

ST Finnian's

OCTOBER 2019



Come, ye thankful people, come

Harvest Thanksgiving Services

Sunday 27th October

at

10 am, 11.30 am and 7 pm

Harvest Supper after Evening Service

All Welcome

Dear Friends

I recently had the privilege of attending the ordination service for Reverend Peter Hilton, our former youth worker who was ordained Priest in St. Malachy's, Hillsborough alongside Reverend Karen Salmon and Reverend Jonathan Brown.

The preacher at the service was Reverend Rob Jones, the Rector of Rathmines and Harold's Cross in the diocese of Dublin. It was Bishop Harold's last ordination service before his forthcoming retirement. In his powerful sermon, Reverend Jones was reflecting on what it means to be a Christian leader in a world that is rapidly changing and where Christian values are more the exception than the norm. He spoke to the candidates of modelling their ministry on two qualities that we see in the life and ministry of Jesus our great high priest. He spoke about authority and Jesus spoke and acted with power and authority that came from His Heavenly father. The other quality he reflected on in Jesus's life and ministry was vulnerability. Jesus also demonstrated great vulnerability at times, especially as he got nearer to the time of His own crucifixion and death. Jesus was not afraid of

demonstrating either or both of these qualities. We love the stories of His power and authority, his miracles and his incredible teaching even from a young age. He's also unashamed to admit the struggle he faced in the Garden of Gethsemane, his need for the prayers and the company of others, at this, and other challenging moments in his life. It's not easy for those of us who remember the days when the church was strong to see the vulnerability. When we remember packed churches and thriving organisations and activities, it's hard to understand the changes in culture and society. It's a struggle to acknowledge that we do not have all the answers or there is no quick fix to arrest the declining numbers.

Reverend Jones also spoke of the inner joy that comes from being a person of faith, a joy that goes beyond our personal circumstances and which is built upon that relationship we are invited to have with our Lord Jesus Christ.

Harvest is a season where we give thanks for God's wonderful provision for the earth and its people, for the way that seeds

planted many months ago have taken root in the soil and brought forth fruit and crops in the most amazing way. From a spiritual perspective we think too about sowing the seeds of faith in the lives of those around us and all those people who have never either heard of or experienced God's love in a personal way. Is there a way we can demonstrate that it is real and personal in our lives and has made a difference? Can we be unashamed of the Gospel in an age that is highly suspicious of Christian teaching and values?

This year we welcome someone from the agency Tearfund to our morning Harvest Services at 10 and 11.30am on Sunday 27th October. Our speaker at the Evening Service at 7pm will be Canon Michael Parker, the Rector of St.Gall's, Carnalea. Our loose collection on Harvest Sunday will go to support the work of the Bishop's Appeal. There will be envelopes in the pews to enable those who are UK Taxpayers to make their contribution worth an extra 25% at no additional cost to themselves. The Bishop's Appeal supports projects run by agencies like Tearfund,

Christian Aid, Fields of Life, CMS and SAMS and Crosslinks in the world's poorest countries. Our Evening Harvest will be followed by a supper in the hall hosted by the Mothers' Union.

As we give thanks to God for his mercy and faithfulness, we give thanks also for the life and ministry of Canon Noel Battye who served here as Rector from 1980-2008. His priority was always to point people towards Jesus and the importance of their spiritual life. While he never sought the limelight himself, so many of us have memories of his powerful sermons, his pastoral care and the way that he sowed those seeds of faith in the lives of many here and further afield through his broadcasting career.

We take this opportunity to wish you a blessed Harvest season and we hope you can join us as we give thanks to God on Sunday 27th October.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Pierce (Rector)

Telephone 02890 793822

Root Soup



This month, there will be Root Soup lunches on **Thursday 10th and Thursday 24th October**. If you are free at any point between 12 and 1.30pm, you would be most welcome to join us for a delicious home-cooked lunch lovingly prepared and served by our friends from Root Soup. Please feel free to invite a friend or neighbour. **The suggested donation is £4.**

FLOWER DONATION ROTA



OCTOBER

6th Mrs C McGladery
13th Boys' Brigade
20th Mrs L Heatley
27th Mrs M Rankin

DEVOTED BIBLE STUDY



Every Monday for 8 weeks from 30th September from 7pm in the Curatage (54 Rochester Avenue), we will be looking at 'God's Big Picture' together which seeks to trace the storyline of the Bible. If you plan to attend, please let Raymond know for the purpose of numbers.
All welcome.

ST. FINNIAN'S MIXED INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

Meets on Wednesdays at 7pm
Enjoy an evening of bowls, fun, fellowship, chat and tea & biscuits

Bowls provided -
WE BOWL FOR FUN



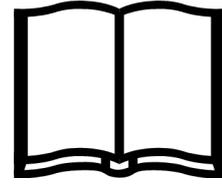
HARVEST THANKSGIVING



On Sunday 27th October we look forward to welcoming a speaker from the development agency Tearfund at our Harvest thanksgiving services at 10 and 11.30am. Tearfund work with the local community in many of the poorest countries in the world offering hope and development opportunities. They are one of the main partner agencies of the Church of Ireland Bishop's Appeal and our loose collection on Harvest Sunday will go to the work of the Bishop's Appeal. If you are a UK Taxpayer you can increase the value of your donation by an extra 25% at no cost to yourself through filling in a gift aid envelope which will be in the pews on Harvest Sunday. In the evening, our special preacher will be Canon Michael Parker, the Rector of St.Gall's, Carnalea. Our evening Harvest celebration will be followed by a supper in the hall hosted by the Mothers' Union.

At Harvest we are always grateful for donations of flowers, greenery and fruit to decorate the church and the produce from the Harvest is usually distributed to those who are housebound on Monday. **If you can assist with that process please do come to the church at 9.30am on Monday 28th October. We would be very grateful for your help.**

From the Registers

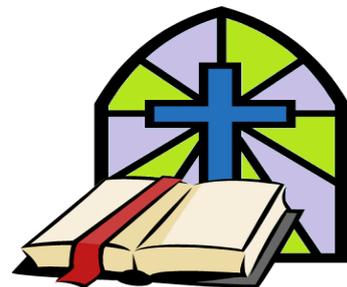


Christian Burial: 31st August 2019 - Canon Noel Battye

In Memory of Canon Noel Battye

The Select Vestry has decided to allocate a portion of ground near the lampstand for the planting of bulbs in memory of our former Rector, Canon Noel Battye. The bulbs will be purchased from the proceeds of the coffee morning which was held in September in aid of Marie Curie and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Service of Remembrance



On the first Sunday in November at our evening service (on 3rd November this year) we hold our annual Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance for those who have died in the past year. It is always a poignant service in which we give thanks to God for those people who have been part of our church's life. The Book of Remembrance is always updated at this time of year and should be returned to us in time for this special service. Family members and friends of those who have died are invited to bring photographs which will be displayed that evening at the back of the church and these photos are asked to be submitted to the clergy **before Saturday 2nd November**.

Services for October



Sunday 6th October (16th Sunday after Trinity)

- 8.30am – Holy Communion
- 10.00 am – Connect Service in Hall
- 11.30am – Holy Communion
- 7.00pm – Evening Prayer

Sunday 13th October (17th Sunday after Trinity)

- 8.30am – Holy Communion
- 10.00am – Holy Communion
- 11.30 am – Holy Baptism
- 7.00pm – Evening Prayer

Sunday 20th October (18th Sunday after Trinity)

- 8.30am – Holy Communion
- 10.00am – Connect Service in Hall
- 11.30 am – Holy Baptism
- 7.00pm – Evening Prayer

Friday 25th October

3.30pm - 5.30pm - Messy Church in church hall.
Worship, crafts and a meal. Everyone welcome

Sunday 27th October (5th Sunday before Advent)

- 8.30am – Holy Communion
- 10.00 am – Harvest Thanksgiving
- 11.30am – Harvest Thanksgiving
- 7.00pm – Holy Communion (Harvest Thanksgiving)



It is now October so I'm getting ready to fill my shoe boxes for the Samaritan's Purse Shoe Box Appeal. If you would also like to get involved, now is your chance.

Everyone in St Finnian's always gives with great enthusiasm and generosity. I'm hoping you will be able to do the same again this year, and fill a shoe box full of gifts for a child in need.

There will be leaflets in the church explaining how to fill and label your box and I will have the pre-printed boxes again (50p) as I think these have been really helpful. I'm also around if you need more help and advice. As usual, I will arrange to collect your shoe boxes from the back of the church. I will then pass them on to the local representative for collection.

I will be in church with shoe boxes on 6th and 13th October.

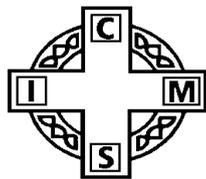
I will collect the boxes over two Sundays - October 20th and October 27th at the 10am and 11.30am services.

If you attend services at other times, please leave your boxes with the wardens or at the back of the church and I can then collect them.

Thank you for your support

Jill McPeak





Church of Ireland Men's Society Start of a New Season

Our speakers this season cover an amazing amount of ground - from the political editor of the Belfast News Letter to Northern Irish stars in Hollywood, USA - from the highly respected historian, Dr Eamon Phoenix, to Saint Patrick - from speaking in Ulster dialects to family history for beginners, not to mention a glimpse of the Belfast hills along the way.

The line-up looks like this:

17 October - Sam McBride, Broadcaster and Political Editor of the Newsletter

21 November - Anne Smyth - Ulster Dialects

19 December - JJ Tohill - The Northern Irish in Hollywood, USA

16 January - Dr Eamon Phoenix – The Partition of Ireland and its Consequences

20 February - Jim Bradley - The History of the Belfast Hills

19 March - Roddy Hegarty - St Patrick and Armagh's Claim to Primacy within the Irish Church

16 April - Ann McVeigh - Family History for Beginners

All meetings begin at 8pm and for the first meeting on Thursday 17 October, we are extending a special invitation to the Mothers' Union together with the rest of the congregation. The speaker, Sam McBride, is Political Editor of the Belfast News Letter as well as being a well-known broadcaster and author of the soon-to-be-published book "Burned – The Inside Story of the Cash-for-Ash Scandal". His take on the current political situation will be interesting.

A special invitation is extended to those men of the parish who are perhaps thinking of becoming members – this is an ideal opportunity to sample what we have to offer, without any obligation.

LADIES OPEN DOOR FRIENDSHIP GROUP



As the days are rapidly becoming shorter I hope you are all now ready to settle back into the 'Autumn Routine'. The first meeting of the Open Door will take place on Wednesday, 2 October 2019, at 2.00 pm in the Huston Hall. This will be a very informal meeting when we will be giving out our new season's programme and Christmas Dinner menus. We will also have the opportunity to catch up with each other over a cup of tea.

Our second meeting in October will be on 16th and we are delighted that Eva Baxter will be able to join us to give her dramatised talk on the life of Suzanna Wesley (mother of hymn writers Charles and John). Eva was meant to be with us last year but unfortunately she was unable to come due to the death of her sister.

Our meetings are very friendly and informal so if you have a few hours to spare why not come along on 2nd October and see our programme for the coming season. There is no obligation to join but if any of our speakers/activities would be of interest, you would be most welcome to come along.

Looking forward to seeing you all again on 2 October.

Joan

PRAYER WARRIOR

Do you have a concern or problem and would like
someone to pray for you?

If so, text Robin who will be willing to help

This is completely confidential and no details will be passed
onto anyone else unless you want them to.

Mobile: 07513947504



Mothers' Union begins on **Thursday 3rd October 2019** with a service of Holy Communion in the church at 7.30pm. This is followed by our opening meeting which will start at 8.00pm in the church hall. This will be an informal meeting and will give everyone the chance to 'catch up' with others over a cup of tea. To add to the fun we are asking members to provide a baby photo of themselves and we will all try to identify who is who. Members should give their photos to either Clare or me prior to the meeting or bring it along on the night.

Details of our programme for the year will appear in the November magazine and I would like to extend an invite to all ladies of the parish to join us at any of the meetings.

Carol Bell
Secretary



Hello everyone

St Finnian's next Messy Church is being held this October. Can you get involved and help? The team met on Monday 23rd September to start planning but as usual, there is plenty to do. Please speak to Raymond or myself if you feel you can offer your help and support.

Our next Messy Church is on ...

Friday 25th October 3.30pm– 5.30pm.

Thank you,
Jill McPeak

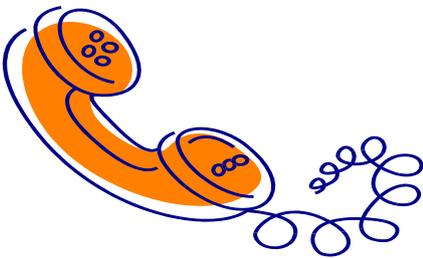
CONTACT DETAILS

Rector:

Telephone 028 90793822

Curate:

Telephone 028 90796193



Church Office Hours

Tuesday 9.00 am – 2.00 pm

Wednesday 9.00 am – 2.00 pm

TELEPHONE 028 90792793
office.cregagh@down.anglican.org

Magazine

Please send articles for inclusion in the **November** Magazine to **office.cregagh@down.anglican.org** or telephone Parish Office 90792793 by NOON on **Tuesday 15th October**

Don't forget to check out the church website:

www.stfinnians.org



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The Charity Commission for
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