

THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ST JAMES  
BELFAST

# PARISH NOTES

APRIL 2019

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

Easter is a time when you realise  
you are truly loved



GOD . LOVING . PEOPLE

## RECTOR'S NOTES

### SELECT VESTRY

Like any large organisation, our parish has buildings to maintain, salaries to pay, and employees and volunteers to manage. The responsibility for all this lies with a committee of seventeen people, which consists of fourteen parishioners elected by you, plus myself and two parishioners whom I appoint. This committee is called the Select Vestry, but that's just a fancy title for what is simply the management committee of the parish. Around Easter each year, you get the opportunity to vote for whom you wish to serve on the Select Vestry, and also (take a deep breath here!) you can stand for election yourself. We always need the experience of people who have already served on the committee, but we also need some new people involved, in order to keep our deliberations fresh and to ensure that all members have the chance to help out in this way. The Select Vestry meets once a month through the year (excluding July, August, and December) on Monday evening. Please consider putting your name forward at our annual meeting in early May. Speak with me if you would like to know more before volunteering yourself.

### SERVICES IN APRIL

The first two Sundays in April are the last two Sundays of the season of Lent. These two weeks are known as **Passiontide**, and you will notice the purple of Lent replaced by red, as we start to focus on the suffering of our Lord in the run-up to the crucifixion.

On **Palm Sunday**, which is 14<sup>th</sup> April, the church is decorated with palm branches, reflecting the triumphant entry into Jerusalem by our Lord Jesus, when the people placed palm branches on the path in front of him.

Palm Sunday is the beginning of **Holy Week**, which runs from the Sunday until the Saturday before Easter Day. As well as the 6.30pm evening service on 14<sup>th</sup> April, there will be evening services at 7.30pm throughout the week. Please make every effort to come to St Peter's for as many of these special services as you can, each of which will have its own style and theme. In particular, please come along to our Choral Eucharist on Maundy Thursday, when the Communion Table is stripped bare, and to our service of Tenebrae on Good Friday, when the story of our Lord's suffering and death is recounted.

**Easter Sunday** is 21<sup>st</sup> April, and it will be a celebration of hope after the penitential season of Lent which preceded it. Note that there will be no evening service that day. I encourage you to do everything possible to be in St Peter's to worship at one of our two morning services on this most important day in the Christian calendar.

### **SERMON SUMMARY**

On the *Third Sunday of Lent* (24<sup>th</sup> March) I mentioned that every week, sometimes every day, parishioners tell me that they don't feel good enough as a Christian, or they don't feel confident, or they don't feel comfortable, or they don't think that they're doing it right. My response to such feelings, as many of you know because I say it enough times, is usually "wise up!". (But I say that out of kindness, not criticism). You see, I completely understand where these feelings are coming from. You are

comparing yourself with an image of Christian perfection, which you have created in your own mind, and you feel unworthy. You look at other Christians, and they seem so sure of themselves spiritually; they seem so knowledgeable about the Bible and theology; they seem so comfortable engaging in Christian activities; they seem so holy and godly. You compare yourself with these people, and you think “I’ll never be like that. They must have something special about them, that I just don’t have.”

But, you know—wise up! Such perfection doesn’t exist. So please don’t compare yourself negatively with other Christians, and end up thinking that Christian ministry is not for you, or even worse—that Christianity in general is not for you. Be wise enough to understand that not one of us is as good as we should be, in God’s eyes. Be wise enough also to understand that being a Christian is not just a decision that we make, but also it is a process—a lifelong process, of trying to be, learning to be, better people, and more effective servants of God.

I say this because of the short parable that our Lord Jesus told about the Fig Tree. It normally took three years for a fig tree to mature and produce figs. And as a basic rule of thumb, if the fig tree had not produced figs by the end of its third year, then the chances were that it simply wouldn’t ever produce figs. So with that in mind, think about the parable that Jesus is teaching:

*“A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?”*

So, in this parable, the man is thinking that by now enough time has passed, and yet this fig tree has not yet matured. It is taking in the goodness from the soil, but it is not producing anything of any value to people. It is just there taking up space.

But let's remember that the Gospels are not about gardening techniques. Jesus is using the fig tree to describe us human beings. And this is particularly relevant if you are one of those people who—as I said—feels as if you are taking up space in the Church, with nothing of interest or usefulness to show for it. If that applies to you, listen to the gardener's response to the man in the parable: He replied,

*“Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”*

In other words: you might not see the results that you want, and you might think that you're not of any use to anybody, and you might feel as if you'd be better off to stop trying, BUT DON'T. With the right encouragement, with a little bit of training, and with some experience over time, the results that you're hoping for in yourself, could well begin to develop.

What's important to note here is that the gardener does not say: “Just leave it alone for a year, and then we'll come back and see what happened.” He says “I'll dig around it, and I'll put manure on it.” So the gardener is saying: Give me more time to work on this fig tree to produce results.

Now, when it comes to us (as the fig tree), the gardener is Jesus. He recognises our imperfections, but he's not going to give up on us, even if we feel like giving up on ourselves. He wants to help us grow, and to flourish, and to produce the fruit of a good life. He doesn't want to condemn us, and say “You're not good enough for me”. Rather, he wants to be at work within us and around us, in order to help us grow into the people he knows that we can be. But that is a process that will last throughout our entire lives; and we will get second chances, and third chances, and fourth chances throughout our lifetime (and we will need them) as long as we are willing to let Jesus care for us, and tend to us, and help us to grow.

Jesus Christ won't give up on you. Make sure you don't either.

## CHURCH SERVICES IN APRIL

<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 10.30am	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL</b> Holy Communion	<b>MID-WEEK</b> <i>Resurrection, purple, modern</i>
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9am 11am 6.30pm	<b>7<sup>th</sup> APRIL</b> Holy Communion Choral Eucharist Evensong	<b>PASSION SUNDAY</b> <i>Resurrection, red, modern</i> <i>Nave, red, modern</i> <i>St James, red, modern</i>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 10.30am	<b>10<sup>th</sup> APRIL</b> Holy Communion	<b>MID-WEEK</b> <i>Resurrection, red, modern</i>
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9am 11am 6.30pm	<b>14<sup>th</sup> APRIL</b> Holy Communion Choral Matins Evensong	<b>PALM SUNDAY</b> <i>Resurrection, red, modern</i> <i>Nave, red, modern</i> <i>Nave, red, modern</i>
<b>MONDAY</b> 7.30pm	<b>15<sup>th</sup> APRIL</b> Compline	<b>FIG MONDAY</b> <i>Nave, red, traditional</i>
<b>TUESDAY</b> 7.30pm	<b>16<sup>th</sup> APRIL</b> Late Evening Office	<b>HOLY TUESDAY</b> <i>Nave, red, modern</i>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 10.30am 7.30pm	<b>17<sup>th</sup> APRIL</b> Holy Communion Choral Evensong	<b>SPY WEDNESDAY</b> <i>Resurrection, red, modern</i> <i>Nave, red, traditional</i>
<b>THURSDAY</b> 7.30pm	<b>18<sup>th</sup> APRIL</b> Choral Eucharist	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> <i>Nave, white, modern</i>
<b>FRIDAY</b> 7.30pm	<b>19<sup>th</sup> APRIL</b> Choral Tenebrae	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> <i>Nave, no colour, modern</i>
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9am 11am	<b>21<sup>st</sup> APRIL</b> Holy Communion Choral Eucharist	<b>THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <i>Resurrection, white, modern</i> <i>Nave, white, modern</i>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 10.30am	<b>24<sup>th</sup> APRIL</b> Morning Prayer	<b>MID-WEEK</b> <i>Resurrection, white, modern</i>
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9am 11am 6.30pm	<b>28<sup>th</sup> APRIL</b> Holy Communion Choral Matins Evensong	<b>THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <i>Resurrection, white, traditional</i> <i>Nave, white, modern</i> <i>St James, white, modern</i>

## CHURCH SERVICES IN MAY

<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 10.30am	<b>1<sup>st</sup> MAY</b> Holy Communion	<b>MID-WEEK</b> <i>Resurrection, white, modern</i>
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9am 11am 6.30pm	<b>5<sup>th</sup> MAY</b> Holy Communion Choral Eucharist Choral Evensong	<b>THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <i>Resurrection, white, modern</i> <i>Nave, white, modern</i> <i>Nave, white, traditional</i>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 10.30am	<b>8<sup>th</sup> MAY</b> Holy Communion	<b>MID-WEEK</b> <i>Resurrection, white, modern</i>
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9am 11am 6.30pm	<b>12<sup>th</sup> MAY</b> Holy Communion Choral Matins Evensong	<b>THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <i>Resurrection, white, modern</i> <i>Nave, white, modern</i> <i>St James, white, modern</i>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 10.30am	<b>15<sup>th</sup> MAY</b> Holy Communion	<b>SPY WEDNESDAY</b> <i>Resurrection, white, modern</i>
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9am 11am 6.30pm	<b>19<sup>th</sup> MAY</b> Holy Communion Choral Eucharist Choral Evensong	<b>THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <i>Resurrection, white, modern</i> <i>Nave, white, modern</i> <i>Nave, white, traditional</i>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 10.30am	<b>24<sup>th</sup> MAY</b> Holy Communion	<b>MID-WEEK</b> <i>Resurrection, white, modern</i>
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9am 11am 6.30pm	<b>26<sup>th</sup> MAY</b> Holy Communion Choral Matins Compline	<b>ROGATION SUNDAY</b> <i>Resurrection, white, modern</i> <i>Nave, white, modern</i> <i>St James, white, traditional</i>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 10.30am	<b>29<sup>th</sup> MAY</b> Holy Communion	<b>MID-WEEK</b> <i>Resurrection, white, modern</i>

### DECORATION OF THE CHURCH FOR EASTER

**20th April from 10am**

We need volunteers to help decorate the church for Easter on Saturday morning, 20th April. If you can help please get in touch with Sandra Davison—you can catch her at church or ring her on tel 9443 9230. Alternatively just turn up on the morning! Thank you.

# April Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 1-7pm Church open for prayer <b>6.30pm</b> Holy Communion 7pm Parish Meeting <b>8pm</b> Badminton	<b>2</b> <b>10.30am</b> Crafty Goodness <b>6pm</b> Beavers <b>7pm</b> Cubs <b>7.30pm</b> Priory Singers' Rehearsal	<b>3</b> <b>10.30am</b> Holy Communion and refreshments <b>2pm</b> Bridge <b>6.30pm</b> PhysioPilates <b>7.30pm</b> Choir	<b>4</b> <b>6pm</b> Rainbows <b>7pm</b> Brownies <b>7.30pm</b> Thursday Fellowship <b>8pm</b> Guides and Senior Guides	<b>5</b> <b>10.30am</b> PhysioPilates <b>11.30am</b> Friday Fellowship <b>7.30pm</b> Table Quiz	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>9am</b> Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Choral Eucharist & Sunday School & Creche <b>6.30pm</b> Evensong	<b>8</b> <b>8pm</b> Badminton	<b>9</b> <b>10.30am</b> Crafty Goodness <b>2.30pm</b> Ladies' Guild <b>6pm</b> Beavers <b>7pm</b> Cubs <b>7.30pm</b> Priory Singers' Rehearsal	<b>10</b> <b>10.30am</b> Holy Communion and refreshments <b>2pm</b> Bridge <b>6.30pm</b> PhysioPilates <b>7.30pm</b> Choir	<b>11</b> <b>6pm</b> Rainbows <b>7pm</b> Brownies <b>7.30pm</b> Thursday Fellowship <b>8pm</b> Guides and Senior Guides	<b>12</b> <b>10.30am</b> PhysioPilates <b>4pm</b> Speech and Drama	<b>13</b>



<b>14</b> <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> 9am Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Choral Matins & Sunday School & Creche followed by refreshments and Traidcraft Stall <b>6.30pm</b> Evensong	<b>15</b> <b>FIG MONDAY</b> 7.30pm Compline <b>8pm</b> Badminton	<b>16</b> <b>HOLY TUESDAY</b> 10.30 Crafty Goodness <b>6pm</b> Beavers <b>7pm</b> Cubs <b>7.30pm</b> Late Evening Office	<b>17</b> <b>SPY WEDNESDAY</b> 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments <b>2pm</b> Bridge <b>7.30pm</b> Choral Evensong	<b>18</b> <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> 7.30pm Choral Eucharist	<b>19</b> <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> 7.30pm Choral Tenebrae	<b>20</b> <b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>
<b>21</b> <b>EASTER DAY</b> 9am Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Choral Eucharist & Sunday School & Creche	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10.30am Morning Prayer and refreshments <b>6.30pm</b> PhysioPilates	<b>25</b> 7.45pm Historical Society	<b>26</b> 10.30am PhysioPilates	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9am Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Choral Matins & Sunday School & Creche followed by refreshments <b>6.30pm</b> Evensong	<b>29</b> <i>Deadline for material to be with Anne Cromie for May Parish Notes</i> <b>8pm</b> Badminton	<b>30</b> 10.30am Crafty Goodness <b>7.30pm</b> Priory Singers' Rehearsal				

## **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER DAY**

### **SERVICES OF WORSHIP**

#### **PALM SUNDAY** (14th April)

9am Holy Communion

11am Choral Matins

6.30pm Evensong

Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!"

#### **FIG MONDAY** (15th April)

7.30pm Compline — *traditional language*

Jesus said, "She bought this ointment so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

#### **HOLY TUESDAY** (16th April)

7.30pm Late Evening Office

Jesus said, "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

#### **SPY WEDNESDAY** (17th April)

10.30am Holy Communion

7.30pm Choral Evensong — *traditional language*

When Jesus had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas, son of Simon Iscariot. After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "Do quickly what you are going to do."

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY (18th April)**

7.30pm Choral Eucharist

Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

## **GOOD FRIDAY (19th April)**

7.30pm Choral Tenebrae

*During this service, the events leading up to the Crucifixion will be retold, according to St John's Gospel. With appropriate music, and times of silence, the lights will slowly be turned off until the church is in darkness, commemorating the death of Christ.*

## **HOLY SATURDAY (20th April)**

*No Services*

## **EASTER DAY (21<sup>st</sup> April)**

9am Holy Communion

11am Choral Eucharist

*No Evening Service at 6.30pm*

Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.

## A reflection on THE PHARISEE AND THE TAX COLLECTOR

*by David Cromie*

Tax Collectors and Pharisees tend to get a rough ride from Jesus. This is hardly surprising, given that the tax collectors of his day were really just usurious tax farmers, buying the right to extort money from the population at the highest rate they could get away with, providing they paid over to the government of the day an agreed sum, whilst Pharisees were too often just hypocrites who used their wealth and inside track on the formalities of the temple and Jewish law to puff themselves up with self-importance and false grandeur.

These two men in prayer are revealed as entirely distinct, the Pharisee who saw himself as an exemplar and a leader of the faithful, wanted to stand apart from his fellow worshippers so that they could see and hear him tell God how well he obeyed the law and how much he gave to the temple – “what a good boy am I”: whilst the tax collector, hated by the populace for his professional activities but having to stand amongst those he taxed, understood that his relationship with God was that of a sinner seeking mercy from his creator. It is a very simple but graphic depiction of the two sides of men frequently exposed when they approach God. As usual, the message Jesus was giving was both revolutionary and dangerous, for the Pharisee had all the connections necessary to do harm to those opposed their hypocrisy, whilst the tax-collector was friendless, despised and unable to lift a finger to challenge the authority of the Pharisee. Jesus thus inverts the value and power of the two positions.

Recently, Anne and I were in London, a frequent and favourite haunt. We spent part of one afternoon talking to a good friend, a very wealthy financier, and to reach him we had to walk past the hunched and miserable figures of many rough sleepers. Every time I go to London there seem to be more of these unfortunates. A simplistic reaction might be to say, we should have spent our time talking to the alcos, druggies and distressed on the windy, wet streets rather than enjoying tea and biccies in a warm, dry and gorgeous room with a multi-millionaire surrounded by valuable

paintings. But hold on a minute, what I know, but which up to now you don't, is that the financier is in fact a deeply devout Christian, a man obsessed with trying to do as God wants him to do, a massive giver to church-based charities and one who is almost single-handedly trying to restore pride, jobs, self-respect and economic benefit to a very deprived area in northern England. Without his great wealth and job creation initiatives, hundreds, even thousands would suffer on, dependent on faithless hand-outs from the state to get from one year end to the next. I remember the same fellow, at the height of pre-2008 financial excess, saying "I don't care how much a banker is paid, what matters is what he does with the money". The lesson of the wealthy financier as of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector might be—"do not judge a book by its cover".

So what might we take from this parable of truth and identity, of books judged by their covers? As always we have to apply the lesson to ourselves. We all present images to others we want to impress or steer clear of, and often these images are not strictly true at all, but based on pride, fear, greed or just plain old hypocrisy. The key is to understand that God sees the real you and the real me every time – he knows us better than we know ourselves, and we do well to remember that. Jesus said that the poor will always be with us, equally he implies that the wealthy and powerful will too. I rather suspect he would agree with my financier friend that it is not what God gives us that matters, be it money, power, wisdom or whatever, it is what we do with it that matters. And if the poor, that is those without money, or power or wisdom or such things, are always with us, then we will always have yet another opportunity to do the right thing. This Lent, we should thank God for those opportunities, and work to take advantage of them by doing and being what is right. So that rather than being a series of self-invented characters performing for ulterior motives, we avoid illusion, smoke and mirrors and become the people we know we can and should be, for His honour and glory. Amen.



Thank you to Sandra Davison and her mum who made beautiful posies for all the women present at our Mothering Sunday service on 31st March.

## GIFT AID SCHEME

About 90% of our Parishioners have completed the statutory declaration to allow the parish to re-claim tax on their giving to St Peter's. If you are in that 90%, there is no need for you to read further; things remain unaltered.

However, for those who have not signed or who are unable to sign a declaration, this applies to you. Sometime ago I wrote to you asking that you would not place more than £20 in any one FWO envelope, although you can place up to £20 in as many envelopes as you wish. We have a dispensation from the Revenue Authorities to claim under "The Small Gift Aid Donations Scheme" to claim the Gift Aid tax back on collective amounts up to £6,000 in any one tax year, this includes plate collections. This yearly amount is now rising to £8,000 as is the amount that can be placed in individual FWO envelopes, ie, from **£20 to £30 per envelope**. Perhaps you would note accordingly.

For those who think that they cannot sign this declaration because of, for instance, not paying enough income tax, please remember that all income which you receive (apart from your Government retirement pension) has tax deducted before you receive your payment. This includes your work pension, any investments, dividends, etc, so you probably are eligible to sign a Gift Aid declaration. It is more beneficial to the Church if you are able to do so. If you are in any doubt you are very welcome to contact me and discuss this matter confidentially—tel: 9078428 or email: [noel\\_innisfayle@msn.com](mailto:noel_innisfayle@msn.com). Thank you.

*Noel Beattie*

## LESSON READERS AND INTERCESSORS

The following parishioners are on the reading/intercessor rota at the 11am Sunday services. If the date is unsuitable, please contact either Sandra Hutchman, tel 95 149 564 (readings), or Rosemary Johnston, tel 90 840 534 (intercessions).

<b>April</b>	<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>
7th	Dora Hanna	Philip Williamson	David Cromie
14th	Colin Bell	Moya Bell	Daphne McClements
21st	Sandra Hutchman	Daphne McClements	Marie Burrowes
28th	Anne Stewart	Peter Coiley	Sandra Hutchman

## **Ladies' Guild**

On Tuesday 9th April at 2.30pm our guest speaker will be from Arthritis Care NI.

If you don't have arthritis at the moment it is more than likely that you will have it at some point in the future or will know someone who does. Come along to find out more about what it is and how to live comfortably with it.

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)*

## **Alzheimer's Society—United Against Dementia**

At the March meeting of the Ladies' Guild the guest speaker left a considerable amount of information regarding all aspects of dementia—from receiving a diagnosis to caring for someone. These leaflets can be found at the back of the church so do feel free to help yourself.

**ST PETER'S PARISH CHURCH HALL**

# **TABLE QUIZ**

**FRIDAY 5TH APRIL AT 7.30PM**

**TICKETS £3**

including tea/coffee and biscuits

*Ballot and prizes!*

*Children go free!*

## PARISH MEETING REPORT

*by Rosemary Johnston*

At the Parish Meeting in March, some time was spent on the important task of updating the list of church officers and registered vestry persons which will be included in the Annual Report for 2018.

Pastoral Visitor Training took place on Sundays 17th and 24th February attended by 8 parishioners from St Peter's; 5 from St John's, Whitehouse; 2 from Greenisland Parish; all were welcomed with tea and coffee. With the help of a power point presentation the Rector explained what was involved plus gave advice on what to do and what not to do. A keen interest was shown by all—some have been carrying out pastoral visiting for some time while others among us are mere beginners. Each month the Rector will give the visitors names of people to receive a visit.

The Rector is keen to involve the youth organisations in the church by possibly having a church service for them once a year—parents to be invited as well—either at Easter or in September.

Concern was expressed about the time the children leave for Sunday School—too early and they do not gain knowledge of the Church of Ireland liturgy, too late and they have less time for Sunday School.

It is the Rector's wish to form a junior choir. As there are not many children in the parish, the Rector contemplates visiting local primary schools to see if children there would be interested. A suitable teacher, or perhaps an organ scholar might be considered to develop this. It would be necessary to have rehearsals at different times from the adult choristers to allow them their own time to learn—they could learn an anthem and sing it on a Sunday morning. We feel congregational singing could be louder—many of you have good singing voices and we want to hear you; so don't be shy, let's hear a great and joyful sound coming from you all.

The Rector spoke about having healing services in the church on a fifth Sunday evening. Other ways of administering healing were discussed, whether it should take place at the communion rail immediately after receiving communion or in the Chapel of the Resurrection. The Rector is also keen to offer people the opportunity for private prayer, after services, possibly in the Chapel of the Resurrection.

A hospital chaplain contacted the Rector about non-parishioners with medical problems availing of a social outlet such as the church craft group. Baby Basics is anxious to get blankets etc for newborn babies as an initial present for new mothers.



The Rector was keen that an event, to take place on Friday 5th April, should be primarily a social, rather than a fundraising occasion. A table quiz was decided on, aimed at families and to start at 7.30pm. Tickets would cost £3—children coming free. Tea/coffee and biscuits included.

Another event, arranged for Saturday 22nd June will be a barbecue, hopefully with a fire engine from Cavehill Road Fire Station.

The next parish meeting will take place on Monday 1st April at 7pm. As we need and appreciate your thoughts on matters relating to worship and everything connected to the parish, we would love to see you there—tea and coffee to welcome you on arrival!

### APRIL FLOWER LIST

7TH HEATHER & TONY SWAN IN MEMORY OF HEATHER'S PARENTS

14TH NOBLETT FAMILY

21ST EASTER DAY

28TH JOAN WALKER

Thank you to all who give of their time and effort in beautifying the church with flowers. If possible, flowers should be in keeping with the liturgical colour of the season, particularly during Advent and Lent.

### North Belfast Historical Society

**Date:** Thursday 25th April (please note 4th Thursday)

**Time:** 7.30pm for 7.45pm

**Where** McCollum Minor Hall

**Speaker:** Martyn Anglesea

**Subjects:** William Connor the People's Painter

Martyn Anglesea is a well known author and has written numerous exhibition catalogues, books and articles including Birds of Ireland, British & Irish Drawings and Watercolours from the Ulster Museum, Royal Ulster Academy of Arts: The Diploma Collection, William Connor the People's Painter, to mention a few.

William Connor 1881-1968, was arguably one of the most popular representative Belfast artists of this time. He started work as a poster designer, he produced war art work in both wars. In 1921 he was commissioned to paint the opening of the Stormont Parliament. His work took him to Paris, London and New York but he spent most of his time in Belfast and was the first Irish member of the Royal Institute of Oil Painters.

Come along to hear more about this remarkable man. Everyone is welcome.

*Margi Crawford*



## ORGANISATIONS/HALL TIMETABLE

### Sunday

11am—12noon: Sunday School

### Monday

7pm: Parish Meeting (1<sup>st</sup> Monday in month)

7.30pm: Select Vestry (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in month)

8pm—11pm: Badminton Club

### Tuesday

10.30am—12.30pm: Crafty Goodness

2.30pm—4.30pm: Ladies' Guild (2<sup>nd</sup> 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

6pm—7pm: Rainbows

7pm—8pm: Brownies

7.30pm—9pm: Thursday Fellowship (every week except 3<sup>rd</sup> in month)

7.45pm—9.30pm: Historical Society (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in month)

8pm—9.30pm: Guides and Senior Guides

### Friday

10.30am—11.45am: PhysioPilates

11.30am—12.30pm: Friday Fellowship (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in month)

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 Administrator.*

## 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](http://www.stpeters.connor.anglican.org) and click on “News”.

**The next Parish Meeting, to which all parishioners are invited, will take place on Monday 1st April at 7pm. The Select Vestry will not meet in April. The Annual Easter Vestry meeting will be on Sunday 5th May.**

### PARISHIONER CONTACT DETAILS

For speed of communication and to keep our records up to date please send your email address to Anne Cromie at [stpeterandstjames@outlook.com](mailto: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.

### Holy Dusters Cleaning Rota

1st April—6th April -----	Group 2
8th April—13th April-----	Group 3
15th April—20th April -----	Group 4
22nd April—27th April -----	Group 5
29th April—4th May -----	Group 6

*Please send material for the May issue of Parish Notes to:  
Anne Cromie, Parish Office, St Peter's Church,  
Fortwilliam Drive, Belfast BT15 4EB  
or email: [stpeterandstjames@outlook.com](mailto:stpeterandstjames@outlook.com)  
by Monday 29th April. Thank you.*