THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ST JAMES
BELFAST

PARISH NOTES

JULY/AUGUST 2015

Rector: The Rev'd Brian Lacey St Peter's Rectory, 17 Waterloo Park South, Belfast, BT15 5HX

RECHARGING YOURSELF PHYSICALLY

SPIRITUALLY

AND EMOTIONALLY

IS AS IMPORTANT AS ANY WORK YOU DO

recharge this Summer @ CHURCH

GOD . LOVING . PEOPLE

RECTOR'S NOTES

ORGANISATIONS & EVENTS

The Select Vestry has recently formed a new subcommittee with responsibility for overseeing the use of our premises for both regular and special events. The Organisations & Events Committee will meet once a month and will receive requests for permission for—and progress reports on—forthcoming activities that take place at St Peter's. The purpose of this is to enable the Select Vestry to interact regularly with our organisations and to ensure that we are involved in, or at least aware of, the planning process of any events happening in our church, halls, and grounds.

The Committee will consist of our two Churchwardens, three Representatives elected annually at our Easter Vestry, and myself. Our Parish Secretary, Anne Cromie, will be in attendance at our meetings, and she will liaise with the organisations on our behalf. We will normally meet towards the end of each month.

If you are the leader of an organisation that uses our premises, it is important that you keep the Committee up-to-date with information about your plans for the forthcoming year. This does not mean your normal activities; instead we need to know about events that are in some way out of the ordinary, such as an end-of-year party, or a fundraising event. It is better to tell us too much information that we don't need to know, than to not tell us information that we do need to know. So please contact Anne in the Parish Office regularly with an update about your plans—even if it is just some ideas. She will then pass that on to the Committee, and we will seek to give permission, guidance, and assistance, as may be necessary.

CHURCH CLOSURES

On 14th June, the final church service was held in St Ninian's on the Whitewell Road. With a steady decline in the congregation, that parish was merged in recent years with St John's, Whitehouse. Sadly the decline continued, and the decision had to be made to close the church. For their Rector, the Rev'd Elaine O'Brien, and for the small congregation who had remained until the end, particularly those who had been lifelong members, that decision would have been very painful.

We have already seen declining memberships result in the closure of other churches in the greater north Belfast area, including Christ Church (College Square North), St Barnabas (Duncairn Gardens), St Silas (Cliftonville Road), and St Luke (Northumberland Street). Closer to home we are still in the wake of the closure of St James (Antrim Road) following the merger of that parish with St Peter's.

Despite such closures, we still have too many church buildings for the number of Anglicans in north Belfast. This is particularly noticeable in the area around the Shankhill Road and Crumlin Road. As you can imagine, the authorities in the Church are busy trying to find ways of encouraging growth wherever it is possible, and managing decline where it is not. Nevertheless, I fear that St Ninian's will not be the last church to close.

We are now in a situation in which, although perhaps not discussed quite so bluntly, each Anglican community in this part of the city must articulate its reason for existing: Are we being what the Christian Church should be? Are we doing what the Christian Church should do? Strip it back to the bare essentials of what the Church is, and we need to ask ourselves: Are we enabling non-Christians to become disciples of Jesus Christ? Are we nurturing and encouraging Christians to deepen and strengthen their faith? Are we sending out disciples of Jesus Christ into the world to help people and point them to Jesus?

Those are the issues on which the Church will stand or fall. But whilst the central authorities of the Church of Ireland can assist and advise us, the wonderful responsibility of growing the Church in north Belfast rests with us—the clergy and people on the ground. We need to take our personal discipleship seriously, and we need to be pro-active in encouraging more people (family, friends, neighbours, strangers) to come to church to hear and respond to the Good News. This is the only way in which we will be sustained and grow as a Christian community. If we do not do this, then we may begin to count down the days until we have to make our own painful decision to close St Peter's.

So let the closure of so many churches be a wake-up call for all of us, that we need to refresh our way of thinking, redevelop our way of doing things, and even reconsider what it means to be a member of the Church.

TWO YEAR ANNIVERSARY

I was very pleased to be reminded that on 17th June I had been in the parish for two years! I would like to reiterate what I have told you before, that I have genuinely had a lovely experience here. Thank you all for making this parish a wonderful place to be a rector. You are all very kind people, and despite our congregation consisting of people with vastly different personalities, we all seem to come through the natural highs and lows of community life relatively unscathed.

There is a lot of laughter in St Peter's (oddly enough—not when I'm preaching!) which is a good indicator that we don't take ourselves too seriously. Whilst what we do is important, I have consistently said that I want the atmosphere in our worship and activities to be welcoming, friendly, and joyful. This isn't about putting on a fake smile and pretending that life is perfect; rather, it is about appreciating that God's love, which we find in each other, is so much

more important than a million little inconsequential things that might cause us to disagree with each other. During my two years with you I have already found much evidence of this positive attitude, so let's keep working on that and develop St Peter's well-deserved reputation as a kind and friendly congregation.

SCOUTS

Last year we set up a new Beaver Scout colony for children aged 6—8. From an idea mooted in a casual conversation, the group quickly got started, under the leadership of District Officers David Scott and Phyllis Cooke. I thank them for their hard work and dedication in bringing this idea to fruition. The group itself consists of around 15 children, supervised by Leader Campbell Morris, and assisted regularly by Clodagh Webb and Adele Watt. A new Committee has also been formed to oversee the group, consisting of Peter Coiley, Frank Dillon and Barbara Greenlees.

From September, we would like to form a Cub Scouts colony for children aged 8—11. Both the Beavers and the Cubs will meet on Tuesday evenings: the Beavers will meet from 6pm—7pm, and the Cubs will meet from 7pm—8pm. In order to make this happen, we will need adults to volunteer as leaders. Full support and training will be given by the District Officers until the group is established. If you are interested in doing this, then speak to me or to the Group Scout Leader, Campbell Morris, on 07967 817 250.

CHURCH SERVICES IN JULY AND AUGUST

The members of our Choir take a well-earned break in July and August, with the exception of St James' Day on 26th July. As I stated at our Easter Vestry, I am very pleased with—and proud of—our Choir. Under the care and leadership of our Choir Master, Robert Thompson, there is a growing sense of confidence in all that they do.

Undoubtedly we will notice their absence in the coming months. However, I urge you to sing all the more loudly in the pews over the summer. I will aim to choose hymns are that well-known and to repeat some tunes from week to week so that everyone will feel able to enter into the spirit of worship.

The Sunday School has also finished until September, but on most weeks during the Summer, our Families' Worker, Frank Dillon, will continue to organise activities in the Minor Hall for children during the 11am services. Therefore please do keep coming to St Peter's with your children! We had an opportunity in church in June to thank our Sunday School leaders for all that they do during the term, but again on behalf of all of us: thank you Paula, Thelma, Janice, and Frank.

There are only five Holy Days over the two months of July and August. On Friday 3rd July there will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 11am for St Thomas' Day. On Wednesday 22nd July during our regular Mid-Week Communion at 10.30am we will celebrate St Mary Magdalene. On Sunday 26th July we will celebrate the (transferred) feast day of our second Patron Saint, James the Apostle, at both our 9am and 11am services. On Thursday 6th August we will commemorate the Transfiguration of our Lord at 7.30pm. On Monday 24th August we will celebrate St Bartholomew's Day at 7.30pm.

In case you are wondering why the services are at seemingly random times, let me assure you that there is some logic to it. If a Holy Day falls on a Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday then the celebration is at 7.30pm in St Peter's. If the Holy Day falls on a Wednesday then it is celebrated at the regular Mid-Week service at 10.30am. If the Holy Day falls on a Friday then it is celebrated at 11am. If it falls on a Saturday (which is my one day off) then it is either transferred to the Friday or Sunday, or else omitted. To

make matters more interesting, I will usually transfer the important Saints' Days (Patrick, Peter, James) to the nearest Sunday in order to enable more parishioners to celebrate them. Please also note that weekday celebrations of Holy Communion in the evening normally use the traditional language (Form One) service, whereas weekday celebrations of Holy Communion in the morning normally use the modern language (Form Two) service.

On Sunday 12th July we have another special day. Although you might expect some celebration of the "Twelfth" on that date, the second Sunday of July is also "Sea Sunday", in which we remember and pray for those who live and work at sea.

Organ Donation

Northern Ireland

Most people would accept an organ if they needed one. Not surprising really. Yet only 33% of us have signed the NHS Organ Donor Register. Every year, around 15 people in Northern Ireland die waiting for an organ transplant. By signing the register and talking to your family about your wishes, you could help save the lives of up to seven people. Please seriously consider adding your name to the NHS Organ Donor Register and if you decide to, thank you. There are lots of ways to do so, just choose the method that suits you best:

By post—There are forms available at the back of the church and in the hall foyer—just use the freepost address included.

Online—You can register right now, it only takes a few minutes—visit www.organdonationni.info/register.

By phone—You can register by calling the NHS Donor Line 0300 123 23 23. Lines are open 24 hours a day all year round.

Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.
(1 John 3:18)

Your actions show what your heart is made of.

CHURCH SERVICES

WEDNESDAY 1st JULY MID-WEEK SERVICE

10.30am Holy Communion *modern*

FRIDAY 3rd JULY ST THOMAS

11am Holy Communion *modern*

SUNDAY 5th JULY THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9am Holy Communion *traditional* 11am Holy Communion *modern*

WEDNESDAY 8th JULY MID-WEEK SERVICE

10.30am Holy Communion *modern*

SUNDAY9am
Holy Communion
modern

9am Holy Communion *modern* 11am Morning Prayer *modern*

WEDNESDAY 15th JULY MID-WEEK SERVICE

10.30am Holy Communion *modern*

SUNDAY 19th JULY THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9am Holy Communion *modern* 11am Holy Communion *modern*

WEDNESDAY 22nd JULY ST MARY MAGDALENE

10.30am Holy Communion *modern*

SUNDAY 26th JULY ST JAMES (transferred)

9am Holy Communion *modern* 11am Holy Communion *modern*

WEDNESDAY 29th JULY MID-WEEK SERVICE

10.30am Holy Communion *modern*

SUNDAY 2nd AUGUST THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9am Holy Communion *traditional* 11am Holy Communion *modern*

WEDNESDAY 5th AUGUST MID-WEEK SERVICE

10.30am Holy Communion *modern*

THURSDAY 6th AUGUST THE TRANSFIGURATION

7.30pm Holy Communion *traditional*

SUNDAY 9th AUGUST THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9am Holy Communion *modern* 11am Morning Prayer *modern*

WEDNESDAY 12th AUGUST MID-WEEK SERVICE

10.30am Holy Communion *modern*

SUNDAY 16th AUGUST THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9am Holy Communion *modern* 11am Holy Communion *modern*

WEDNESDAY 19th AUGUST MID-WEEK SERVICE

10.30am Holy Communion *modern*

SUNDAY 23rd AUGUST THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9am Holy Communion *modern* 11am Morning Prayer *modern*

MONDAY 24th AUGUST ST BARTHOLOMEW

7.30pm Holy Communion *traditional*

WEDNESDAY 26th AUGUST MID-WEEK SERVICE

10.30am Holy Communion *modern*

SUNDAY 30th AUGUST THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9am Holy Communion *modern* 11am Morning Prayer *modern*

LESSON READERS

The following parishioners are on the rota to read at the 11am Sunday services. If you are unable to read on your appointed Sunday, please contact the Warden of Readers, Forde Patterson, tel 93 365 900.

Date	First Reading	Second Reading	Third Reading
5th July	Hilary Shields	Sandra Hutchman	The Rector
12th July	Dora Hanna	Forde Patterson	The Rector
19th July	Colin Bell	Anne Roberts	The Rector
26th July	Peter Coiley	Tom Campbell	The Rector
2nd August	Eleanor Henderson	Dora Hanna	The Rev'd Clifford Skillen
9th August	Florence Maguire	Wes Holmes	The Rector
16th August	Daphne McClements	Sandra Hutchman	The Rector
23rd August	Jim Wilson	Ashlee McCune	The Rector
30th August	Caroline O'Kane	Forde Patterson	The Rector

Congratulations to Sandra and Brian Davison who are celebrating 40 years of marriage on 23rd August. We wish them every blessing.



PARISH REGISTER



"At rest in the Lord."

Norman Bradley

Carnmoney Cemetery on 8th June 2015

Norman was born in Maghera in 1932, before moving to Bristol Avenue in north Belfast, at which time he became a member of St Peter's alongside his first wife, Faith. He worked as a Sales Rep for a ladies' fashion company, but took early retirement. It was as a widower in his early fifties that he met his second wife, Jill, whom he married in December 1985. For many years Norman suffered ill health, and increasingly found it difficult to stand. However, Norman and Jill continued to enjoy frequent holidays in Spain. Norman's health deteriorated more quickly in recent weeks, and he passed away with Jill by his side in Antrim Hospital. Described as a perfect gentleman, Norman will be missed and fondly remembered by his wife, his sisters Betty and Corona, and the wider family. His funeral service was held in St Peter's on Monday 8th June, followed by interment in Carnmoney Cemetery.

Harriette Smith

Carnmoney Cemetery on 18th June 2015

Harriet was born in 1926. She married Desmond, and together they moved to a house on the Cavehill Road, where she remained for most of her life. Sadly, Desmond died at a an early age, and they had no children. Harriet worshipped in St James' Parish Church on the Antrim Road, and when that church closed she made the move to St Peter's, albeit for a few short years. As a result of deteriorating health, Harriet moved into Redlands Nursing Home in south Belfast. She continued to receive regular Holy Communion, and was very keen to hear about worship and events in the Church—she was, by her own admission, very much a traditionalist, and liked to know that everything was being done in the correct way! We remember her wider family, and are grateful for the care she received both from them and from the staff at Redlands. Harriet's funeral service was held in St Peter's on Thursday 18th June, followed by interment in Carnmoney Cemetery.

OLD PARISH NOTES FROM JUNE 1961

Written by the then Rector, the Very Rev'd R.S. Breene.

Easter Communion. There were 279 communicants on Easter Day and 296 within the Octave. About 20 parishioners were given the Holy Communion in their homes, in addition.

Sexton. Mr Thomas Young, 710 Antrim Road, has been appointed Sexton. He took up his duties on May 1^{st} .

The Ninth Earl of Shaftesbury has passed away in the 93rd year of his age. He was a keen Churchman and his departure to Wimborne St Giles was a loss to the Church in Northern Ireland. He always subscribed to our parochial funds. In 1938 he transferred the Chapel of the Resurrection to the Church of Ireland, with the grounds on which it stands. He subscribed towards its redecoration, with other generous friends. The Chapel and its Services constitute his memorial in St Peter's parish.

The Rev'd Edwin Adinya will leave us early in May. He is taking the month as the holiday which he did not have while with us. He is going to Africa by sea, so as to see more of his route than he did in coming by air to these parts. His stay in Ireland has been a valuable experience for him, and for us. He returns to his home country with every good wish for blessings upon his work in the future. His tasks will be difficult. We all know something of the problems in Africa. We commend him and his family to the prayers of the faithful. Also, the Church in Kenya, in the ministry of which he will be serving.

New Curate-Assistant. Mr G. Brian Moller, B.A. (T.C.D.), of Lisburn Cathedral Parish, is to be ordained for the Curacy of St Peter's on July 2nd in St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast. Mr Moller is at present completing his theological training in the Divinity School of T.C.D. The parishioners of St Peter's will, we are sure, give him a very cordial welcome.

Mr Headley Smith received the good wishes of the Choir at a presentation to him on Low Sunday evening at 70 Fortwilliam Park, when Mr and Mrs L Wood entertained those present. Mr Smith is going on promotion to England for his firm. We congratulate him, while expressing our regret at his departure on account of the loss that it means to the Choir. He has been Cantor and Librarian for several years, but earlier still he was Choir-boy with a good record. He has also been an active Assistant Cubmaster, and the Pack will miss him greatly in their work and play. We bid him God-speed! We are glad to have Mr Peter Montgomery as Librarian in his place.

The Mission to Seafarers

Caring for seafarers around the world

Tall Ships Races and Mission to Seafarers Tea at Sea Thursday 2nd—Saturday 4th July 2015

10am—5pm each day at the Flying Angel Centre, Prince's Dock Street, Belfast

July Diary	ıry					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday Thursday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 6.30pm PhysioPilates	2	3 Saint Thomas 10.30am PhysioPilates 11am Holy Communion	4
5 9am Holy Communion 11am Holy Communion	9	7	8 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments	6	10	11

12 9am Holy Communion 11am Morning Prayer	13	14 10.30am Craft Club	15 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments	16	17	18
19 9am Holy Communion 11am Holy Communion	20 11am—1pm Holiday Bible Club	21 11am—1pm Holiday Bible Club 8pm Compassionate Friends	Saint Mary Magdalene 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 11am—1pm Holiday Bible Club 11.30am Fabric	23 11am—1pm Holiday Bible Club	24 11am—1pm Holiday Bible Club	25
Saint James Saint James (transferred) 9am Holy Communion 11am Holy	27	10.30am Craft Club 1pm Events and Organisations Committee	29 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments	30	31	1

August D	Diary					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday Thursday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9am Holy Communion 11am Holy Communion	3 10am-12.30pm Speech and Drama Summer School	4510am—12.30pm10am-12.30pmSpeech and Drama SummerSpeech and Drama SummerSchoolSchool6.45pm Cavehill10.30am Holy Communion and refreshmentsCaft Clubrefreshments2pm Bridge	10am-12.30pm Speech and Drama Summer School 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge	f The Trans- figuration of our Lord 10am-12.30pm Speech and Drama Summer School 7.30pm Holy	7 10am-12.30pm Speech and Drama Summer School	∞
9 9am Holy Communion 11am Morning Prayer	10	11 10.30am Craft Club 6.45pm Cavehill Craft Club	12 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge	13	14	15

2	6	
21 22	29	
20		
19 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 11.30am Fabric Committee 2pm Bridge	26 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge	
18 8pm Compassionate Friends	10.30am Craft Club 1pm Events and Organisations Committee 6.45pm Cavehill Craft Club	
17 Deadline for material to be with Anne for September Parish Notes	24 25 Saint 10.30: Bartholomew 1pm E 7.30pm Holy Organ Communion Comm 6.45pi	31
16 9am Holy Communion 11am Holy Communion	23 9am Holy Communion 11am Morning Prayer	30 9am Holy Communion 11am Morning Prayer



We will be holding a Holiday Bible Club from 20th—24th July in the parish halls. This is a space for your children to come and learn and discover God. It will be a fun-filled week that takes place from 11am—1pm every day. Please come along to this and tell all of your friends and family about it. There will be a small team of volunteers that are experienced in children's ministry coming to help for the week, but we still need as much help as possible from parishioners. This is something that we are really excited for and hope you are too! So please put this event into your diary, and if you wish to help out in any way, please contact me on tel 07803 763888, or speak to me after the 11am service on Sundays.

Frank Dillon (Families' and Children's Worker)





We held our Messy Church on Saturday 20th June and it went really well. We had a couple of new families that came to have a look and then joined us to enjoy the craft and fun. This was followed by a time of fellowship in the Minor hall which was great to see. Looking forward to September, this is something that I hope to hold again at St Peter's.







I would like to say a big thank you to all those who volunteered their time to help at this event!

Frank Dillon (Families' and Children's Worker)

ORGANISATIONS - TIMETABLE

Sunday

11am—12noon: Sunday School

Monday

8.00pm—11.00pm: Badminton Club

Tuesday

10.30am—12.30pm: Craft Group (alternate Tuesdays)
2.30pm—4.30pm: Ladies' Guild (2nd Tuesday in month)

6pm—7pm: Beaver Scouts

6.45pm—8.45pm: Cavehill Craft Group (every Tues except 3rd in month)

7pm—8pm: Cub Scouts

8pm—10pm: TCFNI Support for bereaved parents (3rd Tues in month)

Wednesday

2pm—4pm: Bridge Club 6.30pm—7.45pm: PhysioPilates

7.30pm—9pm: Choir

Thursday

10am—11.30am: 'Little Cherubs' Baby and Toddler Group

6pm—7pm: Rainbow Guides

7pm—8pm: Brownies

7.30pm: Bible Study (2nd and 4th Thursday in month) 7.45pm: Historical Society (3rd Thursday in month)

8pm—9.30pm: Guides

Friday

10.30am—11.45am: PhysioPilates

11.30am: Bible Study (1st and 3rd Friday in month)

4.30pm—7.30pm: Speech and Drama

Saturday

9am—12noon: Aurora Dance Class Saturday School

<u>For more information about term times etc please contact</u> appropriate personnel listed on back page or the Parish Office.

Holy Dusters Cleaning Rota

29th June—4th July	Group 5	3rd Aug—8th Aug	Group 2
6th July—11th July	Group 6	10th Aug—15th Aug	Group 3
13th July—18th July	Group 7	17th Aug—22nd Aug	Group 4
20th July—25th July	Group 8	24th Aug—29th Aug	Group 5
27th July—1st August	Group 1	31st Aug—5th Sept	Group 6

JULY/AUGUST FLOWER LIST

5TH JULY THE HALL FAMILY IN MEMORY OF THEIR FATHER

9TH AUGUST SANDRA HUTCHMAN IN MEMORY OF HER PARENTS

STITAGGGST SANDIKATIOTETIMAN IN MEMORT OF TIERT AREINTS

23rd August Annette Beattle

Thank you to all who give of their time and effort in beautifying the church with flowers.

PARISHIONER CONTACT DETAILS

For speed of communication and to keep our records up to date, please send your email address to Anne at stpeterandstjames@outlook.com. Also, please don't forget to let us know if you move house, change your telephone number or change your email address. Thank you.

HALL USERS

Please let me know on what date your organisation is resuming for the Autumn season by emailing: stpeterandstjames@outlook.com or by ringing: 9077 6706 by 3rd July.

Anne Cromie

PASTORAL CARE

Thank you.

If you would like to arrange for the Rector to visit you at home, whether to share your anxieties in confidence, or for spiritual advice, or for prayer, or for Holy Communion, then please contact him on his landline (90 777 053) or on his mobile (07563 531 082). This is an essential part of his ministry and he will be pleased to visit you and help in whatever way he can.

If you or a loved one is seriously ill, particularly if you are admitted to hospital, then please inform the Rector. He often visits the hospitals but has no way of knowing who has been admitted unless you tell him. If you are visited by a hospital chaplain and they ask if you would like your Rector to visit, please say "yes" and he will gladly come to see you.

Please send material for the September issue of Parish Notes to:

Anne Cromie, Parish Office, St Peter's Church,
Fortwilliam Drive, Belfast BT15 4EB
or email: stpeterandstjames@outlook.com
by Monday 17th August. Thank you.