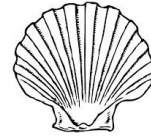


THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ST JAMES  
BELFAST



PARISH NOTES

FEBRUARY 2014

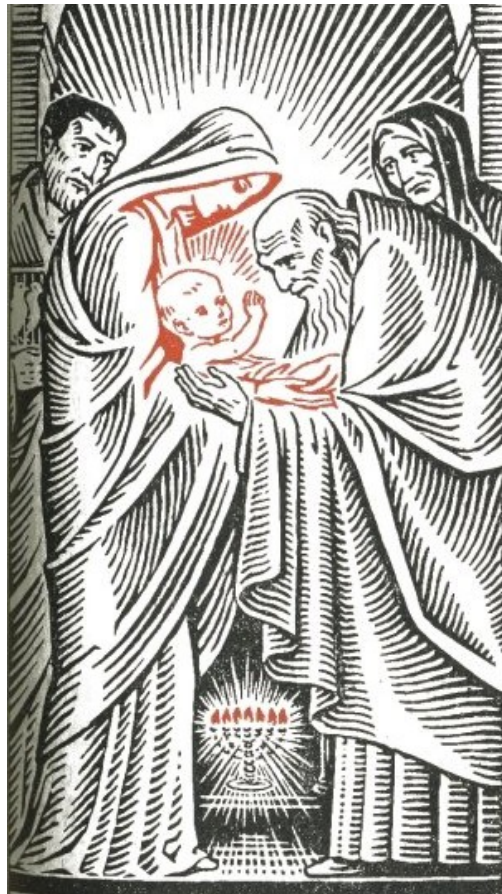


**Rector:**

The Rev'd Brian Lacey  
St Peter's Rectory, 17 Waterloo Park South, Belfast, BT15 5HX  
Tel 9077 7053

GOD . LOVING . PEOPLE

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## RECTOR'S NOTES

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

What we learn and experience in our childhood will often affect our perception of life as adults. This is true even with regard to Christianity. Indeed, the foundations of a lifetime of Christian discipleship usually have their roots back in our youth, and for many people their understanding of basic Christian beliefs flows from what they learnt in Sunday School and Confirmation Class.

With secular schools teaching less and less about our Christian faith, it makes our Sunday School all the more important for teaching young children the Biblical stories of God's interaction with humanity, and for encouraging them to perceive and appreciate God at work in their own lives today.

I give sincere thanks to Paula Poulton, Thelma Cross, and Janice Knowles for their dedication to our Sunday School. They put much thought into their preparation for Sunday mornings, and no doubt it is always a delight for them to see more and more children coming to be part of the regular community in St Peter's. I am certainly always glad to see the liveliness and energy that the little ones add to the friendly atmosphere in our church.

I was particularly impressed by the re-telling of the Nativity Story on Christmas Eve (see picture above right),

which was organised by Paula. It was beautifully done, engaging for the children, and appreciated by the parents and grandparents. As I told Paula at the time, she has maybe inadvertently landed herself with a job *every* Christmas Eve!



As the children attending worship on Sunday morning increases, we will need more adults involved in our Sunday School in order to give the current three leaders an occasional break, and also the opportunity to remain in the church for an entire service! If you would like to help supervising the children, perhaps even if only a few times each year, then please speak to Paula or myself.

### **BIBLE STUDY**

I had mentioned during the Autumn that I wanted to convene a regular Bible Study group within the parish, and now seems to be as good a time as any to begin one. I intend this group to be relaxed and informal, working

through passages of Scripture and exploring our own response to them. Therefore this particular group will be more about reflecting and sharing our own thoughts on the Bible verses, rather than on simply listening and being taught. If this sort of Bible Study would interest you, then please mention it to me, so that I have a rough sense of how many people will turn up. At this stage, I am planning to convene this group every two weeks (on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month), for about one hour, beginning at 7:30pm. The first meeting will be held on *Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February*, when we will begin working our way through the Letter of James.

#### **THEOLOGY GROUP**

In addition to the aforementioned Bible Study group, I am also planning a *monthly* series of seminars on basic Christian beliefs. This will be aimed at those who want to examine Christianity in a bit more depth, looking at the Church's earliest beliefs and how they have developed over time. We will begin by looking at how the Bible came into being, which is probably a lot more complicated than most people realise! This group will meet probably on the first Thursday evening of each month, again for just one hour from 7:30pm. This means that there will be discipleship groups happening on the first, second and fourth Thursday of each month. Please note that this group will begin in *March*, and more information will be given closer to the time.

### **BADMINTON CLUB**

I was very kindly invited to the Christmas Party of the Badminton Club, which meets on Monday evenings in the Halls. There was quite a delicious spread put before us, and even a glass of champagne! Unfortunately, owing to an accidentally self-inflicted wound to my foot, I was unable to play, but nonetheless it was great to meet the regulars. Anybody is welcome to join, meaning that the group is a mixed bunch from various churches in the area. If you would like to play the sport then speak to Harold Jacobs (see his contact details on the back cover) or simply turn up at 8pm on a Monday evening. There is also a separate Ladies' Badminton Club which meets on Thursday mornings at 11am. Please speak to Meta O'Neill if you are interested in that particular group.



## CHURCH SERVICES

*Any services marked with an asterisk (\*) are traditional services derived from the Book of Common Prayer (1662). All other services are in modern language.*

### **SUNDAY 2nd FEBRUARY**

### **The Presentation of Christ in the Temple**

9am Holy Communion\*

Hebrews 2: 14-18

Luke 2: 22-40

11am Holy Communion

Malachi 3: 1-5

Luke 2: 22-40

6.30pm Evening Prayer\*

Exodus 13: 1-16

Romans 12: 1-5

*"When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord."*

*During the morning services we will be reflecting upon the words of Simeon as he beheld the baby Jesus being brought into the Temple in Jerusalem: "A light for revelation to the gentiles, and for the glory of your people Israel." At the 11am service the congregation will hold lit candles during the opening procession as we celebrate Jesus the light of the world. From this ancient tradition comes the other name for this Sunday, which is known as Candlemas.*

### **WEDNESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

### **Mid-Week Service**

10.30am Holy Communion

2 Samuel 24: 2, 9-17

Mark 6: 1-6

### **SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

### **The Fourth Sunday before Lent**

9am Holy Communion

1 Corinthians 2: 1-12

Matthew 5: 13-20

11am Morning Prayer

Isaiah 58: 1-12

Matthew 5: 13-20

*"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have not come to abolish but to fulfil."*

*In today's gospel reading, Jesus reminds us of the importance of being obedient to God's law in our lives, declaring that unless we are righteous we will never enter the kingdom of heaven. We will reflect upon what the kingdom of heaven actually is, and how Jesus invites us not only to enter it, but also to help build it here on earth.*

### **WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

### **Mid-Week Service**

10.30am Holy Communion

1 Kings 10: 1-10

Mark 7: 14-23

**SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

9am Holy Communion  
 11am Holy Communion  
 6.30pm Evening Prayer\*

**The Third Sunday before Lent**

1 Corinthians 3: 1-9      Matthew 5: 21-37  
 Deuteronomy 30: 15-20      Matthew 5: 21-37  
 Amos 2: 4-16      Mark 1: 40-45

*"If you say 'You fool!' you will be liable to the fire of hell!"*

*In the morning services we will hear some harsh words from Jesus, as he again reminds us of the necessity of living holy and righteous lives. In particular we will concentrate on his declaration that we must resolve personal disputes before we are able to truly worship him.*

**WEDNESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

10.30am Holy Communion

**Mid-Week Service**

James 1: 19-27      Mark 8: 22-26

**SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY**

9am Holy Communion  
 11am Morning Prayer

**The Second Sunday before Lent**

Romans 8: 18-25      Matthew 6: 25-34  
 Genesis 1: 1—2: 3      Matthew 6: 25-34

*"Can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?"*

*Thinking about God's care for his creation, including us, we will reflect upon how it is his nature to provide for us. We will focus on whether or not we trust him to take care of us, and the futility of worrying about events outside our control.*

**WEDNESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

10.30am Holy Communion

**Mid-Week Service**

James 4: 13-17      Mark 9: 38-41

## LESSON READERS

The following parishioners are on the rota to read the first Lesson at the 11am Sunday services. If you are unable to read on your appointed Sunday, please swap with another reader and inform the Rector's Secretary.

2nd February	<b>Forde Patterson</b>	Malachi 3: 1-5
9th February	<b>Eleanor Henderson</b>	Isaiah 58: 1-12 and Matthew 5: 13-20
16th February	<b>Marie Burrowes</b>	Deuteronomy 30: 15-20
23rd February	<b>Hilary Shields</b>	Genesis 1: 1—2: 3 and Matthew 6: 25-34



## PARISH REGISTER

### Christian Burial

**Hazel Macbeth**

**16th December 2013**

Hazel Macbeth was born in Belfast, and was a lifelong member of St James', where she was baptised by Archdeacon Shirley, and where she served as Church Warden during the incumbency of the Rev'd Charles McCollum. Her first job as a receptionist for a linen manufacturer led to her being trained up to oversee the company's finances. She studied accountancy, coming in the top two women in the province. She then became the Assistant to the Chief Officer of the County Antrim Education Committee, and subsequently the Assistant Finance Officer for the Education Board, based originally on the Antrim Road and then in County Hall in Ballymena. With a very short exception, she had, for all of that time, lived at home with her mother, her brother Billy, and from the early 1990s her sister Margaret as well. She enjoyed arts and crafts, such as embroidery. She was a sportswoman, particularly running, hockey and tennis. She enjoyed readings books, particularly crime books or classics such as the works of Jane Austen. Unfortunately in the last thirteen years or so, her enjoyment of life was limited by an ongoing and debilitating condition. She passed away at home on 10th December and was buried on 16th December. We remember in our prayers her devoted sister Margaret, and her relatives in Australia: Fiona, June, Amanda and David.



Thy faithful keeper is the Lord,  
thy shelter and thy shade;  
'neath sun or moon, by day or night,  
thou shalt not be afraid.

*Ps 121: 5*

Margaret Macbeth and family greatly appreciated the prayers and sympathy of all those who supported us in our recent bereavement of my sister

**HAZEL MACBETH**

21.09.1933 – 10.12.2013

Jesus said,  
'I am the way, and the truth, and the life'.  
*John 14: 6*

### **LADIES' GUILD**

*On Tuesday 11th February our guest speaker will be none other than our own Mr Noel Beattie. Noel joined us last year to describe the first leg of his Indian holiday. He will now complete his tour by telling us about his Southern Indian experiences. Hop along and enjoy the sights and sounds along the way. As always he will be prompted by his lovely assistant Annette!! The tour will begin at the usual time of 2.30pm. Look forward to seeing you there.*

Anne Stewart, Hon Sec





**TRAIDCRAFT**  
Fighting poverty through trade

Every second Sunday  
of the month  
during coffee time after  
the 11am service.

### COFFEE IN CHURCH

Thank you to members of the PhysioPilates classes who will provide refreshments after the 11am service on 9th February.



### THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU TH

*Thank you to all who gave of their time and artistic talent before Christmas to add some festive decoration to the church. Also to those who returned in January to put everything away again. Your names have been noted (!) so please make sure you are free at the same time this year to do it all again. With time passing so quickly it will be sooner than you think!*

*Many thanks again to all concerned—it is much appreciated.*

### THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU TH

### Parish Calendar

Many thanks to everyone who purchased a calendar. Just over £300 have been raised for church funds. If you have not yet paid for your calendar, please give your money to a churchwarden as soon as possible. Thank you. Please see over for our calendar competition!

### Our Church Family ...

Please let us know about any happy events or exciting news happening within our parish family—good news is always worth sharing!

### FAMILY NEWS

Congratulations to  
Peggy Weir,  
our newest parishioner,  
on the award of an  
MBE.

*See what joining St Peter's  
has done for her!!!!*



## CALENDAR COMPETITION

Those of you who purchased a calendar will have seen that each month there is a caption competition. All we want is a caption which you think would be suitable for the picture shown each month. There will be a theme or question for the captions and you will find this in the current issue of Parish Notes.



As it is the start of the year we need a caption for both January and February this time.

The theme for **January** is:

A caption which is a bible verse and which suits the January picture.

The theme for **February** is:

A caption which is a verse from a hymn which suits the February picture.

To make your entry simply write your caption on a piece of paper and give it to a churchwarden or email it to the parish office. Remember to include your name!

Entries should be with us by the last day of the month. There will be a small prize awarded each month.

Good luck!!

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

<b>Select Vestry</b>	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> February in the Minor Hall at 7.30pm
<b>Fabric Committee</b>	Wednesday 19th February in the Clergy Vestry at 11.30am
<b>Finance Committee</b>	Monday 24th February in the Rectory at 7.30pm

## Holy Dusters

We can hardly remember when the late Sheila Chillingworth first introduced a cleaning rota for the church but it was certainly a great initiative which has worked well for many years. However, with the passage of time, a number of the original 'holy dusters' are sadly no longer with us so some of the teams are now down to just one person.

We would like to revisit this worthwhile exercise and are appealing for new people to sign up.

The commitment amounts to about 1-1½ hours once every 8 weeks (perhaps even less if we get lots more volunteers) and you decide a convenient day and time with your other team members. It is not overly tasking and can become quite social. You can even talk about the Rector—he won't be there!!!

If you are not already a holy duster, please seriously consider this request and respond positively by forwarding your name to Anne at the Parish Office. I'm sure we all appreciate that we have the most beautiful church and halls so it is good to give a little of our time so that we can maintain them as we should.



When we collate the names of the hundreds (!) of new people volunteering (we may have to have a ballot to see who gets in!) we intend to call everyone together over a cuppa after church some Sunday to discuss this further, and ...

... GENTLEMEN—PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS NOT A 'WOMEN ONLY' DOMAIN.

*Noel Beattie*

## REGISTER OF GENERAL VESTRY PERSONS

The Register of General Vestry Members is now open for revision and will be closed at a special meeting of the Select Vestry called for that purpose on Sunday 23rd February 2014.

Forms of application for membership are available from the church-wardens. Applicants must be over 18 years and must have subscribed financially to the parish (in such a fashion that the Honorary Treasurer is able to issue a receipt).

Last year's Register is available for viewing at the back of the church.

# February Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> <i>The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)</i> 9am Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Holy Communion & Sunday School <b>6.30pm</b> Evening Prayer	<b>3</b> 8pm Badminton	<b>4</b> 7.15pm Indoor Bowls	<b>5</b> 10.30am Holy Communion and light lunch 2pm Bridge <b>6.30pm</b> PhysioPilates <b>8pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>6</b> 10am Little Cherubs <b>11am</b> Ladies' Badminton 6pm Rainbows <b>6.45pm</b> Brownies <b>8pm</b> Guides	<b>7</b> 10.30am PhysioPilates	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 9am Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Morning Prayer & Sunday School (tea/coffee)	<b>10</b> 7.30pm Select Vestry <b>8pm</b> Badminton	<b>11</b> 2.30pm Ladies' Guild 7.15pm Indoor Bowls	<b>12</b> 10.30am Holy Communion and light lunch 2pm Bridge <b>6.30pm</b> PhysioPilates <b>8pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>13</b> 10am Little Cherubs <b>11am</b> Ladies' Badminton 6pm Rainbows <b>6.45pm</b> Brownies <b>7.30pm</b> Bible Study <b>8pm</b> Guides	<b>14</b> 10.30am PhysioPilates	<b>15</b>

<b>16</b> <b>9am</b> Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Holy Communion & Sunday School <b>6.30pm</b> Evening Prayer	<b>17</b> <b>8pm</b> Badminton	<b>18</b> <b>7.15pm</b> Indoor Bowls <b>8pm</b> Compassionate Friends	<b>19</b> <b>10.30am</b> Holy Communion and light lunch <b>11.30am</b> Fabric Committee <b>2pm</b> Bridge <b>6.30pm</b> PhysioPilates <b>8pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>20</b> <b>10am</b> Little Cherubs <b>11am</b> Ladies' Badminton <b>6pm</b> Rainbows <b>6.45pm</b> Brownies <b>8pm</b> Guides <b>7.45pm</b> Historical Society	<b>21</b> <b>10.30am</b> PhysioPilates	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> <b>9am</b> Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Morning Prayer & Sunday School	<b>24</b> <b>7.30pm</b> Finance Committee <b>8pm</b> Badminton	<b>25</b> <b>7.15pm</b> Indoor Bowls	<b>26</b> <b>10.30am</b> Holy Communion and light lunch <b>2pm</b> Bridge <b>6.30pm</b> PhysioPilates <b>8pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>27</b> <b>10am</b> Little Cherubs <b>11am</b> Ladies' Badminton <b>6pm</b> Rainbows <b>6.45pm</b> Brownies <b>7.30pm</b> Bible Study <b>8pm</b> Guides	<b>28</b> <b>10.30am</b> PhysioPilates	

## ORGANISATIONS - TIMETABLE

### Sunday

11am–12noon: Sunday School

### Monday

8.00pm–11.00pm: Badminton Club

### Tuesday

2.30pm–4.30pm: Ladies' Guild (2<sup>nd</sup> Tues in month)

7.15pm–10.30pm: Indoor Bowling Club

8pm–10pm: Compassionate Friends (3<sup>rd</sup> Tues in month)

### Wednesday

2pm–4pm: Bridge Club

6.30pm–7.45pm: PhysioPilates

8pm–10pm: Choir/Junior Choir

### Thursday

10am–11.30am: Little Cherubs Baby and Toddler Group

11am–1pm: Ladies' Badminton Club

6pm–7pm: Rainbow Guides

6.45pm–8pm: Brownies

8pm–9pm: Guides

7.30pm Bible Study (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs in month)

7.45pm Historical Society (3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs in month)

### Friday

10.30am–11.45am: PhysioPilates

*For more information please  
contact appropriate personnel  
listed on back page.*

## PARISHIONER CONTACT DETAILS

For speed of communication and to keep our records up to date please send your email address to Anne at [stpeters@connor.anglican.org](mailto:stpeters@connor.anglican.org). Also please don't forget to let us know if you move house, change your telephone number or change your email address. Thank you.

## NORTH BELFAST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Thursday 20th February  
7.45pm in the Minor Hall

**Speaker:** The Rector,  
The Rev'd Brian Lacey

**Topic:** The Giant's Ring  
Everyone welcome

## Holy Dusters Cleaning Rota

27th January—1st February	Group 6
3rd February—8th February	Group 7
10th February—15th February	Group 8
17th February—22nd February	Group 1
24th February—1st March	Group 2

## FEBRUARY FLOWER LIST

2ND ROSEMARY HINDS IN MEMORY OF HER MOTHER  
23RD THE HALL FAMILY IN MEMORY OF THEIR MOTHER

Thank you to all who contribute their time and effort to putting flowers in church.

## FLOWERS IN CHURCH

### ***Thank you to everyone who presented flowers in 2013***

The Flower List for 2014 is open for bookings and we would ask that all existing contributors contact the Parish Office (9077 7053) to confirm their usual Sunday for this year. Of course, as there are always some Sundays left available we appeal to new people to come forward and donate flowers, perhaps to mark a particular occasion or anniversary for them. It may be a wedding anniversary, the birth of a child or grandchild, to remember the death of a family member, or indeed as an act of thanksgiving for some notable blessing. All such donors will be acknowledged on the church notice board and in the Parish Notes.

We deeply appreciate all who contribute flowers Sunday by Sunday and also all those who devote so much time and energy in arranging them and looking after them mid-week.

## PASTORAL CARE

If you require any form of pastoral care please contact the Rector (tel 9077 7053). If there is no reply please leave a message. However, if the matter is urgent please do not hesitate to contact the Rector on his mobile phone (tel 07563 531082).

We hope you'll not end up in hospital, but if you do, please do let the Rector know. He makes regular visits to all our local hospitals and is always keen to know if a parishioner has been admitted. Also, please don't forget to let us know when you have been discharged.

Parishioners who are housebound or otherwise unable to attend church may receive Holy Communion at home.

*Please send material for the March issue of Parish Notes to:  
Anne Cromie, Parish Office, 17 Waterloo Park South, Belfast BT15 5HX  
or email: [stpeters@connor.anglican.org](mailto:stpeters@connor.anglican.org)  
by Wednesday 12th February. Thank you.*