

# The Columban

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH, KNOCK, OCTOBER 2024



*Harvest Thanksgiving*



## RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioner,

### HARVEST SERVICES AND LUNCH

SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

8.15AM AND 11AM

**I invite you to join us on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October for our Harvest services and Parish Lunch.** The church will be beautifully decorated with many aspects of creation, the children will be actively involved in the main morning service as we sing our favourite harvest hymns. We come simply to say "Thank You" to God for His blessings, for the gift of life, for the beauty of creation all around our parish boundaries and beyond.

We are immensely fortunate to live and work in this part of Belfast. Many of us take delight in working in our gardens. We have numerous places of beauty to walk, cycle or run through each day. How often do we take God's gifts to us for granted in the hustle and bustle of daily life? If we are neglectful in saying 'Thank You' to one another for a good turn, a gift or an act of kindness at a difficult time, we can perhaps be even more neglectful in saying "Thank You" to God. If this sounds all too familiar, then our Harvest services are coming just at the right time for us all. While we must not be self-centred, we will also be praying for the right use of the world's resources and exploring fresh ways how we can support those in need. **This is a good opportunity for us all to come together as a parish family, especially if you have not been to St. Columba's for some time.**

**Following our All Age Worship Service we look forward to our very popular Harvest Lunch in the Hall.** The Catering Committee are working very hard with all of their many preparations. This is always a delightful opportunity to meet with one another and share fellowship with each other as together we enjoy a delicious lunch. Please ensure that you collect a ticket in church which is simply for catering purposes only. Voluntary donations will be allocated to the Church Hall Fund.

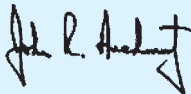
## PRAYER LEAFLET

**Following many requests, a new Prayer Leaflet is inserted in this edition of the Columban.** It has been carefully designed to place beside our beds or to travel with us each day in our bags or jacket pockets. These prayers can be used at different times each day or in particular circumstances of need. This new resource is being made available at the beginning of a new season to assist us with our daily devotions. These prayers will be familiar to you as they were selected from *"The Prayers for Your Comfort"* in previous editions of the Columban, from Canon Ken Smyth. I thank him for supplying such helpful prayers each month and also our Parish Administrator, Karen Patterson who has worked very hard printing and folding our new Prayer Leaflet.

I commend this new resource to you and your family. Additional copies are available at the back of the church.

Yours in His Service,

John



### 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

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**10.30am** **Holy Communion** *followed by refreshments*

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>**

**8.15am**

**Harvest Thanksgiving**

**(Green)**

**Holy Communion**

Epistle Revelation 14: 14-18 Reaping the earth's harvest

Read by: Ronny Martin

Gospel Luke 12: 13-21 Parable of the rich fool

**11.00am**

**All Age Worship followed by Harvest Lunch**

Reading Luke 12: 13-21 Parable of the rich fool

Read by: Susannah Rolston

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>**

**10.30am**

**Saint Philip the Deacon**

**(Red)**

**Holy Communion** *followed by refreshments*

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>**

**8.15am**

**The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**

**(Green)**

**Holy Communion**

Epistle Hebrews 4: 12-16 Jesus the great High Priest

Read by: Michael Sadlier

Gospel Mark 10: 17-31 The rich man

**10.03am**

**Holy Communion BBC RADIO ULSTER RECORDED SERVICE**

Epistle Hebrews 4: 12-16 Jesus the great High Priest

Read by: Rachel Wilson

Gospel Mark 10: 17-31 The rich man

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>**

**10.30am**

**Saint Luke**

**(Red)**

**Holy Communion** *followed by refreshments*

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>**

**8.15am**

**The Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity**

**(Green)**

**Holy Communion**

Epistle Hebrews 5: 1-10 The order of Melchizedek

Read by: Ronny Martin

Gospel Mark 10: 35-45 The Request of James and John

**10.30am**

**Morning Prayer** *followed by refreshments hosted by Ladies Guild*

1<sup>st</sup> Reading Job 38: 1-7 The Lord answers Job

Read by: Caroline Auchmuty

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Mark 10: 35-45 The request of James and John

Read by: Eleanor Launchbury

Occasional Prayers

Helen Armstrong

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Saint James, the Brother of our Lord (Transferred)** (Red)  
**10.30am** Holy Communion *followed by refreshments*

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> The Fifth Sunday before Advent** (Red)  
**8.15am** Holy Communion

Epistle Hebrews 7: 23-28 Jesus, the perfect son

Read by: Alan Boyd

Gospel Mark 10: 46-52 Bartimaeus, the blind beggar

**10.30am**

**Holy Communion**

Epistle Hebrews 7: 23-28 Jesus, the perfect son

Read by: Josephine Kelly

Gospel Mark 10: 46-52 Bartimaeus, the blind beggar

Intercessions

Clergy

**Thursday 31st All Saints Day** (White)  
**10.30am** Holy Communion *followed by refreshments*

### Online Services

*The audio recording of our 10.30am service each Sunday can be found on our parish website [www.stcolumbas.down.anglican.org](http://www.stcolumbas.down.anglican.org) under "Church Service Recordings".*

## **DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR HARVEST**

### **Saturday 5th October from 10am - 12noon**



**All gifts of fruit, vegetables, foliage and flowers would be gratefully appreciated.**

**Refreshments will be served.**

**We would be delighted if you would like to help with the decorating, or to simply leave items at the church!**

**Thank you.**

# SUNDAY SCHOOL & CRECHE

It has been lovely to welcome back many of our young people to Sunday School and Creche. Last month we created a jigsaw display when each person designed a piece all about themselves. We hope to have this ready for everyone to see very shortly. We also made some beautiful crafts and decorations for Harvest to be displayed in the church for the Harvest Service. This month we are focusing on "Prayer" and have lots of lovely things planned. If you haven't already done so, would you please fill in the data capture form for our records and give to one of the team.

6<sup>th</sup> October – HARVEST SERVICE @ 11am

13<sup>th</sup> October – Sunday School & Creche

20<sup>th</sup> October - Sunday School & Creche

27<sup>th</sup> October – NO SUNDAY SCHOOL & CRECHE – HALF TERM BREAK

Looking forward to seeing everyone!

Lynn



## From the Registers Funeral Services

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August

Sheelagh Pixton

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September

James (Bill) William Oliphant Morrison

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September

William (Bill) Joseph Nicholl



We are delighted to be selected as the venue for the BBC Radio Ulster Sunday Broadcast Service, live on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

The service will begin promptly at 10.03am and we ask that everyone is in their seats by 9.40am that morning in time for sound checks and rehearsal.

Everyone is welcome to attend this service, which will be Holy Communion.



I attended the annual Christian Aid celebration in Drumbeg Parish hall on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

So far Christian Aid Ireland have raised the fantastic sum of £361,236, an increase on last years total.

Rosamond Bennett, the CEO of Christian Aid Ireland spoke about her visit to the new country of South Sudan who are having to accommodate displaced peoples escaping from conflicts in neighbouring countries. She saw how Christian Aid funding is assisting the South Sudan people to improve their agricultural processes and establish local markets.



It was a great opportunity to meet volunteers from other churches over tea and coffee.

Once again thank you all at St Columba's for your support throughout the Christian Aid week.

**Joyce Stevenson**

## 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**

## Thought for the Month

'A Grandmother who enjoyed the good of her Labour'

I caught a piece on the news recently about an amazing lady called Ethel from Surrey who had celebrated her 115th birthday. She confided that her secret to a long and happy life was: "Never argue with anyone. I listen and then I do what I like!

I just love that kind of approach! It reminded me of my maternal grandmother, Agnes Reid, who came from rural County Antrim and was a traditional 'Irish Mammy.' She was kind, strong, hardworking, generous, ambitious and always made her church Rector some tea, buttered fruit loaf and cake



Rosemary Allister



each time he came to visit. Ministers were held in very high esteem.

Just after the Second World War when rationing was still in place she often saved oranges for her minister at St Andrew's, Rasharkin (near Ballymena). Now that doesn't sound terribly generous, but just after WW 2, oranges were a scare commodity and for a young, new to the job, minister and his wife, oranges were 'manna from heaven'.

My grandmother would have loved to have studied to become a teacher, but being one of nine children and money being scarce, going to college to gain a teaching diploma was not an option.

Her father, who was to go on to play his part in the Northern Ireland Labour party and trade union movement, did make sure she went to a technical college where she learned secretarial skills and book-keeping. She went on to work for local businesses in Ballymoney until she got married in 1930. At that time when women tied the knot, they had to give up work, so her focus was on bringing up eight children as well as running little side businesses. I suppose today we'd say she was an entrepreneur working from home, but nobody really thought of it as



a job back then. She sold eggs produced by the chickens they kept on their small holding and marketed clothing from fashion catalogues to local families in the surrounding countryside.

During election times when the local Ulster Unionist party representatives came to give her a lift to the polling stations, she listened and never argued.

However, once in the polling booth her vote immediately went to the Northern Ireland Labour Party, in keeping with her Labour roots.

And the Ulster Unionists never knew a thing!

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

*The November 'Thought for the Month' will be written by Billy Hirst*



## PAUSE

This time last year we were having a heatwave! What a difference a year makes.

By now most of us will have settled into our Autumn routine of education, hobbies and organisations. There is always a lot of catching up to do at this time of year and the ideal place to do that is in a local coffee shop.

This month Pause will meet on

**Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 10.30am in the Poet**

for tea, coffee and scones.

If you have not been to Pause before please come along. The idea is simply to meet up with others and have a chat. It is open to all.

If you require transport or further details please contact me.

**Eileen, 028 9020 3684**

# PARISH ORGANISATION LEADERS MEETING

As our new season of activity gets underway it was good to meet with our Parish Organisation leaders. This was a timely opportunity to discuss practical matters about using the church hall to ensure all the activities can be enjoyed without difficulty. The Scout leaders were warmly welcomed as they settle into their new surroundings in the hall. The meeting was divided into four sections:



**Dr. Elizabeth Leonard, a member of the Safeguarding Panel discussed:**

- First Aid boxes and the Accident Report books.
- The defibrillator

**Jim Stevenson, a member of the Select Vestry discussed:**

- The Emergency exits and Fire Evacuation procedures
- The New Keycode for the hall door
- Hall heating requirements
- Use of the Hall Double doors for Groups of over 50 people and deliveries
- Use of church bins

**Ian Johnston, Rector's Glebewarden discussed:**

- Grounds maintenance
- Assistance with maintenance and site projects

**The Rector discussed:**

- GDPR Regulations and Compliance
- Effective Communication within Organisations and Parish
- The Columban magazine and the importance of advertising activities and meetings
- Hall Booking Convenor Stuart Beckwith to be informed about hall availability and programme changes
- General housekeeping and breakage reporting
- Polite Parking and respect for Neighbours
- Respect for one another
- Parish Website and Facebook Page

The was an excellent atmosphere throughout the evening and all those present were given a handout of useful parish contact details and safety guidelines.

## 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

Demense Road, Holywood

Dalcoolin, Holywood

Farm Hill Road, Holywood

Laurel Lane, Craigavad

Lemonfield Avenue, Holywood

Downshire Road, Holywood

### Canon Laverty

Woodcroft Lane, Holywood

Old Quay Court, Holywood

High Street, Holywood

Priory Manor, Holywood

The Close, Holywood

## Art Club

The first meeting after the summer break was on 12<sup>th</sup> September and it was lovely to see everyone and have a good chat. It was also a special day because the Ulster artist, Julian Friers, was giving a demonstration and a teaching workshop for the members. The lesson was to produce a painting using only 3 primary colours plus black and white in any medium e.g., oils, acrylics, water colour, pastels. We all had the same picture as Julien and as he painted we watched and painted along. Needless to say, Julian's painting was fantastic and we always learn so much from his visits and greatly appreciate the time and expertise he shares with us.



**Carole**

Our season has started with a visit to Crumlin Road Jail. Harry, our guide for the morning was a fount of knowledge and able to address any questions we had regarding the prison's history. He also had lots of interesting anecdotes about prison life and explained how some phrases commonly used in language have their origins in prison. We enjoyed a light lunch in the pretty café. Thank you to the car drivers who got us there and back safely. The thought for the day was that we should "Be an opener of doors" and not letting opportunities pass and open the door of welcome to others.



"The Big Sing" a series of services are being held across Ireland to raise money for "Mums in May". This Fund was established to support initiatives in any Diocese in Ireland. A grant, which is repaid, can be sought to finance the establishing of a local project. A single grant may be given to address a particular need, as a charity we cannot give money but goods or a voucher can help in some circumstances. The fund needs replenishing, so events are often held in May. This year we began singing across Ireland and Down and Dromore members met in St Finnian's on Sunday 8th to play our part. Groups were asked to submit a list of hymns suggested by members to be considered for inclusion in the service. The top 7 hymns were printed, an explanation given, and significance explained. Two of the hymns included in the service were part of our submission. Singing "Amazing Grace" to a jazz arrangement was greatly appreciated by all. The parish choir sang two pieces of music. June Butler, Ireland President, Iris Suito, Zonal Trustee, and Mavis Thompson, Diocesan President, participated. The service was led by Jono Pierce, Rector of St Finnian's assisted by Andy Hay, curate.



We meet on the first Tuesday of each month so our next meeting is on **OCTOBER TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> 8.00pm** in the parish hall. Sharon Elkin, a stylist, who is a parishioner will talk and demonstrate ways to refresh our winter wardrobe.

Come bring a friend and join us for this fun and interesting evening.

All welcome.

**Barbara**

# CORNUCOPIA OF FASHION

**TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 8.00**

**ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH HALL, KINGS ROAD, KNOCK**

## **SHARON ELKIN, STYLIST**

**Talks and demonstrates ways  
to revise your wardrobe as we step into  
FLAMBOYANT AUTUMN**



## **Evening Recital**

**Saturday 16 November at 7.30pm**



Following some very kind comments from parishioners and friends following the Summer Concert at the end of June, I am planning to hold an informal one hour Recital in the church in mid November. This will feature a number of solo instrumental items and duets, along with vocal items from a group of our regular cantors. Full details of the programme will be given in the November issue of The Columban. In the meantime, please make this event known to your friends and neighbours. Thanks.

**Joe McKee**



## **Ladies Guild**

Following on from our very successful opening meeting of the new season (full report next month) we are looking forward to a visit to the War Memorial Museum in Talbot Street, Belfast. Members should meet at the Museum at 2.30pm. Parking in the area is limited but those wanting to travel by car could perhaps consider parking at the car park adjacent to St Anne's Cathedral nearby. Anyone requiring transport can contact me on 07709 917 548.

We continue to keep in our thoughts and prayers those members who are ill or recovering from surgery.

**Eleanor**



Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024  
following the  
11.00am All Age Worship service

Tickets available  
for catering purposes only

Voluntary donations for Church Hall Refurbishment Fund.



### Church hall cleaning rota

**October 13<sup>th</sup>**

Christine and Ian Johnston

**October 27<sup>th</sup>**

Clare and Jim Best



## Church Facebook Page

We would like to increase the number of posts that appear on the St. Columba's Facebook page. Our daughter Emma creates the posts for the church services as well as occasional events, but it would be great to put up information about the organisations that we have in church. If you would like our followers to know more about your organisation, please send a short paragraph about what you do. We are also happy to put up any events that you organise for your members – we just need about a week's notice. Send your information to [lynnryan16@gmail.com](mailto:lynnryan16@gmail.com) and we will do the rest!!



# BOARD OF GOVERNOR TRANSFEROR REPRESENTATIVES

An important part of our parish work in the community is with our local primary schools. A member of St. Columba's has the opportunity of serving on the Board of Governors in both Greenwood Primary School and Belmont Primary School as a Transferor Representative.

**Billy McAlpine has served as our Transferor Representative on the Board of Governors in Greenwood Primary School for the past twenty years.**

Billy who is a former Deputy Headmaster of Wellington College Belfast and the former Chair of Examiners of A Level Chemistry for C.C.E.A has made a most significant contribution to the life and work of Greenwood Primary School.

As the Education Authority is now in the process of reconstituting Boards of Governors Billy has expressed his wish to retire as our Transferor Representative in Greenwood Primary School. I thank Billy for all his hard work and conscientious support to the school over a very significant period of time. Billy has given tirelessly of his time and energy to support the school.



**I have nominated Helen Armstrong to succeed Billy as our new Transferor Representative.** Helen knows the school as her daughter, Olivia is a former pupil. Helen has recently retired from Regent House where she taught Latin and History. She was Head of Years 11 and 12 (Girls) and also a Teacher Tutor. Her experience in education will be of great benefit to Greenwood Primary School.

It was a joy to introduce Helen to the Principal, Miss Lindy Forster on a recent visit which Billy and I made to the school.

**I have served as our Transferor Representative in Belmont Primary School for the past fifteen years.** I have deeply valued the opportunity to assist with the work of Belmont Primary School and am extremely grateful for all the support I have received from the Principal and colleagues on the Board of Governors. As the current Board of Governor term of office concludes it is a timely opportunity for me to retire from this role. I will continue to conduct assemblies in both these schools and look forward in that capacity to continuing my involvement.

**I have nominated Dr. Laura Wells to succeed me as our new Transferor Representative for Belmont Primary School.** Laura knows the school well as her son Toby was a pupil there for the past three years, She is a Lecturer in Marketing at Ulster University and her educational experience will greatly assist the work of the new Board of Governors. Laura has recently joined our

lesson reading rota in St. Columba's.

It was also a joy to introduce Laura to the Principal, Mrs Olwen McIlroy when we met at the school.

**I wish Helen and Laura God's richest Blessing as they commence their responsibilities towards the end of this year and thank them for representing St. Columba's in these significant roles.**

**The Rector**



## Hospital Visiting

It is always a wonderful privilege for the Rector to visit parishioners when they are in hospital. This is only made possible by keeping the Rector or the Parish Administrator informed of when people are admitted, which ward they are in, and when they are discharged.



***PLEASE HELP US TO HELP YOU by keeping us up to date.*** While we appreciate that this can sometimes slip parishioner's minds in the stress of hospital life and illness, it is important that we are kept up to date so we can schedule visits. St Columba's has a wonderful church family which we always want to help, and this is only made possible when we are kept informed of changing circumstances.

Contact:

**The Rector:** Tel 028 9047 1517 or email [rector.knock@down.anglican.org](mailto:rector.knock@down.anglican.org)

or

**Karen Patterson:** Tel 028 9065 6891 Monday- Friday, 9am-1pm or email office. [knock@down.anglican.org](mailto:knock@down.anglican.org)

Thank you.

**Karen Patterson**

**Parish Administrator**

## Afternoon Group

Monday 14th October in the church at 2.30pm

Everyone is welcome just bring some chat and your sense of humour.

**Joy**

# SCOUTS

As we prepared to move into our new scout den in the Parochial Halls there was some heavy lifting required with the transfer of our equipment from Knock Presbyterian to St Columba's. Transferring decades of kit acquired by my scouting predecessors and in truth myself was no small task.

I wish I could I have been more ruthless with a cathartic clear out of tired, older and perhaps the odd rusty item but our scout mentality of 'mend and make do' teaches us that there is value in looking after what we have.

I often reference the fact that one of the patrol tents we take each year to summer camp was first used by the troop in the 1960s. Embedded as one of our 7 scout laws is "A scout makes good use of his time and is careful of possessions and property." Hence nearly every item of equipment from our former scout hall now rests at 29 Kings Road

By involving scouts in the movement of tents and mallets and patrol boxes and ropes and poles and maps and compasses and the sports equipment, our aspiration is they will take a degree of pride in the premises and their own gear having got a sweat up lugging our resources down the stairs.

It is said a volunteer is worth 10 pressed men. The scouts who volunteered to move kit from Knock Presbyterian may well have been motivated by the promise of a trip to Al Gelato in Ballyhackamore, but it was a well deserved treat and a decent reward for their efforts.

We look forward to many months at St Columba's and trust the congregation will be rewarded by engagement with the troop assisting at events as well as adding your skills to our leadership team with talents or support in any way you could see fit.

## **Scouts in numbers:**

60 scouts (all boys)

1 young leader (u18 doing Duke of Edinburgh)

10 adult leaders

## **Iain**

Scoutmaster

4th and 24th Belfast Scouts



## NEW BEGINNINGS



A church has stood on the site of Canterbury Cathedral since 597AD when Augustine was sent by Pope Gregory the Great to reintroduce Christianity to England. The Cathedral was then completely rebuilt between 1070 and 1077 by Archbishop Lanfranc.

The Cathedral is perhaps most famous for the murder of the archbishop, Thomas Becket, in the north-west transept in 1170, by knights of King Henry II. It is said that the King was in frequent conflict with Becket, exclaiming once: 'Will no one rid me of this turbulent priest?'. Four of his knights took this literally, and murdered Becket in his own cathedral. Every year, there is a memorial service on

the 29<sup>th</sup> of December for the Martyrdom of St Thomas. The liturgy includes lines from TS Eliot's *Murder in The Cathedral* and a dramatic slamming of the cathedral door. Although, it does mean that I have to stay in Canterbury until after this service is over, every year.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of September, I was installed as a Lay Clerk in the cathedral choir, after spending a year here as a Choral Scholar. A Lay Clerk is a professional adult singer, who traditionally makes up the back row of a cathedral choir. They sing the lower three parts in the choir, and children sing the top line. I feel immensely privileged to be a part of the choir of Canterbury Cathedral; to play a small part in a musical tradition that spans over 1400 years. Working in a building as historic as this, it is hard not to acknowledge the importance of tradition. Yet, whilst tradition is so significant, and should be cherished, it is also acknowledged that in the present day, many things need to be modernised. The Cathedral Choir changed 10 years ago, with the formation of a girls choir, who initially sang one service per week, but now sing three services, equal in number to the boys choir. Additionally, I am very proud to have been installed as the first female lay clerk of Canterbury Cathedral. Here's to many more! The role of 'lay clerk' at Canterbury is one which has existed for hundreds of years, and my predecessors include the composer Thomas Tallis... so no pressure!

I would not be doing what I am doing now if weren't for the guidance and support of St Columba's musicians, clergy, and parishioners, and indeed the music staff at Methody. I am very fortunate to have been surrounded



by such brilliant musicians from a young age, and feel very grateful to have been given the opportunity to develop my singing in the welcoming and supportive atmosphere of St Columba's.



*A picture from my installation as a lay clerk*

Alongside being a lay clerk, I work for The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral, where I am the Database Administrator and Membership Manager. The Friends is a network of 5000 people, spanning the globe, and is referred to as the 'cathedral's fan club', as through fundraising and events, we raise money to give grants to support all aspects of cathedral life. This role allows me to combine my love of maths with my passion for singing.

If anyone happens to visit Canterbury, please do get in touch! My email address is [ccmcartney1@aol.co.uk](mailto:ccmcartney1@aol.co.uk).

**Caroline McCartney**

## OCTOBER FLOWER ROTA

<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>HARVEST</b>
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Nan Armstrong
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Marjory Stewart
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	Wendy Killen

# GLORIOUS CHARGE or MILITARY BLUNDER?

## (Part 2)

The Light Brigade now faced total annihilation. The only desperate option was to attempt to withdraw back up the North Valley, to their start point. But they were quickly encircled on both sides by Russian infantry and artillery, as well as behind from the very guns they had just overrun, as the Russian gunners regrouped and opened fire once again, this time on the backs of the retreating British. Furious and frantic fighting ensued but, miraculously, the remnants of the Brigade somehow manage to extricate themselves from the closing Russian trap and struggle back up the North Valley to safety. The charge had started at around 11.15 am and was over within forty minutes – as was the effectiveness of the Light Brigade as a fighting force for the rest of the Crimean War.

To this day, historians debate the errors leading up to, and during, the charge itself (as well as throughout the entire Crimean campaign) and how things might have turned out differently if there had been clearer communications, better field intelligence and more decisive military leadership. Perhaps the most incredible outcome, however, was the scale of the casualties suffered by the Light Brigade. Considering the utterly suicidal nature of the frontal charge, and the miraculous escape when surrounded on all sides by the Russians, out of the 670 officers and men, 110 were killed and 160 wounded or taken prisoner, an attrition rate of some 40% - compared to casualty rates of up to 90% in many regiments during the First World War 60 years later. No less than 400 troopers survived the charge and staggered back to tell the tale, although many of them would undoubtedly go on to suffer severe PTSD for the remainder of their lives, a completely unrecognised condition at the time. However, over half of their horses were also killed or had to be destroyed, and in hostile territory so far from home were virtually impossible to replace, resulting in the Light Brigade's minimal contribution for the rest of the campaign.



Lord Cardigan



Lord Lucan



Bitter recriminations immediately broke out between Raglan, Lucan, Cardigan and other senior officers as to who was to blame for the devastating demise of the Light Brigade. Not only that, but the British had also suffered the loss of a number of prestigious naval guns, captured by the enemy. However, the Russians had demonstrably failed in their strategic aim to sever the British supply lines between Balaclava and Sevastopol, the vital naval base to which the Allies were now able to turn their full attention. The siege lasted for many months but eventually Sevastopol fell and the Russians sought terms for peace, including the return of Moldavia and Wallachia to the Ottoman Empire. Within weeks of the charge, Cardigan had returned to England and was feted as a hero, until Lucan and other officers also returned home to give their version of events. In fact, Cardigan and Lucan continued their personal antagonistic rivalry through the columns of *The Times* newspaper, each accusing the other of blundering and military incompetence, until both men were promoted, appointed Knight Commanders of the Order of the Bath (a very British solution) and never allowed to serve in the field again, apart from occasional regimental parades and pageantry. Lord Raglan meanwhile had succumbed to dysentery and depression, and died in Crimea before the end of campaign.



Lord Raglan

Apart from the introduction of the new 'cardigan' and 'balaclava' woollen garments to offer some protection against the freezing winters, the Crimean War produced in other ways a number of important outcomes. Out of the total of 22,000 British deaths, only around 4600 occurred in actual combat but a staggering 17,400 soldiers died from disease (primarily cholera), mortal wounds, starvation or cold. Telegraphic communications had also started to develop so that news could reach England in a matter of days rather than weeks. The British public was appalled at the unnecessarily harsh and brutal conditions suffered by the ordinary soldiers in the extreme Crimean climate, seemingly ignored by most of the senior officers. From this emerged the establishment, for the first time, of proper nursing care for all ranks under the inspirational influence and personal efforts of Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and their staff of volunteers. Public opinion was also outraged by the display of weak and incompetent military leadership, resulting in catastrophic blunders that had plagued the entire campaign, glaringly epitomised by the fateful charge of the Light Brigade. For the first time, the war was

witnessed on the ground, and reported on, by members of the press, notably William Russell of The Times, who would provide Tennyson with the material for his famous poem only a few weeks after the actual event. And finally, the Crimean War saw the introduction of the Victoria Cross award for gallantry for all ranks, forged initially from a Chinese bronze cannon.

So back to the original question – *glorious charge or military blunder?* The answer, as lies so often in both life and history, has to be an emphatic combination of both. But there can be no doubt where Tennyson's sympathies lay, reflected in his inspirational poem – in spite of the catastrophic military blunders, it was the extraordinary and unquestioning courage of the ordinary trooper that won the admiration of the world.



The Siege of Sevastopol

*Their's not to make reply.*

*Their's not to reason why,*

*Their's but to do and die:*

*Into the valley of Death*

*Rode the six hundred.*

*When can their glory fade?*

*O the wild charge they made!*

*All the world wonder'd.*

*Honour the charge they made!*

*Honour the Light Brigade,*

*Noble six hundred!*

**Ian Noad**



As we begin a new season of activities, we respectfully request that parishioners and visitors to our parish park in a considerate way by not blocking entrances to the homes of our neighbours. *It is also very important to leave a clear road available for emergency vehicles which may need to pass at speed while a service is taking place.*

***Cones have been placed to assist with considerate parking and we ask that they are not moved.***

PLEASE make sure that vehicles can pull out of driveways safely and have enough space to see each direction, and do not park tight to the hedge as pedestrians legally need the space of a double buggy to walk past parked vehicles. Police can leave tickets on badly parked vehicles. *Remember – being late for church is not a viable excuse for poor parking!* Thank you.

## GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

We convey our heartiest congratulations to Jim and Clare Best who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September. They were married in St. Patrick's Parish Church, Ballymacarrett and had their wedding reception in the Stormont Hotel.

Their family organised a delightful and most enjoyable surprise Golden Wedding Anniversary lunch in the Stormont Hotel. I was delighted to be invited, and it was joyful to share in all the celebrations as we enjoyed a delicious lunch.

On the following day we all sang the hymns they had on their wedding day during the Choral Eucharist. This was followed by great applause from the congregation!

We assure Jim and Clare of our prayerful good wishes for the years ahead.

**The Rector**



## Now is your chance to do something for your church.

**We are looking for some more volunteers to assist with the audio recordings of the 10.30 service on Sundays.**

The work is not difficult as full training will be given – the only requirement is that you have a laptop to record and edit with, and the editing of the audio file is no more difficult, in fact easier, than using a word processor. An Internet connection is required to upload the audio file to the website before 14.00 on Sundays.

You will find this job most rewarding – and this is your chance to have some control of what is heard – if you find the Rector's sermons are going on far too long, then you will have the power to fade him out!



The more people we have available to assist means that you might only have to look after one or two services a month. Other advantages include being able to sit at the back of the church. You will however have to arrive early to the service to check the equipment and be there for any rehearsals.

Your experience of mixing sound can be another line in your CV. We are an equal opportunities employer - anyone from a teenager to a granny is welcome – the usual non-negotiable volunteer fees apply.

If you are even slightly interested, but don't wish to commit just yet, then come and join us some Sunday morning and see for yourself how easy it is to provide the sound in the church and the recording.

**Contact David Deane at the back of church or on 07811 374186**



## NOVEMBER MAGAZINE

Any articles or photographs for publication in the **November** parish magazine should be handed or emailed to the editor, **Billy McAlpine**, by **Wednesday, 9th 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**

# PARISH ORGANISATIONS

*New members are always welcome at any of our organisations!*


<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sunday School</b> <i>Junior nursery to P5</i>  <i>Senior P6 and over</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays at 10.30am	Superintendent: Lynn Ryan  07955 479065
	<b>Crèche</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays at 10.30am	Lindsay Rothwell  07710 590574
	<b>Choir</b>	9.30am	Dr Joe McKee 07976 294574
<b>Monday</b>	<b>MU Afternoon Group</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday each month 2.30pm	Joy Montgomery 9029 5427
	<b>Men's Forum</b>	7.30pm	John Robb 07956061929
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Ladies Badminton</b>	10-00am - 12 Noon	Gillian Popplestone 07730479478
	<b>Ladies Guild</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month 2.30pm in the church	Eileen Anderson 9020 3684
	<b>Activity Group</b>	Except 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm	Maureen Irwin 9079 5155
	<b>Mothers' Union</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month 8.00pm	Barbara Laverty 9573 8743
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Bible Study Group</b>	2.30pm - 4.00pm	Eileen Anderson 9020 3684
	<b>Railway and Model Club</b>	2.00pm to 4.30pm	David Beattie 9028 5868
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Art Club</b>	9.30am	Carole Crothers 07979093956
	<b>Scouts</b>	7.30pm to 9.30pm	Iain Hall 07799 474111
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Mums and Tots</b>	10.00am	Joyce Stevenson, 07772128944
<b>Bi-monthly</b>	<b>Pause</b>	As arranged	Eileen Anderson 9020 3684
<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Youth Etc.</b> <i>(11-15 years)</i>	As arranged	Jonathan Martin, 07980 885990
	<b>Young Families</b>	Social events as arranged	Rachel Stewart 07812 247343

# WHO'S WHO IN ST. COLUMBAS

Parish website: [www.stcolumbas.down.anglican.org](http://www.stcolumbas.down.anglican.org)

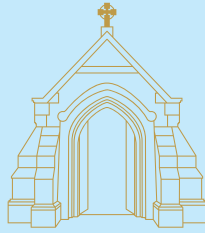
<b>Rector</b>	The Reverend Chancellor John R Auchmuty	St. Columba's Rectory 29 Kings Road BT5 6JG 028 9047 1514 <a href="mailto:rectorknock@down.anglican.org">rectorknock@down.anglican.org</a>
<b>Assistant Priests</b>	The Reverend Canon Ken Smyth  The Reverend Canon Walter Laverty	3 Mount Royal Bangor BT20 3BG 028 9145 8706  6 Hanwood Heights Dundonald BT16 1XU 028 9573 8743
<b>Diocesan Lay Reader</b>	Karen McAlpine	<a href="mailto:readercolumba@gmail.com">readercolumba@gmail.com</a>
<b>Rector's Churchwarden</b>	Rosemary Allister	07880 504928
<b>People's Churchwarden</b>	David Connery	07801 738114
<b>Rector's Glebewarden</b>	Ian Johnston	07850 999909
<b>People's Glebewarden</b>	Mark Wilson	07714 658911
<b>Honorary Sexton</b>	John Proctor	028 9087 0526
<b>Assistant Honorary Sexton</b>	Geoff Launchbury	028 9028 1204 07814 498 241
<b>Select Vestry</b>	Rector, Churchwardens, Glebewardens, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Assistant Hon. Treasurer, David Craig, David Kelly John Kerr, Louise Mercer, Martin Moore, Nigel Morrow, Scott Rutherford, Jim Stevenson, Richard Whiteside	
<b>Honorary Secretary</b>	John Macpherson	10 Sandhill Gardens BT5 6FF 028 9028 2076 <a href="mailto:jdmacpherson@hotmail.com">jdmacpherson@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Honorary Treasurer</b>	Brian Acheson	028 9042 4892
<b>Assistant Honorary Treasurer</b>	Victor Dukelow	028 9029 0625



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

