

PARISH NOTES

NOVEMBER 2019

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



GOD. LOVING. PEOPLE

RECTOR'S NOTES

SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

I am very pleased with the response to the **10am Morning Service** which we have held once a month since September. The less formal style is markedly different from what we do at 11am, but I am thrilled to provide options for parishioners to choose how best to encounter God through worship, and I have actually found myself uplifted on each occasion that the service has been held. Our next informal 10am service will be on **Sunday 10th November**, which is Remembrance Sunday. I think that's a very apt day for us to explore how to forgive those who hurt us. Whilst the children tend to prefer this sort of service over more formal worship, please let me reiterate that the 10am service is for everyone, regardless of age!

At both 9am and 11am on **Sunday 10th November**, we will have an **Act of Remembrance**, which will include a time of silence. During the 11am service, the names of the fallen from the parish (St Peter *and* St James) from the First and Second World Wars will be read aloud.

On Sunday 24th November, it's the feast day of Christ the King, also known as the **Kingship of Christ.** This day marks the last Sunday of the liturgical year, as the season of Advent begins the following week.

TABLE QUIZ

On Saturday 16th November, table quizzes will be organised in churches throughout the country, in aid of TearFund. I'm pleased to say that St Peter's is hosting one such quiz, at 3.30pm in the halls. We're asking for a donation of £2 per adult and £1

tearfund



per child (or as much as you'd like to donate) all of which will go towards TearFund, to help them respond to emergencies with practical help around the world. There will be prizes for the first, second, and last teams, and everyone can have tea/coffee and a biscuit! To keep it fair, there is a maximum of six people per team (excluding children). You can organise a team in advance, or join up with others on the day.

NATIVITY PLAY

Oh my goodness, it's still October as I write this, and it's frightening to be already thinking about a nativity play! For the last few years, we have made the play the focus of our 11am service on the Sunday before Christmas. This year that will be **Sunday 22**nd **December**. If you would like your child to be involved, then speak to me in the coming weeks, as we'll have a rehearsal in early December. Only the narrators have speaking parts, so tell your children not to be too worried about needing to do a lot. It's always better when it's fun, and my main concern is that the children should enjoy doing it. And if needs be, mum or dad can join in too!



PRAYER TRAINING

The Church's Ministry of Healing occasionally runs a course called "Introduction to Prayer Ministry". This year, I went with Anne Cromie, Dora Hanna, and Rosemary Johnston. Held at the



Church's Ministry of Healing building called The Mount in east Belfast, it was over spread four Monday mornings. Topics included: the mandate to pray; healing in Jesus' ministry; using our spiritual gifts; different dimensions of healing; faith and healing; authority to heal; the importance

of prayer; praying for physical healing; the laying-on of hands; anointing with oil; repentance, inner healing, and forgiveness. Despite the broad range, the course was delivered by the Rev'd Pat Mollan in a relaxed and conversational style. I am very grateful to Pat and the Ministry of Healing for facilitating this course, and I heartily recommend that you attend when it is next organised.

SERMON SUMMARY

On the 17th Sunday after Trinity (13th October) I preached on Luke 17: 11–19, which describes the healing of ten men with leprosy. I said that I have seen miraculous healing with my own eyes. I have stood at a bedside in an intensive care unit, having been informed that the patient has hours to live, and have

witnessed the comatose patient respond physically in a way that should not be possible to prayer, and the laying on of hands, and anointing with oil, and then for that same patient to amaze the doctors and nurses by walking out of hospital a few days later, and to this day they are living a happy and healthy life.

Of course some of you will be cynical; some of you will doubt that such things can happen; but if that kind of healing has not happened to you personally, or if you have never seen it happen to someone else, then I urge you at the very least to be open minded about the possibility.

Because if you dig your heels in, and say "It doesn't happen" then remember that you are denying the power of the living God.

But let me make three very quick points about that. First of all, miraculous healing does not happen all the time, to everyone, in the way that we want or expect. If it did, then Christians would never catch the cold.

And I freely admit that just as I have witnessed healing happen, I have also stood at the bedsides of patients in hospital, who have not recovered. And I understand that this presents us with very serious questions as we try to understand why some people are healed, whilst others aren't.

But secondly—and this is important to note—the healing which God can give us, does not necessarily have to be divine intervention. He has given us the intelligence and the skill and the resources, to develop medicines and procedures for health conditions which could well have led to death at an early age in the past, but which now enable people to lead normal and relatively healthy lives. So trusting in God to heal you, does not necessarily mean that you throw away your medicine, and refuse treatment, and just wait for some form of miraculous intervention. On the contrary, we recognise that such medical treatment is one way through which God offers us the chance to live a normal and active life.

And thirdly, when you are sick, don't stop praying for healing. No, it might not achieve the result you want, but then again, it might. So always ask God—one way or another—to intervene.

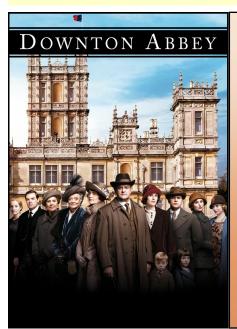
Novemb	ber Diary	V				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday Thursday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 10.30am PhysioPilates	2
3 ALL SAINTS 9am Holy Communion 11am Choral Eucharist & Sunday School & Creche 6.30pm All Souls'	4 7.30pm Parish Meeting 8pm Badminton	10.30am Crafty Goodness 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal 8pm Scouts	6 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 7.30pm Choir	4.30pm Speech and Drama Drama PhysioPila 6pm Rainbows Apm Speech 7.30pm Thursday Fellowship 8pm Guides and	8 10.30am PhysioPilates 4pm Speech and Drama	o,
Service				Senior Guides		

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 9am Holy Communion 10am Morning Service 11am Choral Matins & Sunday School & Creche followed by refreshments and Traidcraft Stall 6.30pm Evensong	8pm Badminton	10.30 Crafty Goodness 2.30pm Ladies' Guild 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal 8pm Scouts	13 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 7.30pm Choir	4.30pm Speech and Drama 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.30pm Thursday Fellowship 8pm Guides and Senior Guides	15 10.30am PhysioPilates 4pm Speech and Drama	3.30pm Table Quiz in aid of TearFund
9am Holy Communion 11am Choral Eucharist & Sunday School & Creche 6.30pm Choral Evensong	18 11am Deadline for material to be with Anne Cromie for December/January Parish Notes 7.30pm Select Vestry Meeting 8pm Badminton	19 10.30am Crafty Goodness 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal 8pm Scouts	20 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 7.30pm Choir	4.30m Speech and Drama 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.45pm Historical Society 8pm Guides and Senior Guides	10.30am 10.30am PhysioPilates 4pm Speech and Drama	23
24 CHRIST THE KING 9am Holy Communion 11am Choral Matins & Sunday School & Creche followed by refreshments 6.30pm Compline	25 PARISH OFFICE CLOSED THIS WEEK 8pm Badminton	26 10.30am Crafty Goodness 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal 8pm Scouts	30.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 7.30pm Choir	4.30pm Speech and Drama Gpm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.30pm Thursday Fellowship Spm Guides and Senior Guides	29 10.30am PhysioPilates 4pm Speech and Drama	30

LESSON READERS AND INTERCESSORS

If you find that the date assigned to you is unsuitable, please contact:
Sandra Hutchman, tel 95 149 564 (readings), or
Rosemary Johnston, tel 90 840 534 (intercessions).

The rota can be found in the 'Church Services' section.



DOWNTON ABBEY themed

CHRISTMAS
AFTERNOON TEA
at St Peter's

Saturday 14th December

Start looking for your outfits now!

Ladies' Guild Tuesday 12th November at 2.30pm

On Tuesday 12th November at 2.30pm we will be joined by Mr Wesley Bonar from Sentry Hill. Mr Bonar is a very warm and interesting man who talks fondly about his work. He will bring with him some items which form part of the Sentry Hill collection and which he assures me will bring back many memories.

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 028 9096 6597



Start your Christmas celebrations with an evening of stunning festive music, brought to you by The Priory Singers, in the atmospheric Great Hall of Campbell College. From the roaring open fire which will welcome you as you arrive in this historic building, to the carols, old and new, sung by one of the leading choral groups in Ireland, you are guaranteed an evening of music, seasonal readings, the chance to sing your favourite Christmas carols and even a glass of wine.



Free Parking
Disabled Access
Duration approximately 90 minutes
Yes ... you will be allowed to sing!



Following their successful summer residency at the world famous Canterbury Cathedral, The Priory Singers are delighted to invite you to this, one of their most popular concerts of the year. Tickets are available from the following members of our parish choir. Anne C, Anne S, Catherine, Clodagh, Ernie, Hilary or Robert. If you need transport please let your ticket provider know and we will try to arrange a lift for you.

CHURCH SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

DAY	PROPER	TIME	SERVICE	OFFICIANT	PREACHER
Sunday 3rd Nov	All Saints' Sunday White	9am 11am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Choral Eucharist All Souls' Service	Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey
Wed 6th Nov	Mid-week Green	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
Sunday 10th Nov	Remembrance Sunday Red	9am 10am 11am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Morning Service Choral Matins Evensong	Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Ken Houston	Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Ken Houston
Wed 13th Nov	Mid-week Green	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
Sunday 17th Nov	Second before Advent Green	9am 11am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Choral Eucharist Choral Evensong	Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey
Wed 20th Nov	Mid-week Green	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
Sunday 24th Nov	Christ the King White	9am 11am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Choral Matins Compline	Rev'd Brian Lacey Mr David Cromie Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey Rev'd Brian Lacey
Wed 27th Nov	Mid-week Green	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey

CHURCH SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

DAY	PROPER	<u>TIME</u>	LECTOR 1	LECTOR 2	INTERCESSOR
Sunday 3rd Nov	All Saints' Sunday White	9am 11am 6.30pm	Florence Moore Forde Patterson David Cromie	— Anne Roberts	Tony Swan Sandra Davison David Cromie
Wed 6th Nov	Mid-week Green	10.30am	Dora Hanna	_	Timothy Wilson
Sunday 10th Nov	Remembrance Sunday Red	9am 10am 11am 6.30pm	Michael Moore — Anne Stewart —	— — Philip Williamson —	Tony Swan — Rosemary Johnston —
Wed 13th Nov	Mid-week Green	10.30am	Rosemary Johnston	_	Marie Burrowes
Sunday 17th Nov	Second before Advent Green	9am 11am 6.30pm	Quintin Mulligan David Cromie	— Marie Burrowes —	Tony Swan Ashlee McCune
Wed 20th Nov	Mid-week Green	10.30am	Daphne McClement	s—	Quintin Mulligan
Sunday 24th Nov	Christ the King White	9am 11am 6.30pm	Adam Alexander Colin Bell —	— Moya Bell —	Tony Swan Noel Beattie —
Wed 27th Nov	Mid-week Green	10.30am	Forde Patterson	_	Rosemary Johnston

PRAYER POINTERS

by Rosemary Johnston

Please pray about the following matters which were raised at our Parish Meeting:

- We would like more members of our local community to be drawn into St Peter's to worship, particularly our Sunday evening services which can be a quiet and reflective time during the busyness of life. Pray that God would inspire people to make that often difficult first step through the church doors.
- We would like the intercessions offered during our services to be meaningful, rather than repetitive and formulaic. We are keen for members of the congregation to have the courage to offer their own prayers, rather than reading those prepared for them.
- We would like to sell the former St James' Church, in order to raise funds which will help to sustain and grow St Peter's. We need interested buyers to express an interest. Please pray for God to guide us in this process.
- We need to make teenagers feel welcomed and valued within the worshipping life of the Church, and ensure that they have age-appropriate teaching and guidance. Pray for them, and for their parents, and for those who minister to them.
- We are considering running an Alpha course, or something similar, in order to reach the unchurched in the area who are looking to explore their relationship with God. Pray that we might have the wisdom to know how best to do this.
- We now have Lay Visitors who are visiting members of the congregations in their homes. Please pray for them, that they would have confidence and compassion to carry out this important ministry.
- There will be a Table Quiz on Saturday 16th November, raising money for TearFund. Please pray that this would be well-supported by people of all ages.
- St Peter's has been designated as a Safe Space by Women's Aid. Please pray for all who are suffering from domestic abuse in all its forms.
- Instead of a Christmas Fayre, there will be Afternoon Tea on Saturday 14th December, raising funds for the parish. Please pray that this event will run smoothly, and that it will be well supported.

Prayer Cards are available in church for you to fill in should you wish to have prayer for yourself or another person.

These prayers will be offered at our mid-week service of Holy

Communion.

Date for your diary

Concert in the church

Cavehill Community Choir

Friday 6th December at 8pm

The Big Coffee Break

The Big Coffee Break on Friday 11th October raised a wonderful £375 for the NI Hospice. I would like to thank all who generously contributed with their company, cakes or cash. Without your kindness, it would not have been such a success.



Sandra Hutchman

North Belfast Historical Society

Date: Thursday 21st November 7.30pm for 7.45pm

Where: McCollum Minor Hall, back of St Peter's

Speaker: Steven Jaffe

Subjects: A Jewish walking tour of North Belfast—

from the comfort of your seat!

Steven Jaffe was born and raised in north Belfast. He is a former postgraduate research student and is known for his interesting Jewish heritage walks in Belfast.

A Jewish Walk in North Belfast—Steven will lead us on a virtual walk across parts of North Belfast taking in places of interest and recalling many of the personalities of that community.

A most worthwhile talk with something of interest of North Belfast for everyone.

EVERYONE is welcome.

Margi Crawford

NOVEMBER FLOWER LIST

3RD THE BELL FAMILY

10th Valerie Guest in memory of her husband James

17th Heather & Tony Swan in Memory of Tony's parents

24TH 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.



En El Camino de Santiago In the footsteps of St James



Shortly after Jesus' death James, one of his closest disciples, set off towards the west of Europe to spread the gospel in response to Jesus' wishes. The last part of his route into and across northern Spain is known as El Camino de Santiago de Compostela—Compostela being the point he reached and whose cathedral is dedicated to him. This route has been followed as a Pilgrimage for many hundreds of years. I have just walked a small section of the Camino (way) - from San Juan de Ortega (circled in the photo) to Compostela and this is a brief outline of a memorable week.



These are our guides—Daniel on the left and Marcos on the right with Jose, whose uncle placed much of the signage—shell and yellow arrows—on the Camino some years ago.

Our first walk of 6kms was over fairly flat grassy/gravel terrain—this was a good introduction as it wasn't too difficult.

The following day we had a walking tour of Burgos including its beautiful cathedral which is often described as the most magnificent in Europe.



After that visit we continued on our Camino covering 11 kms broken up by stopping in the village of Hontanas for a picnic lunch. We finished for the day in a village called Castrojeriz. Again the terrain was mainly grass or gravel so not too difficult.

Next day en route to the start of our Camino we visited the Cruz de Fierro—Cross of Iron where tradition is to place a stone you have carried with you from the beginning of your Camino and to say a prayer as you lay it—this represents a casting off of any troubles or worries you may be having in your life. As well as my personal



stone I carried one from the grounds of St Peter's (marked with x) and I laid it saying a prayer for our Parish, our Rector and all our parishioners. I found this very meaningful.



As we continued on our Camino we covered a very difficult section of stony terrain but finally arrived a few hours later in the village of Molinaseca where we enjoyed a meal together. We had covered 8kms in the course of the day.

Before setting off on our Camino next day, we attended a Pilgrims' Mass in the local church.

We then did a walk of 3.5kms from the village of O Cebreiro through Liñares to Portomarin—this was difficult enough as it was very hilly—both up and down—a steady pace was required!

After lunch in Portomarin we all walked the last 9.5kms of the Camino together arriving in the square in front of the cathedral in Compostela. This square is always teeming with 'pilgrims' so it is very atmospheric.

When James returned to Rome he was beheaded—the first Apostle to die. Legend has it that his remains were taken back in a stone boat and when his companions were deciding where to bury them they saw a vision—a field in front of them lit up by stars—this gave the place its name—Compostela, which translates as field of stars in Galician Spanish. The cathedral which houses his remains was built on this spot. We were able to visit his sepulchre inside the cathedral.



I found the whole experience both exhilarating and exciting especially when I thought of St James walking there over 2000 years ago and how he travelled so far to spread the gospel. We owe so much to him and to all those brave disciples.

When on the Camino if you meet anyone you always say Buen Camino! So if any of you ever decide to walk a section of it, I wish you Buen Camino!

Jill Bradley



Pilgrim's prayer from La Faba

on the Camino to Santiago (found at O Cebreiro)

Although I may have travelled all the roads, crossed mountains and valleys from East to West, if I have not discovered the freedom to be myself, I have arrived nowhere.

Although I may have shared all my possessions with people of other languages and cultures; made friends with Pilgrims of a thousand paths, or shared albergues with saints and princes, if I am not capable of forgiving my neighbour tomorrow, I have arrived nowhere.

Although I may have carried my pack from beginning to end and waited for every Pilgrim in need of encouragement, or given my bed to one who arrived later than I, given my bottle of water in exchange for nothing; if upon return to my home and work,

I am not able to create brotherhood or to make happiness, peace and unity,

I have arrived nowhere.

Although I may have had food and water each day, and enjoyed a roof and shower every night; or may have had my injuries well attended, if I have not discovered in all that the love of God, I have arrived nowhere.

Although I may have seen all the monuments and contemplated the best sunsets; although I may have learned a greeting in every language or tasted the clean water from every fountain; if I have not discovered who is the author of so much free beauty and so much peace, I have arrived nowhere.

If from today I do not continue walking in your path, searching and living according to what I have learned; if from today I do not see in every person, friend or foe a companion on the Camino; if from today I cannot recognize God, the God of Jesus of Nazareth as the one God of my life, I have arrived nowhere.

ORGANISATIONS/HALL TIMETABLE

Sunday

11am—12noon: Sunday School

Monday

7.30pm: Parish Meeting (1st Monday in month)
7.30pm: Select Vestry (3rd Monday in month)

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
8pm—9pm: Scouts

Wednesday

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

7.30pm—9pm: Choir

Thursday

4.30pm—5.30pm: Speech and Drama

6pm—7pm: Rainbows 7pm—8pm: Brownies

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

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

8pm—9.30pm: Guides and Senior Guides

Friday

10.30am—11.45am: PhysioPilates

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 and click on "News".

The next Parish Meeting, to which all parishioners are invited, will take place on Monday 4th November at 7.30pm. The next meeting of the Select Vestry will be on Monday 18th November at 7.30pm.

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. 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

28th Oct—2nd Nov	Group	3
4th Nov—9th Nov	Group	4
11th Nov—16th Nov	Group	6
18th Nov—23rd Nov	Group	7
25th Nov—30th Nov	Group	8

Please send material for the December/January issue of Parish Notes to:
Anne Cromie, Parish Office, St Peter's Church,
Fortwilliam Drive, Belfast BT15 4EB
or email: stpeterandstjames@outlook.com