

THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ST JAMES
BELFAST

PARISH NOTES

MARCH 2020

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

*The
Season
of
Lent*

GOD . LOVING . PEOPLE

RECTOR'S NOTES

SERVICES IN MARCH

The penitential season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which is the 26th February. There will be a service at 7.30pm that evening in addition to our regular mid-week service at 10.30am.

For most of the six weeks of Lent, the liturgical colour will be purple, and this reflects that we are in a quieter, reflective period. There are a few exceptions to this, so—particularly the flower arrangers—please check the colours for particular Sundays to see what would be appropriate.

St Patrick's Day is the 17th March, but since it's a Tuesday we'll be celebrating the Apostle to the Irish on Sunday 15th March instead. The colour on this day is green. Our informal 10am service will be on this day in addition to our usual services.

It's Mothering Sunday on Sunday 22nd March. The colour is purple, but a splash of brighter colours wouldn't be frowned upon on such a family-focussed occasion.

On Wednesday 25th March, we will celebrate the Annunciation of our Lord, at the 10.30am service.

On Sunday 29th March, the sub-season of Passiontide begins, and the colours change to red for two weeks. After a shortened 11am service, our annual Easter Vestry meeting will be held. See below for more information about that.

EPISCOPAL APPOINTMENTS

In the last six months or so, quite a few bishops have retired, causing episcopal vacancies in Derry & Raphoe, Down & Dromore, Connor, and Armagh.

In our own diocese of Connor, an electoral college has been meeting over recent months, consisting of 51 members: three bishops, plus 12 clergy and 12 laity from our diocese, plus 12 clergy and 12 laity from other dioceses, and I am now delighted to announce that the Venerable George Davison, Archdeacon of Belfast and Rector of Carrickfergus has been appointed and will take up the position in the coming months. Please pray that George will have God's strength and wisdom to lead us both closer to God and into the future.



The election of the new Archbishop of Armagh is a bit different. That decision is made by the bishops alone, with a decision expected on Friday 28th February.

PAROCHIAL GOVERNANCE

The two words in the English language most likely to cause a reader's eyes to glaze over are "Parochial Governance". It is, however, vitally important that parishioners understand how the local church is managed, and how you can play your part in this.

In February each year, the list of registered members of the parish is updated in what is called the Review Meeting. The list of members consists of those people who have (at any time in the past) signed a declaration of membership, and have made a recorded donation to parish funds in the previous year, and have (if they live outside the parish boundaries) worshipped in St Peter's at least once in the three months prior to the date of the Review Meeting. New names are added each year, and the names of those who have died or who no longer qualify are removed.

Anyone whose name appears on the updated list of registered members is entitled to attend a meeting called the General Vestry. As this meeting normally happens sometime around Easter, it is more usually referred to as the Easter Vestry. At this meeting, the Treasurer reports on parish finances, and appointments and elections are held for the forthcoming year. These always include two Churchwardens, two Glebewardens, and twelve further members of the Select Vestry. (The Select Vestry then appoints a Secretary, Treasurer and other officers). Additionally, every three years Diocesan Synodspersons and Parochial Nominators, and their supplementals, are elected at the Easter Vestry. Further information about these various roles will be distributed closer to the time, but do ask me about any of them sooner if you would like to get involved in the running of the parish.

The date of our Easter Vestry is Sunday 29th March. It will commence at 11.30am, immediately following a shortened act of worship at the normal time of 11am in the church. I encourage you to be there to help choose who will manage this parish for the next year, but I also implore you to consider putting your own name forward for election. If this church is to grow, then we always need new volunteers to take on these roles.

FINANCES

Many churches are struggling financially, and St Peter's is no different. Our expenditure still exceeds our income, and unfortunately we are eating into the savings that have been handed down to us from former generations. I am always reticent about preaching about money, but—given the circumstances—I feel that I will have to ask parishioners—much more vocally and emphatically—to consider how they support the Christian Church financially.

Such support can include bequeathing a contribution to the parish in your last will and testament. You'll need to contact your solicitor for assistance with this. This is something that each of us should consider doing sooner rather than later. As Jesus said, if we knew when the burglar was coming, we would make sure to lock up our house! Unfortunately, we can never tell what is around the corner for us, and so it is best to make plans for the future whilst we still have the time. The legal name of our parish is "The Parish of St Peter & St James, Belfast" and this should be explicitly stated in your will.

Please, let us be generous when it comes to assisting God's work, both during our regular offerings in our lifetime, but also through a legacy after our death.



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.

Ladies' Guild

Tuesday 10th March at 2.30pm

On Tuesday 10th March at 2.30pm our guest speaker will be Mr Paul Cleary—City and Neighbourhood Services—Belfast City Council. Paul will talk to us on how to keep safe in our own homes and how to avoid some of the traps set for us.

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

Women's World Day of Prayer



This year's service will be held in McCollum Hall, St Peter's on Friday 6th March at 2pm. This year the service is entitled "Arise! Take up Your Mat and Walk" and has been prepared by the women of Zimbabwe. It would be nice if we could have a good turn out from St Peter's if only because we are the hosts.

North Belfast Historical Society

Date: Thursday 19th March
Time: 7.30pm for 7.45pm
Where: McCollum Minor Hall, back of St Peter's
Speaker: Jim Ferran
Subjects: Mary Ann McCracken



Jim Ferran is a long-standing volunteer with Clifton House and regularly leads tours, etc. Jim is well known for his passion for local history.

Mary Ann McCracken (1770-1866) was born in Belfast and, besides being a most successful business woman, she was also a social reformer, philanthropist and abolitionist who lived through some of the most turbulent years of Irish history. Jim will explore her life and times within Georgian Belfast.

Do come along and learn about this remarkable woman and the extraordinary life she led.

Everyone is most welcome.

Margi Crawford

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.

MARCH FLOWER LIST

1ST BARBARA GREENLEES

15TH ROSEMARY HINDS IN MEMORY OF HER HUSBAND

22ND MARIE BURROWES IN MEMORY OF HER MOTHER



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. Also please make sure your arrangements do not obstruct the reredos or make it difficult for the Rector to walk behind the altar.

CHURCH SERVICES IN MARCH

<u>DAY</u>	<u>PROPER</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>OFFICIANT</u>	<u>PREACHER</u>
Sunday	Lent 1	9am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Ken Houston	Rev'd Ken Houston
1st March	Purple	11am	Choral Eucharist	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
		6.30pm	Choral Evensong	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
Wed	Mid-week	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
4th March	Purple				
Sunday	Lent 2	9am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
8th March	Purple	11am	Choral Matins	Mr David Cromie	Rev'd Brian Lacey
		6.30pm	Evensong	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
Wed	Mid-week	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
11th March	Purple				
Sunday	Saint Patrick's	9am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
15th March	Day (transferred)	10am	Morning Service	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
	Green	11am	Choral Eucharist	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
		6.30pm	Choral Evensong	Mr David Cromie	Mr David Cromie
Wed	Mid-week	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
18th March	Purple				
Sunday	Mothering	9am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
22nd March	Sunday	11am	Choral Matins	Mr David Cromie	Rev'd Brian Lacey
	Purple	6.30pm	Compline	Rev'd Ken Houston	Rev'd Ken Houston
Wed	The Annunciation	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
25th March	Purple				
Sunday	Passion	9am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
29th March	Sunday	11am	Choral Matins	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey
	Red	6.30pm	Healing Service	Rev'd Brian Lacey	Rev'd Brian Lacey

CHURCH SERVICES IN MARCH

<u>DAY</u>	<u>PROPER</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LECTOR 1</u>	<u>LECTOR 2</u>	<u>INTERCESSOR</u>
Sunday	Lent 1	9am	tbc	—	Tony Swan
1st March	Purple	11am	Daphne McClements	David Cromie	Catherine Lyons
		6.30pm	—	—	—
Wed	Mid-week	10.30am	Marie Burrowes	—	Rosemary Johnston
4th March	Purple				
Sunday	Lent 2	9am	tbc	—	Tony Swan
8th March	Purple	11am	Hilary Shields	Philip Williamson	Forde Patterson
		6.30pm	—	—	—
Wed	Mid-week	10.30am	Forde Patterson	—	Quintin Mulligan
11th March	Purple				
Sunday	Saint Patrick's	9am	Tony Swan	—	Tony Swan
15th March	Day (transferred)	10am	—	—	—
	Green	11am	Wes Holmes	Anne Roberts	Sandra Davison
		6.30pm	—	—	—
Wed	Mid-week	10.30am	Daphne McClements	—	Timothy Wilson
18th March	Purple				
Sunday	Mothering	9am	tbc	—	Tony Swan
22nd March	Sunday	11am	Moya Bell	Colin Bell	Dora Hanna
	Purple	6.30pm	—	—	—
Wed	The Annunciation	10.30am	Rosemary Johnston	—	Marie Burrowes
25th March	Purple				
Sunday	Passion	9am	Michael Moore	—	Tony Swan
29th March	Sunday	11am	Forde Patterson	Marie Burrowes	Daphne McClements
	Red	6.30pm	—	—	—

March Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9am Holy Communion 11am Choral Eucharist 6.30pm Choral Evensong	2 7.30pm Parish Meeting 8pm Badminton	3 10.30am Crafty Goodness 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal 8pm Scouts	4 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 7.30pm Choir Practice	5 4.30pm Speech and Drama 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.30pm Thursday Fellowship 8pm Guides and Senior Guides	6 10.30am PhysioPilates 2pm Women's World Day of Prayer meeting 4pm Speech and Drama	7
8 9am Holy Communion 11am Choral Matins & Sunday School & Creche followed by refreshments and Traidcraft Stall 6.30pm Evensong	9 8pm Badminton	10 10.30 Crafty Goodness 2.30pm Ladies' Guild 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal 8pm Scouts	11 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 7.30pm Choir Practice	12 4.30pm Speech and Drama 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.30pm Thursday Fellowship 8pm Guides and Senior Guides	13 10.30am PhysioPilates 4pm Speech and Drama	14

15 SAINT PATRICK'S DAY (transferred) 9am Holy Communion 10am Morning Service 11am Choral Eucharist & Sunday School & Creche 6.30pm Choral Evensong	16 7.30pm Select Vestry Meeting 8pm Badminton	3 10.30am Crafty Goodness 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal 8pm Scouts	18 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 7.30pm Choir Practice	19 4.30pm Speech and Drama 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.45pm Historical Society 8pm Guides and Senior Guides	20 10.30am PhysioPilates 4pm Speech and Drama	21 7.30pm Bridge Evening
22 MOTHERING SUNDAY 9am Holy Communion 11am Choral Matins & Sunday School & Creche followed by refreshments 6.30pm Compline	23 11am <i>Deadline for material to be with Anne Cromie for April Parish Notes</i> 8pm Badminton	24 10.30am Crafty Goodness 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal 8pm Scouts	25 ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD 10.30am Holy Communion and refreshments 2pm Bridge 6.30pm PhysioPilates 7.30pm Choir Practice	26 4.30pm Speech and Drama 6pm Rainbows 7pm Brownies 7.30pm Thursday Fellowship 8pm Guides and Senior Guides	27 10.30am PhysioPilates 4pm Speech and Drama	28
29 PASSION SUNDAY 9am Holy Communion 11am Choral Matins & Sunday School & Creche 11.30am Annual Easter Vestry 6.30pm Healing Service	30 8pm Badminton	31 10.30am Crafty Goodness 6pm Beavers 7pm Cubs 7.30pm Priory Singers' Rehearsal 8pm Scouts				

St Peter's Bridge Club

A Bridge Evening

on Saturday 21st March at 7.30pm
in the Parish Hall

Tickets £10 (inc supper) from Florrie Greer ☎ 9077 6812
Proceeds in aid of Marie Curie and parish funds



We would be very grateful for some help at the above event on 21st March. There are three ways in which you could do this:

- 1 make sandwiches,
- 2 make traybakes,
- 3 help serve supper on the night.

If you would be able to volunteer to do any of the above please contact Annette Beattie—tel 90 778 428.

Half of the proceeds from the evening will go to parish funds.

Many hands make light work!!

AFTER CHURCH REFRESHMENTS



Thank you to Barbara and Harold Jacobs who will provide refreshments after the 11am service on 8th March. If you would like to volunteer to do the same on 29th March please have a word with Sandra Hutchman, tel 9514 9564.

Date for your diary—Concert in the church
The Priory Singers on Saturday 4th April at 8pm
Tickets available from our Organist—Robert Thompson
or from the Parish Office—90 776 706

The Consumer Council is holding its fourth annual Consumer Parliament on Friday 6 March 2020. The free event is to help consumers in Northern Ireland learn about their consumer rights, how to manage their household bills and how to save money. The event is free to attend and is being held in Assembly Buildings Conference Centre, Belfast. More information and free registration at www.consumercouncil.org.uk/consumerparliament2020.



NEW CHARITY SHOP – OPENING SOON ON THE ANTRIM ROAD

Do you have a few hours a week to spare?
Could you join our team and help us raise funds
for communities living in extreme poverty?

**NO TIME
TO SPARE?**
Why not donate
your pre-loved
goods to us?

For more information, contact:
enquiries.info@concern.net
or 028 9033 1100

CONCERN
worldwide

**ENDING
EXTREME POVERTY
WHATEVER
IT TAKES**

Concern Worldwide (UK), a registered charity number 1090228 (England and Wales) and 902881/07 (Scotland). A charitable company, limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales under company number 4229446. Registered address: United 1, 2, 3, 4, Colson House, Clove Hitch Quay, London, W8 1JH.

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 2nd March at 7.30pm. The next meeting of the Select Vestry will be on Monday 16th March 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

2nd March—7th March	-----	Group 8
9th March—14th March	-----	Group 1
16th March—21st March	-----	Group 2
23rd March—28th March	-----	Group 3
30th March—4th April	-----	Group 4

*Please send material for the April issue of Parish Notes to:
Anne Cromie, Parish Administrator, St Peter's Church,
Fortwilliam Drive, Belfast BT15 4EB
or email: stpeterandstjames@outlook.com
by Monday 23rd March. Thank you.*