


THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ST JAMES, BELFAST

PARISH NOTES

NOVEMBER 2022

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



*Some of the ladies,
led by Sandra Davison,
who decorated the church
for Harvest Thanksgiving.*

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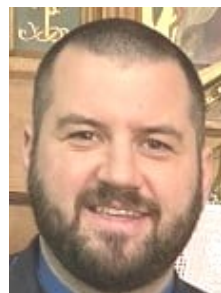


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RECTOR'S NOTES



SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

During November, we transition from Ordinary Time to the Penitential Season of Advent – commencing both a new year in the Church's calendar, and a new cycle in the Received Common Lectionary: from Year C to Year A.

The liturgical colour in the church remains green for most of November. It will change briefly to red for Remembrance Sunday (13th November) and white for The Kingship of Christ (20th November). From the First Sunday in Advent (27th November) it will change to purple for the remainder of the new season.

There are three special days in the month:

- Remembrance Sunday (13th November)
- The Kingship of Christ (20th November)
- The First Sunday of Advent (27th November)

At **10am on Sundays** throughout the month, there will be our all-age Family Service (6th November), Holy Communion (13th November), and Morning Prayer (20th and 27th November).

At **11am on Sundays**, there will be Holy Communion (6th and 20th November), the Remembrance Service (13th November), and our Advent Carol Service (27th November).

At **6pm on Sundays**, there will be Choral Evensong (6th November), and the first of our Advent evening services (27th November).

Holy Communion will be celebrated throughout the month at **10.30am on Wednesdays**, with the exception of 9th November when there will be Morning Prayer instead.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

“Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, ‘Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?’ They replied, ‘No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.’” (Acts 19:1f)

Despite two thousand years having passed since St Paul’s lifetime, there are still many Christians who do not know God the Holy Spirit. And yet, getting to know God through his Holy Spirit may be the most enriching - and challenging - experience of a person’s spiritual life.

As I’ve explained in previous months, I will be organising a short series of seminars to discuss and learn about God the Holy Spirit. I want to keep the numbers small in each group (no more than three or four people) because it’s important that every participant is comfortable and fully engaged in the discussion. There will be a sheet at the back of the church – please fill in your name on the date that you would like to attend.

I will host the first session on most Wednesdays throughout the coming month (the exception being 9th November) at 12.30pm in the Clergy Vestry. These will be the same session repeated, so you only need to attend once. In future months, I will roll out the second and third sessions. I will also repeat the first session at different times – including evenings - to enable more parishioners to join in, so don’t worry if you can’t attend on a Wednesday afternoon in November.

THE REV'D TREVOR KELLY

On 15th October, I received the awful news that the Rev'd Trevor Kelly had died at the age of 55 following a major stroke during the previous week. Trevor was a Non-Stipendiary Minister (NSM) who served as Curate Assistant in Drummaul, Duneane, and Ballyscullion, in



addition to his day-job as a teacher at Hazelwood Integrated College on the Whitewell Road. Although Trevor trained for ministry at the Theological College in Dublin at weekends, and I trained during the week, our paths often crossed. We were then ordained alongside each other in 2010, and kept in touch over the years. He was, very simply, a gentleman. Some of you may remember him from occasional services which he led in St Peter's when I was on holiday. Heartbreakingly, his wife, Aurelia, died last year as a result of a collision on the road between Ballymena and Coleraine. The hurt, for their children, Andrew and Rebecca, must be unimaginable. Please do remember them and all of Trevor's family in your prayers.

FREE WILL OFFERING AND SPECIAL COLLECTION

I want to thank you for the Free Will Offering which you give to support St Peter's. In many ways, though, it is not my place to thank you for doing so. As a community of believers, it is our joy and our duty to support the worship, mission, and ministries of the Christian Church. Nevertheless, I am delighted that so many in our parish are willing to contribute financially. The more we give, the more we are able to sustain and develop what we do in the name of Jesus.

With so many giving through Standing Orders, the parish receives a regular income from its members. But unless we occasionally review how much we instruct the bank to give, the value of our standing order may decrease in real terms. Please, therefore, give prayerful consideration to increasing your Free Will Offering.

In addition, please support our Special Collection. You may have received an envelope in St Peter's in recent weeks, or (if you receive a hard copy) alongside these Parish Notes. It's not for me to advise you how much to put into the envelope, but I would encourage you, please, to be as generous as you are able to be.

May I take this opportunity to thank Ashlee McCune (Treasurer) and Noel Beattie (FWO Secretary) for so capably managing our income from Free Will Offerings and special collections.

Kids' Church

I am so delighted that Cheryl Hurson has been leading our ministry to children on Sunday mornings at 10am. The Church is a voluntary organisation, and we need such willing and capable volunteers to ensure that our ministries can grow. Of course, we also need parents to bring their children regularly to St Peter's. As the father of young children, I acknowledge that it's not always easy to motivate them and get them ready – but it is vital for the spiritual health of young people that they are not only taught the basics of the Christian faith, but that they feel a sense of belonging to the Christian community.

Kids' Church is on most Sundays at 10am, with the exception of the first Sunday of the month – when there is an all-age Family Service in the church instead.

Local Area Mission Forum

Just before Covid first struck, representatives from the twelve Church of Ireland parishes in the North Belfast Rural Deanery met together in Cloughfern to begin thinking about the mission of the Christian Church within our own and our surrounding parishes. The intention was then for representatives of two or three parishes in smaller areas to meet with each other in order to continue that conversation in a more focussed way.

Despite the time that has passed, we will now carry on with that discussion. At least ten representatives from St Peter's and ten representatives from our neighbouring parish of St Paul & St Barnabas will meet in mid-to-late November. We will think about the purpose of the Christian Church, and consider how we are fulfilling that purpose, and what more we could do.

If you would like to be involved in this conversation, then please let me know as quickly as possible. Details will be announced closer to the time.

Harvest Thanksgiving

Many thanks to Sandra Davison, our Coordinator of Church Flowers, for overseeing the beautiful arrangements in St Peter's for our Harvest Thanksgiving. Of course, she did not act alone, she was assisted by a small team of ladies (see front cover) who ensured that every table and windowsill was decorated. We are grateful to them, and to the many people who brought (or in some cases, arranged delivery of) flowers, fruit, and vegetables. The church looked – and smelled – really well.

Thanks also to all who brought basic food and hygiene products. We will divide these between the Welcome Organisation (for the homeless) and the Trussell Trust (North Belfast Foodbank).

The School for Good and Evil

In May 2021, St Peter's was one of the locations used for the young adult fantasy film, "The School for Good and Evil". The film was released on Netflix on Wednesday 18th October, but I was invited along to the Odyssey cinema during the previous week for a preview screening hosted by the director, Paul Feig. Although I am probably not in the demographic that the movie is aimed at, it was still an enjoyable experience – and I would be happy to recommend it to any teenagers or young adults who like films in the same vein as "Harry Potter".

My main concern was, of course, how St Peter's was used, and to make sure that nothing untoward or unsavoury happened which might bring the Church into disrepute. I have to say that it is certainly strange to see our building on the big screen, not least as the backdrop to over-the-table dinner conversations between fairytale characters. But unless you know the interior of St Peter's

very well, you probably wouldn't give it much thought, and – for me – setting aside the strangeness, there was nothing that made me worried.

Whether or not you enjoy the film, we should be thankful that the income derived from filming will help sustain and grow our parish. And if you're a fan of film, then you'll be pleased to know that



two well-known actresses – Charlize Theron and Kerry Washington (both pictured) – were at St Peter's!

North Belfast Historical Society

Date: Thursday 17th November

Time: 7.30pm

Where: Minor Hall

Subject: History of St Malachy's College, Belfast

Speaker: Gerry McAnee

Everyone is very welcome to come along to what promises to be a very interesting evening.

Daphne McClements, Chairman



Prayer

If you would like your name added to our prayer list please get in touch with Rosemary Johnston or Daphne McClements.

Contact details on back cover.



PARISH REGISTER

Christian Burial

"At rest in the Lord."

Derek Macrae

Cremation at Roselawn on 29th September 2022

Holy Baptism

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

Elena May Lin Greer

*daughter of Duncan and Ming-Ming Greer
on 25th September 2022*

Hannah Alice Delaney

*daughter of Ryan and Rebecca Delaney
on 23rd October 2022*



The Greer family



The Delaney family

Men's Breakfast

Once again, food fit for heroes will be served for the men of the parish. This will be the third breakfast at St Peter's this year—we're having one per Prime Minister, and for once you'll know for certain what you are getting!

The venue is likely to shift to the **Minor Hall** rather than the main one, but the usual fry-up, toast and tea/coffee will be available.

Time: come around 9.30 on 12th November—the food will eventually appear.

Requirements: an appetite and a few cheesy stories to tell your fellow diners.

Cost: there will be a cap at the door to help defray expenses this time (yes, inflation is hitting sausages too), but donations are entirely optional.

If you can, please text, email, WhatsApp or ring me to let me know how many are coming.

Email: davidcromie@stpeterbelfast.org

Text/WhatsApp/Tel: 07547 510698

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Men's Breakfast
Saturday 12th November 2022
at 9.30am

David Cromie



SERVICES IN NOVEMBER	OFFICIANT	LECTOR	PREACHER	INTERCESSOR
WEDNESDAY 2ND NOVEMBER—ALL SAINTSIDE (WHITE)				
10.30am Holy Communion	Rector	Rector	Rector	Rosemary Johnston
SUNDAY 6TH NOVEMBER—THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT—ORDINARY TIME (GREEN)				
10am Family Service	Rector	Rector	Rector	Rector
11am Holy Communion	Rector	David Cromie	Rector	David Cromie
6pm Choral Evensong	David Cromie	David Cromie	-	David Cromie
WEDNESDAY 9TH NOVEMBER—ORDINARY TIME (GREEN)				
10.30am Morning Prayer	Dora Hanna	Daphne McClements	David Cromie	Quintin Mulligan
SUNDAY 13TH NOVEMBER—REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY—ORDINARY TIME (RED)				
10am Holy Communion	Rector	Rector	Rector	Daphne McClements
11am Remembrance Service	David Cromie	David Cromie	Rector	David Cromie
WEDNESDAY 16TH NOVEMBER—ORDINARY TIME (GREEN)				
10.30am Holy Communion	Rector	Rector	Rector	Marie Burrowes
SUNDAY 20TH NOVEMBER—THE KINGSHIP OF CHRIST—ORDINARY TIME (WHITE)				
10am Morning Prayer	Rector	Dora Hanna	Rector	Quintin Mulligan
11am Holy Communion	Rector	Sandra Hutchman	Rector	Dora Hanna
WEDNESDAY 23RD NOVEMBER—ORDINARY TIME (GREEN)				
10.30am Holy Communion	Rector	Rector	Rector	Daphne McClements
SUNDAY 27TH NOVEMBER—THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (PURPLE)				
10am Morning Prayer	David Cromie	Quintin Mulligan	David Cromie	Dora Hanna
11am Advent Carol Service	Graham Chipperfield	Seven Lectors	Graham Chipperfield	Colin Bell
6pm Advent Compline	David Cromie	Rosemary Johnston	David Cromie	David Cromie
WEDNESDAY 30TH NOVEMBER—SAINT ANDREW (RED)				
10.30am Holy Communion	Rector	Rector	Rector	Jill Bradley

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT AND PRAYER

by Rosemary Johnston

COP27—Dare we hope for positive action?

This year the COP (Conference of Parties) meeting takes place in Egypt—Britain still holds the COP26 presidency until next month's handover in Egypt. Unfortunately, the new administration in Westminster is intending to allow licensing for companies to explore for oil and gas in the North Sea—totally at odds with the Glasgow Climate Pact. Fracking is also on the agenda with all its dangers, due not only to unsuitable geology but also to the high risk of the release of methane and other dangerous toxins caused by fracking. Unfortunately Britain is not alone in advancing climate change. In some countries forests are cleared, depriving the local wildlife of their natural habitat, and are replaced by 'crop trees' which are of little value to the environment or the wildlife. Elsewhere, in the Amazon rainforest, trees are felled to use the land for farming which can be short term as the land is fine for trees but not for agriculture.

In 1995, the first COP took place in Berlin. Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, said: "We are concerned about the future of our planet ... we are ready for ground-breaking decision and measures." At the end of his speech the question was: "One day our children and grandchildren will ask us—"Did you make the right decisions in Berlin to secure our future?" Time is no longer on our side. Climate change is here, and may be accelerating. We are meant to be stewards of the earth, to care for all God's creatures as well as the precious soil. If you saw David Attenborough's programme 'Frozen Planet II' you will have seen the Adélie penguin chicks shivering and wet as, instead of very cold dry weather, there is rain which penetrates their feathers, as their protective feathers have not yet formed and they cannot survive. Thousands have died and one island has no penguins left. Also, warm weather has been discovered under the Antarctic ice shelf. We are trashing God's world. Will COP27 make any difference—did COP26 make any real difference? I have no idea—(article written 19th October 2022—we now have another new administration in Westminster and there is no word on how climate change will be addressed).

Heavenly Father, we pray that the world's leaders and business people will awaken to the real dangers to our planet, our only home, and that they will strive to reverse the catastrophic effects of climate change, and may we all learn how to play our part, guided by scientists, environmentalists and excellent programmes such as we saw recently. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Parish Choir

*by
Robert Thompson*

Over the last while you hopefully have noticed our expanding choir! A few years ago we were very lucky to welcome to our ranks both Catherine Lyons (Soprano) and Derek Gallop (Tenor). Both of these talented and very experienced singers have added hugely to our choir in terms of enhancing the repertoire of which we are capable and also in terms of how well they have fitted into our choir family and parish life. Thankfully this trend has continued. Julie Douglas (Soprano) joined us some time ago. Julie is also a singer with both talent and experience and like Derek and Catherine has worked with me in the Priory Singers. Julie's son, Rory Douglas-Smith (Bass) and his fiancée Rebecca Armstrong (Soprano) have helped us out over the last number of



years at special occasions. In September Rory joined us full-time and Rebecca, who has some other Sunday commitments will join us when she can. One of Rory's interests is composition and we will be singing some of his music at Christmas (more about this in the December Edition). Also new this term are Judith Cowan and her daughter Ellen (both Sopranos). I have known Judith ... and her lovely voice(!) ... since my days at St Molua's and like all the others she is a member of the Priory Singers. Ellen is a member of the prestigious Ulster Youth Choir. We are privileged to have them all singing with us, making themselves so quickly part of choir and parish life and we look forward to having them with us for many years to come.

It is, however, a challenge to recruit, especially younger, singers from outside the Parish. There exist projects designed to encourage young organists, such as the Organ Scholarship Scheme run jointly by the

Dioceses of Down and Dromore and Connor but nothing at this level exists to encourage young singers in the choral tradition of the Church of Ireland ... something I'm sure none of us wants to see lost to future generations. We are introducing two exciting Choral Bursary schemes to encourage young singers to join us. This is something a number of other parishes such as St George's, St John's, Malone and St Polycarp's have done in recent years with considerable success. Where will the money come from? Firstly, we will be applying for a grant from the funds held in trust from St James's. We will be seeking to recruit a couple of young tenors and basses and it is my intention that they, along with Ellen, will benefit from this funding. Secondly I would like to invite members of the congregation to consider sponsoring a chorister. To this end I am putting my money where my mouth is and putting up the funds to provide Rory with a bursery. If this is something you might also be interested in doing then do speak directly to me, or to the Rector for details. I am delighted to say that the Select Vestry has been fulsome in its appreciation of the contribution the choir makes to worship in St Peter's and has given its support to this venture.

Choral Evensong on the first Sunday in November (6th) will be particularly lovely and on this occasion we will be joined by organist Tristan Russcher. Tristan was, until recently, Director of Music in St Bart's, Dublin, but recently he and his wife Vicky have moved back to Northern Ireland.

The music is:

Introit : O Lorde the maker of al thing (Joubert)

Responses : Clucas

Canticles : Collegium Regale (Howells)

Anthem : Like as the hart (Howells)

There will also be some good hymns to join in. It was lovely to see a few more parishioners at Evensong in October so please do come along ... you'll LOVE it!

PARISHIONER CONTACT DETAILS

For speed of communication and to keep our records up to date please send your email address to the Parish Office at:

annecromie@stpeterbelfast.org

Also please don't forget to let us know if you move house, change any of your telephone numbers or your email address. Thank you.



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Contact details on back cover.**

FLOWER LIST FOR NOVEMBER

6TH EILEEN TAYLOR
13TH VALERIE GUEST
IN MEMORY OF HER HUSBAND, JAMES
20TH THE BELL FAMILY
IN MEMORY OF THEIR PARENTS

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



***Please send material for the December/January issue of Parish Notes to:
Anne Cromie, Parish Administrator, St Peter's Church,
Fortwilliam Drive, Belfast BT15 4EB
or email: annecromie@stpeterbelfast.org
by Monday 21st November. Thank you.***

PARISH CONTACTS

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Parish Administrator:	Mrs Anne Cromie	90 776 706	annecromie@stpeterbelfast.org
Organist and Choir Master:	Mr Robert Thompson	07590 851564	marlaghodge@gmail.com
Honorary Assistant Priest:	The Rev'd Dr Ken Houston	90 771 830	skhouston43@gmail.com
Ministry Assistant:	Mr David Cromie	90 775 669	davidcromie@stpeterbelfast.org
Ministry Assistant (TLG):	Mrs Laura Lacey	90 777 053	lauralacey@stpeterbelfast.org
Associate Minister:	The Rev'd Andrew Irwin	07846 002792	andrewirwin@stpeterbelfast.org

Rector's Churchwarden:	Miss Daphne McClements	07730 127350	daphnemcclements@stpeterbelfast.org
People's Churchwarden:	Mrs Dora Hanna	95 733 374	dorahanna@stpeterbelfast.org
Co-ordinator for Intercessors:	Mrs Rosemary Johnston	90 840 534	
Co-ordinator for Lectors:	Mrs Sandra Hutchinson	95 149 564	sehutchman@hotmail.com
Co-ordinator for Flowers:	Mrs Sandra Davison	07738 403667	sbdavison@hotmail.com
Co-ordinator for Groundskeeping:	Mr Noel Beattie	90 778 428	noelbeattie@stpeterbelfast.org

Rector's Glebewarden:	Mr Victor Davis	90 771 197	davisvictor9@aol.com
People's Glebewarden:	Mr Peter Mulligan	07850 492572	pjmulligan1@outlook.com
Honorary Secretary:	Ms Sarah McCusker		sarahmccusker@stpeterbelfast.org
Honorary Treasurer:	Mrs Ashlee McCune	07801 556386	ashleemcune@hotmail.com
FWO & Gift Aid Secretary:	Mr Noel Beattie	90 778 428	noelbeattie@stpeterbelfast.org

Bereavement Group:	Mrs Dora Hanna	95 733 374	dorahanna@stpeterbelfast.org
Bible Study:	The Rev'd Brian Lacey	90 777 053	brianlacey@stpeterbelfast.org
Bridge:	Mrs Florrie Greer	90 776 812	florriregreer@gmail.com
Brownie Guides:	Ms Lee Kennedy	90 772 023	lee_kennedy@btinternet.com
Crafty Goodness:	Miss Daphne McClements	07730 127350	daffersmcclements@btinternet.com
Friendship Café:	The Rev'd Brian Lacey	90 777 053	brianlacey@stpeterbelfast.org
Guides & Senior Guides:	Ms Lee Kennedy	90 772 023	lee_kennedy@btinternet.com
Rainbow Guides:	Ms Lee Kennedy	90 772 023	lee_kennedy@btinternet.com
Walking Group:	Mrs Jill Bradley	90 842 998	jill.bradley1@btinternet.com