

# The Columban

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH, KNOCK, NOVEMBER 2024



*Remembrance Day*



## RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioner,

### **SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED**

**SUNDAY 3rd NOVEMBER AT 4PM**

This peaceful service is an opportunity for us to come together in St. Columba's to remember with thanksgiving those who have died. Those attending will have an opportunity to write the name(s) of individuals known to them who they wish to be remembered during the service. I will also be reading the names of all those parishioners who have died during the past year. As the daylight begins to fade, we will light candles in their memory at the front of our church and also in the Memorial Chapel. These candles will be placed on tables in the shape of a cross which is the powerful symbol of our Christian Faith reminding us of the Resurrection Hope. They will shine brightly throughout the church as we listen to reflective music in remembrance of those we love but see no longer.



### **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

**SUNDAY 10th NOVEMBER**

On Remembrance Sunday we will gather in St. Columba's wearing our poppies to remember those who made the supreme sacrifice for us in war and conflict both past and present. This year marks the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landing of the 6th June. The Two Minute Silence is a very poignant part of our service. We remember those from St. Columba's whose names are inscribed on the front two pillars of the Nave and Constable William Mark Evans who was killed whilst serving

with the RUC in Pomeroy. His name is displayed on a memorial glass case near the Baptistry. We will also pray for those who suffer the consequences of fighting and terror.

Sadly, so much of our news today is being dominated with reports of war and conflict in so many countries throughout the world. It is therefore essential on Remembrance Sunday that there will be an Act of Commitment as we pledge ourselves afresh to the service of God. How we need to pray earnestly for peace and to strive for all that makes for peace.

I encourage you to join me in including this prayer from the Church of England in your personal devotions throughout this month:

*O God of all hope and peace,*

*we bring to you the needs of our broken and hurting world.*

*Our hearts are breaking with the images of lives lost and torn apart*

*by grief in Israel and Palestine.*

*We pray for an end to violence and warfare*

*so that the challenging work of rebuilding may begin.*

*Help us, O Lord, to affirm our common humanity*

*so that in our differences we may build together for justice and peace.*

*In Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

*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 NOVEMBER

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>**      **The Fourth Sunday before Advent**      **(Green)**  
**8.15am**      **Holy Communion**

Epistle      Hebrews 9: 11-14      The sacrifice of the Messiah

Read by: Ronny Martin

Gospel      Mark 12: 28-34      The first Commandment

**10.30am**      **All Age Worship** *followed by refreshments*

Reading      Mark 12: 28-34      The first Commandment

Read by: Rebecca Albery

**4.00pm**      **A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for Those Who Have Died**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>**      **(Green)**

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

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>**      **Remembrance Sunday**      **(Green)**

**8.15am**      **Holy Communion**

Epistle      Romans 8: 31-39      Our confidence in God

Read by: Michael Sadlier

Gospel      John 15: 9-17      Commandment of Love

**10.30am**      **Morning Prayer with Act of Remembrance**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading      Ezekiel 37: 1-14      The valley of dry bones

Read by: Iain Hall

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading      John 15: 9-17      Commandment of Love

Read by: David Connery

Occasional Prayers Clergy

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>**      **(Green)**

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

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>**      **The Second Sunday before Advent**      **(Green)**

**8.15am**      **Holy Communion**

Epistle      Hebrews 10: 11-14, 19-25      A call to persevere

Read by: Alan Boyd

Gospel      Mark 13: 1-8      The destruction of the Temple foretold

**10.30am Morning Prayer** *followed by refreshments hosted by Bible Study Group*

1<sup>st</sup> Reading 1 Samuel 1: 4-20

Hannah's prayers answered

Read by: Elizabeth Miller

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Mark 13: 1-8

The destruction of the Temple foretold

Read by: Eileen Anderson

Occasional Prayers

Patrick Good

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>**

**(Green)**

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

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> The Kingship of Christ**

**(White)**

**8.15am Holy Communion**

Epistle Revelation 1: 4b-8

Introductory Salutation

Read by: Ronny Martin

Gospel John 18: 33-37

Pilate summons Jesus

**10.30am Holy Communion**

Reader Revelation 1: 4b-8

Introductory Salutation

Read by: Rosemary Allister

Gospel John 18: 33-37

Pilate summons Jesus

Intercessions

Helen Armstrong

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Saint Andrew (Transferred)**

**(Red)**

**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".*

## Afternoon Group

We next meet on **Monday 11th November at 2.30pm** when there will be a speaker Paul Weir who will address the topic  
**'How to eat an elephant'**

This will be followed by afternoon tea. If you are free please come and join us.

**Rosemary and Joy**

## LEST WE FORGET

During the years of the First World War, 48 parishioners from St. Columba's served in H.M. Forces, the vast majority in the Army. Tragically, twelve did not return, a truly horrific rate of attrition. The names of both the fallen and the survivors are shown on the memorial plaque in the south transept where, in 1919, the beautiful memorial window was erected to their eternal glory. No less than three MC's, one MM and one DFC were awarded for gallantry. In the Second World War, reflecting its far greater global reach, 120 parishioners from St. Columba's served in HM Forces, not only in the Army but also in the Royal Air Force, the Royal Navy, the Merchant Navy, the Women's Royal Naval Service, the Auxiliary Territorial Service and the Women's Auxiliary Air Force. Tragically, twelve also did not return, eight from the ranks of the Royal Air Force alone, as high a rate of attrition as that suffered by those parishioners who served in the army during the First World War.

St. Columba's Roll of Honour in two World Wars, inscribed on the front two pillars of the nave, reads as follows:

### 1914-1918

**John Burke**

**Arthur Denman Deane**

**Thomas Brignall Elliot**

**Henry Hurst Hooton**

**Ian Campbell McCormick**

**Harold McCormick**

**Robert B. Nelson**

**William Nelson**

**John Purvis**

**Adam Rodgers**

**William Hubert Unsworth**

**Gilbert Watson Webb**



### 1939-1945

**Alexander Spence Craig**

**Robert Aubrey Alexander Doherty**

**Maurice David Green**

**James Carnegie Harris**

**A. R. Hill**

**Michael Christopher Hind**

**Hugh Graham Montgomery**

**Reginald Norman Morgan**

**Charles McConnell**

**Alexander McFarland**

**J. H. Rice**

**Dilworth Norman Turner**

In more recent times, Constable William Mark Evans was killed on 7th September 1981 whilst serving with the RUC in Pomeroy, and his name is displayed on a memorial glass case towards the rear of the church.

Mindful of all current ongoing military operations, let us pause on Remembrance Sunday to remember those men and women who, in countless conflicts, made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and for our freedom. We also remember all worldwide victims of war, brutality, terror and oppression. Let us above all pray for those valiant young men who set forth from this parish in those dark and storm filled days, never to return home nor see their loved ones again.

***They knew their duty and they died for it***

**LET US HONOUR THEIR MEMORY**

## Remembrance Quotes

Remembrance is a poignant time of year throughout the world, remembering the fallen of the World Wars and the many battles and conflicts raging around our world. It is very important that we reflect on the courage of those who gave their lives in the many theatres of war throughout the years and remember the cost to families and loved ones they left behind. We also remember the many animals lost during various wars – dogs, pigeons, horses (to name a few), who also died for our countries.

I have received many quotes, messages, poems, letters and notes in the years following the memorial “Pages of the Sea”, on Murlough beach in November 2018, for my Great Uncle, Rifleman John McCance.

Here are a few which I feel express “Remembrance” and I would like to share with you.

***“All the great things are simple, and many can be expressed in a single word: freedom, justice, honour, duty, mercy, hope.”*** Sir Winston Churchill, UK Prime Minister (1940–45, 1951–55)

***“To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die.”*** Thomas Campbell, Scottish Poet

***“True heroism is remarkably sober, very undramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but the urge to serve others at whatever cost.”*** — Arthur Ashe, Tennis legend

***“The nation which forgets its defenders will be itself forgotten.”*** — Calvin Coolidge, 30<sup>th</sup> President of USA



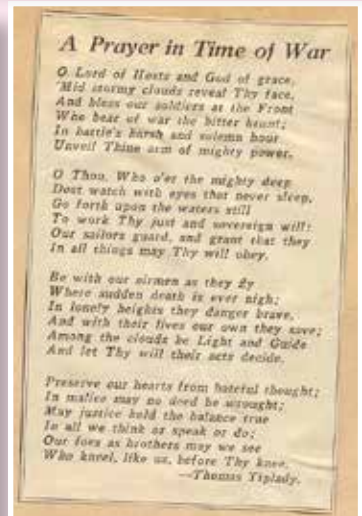
*With my extended family members at the Service of Memorial on Murlough Beach*

We remember our Forces, Emergency Services and First Responders who continue to serve both here and abroad, and to whom we owe a huge debt of gratitude.

It is also important that we remember those who have come home from conflicts with dreadful, life-changing injuries, both physical and mental. These people are rarely remembered, except by their loved

ones, yet they also showed extreme courage and dedication in the worst of circumstances. To all the fallen, injured and their loved ones left behind: **thank you for your service.** We cannot express our gratitude enough.

**Karen Patterson**





# Advent and Christmas Services

While our normal Sunday & Thursday services continue, here are some additional services for your diaries.



## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December

7.00pm Advent Carol Service

## Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December

8.00pm Compline Service for Advent

## Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December

10.30am Blue Christmas Service



## Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December

8.00pm Compline Service for Advent

## Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

8.00pm Compline Service for Advent

## Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December

10.30am Holy Communion for Senior Parishioners  
*followed by seasonal refreshments*

## Sunday 22<sup>th</sup> December

7.30pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols



## Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December

11.15pm Midnight Eucharist

## Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December

10.15am Family Communion

## Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December St Stephen's Day

10.30am Holy Communion

## Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December

10.30am Christingle Service



**We hope you can join us for as many of these services as possible!**

## Thought for the Month

As we approach 11th November and Remembrance Sunday I have been thinking back on the impact the second World War had on history and on the millions of people who were directly involved in it, two of whom were my parents, Bill and Ethel and this, very briefly, is their story.

In the 1930s they were both living in Hong Kong where they first met and they were married in 1938. At that time there were rumblings of war throughout Europe and Asia. In August 1940 my pregnant mother Ethel was evacuated to Sydney where I was born 3 days after her arrival, but my father Bill, his mother and his sister remained behind in their home in Hong Kong. Bill joined the Hong Kong Volunteers Defence Force (the Hong Kong TA) on 18th August 1941, and was mobilised soon afterwards.

In December 1941 the Japanese attacked Hong Kong, the same day that they attacked Pearl Harbour in Hawaii, and they thereby entered the war. Whilst the fighting was fierce it only lasted eighteen days before the Governor surrendered, the water supply from the mainland having been cut off. Bill, although wounded,

was imprisoned with all his fellow combatants in Shamshuipo camp on the mainland where the conditions were inhuman to say the least. He was put to work as a labourer helping to extend the runway at Kai Tak airport out into the sea. His mother and sister were similarly imprisoned on the island until the end of the war, when they returned to Richmond in England.

In January 1943 Bill was shipped to Japan on one of the infamous prisoner ships and arrived at the prison camp in Innoshima on 23rd January, some thirty miles from Hiroshima, where he was again made a labourer but in the timberyard of a shipyard this time. Conditions were grim, although marginally better than his first camp. Ethel, for her part, had decided that the only place for her and I was not in Sydney but back home in Belfast, so she upped sticks, headed back to Ireland by ship and arrived safely in 1943, despite the best efforts of the U-boats en route. She joined her family in Carrickfergus to where they had been evacuated from Belfast after the blitz.

On 6th August 1945 the Americans dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima and the second one on Nagasaki three days later. Japan's emperor Hirohito surrendered on 15th August. About four weeks later British and American relieving forces arrived in Innoshima to organise the prisoners' repatriation home via Australia.



Billy Hirst

Towards the end of 1945 we received word that Bill was homeward bound from Australia so Ethel and I went to London to meet him. We were walking to the bus stop and I ran ahead when Ethel called me back. Never having met my father before, I had run right past him. They had been parted for almost five and a half years. However, all was well in my eyes when later they took me to Hamley's toy shop and bought me a model railway engine.



Bill

Years later my mother told me that throughout the despair and uncertainty of the war and in the tough times that occurred in later life, as happen to us all, she drew great comfort from reading her bible. She and my father spent their last years as members of St. Dorotheas and their remains are buried there in the Garden of Remembrance.



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

*The December/January 'Thought for the Month' will be written by Caroline Auchmuty.*

## 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**

The "Fashion Show" last month was a great success. Stylish looks were created by Sharon Elkin and modelled by parishioners and staff from the Hospice Shop located on Ballygowan Road. In a fun way we promoted sustainable fashion, which is good for the environment and our finances, whilst supporting the work of hospice which addresses the needs of families facing adversity. £575 donated at the door and £485 through sales, a total of £1060.

Our sincere thanks to Sharon who coordinated the fashions in her inestimable way and Pauline for her calm and organisational skills. Lorna and staff of the hospice shop who embraced the idea and provided the items used in the show. Our thanks also to Silk Lingerie Shop in Newtownards for the pyjamas and to all the models who stepped out of their comfort zone to make it such a fun evening.

Thanks to the husbands who helped set up the hall, to David for the sound system and to Isobel, Nan and Emma who provided a cup of tea.

*Hospice shop staff styled by Sharon*

Our next meeting is on the 5<sup>th</sup> November, 8.00pm in the church when the Northern Ireland Air Ambulance Service will talk about their work and show a video. The meeting is open to everyone.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2.00pm we have been invited to join St Dorothea's MU. The speaker is Reverend Tom Robinson "Kids 4 Schools" talking about work in Tanzania.

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 16 Days of Activism

### **Advance notice**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, St Mary's Comber, Carol Service. More details following the October Council meeting.

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 8.00pm branch meeting. Make a Christmas decoration/gift bottle. All welcome

**Barbara**





## Ladies Guild

Our new season got off to a fine start with our Guest Speaker Aidan Campbell, making a welcome return. Aidan took us through the history of the Shandon Park area. His presentation using photos and facts from his recent book evoked many memories for those who know the area or have lived nearby with some ladies discovering the original use of the sites where they now live. The history of Shandon Park Golf Club was particularly interesting.

We had an outing to the War Memorial Museum in October. The visit evoked more memories for many of our ladies as we heard about how life carried on in the city in times of great upheaval and destruction. Memories of 'make do and mend' were revived too.

In November we will have a 'Film Afternoon' with a showing of 'The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society' set during the wartime occupation of the Channel Islands.

We continue to keep in our thoughts and prayers any members who are ill or recovering or who are no longer able to join us for our meetings.

**Eleanor**

## NOVEMBER FLOWER ROTA

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>** Yvonne and Roger Beatty

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>** **REMEMBRANCE**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>** Barbara Gibson

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>** John and Helen Proctor

# HARVEST SERVICE AND LUNCH

The torrential rain did not dampen the spirits of St Columba's parishioners on Sunday 6th October 2024, when we gathered to celebrate Harvest at the All-Age Worship church service followed by the Harvest Lunch.

The Church was beautifully decorated with vegetables, flowers, and autumnal arrangements. The display of vibrant colours provided such an inviting setting to the celebration. The Reverend Canon Laverty brightened the church further by bringing flowers from his own garden into his sermon, presenting the congregation with a verbena, a primrose, a rose, a hebe and a flower with such a complicated name that it escapes me! Canon Laverty imparted the heart-warming message that each flower had different attributes, but God created and loved each one equally, as he does us. A large number of young people from the Sunday School led us in prayers and bible readings with maturity and eloquence. Caroline Woods delighted us by singing three solo anthems, concluding with a wonderful arrangement of 'All things bright and beautiful', which summed up the occasion perfectly.

On a personal note, it was a day of firsts for me. It was the first time my two-and-a-half-year-old daughter Daisy had made it up to the front of the Church with the other children from Sunday School to listen to Canon Laverty's sermon, and it was the first time she had attended a church lunch. I was thrilled that all the young people took Daisy under their wings, looking after her so well, and that she was able to play a part in the service.

The last glimpse I had of the church hall was on Tuesday night at the Mother's Union fashion show, and the glamorous catwalk had been transformed into a dining room fit for royalty. With a record number of over 140 seated for lunch, the atmosphere in the church hall was electric. As the Rector said himself, "this buzz cannot be beaten". The Catering committee are to be congratulated for their hard work and preparation. With limited oven shelves, I'm still wondering how they managed to serve the delicious shepherd's pies piping hot! The young people from Sunday School continued their hard work from the church service by serving each course to the parishioners with a smile. They definitely deserved their hotdogs! Just when I thought the lunch was over, we were all served a scrumptious apple tart, accompanied by tea, coffee and even wine – who knew so many members of the parish could also work as part-time sommeliers!?

The whole lunch was an absolute treat, and the feeling of community and fellowship was life-affirming. All who sat down to lunch agreed that this was a tremendously cheerful way to spend a Sunday afternoon, enjoying each other's company. Thank you to the huge number of people who gave so much time and effort to make the Harvest celebration so magnificent. All of the money raised from the Harvest Lunch will go towards the essential work to be carried out in the much-used church hall.

**Rachel Leacock**



## 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 November:

### Rector

Ballyrainey Road, Newtownards  
First Avenue, Newtownards  
Helensview Crescent, Newtownards  
Holywood Road, Newtownards  
Milecross Manor, Newtownards  
Teal Rocks, Newtownards  
Hollygate Park, Carryduff  
Millreagh, Dundonald  
Ferdene Road, Dundonald  
Hillhead Road, Comber

### Canon Laverty

Ashdene Wood, Dundonald  
Ballyregan Park, Dundonald  
Carrowreagh Gardens, Dundonald  
Fort Road, Dundonald  
Forthill Close, Dundonald  
Grangewood Road, Dundonald  
Lambert Park, Dundonald  
Old Mill Rise, Dundonald  
Wanstead Avenue, Dundonald  
Church Road, Dundonald

## Charity and Mission allocations for 2024



Many families use their envelopes from their pack of church envelopes to very generously assist with our Charity and Mission donations, as part of the outreach from St Columba's in our local community. Each year, the Select Vestry meet to select the charities which we support, and each charity selected will receive an equal share of the money collected in 2024. The money is divided

equally into around 7 or so charities, and the balance then goes to our local Marie Curie at Kensington Road as the eighth charity.

If you are involved in any particular charity which you would like the Select Vestry to consider, please contact the Rector with your suggestion and some details of your involvement, so that we can make a balanced decision.

Please speak to the Rector before Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November for your charity to be considered at the Select Vestry meeting in November.

Thank you.



# Prayers for your thoughts and comfort



People in every part of Ireland display an interest in historical events and family history.

Thousands of years ago, this was a significant time in the year for people in Ireland. It was known as 'Samhain' and marked the pagan Celtic New Year, with the end of Summer and the conclusion of the harvest season. In addition, it signalled the beginning of Winter, which was associated with death. The Celts believed that the veil between the living and the dead was especially thin.

Today, that period coincides with the first days of the month of November. The Christian calendar observes All Saints and All Souls Days on the first and second days of the month. Like the ancient pre Christian Celts, we think of the link between the living and the dead, and, in the Christian sense, the hope that 'neither life nor death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.'

In our contemporary world, November is the month when we remember, not only our loved ones, who have departed from our presence, but also those who have suffered and died in conflicts at home and overseas. History has a habit of repeating itself, so, in a world of recurring violence and turmoil, we pray for peace.

You will find some of these thoughts reflected in this month's prayers, together with other subjects of a personal and general nature, which you may find helpful.

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### **A prayer as Winter begins**

Lord, we know your presence, as we move into Winter, seeking the warmth of your protection, and the light of grace in our darkness. May we realise the rhythm in finding joy in each season, even in the dark and cold of winter. Enable us, as we glance at the branches of the evergreen trees that do not shed leaves, to appreciate the truth of your promise of everlasting life in you. **Amen**

### **A prayer and thought for Hallow'een 31st October**

Lord, tonight we may face all that concerns us – our fears, the shadowed places of the mind, the coming of winter darkness, the cold thin place between waking and sleep. We stand with those who are weak in mind, body or spirit. Lord, your light shines into every darkness. You told us to pray 'deliver us from evil'. May your Spirit give us hope and courage, and the realisation that you are there, to bring us through all our doubts and uncertainties in life. **Amen**

### **A prayer for All Saints Day 1st November**

Lord, we remember Christians who became well known because of their loyalty to you many years ago. Help us to remember also faithful people in our community, parish and family, who exercised their calling quietly and faithfully. May we be inspired to be effective in living and applying the Gospel day by day. **Amen**

*Note:- Some Christians light candles on this, and other days, to honour those who have gone before them. The day is known as All Hallows Day. That accounts for the common usage on the previous day of the term Hallow'een. However, many of the traditions associated with Hallow'een are pre Christian in origin.*

### **A prayer for All Souls Day 2nd November**

Merciful God, as we renew our faith in Jesus Christ who was raised from the dead, strengthen our hope that our loved ones, living and dead, may share in His Resurrection, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever. **Amen**

## Remembering our Loved Ones

Lord, come into our presence today and every day, as we give thanks for the lives of our loved ones who have died. Come into our presence, Lord, as we place all our resources before you. Increase our confidence and faith that we will be reunited one day in a place which you have prepared for us. We ask it in your name. **Amen**

*Note:- It has become increasingly common either at All Saints tide, or at other times, to recall the lives of those known to us, at special services. You will be advised of such services at St. Columba's.*

## Remembering through bereavement

Almighty God, we acknowledge that you share our sadness and grief. We are hurt sometimes by our parting from those we have loved. When we are angry at the loss we have experienced, or, when we long for words of comfort, turn our grief and sorrow to firmer hope in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Remember that Jesus said:- 'Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted

## Prayer remembering those who have suffered and died in wars and civil conflict

God of truth and justice, we remember in your presence those who have died in violent circumstances. As we honour their memory, may we put our trust in your future, as the source of hope. **Amen**

## A prayer for peace

At this remembrance time, O God, we pray for peace in the world, aware that millions are suffering because of the consequences of war and violence. Give inspiration and vision to leaders of goodwill in their search for peace, that the tragedy and horror of war and hatred may be reduced for the coming generations, enabling people to live in the freedom and ideals of your kingdom on earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **A prayer for refugees, the homeless and fearful**

O God, you bring hope out of emptiness, energy out of fear, and new life out of grief and loss. As Mary returned with Joseph and the infant Jesus from exile, with some joy, so comfort all who have lost their homes and had to flee from their native countries through persecution, war or exile. Give them security, and the comfort of meeting neighbours they trust to be with them. Give us a greater sense of compassion and concern for all who may feel rejected by society through our words and practical actions, so that they may feel valued and respected. We ask it in your name **Amen**

### **A prayer for St. Andrews day**

Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle St. Andrew, that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him. Call us by your Word, and give us grace to follow without delay, and to tell the good news of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*Note:- November begins with All Saints Day and ends with St. Andrews Day on 30th. Nov.*

### **In Conclusion.....**

Lord, throughout each day and night

May the light of God shine ON me

May the love of God shine IN me

May the light of the Spirit shine THROUGH me. **Amen**

# SUNDAY SCHOOL & CRECHE



Thank you to all those from Sunday School who read at our Harvest Service. The Harvest crafts and decorations displayed in church were fantastic and I want to thank our Sunday School team for all their hard work in helping the children to make them and for coming down to put them up. This month, both classes will be looking at Remembrance, Jonah, The Wise Man & The Foolish Man as well as The Feeding of the 5000. It would be lovely to see as many children as possible out on the dates listed below.

3<sup>rd</sup> November – All Age Worship

10<sup>th</sup> November – Sunday School & Creche

17<sup>th</sup> November - Sunday School & Creche

24<sup>th</sup> November - Sunday School & Creche

Looking forward to seeing everyone!

Lynn



St Columba's Parish Church, Knock, Belfast



# RECITAL

Ioana Petcu-Colan (Leader, Ulster Orchestra)

Tristan Russcher (piano / organ)

Anne Harper (clarinet)

Sungho Jang (piano)

Vocal Items from St Columba's Cantors

Joe McKee

*Music by Pergolesi, Haydn, Fauré, Stanford & Finzi.*

**Saturday 16 November 2024 at 7.30pm**

Voluntary Donations (suggest £15) to Church Funds

*Light refreshments will be provided after the concert.*

## A window into scouting.

One of the first challenges posed to the scouts on our first night was to count the windows in the church building. How many do you think? Have you ever really noticed? Have you ever really looked? St Columba's is a beautiful building and the glass work is sophisticated and intricate..

There is also the opportunity for the Scoutmaster to send scouts running off round the building when there is a debate around whether one circular window counts as one or four given the dividing framework in between. I'll let you submit your answers to Charles on a slip of paper with your name and number and you can collect you Mars bar prize at a later juncture.

We are now four weeks into our autumn term and seeking to maximise the use of the halls during the darker nights. Meetings commence with a flag break by the duty patrol leader and an opening prayer followed by the inspection of uniforms and a health check to ensure all scouts are fit for rough and tumble games in the main hall.

The upstairs hall offers us ample opportunity for the scouts to let off steam and celebrate victories in team games. We are using the lower hall for patrol challenges where planning, tactics and communication skills are put to the test. With various degrees of success. The picture attached shows scouts working in patrols to cap a radioactive device without entering a restricted zone using only ropes and a container just marginally larger than the offending object. Skill, dexterity and a lot of anxious shouting makes for a noisy and fun filled evening.

In addition to three new Campbell College boarding pupils joining the troop we have also welcomed six other lads swelling the numbers. Some have moved to us from other troops and others have no scouting



background at all yet they have integrated well and made new friends.

A busy October beckons us, with a trip to the Lisburn leisureplex, another to Ravenhill for Ulster v Connacht match and Halloween camp under canvas at Crawfordsburn. Woe betide

any scout suggesting they're bored, they will be back counting the windows.

N.B. In September some scouts were trying their hands and taste buds in the dark at St Columba's. Bacon butties are always a scout treat, even if it is only an hour after tea time.

Iain

Scoutmaster 4th and 24th Belfast



## MEN'S FORUM

We are progressing in organising a programme of events to complement our Monday evening meets currently held in the church hall at 7.30pm. Open to all male members of the congregation we offer a warm welcome and various activities followed by refreshments. Our first venture takes place in the form of a talk by a local historian Peter Mc Cabe who will be presenting a potted history of "50 famous People from East Belfast". The talk will take place in the church on the evening of Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November commencing at 8.00pm and is open to all parishioners and friends. It should prove to be an interesting topic. Watch out for the adverts prior to the event.

The club welcomes anyone to pop in and see us anytime on a Monday even just for a cuppa and chat. We are always interested to hear your views of what you would like see being offered and welcome new suggestions.

Any further info required can be obtained from myself either by email "[john.robb@gmail.com](mailto:john.robb@gmail.com)" or mobile 07956 061 929.

John Robb



**St Columba's**

# **MEN'S FORUM.**

Will be hosting a talk by local historian Peter McCabe on the topic of

**"50 FAMOUS PEOPLE FROM EAST BELFAST"**



**Venue: St Columba's Church**

**Date: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November**

**Time: 08.00pm.**

Have you ever thought about the number of famous people in your area? Perhaps you already know them? Join us on the above date and hopefully we will be able to satisfy your curiosity.

Refreshments will be available after the talk as well as an opportunity to ask Peter questions.

Any further information can be obtained from

John Robb 07956 061 929

Voluntary contributions in aid of Church Hall Fund.

## PAUSE

We have certainly reached the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness, written by John Keats in 1819. The date has changed but the weather has not.!

Hibernation until Spring may seem attractive but look what we would miss - no friends, no fellowship, no chat for months. Don warmer clothes and off we go!

This month PAUSE will meet on

**Tuesday 19th November at 10.30am at Hillmount Garden Centre for refreshments.**

If you are free do come along either on your own or with a friend or two.

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

**Eileen (028 9020 3684).**

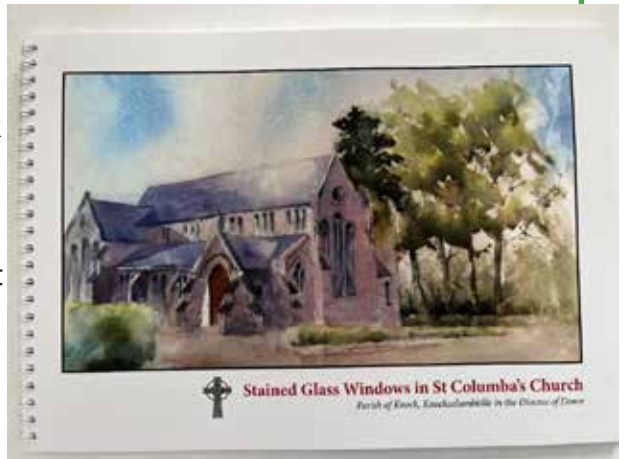
## Stuck for a Christmas Gift idea?



Copies of our beautiful parish book pictured above are still available to purchase for £10 at the back

of church each Sunday. The inspirational pictures of the gorgeous stained-glass windows are of great interest to many people.

A perfect gift for friends, neighbours or family, or even for your own personal use, this book explains the stories behind each of the beautiful windows. Get your copy while stocks last!



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## Railway and Model Club 2014- 2024

Yes, it's hard to believe the Club is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> year of existence. The Club was founded by Stewart Beckwith and David Beattie in 2014 and they have since been assisted by our current membership in establishing what we have in operation today. Our first venture was set up in what was the Youth Club Room at one point. We endeavoured to build our very first railway layout and through trial and error were able to produce a substantial layout. It did take up most of the room which led to expanding into other rooms lying unused at the time. Our current room was completely decorated by members owing to the condition of the room and we were supported by the church who in turn supplied a new floor to finish the room off. The emphasis on Railway and Model was to allow other aspects of modelling to be entertained and not to be a pure Railway club. Some members are involved in kit building planes, boats and military vehicles. Many are on display in the club room. Under the expert guidance of one of our late members Ian Parsons we produced some smaller scale railway layouts and have as a result been able to attend and display at local Exhibitions. We named a layout after Ian to honour his memory. We called it PARSON'S HALT and has been highly complemented on by our peers in railway exhibition circles.

To mark the 2024-2025 season it is our intention to hold a 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coffee Morning and Exhibition on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2025. Proceeds will be in aid of Church Hall Fund. We intend to have not only our efforts on display but also hope to have Exhibitors from other clubs displaying railway, model and crafting items. More details will be posted nearer the time. Other ventures will be discussed in due to course. We welcome anyone who would like to see what we get up to on a Wednesday afternoon from 2 until 4.30. You might even get a cuppa. Looking forward to showing you around. If a Wednesday is not convenient we can arrange a visit by appointment to suit. Contact myself if interested.

**John Robb. Chairman 07956061929**



# GIVING

**“Give and it will be given onto you” Luke 6 vs38**

**“It is more blessed to give than to receive” Acts 20 vs35**

The gift of giving is something that is central to the Christian message. It goes without saying that our parish could not function in any meaningful way without your prolific and profound generosity. Parishioners and friends of our parish give in so many different ways. You give of your time, your talents, your prayers and your friendship. Financial giving is vitally important too if our church is to continue to provide effective ministry now and for generations to come.

Your generosity has meant we were able to invest in the future with new church and hall roofs, new heating systems and new layouts that maintain our relevance and accessibility.

Your financial giving is also vital to ensure that our day to day running costs are affordable. While rates of inflation have been easing recently, on average, goods and services in the UK cost 20% more now than they did 3 years ago. We are all acutely aware that the costs of heat and light have increased even more over that period. In that context, now is as good a time as any to reassess our financial giving to the parish.

We are fortunate in St Columba's that a very high proportion of our parishioners donate by **Standing Order**. It is the easiest and most secure way to give. For those who do not already give by this route and would like to consider it, **Standing Order Forms are available from the Parish Office (028 90656 891) or from our parish website under the “giving” tab: [www.stcolumba's@down.anglican.org](http://www.stcolumba's@down.anglican.org)**

Giving via Standing Orders really helps with parish financial planning because your donations continue to come through regularly even if you are on holiday, for example. However, a significant downside is that **the amount you give will not increase unless you ask your bank/building society to raise the amount donated**. That becomes an even more pressing issue when inflation has been running at the high levels we have witnessed in recent years.

**Please remember to review your Standing order donation and consider increasing the amount you give. You can ask your bank to change the details of your standing order at any time. You can usually do this via online or mobile banking, in branch or over the phone.**

Of course there are many other ways to give financially to the parish and we remain very grateful for your donations regardless of how you choose to give. These include:

- **Church Envelopes** – envelopes are available upon request only. Each

family receives a packet of Charity and Mission envelopes annually.

- **By cheque** – made payable to “St Columba’s Parish Church”, cheques can be posted to the Parish Office or left in the Rectory letterbox.
- **Money Transfer** – this can be done by requesting the bank details from the Parish Office or from the “giving” tab on our parish website. Please do inform the Parish Administrator if you are donating via this route so we can allocate the money to the correct fund.
- 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.
- **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.

In summary, the Parish is most grateful for all your giving - it could not function without it. However, please do consider giving by Standing Order and, if you do that already, please do regularly review and amend the amount you give by this route.

Thank you.

**Brian Acheson, Honorary Treasurer**

**Victor Dukelow, Assistant Honorary Treasurer**

**PRAYER** is an extremely important aspect of our Christian worship. It is our private way to connect with God on a personal level. We encourage you to spend time in prayer every day, as the power of prayer should never be underestimated.

Each month, Canon Ken Smyth carefully prepares a wonderful “prayer pull-out” for our Columban magazine, to assist you with your personal devotions.

Liz McCaughey prepares a list of people we pray for, which is read during prayers at our 10.30am Thursday morning Holy Communion service. If you would like to join the prayer chain, or have someone whom you feel prayers would be beneficial for, please contact Liz on 07849 554079





Our children's Christmas Party will take place in  
Campbell College Junior School on

**Saturday 7<sup>TH</sup> December, from  
3pm-4.30pm.**

Come along for some fun and games, scaven-  
ger hunt, picnic, and

meet the very special visitor  
from the North Pole!

***Adults: please speak to a leader or Sunday  
School teacher to see what you need to do.  
Please bring along your picnic and a bag for  
your rubbish. Thank you.***



## Church hall cleaning rota

**November 10<sup>th</sup>**

Jayne and Ronny Martin

**November 24<sup>th</sup>**

Nan Hillier and Isobel McDowell

## Church Flower Rota 2025

Church Flowers are a way to celebrate the life of those we hold dearest. Flowers are companions for us. They can be company in a lonely present, witness to memory and a promise for the future. The beautiful flowers are a reminder of the good things that God has provided for us, and the wonderful world we do not always appreciate in our busy lives. The Flower Rota for 2025 is now on the noticeboard at the back of church for you to add your name if you would like to donate flowers. Contact Eleanor Launchbury on 07709 917548 to discuss how you can remember loved ones or celebrate a special occasion by gifting flowers to church for Sunday services.



## DECEMBER 2024/JANUARY 2025 MAGAZINE

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

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**



***As winter approaches, we recommend checking our Parish Website and Facebook pages regularly for any important information, as situations may change quickly.*** We need to be prepared for sudden changes in our diaries and lives.

**Our parish website** is [www.stcolumbas.down.anglican.org](http://www.stcolumbas.down.anglican.org)

Under the "News" tab will be any important information you need to know.

We also post our photos from events in the parish under "Gallery" – check out our most recent ones!



If you "like" us on Facebook, you can see important updates and information there also.

Search [St Columba's Knock](#) to join us.

***We suggest that you save these to your "Favourites" section and to get into the habit of checking them regularly!***

Finally, if you need to check something or are unsure of anything, you can email the Parish Office on: [office.knock@down.anglican.org](mailto:office.knock@down.anglican.org), or simply ring (028 9065 6891) during office hours.

**Thank you!**



# 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

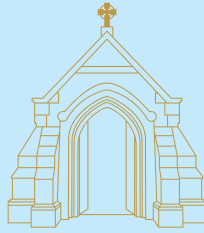
Parish website: [www.stcolumbas.down.anglican.org](http://www.stcolumbas.down.anglican.org)

<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.

