

THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ST JAMES  
BELFAST

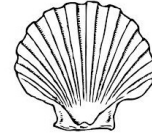


## PARISH NOTES

JUNE 2014

**Rector:**

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



**GOD . LOVING . PEOPLE**



**Pentecost**

**Receive the  
Holy Spirit**

**Celebrate  
the Power**

**Sunday 8th June**

# RECTOR'S NOTES

## CHURCH SERVICES IN JUNE

Our normal pattern for our main act of worship on a Sunday morning is Holy Communion on the first and third Sundays, and Morning Prayer on the second and fourth Sundays. During the month of June this will change slightly in order to accommodate a celebration of Holy Communion on Pentecost which falls this year on the second Sunday. Consequently there will be a service of Morning Prayer on the first Sunday of the month.

There are in fact five Sundays in June, and the last Sunday is St Peter's Day. At 9am there will be a short service of Holy Communion. At 11am there will be a celebration of Holy Communion aimed at all the family. At 6.30pm will be our patronal service of Choral Evensong. I urge all parishioners to make a special effort to attend at least one of these services. A lunch and a bus tour of Belfast have also been planned by the Social Committee on that afternoon for which further information is given elsewhere in these Parish Notes.

St Peter's Day is not the only Holy Day in June. We will also be celebrating Pentecost, St Columba's Day, St Barnabas' Day, Trinity Sunday, and the Birth of John the Baptist. Most of these days fall on either a Sunday or a Wednesday and will be celebrated at our regular services. However, St Columba's Day (Monday 9<sup>th</sup>) and the Birth of John the Baptist (Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>) will be celebrated during the evening of those days at 7.30pm with a celebration of Holy Communion in traditional language.

## GROWTH STRATEGY: WORSHIP

As a parish community there are five main areas that we must address and take action on if we are to see growth. These are: worship, discipleship, evangelism, social action, and finance.

The Select Vestry has already alerted parishioners to our financial predicament, and we greatly appreciate the increased free will offerings. However, we are certainly not out of the woods yet, and will need to continue to ask for generous albeit proportionate offerings from our members, and at the same time reach out to new members.

Discipleship, evangelism and social action will all be addressed in the coming years, but this year I want us to focus particularly upon our worship. I have recently asked around ten parishioners to form a Worship Committee, consisting of representatives from the Select Vestry, the Choir, and the various congregations that meet each week. I would be delighted if anyone else wishes to volunteer to be involved in this! The purpose is not to have a dramatic overhaul of how we worship, but instead to understand why we worship the way we do, to give the congregation ownership of that worship, and to find ways of developing what we do so that our worship appeals to more people.

I would hope that many of you will already have recognised subtle changes to our worship in the past months. For our early morning and mid-week services we have begun to use little service booklets instead of the Book of Common Prayer; this enables us to use variations in the service without constantly jumping from page to page in the Prayer Book. In our main Sunday morning service, the Choir now waits at the back of the church before the first hymn begins. It would be appreciated by many parishioners if all conversation in the church could come to an end when the choir appears from the Minor Hall, so as to enable us to focus ourselves on worship. The children stay with us now until after the confession, at which point there is a short talk or prayer on either the theme of the sermon or even recent events in the world. The Organist and I are also doing our best to choose music which is suitable for a parish church, and which enables the participation of everyone present. If you come to worship every Sunday then you might have noticed in this regard that on two Sundays of each month the service has an enhanced role for the Choir, whereas on the remaining two Sundays the worship is tailored to ensure maximum congregational participation.

Over the course of this year we will be asking you to consider what further changes you would like to see in our worship that would enable you to be spiritually uplifted every time you come to church. Naturally, different people will want different things, but as with all things Anglican, we are very good at finding the middle road between two extremes! I will keep you informed with how that assessment will be carried out, and also any recommendations made by the Worship Committee.

### **BIBLE STUDY**

The group met at the Rectory on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April and again on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May. Over these two sessions we completed our study of James' Letter and began to look to John's First Letter.

At the beginning of the last chapter of James' Letter, he again warns those who are rich to examine their consciences. He reminds them that although their *"life here on earth has been full of luxury and pleasure"* they have made themselves *"fat for the day of slaughter"* (5:5). He accuses the rich of mistreating their workers, and accumulating wealth by ill-gotten gains.

James then turns his attention to those who are suffering. He tells his readers not to complain, but rather to be patient. He mentions the patience of Job, and *"how the Lord provided for him in the end"* (5:11).

Finally, James tells us that if we are in trouble we should pray, but if we are happy, then we should sing praises. He then writes that if we are sick we should call for the elders of the Church to come and pray and anoint us. James says that *"this prayer made in faith will heal the sick; the Lord will restore them to health, and the sins they have committed will be forgiven"* (5:15). We reflected on times when we have prayed for healing, but it has not come in the way that we had hoped for.

Turning our attention to John's First Letter, we began by considering who this person John was. By tradition we associate him with the same

person who wrote John's Gospel, not least because their style of writing and choice of themes are so similar. In the opening verses, the author claims to have heard, seen, and touched Jesus. This was evidently someone close to Jesus, and many people therefore believe that the person writing is the Apostle John, otherwise referred to as "the beloved disciple".

John states that *"God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all"* (1:5); we therefore should not live in darkness, by which John means doing anything that Jesus would not do. However, John wants us to admit that we often make mistakes and nobody is perfect. He writes, *"If we say that we have not sinned, we make a liar out of God..."* (1:10). Whilst John urges us not to sin, he states that if we do sin then Jesus is *"the means by which our sins are forgiven"* (2:2).

John then reminds us of the commandment to love one another. He says that *"if we say that we are in the light, yet hate others, we are in the darkness to this very hour. If we love others, we live in the light..."* (2:9). He then goes on to talk about worldliness, meaning our selfish desires. He admonishes us: *"Do not love the world or anything that belongs to the world. If you love the world, you do not love the Father"* (2:15).

As we ended the session, we reflected on the need to keep true to the faith and not to be led astray. John warned his readers about people in their community who had left them because they did not want to believe the teachings of the Apostles. John writes *"These people really did not belong to our fellowship, and that is why they have left us; if they had belonged to our fellowship, they would have stayed with us"* (2:19). Evidently those who had left had been teaching the others that Jesus was not in fact the Messiah. John rebukes their assertion, stating that *"those who reject the Son reject also the Father"* (2:22). He therefore urges all Christians to listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit more than any human teacher: *"Obey the Spirit's teaching, then, and remain in union with Christ"* (2:27).

## 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 1st JUNE

### The Sunday after the Ascension Day

9am	Holy Communion*	1 Peter 4: 7-11	John 15: 26—16: 4b
11am	Morning Prayer	Acts 1: 6-14	John 17: 1-11
6.30pm	Choral Evensong*	2 Samuel 23: 1-5	Mark 16: 14-20

*Jesus said, “I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world...”*

*At our main morning service we are going to consider how it is the responsibility of all Christians to carry on the work begun by Jesus during his earthly ministry: to go where he would go, to do what he would do, and to say what he would say, as difficult as these things might seem to us.*

### WEDNESDAY 4th JUNE

### Mid-week Service

10.30am	Holy Communion	Acts 20: 28-38	John 17: 11-19
---------	----------------	----------------	----------------

### SUNDAY 8th JUNE

### The Day of Pentecost

9am	Holy Communion	1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13	John 20: 19-23
11am	Holy Communion	Acts 2: 1-21	John 20: 19-23

*This is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: “In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh...”*

*Alongside Christmas and Easter, Pentecost (also called Whitsunday) is one of three most important days in the Church’s calendar. Today we celebrate the outpouring of God the Holy Spirit into the early Christian community, and we will consider the activities of the Holy Spirit in the Church today.*

### MONDAY 9th JUNE

### Saint Columba

7.30pm	Holy communion*	2 Corinthians 4: 5-11	Matthew 28: 16-20
--------	-----------------	-----------------------	-------------------

---

### SELECT VESTRY

The last meeting of the Select Vestry before the summer break will be on Monday, 9th June at 7.30pm beginning with a celebration of Holy Communion for Saint Columba’s Day.

---

### WEDNESDAY 11th JUNE

### Saint Barnabas

10.30am	Holy communion	Acts 11: 19-30	John 15: 12-17
---------	----------------	----------------	----------------

**SUNDAY 15th JUNE****Trinity Sunday**

9am	Holy Communion	2 Corinthians 13: 11-13	Matthew 28: 16-20
11am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 40: 12-17, 27-31	Matthew 28: 16-20

*Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."*

*In May we discussed the relationship between Jesus and God the Father, and also their relationship with the Holy Spirit. Today we think about the Trinitarian God in his oneness, attempting to understand how God can be three persons in one God.*

*Please note there is no Choral Evensong this evening.*

**WEDNESDAY 18th JUNE****Mid-week Service**

10.30am	Holy Communion	2 Kings 2: 1, 6-14	Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-18
---------	----------------	--------------------	-----------------------

**SUNDAY 22nd JUNE****The First Sunday after Trinity**

9am	Holy Communion	Romans 6: 1b-11	Matthew 10: 24-39
11am	Morning Prayer	Genesis 21: 8-21	Matthew 10: 24-39

*Jesus said, 'Whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.'*

*In today's Gospel passage Jesus talks about the strife that the Good News will cause even within a community. He then challenges us to love him above all other things, even our own families.*

**TUESDAY 24th JUNE****The Birth of John the Baptist**

7.30pm	Holy Communion*	Isaiah 40: 1-11	Luke 1: 57-80
--------	-----------------	-----------------	---------------

**WEDNESDAY 25th JUNE****Mid-week Service**

10.30am	Holy Communion	2 Kings 22: 8-13, 23: 1-3	Matthew 7: 15-20
---------	----------------	---------------------------	------------------

**SUNDAY 29th JUNE****Saint Peter**

9am	Holy Communion	Acts 12: 1-11	Matthew 16: 3-19
11am	Holy Communion	Ezekiel 3: 22-27	Matthew 16: 3-19
6.30pm	Choral Evensong*	Ezekiel 34: 11-16	John 21: 15-22

*Simon Peter said to Jesus, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."*

*Today we celebrate one of our parish's two patron saints. St Peter was the chief of Jesus' Apostles, and was often at the forefront of the disciples' activities. We will give thanks for this life and witness, and also give thanks for the ministry and mission of our worshipping community that bears his name.*

## LESSON READERS FOR JUNE

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 swap with another reader and inform the Rector's Secretary.

1st June	<b>Sandra Hutchman</b>	Acts 1: 6-14 and John 17: 1-11
8th June	<b>Florence Maguire</b>	Acts 2: 1-21
15th June	<b>Daphne McClements</b>	Isaiah 40: 12-17, 27-31
22nd June	<b>Caroline O'Kane</b>	Genesis 21: 8-21 and Matthew 10: 24-39
29th June	<b>Paula Poulton</b>	Ezekiel 3: 22-27

## PARISH REGISTER

### *Holy Baptism*

*"Born again of water and the Holy Spirit ..."*

Rowan Meredith Karl O'Connor, Jordanstown Road

son of Karl O'Connor and Maria Dobbin

on 4th May 2014

Ethan George Guy Coiley, Innisfayle Park

son of Peter Coiley and Norleen Sharpe

on 11th May 2014

## THE DAY OF PENTECOST



**Sunday 8th June**

9am Holy Communion

11am Holy Communion

followed by light refreshments

kindly provided by members of the Bridge Club



**TRAIDCRAFT**  
Fighting poverty through trade

**Sunday 8th June**  
during coffee time after  
the 11am service.



**Saint Peter's Day**



**Happy Birthday**

**SUNDAY 29th JUNE**

9am HOLY COMMUNION

11am HOLY COMMUNION

6.30pm FESTIVAL CHORAL EVENSONG

At this festival service our own parish choir will be joined by members of St Molua's parish choir and other friends. Light refreshments after.

**PARISH CALENDAR  
CAPTION COMPETITION**

The theme for **June** is 'A funny caption to match any of the pictures in the group'.

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!!



**NORTH BELFAST HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Chairman and Committee of the North Belfast Historical Society would like to thank the Rector and the Select Vestry for use of the Minor Hall for their monthly meetings. Plans for next season are underway and parishioners are reminded that all are welcome to join. Notices of meetings are printed in Parish Notes.

*Daphne McClements (Chairman)*



Once again many thanks to all who contributed in any way to the Christian Aid collection.

Our overall total is up by approximately £215 from last year so well done to everyone involved.

A special mention to Anne and Ernie Stewart who again provided the Bread and Cheese picnics. Very tasty as always.

A very special mention to our Collectors as many of them felt very discouraged by their reception this year and felt it was hardly worthwhile.

I want to assure them that it is still very worthwhile as the overall total of £890.77 is up by approximately £215 from last year. The Door to Door collection remains a very significant part of the overall Christian Aid Week campaign. Last year £581,000 was raised in Northern Ireland during Christian Aid Week a large part of which came from the Door to Door.

Thanks also to those who gave other contributions. It all adds up. See you all next year!

Jill Bradley

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Total raised by our parish for Christian Aid Week 2014:

Door to Door collection	£890.77
Bread and Cheese picnics	£211.70
Other contributions	£185.13

Grand Total	£1,287.60
-------------	-----------

The combined churches sale in Fortwilliam Park raised £1,066 including over £77 at the St Peter's Traidcraft stall.

PARISH SOCIAL COMMITTEE

## Patronal Festival Parish Outing

**Sunday 29th June**

**Open bus trip around our city**

*12.30pm Light lunch in the parish hall after morning worship  
celebrating St Peter's Day*

*2pm Titanic open deck bus trip lasting 1½-2 hours  
(18 miles around the city)*

*Tickets £10 (family ticket £25) available from members of  
the Social Committee or from the Parish Office*

**Another event for your diary ...  
... a family evening**

**HARVEST MOON  
HOEDOWN  
Saturday  
8th November**



**More details to follow**

June Diary						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>9am</b> Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Morning Prayer & Sunday School <b>6.30pm</b> Choral Evensong	<b>2</b> <b>7.30pm</b> Finance Committee	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>10.30am</b> Holy Communion <b>2pm</b> Bridge <b>6.30pm</b> Physio-Pilates <b>8pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>5</b> <b>10am</b> Little Cherubs <b>11am</b> Ladies' Badminton <b>7.30pm</b> Theology Group	<b>6</b> <b>10.30am</b> Physio-Pilates	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <i>The Day of Pentecost</i> <b>9am</b> Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Holy Communion & Sunday School (tea/coffee)	<b>9</b> <i>Saint Columba</i> <b>7.30pm</b> Holy Communion followed by Meeting of the Select Vestry	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>10.30am</b> Holy Communion <b>2pm</b> Bridge <b>6.30pm</b> Physio-Pilates <b>8pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>12</b> <b>10am</b> Little Cherubs <b>11am</b> Ladies' Badminton <b>7.30pm</b> Bible Study	<b>13</b> <b>10.30am</b> Physio-Pilates	<b>14</b>

<b>15</b> <i>Trinity Sunday</i> <b>9am</b> Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Holy Communion & Sunday School	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>10.30am</b> Holy Communion <b>11.30am</b> Fabric Committee <b>2pm</b> Bridge <b>6.30pm</b> Physio-Pilates <b>8pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>19</b> <b>10am</b> Little Cherubs <b>11am</b> Ladies' Badminton	<b>20</b> <b>10.30am</b> Physio-Pilates	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>9am</b> Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Morning Prayer & Sunday School	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <i>Birth of John the Baptist</i> <b>7.30pm</b> Holy Communion	<b>25</b> <b>10.30am</b> Holy Communion <b>2pm</b> Bridge <b>6.30pm</b> Physio-Pilates <b>8pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>26</b> <b>10am</b> Little Cherubs <b>11am</b> Ladies' Badminton	<b>27</b> <b>10.30am</b> Physio-Pilates	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <i>Saint Peter</i> <b>9am</b> Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Holy Communion & Sunday School <b>12.30pm</b> Lunch and Outing <b>6.30pm</b> Festival Choral Evensong (light refreshments)	<b>30</b>					

## 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

### 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)

7.30pm Theology Group (1<sup>st</sup> Thurs in month)

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

### Friday

10.30am–11.45am: PhysioPilates

*For more information about term times etc 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.

**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!

## Holy Dusters Cleaning Rota

2nd June—7th June	Group 8
9th June—14th June	Group 1
16th June—21st June	Group 2
23rd June—28th June	Group 3
30th June—5th July	Group 4

## **JUNE FLOWER LIST**

1ST JOAN LAWATHER AND FAMILY IN MEMORY OF BOBBY

8TH THE WALKER FAMILY IN MEMORY OF ANNIE

29TH THE HALDANE FAMILY

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

## **SAYING GOODBYE**

St Anne's Cathedral will be hosting a special service on Sunday 1st June for anyone who has lost a baby.

This 'Saying Goodbye' Service is one of 25 taking place in 2014 all over the UK and it is for anyone who has lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth or in infancy, whether the loss is historic or recent.

All are welcome regardless of faith or no faith, to join with other parents and families who have experienced loss, and take part in a beautiful service filled with music, poetry, acts of remembrance and more.

The service in St Anne's begins at 3.30pm. More information about Saying Goodbye can be found at [www.sayinggoodbye.org](http://www.sayinggoodbye.org).

For further information contact Karen Bushby, Press Officer, St Anne's Cathedral, on 07766 103880 or email [Karen@belfastcathedral.org](mailto:Karen@belfastcathedral.org).

## **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 July/August 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 Friday 20th June. Thank you.*