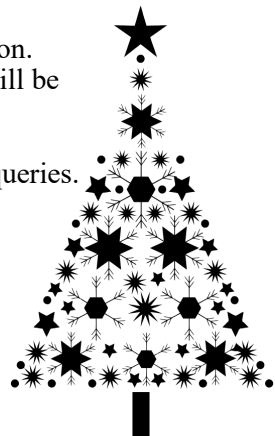
We are really grateful to all who donate every year and especially for those who put a message up in memory of a loved one so a special big **THANK YOU** to you and to our church family for your continued support.

The cost is £5 per message and £10 per organisation.  
A bow will be placed on the tree and a message will be displayed on the church visuals.

I can be contacted at the above number with any queries.

Many thanks

On behalf of the Uganda team  
*Janice x*





# Old Manor House Christmas Carol Service

Monday, 16th  
December  
at 8.00 pm

Taking Part::  
**Christ Church  
Men's Choir**



## Marie Curie Coffee Morning

Tuesday, 3rd December  
from  
10 am - 12 noon  
in the  
main Church Hall



*Everyone  
welcome*



## Christian Aid - Charity Gifts

**Give a gift with real meaning this Christmas**

Every gift you buy supports Christian Aid's work and helps transform lives around the world.

Shop now at [caid.org.uk/gifts](http://caid.org.uk/gifts)

Gifts include:

Pair of chickens - £10

Train a tailor - £45

Olive tree sampling - £20

Send a child to school - £25



## **Prayer Points for December and January**

- ◆ For the recent series on ‘Stewardship’ by Gareth, the CAP money course and parishioners’ generosity to the Harvest Mission Appeal.
- ◆ Recent speakers to parish groups including Michael Cochrane [Prison Fellowship NI], Val Thom [Zacchaeus Project in Armagh Diocese], Allison Batchelor sharing about living with dementia and Maureen Doran from Lisburn Community Dementia Care.
- ◆ Those attending the Mental Health course delivered by Links Counselling.
- ◆ For our worship during Advent and Christmas as we draw near again to the wonderful story of the birth of Jesus as Saviour of the world.
- ◆ The parish weekend from 17-19 January called ‘Deep and Wide’ with Rev Peter Jones sharing and all activities that will bring us together.
- ◆ For all leaders in our parish organisations in shaping their programmes and ministry.
- ◆ For the work of the Select Vestry and our treasurers, George and Sheena Grattan and Trevor Annett as they get to know their roles and work with the Vestry in our ministry and mission.
- ◆ The gift of technology to livestream our services on a Sunday. For all who lead worship each Sunday particularly members of the choir and praise group under the leadership of Ross. The work of the AV team.
- ◆ For all who have the gift of welcome and hospitality.
- ◆ School assemblies in Central and Old Warren PS and for Gareth as he teaches 2 classes on a Tuesday in Lisnagarvey HS.
- ◆ For our pastoral care to those who have had a bereavement, who are in hospital, undergoing treatment, waiting on an appointment, had a wedding or baptism. For the ministry of hospital chaplains. For our engagement with parishioners in nursing and residential care through our pastoral visitors and working with Eric Crangle and friends as they bring a ministry of music.
- ◆ Giving thanks for all those who have been present at worship but who have been experiencing personal loss and challenging circumstances in recent months.
- ◆ Thankfulness for the NHS, its staff in hospitals, the community and care homes. For all who sustain our community at this time

*(Prayer Points continued from previous page)*

including our farmers, those in education, our emergency services, shop owners, utility suppliers and the church.

- ◆ For peace in a troubled world especially in Ukraine, Gaza/Israel/Lebanon and Sudan.
- ◆ For the staff of Fields of Life in Lisburn and Kampala and praying for Bridget and Rachel in their roles in schools and the community. The great news that numbers have increased to over 250 children attending St Apollo. We have heard that the painting of the school and staff accommodation has been completed and that the mobile money project will start again at the school this time.
- ◆ For the work of Open Doors in supporting Christians where they are persecuted especially in Afghanistan, Myanmar and Nigeria at this time.
- ◆ For Bishop Wilson in his leadership in Luwero Diocese and as we support 2 ordinands, Erifazi Kyeyune and Boazi Mukalazi who are training for ministry in the Church of Uganda.
- ◆ For Bishop Aime Joseph and Mama Benigne from Gitega Diocese and Bishop Seth from Matana, Burundi.
- ◆ For Bishop George in his leadership in the Diocese and especially with clergy meetings on growing healthy churches.
- ◆ For all who serve in Stormont and the work of the Executive as they build a community of hope and respect amidst the challenges of recent racist attacks and providing health care and education for all.
- ◆ For Sir Keir Starmer as Prime Minister and for the new government in building a society for the common good.
- ◆ The leadership of Jon Boucher as the Chief Constable of the PSNI and all officers recently injured.

## **Bible Verse of the month**



“When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.”

*Matthew 2: 10-12*



## Journey to the Manger

### Luke Chapter 2 : 4 - 7

“And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being

great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room in the inn.”

It really must have been so terribly difficult for a heavily pregnant Mary and Joseph as they journeyed towards Bethlehem. They were entering a very difficult situation as they pleaded for somewhere to stay. I am sure that you can picture the scene of desperation as Joseph begs a reluctant innkeeper for any place at all for Mary to deliver this special child. The innkeeper finally relents and leads them to a tumbledown stable.

As we journey through this Advent period, the lack of room for Jesus in peoples hearts is still very evident, and we run the risk of not having enough room in our “Personal Inn” to receive Jesus this Christmas.

As Christians, we celebrate the fact that The True Son Of God was about to be born. The Incarnation had begun, God is with us, A King is born, No robes, No Palace. A Son is born in the village of Bethlehem. All of those who had witnessed this wonderful event, The Shepherd, The Wise Men, none of them had doubted for one moment what they had just witnessed. The Shepherds had abandoned their flocks in the fields, The Wise Men had travelled a great distance and followed the star. However, at the end of their journey they found The Saviour Of The World.

So today, as you read this article, you must visualise that you are on a journey to Bethlehem to meet Jesus face to face. We must have that same Faith of The Shepherds and The Wise Men. He is The King of Kings and Lord of Lords and He made His life amongst us. May you be truly Blessed with that same Faith.

Always remember that at this Festive Time..... The Baby and The Man, The Incarnate Saviour, is seeking a guest room in your heart. All you have to do is invite Him in.

*Wesley Dickinson (Prayer Fellowship)*

## **Finance Update**

The Select Vestry thank all parishioners for their continued generosity to the life and witness of the parish in 2024. We do encourage the use of Standing Orders in these days instead of FWO envelopes. Those that still use FWO envelopes will be given envelopes for 2025 but please note your number as it could be different from the previous year. Please use the appropriate envelopes for the relevant year.

## **Missionary Donations**

The closing date for Missionary donations is 1st December 2024 to allow time to distribute funds to the various charities by 31st December 2024. Donations received after that date will be carried forward to the following year.

## **Make Giving Easier - Set up a Standing Order for Freewill Offering!**

Many parishioners have set up a Standing Order to pay in regularly to the parish and we would encourage other parishioners to use this process. If you would like to authorise your bank to pay an amount advised by you, at an interval of your choice directly into the Church Bank Account, our bank details are as follows:

**Name of Bank:** Danske Bank, 62-66 Bow Street, Lisburn, BT28 1YS  
**Sort Code:** 95 03 61  
**Account No:** 10181781  
**Reference:** Insert your own name

## **Gift Aid Forms**

If you are a Tax Payer and have not signed a Gift Aid Form and would like to gift aid your Freewill Offering and Harvest donations, please contact the Parish Office. Forms are also available in the Main Church Porch.

## **Freewill Offering Donations**

Church Books will close on 31st December 2024. In order to have the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts ready for the Annual General Vestry, it is necessary that all Freewill Offering monies to be included in the Report should be received by the above date. Thank you for your co-operation.

## **Collection of Freewill Offering Envelopes for 2025**

Freewill Offering envelopes for 2025 will be available for collection from the church hall porch on Sunday, 8th December. If collecting from the Parish Administrator, please telephone first on 02892 673271.

For Senior Citizens

## Acorn Club



Thursday, 5th December at 2.30 pm

### “Christmas Party”

Taking Part:

Eric Crangle & Friends

&

Central Primary School Choir

*There will be no Acorn Club Meeting in January*

Thursday, 6th February at 2.30 pm

### “Good News for Everyone”

(formerly Gideons UK)



*Tea/coffee and biscuits  
are served at the  
beginning of the  
meetings.*



Micheal Cochrane  
from  
Prison Fellowship  
speaking at the Acorn Club meeting  
on  
Thursday, 7th November

## Mothers' Union

Friday, 6th December  
7.30pm

### 'Christmas Meal'

at  
The Square Bistro



Friday, 10th January  
7.30 pm

'AGM  
followed by  
**Supper**  
and a  
**Chat**



## The Ladybirds



Members of The Ladybirds Prayer Group filled shoeboxes for Blythewood Care. The shoeboxes filled with toiletries, stationery, clothes etc were delivered on Thursday, 14th November to Blythewood Care in Lisburn



**Craft  
Club**



Congratulations to  
**Helen Calow**  
from the Craft Club  
who celebrated her  
**90th**  
**Birthday**  
on  
11th November



Michael Cochrane from  
the  
Prison Fellowship  
receiving toys  
from  
Betty Davis  
at the  
Craft Club





## **Communication from Hospital Chaplains**

The Hospital Chaplains across both Northern and Belfast Health & Social Care Trusts play an important role in supporting patients who are connected to Church of Ireland parishes with their spiritual and emotional needs. Some patients are in hospital for a very short period and others can be in for months. Most Chaplains visit patients on a weekly basis, however there are a few issues which prevent this from happening :

- ◆ Some hospital staff may not record details of a patient's religious information or their wish to see a minister. This legitimately could be because when the patient arrives in the hospital their medical needs are the priority.
- ◆ A patient's family may not always contact their minister to inform them they are in hospital, sometimes because of the obvious pressures the family may be feeling while a loved one is unwell.

A new electronic patient care system is being rolled out nationally at present which will digitise all patient paper records, and with it, we are finding that it is more difficult to identify patients' spiritual needs. Therefore as a Chaplaincy Team, we would ask that where you know a parishioner to be in hospital, to please let the Chaplaincy team know. This allows us to provide support not only to the patient, but also to support clergy who at times with pressing demands may not be able to visit the hospital. Also where there are infections on a ward, it may not be possible for clergy to visit patients, however the Chaplains as hospital staff are usually able to visit with suitable precautions.

We would also ask you to encourage your congregations that when a family member is in hospital, to ask the ward staff to raise a referral (now known as a Spiritual Consult) so that a Chaplain knows to visit them.

Please be assured that where we know a patient's church and they permit it, we will let rectors know they are in hospital.

As a chaplaincy team, we are here to support your ministry, and so anything that can be done to provide pastoral care to parishioners while in hospital, please know that you can contact us.

Many thanks,

Jonny Campbell-Smyth

*jonathan@campbellsmyth.co.uk*

**Christ  
Church  
decorated  
for  
Harvest  
Services**









## Lisburn Community Dementia Care

I was delighted to get the opportunity to share a little about our group at the Tuesday Coffee Morning on Tuesday 5th November.

We shared the platform with Allison from Dementia NI who gave a thought provoking insight into living with dementia.



Our group has been running in the church for several years now and we are a team of 5 volunteers all of whom have had hands on experience supporting a loved one with dementia in addition to working in volunteer roles with Alzheimer's Society.

Three of our volunteers are retired nurses.

Our group was established as a cross community self funded peer support group. Every penny we receive is spent on our group and our members.

*(Lisburn Community Dementia Care continued)*

Our main aim is to improve the quality of life for those with dementia and their carers in the hope that we can build confidence through communication and friendships.

Our activities are aimed at giving individuals a chance to try out something that they maybe haven't tried before thus opening up new experiences and building confidence.

Activities include visiting musicians, reminisce sessions, craft, exercise, pottery, painting, mindfulness to name a few. We also invite visiting speakers to give advice on a range of topics - Citizens Advice, PSNI, Fire Service, Rose NI etc.

We currently have on average between 25-30 folks each month and have watched our group numbers increase. Our church hall is a very safe and friendly environment in which to meet with lots of chat and fun.

We meet the 3rd Thursday of every month and start at 1.00pm with a light lunch followed by cake, buns etc and a final cuppa at the end of the day. The cost of this is £3.00 per person.

Our group is open to folks at all stages of their dementia journey and everyone must be accompanied with a carer/family member.

We also liaise with the South Eastern Trusts Dementia Navigator who pops into our sessions. She is available to chat to anyone who has any questions or concerns.

To receive a dementia diagnosis is a very frightening experience for both the patient and their loved ones, however, a person can live well with the right care and support.

We feel that we provide a lifeline for people with dementia and their carers and are greatly encouraged by the comments we receive.

In this day and age, I'm sure we all know or have known someone with a dementia diagnosis.

If you want any further information or you know of someone who might be interested in joining our group, please get in touch with me.

*Maureen Doran*

## Ordinands supported by Christ Church



*Left:*  
Boazi  
Mukalazi



*Right:*  
Erifazi  
Kyeyune

Ordinands Boazi Mukalazi and Erifazi Kyeyune who are currently studying at Uganda Martyrs Seminary, Namugongo and training for ministry in the Church of Uganda are supported by Christ Church, Lisburn

## Fields of Life - Gifts of Life

By purchasing a gift this Christmas from the Fields of Life Shop you will help transform the lives in East Africa.

Gifts of Life are a great way to send alternative gifts to friends and family. These can be sent as a gift card in the post or an e-card via email that will land directly in their inbox! You can go to the Fields of Life Shop website, Click on 'Home' and then go down to 'Gifts of Life.'

Solar Lamp - £18  
School Poultry Project - £10  
I AM GIRL Kit - £7

Bible - £7.50  
Handwashing Kit - £24



## What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

1. God drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a FURY.
2. David's TRIUMPH was heard throughout the land.
3. HONDA...because the apostles were all in one Accord.

## Heavenly Humour

On a cold day in December, some years ago, a little boy, about 10 years old was standing before a shoe store on the roadway, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering with cold.

A lady approached the young boy and said, "My, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window."

"I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes," was the boy's reply.

The lady took him by the hand, went into the store, and asked the shopkeeper to get half a dozen pairs of socks for the boy. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water and a towel. He quickly brought them to her. She took the little fellow to the back part of the store and removing her gloves, knelt down, washed his little feet, and dried them with the towel.

By this time, the shopkeeper had returned with the socks. Placing a pair on the boy's feet, she purchased him a pair of shoes. She tied up the remaining pairs of socks and gave them to him. She patted him on the head and said, "No doubt, you will be more comfortable now."

As she turned to go, the astonished boy caught her by the hand, and looking up into her face with tears in his eyes, asked her, "Are you God's wife?"

\* \* \* \* \*

After the Christmas and New Year festivities, the wife crept onto the bathroom scales one Sunday morning before getting ready to go to Church to weigh herself. She pulled a sad face. Her husband asked: "What's the matter, are you overweight?" "Well, not if I was six inches taller!" she replied.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Sunday School Christmas play was in full swing and the pastor asked, "What was it that guided the wise men from the East?"

Right on cue the pre-schoolers, each with one large letter in their hands, turned their letters to face the audience. However, the last four children in the lineup had somehow got out of sequence and the answer clearly shown in large bold letters was: **CHRISTMAS RATS.**







(Christmas Crossword continued from previous page)

- 31 "Where is he that is born king of the \_\_\_\_\_ (4)
- 32 A priest in the time of Samuel (3)
- 33 A tree of the olive family (3)
- 34 To put into water (3)
- 37 "\_\_\_\_\_ angel of the Lord appeareth" (2)

1		2			3		4			5	6	7
									8			
9					10	11					12	
				13				14				
		15	16		17		18					19
20									21			
				22								
23			24						25	26		
					27	28		29				
	30											31
32					33		34		35			
36		37										
38				39								

### Christmas Crossword - Solution

**Down:**  
 1 Born, 2 Twelve, 3 Eat, 4 Eve, 5 To, 6 Wear, 7 Old, 8 Jesse, 11 Hai, 13 Or, 16 It, 17 Grace, 18 Naomi, 19 Star, 20 Mary, 24 Herod, 25 Oh, 26 Manger, 28 Led, 29 So, 30 Eden, 31 Jews, 32 Eli, 33 Ash, 34 Dip, 37 An.

**Across:**  
 1 Bethlehem, 5 Two, 8 Joel, 9 Reed, 10 The, 12 Ad, 14 Aser, 15 Virgin, 20 Meet, 21 East, 22 Jacob, 23 Ruth, 25 Omer, 27 Elisha, 30 Ears, 32 Ed, 33 Add, 35 Ague, 36 Lead, 38 Inn, 39 Shepherds.

## Once in a Manger

Once in a manger, a long time ago,  
Before there was Santa and reindeer and snow,  
A star shone down on humble beginnings below  
Of a baby just born who the world would soon know.

Never before had there been such a sight.  
Would the Son of a King have to suffer this plight?  
Are there no armies to lead? Are there no battles to fight?  
Shouldn't He conquer the world and demand His birthright?

No, this frail little infant asleep in the hay  
Would change the whole world with the words He would say.  
Not about power or demanding His way,  
But mercy and loving and forgiving God's way.

For only through humbleness would the battle be won,  
As shown by the actions of God's only true son.  
Who gave up His life for the sins of everyone,  
Who saved the whole world when His journey was done.

Many years have now passed since that night long ago  
And now we have Santa and reindeer and snow  
But down in our hearts the true meaning we know,  
It is the birth of that child that makes Christmas so.

*Tom Krause*



**Christmas isn't Christmas  
until it happens in your heart.**

May Jesus be at the heart of  
your Christmas this year.

## Pearls of Wisdom

As a camel kneels before his master to have him remove his burden at the end of the day, so kneel each night and let the Master take your burden.

Bloom where you have been planted and believe that you are of value to God.

## Christmas Prayers

Lord and Giver of all good things, the Magi travelled for miles to bring the Christ child the first Christmas presents. So may we, too, remember with thankful hearts the love that comes with each present we open. We also thank you for the love you have for each of us, and we thank you for the many gifts that you give us, especially the gift of life itself.

*Amen.*

Jesus, the Light of the World, as we celebrate your birth, may we begin to see the world in the light of understanding you give us. As you chose the lowly, the outcasts, and the poor to receive the greatest news the world had ever known, so may we worship you in meekness of heart. May we also remember our brothers and sisters less fortunate than ourselves in this season of giving.

*Amen.*

Dear Lord, Christmas can be a sad and difficult time. Thank you for the remembrance of loved ones no longer with us; for their inspiring words, encouragement, love and support, an example for us to follow. May their legacy be seen in the people we have become, and may we always be thankful. We ask this in your name Lord.

*Amen.*

Let the love that shaped earth and heaven  
Dwell within us this Christmas.  
Let the love that shaped humanity  
Dwell within us this Christmas.  
Let the love that overcomes suffering and hatred  
Dwell within us this Christmas.  
Let the love that causes us to rejoice with loved ones  
Dwell within us this Christmas.  
Let the love that brings the blessing of peace  
Dwell within us this Christmas.  
May we share that peace with all people near and far.

*Amen*

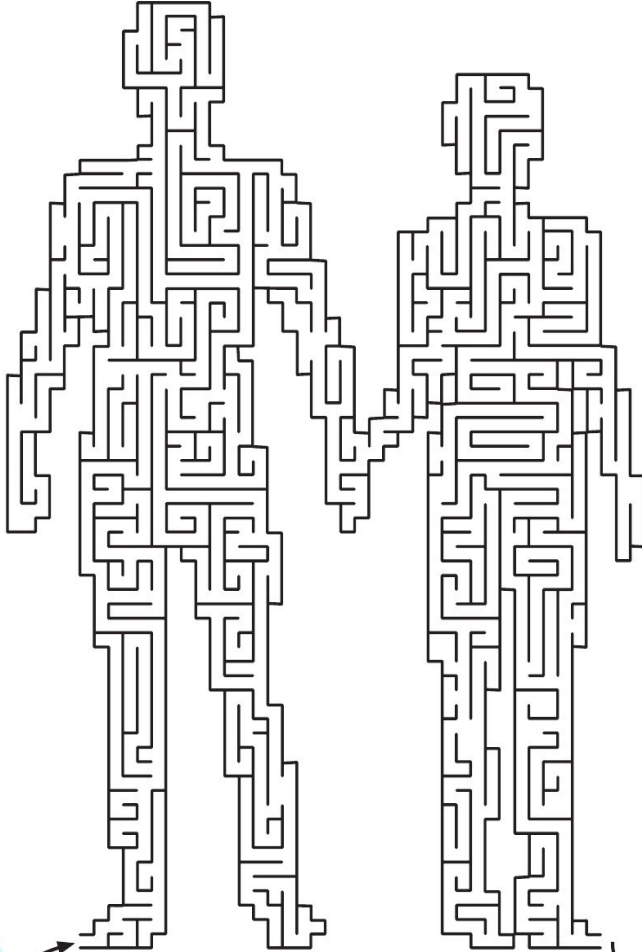


# The Garden of Eden

## Genesis 2 - 3

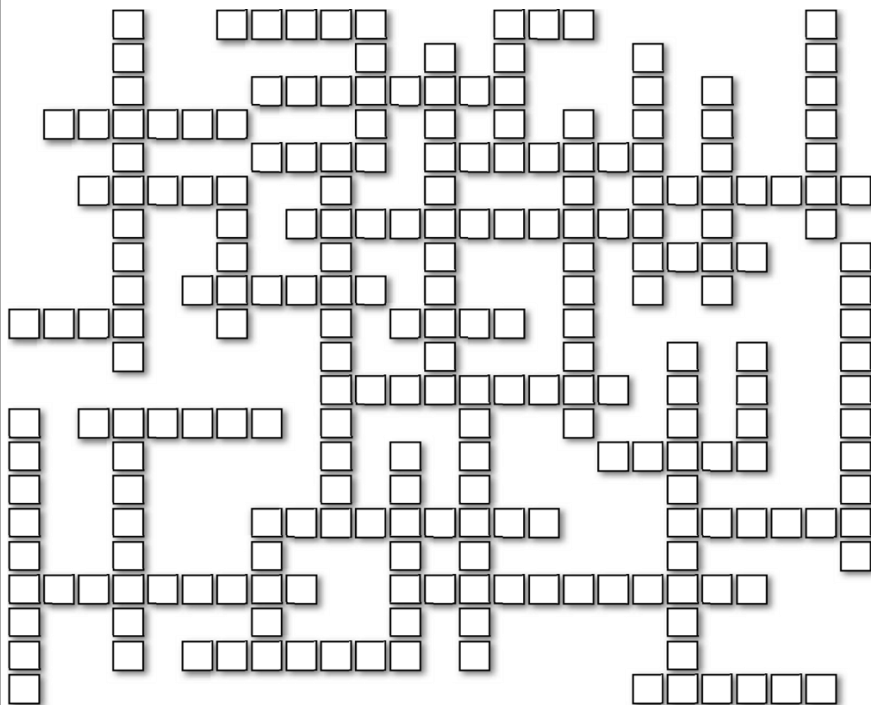
Adam and Eve have been told to leave the Garden of Eden.

Can you help them find their way out?



## David and the Ark - 2 Samuel 6

David took the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem but not without trouble!  
Learn about what happened and complete this Bible fill in puzzle.



- |                   |                |              |         |             |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------|---------|-------------|
| <b>3 LETTERS</b>  | ARK            |              |         |             |
| <b>4 LETTERS</b>  | CART           | DEAD         | FIND    | OXEN        |
|                   | WIFE           |              |         |             |
| <b>5 LETTERS</b>  | ANGER          | BREAD        | BUILD   | CEDAR       |
|                   | DAVID          | HOUSE        | UZZAH   |             |
| <b>6 LETTERS</b>  | DANCED         | ISRAEL       | MICHAL  | NATHAN      |
|                   | WINDOW         |              |         |             |
| <b>7 LETTERS</b>  | BLESSED        | CARRIED      | ENEMIES | FOREVER     |
|                   | SERVANT        | TRUMPET      |         |             |
| <b>8 LETTERS</b>  | ABINADAB       | OBED-EDOM    |         | SHOUTING    |
| <b>9 LETTERS</b>  | CHERUBIMS      | FOOTSTOOL    |         | HANDMAIDS   |
|                   | HOUSEHOLD      | SACRIFICE    |         |             |
| <b>10 LETTERS</b> | LINEN EPHOD    | TABERNACLE   |         |             |
| <b>11 LETTERS</b> | CAKE OF BREAD  | INSTRUMENTS  |         | PHILISTINES |
|                   | PIECE OF MEAT  | THREE MONTHS |         |             |
| <b>12 LETTERS</b> | FLAGON OF WINE |              |         |             |

# **You are cordially invited to A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!**

## **Guest of Honour:**

Jesus Christ

## **Date:**

Traditionally, December 25, but He's always around, so the date is flexible...

## **Time:**

Whenever you're ready.

## **Place:**

In your heart...He'll meet you there. (You'll hear Him knock.)

## **Attire:**

Come as you are...grubbies are just fine. [We all came that way!]

He'll be washing our clothes anyway.

He said something about new, white robes and crowns...

## **Tickets:**

Admission is free. He's already paid for everyone. He says you wouldn't be able to afford it anyway. It cost Him everything He had.

## **Refreshments:**

New wine, bread, and a cool drink He calls "Living Water," followed by a supper that promises to be out of this world!

## **Gift Suggestions:**

Your life. He's one of those people who already has everything. (He's very generous in return though. Just wait until you see what He has for you!)

## **Entertainment:**

Unconditional Love, Priceless Grace, Wild Abandon, Real Life, Communion with God, Forgiveness, Healing, Fascinating Mystery, Childlike Joy, Uncommon Passion, and much more!

(All "G" rated, so bring your family and friends.)

## **R.S.V.P.**

He needs to know ahead of time so He can reserve a spot for you at the table.

He'll enter your name in the "Lamb's Book of Life."

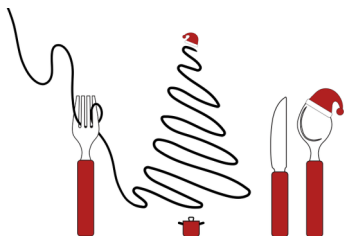




## **Lisburn Community Dementia Care for people with dementia and their carers/family members**

3rd Thursday of every month  
from 1 pm - 3 pm  
Christ Church Halls, Hillsborough Road, Lisburn

**£3.00 per person (light lunch included)**



Thursday  
19th December  
**Christmas Party**

Thursday 16th January  
**Fitness after  
Christmas**  
(Sandra Daly)



## **Flower Rota**

- 01 Dec Kitty Anderson & Eileen Boyle
- 08 Dec Vacant
- 15 Dec The Brackenridge Family
- 22 Dec Rosalyn Anderson (Valerie and George Christy - Pedestals)
- 29 Dec Vacant
- 05 Jan Vacant
- 12 Jan Vacant
- 19 Jan Vacant
- 26 Jan Vacant

## Sunday Coffee Rota

*Co-ordinator: Florence Crangle - Tel: 028 9210 7433*

01 Dec	Billy & Beth Harris
08 Dec	Robin & Sheila Smythe
15 Dec	Betty & Kelly Cummings
22 Dec	Kathleen Hynds & Florence Crangle
29 Dec	Jane Hawthorne & Another
05 Jan	Garth, Kitty & Rosalynd Anderson
12 Jan	Pamela McComb & Janice Crowe
19 Jan	Trevor Annett & Vivienne Crawford
26 Dec	Wesley & Helen Dickinson

## Tuesday Coffee Rota

*Co-ordinator: Ann Robinson - Tel: 07901236346*

03 Dec	Helen Dickinson, Dorothy Morrow, Sheila Smythe
10 Dec	Vera Hewitt, Laureen Birrell, Lottie Millar, Kathleen Hynds
17 Dec	Roberta Thompson, Rosemary Bodell, Annie Stevenson
24 Dec	<b>NO TUESDAY COFFEE MORNING</b>
31 Dec	<b>NO TUESDAY COFFEE MORNING</b>
07 Jan	Valerie Christy, Pauline Graham, Lynda Lashford
14 Jan	Lynn Shanks, Oonagh Soden, Kathleen Kerr
21 Jan	Evelyn Greer, Beth Harris, Betty Cummings
28 Jan	Myrtle Watterson, Colleen Watterson, Florence Young
04 Feb	Gwen Gibson, Evelyn Macklin, Roberta Rosbotham

## Welcoming Rota

*If unable to do door duty, please swap with someone else on the Rota.*

	<u>South &amp; Nicholson Doors</u>	<u>Baptismal Door</u>
01 Dec	Annette Megarry	George Megarry
08 Dec	Pamela Trimble	Ken Harbinson
15 Dec	Stephen McKenna	Lewis Grant
22 Dec	David Henry	Ashleigh Long
22 Dec	Rosie Long (6.30 pm)	Stephen Long
24 Dec	Church Wardens (11.15 pm - Main Porch)	
25 Dec	Church Wardens (8.30 am)	
25 Dec	Thomas Ringland (10.15 am)	Beverley Ringland
29 Dec	Oonagh Soden	Vera Hewitt
31 Dec	Church Wardens (6.30 pm)	Main Porch)
05 Jan	Laureen Birrell	Lottie Millar
12 Jan	Laureen Birrell	Lottie Millar
19 Jan	Wendy Bell (10.30 am)	Andrew Bell
26 Jan	Richard Irvine	Heather Gibson



## **Christ Church Sunday Services**

### **Morning Worship**

11.30 am

### **Evening Prayer**

(3rd Sunday)

6.30 pm

### **Holy Communion**

1st Sunday at 8.30 am

4th Sunday at 11.30 am

### **All Age Worship**

3rd Sunday at 11.30 am

### **Marriage & Holy Baptism**

By arrangement with the Rector

## **Sunday School (KLIC & JAM)**

All families to All Age Worship  
on

3rd Sunday at 11.30 am

1st, 2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday - 11.30 am during worship

## **Note From The Editor**

All material for the February/March issue **MUST** be in the  
Parish Office by

**Monday, 13th January**

## **Parish Office Opening Hours**

Tues - Thurs 9.00 am - 3.00 pm

Mon & Fri Closed

## **Church Panel Safeguarding Trust**

Archdeacon

Paul Dundas

Tel 07740589465

Robin Smythe

Tel 07521159350

Beverley Ringland

Tel 07734877740

# Church Organisations

## **SUNDAY**

- Sunday School** Mrs Bertha Thompson  
**KLIC** c/o Parish Office Tel: 9267 3271  
3rd Sunday - Church Service - 11.30 am  
1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sunday during 11.30 am  
Worship
- JAM Group** Mrs Beverley Ringland  
c/o Parish Office Tel: 9267 3271
- CCY** c/o Rev Gareth Campbell Tel: 07842070108  
7.30 pm - 8.45 pm

## **MONDAY**

- Indoor Bowls** Mr Johnston Boyle Tel: 07802889412  
7.30 pm

## **TUESDAY**

- Badminton** Mr Garth Anderson 7.30 pm Tel: 9243 8971
- Teaching Series** Archdeacon Paul Dundas 7.30 pm

## **WEDNESDAY**

- Tots Together** (Parent and Toddler Group)  
Mrs Rosie Long Tel: 07909915909  
10.00 am - 11.30 am
- Craft Club** 10.30 am - 12.30 pm  
Mrs Ann Elliott Tel: 07815743795
- Prayer Fellowship** Mr Wesley Dickinson 7.30 pm  
Tel: 07918672467 or 9262 2021
- Missionary Prayer Fellowship**  
Mr Wesley Dickinson 7.30 pm Tel: 07918672467  
(4th Wednesday Monthly)

## **WEDNESDAY**

**(continued)**

### **Girls Friendly Society**

Mrs Rosie Long	Tel: 07909915909
Teddy Bears 3-5 years	6.45 pm
Candidates 5-7 years	6.45 pm
Junior Members 7-11 years	6.45 pm
Members 11-15 years	6.45 pm

### **Walking Group**

Mr & Mrs David Henry	Tel: 9266 6223
(Meet at Smithfield Square Car Park for a walk and a coffee at The Haslem Hotel)	Tel: 07712839625 7.00 pm

## **THURSDAY**

### **The Ladybirds (Women's Bible Study Group)**

(2nd & 4th Thursday monthly) 11.00 am

<b><u>Acorn Club</u></b> Mrs Margaret Little	Tel: 9267 1119
<b><u>(For Seniors)</u></b> (1st Thursday monthly)	2.30 pm

<b><u>CLB</u></b> Mr Tommy Ringland	Tel: 9263 8252
(4 - 11 years)	6.45 pm

<b><u>Choir</u></b> Mrs Gwen Gibson	7.30 pm
	Tel: 07887867178

## **FRIDAY**

### **Mothers' Union**

Mrs Valerie Christy	Tel: 9268 3590
(2nd Friday Monthly)	

## **SATURDAY**

### **Hill Walking Club**

(2nd Saturday Monthly)

## Elegant Exercise

Tuesdays from 12 noon - 12.30 pm  
in

Christ Church Hall (Gym)  
Hillsborough Road, Lisburn

£5 per class - pay as you go

- ◆ Strengthening exercises
- ◆ General exercises
- ◆ Seated movements
- ◆ Non-seated movements
- ◆ Improve balance
- ◆ Co-ordination
- ◆ Improve posture
- ◆ For the mature



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For further details, contact Wendy  
on 07803162066

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*thank you!*

**Our  
advertisers  
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Support.**

## Tuesday Coffee Mornings

take place each week  
in the  
Church Hall  
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10.00 am to 12 noon

**Cost: £3.00**

*Everyone welcome*



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on

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# WHO'S WHO IN CHRIST CHURCH

## PARISH STAFF

Rector:

**The Venerable Paul Dundas,  
Archdeacon of Dalriada**

Christ Church Rectory,  
27 Hillsborough Road, Lisburn, BT28 1JL  
Telephone Number: 028 9266 2163  
Mobile Number: 07740589465  
Email address: paul\_dundas@yahoo.com

**Curate:** Rev Gareth Campbell Tel: 07842070108  
garethcampbell211@gmail.com

**Senior Minister:** Rev John Pickering Tel: 02838335704

**Parish Reader:** Tim Littler Tel: 07803038068

**People's Church Warden:** Emily Thompson Tel: 07552222651

**Rector's Church Warden:** Paul Armstrong Tel: 07702354577

**Honorary Secretary:** Stephen Long Tel: 07306114277

**Honorary Treasurers:** George Grattan & Sheena Grattan  
Tel: 07711999124

**Assistant Treasurer:** Trevor Annett

**Organist:** Ross Morrow Tel: 07788746992 or 028 9268 9468

**Sexton:** Neil Ritchie Tel: 07907357666

**Church Email Address:** christchurchparishlisburn@gmail.com

### Parish Office

Parish Administrator: Iris Murphy Tel: 028 92673271  
Address: Christ Church, Parish Office, Church Lane,  
Hillsborough Road, Lisburn, BT28 1JL

Opening Hours: Tues - Thurs (9 am - 3 pm)