

THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ST JAMES  
BELFAST

# PARISH NOTES

JULY/AUGUST 2019

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

## *Summer at St Peter's*



GOD . LOVING . PEOPLE

## RECTOR'S NOTES

### SERVICES IN JULY AND AUGUST

During the next two months when the weather is warmer than usual, we customarily use the south porch doors to enter the church for our services, rather than the main entrance at the front. There are a couple of steps at the porch, so if it's easier for you to come through the main entrance then please continue to do so—the door will be unlocked even if it's closed.

We will be celebrating four Holy Days during our regular services: St Thomas (Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July), Mary Magdalene (Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July), St James the Apostle (Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July), and St Bartholomew (Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> August).

We have two guest preachers over the summer. The Rev'd Clifford Skillen will be with us on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July at both morning services. The Rev'd Clifford recently celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of his ordination, and he has preached in St Peter's on several occasions in the past. It is always a pleasure to welcome him back. Mr Nathan Ervine will be our preacher at 11am on St James' Day. Nathan a student at the Church of Ireland Theological Institute (CITI), training for ordained ministry. Many of you will know Nathan as he was our Youth Worker a couple of years ago. I am very pleased that Nathan will be amongst us once again, albeit as a trainee minister.

Note that there are no evening services during July and August. They will resume on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September.

For the next two months, our choir will take their well-deserved summer break. I'm sure the origins of this break had something to do with their needing to be out in the fields tending to the crops! Most of them will still be in St Peter's Sunday by Sunday, so you may well hear a few more beautiful voices in the congregation. On behalf of all of us, I thank the choir for their dedication and excellence throughout the last twelve months. Although they resume officially in September, they will be back in the choir stalls on St James' Day (one of our parish's two patronal festivals) on 28<sup>th</sup> July.

### **OPEN CHURCH**

During the two previous summers, we opened St Peter's for a few hours on certain days so that visitors could wander in and spend a little time in our magnificent church building. We have decided to repeat this, opening from 10am—2pm from Monday 15th July to Friday 19th July. We need volunteers to supervise the church during those times, as often and for as long as they are able. There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of St Peter's, so please fill up the empty spaces. If you are supervising, you don't necessarily need to talk to visitors; feel free to bring a book to read if you prefer! I'll probably use the opportunity to do a summer clean in the church, so let me know if you'd like to help with that as well—it will be much appreciated.

### **PARISH FUN DAY**

We were blessed with good weather at our Fun Day in June. It's been a while since an event like this was held in St Peter's, and it is something that we will be able to learn from and develop each year. It was a real team effort, with many people getting

involved in its planning and implementation. We're grateful to them, plus all who came along, for making it the fun day that we hoped it would be. Many thanks too to "Stanley Family Butchers" for kindly donating all the sausages and burgers. Being able to raise money for the NI Children's Hospice made it an even more special occasion.



Going forward, we would like to organise more events aimed at families with children. But to do so, we need the input from parents. We need ideas, but—more importantly—we also need more people to help organise these activities. So if you have any thoughts about what we could do, and if you would like to be involved in making it happen, then speak to me or to one of our two Social Co-ordinators: Daphne McClements and Annette Beattie.



# CHURCH SERVICES IN JULY AND AUGUST

## WEDNESDAY 3RD JULY: SAINT THOMAS

*Colour:* Red

**10.30am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/2)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

## SUNDAY 7TH JULY: THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

*Colour:* Green

**9am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/1)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Clifford Skillen

**11am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/1)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Clifford Skillen

## WEDNESDAY 10TH JULY

*Colour:* Green

**10.30am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/1)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

## SUNDAY 14TH JULY: THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

*Colour:* Green

**9am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/1)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

**11am MORNING PRAYER (2)**

*Officiant:* Mr David Cromie

*Preacher:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

## WEDNESDAY 17TH JULY

*Colour:* Green

**10.30am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/1)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

### **SUNDAY 21ST JULY: THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

*Colour:* Green

**9am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/3)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

**11am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/3)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

### **WEDNESDAY 24TH JULY: SAINT MARY MAGDALENE** (transferred)

*Colour:* White

**10.30am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/3)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

### **SUNDAY 28TH JULY: SAINT JAMES** (transferred)

*Colour:* Red

**9am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/3)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

**11am HOLY COMMUNION (1)**

*Officiant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

*Preacher:* Mr Nathan Ervine

### **WEDNESDAY 31ST JULY**

*Colour:* Green

**10.30am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/3)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

### **SUNDAY 4TH AUGUST: THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

*Colour:* Green

**9am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/1)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Dr Ken Houston

**11am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/1)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

### **WEDNESDAY 7TH AUGUST**

*Colour:* Green

**10.30am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/1)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

### **SUNDAY 11TH AUGUST: THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

*Colour:* Green

**9am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/1)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

**11am MORNING PRAYER (2)**

*Officiant:* Mr David Cromie

*Preacher:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

### **WEDNESDAY 14TH AUGUST**

*Colour:* Green

**10.30am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/1)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

### **SUNDAY 18TH AUGUST: THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

*Colour:* Green

**9am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/3)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

**11am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/3)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

### **WEDNESDAY 21ST AUGUST: SAINT BARTHOLOMEW** (transferred)

*Colour:* Red

**10.30am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/3)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

### **SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST: THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

*Colour:* Green

**9am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/3)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

**11am MORNING PRAYER (2)**

*Officiant:* Mr David Cromie

*Preacher:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

### **WEDNESDAY 28TH AUGUST**

*Colour:* Green

**10.30am HOLY COMMUNION (Ordinary 2/3)**

*Celebrant:* Rev'd Brian Lacey

## REPORT OF THE PARISH MEETING

held on 10th June 2019 at 7pm

*by Rosemary Johnston*

The meeting was held in the minor hall with eleven parishioners present. The topics covered were wide and varied promoting much lively debate, all helped along with a welcome cup of tea or coffee, and even a bun, kindly dispensed by Jill and Dora. I was 'volunteered' to take this month's Minutes.

The Rector opened the meeting with a reading from one of the Epistles of St Peter.

**Worship:** the Rector wanted to know what we thought of worship in the church since last month. Opinion was generally favourable. Some hymns were less familiar and the words of the anthem weren't clear. It was agreed that Anne Cromie would be asked to print them in the Order of Service in future.

We need to start mixing more with other parishes and perhaps have more regular interchange of clergy. Sunday evening's Rural Deanery service in St Brigid's was fairly well attended but considering there are twelve parishes in the area it was not a great attendance.

Views were offered on the style of music. We are traditional here in St Peter's so how would some of the modern hymns go down? There are many good, modern, singable hymns which could be tried—others might not be so acceptable particularly for those of us who find difficulty matching the words to the music.

Re-introduction of the Family Service was discussed—would it encourage more parents to come with their children? A service for the organisations is to be considered (most don't belong to church families) - it would be cross community.

**Young People:** we are currently without a family worker/youth leader. There is still money in St James' Endowment Fund but there are restrictions about its use. It might be possible to get someone for either 6 or 12 hours per week. Children from pre-teen to about mid-teen are not catered for. Sunday School at the moment has more young children than teenage. They need something challenging which holds and widens their interest. The idea of classes for young parents was considered—they could then feel more able to teach their children about the church. The parents are the disciples as well as the children.

**Lay Visiting:** several people showed interest in visiting parishioners who cannot get to church. Dora will be given a list. It is hoped the visitors could visit once a month. Perhaps we who are free to go as we please do



not always realise what it is like to be confined to the house unable to go anywhere without assistance.

**Prayer Ministry Training:** the Rector hopes to arrange a training session, with the emphasis on intercessory prayer, at the Ministry of Healing Centre at the Mount run by Rev'd Dr Pat Mollen. A Wednesday afternoon would appear to be a suitable time.

**Open Church:** there was a discussion as to when is a good time to have the church open for visitors and what information should be available for them. The week commencing Monday 15th July was considered a possible time and the church to be open from 10am to 2pm as it was felt people go off to do other things in the afternoon.

**Men's Group:** Ken is anxious that men come together on a regular basis to get to know each other better—a letter could be sent to the men, especially the younger ones. Should it be formal or informal? The ladies have two very successful and friendly groups—perhaps we could give them a few tips?

**Social Events:** arrangements were made for the forthcoming BBQ and Family Fun Day. It was also decided that a summer outing should be arranged—perhaps in mid-July or mid-August.

**Harvest:** the date for our Harvest Thanksgiving depends on the moon! This year it will be held on 15th September. A social event around that time will hopefully take place.

**Christmas:** a suggestion for an afternoon tea with a Christmas theme received a favourable response.

**Parish Walk:** an evening walk ending back in the parish for tea and coffee also elicited interest. And how about the men organising a car boot sale?

Having talked ourselves done, the meeting closed with the Grace.

## *Crafty Goodness*

Our Crafty Goodness group will continue to meet over the summer months on Tuesdays at 10.30am in the minor hall.

Do come along to this chatty group! Light refreshments are provided too!



## SAINT COLUMBA

by Rosemary Johnston

Who was he? Where did he come from?

St Columba, or Colm-cille was born in 521 at Gartan, Co Donegal, (about 10 miles west of Letterkenny). He was the son of a chief related to several of the princes then reigning in Ireland and in the west of Scotland. He studied under St Finian at Moville on Strangford Lough and under another St Finnian at Clonard in Co Meath. In 546 he founded the monastery of Derry, and in 553 that of Durrow, not far from Clonard, showing a man deeply rooted in the Church.

A row erupted with King Diarmid over the ownership of a book leading to a bloody battle at Culdremhne near Ben Bulbin, north of Sligo in 562. This led to his excommunication and exile from his native land. Accompanied by twelve disciples, he reached Iona, a tiny island in the Inner Hebrides, about 3½ miles long and ½ mile wide, and about a mile west of Mull. It is said they went there because they wanted to be out of sight of their homeland. He founded a monastery there in 563; it had a little church with separate cells for the monks, a few buildings for stores and enclosed by a turf wall. In time it became a place of education, and the copying of the scriptures, which became one of Columba's most important works. He was very strict in the scriptorium about the accuracy of the work of the monks; it has to be impeccable.

He set himself to convert the Northern Picts; and he and his followers founded monasteries on the Pictish mainland, the Western Islands, and the Orkneys. The Christian faith also spread to Iceland and Northumbria where St Aidan became the first bishop of Lindisfarne having been called there (635) by Oswald, king of Northumbria to establish Christianity there—Oswald has converted to Christianity at Iona. The parent house of Iona exercised supremacy over the Scottish regions, as well as over the Columban churches in Ireland and those afterwards established in the north of England. In time Iona became the ecclesiastical capital of the Scottish kingdom of Dal Riata. In his system the bishops were subordinate to the abbots, though episcopal orders were recognised and bishops only could ordain. Many monks and students visited Iona from other universities.

Columba had a warm personality and he called all the monks in his monasteries his 'family'. He loved animals and birds and apparently he cared for a crane which flew into the island. There was also a very special white horse that worked on the farm and was devoted to Columba.

It used to carry the milk vessels between the cow pasture and the monastery and in the last days of Columba, shortly before he died, we read that the horse 'went to the saint, and, strange to tell, put its head in his bosom, knowing that his master would soon depart from it'.

Columba apparently had a very strong singing voice and could be heard singing the psalms at a great distance, 'sometimes as far as a thousand paces'. He was very hospitable and loved to greet his guests, washing their feet and making them comfortable. He himself had a bed of bare rock and a stone for a pillow.

Columba's health began to fail in 593, and he died June 9th 597. An atlas published by Dr Todd in the 'Liber Hymnorum' has been ascribed to him by unbroken tradition. On the night before his death he was engaged on a transcript of the psalter, and the 'Annals of Clonmacnois' state that he wrote 300 books with his own hand. He dictated his last psalm to his companion, Baithene, as he was too ill to hold the pen.

The Book of Kells was written 200 years after Columba died. 'It has been said it might have been planned to celebrate Columba's life and service.' The book was started on Iona but the Vikings arrived on the island, desecrated Columba's grave, attacked the settlement in 802 and 806 when more than 60 monks were slaughtered. As a result the community moved to Kells in Co Meath, where a new monastery was built and completed in 814 and where the book was finished with the title the Book of Kells. In 830 the abbot of Iona and his monks fled to Downpatrick with the relics of Columba.

In conclusion, Columba left Ireland because of starting a needless battle. Instead of becoming a hermit he and his followers founded a monastery from where the Christian message was spread far and wide. A Benedictine monastery and also a nunnery were established in around 1200. In 1840 work was started to restore the settlement. The community eventually recovered and is still very much alive today as the Iona Community established in 1938 by Rev'd George MacLeod and welcoming people from all over the world.

For me, St Columba is one of the giants among our Irish saints and it also shows how God uses our failures in his own plans.

Also, if Columba had not fled from Ireland there might not have been such an important monastery on Iona and no Book of Kells.

## 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>July</b>	<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>
7th	Colin Bell	Moya Bell	Dora Hanna
14th	Marie Burrowes	Rosemary Johnston	Forde Patterson
21st	David Cromie	Hilary Shields	David Cromie
28th	Sandra Davison	Philip Williamson	Marie Burrowes
<b>August</b>	<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>
4th	Wes Holmes	Noel Beattie	Colin Bell
11th	Barbara Greenlees	Dora Hanna	Daphne McClements
18th	Ashlee McCune	Sandra Hutchman	Noel Beattie
25th	Forde Patterson	Peter Coiley	Ashlee McCune

Thank  
you

**Davison**  
& associates

Davison & Associates provide a first rate claims management service. Based on the Castlereagh Road in Belfast, they manage claims throughout the UK and Ireland, specialising in major loss.



*Members of our Parish Choir would like to sincerely thank Brian Davison, Managing Director of Davison & Associates, for providing sponsorship for their recent Annual Choir Lunch. A splendid time was had by all. Thank you Brian!*

**CONNOR**  
connections

The latest edition of our diocesan magazine Connor Connections is available at the back of the church. There are three editions of the magazine every year containing up to date information on what has been going on within your Diocese.

## JULY FLOWER LIST

7TH THE HALL FAMILY IN MEMORY OF THEIR FATHER  
14TH ANNE NOBLETT IN MEMORY OF HER HUSBAND DEREK

## AUGUST FLOWER LIST

4TH SANDRA HUTCHMAN IN MEMORY OF HER PARENTS  
18TH ANNETTE BEATTIE



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.

## Christian Aid

Our total amount raised this year was £1,336 made up as follows:

	£
House to House Collection	751
AnneCules Project	485
Other Donations	100

Although this total is £267 down from last year's, it is nevertheless a very creditable amount. Many thanks to Anne Stewart for facing and overcoming her fears to raise the great total of £485.

A big thank you as usual to our faithful collectors. Considering we had seven of our avenues 'uncollected' this year, this is a good total.

Thank you again to all who contributed in any way.

*Jill Bradley*

## PARISH REGISTER

*Christian Burial*

*"At rest in the Lord."*

*Oonagh Kaldane, Sunninghill Drive*

*Cremation at Roselawn*

*on 21st June 2019*

## ORGANISATIONS/HALL TIMETABLE

*Many of these organisations do not meet over the summer months, eg, Sunday School, Choir, etc, so please contact the appropriate personnel listed on the back page or the Parish Administrator for further information and to check term times.*

### **Sunday**

11am—12noon: Sunday School

### **Monday**

7pm—8pm Parish Meeting (2<sup>nd</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**

4.30pm—5.30pm: Speech and Drama

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



## 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”.

### 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 July—6th July	-----	Group 8
8th July—13th July	-----	Group 1
15th July—20th July	-----	Group 2
22nd July—27th July	-----	Group 3
29th July—3rd Aug	-----	Group 4
5th Aug—10th Aug	-----	Group 6
12th Aug—17th Aug	-----	Group 7
19th Aug—24th Aug	-----	Group 8
26th Aug—31st Aug	-----	Group 1

*Please send material for the September 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 19th August. Thank you.*