

THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ST JAMES  
BELFAST

# PARISH NOTES

MAY 2024

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



*Some of our teenagers enjoying the sunshine  
during confirmation class.*

# GOD . LOVING . PEOPLE


## Parish Notes On-line

The Parish Notes can be read in full colour on our website. Visit [www.stpeterbelfast.org](http://www.stpeterbelfast.org)

Please note the dates for the following meetings:

**Senior Officers**  
Thursday  
2nd May  
at 11.30am  
in St James' hall

**Select Vestry**  
Monday  
20th May  
at 7.30pm  
in St Peter's church.



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# *Moondance in May*

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# RECTOR'S NOTES



## SERVICES IN MAY

A number of important days in the Christian calendar fall this month. Of most important is the **Day of Pentecost** on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May**. Please make every effort to attend worship in **St Peter's** on that date and wear something red!

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May, which is the Sixth Sunday of Easter, also known as **Rogation Sunday**, there will be a Family Service at 10am, followed by Choral Eucharist at 11am. There will also be a 6pm service of Choral Evensong.

On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May, which is the Seventh Sunday of Easter, also known as **the Sunday after the Ascension**, there will be a traditional celebration of Holy Communion at 10am, followed by Choral Matins at 11am.

On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May, which is **the Day of Pentecost**, also known as Whitsunday, there will be Morning Prayer at 10am, followed by Choral Eucharist at 11am.

On Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May, which is **Trinity Sunday**, there will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 10am, followed by Morning Prayer at 11am.

Our mid-week celebrations of Holy Communion continue on Wednesdays at 10.30am, with the exception of the 8<sup>th</sup> May. There will instead be a service that week on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am for the **Ascension Day**.

## DISCIPLESHIP, BIBLE STUDY, AND CONFIRMATION

Following the Easter break, our **Discipleship Group** resumes on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 7.30pm in the Minor Hall. This is open to anyone, but those adults wishing to be confirmed must attend.

**Bible Fellowship** will meet on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, at 7.30pm in the Minor Hall. We will be examining Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, but you are not obliged to read anything in advance!

Our monthly mid-week **Bible Study** will be held at 11.30am on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May. It will last just under one hour. Please do join us if you're free.

Our **confirmation class** for children will be held at 3pm on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May in the Minor Hall. In recent months we have explored themes such as "What is a Christian?", "Human Relationships", and "How do we know about God?" At our most recent class at the end of April, we were able to enjoy the sunshine during our discussions (see front cover).

## 125TH ANNIVERSARY

Next year, we will mark the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration of Saint Peter's Church in 1900. In the earlier months of that same year, the parish of St Peter's was carved out of the parish of Shankill (of which the parish church was the old Saint Anne's, prior to the opening of the Cathedral in 1904), and therefore our anniversary celebrations will span much of next year, rather than just Saint Peter's Day in June. I will soon begin the process of inviting clergy who have a connection with the parish to come and preach on Sundays throughout the year, including former rectors, cover clergy, and students.

In addition to our liturgical celebrations, we will form a small committee comprising the Churchwardens and myself and a few interested parishioners, to arrange various events and activities that seek to bring us together as a Christian community, encourage more people to join us, and which express something of our history and identity. If this is something that you would like to be involved in, please speak to me as soon as possible.

## **SELECT VESTRY**

Every year, we entrust the management of our parish's resources to our Select Vestry, the members of which are recognised by the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland as Trustees. On behalf of us all, may I thank those who have served during the last twelve months: Daphne McClements, Margaret McKenna Black, Victor Davis, Michael Moore, Yvonne Crozier, Ashlee McCune, Adam Alexander, Noel Beattie, Jill Bradley, David Cromie, Dora Hanna, Sandra Hutchman, Matthew Lambert, Sarah McCusker, Quintin Mulligan, and Clodagh Webb.

During the past year, decisions needed to be taken concerning our human, physical, and financial resources. This included replacing defective lighting, overseeing the maintenance of the grounds, investigating replacement heating and seating in the church, hiring a Ministry Apprentice, applying for grants from the Priorities Fund for an electronic whiteboard, and from Belfast City Council for community lunches; responding to requests for filming; preparing the legal groundwork to sell the former Saint James' church and halls, and ensuring that all of our bills were paid and that annual servicing and inspections were carried out.

The bulk of the day to day work of the Select Vestry is carried out by the Senior Officers, comprising myself, the two Churchwardens, the two Glebewardens, the Honorary Secretary, and Honorary Treasurer. I am grateful to Daphne, Margaret,

Victor, Michael, Yvonne, and certainly not least Ashlee, for their wisdom and dedication. However, all members of the Select Vestry are involved in ensuring that our parish, as a registered charity, functions well and in accordance with the law. Thank you to all of you for ensuring that Saint Peter & Saint James is well resourced for the future.

One of the last duties of an outgoing Select Vestry is to produce an Annual Report, which gives an overview of the activities of the parish, and also a summary of our finances. That document is now available at the back of the church, and will soon also be uploaded to the website of the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland if you would prefer to read it online.

## **GENERAL SYNOD**

There are 450 parishes on the island of Ireland, spanning eleven dioceses. If every parish were to send two representatives (one clerical and one lay) to the supreme governing body of the Church of Ireland, then it would likely prove to be unmanageable. Instead, there are indirect elections to that body, which is called the General Synod. Every three years, parishes elect representatives to the Diocesan Synod, which manages the parishes in each particular diocese, and those representatives then elect from amongst themselves a number of representatives to the General Synod. Nevertheless, there are still a few hundred in attendance!

The General Synod normally meets once a year, over two and a half days. Since Covid, there have been meetings in-person, followed by further meetings online if more time is needed. This year, the Synod will meet in Armagh on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May, with additional time online allocated during the subsequent week.

Many of the resolutions of the General Synod are internal housekeeping for the Church of Ireland, such as appointments to various committees, but some debates are little more weighty.

This year, such motions include the following:

- 1) Whilst affirming the sanctity of marriage, this Synod acknowledges that it is a reality of modern life that infants are often born to single parents and/or to couples who are not married. In this regard, this Synod affirms that, in accordance with Canons, Chapter 9 of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, irrespective of the **marital status of the parents of an infant**, a minister must not refuse or, save for the purpose of preparing or instructing the parents or godparents, delay to baptise any child within his or her cure who is brought to be baptised, provided that due notice has been given and the provisions relating to sponsors and godparents are observed.
- 2) This Synod, mindful of the deafening silence from Christian churches regarding the current situation in **Gaza and the humanitarian crisis** that has unfolded since the appalling events of October 7th, requests the Standing Committee to identify an enhanced mechanism by which we as a church community may publicly speak to such gross humanitarian situations in a timely and Christian manner, especially when sacred Scripture and the Word of God is being weaponised (whether in Israel/Gaza or in Russia/Ukraine) to justify atrocities and acts of war. Further requests that progress in this matter will be reported to the General Synod of 2025.
- 3) The General Synod recognises the significant part that the **Fairtrade Foundation** has played in raising awareness of the challenges facing farming communities in many parts of the world, and in particular the impact of the climate change in our generation and reaffirms our commitment as churches and individuals to use fairtrade products.
- 4) The General Synod, upholding the inherent dignity and value of every individual as being created in the image of God, and affirming the Christian calling to protect the most vulnerable in society, opposes legislation to permit **euthanasia and assisted suicide**; commends the loving service of all who provide physical, emotional and spiritual care for those who are



suffering; and calls on governments to provide equity of access to high quality palliative care.

- 5) The General Synod will ensure that those who are elected by a Parish, Parochial District or union or group of Parishes, to act as **Diocesan Synod members** are part of the Parish, Parochial District or union or group of Parishes for which they are elected as Diocesan Synod members. At present, in theory, the Constitution allows for a member of Parish X to be a Diocesan Synod member of Parish Y. It would be appropriate that a Diocesan Synod member is invested in their Parish to the extent of at least being a registered Vestry Member.
- 6) The General Synod will align the age to which an **Archdeacon** may retain office with the retirement age for clergy. The Constitution stipulates that an Archdeacon shall be appointed from among the beneficed or licensed clergy of the diocese, and that this office of Archdeacon may be retained until the age of seventy, whereas the retirement age for licensed and beneficed clergy is seventy-five. The Bill addresses this anomaly, given that there is no discernible justification for maintaining the status quo.
- 7) The General Synod will recognise and authorise, both the licensing of clergy or laity as Pioneer Ministers within the Church of Ireland, and the establishment of a **Pioneer Ministry** at diocesan or parochial level. In particular, for a Pioneer Ministry having its own income and/or property, recognition and authorisation within the Constitution will enable the ministry to register as a charity with the Constitution of the Church of Ireland as its governing document.
- 8) The General Synod will allow for amendments to the **register of vestry persons** during the course of a year, rather than solely at the annual review of vestry persons. When the constitution was first drafted, the degree of mobility in the general population that is currently manifest would have been inconceivable. Additions and deletions would likely be largely of those coming of age or departing this life. As it currently

stands, a person eminently suitable for serving on a select vestry, who arrives to reside in a parish the month after the register is reviewed, cannot be considered for a parochial office/select vestry for a minimum of another twelve months.

Please note that all of the above are simply proposals at this stage. Some will be approved, and some won't, but many of these matters are very serious, and it is vital that all representatives give due consideration to them before casting their votes. Please pray for all involved, as the decisions which the General Synod makes, are made on behalf of all of us.

## **THE FUTURE OF SAINT PETER'S**

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May, I have been invited to give a talk for the North Belfast Historical Society, and my theme will be "A brief history of the Church of Ireland in north Belfast".

As someone who is interested in the past, I've read various books on the subject – some of which were written a hundred years ago in the heyday of the Church's growth. And those are interesting because they describe the Church in "building mode", in which the population of the city was increasing, and new church buildings were popping up left, right, and centre. Those were days when the Church was at the heart of each local community, and so much of the average person's everyday life revolved around the activities of the Church.

The model of ministry was straightforward. Every parish was an independent unit, with a single place of worship, with its own rector, and indeed many had a number of assistant ministers, known as Curates. There were plenty of people in the pews, there was plenty of money coming in, and there were plenty of people offering themselves for ordained ministry. And when a rector retired or moved elsewhere, it was a straightforward process to appoint a new rector. The wheels of the Church kept on rolling, and parish life carried on, one generation after the next.

Now, I'll wait till the Historical Society to reflect upon why that idyllic image of the Church started to fade. But from the 1970s onwards, the decline was evident. By the mid 1990s, it was unmistakeable. Many people who once went to church, no longer attended. They had become "de-churched" to use the official jargon. And here we are, another thirty years after that – now living in what can be described as an "unchurched" society – in which many people not only do not go to church, but they have never done so in the entirety of their lives.

The effects of this change over a fifty year period are evident in the Church of Ireland today – not least in the amalgamation of parishes and the closure of church buildings. In our own case, Saint Peter's united with Saint James', and Saint James' was closed. In this local area, the same happened with Saint Silas' and Holy Trinity, and with Saint Paul's and Saint Barnabas', and with Saint John's and Saint Ninian's. Following those unions, Saint Silas', Saint Barnabas', and St Ninian's have all been closed.

Even in those which are still open, it is a struggle to survive. In various places around the city, parishes are entering into new arrangements called "Missional Areas", in which three parishes share two ministers. This has come about because of the inability of each parish to pay for a full time minister of their own.

The Church of Ireland is, of course, not alone in this. All Christian denominations are struggling. The question for us in Saint Peter's is: How do we survive this ongoing decline and more importantly, how do we buck the trend, and strive for growth?

I'm afraid I've no easy answers to give you. Such answers will need to be teased out in the coming years. But what I can say is that any conversation about our future has to begin with the question: "What is the Christian Church?"

Well, when it comes to Saint Peter's, I can tell you what the Christian Church is *not*. It is not the building. Nor is it the people who (although very welcome) attend on a Sunday morning primarily either because they like the beauty of this place, or because they like the music in our liturgy, or because being here

adds a social dimension to their lives. As important as those things may be in their own right, the people who come here *primarily* for those reasons, are not “the Christian Church”.

Rather, the Christian Church is the collective of individuals who believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and who trust that through his death and resurrection our once broken relationship with God has been restored, and who seek to live everyday life in accordance with Christ’s teaching. That’s what the Christian Church is. And that is what we are striving to sustain and grow. And that is what our focus must be. And although our beautiful building and our traditional, choral worship shape how we worship, and give expression to our own particular brand of Christianity, they are secondary to what underpins our very existence as a parish: and that is: we are disciples (students) of Jesus of Nazareth – and as expressed in John 10: 11–18, we are his flock, and he is our shepherd.

Now, based on what I’ve just written, I want you to reflect on whether or not you consider yourself to be a member of the Christian Church. To help you decide, ponder this: When you consider how you live your life, and when you consider why you go to church, and when you think about what is most important to you, is Jesus Christ at the forefront of your mind?

If you can say “yes” to that question, then – chances are – you are a member of the Christian Church. And it is the collective of such Christians, that is Saint Peter’s. And when we think about the future of this parish, it is the sustaining and growth of this collective of Christians which is our mission, our purpose. Everything else we do, must be designed to achieve that spiritual growth above all else.

But don’t feel bad if your answer was “no”. You are welcome within the Saint Peter’s community, and you are loved by us. Indeed it is the outworking of our mission as a Church to help you take that next step, so that you give your life to Christ. In doing that, you will add one more person to the Kingdom of God, and grow Saint Peter’s.



# SERVICE SCHEDULE

SERVICES IN MAY	OFFICIANT	LECTOR	PREACHER	INTERCESSOR
WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY (WHITE)				
10.30am Holy Communion	Rector	-	Rector	Rosemary Johnston
SUNDAY 5TH MAY—ROGATION SUNDAY (WHITE)				
10am Family Service	Rector	-	Rector	Henry George
11am Choral Eucharist	Rector	Dora Hanna	Rector	Ashlee McCune
6pm Choral Evensong	David Cromie	Hilary Shields	-	David Cromie
THURSDAY 9TH MAY—THE ASCENSION DAY (WHITE)				
10.30am Holy Communion	Rector	-	Rector	Daphne McClements
SUNDAY 12TH MAY—THE SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION DAY (WHITE)				
10am Holy Communion (1662)	Rector	David Cromie	-	David Cromie*
11am Choral Matins	David Cromie	Sandra Hutchman	Rector	David Cromie
WEDNESDAY 15TH MAY (WHITE)				
10.30am Holy Communion	Rector	-	Rector	Robert Long
SUNDAY 19TH MAY—THE DAY OF PENTECOST (RED)				
10am Morning Prayer	Robert Long	Rector	-	Robert Long
11am Choral Eucharist	Rector	Robert Long	Rector	Robert Long
WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY (RED)				
10.30am Holy Communion	Rector	-	Rector	Jim Wilson
SUNDAY 26TH MAY—TRINITY SUNDAY (WHITE)				
10am Holy Communion	Rector	Dora Hanna	-	Dora Hanna*
11am Choral Matins	Dora Hanna	Nigel Macauley	Rector	Dora Hanna
WEDNESDAY 29TH MAY (GREEN)				
10.30am Holy Communion	Rector	-	-	Robert Long

## PAUSE FOR THOUGHT AND PRAYER

*by Rosemary Johnston*

### **‘Give it up for the women in the Bible’**

Have you noticed how many women in the Bible are regarded as of little importance? Well, there is quite a sprinkling of women throughout the Bible who have played an important role in the outworkings of history.

To start with there is Eve, poor Eve, who, along with Adam, ate of the fruit in the Garden of Eden which God had explicitly forbidden them to do. God was not pleased, and sent them out of the Garden of Eden, condemning them to lives of hardship. And it has been downhill ever since, our only hope coming many centuries later with the life and sacrifice of God’s son, Jesus Christ.

We come to Abram and Sarai who obeyed God’s command to leave their home city of Ur for another country. God made a covenant with Abram and changed their names to Abraham and Sarah. When Abraham was about 100 years old and Sarah 90 years old, God told them they would have a son—much to their amazement, and amusement. But with God all things are possible and Sarah gave birth to Isaac who did become father of many nations.

Then we have Miriam, big sister to Moses, who hid him among the reeds at the side of the river, and let’s not forget the king’s daughter who rescued him and raised him, and his mother who was hired as wet nurse. We have these three women who ensured Moses’ survival.

Believe it or not we had a woman judge, Deborah, who was also a prophet. She served as a judge for the Israelites and used to sit under a certain palm-tree between Ramah and Bethel. She worked with Barak, a fellow judge, and sent him to lead an army of 10,000 men to fight Sisera, commander of the Canaanites, who were defeated, but the victory was regarded as Deborah’s.

The story of Ruth is one of a happy ending after much sadness. Ruth, a Moabite woman, married an Israelite, son of Naomi, who was

married to Elimilech from Bethlehem. They had gone to Moab because of famine. Both men died and Naomi decided to return to Israel. Ruth shows uncommon loyalty to her Israelite mother-in-law and deep devotion to the God of Israel. In the end she finds a new husband, Boaz, one of Naomi's relatives, and through this marriage becomes the great-grandmother of David, Israel's greatest king.

The book of Esther tells the story of the Jewess who married King Xerxes and, on the discovery of a plot by Haman, the prime minister, to eliminate the entire Jewish population, worked with her cousin Mordecai, on how to involve the king in defeating Haman. This was dangerous, as anyone who approached the king without being summoned was likely to be killed. So they held two banquets and at the second one Haman was denounced and hanged and, as a result, the Jewish people were saved.

Then we come to Mary, chosen by God to be the mother of his son. She could not have known what life would be like, but the responsibility was huge. She did not always understand what her son was doing, and when, as a boy, he stayed behind at the temple, caused every mother's nightmare. The pain as she watched him die on the cross, followed by his resurrection three days later bringing great joy, can only be imagined.

I finish with the women at the tomb—Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, who, coming with spices to anoint Jesus' body were the first people to be told that Jesus had risen and that they were to tell the disciples, which they did, and of course, they weren't believed. 'Many rabbis would not trust women to be witnesses. Women received no education and were not allowed to read the Torah, the scriptures, or even to touch them. All of their learning would have been done via their fathers, or their husbands or rabbis. ... God is not limited by what humans create.'

*Heavenly Father,  
we thank you for the amazing and brave women  
without whom our world would be very different.  
May we value the many women making a difference  
in our world today. Amen.*

## 90 YEARS AGO IN ST JAMES' ... MAY 1934

### **The Choir**

The Choir will be robed for the first time on Ascension Thursday Evening. We therefore ask all our readers to join in that service – first, because it is Ascension Day, and secondly, to show the choir that we appreciate the good work they have done in the past for our church. On that night, we also hope to have a full choir of men, women, and boys. The entrance of the boys has met with universal approval. The new Vestry will also be ready for use and will supply a long felt want, as the present Vestry is far too small. We would like to thank the ladies and gentlemen who so promptly responded to the appeal made in last month's magazine for subscriptions to defray the costs of robing the boys. Within a week, the full amount was subscribed.



### **The Annual Display**

The Second Annual Display was held in the Husband Memorial Hall and proved a great success. Last year's effort was too serious; that was remedied this year, and we had a programme full of beauty and good humour. The programme opened with a hymn and a prayer. This was followed by dances by the Guides, and a song by the Brownies. Then came the Cubs in a tableaux representing their Promise. Free gym, exercise, tumbling and pyramid by the Scouts. A short play entitled "The King's Breakfast" by the Candidates which was followed by English dances by the Members of the G.F.S. Then we had a really funny sketch by the Life Boys and last of the B.B. in drill and club swinging. Then came a really combined effort of Scouts, B.B., Guides and G.F.S. in Tir-na-n-og. This was very successful and great praise is due to Thompson. The conclusion then was a tableau "The Star of Bethlehem" in which all organisations took part. It was a fitting climax in a very enjoyable evening with our young people. The Doxology, the King, and Benediction, and so farewell for another year.



# Christian Aid Week

## 12th-18th May



Christian Aid week 2024 is almost here and once again we are planning to do a sponsored walk as our money-raiser. This year's poster tells us Aline's story (see over) and is a very good example of the valuable work done by Christian Aid.

We will follow the same format as last year. Starting on Monday 13th we plan to walk 4 miles approximately each morning until Friday 17th, thus covering 20 miles during those 5 days.

We are, of course, inviting you to sponsor us using the Christian Aid envelope you will find on the church seats on Sunday 12th. If you are unable to come to church but wish to contribute, then you can send your donation to the Parish Office (please make cheques payable to Christian Aid) or by BACS transfer (with "Christian Aid" in the reference field).

Last year we managed to raise £1,075—let's hope we can at least match that total this year.

Thank you in advance.

Anyone wishing to join us on the walk will be very welcome. More information from me, Jill Bradley:

Tel: 028 9084 2998

Mobile: 07773 803 116

Email: [jill.bradley1@btinternet.com](mailto:jill.bradley1@btinternet.com)

## Aline's Story

In Burundi, malnourishment and poverty affect more than 70% of the population, making survival a daily struggle. Jobs and food are hard to come by, and those who have homes often have no electricity or running water.

For Aline, life was a constant struggle. She was married young and gave birth to her eldest son, Fisto, when she was just 14 years old. Aline experienced constant abuse at the hands of her violent husband.

A few years later, Aline faced even more devastation. Her husband married another woman, forcing Aline to flee. He prevented her from taking their children with her, and in a further act of cruelty, told the local community that Aline was mentally ill and unable to care for her children.

Hungry, scorned and alone, Aline took her first step towards her new life. She started by participating in a transformative three-day community workshop, funded by Christian Aid.

She was taught how to form a Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) and establish a steady income. VSLAs mean people can save for their future and borrow money to kickstart small rural businesses. With all she had learned, Aline's dream of getting her children back finally felt possible.

With a small start-up loan, Aline started trading avocados and peanuts locally. With her profits, she bought a bicycle so she could transport greater quantities of goods to markets further afield. Eventually, her hard work had finally paid off, and she had earned the money she needed to rent a house.



Once Aline secured a home for herself, her three eldest sons were able to escape their father and join her. They told Aline that their father had abused them and sent their three young siblings to live with different members of his family.

Aline still hopes that she'll be reunited with her youngest children in time.

Today, Aline lives peacefully on her own plot of land in a remote village in the Kayogoro Commune in Makamba Province. She's baked her own bricks and is building a strong home for her and her children in every sense.

Now Aline can afford food, clothes and essential healthcare for her family. She's also purchased solar panels so her children can do their evening homework by electric light.

Of course, Burundi continues to be one of the toughest places on earth to live. The future is uncertain and challenges wait for families like Aline's around every corner.

When a ferocious storm destroyed Aline's home, almost killing her and her children, she was able to recover by selling the cows she'd been keeping. Now when crisis threatens her family's survival, Aline has options.

Even a small business can provide just enough resilience to weather the most brutal of storms in Burundi.

Aline can not only look ahead to her children's future now, but her own too. Naturally, Aline wants security as she ages.

In the next five years she hopes to expand her current wholesale business by selling a range of goods, so that one day she can buy a mill. This will provide a source of income without the need to transport heavy goods over long distances.

Aline told us: 'This is not a dream. It is a plan, and I will do it. I am a woman who is an achiever.'

Aline's long and difficult journey out of extreme poverty began with a little support, knowledge and faith from Christian Aid supporters like you, so, please be generous!

## NOTES FROM THE CONSOLE

*by Robert Thompson*

In my article in March I expressed the hope that the organ would be back in action towards the end of April. Thankfully I can report that Wells Kennedy and Renatus Organs will be on site at 7.30am on Monday April 29th! All being well this means that the organ should be back in use on the first Sunday in May ... and I will be back in my little nook safely hidden from sight. All this is marvellous!

On Sunday May 5th there will be Choral Evensong at 6pm, when again we will be joined by Tristan Russcher as guest organist. Please come along to enjoy the music, the liturgy and to support the hard work and dedication of your Parish Choir. If it helps to encourage you to attend there will be a glass of wine ... or non-alcoholic alternative ... and nibbles after this service! We hope this to be a regular post-Evensong practice over the coming months.

There will be two services of Choral Evensong in June ... on Sunday June 2nd at the usual time of 6pm and also as part of our Petertide celebrations towards the end of the month (date and time will be confirmed in the June magazine).

## 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](mailto: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 addresses. Thank you.

*If you would like to support the worship, mission, and ministries of St Peter's, please deposit your FWO envelope or loose money in the box at the back of the church. If you prefer to donate by Apple Pay, Google Pay, PayPal or by credit/debit card, please scan this QR code on your phone. Thank you.*







### **The Rector, Churchwardens, Readers, and Parish Choir present on Easter Day.**

From left to right, *back row*: Daphne McClements (Rector's Churchwarden), Julie Douglas, Sandra Davison, Clodagh Webb, Ernie Stewart, Rory Douglas-Smyth, Derek Gallop, Noel Beattie, Anne Cromie, Judith Cowan, Ellen Cowan, Margaret McKenna Black (People's Churchwarden); *front row*: Dylan Lacey, Jill Bradley, Rosemary Johnston, David Cromie (Parish Reader), the Rev'd Brian Lacey (Rector), Robert Thompson (Organist & Choirmaster), Dora Hanna (Parish Reader), Annette Beattie, and Anne Stewart. Absent from the photo were: Hilary Adams and Quintin Mulligan (Crucifer).

## North Belfast Historical Society

Thursday 16th May at 7.30pm in the minor hall

Speaker: Brian Lacey

Topic: A brief history of the Church of Ireland  
in north Belfast

*All very welcome.*



### Altar Guild Rota for May

Date	Time	Set-up	Wine Cruet	Wine Chalice	Colour	Location
Wednesday 1st May	10.30am	Margaret McK Black	Margaret McK Black	Dora Hanna	White	Resurrection
Sunday 5th May	11am	Dora Hanna	Dora Hanna	David Cromie	White	Chancel
Thursday 9th May	10.30am	Rector	Rosemary Johnston	Dora Hanna	White	Resurrection
Sunday 12th May	10am	David Cromie	David Cromie	Rector	White	St James'
Wednesday 15th May	10.30am	Jim Wilson	Margaret McK Black	Rosemary Johnston	White	Resurrection
Sunday 19th May	11am	David Cromie	David Cromie	Dora Hanna	Red	Chancel
Wednesday 22nd May	10.30am	Rosemary Johnston	Rosemary Johnston	Robert Long	Red	Resurrection
Sunday 26th May	10am	Dora Hanna	Dora Hanna	Rector	White	Resurrection
Wednesday 29th May	10.30am	Kathryn Hennessy	Margaret McK Black	Robert Long	Green	Resurrection

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to those with birthdays in May:

Sandra Davison, Rosemary Johnston,

Eileen Jeffers, Anne Cromie and Quintin Mulligan.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

*If you would like to add your name to our birthday board, you'll find it on the notice board at the back of the church, alternatively, you can ask Anne, our Parish Administrator, to add it for you. No years mentioned!*

# MAY FLOWER LIST

5TH JILL BRADLEY IN MEMORY OF HER MOTHER

12TH THE HALL FAMILY IN MEMORY OF THEIR PARENTS  
AND SISTER, ROSEMARY

19TH JOYCE HUNTER IN MEMORY OF HER HUSBAND

26TH DAVISON FAMILY IN MEMORY OF ARTHUR



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



## Fortwilliam Greengrocers

Fruit & Vegetables  
Fruit baskets & Bouquets  
Fresh Flowers & Plants

575 Antrim Road  
Belfast BT15 3BU  
Tel 028 9077 1013



## Prayer

If you would like your name added to our prayer list please get in touch with Rosemary Johnston, tel 028 90 840 534, or go to [www.stpeterbelfast.org/prayer](http://www.stpeterbelfast.org/prayer) and fill out the form.

*Please send material for the June issue of Parish Notes to:*

Anne Cromie,  
Parish Administrator,  
St Peter's Church,  
Fortwilliam Drive,  
Belfast BT15 4EB

*or email:*

[annecromie@stpeterbelfast.org](mailto:annecromie@stpeterbelfast.org)  
*by Monday 20th May.  
Thank you.*

If your business would like to advertise in our Parish Notes please contact the Parish Administrator, Anne Cromie.

Contact details on back cover.

# PARISH CONTACTS

Rector:	The Rev'd Brian Lacey	90 777 053	brianlacey@stpeterbelfast.org
Honorary Assistant Priest:	The Rev'd Dr Ken Houston	90 771 830	-
Associate Minister:	The Rev'd Andrew Irwin	9600 5015	andrewirwin@stpeterbelfast.org
Parish Administrator:	Anne Cromie	90 776 706	annecromie@stpeterbelfast.org
Organist and Choir Master:	Robert Thompson	07590 851564	robertthompson@stpeterbelfast.org
Ministry Apprentice:	Robert Long	07535 775360	robertlong@stpeterbelfast.org
Parish Reader:	David Cromie	90 775 669	davidcromie@stpeterbelfast.org
Parish Reader:	Dora Hanna	95 733 374	dorahanna@stpeterbelfast.org
Rector's Churchwarden:	Daphne McClements	07730 127350	daphnemcclements@stpeterbelfast.org
People's Churchwarden:	Margaret McKenna-Black	07732 651569	margaretmckblack@stpeterbelfast.org
Co-ordinator for Intercessors:	Rosemary Johnston	90 840 534	-
Co-ordinator for Flowers:	Sandra Davison	07738 403667	sandradavison@stpeterbelfast.org
Rector's Glebewarden:	Victor Davis	90 771 197	victordavis@stpeterbelfast.org
People's Glebewarden:	Michael Moore	9050 8177	michaelmoore@stpeterbelfast.org
Co-ordinator for Groundskeeping:	Noel Beattie	90 778 428	noelbeattie@stpeterbelfast.org
Honorary Secretary:	Yvonne Crozier	07525 134947	yvonnecrozier@stpeterbelfast.org
Honorary Treasurer:	Ashlee McCune	07801 556386	ashleemcune@stpeterbelfast.org
FWO & Gift Aid Secretary:	Noel Beattie	90 778 428	noelbeattie@stpeterbelfast.org
Baby Sensory:	Heather Trojan	07590 928384	belfastnw@babysensory.co.uk
Bereavement Group:	Dora Hanna	95 733 374	dorahanna@stpeterbelfast.org
Bible Study:	The Rev'd Brian Lacey	90 777 053	brianlacey@stpeterbelfast.org
Bridge:	Florie Greer	90 776 812	florigreer@gmail.com
Brownies:	Lee Kennedy	07871 875985	lee_kennedy@btinternet.com
Crafty Goodness:	Daphne McClements	07730 127350	daffersmcclements@btinternet.com
Glandore Dog Training Club:	Ann Purse	07979 326041	ann.purse@sky.com
Guides:	Lee Kennedy	07871 875985	lee_kennedy@btinternet.com
Historical Society:	Timothy Wilson	07928 850108	williamtim@hotmail.com
Kids' Church:	Cheryl Hurson	07725 644118	cherylbleakley@hotmail.com
PhysioPilates:	Sandra Hutchman	95 149 564	sehutchman@hotmail.com
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Rainbows:	Lee Kennedy	07871 875985	lee_kennedy@btinternet.com
Speech & Drama:	Claire McGrogan	07793 045071	clairekieran99@yahoo.co.uk
Unislim:	Karen Flannery	07773 758524	Flannery-Karen@hotmail.com
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Produced by the Parish Office of St Peter and St James, Belfast  
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