

THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ST JAMES
BELFAST



PARISH NOTES



OCTOBER 2014

Rector:

The Rev'd Brian Lacey

St Peter's Rectory, 17 Waterloo Park South, Belfast, BT15 5HX

Tel 90 777 053

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www.stpeters.connor.anglican.org

www.facebook.com/stpeterbelfast

RECTOR'S NOTES

SELECT VESTRY

The Select Vestry is the management committee of the parish, with responsibility for our staff, finances, and buildings. There are 17 members, all but three of whom are elected at the annual Easter Vestry. However, in recent months two casual vacancies on the Select Vestry occurred, resulting from the death of Margaret Macbeth and the retirement of Stanley McDowell. According to the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, it is the responsibility of the remaining members of the Select Vestry to elect other parishioners to fill those vacancies: following a vote by secret ballot, **Mrs Sandra Davison** and **Mrs Paula Poulton** have been elected. Both will bring different gifts and interests, and I am glad to welcome both of them to serve with us.

FINANCES

I'm not being overdramatic when I say that there is no organisation in the world more important than the Christian Church, and therefore it is vital that we all contribute towards its vitality here in north Belfast. In the coming months all parishioners will receive their annual receipt of their **free will offering** to the parish. This receipt will be accompanied by a friendly letter urging you to consider how much you give to the church. Whether you subscribe by standing order or if you use the FWO envelopes, please give in proportion to your income, bearing in mind how much you spend on other aspects of your life.

However, it is also self-evident that the more our congregation grows, the more people there will be to share the costs of the parish. So in addition to thinking about how much you give, please also consider being an advocate for the parish: invite your friends, your family, your workmates, your colleagues to come to St Peter's. The worst they can say is "no"! Whereas at best, if even one person you know joins us each year, you will have helped to share the Good News, and helped sustain St Peter's financially. St Peter's is a beautiful church, our congregation is friendly, and our worship is meaningful: please be proud of all of that, and encourage others to join us.

THEOLOGY GROUP

Following the summer break, the Theology Group will resume meetings on the first Thursday of each month, meeting in the Minor Hall at 7.30pm. The dates of the forthcoming meetings are **2nd October, 6th November, and 4th December**. These seminars are open to all parishioners, and are relaxed and informal. We think about ideas relating to Christianity, and comments and questions are encouraged. Please do come along!

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

The Rectory Bible Study has resumed on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 7.30pm. I am still keen to commence **a second group**, consisting of not more than ten parishioners, who will meet on two afternoons each month in the Rectory. The format is simple: we have a cup of tea and read through various books of the Bible, thinking about the basic meaning of each chapter/verse

and trying to apply it to our lives. If you are interested in joining this second group then please let me know at some point during this month.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

A sum of money which once belonged to St James', is available for churches in north Belfast to apply for funding for "experimental ministry." I am pleased to say that over the summer we applied successfully to this St James' Endowment Fund for money to hire a **Children & Families Worker** for our parish. Over the coming weeks we will be advertising this position. It is important to note that the successful candidate will not be a paid Sunday School Teacher, and that Paula Poulton will continue to serve as Sunday School Superintendent. Rather, the Children & Families Worker will serve as a lay pastoral assistant, focussing on visiting families at home, assessing their spiritual needs, and trying to address those needs in conjunction with myself and the Select Vestry. They will of course also help during services and in Sunday School as required. We will be looking for someone who is able to engage with families, relate well with children, and be comfortable with our traditional Anglican ethos. They will work up to 12 hours per week, including Sunday mornings, and will need to have relevant qualifications and experience working with children in a church context. If you know of anyone who might fit the bill, then by all means ask them to contact me. An official advertisement will be publicised in due course. This will be an important step for our parish, and I would rather take time to find the right person, so even if it takes a few months, keep praying that God would inspire his choice of candidate to apply, and to give us wisdom to recognise them as such!

SERVICES IN OCTOBER

There will be evening services in St Peter's on the first and third Sundays of the month. These services commence at 6.30pm, and take the form of a sung version of Evening Prayer, known as **Choral Evensong**. Although the attendance of guest choristers means that we have a larger-than-usual choir, there are often only a few people worshipping in the pews. So may I appeal to you to give it a try if you have never done so? It is very much a choir-led service, and this requires a congregation to worship God in a more passive and reflective way than during a morning service. However, this is more a strength than a weakness, as long as you enter into such worship in the right frame of mind! So please do come along and help to keep this way of worshipping alive in north Belfast.

Our **Harvest Thanksgiving** will be celebrated on Sunday 5th October at the 11am service. It is customary to decorate the church that weekend in preparation for the service, and to bring various food items for donation to a local charity.

We will have our annual **Children's Day** service on Sunday 12th October at the 11am service. This will be a shorter service than usual, in which children from the Sunday School, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows will be taking part. All parishioners are encouraged to attend!

There are four **Holy Days** during October, two of which fall on a Sunday: *St Philip the Deacon* on Sunday 12th October, and *St Luke the Physician* on Sunday 19th October. The other two Holy Days fall on weekdays: *St James, the brother of our Lord*, will be celebrated on Thursday 23rd October, and *St Simon & St Jude* will be celebrated on Tuesday 28th October. These weekday services of Communion will be at 7.30pm, with the congregation sitting in the choir stalls.

CHURCH SERVICES

WEDNESDAY 1st OCTOBER

Mid-Week Service

10.30am Holy Communion Modern Luke 9: 57-92

Jesus said, "No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

SUNDAY 5th OCTOBER

Harvest Thanksgiving

9am Holy Communion Traditional Luke 12: 16-30
11am Holy Communion Modern Luke 12: 16-30
6.30pm Choral Evensong Traditional Mark 10: 2-16

Jesus said, "Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes."

WEDNESDAY 8th OCTOBER

Mid-Week Service

10.30am Holy Communion Modern Luke 11: 1-4

One of Jesus' disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

SUNDAY 12th OCTOBER

St Philip the Deacon

9am Holy Communion Modern Luke 10: 1-12
11am Children's Service Modern Luke 10: 1-6

Jesus said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few."

WEDNESDAY 15th OCTOBER

Mid-Week Service

10.30am Holy Communion Modern Luke 11: 42-46

Jesus said, "You load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, and you yourselves will not lift one finger to help them."

SUNDAY 19th OCTOBER

St Luke the Physician

9am Holy Communion Modern Luke 10: 1-9
11am Holy Communion Modern Luke 10: 1-9
6.30pm Choral Evensong Traditional Mark 10 35-45

The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.

WEDNESDAY 22nd OCTOBER**Mid-Week Service**

10.30am Holy Communion Modern Luke 12: 39-48

Jesus said, "If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into."

THURSDAY 23rd OCTOBER**St James, the Brother of our Lord**

7.30pm Holy Communion Traditional Matthew 13: 54-58

The people asked, "Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?"

SUNDAY 26th OCTOBER**The Fifth Sunday before Advent**

9am Holy Communion Modern Matthew 22: 34-46
 11am Morning Prayer Modern Matthew 22: 34-46

Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

TUESDAY 28th OCTOBER**St Simon and St Jude**

7.30pm Holy Communion Traditional John 15: 17-27

Jesus said, "You do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world—therefore the world hates you."

WEDNESDAY 29th OCTOBER**Mid-Week Service**

10.30am Holy Communion Modern Luke 13: 22-30

Someone asked Jesus, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?"

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 swap with another reader and inform the Parish Secretary, Anne Cromie.

Date	First Reading	Second Reading	Third Reading
5th October	Marie Burrowes	Eleanor Henderson	The Rector
12th October	Sunday School and Uniformed Organisations		
19th October	Philip Williamson	Wes Holmes	The Rector
26th October	Jim Wilson	Dora Hanna	The Rector

HARVEST DECORATION

Doesn't St Peter's always look lovely at Harvest? Well ... as always, we need volunteers, both men and women, to help with the decoration of the church. So, please come along on Saturday 4th October at 10am to lend a hand. (Children please come along at 11am to do your own decoration with Sunday School teachers).

We also need gifts of flowers, fruit, vegetables and groceries which will then be passed on to a local charity.

Please don't just read this and ignore our plea!



LADIES' GUILD

Our opening service will be held on Tuesday 14th October at 2.30pm. We will meet in church. We would love you to stay afterwards for a cup of tea and a chat in the hall.

If you would like to know a little more about the Ladies' Guild, but are too scared to ask, please come along and see for yourself what we are all about. I hope you will like what you see. I look forward to meeting all our members again after our summer break.

If you would like to attend but don't have transport please contact me or one of our members and we will be happy to arrange transport for you.

Anne Stewart
Hon Sec (tel 9096 6597)

LOOKING AHEAD TO NOVEMBER...

SUNDAY 2nd 9am Holy Communion	All Saints 11am Holy Communion	6.30pm Bereavement Service
WEDNESDAY 5th 10.30am Holy Communion	Mid-Week Service	
SUNDAY 9th 9am Holy Communion	Remembrance Sunday 11am Remembrance Service	
WEDNESDAY 12th 10.30am Holy Communion	Mid-Week Service	
SUNDAY 16th 9am Holy Communion	The Second Sunday before Advent 11am Holy Communion	6.30pm Choral Evensong
WEDNESDAY 19th 10.30am Holy Communion	Mid-Week Service	
SUNDAY 23rd 9am Holy Communion	The Kingship of Christ 11am Morning Prayer	
WEDNESDAY 26th 10.30am Holy Communion	Mid-Week Service	
SUNDAY 30th 9am Holy Communion	The First Sunday of Advent 11am Holy Communion	6.30pm Advent Carol Service

St Peter's Social Committee invites you to

HARVEST MOON

Saturday 8th November 2014

7-11pm

Tickets £12 include meal and glass of wine
(no charge for children under 11years)

Music from 7.30pm

Ballot

Prizes for best cowboy and cowgirl!!

October Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Harvest 9am Holy Communion 11am Holy Communion 6.30pm Choral Evensong	6 8pm Badminton	7 7.15pm Meeting of the Indoor Bowling Club	1 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 8pm Choir	2 10am Little Cherubs 11am Ladies' Badminton 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.30pm Theology Group 8pm Guides	3 10.30am PhysioPilates 4.30pm Speech and Drama	4 10am Decoration of the church for Harvest Thanksgiving 11am Children's harvest decorating
5 Harvest 9am Holy Communion 11am Holy Communion 6.30pm Choral Evensong	6 8pm Badminton	7 7.15pm Meeting of the Indoor Bowling Club	8 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 8pm Choir	9 10am Little Cherubs 11am Ladies' Badminton 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.30pm Bible Study 8pm Guides	10 10.30am PhysioPilates 4.30pm Speech and Drama	11

<p>12 Children's Day 9am Holy Communion 11am Children's Service (tea/coffee)</p>	<p>13 7.30pm Select Vestry 8pm Badminton</p>	<p>14 2.30pm Ladies' Guild</p>	<p>15 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 8pm Choir</p>	<p>16 10am Little Cherubs 1.1am Ladies' Badminton 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.45pm Historical Society 8pm Guides</p>	<p>17 Deadline for material to be with Anne for November Parish Notes 10.30am PhysioPilates 4.30pm Speech and Drama</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 9am Holy Communion 11am Holy Communion & Sunday School 6.30pm Choral Evensong</p>	<p>20 8pm Badminton</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 11.30am Fabric Committee 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 8pm Choir</p>	<p>23 10am Little Cherubs 1.1am Ladies' Badminton 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.30pm Holy Communion & Bible Study 8pm Guides</p>	<p>24 10.30am PhysioPilates 4.30pm Speech and Drama</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 9am Holy Communion 11am Morning Prayer & Sunday School</p>	<p>27 7.30pm Finance Committee 8pm Badminton</p>	<p>28 7.30pm Holy Communion</p>	<p>29 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 8pm Choir</p>	<p>30 10am Little Cherubs 1.1am Ladies' Badminton 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 8pm Guides</p>	<p>31 10.30am PhysioPilates 4.30pm Speech and Drama</p>	<p></p>



KEYS

We are currently carrying out a stock take of keys for both the church and the halls. If you have any keys for our parish premises please call into the Parish Office to make sure that our records coincide with reality! You will be asked to sign a form stating what keys you hold and give an undertaking not to make unauthorised copies of keys.

It may be the case that you are in possession of copied keys or perhaps have mislaid keys issued in the past: it is important that we have a record of these so it will be a sort of key amnesty and nothing to worry about. This is not an exercise to take away keys that you use, we just need to know who's got what! Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Free Will Offering Envelopes

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9: 6-7

We will soon be preparing the FWO envelopes for next year. Those of you who wish to continue using this method to subscribe need not take any action as 2015 envelopes will be automatically given to you in early December.

If, however, you wish to change to a different method (eg banker's standing order or other electronic means) please advise Noel Beattie (tel 90 778 428 or email noel_innisfayle@msn.com). Please do this as soon as you can and before the third week of November if at all possible.

THANK YOU

BIBLE STUDY ON THE FEAST OF ST SIMON & ST JUDE

Please note that the Bible Study on 23rd October will be held in the Church Hall instead of in the Rectory immediately following the celebration of Holy Communion at 7.30pm.

Coffee Morning for Northern Ireland Hospice

The Coffee Morning held in church on Wednesday 24th September after the mid-week service raised £267.93 for the Northern Ireland Hospice. Well done to all involved!

COFFEE IN CHURCH

Thank you to members of our Uniformed Organisations who will provide light refreshments after the 11am service on Children's Day—12th October.



PARISH CALENDAR CAPTION COMPETITION

The theme for **October** is—to the right in the picture you will see a jug of wine which is sitting on a sculpture which is known as the 'pelican in her piety'. This is a special area which allows unused consecrated wine to be poured away into holy ground. This feature has a special name which begins with the letter P. What is that name?

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!!



TRAI DCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

Sunday 12th October
during coffee time after
the 11am service

FAMILY NEWS

Congratulations to:

- *Alan Campbell who achieved a Grade A in 'Religious Education at 'A' Level*
- *Daphne McClements who received an award from HM The Queen for 10 years of service to the British Red Cross*

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

Thank you

to Daphne McClements for her work in restoring the Sunday School banner from St James' Church—it is much appreciated.

ORGANISATIONS - TIMETABLE

Sunday

11am–12noon: Sunday School

Monday

8.00pm–11.00pm: Badminton Club

Tuesday

2.30pm–4.30pm: Ladies' Guild (2nd Tues in month)

7.15pm–10.30pm: Indoor Bowling Club

8pm–10pm: Compassionate Friends (3rd Tues in month)

Wednesday

2pm–4pm: Bridge Club

6.30pm–7.45pm: PhysioPilates

8pm–9.30pm: Choir

Thursday

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

11am–1pm: Ladies' Badminton Club

6pm–7pm: Rainbow Guides

7pm–8pm: Brownies

7.30pm Bible Study (2nd and 4th Thurs in month)

7.30pm Theology Group (1st Thurs in month)

7.45pm Historical Society (3rd Thurs in month)

8pm–9.30pm: Guides

Friday

10.30am–11.45am: PhysioPilates

4.30pm–7.30pm Speech and Drama

For more information about term times etc please contact appropriate personnel listed

PLEASE HELP ...

Cleaning Group 5 is still vacant. If you (or you and a friend) would like to fill it then please get in touch with either the Parish Office (tel 90 776 706) or Noel Beattie (tel 90 778 428)—it only takes a commitment of about 1-2 hours every 8 weeks. Please?

THE NEXT MEETING OF
THE SELECT VESTRY
WILL BE ON MONDAY 13TH OCTOBER
AT 7.30PM IN THE MINOR HALL

Holy Dusters Cleaning Rota

29th September—4th October	Group 3
6th October—11th October	Group 4
13th October—18th October	Group 6
20th October—25th October	Group 7
27th October—1st November	Group 8

OCTOBER FLOWER LIST

- 5TH ROSEMARY HINDS IN MEMORY OF HER FATHER
12TH DAPHNE MCCLEMENTS IN MEMORY OF HER PARENTS
19TH QUINTIN MULLIGAN
26TH THE NOBLETT FAMILY

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



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.

NORTH BELFAST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Thursday 16th October
7.45pm, Minor Hall

Speaker:
Alister Bell

Topic:
Mossley and Postcards
Everyone welcome

PASTORAL CARE

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 November issue of Parish Notes to:
Anne Cromie, Parish Office, St Peter's Church,
Fortwilliam Drive, Belfast BT15 4EB
or email: stpeterandstjames@outlook.com
by Friday 17th October. Thank you.*