

THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ST JAMES
BELFAST

PARISH NOTES

OCTOBER 2017

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



GOD . LOVING . PEOPLE

RECTOR'S NOTES

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The Select Vestry would greatly appreciate it if all parishioners and friends of the parish would make an additional contribution to parish funds this month. We rely upon your generosity in order to maintain our beautiful building, and to develop our Christian ministries. An envelope has been provided alongside these Parish Notes. Please do give as much as you are able, and help us to balance our books by the end of the year. The envelope can be placed on the collection plate, or returned in person or by post to the Parish Office. Thank you!

PROTESTANT REFORMATION



Five hundred years ago, on the 31st October 1517, Martin Luther (pictured) published his Ninety-five Theses, and it is therefore this date which is celebrated as the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. To commemorate the five hundredth anniversary, our theme for each Sunday in October will be one of what are called the “the five Solas”, which are five important Reformation principles. These are Sola Scriptura (*Scripture Alone*), Sola Fide (*Faith Alone*), Sola Gratia (*Grace Alone*), Solus Christus (*Christ Alone*), and Soli Deo Gloria (*Glory to God Alone*). Please join us each Sunday as we learn more about the Reformation.

TELEPHONE PRAYER CHAIN

During the next month, we will be trialling our new Telephone Prayer Chain. If you would like to give the name of someone for whom you would like prayers, then ring 90777053 and leave a short message. Something along the lines of “Hello. Please pray for John, who is in hospital for a heart operation.” And then hang up. I will then pray for John in my own time, and then I will ring the next person in the Prayer Chain. That person will then pray for John in their own time, and then they will ring the next person in the Chain. And so on, until the last person in the Chain rings me to tell me that they’ve prayed for John. That lets me know that everyone in the Chain has prayed. If John’s condition improves or deteriorates, then you can ring again and leave another request for prayer or thanksgiving. Please note that you are ringing the Rectory for the trial period this month. Thereafter, other telephone numbers to ring will be announced in the Parish Notes each month, depending on who is leading the Chain. If you would like to become a member of the Prayer Chain, and you haven’t yet signed up, then please give your name to either Rosemary Johnston or myself.

PARISH FELLOWSHIP

Our Parish Fellowship meets at 7.30pm on three Thursday evenings this month. On the 5th October we will be thinking about the nature, purpose, and practicalities of prayer. On the 12th and 26th we will continue to read and discuss the Gospel according to St Luke. You are welcome to attend as often as you are able. The Fellowship is a great opportunity to learn about each other, and learn from each other, as we grow together as Christians. It’s very informal, and tea/coffee is served. Please do come along!

NOTICES

Every so often we try out new ways of doing things, to see what works and how people respond. As one example, I have been trying to determine how best to share the notices at the 11am Sunday service, in such a way that the flow of our liturgy is not interrupted. Over the summer, I experimented with having the notices read just before the service began, but unfortunately the noise of the bells made it difficult to hear. As another idea, we have revamped our weekly notices sheet. Separate from the printed order of service, the notice sheets are now double sided, with a list of events for the forthcoming week on one side, and more detailed information about some of those events on the other. These will be provided without announcement at our services, except for anything particularly important. I'm always eager to hear constructive feedback from parishioners, so please let me know if you have any ideas on how best to inform parishioners of our activities.

DEDICATION OF READERS

There will be a short act of dedication for those members of our congregation who read the Bible at our 11am service, on 29th October. If you are not currently on the rota of readers, and would like to put your name forward to join, then please speak either to me or to Forde Patterson before that date. Would all readers please ensure that they are present in St Peter's for worship at 11am on that last Sunday in October.

HARVEST

Thank you to all who decorated St Peter's for Harvest. As always the flower arrangements were beautiful, and there was a wide variety of fruit and vegetables on display. We also collected

tinned food, hygiene products, and related goods (pictured) for the Welcome Organisation, which provides meals and facilities for the homeless. They undertake vital work with some of the most vulnerable people in Belfast, and it's important that the Church helps them both prayerfully and practically.



SERVICES IN OCTOBER

There are four **Holy Days** this month. There will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 10.30am on Wednesday 11th October for *St Philip the Deacon*, and on Wednesday 18th October for *St Luke*, and on Wednesday 25th October for *St James, the Brother of our Lord*. In addition, there will be a traditional celebration of Holy Communion at 7.30pm on Thursday 26th October for *St Simon and St Jude*.

As previously mentioned, we will be learning more about **Reformed Theology** each Sunday during the month. On 1st October we will think about how Christ is the only mediator between God and humanity. On 8th October we will consider how salvation is received by faith alone, without the prerequisite of good works. On 15th October we will reflect upon

how God offers us salvation as a free gift, without consideration of our merits. On 22nd October we will remember that glory is due to God alone. On 29th October we will think about how Scripture alone must determine our Christian beliefs and practices.

SERMON SUMMARIES

On the **Twelfth Sunday after Trinity** (*Sunday 3rd September*) I talked about how part of my training for ordination involved spending a few hours on Christmas Eve in the City Hospital, shadowing the Hospital Chaplain. We walked into the cancer unit, and the chaplain asked a nurse for the whereabouts of a patient on his list. And the nurse told him that the gentleman that he was looking for, had just died, literally moments before hand, and that the doctor was on his way to tell the family who had been visiting, but who had taken a quick break in the waiting room to get some tea and coffee. So we walked into the waiting area, just as the doctor was walking out. We walked in to a family who had just that moment been told that their husband had died, their father had died. And we walked with them the short journey back to the private room where the man had died just minutes before. And although I was simply there to observe what happened, I recall feeling very panicked and nervous, wondering what on earth do you do as a clergyman at a time like that? What can you say that might help? What is the purpose of the clergy at that moment? Over the years, with experience, such fears and trepidation have decreased. Primarily because I've come to realise that in circumstances like what I've just described, people who are very anxious or grief stricken, are not focussed on what the clergy are doing. And as long as I don't say or do something which is memorably offensive, most people will simply be aware of my presence, and they will take comfort not from what I say, but rather from what I represent—which is the Church, which in turn acts in the name of Jesus. So increasingly

in my ministry, I recognise that I personally don't need to have all the right words to say; that I can't take on my shoulders the responsibility of being the solution to everyone's problems. Instead, my role is to point people towards a person who knows intimately how they feel, who has the exact right words to say to them, whose love for them is deep and limitless, who will walk with them moment by moment throughout their difficulties. That person is, of course, Jesus. But the same trepidation as I had experienced all those years ago, is similar to the fears and anxieties of Moses, as we heard in today's first Bible reading. For, in response to God's instructions given at the Burning Bush,



Moses exclaims "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" It is a question that would come naturally to all of us, if we found ourselves in that situation. And it's a question which unfortunately still holds back so many Christians from being involved in the various lay ministries of the Church. "Who am I to lead the Sunday School?" "Who am I to put my name forward for the Select Vestry?" "Who am I join the Telephone Prayer Chain?" "Who am I to do anything useful in this Church, when there are better, wiser, more godly people here than me?" The problem with that question, "Who am I...?" is that it focusses too much on ourselves, and we overlook the truth

that when God calls us to do something, it is HE who is doing it through us. He is inspiring us. He is motivating us. He is equipping us to do it. Think about what God said to Moses, before Moses said “Who am I...?” I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians.” Note that: “I have come down to deliver them”. And then God goes on to say to Moses, “So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” So although Moses is the man who will act and speak in the name of God, God is one who is pulling the strings. God will tell Moses what to do, and what to say. And it is by the power of God that the Egyptians will witness miracles, and experience plagues. And it is by the same power of God that the Israelites will be set free, and pass through the waters of the Red Sea. And so in response to Moses’ exclamation “Who am I...?”, God gives the reassuring answer, “I will be with you.” The lesson that Moses learnt in that moment, is the lesson that each of us needs to remember when we are confronted with the sense that God is calling us to do something which makes us anxious. It’s not about who we are, and what we can do. It’s about who has called us, and what he can do through us.

On the **Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity** (*Sunday 17th September*) we learnt about how our Lord Jesus taught us that if a Christian hurts you in some way, and if they come to you and apologise genuinely, you must forgive them. No “ifs or buts”. You must forgive. In practice, that forgiveness means wiping the slate clean, and behaving as if nothing had ever happened. That’s difficult. And indeed, Jesus makes it even more difficult for us by saying that you have to forgive every single time, no matter how many times it happens. The thinking behind this instruction, is that when we come to God seeking forgiveness for our sins, he is always ready and willing to forgive and forget, and to give us a fresh start, a new beginning. And so, in imitation of his

graciousness, he expects us to have a similar attitude of forgiveness. And if we don't forgive others, then—Jesus says—God will not forgive us. He won't give to us, what we aren't prepared to give anyone else. Now, I acknowledge how difficult it is to do in practice. And certainly there are occasions when forgiving and forgetting might be dangerous. Take, for example, domestic violence. Being married to someone who works for Women's Aid, makes me aware of the horrors that many women face on a regular basis in their own homes. What I've learnt is that it is common for men who beat up their wives, to apologise to them afterwards, and perhaps even to promise not to do it again. But they do, again and again, and again. Left unchecked, such abuse (which can be emotional and mental, as well as physical) can have very serious consequences, even the death of the woman, either through murder or suicide. In that sort of environment, is it justifiable for a woman to be expected to forgive and forget, and act as if nothing had happened? Of course it's not. But here's the thing. This commandment to forgive, only pertains to the forgiveness of Christians. For Peter asks him "If another member of the Church sins against me, how often should I forgive?" And then at the end of the passage, Jesus talks about forgiving "your brother or sister" from the heart. This is a reference to our brothers and sisters in Christ, or in other words, our fellow Christians. Now, how does this affect forgiving someone who habitually hurts or abuses us? Well I would suggest to you that any person who regularly and purposefully terrorises, manipulates, oppresses other humans—whether in the home or elsewhere—such a person is not a Christian. They might belong to the institutional church, and be a paid up member of a congregation, but true membership of the Church belongs only to those people who believe, trust, and obey Jesus, and whose lives are being transformed slowly but surely for the better. Such a genuinely Christian man would not seek to control and subjugate his wife. And so, to anyone in such an abusive relationship, I would say that under no circumstances is Jesus telling you to

simply grin and bear it. And if someone perpetrated such crimes, and claimed to be a Christian, perhaps some time in a prison cell might give them the opportunity they need to pray and reflect upon what it really means to be a follower of Jesus. Rather, Jesus is talking here about how sometimes even *good* people make mistakes. How we can tell white lies to make life easier for ourselves; how we can say things behind someone's back for the sake of having a juicy conversation; how we can be a bit blunt in our dealings with people if we're feeling tired or unwell; how we can let each other down in a million different ways. In such circumstances, when a *Christian* tells us that they are sorry, and when it is clear that they are genuine, and when we are assured that they will learn from their mistakes—in such circumstances, it is Christ's command that we must forgive. We must wipe the slate clean, and behave as if the hurt never happened. We move on in friendship, and we leave the past behind us. We must do this, because that is what God is willing to do when we come to him seeking forgiveness. But Jesus' message is clear: if we don't forgive, God won't either.

At our **Harvest Thanksgiving** (*Sunday 10th September*) we thought about ingratitude, ungratefulness, thanklessness. All quite long and unwieldy words which ultimately mean the same thing, which is: not being willing or able to say "thank you". We thought about various reasons that some people have for NOT expressing their gratitude. The first one, which goes without saying, is that sometimes people are just too rude to say "thank you". The second is we don't say "thank you" because we believe we are expressing our gratitude in *other ways*, such as by paying for something. The third is sometimes we don't say "thank you" because we don't feel that it's our place to say "thank you". And then the fourth reason is that we believe we've achieved something for ourselves, without anyone else's help. I'm sure there are many other reasons! However, at our Harvest Thanksgiving we remember to say "thank you, God" for all the good things in life. But you know, we really shouldn't need to be

reminded, and we certainly shouldn't just express our gratitude on this one occasion; we should consistently be thanking God. For, as we say in our Communion Service, "at all times and in all places it is right to give you thanks and praise". But so often we don't. And the reasons are just what I've been telling you. Sometimes we don't thank God because ultimately we're a rude, ungrateful bunch. It just doesn't occur to us that God has given us so much that is worth being thankful for. And sometimes we don't thank God because we believe we are expressing our gratitude in indirect ways, such as by coming to church, or by putting our weekly envelope on the collection plate. And sometimes we don't thank God because we don't feel worthy. Who are we, insignificant as we are, to show our appreciation to the creator of the universe. What difference would our petty gratitude make to him? And sometimes we don't thank God because we don't acknowledge that he is responsible for the good things in our lives. We fool ourselves into thinking that all our success, everything that we have, everything that we are, we achieved it—all on our own, without God's involvement. I wonder how heart-breaking it is for God, to love people who are as unwilling or unable to express gratitude as we are. But I also wonder how it affects him, when in all sincerity, with complete conviction, we take a moment to focus the attention of our heart and mind to God, and say "thank you, Lord"? Let's learn every day, to take a moment, and thank God for what we have.

PARISH REGISTER

Holy Baptism

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

Brooke Ivy Jackson

daughter of Charlie Jackson and Toni-Louise Service

Manor Close

on 3rd September 2017

CHURCH SERVICES IN OCTOBER

SUNDAY 9am 11am 6.30pm	1st OCTOBER Holy Communion Holy Communion Evening Prayer	CHRIST ALONE SUNDAY <i>traditional, said, Resurrection</i> <i>modern, sung, Nave</i> <i>traditional, said, St James</i>
WEDNESDAY 10.30am	4th OCTOBER Holy Communion	MID-WEEK SERVICE <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i>
SUNDAY 9am 11am 6.30pm	8th OCTOBER Holy Communion Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	FAITH ALONE SUNDAY <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i> <i>modern, sung, Nave</i> <i>modern, said, St James</i>
WEDNESDAY 10.30am	11th OCTOBER Holy Communion	ST PHILIP THE DEACON <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i>
SUNDAY 9am 11am 6.30pm	15th OCTOBER Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion	GRACE ALONE SUNDAY <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i> <i>modern, sung, Nave</i> <i>traditional, sung, Nave</i>
WEDNESDAY 10.30am	18th OCTOBER Holy Communion	ST LUKE <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i>
SUNDAY 9am 11am 6.30pm	22nd OCTOBER Holy Communion Morning Prayer Compline	GOD ALONE SUNDAY <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i> <i>modern, sung, Nave</i> <i>traditional, said, St James</i>
WEDNESDAY 10.30am	25th OCTOBER Holy Communion	MID-WEEK SERVICE <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i>
THURSDAY 7.30pm	26th OCTOBER Holy Communion	ST SIMON & ST JUDE <i>(transferred)</i> <i>traditional, said, Chancel</i>
SUNDAY 9am 11am 6.30pm	29th OCTOBER Holy Communion Morning Prayer Holy Communion	SCRIPTURE ALONE SUNDAY <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i> <i>modern, sung, Nave</i> <i>modern, said, St James</i>

CHURCH SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

WEDNESDAY 10.30am	1st NOVEMBER Holy Communion	ALL SAINTS <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i>
SUNDAY 9am 11am 6.30pm	5th NOVEMBER Holy Communion Holy Communion Choral Evensong	ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY <i>traditional, said, Resurrection</i> <i>modern, sung, Nave</i> <i>traditional, sung, Nave</i>
WEDNESDAY 10.30am	8th NOVEMBER Holy Communion	MID-WEEK SERVICE <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i>
SUNDAY 9am 11am 6.30pm	12th NOVEMBER Holy Communion Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i> <i>modern, sung, Nave</i> <i>modern, said, St James</i>
WEDNESDAY 10.30am	15th NOVEMBER Holy Communion	MID-WEEK SERVICE <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i>
SUNDAY 9am 11am 6.30pm	19th NOVEMBER Holy Communion Holy Communion Compline	SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i> <i>modern, sung, Nave</i> <i>traditional, sung, Nave</i>
WEDNESDAY 10.30am	22nd NOVEMBER Holy Communion	MID-WEEK SERVICE <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i>
SUNDAY 9am 11am 6.30pm	26th NOVEMBER Holy Communion Morning Prayer Late Evening Office	THE KINGSHIP OF CHRIST <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i> <i>modern, sung, Nave</i> <i>modern, said, St James</i>
WEDNESDAY 10.30am	29th NOVEMBER Holy Communion	MID-WEEK SERVICE <i>modern, said, Resurrection</i>
THURSDAY 7.30pm	30th NOVEMBER Holy Communion	ST ANDREW <i>traditional, said, Chancel</i>

October Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9am Holy Communion 11am Holy Communion & Sunday School 6.30pm Evening Prayer	2 7.30pm Finance Committee 8pm Badminton	3 10.30am Crafty Goodness 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal	4 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates	5 10am Little Cherubs 2.30pm Parish Prayers 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.30pm Parish Fellowship 8pm Guides	6 10.30am PhysioPilates 11.30am Bible Study 3.30pm Pilates (beginners) 5.30pm Pilates (intermediate) 4pm Speech and Drama	7
8 9am Holy Communion 11am Morning Prayer & Sunday School (tea/coffee) Traidcraft stall 6.30pm Evening Prayer	9 7.30pm Select Vestry 8pm Badminton	10 10.30am Crafty Goodness 2.30pm Ladies' Guild 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal	11 <i>St Philip the Deacon</i> 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 7.30pm Choir	12 10am Little Cherubs 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.30pm Parish Fellowship 8pm Guides	13 10.30am PhysioPilates 11.30am Mission Committee 3.30pm Pilates (beginners) 5.30pm Pilates (intermediate) 4pm Speech and Drama	14

15 9am Holy Communion 11am Holy Communion & Sunday School 6.30pm Holy Communion	16 8pm Badminton	17 10.30am Crafty Goodness 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal	18 <i>St Luke</i> 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 7.30pm Choir	19 10am Little Cherubs 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.45pm Historical Society 8pm Guides	20 10.30am PhysioPilates 11.30am Bible Study 3.30pm Pilates (beginners) 5.30pm Pilates (intermediate) 4pm Speech and Drama	21
22 9am Holy Communion 11am Morning Prayer & Sunday School (tea/coffee) 6.30pm Compline	23 <i>Deadline for material to be with Anne for November Parish Notes</i> 8pm Badminton	24 10.30 Crafty Goodness 1pm Events Committee 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal	25 <i>St James, brother of our Lord</i> 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 11.30 Fabric Committee 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 7.30pm Choir	26 <i>St Simon & St Jude</i> (transferred) 10am Little Cherubs 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.30pm Holy Communion 8pm Parish Fellowship 8pm Guides	27 10.30am PhysioPilates 3.30pm Pilates (beginners) 5.30pm Pilates (intermediate) 4pm Speech and Drama	28 7pm Hallowe'en Jazz
29 9am Holy Communion 11am Morning Prayer & Sunday School 6.30pm Holy Communion	30 8pm Badminton	31 10.30 Crafty Goodness 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs				



Hallowe'en Jazz
Saturday 28th October
7pm
Martello Jazz Band

Stew, apple tart and glass of wine/soft drink
Ballot and Quiz

Fancy Dress encouraged!

Tickets £12.50 (family ticket £25)

in aid of these charities:



Tickets available from Annette Beattie tel 9077 8428
or the Parish Office tel 9077 6706

AFTER CHURCH REFRESHMENT

Light refreshments will be served after the 11am service on Sunday 8th October by members of the Choir and on Sunday 22nd October by members of the Historical Society.





AED
Emergency
defibrillator

Together we could save a life. It could be yours.

Please don't forget we are collecting any bits of gold you may have lying around—broken necklaces, single earrings, etc—anything you no longer want. The money raised will be used to buy a defibrillator for the parish.

LESSON READERS AND INTERCESSORS

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 90 364 183.

Oct	First Reading	Second Reading	Intercessor
1st	Caroline O'Kane	Ashlee McCune	Sandra Hutchman
8th	Hilary Shields	Forde Patterson	David Cromie
15th	Philip Williamson	Anne Roberts	Anne Roberts
22nd	Daphne McClements	Alan McCracken	Noel Beattie
29th	Colin Bell	Tom Campbell	Marie Burrowes

Crafty Goodness

Tuesday mornings
at 10.30am in the Clergy Vestry

Everyone is welcome

Just bring some craft activity to keep yourself busy while you chat. This is a very friendly group, and at the moment they are concentrating on making a few items to sell at the Christmas Fayre! If you are interested, just come along!



**Save a life
Give blood**

Cavehill Methodist
Church Hall,
Cavehill Road
Thursday 5th October
2-4pm and 5.15-8pm

Each year our members vote to support six charities. This year our fifth chosen charity is the Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal.



Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal (COIBA) - Development, Relief, Advocacy

Bishops' Appeal is the Church's World Aid and Development Programme. It was set up by the Bishops of the Church in response to the commands in the Bible to bring good news to the poor and relief to the suffering.

Half the world's population live on less than two dollars a day; indeed, over 300 million people in sub-Saharan Africa live on less than one dollar a day. It is estimated that 30,000 people die every day from poverty related diseases. The Christian Church cannot remain silent in the face of this ongoing tragedy and injustice. Bishops' Appeal is the Church of Ireland's voice calling for an end to this suffering and working with others to make a difference where it can.

Aims of Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal

- To educate the Church at home about the needs and concerns of people in the less developed world and the causes of poverty;
- To encourage Church members to examine the reasons for the problems facing the less fortunate in the world and to consider what we can do to change conditions;
- To reach out in God's name to those who need our help;
- To encourage informed prayer and prayerful action aimed at strengthening the poor; to raise the funds needed to allow Bishops' Appeal to support development projects and alleviate the suffering caused by disasters, both natural and man-made.

Bishops' Appeal works through partner Non-Governmental Organisations and Mission Agencies to implement Christ's "Mission Statement" to feed the hungry, lift the burden of poverty from the poor and bring freedom and hope to the oppressed. Our partners have the local knowledge and resources to ensure that projects for which they apply for funding are of maximum benefit to the peoples and areas in which they work.

Bishops' Appeal is committed to raising awareness of justice, inequality and sustainable development issues throughout parishes in Ireland. Education Advisor Lydia Monds regularly speaks at church services, diocesan synods, conferences and events highlighting the root causes of poverty and our role in responding not just through charitable giving but through action. This action can be as simple as understanding all the

potential repercussions of the type of charitable giving we are involved in, or as demanding as analysing our consumeristic lifestyles and how they affect the world's poorest. This can lead to engagement with campaigns that strive to bring about change and ultimately exposes our responsibility to challenge the systems and structures that keep the majority poor whilst keeping the minority comfortable or in gross excess.

For more information on development, education or campaigns, please visit those sections of the website: (Google :Church of Ireland Bishops Appeal). For information on how parishes are responding and taking action, visit the "Good News Stories" section of that website.

Bishops' Appeal contributes to relief of suffering in time of emergencies whether natural or man-made. However, our main concern is to support ongoing development in the fields of sustainable agriculture, health, including HIV/AIDS, and education in many parts of the world. We aim to enable people to have more control over their own lives and futures so that they are less dependent on others than they are today.

Give by cheque or cash through your parish

If you would like to support the parish's charitable giving to the Bishops' Appeal, then we encourage you to give cash, or write a cheque payable to "The Parish of St Peter and St James, Belfast", and bring it to church or to the parish office in an envelope marked "Bishops' Appeal".

Give through your bank

Alternatively you can lodge directly into the Bishops' Appeal account. Please note, that in order to acknowledge receipt of your donation, it is important that you state the parish or individual name in the lodgement narrative. Also, if the funds are for a specific appeal, country or project please state this. To double check, you can email bishopsappeal@ireland.anglican.org with the specifications.

Sterling £

Account Name: The Representative Church Body of the Church of Ireland, Current Account

Account Number: 13098975

Sort Code: 90-21-27

Bank Name: Bank of Ireland

Address: Belfast City Branch, BT1 2BA

Give by cheque directly to COIBA

Send a euro or sterling cheque, payable to Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal to: Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal, Church of Ireland House, Church Avenue, Rathmines, Dublin 6, Ireland.

Gifts made by cheque may be "Gift Aided". To do this, Google "Church of Ireland Bishops Appeal" select "Get more from your donation" click on the "Bishops Appeal Gift Aid " rollover to call up the necessary Gift Aid form which can then be printed out.

Peter Gray

Ladies' Guild

Tuesday 10th October at 2.30pm

We will begin our year with our opening service in church. This will be followed by our AGM and the obligatory cuppa. If you would like to know more about the Ladies' Guild but are too scared to ask, please come along to see for yourself. This is a good opportunity for existing members to meet up again after our summer break and also a chance to meet new members.

Our meetings are open to everyone. If you would like to attend but don't have transport please contact me or speak to one of our members after church and we will be happy to arrange a lift for you. Looking forward to seeing you.

Anne Stewart (Hon Sec) tel 9096 6597

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Classes will begin on Sunday 5th November 6.30-7.45pm, running each Sunday evening for 6 weeks. As part of the Confirmation class we will be looking at the Youth Alpha course. Each evening we will begin with some snacks followed by a time of Bible study and discussion. We will also look at different topics, for example, "Who is Jesus?", "Why did Jesus die?", "How and why do we pray?", etc. If you or your teenager would like to be part of the classes, please contact the Families' Worker, Nathan Ervine, or the Rector to confirm your attendance.

Our Parish Family ...

Please let us know about any happy events and/or exciting news happening within our parish family. Good news is always worth sharing!



Congratulations

to David and Frances Gooding
who celebrated their
DIAMOND WEDDING
on 24th July

and

to Noel and Annette Beattie
who celebrated their
GOLDEN WEDDING
on 7th September.

Many happy returns to both couples!

OCTOBER FLOWER LIST

1 ST	DAPHNE MCCLEMENTS IN MEMORY OF HER PARENTS
8 TH	ROSEMARY HINDS IN MEMORY OF HER FATHER
15 TH	QUINTIN MULLIGAN IN MEMORY OF HIS WIFE
22 ND	PAUL AND JANICE GIBSON IN CELEBRATION OF THEIR MARRIAGE
29 TH	BARBARA GREENLEES



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.

Holy Dusters Cleaning Rota

2nd Oct—7th Oct -----Group 3
9th Oct—14th Oct -----Group 4
16th Oct—21st Oct -----Group 5
23rd Oct—28th Oct -----Group 6
30th Oct—4th Nov -----Group 7

NORTH BELFAST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

19TH OCTOBER 7.30^{PM} FOR 7.45^{PM}
M^CCOLLUM MINOR HALL

Speaker: Jim Bradley

Subject: Heritage of the Belfast Hills

Something for everyone—do come along and join us, everyone is welcome.

The Belfast Hills consist of 6/7 hills, filled with history, geological and wild life.

Did you know that there is evidence of habitat as far back as 7000BC *or* that in the last 13 years 223 historic monuments/features have been found and identified *or* that the Irish hare, Marsh Fritillary butterfly and skylarks live on the Hills *or* ... ??

It is by our knowledge of the history, the biodiversity and heritage of our Hills that we may help to preserve, enjoy and build up this incredible asset that we have right on our doorstep.

We look forward to seeing you on the 19th October.

Why not bring family, friend and neighbour with you?

Margi Crawford

ORGANISATIONS/HALL TIMETABLE

Sunday

11am—12noon: Sunday School

Monday

8pm—11pm: Badminton Club

Tuesday

10.30am—12.30pm: Crafty Goodness

2.30pm—4.30pm: Ladies' Guild (2nd Tuesday in month)

6pm—7pm: Beaver Scouts

7pm—8pm: Cub Scouts

Wednesday

2pm—4pm: Bridge Club

6.30pm—7.45pm: PhysioPilates

7.30pm—9pm: Choir

Thursday

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

6pm—7pm: Rainbows

7pm—8pm: Brownies

7.30pm—9pm: Parish Fellowship (every Thurs except 3rd in month)

7.45pm—9.30pm: Historical Society (3rd Thursday in month)

8pm—9.30pm: Guides

Friday

10.30am—11.45am: PhysioPilates

11.30am—12.30pm: Bible Study (1st and 3rd Friday in month)

3.30pm—4.30pm: Physiotherapy led Mat Pilates (beginners)

5.30pm—6.30pm: Physiotherapy led Mat Pilates (intermediate)

4pm—8pm: Speech and Drama

*For more information on the parish organisations (including term dates)
please contact the appropriate personnel listed on the back page
or the Parish Secretary.*

PASTORAL CARE

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

If the Rector is unavailable, there will be contact details for other clergy on the answer machine.

If you or a loved one is seriously ill, particularly if you are admitted to hospital, please inform the Rector. He often visits the hospitals but has no way of knowing who has been admitted unless he is informed. 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.

Parish Notes on-line

There are full colour versions of Parish Notes on our website. Visit www.stpeters.connor.anglican.org and click on "Parish Notes".



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

**Stall open on
Sunday 8th October
during coffee time after
the 11am service**

**THE NEXT MEETING OF
THE SELECT VESTRY
WILL BE ON
MONDAY 9TH OCTOBER
AT 7.30PM
IN THE MINOR HALL**

*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 Monday 23rd October. Thank you.*