

# The Columban

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH, KNOCK, JULY/AUGUST 2025



**Summer, Relax, Enjoy**



## RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Parishioner,

### THANK YOU

*Thank you for all your support throughout these past months. This has been generously expressed in so many ways and has strengthened our friendship, fellowship and faith.* It has been a busy season with a wide range of church services and a full programme of activities in our Parish Organisations. *However, none of this would have been possible without the detailed planning and hard work from so many people.*

**The arrival of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Belfast Scout Troop to our Church Hall last September and the Cubs in January has immensely strengthened our parish.** It has been such a joy to welcome them all to St. Columba's together with their leaders and parents. They contribute so much to St. Columba's. This is a welcome extension of our outreach into the community and has also strengthened our good neighbourly relationships. I hope they will have a most enjoyable summer camp.

### OVERSEAS TRIPS

*I have been very encouraged by the wonderful financial and prayerful support which has been generously given to **Lucy Armstrong, Patrick Whiteside and Hazel Macpherson** for their overseas trips.* While Lucy's trip to Romania took place after Christmas, Patrick and Hazel will be spending the first two weeks of July in Tanzania and Kenya respectively with teams from GOMAD and Jengana. We wish them God's richest

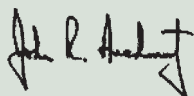
blessing for the projects they will be working on as they provide assistance to those in need. **Thank you for your support and encouragement to them.** We look forward to hearing all about their experiences upon their return home.

## YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU

We are privileged that many parishioners give so generously of their time, talents and finances to the work of St. Columba's in these challenging times. *If you are not currently involved in the life of your parish for whatever reason perhaps these weeks during the summer will provide a timely opportunity for you to prayerfully consider how you could engage and contribute even in a small way to the life of your parish church.* You are greatly missed and the parish is impoverished by the absence of your personal involvement. All contributions of support in whatever form will be very much valued and appreciated. I would be delighted to discuss opportunities with you should that be helpful.

Caroline, Charles and Henry join me in wishing you God's richest Blessing throughout the summer months.

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 JULY

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> Saint Thomas (Red)**  
**10.30am Holy Communion** *followed by refreshments in the Choir Vestry*

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> The Third Sunday after Trinity (Green)**  
**8.15am Holy Communion**  
 Epistle Galatians 6: 7-16 Practical support in the Church  
 Read by Joyce Forsythe  
 Gospel Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20 The Mission of the Seventy  
**10.30am All Age Worship**  
 Reading Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20 The Mission of the Seventy  
 Read by Louise Mercer

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> (Green)**  
**10.30am Holy Communion** *followed by refreshments in the Choir Vestry*

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Sea Sunday (Green)**  
**8.15am Holy Communion**  
 Epistle Colossians 1: 1-14 Prayer for wisdom and gratitude  
 Read by Ronny Martin  
 Gospel Luke 10: 25-37 The parable of the Good Samaritan  
**10.30am Holy Communion**  
 Epistle Colossians 1: 1-14 Prayer for wisdom and gratitude  
 Read by Eleanor Launchbury  
 Gospel Luke 10: 25-37 The parable of the Good Samaritan  
 Intercessions Helen Armstrong

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Saint Mary Magdalene (Transferred) (White)**  
**10.30am Holy Communion** *followed by refreshments in the Choir Vestry*

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> The Fifth Sunday after Trinity (Green)**  
**8.15am Holy Communion**  
 Epistle Colossians 1: 15-28 The supremacy of Christ  
 Read by Karen McAlpine

|        |                |                              |
|--------|----------------|------------------------------|
| Gospel | Luke 10: 38-42 | Jesus visits Martha and Mary |
|--------|----------------|------------------------------|

**10.30am**

**Morning Prayer**

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading | Amos 8: 1-12 |
|-------------------------|--------------|

The basket of fruit

|         |            |
|---------|------------|
| Read by | Clare Best |
|---------|------------|

|                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading | Luke 10: 38-42 |
|-------------------------|----------------|

Jesus visits Martha and Mary

|         |               |
|---------|---------------|
| Read by | Rupert Wilson |
|---------|---------------|

Occasional Prayers

Karen McAlpine

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Saint James the Apostle (Transferred)**

**(Red)**

**10.30am**

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

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>**

**The Sixth Sunday after Trinity**

**(Green)**

**8.15am**

**Holy Communion**

|         |                    |
|---------|--------------------|
| Epistle | Colossians 2: 6-15 |
|---------|--------------------|

Fullness of life in Christ

|         |              |
|---------|--------------|
| Read by | Ronny Martin |
|---------|--------------|

|        |               |
|--------|---------------|
| Gospel | Luke 11: 1-13 |
|--------|---------------|

Perseverance in prayer

**10.30am**

**Holy Communion**

|         |                    |
|---------|--------------------|
| Epistle | Colossians 2: 6-15 |
|---------|--------------------|

Fullness of life in Christ

|         |                 |
|---------|-----------------|
| Read by | Josephine Kelly |
|---------|-----------------|

|        |               |
|--------|---------------|
| Gospel | Luke 11: 1-13 |
|--------|---------------|

Perseverance in prayer

Intercessions:

Patrick Good

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup>**

**(Green)**

**10.30am**

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

**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".*

## From the Registers

### Our Joys

#### Holy Baptism

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025**

**Eoin Niall Fallon and Lily Carol Fallon**

## SERVICES IN AUGUST

|                                 |  |                |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>    | <b>The Seventh Sunday after Trinity</b>  | <b>(Green)</b> |
| <b>8.15am</b>                   | <b>Holy Communion</b><br>Epistle Colossians 3: 1-11 The new life in Christ<br>Read b6 Luke 12: 13-21 The parable of the rich fool  |                |
| <b>10.30am</b>                  | <b>All Age Worship</b><br>Reading Luke 12: 13-21 The parable of the rich fool<br>Read by Laura Wells   |                |
| <b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>The Transfiguration of our Lord (Transferred)</b>   | <b>(White)</b> |
| <b>10.30am</b>                  | <b>Holy Communion</b> followed by refreshments in the Choir Vestry   |                |
| <b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup></b>   | <b>The Eighth Sunday after Trinity</b>   | <b>(Green)</b> |
| <b>8.15am</b>                   | <b>Holy Communion</b><br>Epistle Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16 The meaning of Faith<br>Read by Alan Boyd<br>Gospel Luke 12: 32-40 Watchful servants  |                |
| <b>10.30am</b>                  | <b>Holy Communion</b><br>Epistle Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16 The meaning of Faith<br>Read by Linda Wilson<br>Gospel Luke 12: 32-40 Watchful servants<br>Intercessions Clergy   |                |
| <b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup></b> |  | <b>(Green)</b> |
| <b>10.30am</b>                  | <b>Holy Communion</b> followed by refreshments in the Choir Vestry   |                |
| <b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup></b>   | <b>The Ninth Sunday after Trinity</b>  | <b>(Green)</b> |
| <b>8.15am</b>                   | <b>Holy Communion</b><br>Epistle Hebrews 11: 29 – 12:2 The faith of other Israelite heroes<br>Read by Ronny Martin<br>Gospel Luke 12: 49-56 Interpreting the time  |                |
| <b>10.30am</b>                  | <b>Morning Prayer</b><br>1 <sup>st</sup> Reading Isaiah 5: 1-7 The song of the unfruitful vineyard<br>Read by Helen Armstrong<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Luke 12: 49-56 Interpreting the time<br>Read by Richard Caldwell<br>Occasional Prayers Clergy |                |

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

**(Green)**

**10.30am**

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

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>**

**(Red)**

**8.15am**

**Saint Bartholomew**

**Holy Communion**

Epistle Acts 5: 12-16

The attraction of Christianity

Read by Patrick Good

Gospel Luke 22: 24-30

Strife among the disciples of Christ

**10.30am**

**Holy Communion**

Epistle Acts 5: 12-16

The attraction of Christianity

Read by Sharon Elkin

Gospel Luke 22: 24-30

Strife among the disciples of Christ

Intercessions: Elizabeth Leonard

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

**(Green)**

**10.30am**

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

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>**

**(Green)**

**8.15am**

**The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**

**Holy Communion**

Epistle Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16 Service well-pleasing to God

Read by Ronny Martin

Gospel Luke 14: 1, 7-14 Humility and hospitality

**10.30am Morning Prayer**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading Jeremiah 2: 4-13 God pleads with Israel to repent

Read by Billy McAlpine

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Luke 14: 1, 7-14 Humility and hospitality

Read by Barbara Laverty

Occasional Prayers Karen McAlpine

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## PATRONAL FESTIVAL



On Sunday 8 June, the eve of St Columba's Day, a well-attended service of Patronal Choral Holy Communion took place. The celebrant was the Rector who welcomed the preacher, The Right Reverend Patrick Rooke, former Bishop of Tuam, Killala and Achonry, together with his wife Alison and daughter Susanna thanking him in passing for his pastoral support to the rectory family. The service was sung by the Cantors.

In his sermon Bishop Rooke summarised the life of St Columba, describing him as a pioneer who brought ministry to the early Church, spreading the seeds of Christianity on these shores and beyond. He reminded us of Columba's sailing to Iona and converting the heathen Picts. While he displayed many gifts in his

ministry, Bishop Rooke suggested that perhaps Columba's greatest gift was his ability to combine his scholarship with a living faith. In this respect Columba's life was an example of 'walking the talk' as opposed to 'talking the talk'. Perhaps we, as Christians, talk too much, offered Bishop Rooke but take little or no action. Quoting Matthew 7:16 (By their fruits ye shall know them) Bishop Rooke said that, following Columba's example, there needs to be a call to action whereby we put our muscle where our mouth is or 'walk the talk'. In doing so we should call upon God's gift of the Holy Spirit. Whit Sunday (Pentecost) brought about a new momentum for the early Church, as reflected in Columba's work, undertaken in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Drawing on the analogy of a music pupil, Bishop Rooke said that, on their own, the pupil was unable to play their instrument well. However, with the help and guidance of a teacher the pupil was enabled to realise their potential and make beautiful music. Likewise, we, as Christians, have the potential through the gift of the Holy Spirit to experience God within us, but we must learn (as the pupil had to learn) to connect to God and to 'walk the talk' if we are to do God's work.

How do we demonstrate faith within us? asked Bishop Rooke. Because of Columba and his fellow monks our nation became Christian. They just didn't talk about what they should do, they actually 'walked the talk', displaying Christian values of love, joy, peace and kindness. Can we determine to do in our own way as Columba did? Bishop Rooke concluded by saying that we must focus on the fact that God is with us and in us, enabling us to be disciples, in the spirit of Columba, and to practice what we preach by 'walking the talk'.

**Gerald Hill**

# Parish Outing to Rathlin Island

## Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2025



## Parish family day away!

We would like to invite all parishioners and their families to a very exciting and informal day out! Come along for Sunday Worship, conducted by our Rector, in St. Thomas's church, Rathlin, at 11.30am. Bring a picnic and spend a lovely afternoon of exploring, chatting and spending time with family and friends!

### How do we get there?

Kintra (Kin)- The fast passenger only ferry takes approximately 30 minutes and departs from pier 1 on Rathlin. NB for safety reasons luggage cannot be accommodated.

Spirit of Rathlin (SoR)- The larger vehicle and passenger ferry Spirit of Rathlin takes approximately 40 minutes. SoR can accommodate 2 wheelchairs, 10 bicycles, and larger items of luggage.

### Sailing Times and Prices

**Depart Ballycastle** 09:30 (Kin) **OR** Dep 10:00 SOR – vehicles **MUST** be prebooked

**Return from Rathlin:** 3.00 or 5.00 (SoR) **OR** 4.00pm or 6.00 (Kin)

**Return fares cost:** £16 per Adult, £8 for Children under 15, and children under 5 years travel free. Senior Citizens with valid N.I. Smart Pass – FREE! Bicycles cost £4.40 return. It is advisable to book your ferry tickets by ringing 028 207 69299 or online using the Rathlin Island Ferry website.

### What can we do when we are there?

Bird watch at the Bird Sanctuary, watch the seals, explore the beautiful coastline and visit the lighthouses, Boathouse Visitor Centre and Museum and Island Treasures Gift Shop. There are several restaurants/ chip shops and a hotel if you would prefer not to enjoy the outdoors. Bikes can be hired, there is a small play-park, and guided walking tours are also available on early booking. **Please put your name on the noticeboard at the back of church if you would like to come along.**

## Thought for the Month

A short riddle to start. What does our Church have in common with American movie star Ted Danson and my daughter Daisy's favourite fluffy toy? I can't wait to tell you!

A few weeks ago, my husband Steve had to go to Inverness on business for a few days, and we thought this would be the perfect opportunity to introduce 3-year-old Daisy to the Loch Ness monster. Throughout my childhood, I had spent summers in Scotland, staying with my Dad's family and I had been lucky enough to have my own Nessie toy which wore a little tartan beret. Since then, I have always had a fascination around the mystery of the beast from Loch Ness, and Steve and I were keen to pass on the folklore.



Rachel Leacock

The week before Steve's trip, we borrowed a book from the library

telling a toddler version of the story of the Loch Ness monster and as the three of us settled in to read it, I was stunned to find reference to Saint Columba himself on page 3! Falling down the Nessie rabbit hole further, Steve and I watched the 1996 movie Loch Ness starring Ted Danson and lo and behold, a few minutes into the film, Saint Columba gets a mention! Saint Columba was popping up everywhere and I still cannot believe that after all my years of Nessie fixation, I never knew that Saint Columba had an early encounter with the beastie!



The story goes that in the year 565, [Saint Columba](#) was staying in the land of the [Picts](#) with his companions when he witnessed local residents burying a man by the [River Ness](#). They explained that the man was swimming in the river when he was attacked by a water beast that mauled him and dragged him underwater, despite their attempts to rescue him by boat. Saint Columba sent a follower to swim across the river. The beast approached the follower, but Saint Columba made the [sign of the cross](#) and said: «Go no further. Do not touch the man. Go back at once.» The creature stopped as if it had been «pulled back with ropes» and fled, and Saint Columba's men gave thanks for what they perceived as a miracle.

Skipping forward in Inverness from the 6<sup>th</sup> century to the year 2025, Steve was busy running work meetings for the week but managed to nip out and buy a miniature, cute and fluffy Nessie. Each night, he sent Daisie and me videos of him trying to catch the magnificent beast, to our absolute glee! And the moment Steve landed back in Belfast, he raced over to Daisie's daycare for the big reunion, with the monster in tow. Daisie was beside herself with excitement and has yet to let go of her wee Nessie.

Steve has to travel frequently for work and as Daisie has grown older, she has become more aware of, and more unsettled by, his absences, so having the legend of the Loch to focus on, made the days go by that much faster on this occasion. Unfortunately, by way of misinterpretation, I am fairly certain that Daisie now believes that it was the Rector who bravely faced up to the Loch Ness monster, rather than Saint Columba, but I'll let the Sunday School rectify that innocent misapprehension! However, in the coming months, should you find a small, green monster perched in a pew, you will know to whom it belongs!



### **Rachel**

*Our sincere thanks to Rachel for sharing this 'Thought' with us.  
The September 'Thought for the Month' will be written by Lynn Ryan.*

## **JULY FLOWER ROTA**

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

Joan Madill

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

Margaret McConkey

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

Karen Patterson

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>**

Kathleen Acheson

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2025

What a busy, action packed, week we had in St. Columba's in May. I decided to organise a Preloved clothes sale as well as our usual delivery of envelopes and cake sale with coffee. The clothes sale was a great success and was well supported by parishioners and visitors. We had over 40 volunteers involved in Christian Aid week and they all gave of their time and talents i.e. delivering envelopes, sorting clothes, baking, serving coffee, counting money.

This hard work and enthusiasm resulted in raising **£5,700 (+ £590 in gift aid)**.

What a fantastic amount! I would like thank everyone who volunteered and also the parishioners of St Columba's for their generous support for Christian Aid.

**Joyce Stevenson**



# Prayers for your thoughts and comfort



In a sermon recently, Canon Walter drew attention to the travels of St. Paul. He did so by producing a map used by participants in the weekly Bible Study Group. We were made aware of the link between places in Asia Minor and Macedonia in biblical times, with those in Turkey and Greece today.

Another way of showing a link between the world of Jesus, Paul and their contemporaries, is contained in the summer months of July and August. July is named after the Roman dictator, Julius Caesar, who lived about seventy years before Christ's ministry in Palestine, while August recalls the life of the Roman Emperor, Caesar Augustus who is mentioned in St. Luke 2. These examples, and others, serve to remind us that the life and teaching of Jesus is grounded in a particular time, and, in places of considerable significance.

In the period covering the months of July and August, many people hope (to quote a song) that we can look forward to 'the lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer.' If the weather resembles that which we have experienced in May, that thought may be realised!

Prayers this month focus on the beauty, peace and opportunity for rest, associated with summer. Of course, our experience of life can contain dark clouds and difficult days, both globally and personally. While prayers focus on the positive aspects of summer, you will find in these prayers also, a recognition that life can be an 'uneven playing field' With that in mind, some lines have been included from Hymn 82 in the Church Hymnal.

As always, it is hoped that readers will find the prayers and thoughts, helpful.

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### **Extracts from Hymn 82**

Summer suns are glowing  
over land and sea  
Happy light is flowing  
Bountiful and free.

And when clouds are drifting  
dark across our sky  
Then, the veil uplifting  
Father, be thou nigh.

### **Summer prayers**

Lord God, Creator of all things, lighten our ways during these summer months. Grant us refreshment of body and mind as we enjoy these long, warm days. **Amen**

Lord we thank you for summer holidays and for opportunities to spend time with family, friends and youth groups. Give refreshment to all who have busy lives, that they may return to the daily routine with new strength and vision of your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Lord God, lighten our ways during these summer months. Grant us refreshment of mind, body and spirit, as we enjoy the long bright days of summertime. **Amen**

Merciful God, as we make travel plans in these summer months, enable us at all times to make responsible choices, to ensure our safety and protection. We ask this in your name.

**Amen** (Suitable for use by those travelling in July and August)

**A prayer for the lonely and insecure** (Summer may be a difficult time for those alone)

Dear God, we pray for ourselves/others who are feeling lonely and isolated. In acknowledging the pain and suffering that loneliness can bring, we ask that you guide us to be a light to any who may be struggling. Help them/and us to realise that we are not truly alone, and give us/them a sense of belonging, and courage to face each day with hope. We ask this in your name. **Amen**

### **Scriptural prayer in a time of anxiety**

Do not be anxious about anything, but, in everything, by prayer and meditation, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God who transcends all understanding, and will bring peace to your hearts and minds in Jesus Christ. Philippians 4 v. 6&7

### **A 10<sup>th</sup>. Century Celtic prayer**

Lord, you are the peace of all things calm  
You are the place to hide from harm  
You are the light that shines in dark  
You are the heart's eternal spark  
You are the door that opens wide  
You are the guest who waits inside  
You are the stranger at the door  
You are my Lord and with me still  
You are my love, keep me from ill  
You are the light, the truth, the way  
You are my Saviour, this very day.

### **A prayer for the future**

Dear God, you know my needs. You know my desire for a job/or some form of further education/or for means of making new friends. I pray that you will guide me as I examine the next step on my life's journey. **Amen**

### **A Family prayer**

Almighty God, we pray for homes and families, in this parish and community, and across the world. As we do so, we know that many families are suffering terror, devastation and starvation because of wars, civil unrest and famine. Bless those who are committed to creating greater stability in our divided world, comforting through your agents of help, healing and compassion, those in need and sorrow. May we in all families, be students in the school of Christ, daily increasing in mutual respect and understanding, in tolerance, patience and love, through the example of the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

### **A personal prayer**

O Lord, open my eyes that I may see the needs of others. Open my ears that I may hear their cries. Open my heart so that others need not be without help. Show me where love and hope and faith are needed and use me to bring them to such places. Open my eyes, that I may see this coming day, an ability to do some work of kindness and peace for you. **Amen**

### **Useful advice from the Scriptures**

Be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12

### **Prayers for the Sick and those enduring difficulties**

Note:- While no formal prayer is included, a number of parishioners use the prayer list which is included at the Thursday Holy Communion service. It should be noted also, that confidentiality is respected where Christian names or other forms alone are requested.

### **Finally .....The Serenity Prayer**

God, grant me the Serenity  
To accept the things I cannot change  
Courage to change the things I can  
And wisdom to know the difference.

## WANTED ... NEW VOICES IN THE PARISH CHOIR

We often talk about our gratitude for the strong tradition of choral and organ music in the parish, going back for many decades.

At the heart of any *tradition*, of course, is the necessity for church members to step forward and do their bit to rejuvenate the choir, especially as vacancies arise. At the moment we have vacancies for both female and male voices. In particular, just now, I'm looking for any gents who might fancy singing bass.



As the choir leader, I'm not necessarily looking for trained singers or people with strong music-reading skills, although these are wonderful when they present themselves. Rather, I'm very happy if an individual wants to develop his or her voice and is prepared to commit to singing at Sunday services when they're available to do so.

An important part of my job is to encourage potential singers and to help them get the best possible sound. We normally rehearse immediately before the Sunday morning service. I'd love to see, for instance, a couple of Mums and teenage daughters coming along, or one or two younger men joining to sing alongside their Dads or Grandpas. There are no age limits!

I can guarantee you a warm welcome, the friendship of a very inclusive bunch of colleagues and the reward of singing good music. Please talk to me or Brian Clements, or to one of the clergy, after any service.

**Joe McKee**

## AUGUST FLOWER ROTA

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Anella Gallen

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

The Huxley Family

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

Joan Madill

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>**

Margaret Grahame

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>**

Eileen Anderson

## PAUSE

Summer has arrived and I hope that every reader of the Columban will enjoy a very happy and relaxing season, whether at home or further afield.

The children have finished school until September and most parish organisations have also paused until autumn but PAUSE, as usual, will continue throughout the summer months.

It gives those who are at home for all or part of the summer an opportunity to meet with other parishioners and friends in a relaxed environment for a chat over a cup of tea or coffee! It is great when someone new to PAUSE turns up. You don't have to be a parishioner. All are welcome.

Four dates have been arranged.

**Tuesday 8th July at The Poet at 10.30am.**

**Tuesday 22nd July at Castlereagh Hills Golf Club at 10.30am**

**Tuesday 5th August at Neills Hill at 10.30am.**

**Tuesday 19th August at The Poet at 10.30am.**

If you are free on any or all of these dates do come along.

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

**Eileen (028 9020 3684)**

## Art Club

The Art Club has had a very busy, and enjoyable year. We had our exhibition in November, which was very successful despite atrocious weather. Our Christmas dinner was held in Royal Northern Ireland Yacht Club, Cultra and everyone enjoyed the delicious food and the challenging quiz (thank you Billy!). We were delighted to do the tea/coffee after the Morning Service in March, which gave us a welcome opportunity to display our artwork. Our members really enjoyed the art demonstrations by Julian Friers and Paul O'Kane. As usual we learned a lot, and are very grateful for them both giving up their valuable time to be with us. Our AGM will be on the 11<sup>th</sup> September, which starts our year. If anyone is interested in joining the Art Club please contact Carole Crothers, to find out more.



**(07979093963)**

# PRIZEGIVING SERVICE

There was such a wonderful relaxed atmosphere in St. Columba's when we all gathered in large numbers on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June for our Prizegiving service. There was great excitement throughout the All Age Service which was greatly enriched through the participation of so many children in the service.

**The lesson was read by Evie Greer and the prayers were read by:**

|                      |                           |                         |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Evelyn Bijou</b>  | <b>Christopher Martin</b> | <b>Susannah Rolston</b> |
| <b>Rachel Cairns</b> | <b>Molly Morrow</b>       | <b>Emily Rolston</b>    |
| <b>Ethan Stewart</b> | <b>Ella McKinney</b>      | <b>Ruby Hirst</b>       |

It was such a joy for me to present each child with their prizes for attendance and hard work throughout the year. They all came racing up the main aisle to receive their individual prizes in a most enthusiastic manner! I am most grateful to Richard Ryan in the Book Well for supplying all the prizes and for kindly opening the shop one evening for the Teachers and myself to select them some weeks ago.

**The Louise Craig prize for Endeavour was awarded to Toby McCombe for his overall contribution and attendance in Sunday School during the year.**

I thank the Superintendent, Lynn Ryan, the Teachers and Volunteers and the Creche Leader Lindsay Rothwell for all their hard work organising and conducting exciting classes throughout the year.

Following the service we all enjoyed a delicious BBQ on the church lawn and we were extremely fortunate that the rain stopped in time for us all to enjoy fellowship together!



Thank you to our BBQ Chiefs, Brian Clements and Tim McKeown who

is one of the Scout Leaders and all their helpers who assisted with the BBQ ensuring that everything was ready as we came out of church. It was such a wonderful team effort with a great sense of thanksgiving that everything went so well. St. Columba's at its best! A great conclusion to a most successful academic year and a great start to the summer holidays!

**The Rector**





# EHOD 2025

European Heritage Open Days

## Get Involved!

Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 September

European Heritage Open Days will take place on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025.**

Each year EHD's across Europe celebrate a shared theme and for 2025 the theme is "Architectural Heritage – Past structures – Future Connections".

This year our beautiful church building will be open on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> 10am-4pm and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> 2pm-4pm.

We are preparing a rota to cover these hours and would be grateful to those who could volunteer to help for an hour on either of these two dates.

If this is something you could help us with, please add your name to the rota on the noticeboard.

Thank you once again for your generous support!



A basket of flowers, a watering can, and a pink watering can.



A black and white photograph showing two fencers in a dynamic pose during a match. They are wearing traditional fencing gear, including masks and jackets, and are holding their foils. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

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## Going into hospital?

The Rector would appreciate it if you could make him aware of any parishioners who are due to go into hospital, are already in hospital or are about to be discharged, so pastoral support for you and your family can be arranged.



Please contact the Rector on 028 9047 1514 or by email on [rectorknock@down.anglican.org](mailto:rectorknock@down.anglican.org) to advise him immediately, as there have been recent circumstances when he has been unaware of parishioners being in hospital. Thank you.



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.

## REFURBISHMENT OF GENTS TOILETS

Work to refurbish the Gents toilets in the Church Hall will take place during the summer holidays. This necessary work will commence in a few weeks and will be completed before the hall reopens for our new season of activities. Some years ago, the Ladies toilets were refurbished, and it is good that through your great support we can now get this work done.



Thank you to our Catering Committee for organising their successful Parish Lunches which we have all thoroughly enjoyed. Those proceeds have all been allocated to this project.

I am most grateful to the Property Committee and Select Vestry for their meticulous planning for this refurbishment. A copy of the plans has been on the church notice board for the past few months.

**The Rector**



## SEPTEMBER 2025 MAGAZINE

Articles or photographs for publication in the September edition of the parish magazine should be handed or emailed to the editor, Billy McAlpine, by 6 pm Wednesday, 13th August. His contact details are:-

10 Old Quay Court, Holywood BT18 0HT  
Tel: 9042 4390 Email: [colmaged@outlook.com](mailto: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><br>Junior nursery to P5 | <b>2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays</b><br><b>at 10.30am</b> | <b>Superintendent:</b><br><b>Lynn Ryan</b>       |
|                   | <b>Senior P6 and over</b>                    |   | <b>07955 479065</b>                              |
|                   | <b>Crèche</b>                                | <b>2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays</b><br><b>at 10.30am</b> | <b>Lindsay Rothwell</b><br><b>07710 590574</b>   |
|                   | <b>Choir</b>                                 | <b>9.30am</b>   | <b>Dr Joe McKee</b><br><b>07976 294574</b>       |
| <b>Monday</b>     | <b>MU Afternoon Group</b>                    | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each month 2.30pm</b>  | <b>Joy Montgomery</b><br><b>9029 5427</b>        |
|                   | <b>Men's Forum</b>                           | <b>7.30pm</b>   | <b>John Robb</b><br><b>07956061929</b>           |
| <b>Tuesday</b>    | <b>Ladies Badminton</b>                      | <b>10-00am - 12 Noon</b>  | <b>Gillian Popplestone</b><br><b>07730479478</b> |
|                   | <b>Ladies Guild</b>                          | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month</b><br><b>2.30pm in the church</b>               | <b>Eileen Anderson</b><br><b>9020 3684</b>       |
|                   | <b>Activity Group</b>                        | <b>Except 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday</b><br><b>7.30pm</b>                                 | <b>Maureen Irwin</b><br><b>9079 5155</b>         |
|                   | <b>Mothers' Union</b>                        | <b>1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month</b><br><b>8.00pm</b>                             | <b>Barbara Laverty</b><br><b>9573 8743</b>       |
| <b>Wednesday</b>  | <b>Bible Study Group</b>                     | <b>2.30pm - 4.00pm</b>  | <b>Eileen Anderson</b><br><b>9020 3684</b>       |
|                   | <b>Cubs</b>                                  | <b>6.45pm – 8.15pm</b>  | <b>Gareth McAuley</b><br><b>07884411354</b>      |
|                   | <b>Railway and Model Club</b>                | <b>2.00pm to 4.30pm</b>   | <b>John Robb</b><br><b>07956061929</b>           |
| <b>Thursday</b>   | <b>Art Club</b>                              | <b>9.30am</b>   | <b>Carole Crothers</b><br><b>07979093956</b>     |
|                   | <b>Scouts</b>                                | <b>7.30pm to 9.30pm</b>   | <b>Iain Hall</b><br><b>07799 474111</b>          |
| <b>Friday</b>     | <b>Mums and Tots</b>                         | <b>10.00am</b>  | <b>Joyce Stevenson,</b><br><b>07772128944</b>    |
| <b>Bi-monthly</b> | <b>Pause</b>                                 | <b>As arranged</b>  | <b>Eileen Anderson</b><br><b>9020 3684</b>       |
| <b>Monthly</b>    | <b>Youth Etc.</b><br><b>(11-15 years)</b>    | <b>As arranged</b>  | <b>Jonathan Martin,</b><br><b>07980 885990</b>   |
|                   | <b>Young Families</b>                        | <b>Social events as arranged</b>  | <b>Rachel Stewart</b><br><b>07812 247343</b>     |

# WHO'S WHO IN ST. COLUMBAS

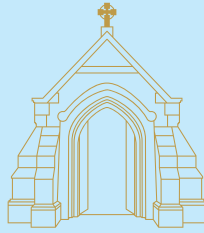
Parish website: [www.stcolumbas.down.anglican.org](http://www.stcolumbas.down.anglican.org)

|                                     |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Rector</b>                       | The Reverend Chancellor<br>John R Auchmuty   | St. Columba's Rectory<br>29 Kings Road<br>BT5 6JG<br>028 9047 1514<br><a href="mailto:rectorknock@down.anglican.org">rectorknock@down.anglican.org</a> |
| <b>Assistant Priests</b>            | The Reverend Canon<br>Ken Smyth<br><br>The Reverend Canon<br>Walter Lavery   | 3 Mount Royal<br>Bangor BT20 3BG<br>028 9145 8706<br><br>6 Hanwood Heights<br>Dundonald BT16 1XU<br>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>        | Michael Sadlier  | 07801 690234   |
| <b>People's Churchwarden</b>        | Mark Wilson  | 07714 658911   |
| <b>Rector's Glebewarden</b>         | Ian Johnston   | 07850 999909   |
| <b>People's Glebewarden</b>         | Iain Hall  | 07799 474111   |
| <b>Honorary Sexton</b>              | John Proctor   | 028 9087 0526  |
| <b>Assistant Honorary Sexton</b>    | Geoff Launchbury   | 028 9028 1204<br>07814 498 241   |
| <b>Select Vestry</b>                | Rector, Churchwardens, Glebewardens, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Rosemary Allister, David Craig, David Kelly, Louise Mercer, John Macpherson, Nigel Morrow, Scott Rutherford, Jim Stevenson, Richard Whiteside |  |
| <b>Honorary Secretary</b>           | Martin Moore   | 07964 422574<br><a href="mailto:martin@mooremj.plus.com">martin@mooremj.plus.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,<br>Elizabeth Leonard, Linda Wilson                        |  |
| <b>Diocesan Synod members</b>                                      | Patrick Good , Dr. Elizabeth Leonard<br>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<br>colmaged@outlook.com  |
| <b>Parish Webmaster</b>  | Dr Jonathan Stewart   | <a href="mailto:office.knock@down.anglican.org">office.knock@down.anglican.org</a>   |
| <b>C of I Gazette Distributor</b>                                  | Moranne Noad  | 07754523065  |
| <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 Lavery   | 028 9573 8743  |
| <b>Parish Office Administrator/<br/>Financial Giving Secretary</b> | <b>Karen Patterson</b><br><b>Office hours: Monday to Friday</b><br><b>9.00am-1.00pm</b> | <br><b>028 9065 6891</b><br><b><a href="mailto:office.knock@down.anglican.org">office.knock@down.anglican.org</a></b> |

### **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.

