

The Columban

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH, KNOCK, OCTOBER 2023



Harvest Thanksgiving



RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioner,

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES

SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER 8.15am and 11.00am

I invite you to join us for our Harvest Thanksgiving services on Sunday 1st October. This is a timely reminder that we gather as thankful people recognising that we are dependent on Almighty God for all our daily needs. We have indeed much to be thankful for, conscious that there are so many people who do not even have enough for the basic necessities of daily life.

The Crèche and Sunday School members are busy working on the art and craft items which will be on display at the front of the church. There will also be many arrangements of vegetables, fruit and flowers which will be distributed to members of our parish and local Nursing Homes.

How we love to sing the familiar harvest hymns and hear the powerful scripture readings which will be read by the children, who will also be leading us in our prayers. **I look forward to welcoming the curate of St. Finnian's, the Reverend Andy Hay, who will be preaching at the All Age Worship service. The Catering committee are busy with their preparations for the Harvest Lunch which will be served in the Hall.** This is always a most delightful occasion as we enjoy a delicious lunch and share fellowship with each other. **IT IS DEFINITELY A DAY NOT TO BE MISSED AND I HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US!**

It will be a great joy that our Harvest services will be taking place in our recently refurbished church. The replastering of our side aisle walls has been on our Select Vestry agenda for some considerable time, and we are thankful that we have just got this work completed. **As a parish we are grateful to Hazel Reid whose generous legacy has funded the new open space and wooden floor**

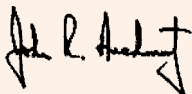
at the front of church. This will provide much needed flexibility for all our many uses of the church building as we endeavour to serve you and the community more effectively in the years ahead. It was a great delight to welcome back our architect, Des Cairns, who superbly designed the refurbishment at the West End of the church seven years ago and the same contractors who know our church building so well. The painting of the church will be commencing in a few weeks.

Here in St. Columba's, we are immensely fortunate to have such a dedicated Select Vestry and sub committees who work tirelessly supporting the work of our busy parish by the generous giving of their professional skills and time. They have meticulously planned this refurbishment project in addition to all their other responsibilities. I thank them for their hard work, especially the churchwardens and glebewardens, who ensured that parish life continued without interruption during the summer.

We give thanks that each one of us has a vocation to use the unique gifts that Almighty God has given us. During these past months we have seen the benefits of our Select Vestry and Sub Committee members using their individual gifts for the future benefit of St. Columba's.

St. Columba's needs the service of each of us to make our unique and individual contribution to the work of our parish. What a powerful Harvest Thanksgiving it would be for our parish and Almighty God if you could share your individual gifts in St. Columba's especially if you are not currently involved for whatever reason. I would be delighted to hear from you!

Yours in His service,



PARISH PRAYER

God, our Heavenly Father, make the door of our Church wide enough to welcome all who need human love, fellowship and a Father's care; but narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and hatred. Here may the tempted find help, the sorrowing receive comfort and the penitent be assured of your mercy. And here may all your children renew their strength and go on their way in hope and joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Bishop Thomas Ken 1637-1711

SERVICES IN OCTOBER

- Sunday 1st** **Harvest Thanksgiving** (Green)
8.15am **Holy Communion**
Epistle 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15 Generosity of sharing
Read by: Joe McKee
Gospel Matthew 6: 28-34 Do not worry
- 11.00am** **All Age Worship followed by Harvest Lunch**
Preacher:
The Reverend Andy Hay, curate of St. Finnian's, Cregagh
1st Reading Exodus 16: 13-29 Bread from heaven
Read by: Sam Kerr
2nd Reading Matthew 6: 24-34 Do not worry
Read by: Susannah Rolston
- Thursday 5th** (Green)
10.30am **Holy Communion** *followed by refreshments*
- Sunday 8th** **The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity** (Green)
8.15am **Holy Communion**
Epistle Philippians 3: 4b-14 Breaking with the past
Read by: Ronny Martin
Gospel Matthew 21: 33-46 The parable of the wicked tenants
- 10.30am** **Holy Communion**
Epistle Philippians 3: 4b-14 Breaking with the past
Read by: Victor Dukelow
Gospel Matthew 21: 33-46 The parable of the wicked tenants
Intercessions Elizabeth Leonard
- Thursday 12th** **Saint Philip the Deacon – (Transferred)** (Red)
10.30am **Holy Communion** *followed by refreshments*
- Sunday 15th** **The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity** (Green)
8.15am **Holy Communion**
Epistle Philippians 4: 1-9 The marks of the Christian life
Read by: Elizabeth Leonard
Gospel Matthew 22: 1-14 The parable of the wedding banquet

10.30am Morning Prayer *followed by refreshments hosted by Mothers' Union*
1st Reading Exodus 32: 1-14 The golden calf
Read by: Angela Kerr
2nd Reading Matthew 22: 1-14 The parable of the wedding banquet
Read by: Joyce Stevenson
Occasional prayers Barbara Laverty

Thursday 19th Saint Luke (Transferred) **(Red)**

10.30am Holy Communion *followed by refreshments*

Sunday 22nd The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity **(Green)**

8.15am Holy Communion

Epistle 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Greetings and thanksgiving

Read by: Patrick Good

Gospel Matthew 22: 15-22 The question about paying taxes

10.30am Holy Communion

Epistle 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 Greetings and thanksgiving

Read by: Gillian Sadlier

Gospel Matthew 22: 15-22 The question about paying taxes

Intercessions Heather Brehcist

Thursday 26th Saint Simon and Saint Jude (Transferred) **(Red)**

10.00am Holy Communion *followed by refreshments in the Choir Vestry*

Sunday 29th The Fifth Sunday before Advent **(Purple)**

8.15am Holy Communion

Epistle 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Paul's ministry in Thessalonica

Read by: Clergy

Gospel Matthew 22: 34-46 The greatest commandment

10.30am Morning Prayer *followed by refreshments*

1st Reading Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 Moses dies and is buried in the Land of Moab

Read by: Josephine Kelly

2nd Reading Matthew 22: 34-46 The greatest commandment

Read by: Melissa Rutherford

Occasional Prayers Clergy

Online Services

The audio recording of our 10.30am service each Sunday can be found on our parish website www.stcolumbas.down.anglican.org under "Church Service Recordings".

Church Refurbishment

During



Completion



The words "THANK YOU" are rendered in a bold, three-dimensional, red font. The letters are blocky and have a slight shadow beneath them, giving them a 3D appearance. The text is centered at the top of the page.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the following members of our Select Vestry, Property Committee and Finance Committee for all of their hard work and valued assistance during the summer as we worked on the refurbishment of our beautiful church building:

Richard Whiteside, Louise Mercer, David Kelly, Ian Johnston, John Macpherson, Brian Acheson, Victor Dukelow, David Craig, Andrew Hirst, John Kerr, Martin Moore, Nigel Morrow, Scott Rutherford, Gillian Sadlier, Barrie Elkin, Richard Caldwell, Jim Stevenson, Jonathan Stewart, Stephen Armstrong and Mark Wilson.

They coordinated with the architect, Des Cairns, and the contractors Canavan Construction, as well as overseeing the work as it progressed, making sure that all went as smoothly as possible. Their dedication to this work provided the builders with the opportunity to have questions answered quickly and have decisions quickly and efficiently dealt with, and so has kept the work to schedule. I am extremely grateful to them all for they have done during these busy summer months so that we can all benefit from this work. We are extremely privileged have such a wonderful group of enthusiastic and hard-working parishioners.

THE RECTOR

The background of this section is a soft-focus image of a flower rotunda, featuring various shades of purple, pink, and white flowers. The text is overlaid on this background.

OCTOBER FLOWER ROTA

- Sunday 1st** HARVEST
- Sunday 8th** Stewart and Maureen Beckwith
- Sunday 15th** Donald and Angela Kerr
- Sunday 22nd** Eileen Anderson
- Sunday 19th** Mark and Lynn Ryan

Church Envelopes



Church envelopes have been delivered with your magazine this month. Please keep them safe until January. If you do not currently subscribe to church funds, we kindly ask that you consider donating using the paperwork enclosed with your magazine – all donations are gratefully received.

Don't forget to use the white envelopes included in your packs for the Harvest Lunch!

Thank you.

Karen Patterson, Parish Administrator

Clergy Parish Visiting

It is always a great privilege for the clergy to visit parishioners in their homes. If you would like to request a clergy visit, please telephone the Rector (028 9047 1514) or Canon Walter Laverty (028 9573 8743). In addition to requested parish visiting, the clergy will be visiting parishioners in the following districts during October:

Rector

Knock Road

Knockburn Park

Knockcastle Park

Knockdene Park (North & South)

Knockmount Gardens

Canon Laverty

Knock Grove

Knock Way

Knockdarragh Park

Knocklofty Court

Knocklofty Park

PASTORAL SUPPORT



The clergy would appreciate being informed if parishioners are in hospital, are being transferred or if they have been discharged, and will be pleased to offer them pastoral support. ***Please do not assume that they already know this information.***

Please telephone the Rector (028 9047 1514) or Canon Walter Laverty (028 9573 8743) to enable them to take careful notes of the details. Thank you.

PAUSE

By now most of us have settled into our autumn routine of attending organisations, classes or coffee shops. The children are all back at school enjoying the new academic year. The sun is setting a little earlier each day - and we are having a **HEATWAVE!**

Now that we are out and about there is lots to chat about with friends, acquaintances and even strangers in the shops or on the Glider.

This month **PAUSE** will meet on:

Tuesday 3rd October at 10.30am at Neill's Hill for tea/coffee and scones.

Tuesday 24th October at 10.30am at The Poet for tea/coffee and scones.

If you are free on one or both of these dates please come along. It is very informal. You may make new friends or get to know someone you see in church but don't have time to chat to. Bring a friend or family member. All are welcome.

If you require further details or help with transport please contact me.

Eileen (028 9020 3684)



**Sunday 1st October
2023**

**following the
11.00am All Age
Worship service**



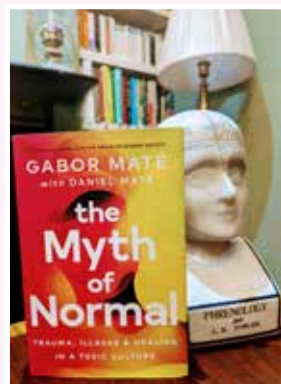
Tickets available
for catering purposes only
Voluntary donations for Church
Hall Refurbishment Fund.

Thought for the Month

The Myth of Normal

As a child, I was a voracious reader. Where many children trailed teddy bears or action figures, I had my nose buried in a book. Reading was my favourite pastime, as I found (and still find) the acquisition of knowledge endlessly thrilling. However, as I grew older, my ability to find the same comfort in reading waned. It began at university, when my studies were so intense that they squeezed out the ability to read for pleasure during our short eight-week terms. Now, in my career, I am so swamped with papers and caselaw and legislation that all I seem to do is read. When reading is your job, it is harder to motivate yourself to read for fun.

That's why when I go on holiday, I use the time finally to get around to those books that I have collected over the years, whose pristine spines and immaculate edges stare accusingly from my book shelves. This year, I read 'The Myth of Normal', by Gabor Maté. Dr Maté is a Canadian physician and addiction specialist, in addition to being a Holocaust survivor, husband and father. His book elegantly combines findings drawn from peer-reviewed research with patient case studies and his own personal history, to impart its central theory that the mind and the body are inextricably intertwined, and that often physical ailments have their origin in the psychological. A healthy body cannot exist without a healthy mind.



This book resonated with me, as I am one of those people who, without fail, falls ill almost immediately upon taking a holiday from work. Everyone knows what stress feels like – the tight chest, the headaches, the sore neck, the tense jaw – but we rarely stop to think what stress *does*. It floods our bodies with adrenaline, weakens our immune system, and has been linked to various chronic diseases such as cardiovascular dysfunction, diabetes, and even cancer.

Upon finishing the book, I decided to be less hard on myself, and to care for my mind as well as my body. I don't beat myself up any more about feeling too tired and burnt out to enjoy reading as I once did. Those pristine books can wait until I am fit to enjoy them as they, and I, deserve.

Lauren Cheshire

Our sincere thanks to Lauren for sharing this 'Thought' with us.

The November 'Thought for the month' will be written by Jennifer Corrin.

Happy 100th Happy 100th

OLIVE GRIFFITH 100th BIRTHDAY



It was a wonderful privilege for me to visit parishioner Olive Griffith on Monday 21st August as she began her 100th Birthday celebrations! Olive has been a most faithful parishioner for many years, and I was delighted to spend a short time with her and bring many hearty congratulations and best wishes on behalf of St Columba's.

During my visit, Olive received her card from the King and Queen – as seen in the photograph. Olive's family from around the world were visiting and she was about to enjoy a celebratory lunch at the Merchant Hotel with her family.

Many congratulations Olive!

The Rector



Church hall cleaning rota

November 11th - Nan Hillier and Isobel McDowell

November 25th - Fiona and Robin Haldane

From the Registers

Our Sorrows

Funeral Services

Tuesday 5th September

Alice Mons Nicholl

Prayers for your thoughts and comfort



Summer in 2023 has been mixed and varied, ranging from the warmest June on record to the wettest July. One observer described summer as 'three fine days and a thunderstorm!' Now, we have moved into autumn. Many North Americans refer to October as the heart of 'the Fall'. The reason seems obvious. This is the month when the trees shed their leaves. It is arguably the most colourful time in the world of nature, which Keats described memorably as 'the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness.' It is the Harvest season and some prayers on these pages, and our worship at St. Columba's acknowledge that fact. As the seasons change, our attention is drawn daily on the media to 'climate change.' Christians, like many other responsible people of all faiths and none, have a duty to treat God's creation with respect.

Hopefully, you will find some of this month's prayers helpful and maybe thought provoking.

Harvest Prayers

1 Lord, your harvest is the harvest of love. It is love sown in the hearts of people. It is love that spreads out like the branches of a great tree covering all who seek its shelter. It is love that is planted in the weak and weary, the sick and dying. Lord, nurture my days with your love, and water my soul with the dew of forgiveness so that the harvest of my life might be your joy.

Amen

2 Lord God, as we gaze on the wonders of creation, increase in us a capacity to treat our environment with respect, that our lives may be spent as stewards of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

3 Almighty God, in giving us responsibility for the world around us, you made us fellow workers in your creation. Give us wisdom and reverence in using the resources of nature so that nobody may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations to come may continue to praise you for your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

4 Lord God Almighty, our Creator, teach us to understand more profoundly that every human life is sacred, whether it belongs to an unborn infant or to a terminally ill patient. As we wrestle with issues of life and death in our times, help us to see each other with your eyes, so that we may reverence, preserve and sustain your gift of life in them, and use our own lives more faithfully in your service. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

5 Eternal Father, source of life and light, whose love extends to all people, all creatures and all things. Grant us that reverence for life which becomes those who believe in you, lest we despise it, degrade it, or come callously to destroy it. Enable us to follow your example, as our Lord and Mentor, Jesus Christ **Amen**

6. Lord, make us thankful for what we have received. Make us more content with what we have. Make us more mindful of other people in need. We ask this for the sake of him who lived in poverty, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

(Note:- The above prayers have been prepared when much discussion is taking place in society about delicate issues related to the first and last stages of life. They can be highly emotive topics but should feature in our prayers.)

Prayers acknowledging human suffering

Lord, in our world, there is a gaping sore. Half the world diets while the other half hungers. Half the world is housed, while the other half is homeless. Half the world pursues profit, while the other half senses loss. Redeem our souls, redeem our peoples, redeem our times. **Amen** (John Bell, former leader of Iona Community)

Strengthen us, God, to relieve the oppressed, to hear the groans of poor prisoners, to reform the abuses of all professions, so that many be made not poor to make a few rich, for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen** (Oliver Cromwell 1650. Surprised?)

Lord, we pray for those who suffer because of war and civil unrest including those who have been forced to leave their own countries and seek security and in our land and elsewhere. (At this point you may wish to think of countries and people who are the victims of violence) We think of the injured and disabled: the mentally distressed: the homeless and hungry: those who mourn their dead, and all who are without hope or friend to sustain them in their grief. **Amen**

God, early in the morning I cry to you. Help me to pray and to concentrate my thoughts on you. In me there is darkness, but with you there is light. I am lonely, but you do not leave me. I am feeble in heart but with you there is help. I am restless, but with you there is peace. In me there is bitterness but with you there is patience. I do not understand all your ways, but you know the way for me. **Amen**

(Prayer of German Christian pastor, Dietrich Bonhoeffer shortly before he was executed by the Nazis in 1944)

Accept my prayers, Lord, for those who have no one to love them and all who feel alone. Wherever and whoever they are, give them a share of my concern.

St. Lukes Day 18th. Oct. – Helping and healing the sick

Almighty God, we are thankful that Luke the physician proclaimed your love in word and deed. Bless all who are your agents of help and healing in hospitals and community, that they may bring relief and hope to the weak, vulnerable and sick in our society. We ask it in your name. **Amen**

Prayer for our parish

Lord, as people of faith in this parish, who worship at St. Columba's, we thank you for the efforts and vision of all who have contributed to the refurbishment of our church. Bless our rector and all who belong to our community and encourage us to go out as your witnesses in obedience to you, to share in word and action the good news of your love for us, as seen through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Finally this month:-

'Grant me to recognise in other people, Lord, the radiance of your own face.
Amen'

'Do not be anxious about anything but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.'
(Philippians 4 v.6)

Railway and Model Club

Following on from Rockies' (David Beattie) last article for the club I have been tasked to further update you on the recent outing in August. This was a Railway and Model Exhibition held in Methodist College Belfast on the weekend of 18th/19th, run by the Ulster Model and Railway Club who are based in Euston Street in East Belfast. Having been invited to exhibit Stewart Beckwith and I gladly accepted the opportunity to do so amongst the many experienced exhibitors who regularly do the rounds of the other shows in Northern and Southern Ireland. We were assisted on occasions by David Beattie and Hugh Miller. We took along our N Gauge Layout recently named by the club as **PARSONS HALT**. This was done in memory of its creator, Ian Parsons, who we sadly lost to illness in October 2022. Ian was a very experienced modeller, a mine of information and a real asset to us during his time in the club. I had the good fortune to work with Ian on the layout and was very delighted to receive positive comments from some of our peers.

The exhibition welcomed exhibitors from North and South. Retailers also distributed their wares. It was enjoying to converse with many youngsters and adults showing a keen interest in learning more about railways and modelling alike. It was nice to see the younger element walking around with newly purchased kits to start them on the road to model making. I try to extol the virtues and benefits of our hobbies to all age groups and genres. No hours being spent on phones, tablets and television for some can only be a good thing to develop the mind. By the time you read this we may have plans in place to possibly have our own Exhibition/Coffee Morning. Other exhibitors have been asking when we will be holding one and would support the club by attending with their own exhibition pieces. More on that decision to follow.

That's all from me and the pen will be handed back to Rocky for the next article.

In his own words Keep on Rolling.....

John Robb, Club Chairman.



MUMS AND TOTS

Mums and Tots has resumed once again in the church hall on Fridays 10 - 11.30am.

We welcomed back many of our children and look forward to lots of new babies and toddlers joining throughout the year.

Joyce (07772 128 944)



Jim, Laura and myself attended a special Christian Aid Week celebration in Carnfunnock Country Park, Larne for volunteers.



Rosamond Bennett, the CEO of Christian Aid Ireland explained how our donations had been so crucial in funding projects she had visited in Kenya and Malawi. It was a great opportunity to meet volunteers from other churches over tea / coffee and delicious bakes.

Joyce

SUNDAY SCHOOL & CRECHE

It has been wonderful to welcome many of our young people back to Sunday School and Creche. Last month we learnt about "Our Part in God's Church" alongside making crafts and decorations for Harvest to be displayed in the church. This month we are looking at "Miracles of Jesus" and have lots of exciting things to do!

If you haven't already done so, would you please return the form for Sunday School and Creche to either me or Lindsay. Below are the October dates:

1st – Harvest Service at 11am followed by Harvest Lunch

8th – Sunday School & Creche

15th - Sunday School & Creche

22nd - Sunday School & Creche

29th – Half Term Holiday

Looking forward to seeing everyone!

Lynn



On Thursday 7th September ten members attended the communion service and afternoon tea party in St Donard's parish hall. This was the first time this event has been held since 2019 so it was good to see friends old and new from across the Diocese. Bishop David, who was accompanied by his wife Hilary, preached at the service; the celebrant was Jono Pierce from St Finian's assisted by Reverend Andy Hays.

We retired to the parish hall and enjoyed refreshments and chat in the relaxed surroundings. Mavis, the Diocesan President, thanked the ladies who made this event possible particularly Heather Lecky who is the co-ordinator for the indoor members prayer circle (IMPC).

The afternoon concluded with a sing-a-long.

Our opening service and enrolment will be on Tuesday 3rd October 8.00pm. We look forward to having this event in the refurbished church. Our meetings are open to all.

Barbara



Art Club

Our sunshine adventure

Ten intrepid members of the club met at Lanyon station, Belfast and after negotiating train and bus timetables arrived at Portrush at 11.30am and immediately adjourned for lunch to 55 North, a restaurant overlooking the Arcadia and the east strand. After lunch we went our separate ways and each member sketched, painted, or made some studies following Julian Friers' advice. The sun stayed with us until it was time to return to Belfast. The train journey back was delayed for 60 minutes at Ballymena due to a lightening strike which affected the signalling system, otherwise we had a very enjoyable day.



NB some of the group were overcome by nostalgia as they recalled their misspent youth remembering dancing in the Arcadia ballroom.

Vida



Ross Thompson writes.

Hello there



My appearances at St. Columba's have been few and far between, over the past years. Due to my work as an 'English as a Foreign Language' teacher, most of my time is spent, unfortunately, out of Northern Ireland. Because of this, John has very kindly suggested that I write this short update about my experiences and my future plans.

For the past six years, God has been pleased to employ me in Tbilisi, the Republic of Georgia. I had been working in two different jobs; one in a language school, where I taught general and exam English to adults and teenagers, the other in the International Black Sea University, where I was working with undergraduate students. In the summer, I have been in the habit of breaking up my Georgian work by teaching Chinese

potential masters' students at various different universities in Great Britain.

For many, Georgia is still a mysterious country. Even when I establish that I am not talking about the US state, people's general associations are that it had something to do with Russia, and features a lot of surnames ending with -shvili. About the same size as the island of Ireland, it boasts an incredible variety of nature, plus a long and rich history (after Armenia, it was the world's second official Christian nation).

The six years I spent there certainly were not easy, with the pandemic, the nearby Ukrainian invasion and other very difficult personal challenges. Nevertheless, God was always there with me, and I saw and learnt a lot. I even found myself ordained as a lay-preacher in the Georgian Baptist Church, and gained considerable experience preaching (in English, I might add, not in Georgian).

Nevertheless, things change and time moves on. Last Spring, I decided to leave Tbilisi. As I write this letter, I am sitting in Dublin airport, waiting for a long journey to Kawasaki, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan (just south of Tokyo). I will be working with various universities in Kanagawa, teaching conversational English. It'll be my first time in Japan (and in Asia in general), and I really don't know what to expect. My contract is only until the end of January, but depending on how things go, I might extend it to the spring semester.

Scripture is full of long journeys. In Genesis, Abram is reported to have set off on a long journey from Ur of the Chaldeans to Canaan – a distance that could be calculated as over 1500 miles, on foot, with his family, servants and livestock (I moan about the 12-hour flight to Tokyo, but this is nothing in comparison). Yet God was with him all this time, through many dangers and tribulations. Journeys, however, do not need to be geographical. Our lives are journeys, and if we ask Him, God will be with us every step, every moment of the time we travel.

Please pray that God can use me in Japan. Also, please pray that I can settle in as best as possible, finding a good church community. May we never lose sight of Him who lightens our paths, even when all seems like darkness.

Many thanks and God bless,

Ross



NOVEMBER PARISH MAGAZINE

Any articles or photographs for publication in the **November** parish magazine should be handed or emailed to the editor, **Billy McAlpine**, by **Wednesday, 11th October**.

His contact details are:-

10 Old Quay Court, Holywood BT18 0HT
Tel: **9042 4390** Email: **colmaged@outlook.com**

We all love to see photographs of people enjoying our Church activities. So we can all benefit fully from this and for reproduction purposes, it is very important that photographs are clear and in focus.

Many thanks

CHURCH OFFERTORY



Prayer:

*God of life, saviour of the poor,
receive with this money
gratitude for your goodness,
penitence for our pride
and dedication to your service
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Church offertory is an essential part of the Christian life, returning some money to the church allows us greater outreach to those in need of God's assistance. Giving is a spiritual matter as central to faithful living as prayer, Bible study, and worship.

There are many ways to contribute to St Columba's:

1. **Standing Order** – our preferred method - is the easiest, secure and most convenient way to give, in accordance with PSNI advice. Of those who contribute financially to the church, around 80% do so in this way. This makes regular giving simple, and there is no more hunting for cash for envelopes each Sunday! Standing Order Forms are available from the Parish Office (028 9065 6891) or from our parish website under the "giving" tab: www.stcolumba's@down.anglican.org

Please remember to review and consider increasing the amount you give by standing order at least once a year.

2. Using **Church Envelopes** – envelopes are available upon request only. Each family receives a packet of Charity and Mission envelopes annually. Our Free Will Offering envelopes are the least common way to contribute as people often have to hunt for cash to contribute each Sunday.
3. **By cheque** – made payable to "St Columba's Parish Church", cheques can be posted to the Parish Office or left in the Rectory letterbox. This allows you to decide when and how much you give however, there is a cost associated with this, and cheques which are not completed correctly can cost the parish £30 from the bank.
4. **Money Transfer** – this can be done by requesting the bank details from the parish office or from the "giving" tab on our parish website.

This allows you to transfer whatever amount you would like to give. Please inform the Parish Administrator if you are doing this so we can allocate the money to the correct fund.

5. Boost your giving by 25% at no additional cost to yourself – **Gift Aid** your donations if you pay tax. Full details available from the Parish Office.
6. **Loose Plate** – we encourage everyone to contribute, however by placing cash on the loose plate we understand that you are contributing anonymously. We may assume you are not a contributing parishioner, which may have an impact on other parish matters, e.g. remaining on the list of Vestrypersons. We ask you to consider a method of regular giving from the list above and keep the loose plate contributions for visitors or for particular requests. e.g. Bishop's Appeal or Disaster Relief. However, if you still prefer to use the loose plate to contribute, we will receive it most gratefully!

Thank you.

Karen Patterson

Ladies Guild Notes for October



Members old and new were welcomed to the opening meeting of the new season which was held on 12th September in the Church Hall. It was our Annual Charity Event and we were delighted to welcome Liz Fetherstonaugh and Suoheng from Eggshell Cambodia. This charity works with children of poor and disadvantaged families who are in need of care and protection during the time their parents are at work. They are clothed, fed and given some education at a Day Care Centre. A visual presentation showed both their home living conditions and the work done at the Centre. Suoheng gave a most moving account of her and her siblings life in deprived and cruel circumstances. She told of her struggle in having to work from the age of 8yrs and the many trials she overcame in her quest to gain education and knowledge before attaining her present position with the Charity. Members were generous with donations and the sum of £300 will be donated to help further the work of caring for these lovely children.

The October meeting on 17th of the month will see us visiting Sinclair Seamen's Church. Any member who may require transport, please contact one of the committee.

Eleanor

PARISH ORGANISATIONS


New members are always welcome at any of our organisations!

Sunday	Sunday School <i>Junior nursery to P5 Senior P6 and over</i>	2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th Sundays at 10.30am	Superintendent: Lynn Ryan 07955 479065
	Crèche	2 nd , 4 th and 5 th Sundays	Lindsay Rothwell 07710 590574
Monday	Craft and Hobby Circle	1 st and 3 rd Monday each month 10.30am	Carol Willis 9079 9997
	Railway and Model Club	2.00pm	David Beattie 9028 5868
	MU Afternoon Group	2 nd Monday each month 2.30pm	Joy Montgomery 9029 5427
	Mens' Club	7.30pm	John Robb 9058 1438
Tuesday	Ladies Badminton	10-30am	Gillian Popplestone 9080 3799
	Ladies Guild	3 rd Tuesday each month 2.30pm in the church	Eileen Anderson 9020 3684
	Activity Group	Except 1 st Tuesday 7.30pm	Maureen Irwin 9079 5155
	Mothers' Union	1 st Tuesday each month 8.00pm	Barbara Laverty 9573 8743
Wednesday	Bible Study Group	2.30pm - 4.00pm	Eileen Anderson 9020 3684
Thursday	Art Club	9.30am	Vida Shaw 90655063
	Choir	7.30pm	Dr Joe McKee 07976 294574
Friday	Mums and Tots	10.00am	Joyce Stevenson, 9058 3381
Bi-monthly	Pause	As arranged	Eileen Anderson 9020 3684
Monthly	Youth Etc. <i>(11-15 years)</i>	As arranged	Jonathan Martin, 07980 885990
	Young Families	Social events as arranged	Rachel Stewart 07812 247343

WHO'S WHO IN ST. COLUMBAS

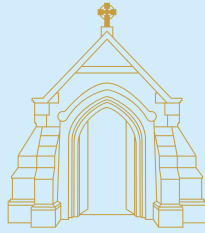
Parish website: www.stcolumbas.down.anglican.org

Rector	The Reverend Chancellor John R Auchmuty	St. Columba's Rectory 29 Kings Road BT5 6JG 028 9047 1514 rectorknock@down.anglican.org
Assistant Priests	The Reverend Canon Ken Smyth The Reverend Canon Walter Laverty	3 Mount Royal Bangor BT20 3BG 028 9145 8706 6 Hanwood Heights Dundonald BT16 1XU 028 9573 8743
Diocesan Lay Reader	Karen McAlpine	readercolumba@gmail.com
Rector's Churchwarden	Dr. Richard Whiteside	07747 616105
People's Churchwarden	Louise Mercer	07742 113519
Rector's Glebewarden	David Kelly	07730 468684
People's Glebewarden	Ian Johnston	07850 999909
Honorary Sexton	John Proctor	028 9087 0526
Assistant Honorary Sexton	Geoff Launchbury	028 9028 1204 07814 498 241
Select Vestry	Rector, Churchwardens, Glebewardens, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Assistant Hon. Treasurer, David Craig, Andrew Hirst, John Kerr, Martin Moore, Nigel Morrow, Scott Rutherford, Gillian Sadlier, Jim Stevenson, Jonathan Stewart	
Honorary Secretary	John Macpherson	10 Sandhill Gardens BT5 6FF 028 9028 2076 jdmacpherson@hotmail.com
Honorary Treasurer	Brian Acheson	028 9042 4892
Assistant Honorary Treasurer	Victor Dukelow	028 9029 0625

Gift Aid Secretary	Jack Dunlop	028 9065 4103
Parochial Nominators	Victor Dukelow, Patrick Good, Elizabeth Leonard, Linda Wilson	
Diocesan Synod members	Patrick Good , Dr. Elizabeth Leonard Charles Auchmuty (Under 30)	
Organist and Choral Director	Dr Joe McKee	07976 294574
Assistant Organist	Brian Clements	028 9079 3641
Magazine Editor	Billy McAlpine	028 9042 4390 colmaged@outlook.com
Parish Webmaster	Dr Jonathan Stewart	office.knock@down.anglican.org
C of I Gazette Distributor	Moranne Noad	028 9079 3704
Bible Reading Fellowship notes	Joan Madill	028 9065 6591
Church flowers	Eleanor Launchbury	028 9028 1204
Premise's Convenor	Stewart Beckwith	028 9048 6622
Crucifer	Mark Laverty	028 9573 8743
Parish Office Administrator/ Financial Giving Secretary	Karen Patterson Office hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am-1.00pm	 028 9065 6891 office.knock@down.anglican.org

Safeguarding Panel

**The Rector, 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 suspicion regarding child welfare in the parish please contact:
The Rector 02890471514 Patrick Good 02890656908 Elizabeth Leonard 02890653162**



ST COLUMBA'S KNOCK

*An open door to friendship,
fellowship and faith*

YOUR attendance can strengthen YOUR parish!



CHURCH CAR PARKING

When parking to go to church services or Parish Organisations please be sensitive to the residents in the local community by taking care not to block entrances or pavements. Thank you!



Facebook

St Columba's Knock is now on Facebook. **'Like'** our page to see updates on events, services and photos. Search coiknock on Facebook or Messenger to find us easily.

For those who are new to St Columba's and would like more information about the life and membership of the parish, please give your name and phone number to our Churchwardens or contact the Parish Office during office hours Monday-Friday, 9.00am-1.00pm on 028 9065 6891.

