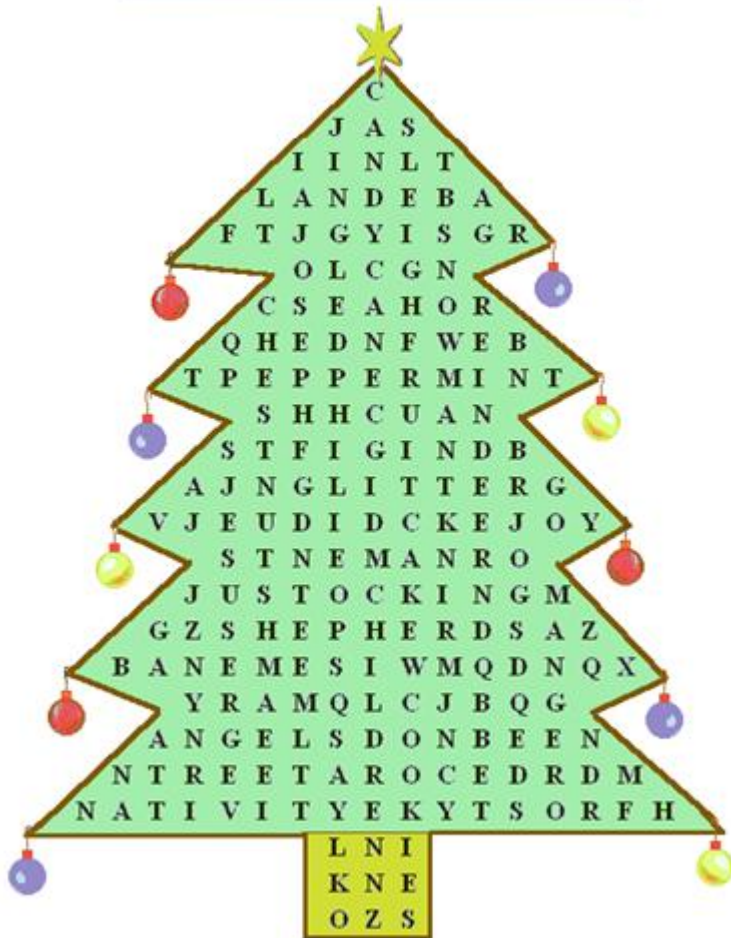




Cross Talk



- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Angels | Fruitcake | Nativity | Snowman |
| Candy cane | Gifts | Noel | Star |
| Chestnuts | Glitter | Ornaments | Stocking |
| Children | Jesus | Peppermint | Tree |
| Cookies | Jingle | Reindeer | Wisemen |
| December | Joseph | Shepherds | |
| Decorate | Manger | Sleigh | |
| Frosty | Mary | Snow | |

United Parishes of Templepatrick & Donegore

www.templepatrick.connor.anglican.org

Dear Readers,

I am delighted to be writing to you as Diocesan Curate with responsibility for Templepatrick and Donegore. This is a really exciting new stage in my ministry and in my life. Since my ordination, eight years ago, I have continued to work as a Computer Software Consultant and at the same time been a Non-Stipendiary Curate - firstly in Larne and then in Mallusk. During that time I have sensed God's call to step away from 'the day job' and to devote myself full time to the work of the church.

I have been very fortunate over these last few years to be able to mix my church work with my leisure interests, I've been involved in a very successful sponsored bicycle ride around the Diocese for The Friends of the Cancer Centre at the City Hospital. I've had opportunities to share my (very amateur) interest in history with others interested in tracing family trees or understanding some of the less well known stories in the Bible. That said, I am game to give most things a go and look forward to engaging as fully as I can with the social calendar in St Patrick's and St John's - and whilst I'm looking forward to a bit of bowling, I might just give the Yoga and Zumba a miss!

My wife, Nuala, works part-time in computing and we met when we both worked for a computer company in Antrim - more years ago than I care to count. If you were to ask us what our common interests are we would probably say walking, entertaining family and friends and travelling (we are at present packing to go to the Holy Land for 11 days) - but, ironically, we try to avoid talking about computers as much as possible!

We have three wonderful daughters who we are very proud of. Kathryn graduated from Queen's in July with a degree in Mathematics and is engaged to be married to Edward next summer. Michelle is in final year at UUU and is studying to become a Healthcare Scientist specializing in Respiratory and Sleep Health.

Rachael is in 5th Form at Belfast High School and will be finishing her GCSEs in June. They all enjoy singing and Rachael took part in The Belfast School of Performing Arts' production of Les Miserables in August.

As a family we are looking forward to becoming part of the worship and life of Templepatrick and Donegore, especially at this joyful and hope-filled time of the year. It is my prayer that as we get to know one another, we will grow bonds of care and concern that will give us all the opportunities to grow in faith and to share God's love with each other and with the community around us.

Wishing you God's richest blessings,

Andrew



PARISH FINANCES

No 1 account (day to day income and expenditure)

At time of writing, this account is **overdrawn** by £3200. There was saving during the vacancy which allowed the overdraft in this account to be significantly reduced. While monthly income during the summer months decreased, due to lower attendance, this normally increases towards the end of the financial year. However, it will still be significantly less than current monthly expenditure and hence this account may be overdrawn at the end of the financial year.

No 2 Account (Fabric fund) - for upkeep and repair of property and buildings

This account has currently a **surplus** of £7,800. The account is earmarked for upkeep of the church estate and to this effect £14000 from this account has been used during the vacancy, in necessary upgrading of the kitchen and bathrooms in the vicarage. As the Fabric fund now plays an essential role in Parish finances, the Select Vestry would encourage parishioners to continue to contribute to this account through monthly envelopes and to support planned forthcoming fund raising events.

The above accounts are linked and hence debit interest is only incurred when the sum of the two accounts is negative.

Norman Shirley
(Hon Treasurer)



Christmas Music at Donegore

on **Wednesday 4th December 2013**

at **7.30 pm**

on this evening we welcome

Dr Emma Gibbins &

The St George's Chamber Choir

Proceeds in aid of Church funds & Cancer Research UK
a donation will be given to St George's Choir Fund

Tickets - £6.00 - available from Select Vestry Members



Thanks to all who organise and distribute our parish magazines throughout the year!



Sunday Club - SCLUB4

Our Advent appeal for this year will continue with Kindfund, which is supported by Catherine McCutcheon & Daphne Lucas. Kindfund was set up by their friends, Pamela and Ken Dobbin from Kesh, Co Fermanagh in 2004. I'm sure many of you will remember them when they came to visit us at the beginning of June.

In Autumn 2014, Kindfund are planning to bring 20-25 children from their Kenyan Children's Homes to reach out to communities in the UK and Ireland. Some will share their life stories, others will participate through drama. The children will bring the joy, enthusiasm and movement which is characteristic of Kenyan Christian worship. As part of their visit they will be giving local Kindfund supporters the opportunity to meet the children, hearing first-hand how your support and prayers make a real difference to their lives - watch this space for more details!

Our appeal will run from Sunday 1 December to 19 January 2014.

May we take this opportunity to thank the Mums and Dads for their help and support throughout the year and to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.



Some useful dates for your diary:-

- 1 Dec - Sunday Club as normal
Rehearsal for play - 10.30 am
 - 8 Dec - Pre Christmas AAW, Christmas Play & Collection of Gifts - 11.30 am
Rehearsal for play - 10.30 am
 - 15 Dec - **No Sunday Club**
 - 22 Dec - **No Sunday Club**
Carol Service - 6.30 pm
 - 25 Dec - Christmas Morning Service - 11.30 am
 - 29 Dec - **No Sunday Club**
- 2014**
- 5 Jan - **No Sunday Club**
 - 12 Jan - Christingle Service & AAW
 - 19 Jan - **Sunday Club Resumes**
Return jars for Kindfund appeal



Gail

LADIES FELLOWSHIP



The new season opened as usual with a communion service in the church followed by supper and a short meeting in the church rooms. We welcomed one new member. The ladies fellowship took a decision to contribute to the purchase of a much needed new steel catering trolley for use in the parish hall.

The President's suggestion that contributions for decorating the church at Harvest Thanksgiving take the form of food items which could be useful to the Simon Community was well received.

The harvest thanksgiving lunch in the parish hall proved to be another successful event under the capable hands of Mrs Millar and her willing team.

Our October evening was a real gala of saris. A bright and sparkling Mrs Tandon covered one table with reams of vibrantly coloured and patterned cloth and another with glitter and bling. She proceeded to show us how an Indian lady compiles her outfit and then picked out several of her audience to be dressed in saris which were representative of the different regions. Mrs Tandon does these presentations for a cancer charity. Everyone enjoyed the evening hugely and there are even photographs to prove it.

There will be no December meeting. Instead we are going to the Mill on 10th December for an entertaining evening with the Hunchback.



Helen Sheldon
(Hon Secretary)
Tel: 94433400

A merry Christmas to everybody! A happy New year to all the world!

Charles Dickens



Teen Blast

Teen blast resumed their activities on Saturday 21 September, and what a beginning!! Twenty-nine young people enjoyed a very active and noisy night of “Cage Football”, played on a lovely dry, mild evening. I wish I had some of the energy displayed on that evening! Beautiful cards were made, under the direction of Alison, and many had their nails painted with weird and wonderful designs by June.

On the 19th October, thirty-eight young people converged on the hall to enjoy X-box on the big screen. We have some really groovy movers!! Margaret worked with some young people making beautiful finger puppets, while June showed them how to make bead bracelets and key-rings, which were proudly taken home.

Many thanks to all our helpers and especially to the “Safety in the Community Officers” who organised the Cage Football and X-box. They were brilliant, as were our two Community Police Officers who spent some time with the young people.

Perhaps a highlight of our October meeting was a delivery of “Pizzas”, courtesy of Antrim Borough Council! - Yummy – many thanks!

Thank you to all who are willing to share their time and skills to a very happy bunch of young people.

Anne Cinnamon



Teen Speak - About Friends

Friends are loyal
Friends are up for you
Friends are Friends
Ben

A Friend is someone you can trust and talk to.
A Friend will always be there for you
Franki Gannon

A Friend is someone that you can trust,
but someone you can laugh with and have fun.

Stephanie Gordon



To me a Friend has to be trustworthy,
honest, always there for you, will never tell any secrets
and loads of fun and always up for something weird and wonderful.
Lucy Logan



I think a Friend is someone who sticks up for me and is kind.
Max Gannon

Friends are kind!
Friends are loyal!
Tamar Graham

I think Friends are great and
look out for you, and they are
great to go shopping with!
Anon

Friends are respectful,
they should look out for you
and understand you.
Friends are fantastic.
Friends are Friends.
Alex McIlwaine

A Friend is like an extra sister or brother.
You go through a lot together and
often see each other grow.
Annon



A Friend is someone who you can trust with anything, and who is loyal.
They will be with you through thick and thin.
Annon

A Friend is someone who listens to you and you can talk to openly without worrying
about being judged and who will be with you all the time, no matter what happens.
Annon



The United Parishes of Templepatrick and Donegore

Diocese of Connor

www.templepatrick.connor.anglican.org



THE PARISH DIRECTORY WHO'S WHO AND WHO TO CONTACT

The Rev Andrew Ker

The Vicarage, 926 Antrim Road, Templepatrick, Co Antrim, BT39 0AT

☎028 9443 2300 E-mail: templepatrick@connor.anglican.org

Mobile: 07762 785713 – EMERGENCIES ONLY

CHURCH OFFICE BEARERS

Vicar's Churchwarden:(St Patrick's) Mr D Smyth, 55 Bush Manor, Antrim,
Tel: 9446 0372

People's Churchwarden:(St Patrick's) Mr W McAvoy, 37 Ballyclare Road,
Templepatrick Tel: 9443 2135

Vicar's Churchwarden:(St John's) Mr C Ovens, 31 Broadacres, Templepatrick,
Tel: 9443 2032

People's Churchwarden:(St John's) Dr C Lundy, 11 Old Coach Road,
Templepatrick, Tel: 9443 3720

Vicar's Glebewarden: Mr M Cooke, 44 Rathmore Road, Dunadry
Tel: 9443 3183

People's Glebewarden: Mr S McCollam, 33 Carmavy Road, Crumlin
Tel: 9443 2506

Supplemental Glebewarden: Dr C Lundy, Tel: 9443 3720

Select Vestry: (meets 2nd Monday in month at 8.00pm) Mrs H Boyd, Mr M Cooke,
Mr K Egli, Miss A. Kerr, Mrs D Lucas, Dr C Lundy, Mr D. Mawhinney,
Mr T Michael, Mrs A Millar, Mr W McAvoy, Mr S McCollam, Mrs I McCollam,
Mrs G McCoy, Mr C Ovens, Mr N Shirley, Mr D Smyth, Mr K Swann,
Mrs M Walbridge, Mr R Young

Honorary Secretary: Miss A Kerr, 8 Ingledene, Templepatrick Tel: 9443 3459

Honorary Treasurer: Mr N Shirley, 23 Kingscourt, Templepatrick Tel: 9443 2597

Honorary F.W.O. Recorder and Envelope Secretary: Mrs I McCollam, 7 Lylehill
Road Tel: 9443 2734

Covenant & Gift Aid Secretary: Mr M Cooke 44 Rathmore Road, Dunadry
Tel: 9443 3183

Diocesan Synodsmen: Mr E Cinnamon, Mrs M Finlay

Supplemental Synodsmen: Mr H Cinnamon, Mr J Sheldon



PARISH PANEL:- The Vicar, Mrs A Cinnamon, Mr M Cooke, Mr A Walbridge

Hall Secretary: Mrs I McCollam Tel:9443 2734

Sacristan (St Patrick's): Mr B McMeekin, Tel: 9446 4483

Sacristan (St John's): Mrs W Lundy Tel: 9443 3720

Church of Ireland Gazette Secretary: Mrs M McConnell Tel:9443 2560

Bible Study Notes Secretary: Mrs D Lucas Tel:9082 5737

Christian Aid Secretary: Mrs L Lynas Tel:9443 3363

Magazine Editorial Team: The Vicar; Mrs G McCoy; Mr A Walbridge

Parish webmaster: Mr A Walbridge Tel:9443 2795 alan@walbridge.co.uk

Magazine Production: Mrs Gail McCoy Tel:9443 2782 gail.mccoy21@yahoo.co.uk

Pre-service Coffee: rota organizer - Mrs A Millar Tel:9443 2066

Parish organisations and their leaders:-



Choir: Practices on Thursday at 8pm.

St Patrick's, Templepatrick Organist and Choirmistress: Mrs Pat Maxwell,
Tel: 9443 9398

St John's, Donegore Organist and Choirmistress: Mrs S Cotter

Sunday Club: Co-ordinator: Mrs G McCoy Tel: 9443 2782

Helpers: Mrs C Clarke

Creche: (Sunday)

Youth Organisations

St Patrick's Young Singers/Instrumentalists: Rehearsal before AAW service, in the
Church - see Pat - Tel: 9443 9398

Rainbow Guides (4-7 years): Wednesday 6.00-7.00pm Joan Barkley
Tel: 07962 064734

Brownies (7-10 years): Wednesday 6.30-8.00pm Lauren McFerran
Tel: 07763 411306

Guides (10-14 years): Wednesday 7.30-9.00pm Lesley Anne Wetherspoon
Tel: 07753 445873

Guides Senior Section (14-25 years): Wednesday 7.30-9.00pm
Lesley Anne Wetherspoon Tel: 07753 445873

Beavers (6-8 years): Monday 6.30-7.30pm Catherine Michael Tel:9443 3123

Cub Scouts (8-10years): Tuesday 6.45-8.00pm Mr Jony Laverty Tel: 9446 1619

Adult Organisations

Choir: Practices on Thursday at 8pm. Mrs Pat Maxwell Tel: 9443 9398

Indoor Bowling Club: Friday 7.30pm.

Secretary: Mrs I. McCollam Tel:9443 2734

Ladies Fellowship: 3rd Tuesday in the month 8pm.

Secretary: Mrs H Sheldon Tel: 9443 3400





Rotas



Readers and Intercessors rota for St Patrick's, Templepatrick

<i>Date</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Reading / Intercessions</i>	<i>Reader / Intercessor</i>
01.12.13	Morning Prayer One	Old Testament	Mrs Gail McCoy
08.12.13	Sunday Club Play		Miss Ellen Clarke & Miss Sasha Logan
15.12.13	Holy Communion Two	Old Testament Epistle Intercessions	Mr Des Smith Mrs Elizabeth Smith Miss Ann Kerr
22.12.13	Morning Prayer Two	Old Testament	Mrs Jeannette Egli
24.12.13	Holy Communion Two	Old Testament Epistle Intercessions	Mrs Margaret Walbridge Mr Alan Walbridge Mrs Pat McKean
25.12.13	Christmas Day		Mr Bill McAvoy
29.12.13	Holy Communion Two	Old Testament Epistle Intercessions	Mr Harry Cinnamon Mr David Young Mrs Alison Millar
05.01.14	Morning Prayer One	Old Testament	Mrs Catherine Michael
12.01.14	All Age Worship		Miss Lucy Logan
19.01.14	Holy Communion Two	Old Testament Epistle Intercessions	Mrs Wendy Brolly Mrs Dorothy Gaffney Mrs Margaret Walbridge
26.01.14	Morning Prayer Two	Old Testament	Mrs Isobel McCollam
02.02.14	All Age Worship		Miss Emily Reid
09.02.14	Morning Prayer One	Old Testament	Mrs Amanda Brobyn
16.02.14	Holy Communion Two	Old Testament Epistle Intercessions	Mrs Daphne Lucas Mr John Sheldon Mrs Ann Cooke
23.02.14	Morning Prayer Two	Old Testament	Mrs Sandra Aitcheson

If you are unable to do either the reading or the prayers on the day you are assigned please swap with someone else on the rota and then change the list at the back of the church and inform the Vicar that a swap has been made. Thank you.



Rotas



Readers and Intercessors rota for St John's, Donegore

<i>Date</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Reading / Intercessions</i>	<i>Reader / Intercessor</i>
08.12.13	Holy Communion Two	Old Testament Epistle Intercessions	Mr Colin Ovans Mrs Molly Finlay Ms Heather Boyd
22.12.13	Morning Prayer One	Old Testament	Mr John Jones
25.12.13	Holy Communion Two	Old Testament Epistle Intercessions	Mrs Helen Bradley Mr John Bradley Mrs Susan White
12.01.14	Holy Communion Two	Old Testament Epistle Intercessions	Mr Michael Cooke Mr Ed Cinnamon Mrs Anne Cooke
26.01.14	Morning Prayer One	Old Testament	Ms Heather Boyd
09.02.14	Holy Communion Two	Old Testament Epistle Intercessions	Mr Colin Ovans Mr John Jones Mrs Molly Finlay
23.02.14	Morning Prayer One	Old Testament	Mrs Susan White

If you are unable to do either the reading or the prayers on the day you are assigned please swap with someone else on the rota and then change the list at the back of the church and inform the Vicar that a swap has been made. Thank you.



Fundraising Calendar

We are planning further fundraising events for the benefit of the parish this year and we value your support. The dates for your diaries are below, we'd love to see you at some of these events!

- Christmas Music at Donegore** - Wednesday 4 December 2013
- Queen's Island Victoria Male Choir** - Friday 17 January 2014
- Variety Concert** - Saturday 8 March 2014





Rotas



St Patrick's



Communion Rota

December	Mr T & Mrs C Michael
January	Young Parishioners
February	Mr J & Mrs G Hamill



Cleaning Rota

December	H Sheldon, J Sheldon, B McMeekin
January	A Cinnamon, H Cinnamon, V Brady
February	A Cooke, O Erskine, B Perris



Flower Rota

December	1 st F Blackbourne, 8 th S Russell, 16 th Vacant 22 nd & 29 th Ladies Fellowship
January	5 th & 12 th I McCollam, 19 th D Gaffney, 26 th S White
February	2 nd S White, 9 th E Smyth, 16 th & 23 rd Vacant

St John's



Communion Rota

December	Mrs M Bell & Mrs H Boyd
January	Mr & Mrs Lundy
February	Mr & Mrs Bradley



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CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2013 - FEBRUARY 2014

The First Sunday of Advent 01.12.13

9.30 am Holy Communion Two; 11.30 am Morning Prayer One

Old Testament Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Epistle Romans 13:11-14
Gospel Matthew 24:36-44

The Second Sunday of Advent 08.12.13

10.00 am Holy Communion Two; 11.30 am Childrens' Gifts & Christmas Play

Old Testament Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7 + 18-19
Epistle Romans 15:4-13
Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

The Third Sunday of Advent 15.12.13

9.30 am Holy Communion One; 11.30 am Holy Communion Two

Old Testament Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 148
Canticle 14 – Magnificat
Epistle James 5:7-10
Gospel Matthew 11:2-11

The Fourth Sunday of Advent 22.12.13

10.00 am Morning Prayer One; 11.30 am Morning Prayer Two

6.30 pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
Old Testament Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-8 + 18-20
Epistle Romans 1:1-7
Gospel Matthew 1:18-25

Christmas Eve (Tuesday) 24.12.12

11.00pm 1st Eucharist of Christmas in St. Patrick's

Old Testament Isaiah 52:7-10
Psalm 98
Epistle Hebrews 1:1-4
Gospel John 1:1-14



Christmas Day (Wednesday) 25.12.13

10.00 am Holy Communion One; 11.30 am Christmas Morning Family Service

Old Testament Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Epistle Titus 2:11-14
Gospel Luke 2:8-20



The First Sunday of Christmas 29.12.13

11.30 am Holy Communion Two

Old Testament Isaiah 63:7-9
Psalm 148
Epistle Hebrews 2:10-18
Gospel Matthew 2:13-23

2014

The Second Sunday of Christmas - Epiphany Observed 05.01.14

9.30 am Holy Communion One; 11.30 am Morning Prayer One

Old Testament Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-15
Epistle Ephesians 3:1-12
Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

The First Sunday after the Epiphany (The Baptism of Christ) 12.01.14

10.00 am Holy Communion Two; 11.30 am Christingle Service & All Age Worship

Old Testament Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Epistle Acts 10:34-43
Gospel Matthew 3:13-17

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany 19.01.14

9.30 am Holy Communion One; 11.30 am Holy Communion Two

Old Testament Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-12
Epistle 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Gospel John 1:29-42

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany 26.01.14

10.00 am Morning Prayer One; 11.30 am Morning Prayer Two

Old Testament Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1 + 4-12
Epistle 1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Gospel Matthew 4:12-23



The Presentation of Christ in the Temple **02.02.14**
 9.30 am Holy Communion One; 11.30 am All Age Worship
 Old Testament Malachi 3: 1-5
 Psalm Psalm 84
 Epistle Hebrews 2: 14-18
 Gospel Luke 2: 22-40

The Fourth Sunday before Lent **09.02.14**
 10.00 am Holy Communion Two; 11.30 am Morning Prayer One
 Old Testament Isaiah 58:1-12
 Psalm 112:1-10
 Epistle 1 Corinthians 2:1-16
 Gospel Matthew 5:13-20

The Third Sunday before Lent **16.02.14**
 9.30 am Holy Communion One; 11.30 am Holy Communion Two
 Old Testament Deuteronomy 30:15-20
 Psalm 119:1-8
 Epistle 1 Corinthians 3:1-9
 Gospel Matthew 5:21-37

The Second Sunday before Lent **23.02.14**
 10.00 am Morning Prayer One 11.30 am Morning Prayer Two
 Old Testament Leviticus 19:1-2 + 9-18
 Psalm 119:33-40
 Epistle 1 Corinthians 3:10-11 + 16-23
 Gospel Matthew 5:38-48



Safeguarding Trust

In accordance with the recommendations in 'Safeguarding Trust - The Church of Ireland Code of Good Practice for Ministry with Children', a Parish Panel has been appointed (operating since June 1998) to implement some of the responsibilities identified in the Code.

The Panels responsibilities include:

- interviewing persons willing to serve as workers in the parish
- advising workers on their responsibilities in respect of the Code
- advising the Select Vestry in respect of its responsibilities
- being an immediate contact point for workers when a suspicion, complaint or allegation of child abuse is made about a worker or on parish premises in accord with the procedures set out in these guidelines.

The Parish Panel Members are:-

The Rev Andrew Ker, 926 Antrim Road, Templepatrick Tel:028 94432300
 Mrs A Cinnamon, 27 Templerise, Templepatrick Tel:028 9443 2317
 Mr M Cooke, 44 Rathmore Road, Dunadry Tel:028 94433183
 Mr A Walbridge, 4 Broadacres, Templepatrick Tel:028 9443279



Notes for next issue of the Parish Magazine are due on:-

Wednesday 12 February 2014

Contributions from all parish organisations would be very welcome.

COLEMAN'S GARDEN CENTRE

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For further information Tel: 028 9443 2513

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Music in the parish

'Top Ten Hymns' on 15 September in St John's proved to be a happy and uplifting occasion, the church filled with enthusiastic singers! Thank you to Canon Ruddock (MC) and the choir, for what I hope was the first of many such occasions to coincide with the Heritage Open Days. We are again indebted to Alan-one step-ahead-Walbridge who saw an opportunity to market a cd recording of the event, price £5!

We were delighted to welcome two new members to our Parish Choir this Autumn: Bill McAvoy and Alan Walbridge. The choir stalls are beginning to bulge, but we can hold more!

Following two successful Harvest Services in St Patrick's and St John's, we are now preparing Advent and Christmas music.

We have had some lovely singing and playing from our young church musicians this Autumn: the junior recorder group played twice in October, during the Harvest Festival Service, and again in the AAW. Well done Morgan, Alex, Emily and David, with a great lead from Dorothy. We are now working on Christmas carols which we will play in the Nine Lessons and Carols on **22 December**.

A special thank you to Lucy Reid for her splendid violin accompaniments in September and October services.



Thank you to St Patrick's young singers, for some lovely moments in the AAW services for September, October and November:

Josh and Harriet Brobyn, Anna and Ava Glover, Stephanie, Rory and Amelia Gordon, Nik and David Kane, Callum Leckey, Sasha Logan, Morgan and Alex McIlwaine, Lucy and Emily Reid!

Thank you to all the parents who support practice times and services: it wouldn't happen without you!

Pat





St Patrick's & St John's Bowling Club

The bowling club re-opened the new season on Friday 7th September 2013, with a good turnout of members.

The first bowl of the new season was delivered by our new Chairperson Arthur Kell.

We bowl on Friday evening from 7.30pm until 10.30pm and Monday evening from 8.00pm until 9.30pm (practice night). We have started the new season with one new member.

In September, 26 members and friends had a 4-day bowling break to the Manor House in Fermanagh, bowling in a local church hall, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Our thanks, once again, to Will Mehaffy for his contact with the local church.

We are looking forward to the first visit of the season to our club from the Rock bowling club on Friday 29th November at 7.30pm.

On Tuesday 10th December 2013, along with members of the Ladies Fellowship, a total of 32, are having a meal at Mossley Mill before going to see 'Hunchback The Musical'!

Why not come along and enjoy the fun and friendship, even if you have never bowled before, everyone would be made most welcome.

Isobel McCollam
(Hon Secretary)







LITTLE THOUGHTS



Mark 10 : 14 KJV

**... Suffer the little children to come unto me,
and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.**

If you have a sweet child in your life, you've heard of Build-a-Bear,
And if that sweetheart's very young, you'll know the fascination,
Now, should you think, "*I've no idea what all this is about*",
Then stay with me a while and I'll describe this cute 'creation'!

Let's move to the Department Store. Yes, here we are already,
Just look around and see the mass of *empty*, furry skins,
There's puppies, bunny rabbits and the very sweetest teddy!
But what about their character? They might as well be tins.

We'll pick a panda, shall we? An endearing little thing!
The assistant stands in readiness to help us start our build,
Though first we'll need a microphone to make our panda sing,
And excitement starts to mount because our panda's being filled!

The microphone's put in the paw and now here comes the foam,
We see our panda filling out and how she's taking shape!
But notice how your little sweetheart's eyes begin to roam,
For tiny outfits hung on-show will have panda fully draped!

At last the choice of this or that has all been worth the while,
Ah! Here she is! Our panda's dressed! Your sweetheart's little mate,
She wears a jacket, skirt and hat in quite the latest style,
Listen! Now she's singing! Her paw was pressed to activate!

Back home our Build-a-Bear sits underneath the Christmas tree,
A delighted little person, all tired out, is fast asleep,
We sit beside a cosy fire and let our joy soar free,
These are the precious memories that our heart will wish to keep.



Back home our Build-a-Bear sits underneath the Christmas tree,
A delighted little person, all tired out, is fast asleep,
We sit beside a cosy fire and let our joy soar free,
These are the precious memories that our heart will wish to keep.

Hasn't our God built us too and filled us with His love?
Then He sent His Holy Sprit to keep watch as we take form,
We sing His praises with the angels in the heavens above,
For only He could make the outfits we have daily worn.

The breastplate full of righteousness, feet shod with gospel-peace,
A belt of truth, a shield of faith, a helmet of salvation,
With the coming of the Holy Child, His love has now increased,
God has built us! Now we'll worship Him! He has our adoration!

Our little ones! We can but learn so much from them, can't we?
They'll love you. They'll depend on you. They'll give you all their trust,
No wonder Jesus said, "*Forbid them not*". He knows, you see,
That just as they hug Build-a-Bear, our God is hugging us.

Jeanette Egli



It was a Sunday morning and, as usual, the vicar was standing outside the entrance of his church waiting to greet his congregation. Today he held a clipboard and a pen.
He didn't have to wait long. One of the older lady parishioners was the first to approach. 'Good morning vicar,' she said. 'By gum, what a handsome dishy man tha' looks standing there.'
The vicar straightened his dog-collar and smoothed down his hair. 'Why thank you Miss Rosethorn,' he said, and then went on, 'actually I am conducting a little survey to help me with my sermon. May I ask you a question?'
'Reet vicar,' Miss Rosethorn replied, 'go ahead'.
The vicar poised his pen over the clipboard. 'Would you ever tell a lie in order to avoid hurting somebody's feelings?' he asked.
'Strange tha' should ask me that, vicar,' Miss Rosethorn answered. 'I just have done!'

John Walker





European Heritage Open Days

(Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th September 2013)

at St John's, Donegore

A special THANK YOU to all who attended St John's during the weekend. In particular we would especially like to thank Canon Ruddock for introducing our Top 10 Favourite Hymns and for Pat Maxwell who led the Choir. We are all in agreement that it was an excellent time of celebration and praise which raised a considerable sum of money for Church Funds.

Over the weekend we were delighted to welcome approx 150 visitors... a great achievement!!

WELL DONE EVERYONE... & MANY THANKS!!!

Heather Boyd



Chinese Banquet

Thanks to everyone who supported the Chinese Banquet in any way.

Once again it was a very successful evening which raised –

£2,000.00

Stephen McCollam



Divine Healing Ministries

A Service for those 'Struggling with Loss' of any kind will be held in Comber 1st Presbyterian Church on Sunday 8th December at 6 30pm. David Jardine will be the Speaker at this Service.



Saints of the Church

Nicholas, Bishop of Myra

6 December -- Lesser Festival -- Bishop -- White

Nicholas was a fourth-century bishop of Myra in Asia Minor (southern Turkey). His reputation as a worker of wonders was enhanced by a ninth-century author of his hagiography and he is now best known through these stories. Many of them concern his love and care for children, how he fed the hungry, healed the sick and cared for the oppressed. He saved three girls from a life of prostitution by providing them with dowries and so developed the tradition of bearing gifts to children on his feast day, a practice appropriated by the Christmas celebrations. Nicholas is also one of the patron saints of Russia.

Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr

26 December -- Festival -- Martyr -- Red

In the book of the Acts of the Apostles, Stephen is described as one of the seven deacons whose job it is to care for the widows in the early Church in Jerusalem. His eloquent speech before the Sanhedrin, in which he shows the great sweep of Jewish history as leading to the birth of Jesus, the long-expected Messiah, and his impassioned plea that all might hear the good news of Jesus, leads to his inevitable martyrdom by being stoned to death. As the author of Acts, Luke's description of Stephen bears direct parallels to that of Christ: for example, the passion; being filled with the Holy Spirit; seeing the Son of God as the right hand of God, as Jesus promised he would be; commending his spirit to Jesus, as Jesus commended his to the Father; kneeling as Jesus did in Gethsemane and asking forgiveness for his persecutors. Witnessing to Jesus by acting like Jesus in every way is thus seen by Luke as of the essence of the Christian life.

John, Apostle & Evangelist

27 December -- Festival -- Apostle -- White

Whether or not John the Apostle and John the Evangelist are one and the same, the Church honours on this day the one who proclaims Jesus as the Word made flesh and who is 'the disciple whom Jesus loved'. John was one of the sons of Zebedee who, along with James and Peter, followed Jesus. John was there with Jesus on the holy mountain; he was there with Jesus at the last supper; he was there with Jesus in his agony in the garden; he was there with Jesus and his mother, standing at the foot of the cross; he was there with Jesus as a witness of his resurrection and 'he saw and believed'. John was a witness to the Word, he proclaimed the Word and he lived and died witnessing to the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, who loved him and whom he loved.

The Holy Innocents

28 December -- Festival -- Red

Herod 'the Great' was appointed King of the Jews by the Roman authorities in Palestine and he proved to be ruthlessly efficient in his thirty-three years of dealing with his subjects. In Matthew's gospel, he tried to persuade the Magi, to whom he played the host on their journey seeking the one 'who has been born king of the Jews', to bring word of where they

had found him. His desire was to eliminate Jesus and, when he realised that the Magi had tricked him and left the country, Herod poured out his wrath on all the male infants in the land. These were God's 'innocent' ones, paralleling the story of Pharaoh slaughtering the Hebrew children in Egypt.

The Naming & Circumcision of Jesus **1 January -- Festival -- White**

The celebration of this scriptural festival marks three events: firstly, the naming of the infant; secondly, the sign of the covenant between God and Abraham 'and his children for ever', thus Christ's keeping of the Law; and thirdly, traditionally the first shedding of the Christ's blood. The most significant of these in the gospels is the name itself, which means 'Yahweh saves' and so is linked to the question asked by Moses of God: "What is your name?" "I am who I am," was the reply, thus the significance of Jesus's words: "Before Abraham was, I am." This feast has been observed in the church since at least the sixth century.

The Epiphany **6 January -- Principal Feast -- Gold or White**

The subtitle in the Book of Common Prayer of this, one of the principal feasts of the Church, is 'The Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles'. This emphasises that, from the moment of the Incarnation, the good news of Jesus Christ is for all: Jew and Gentile, the wise and the simple, male and female. Nothing in the Greek text of the gospels indicates that the Magi were all male and even the number three and making them Kings is a much later, non-scriptural tradition. The date chosen to celebrate this feast goes back to the placing of the feast of the Nativity of Christ in the winter solstice: the north European pre-Christian tradition of celebrating the birth of Sun on 25 December differed from the Mediterranean and eastern tradition of having 6 January as the Solstice. As often happens, the two dates merged into a beginning and an end of the same celebration. The western church adopted 'the twelve days of Christmas' climaxing on the eve of Epiphany, or 'Twelfth Night'. The implication by the fifth century was that this was the night on which the Magi arrived. The complications of dating became even more confused with the changing in the West from the Julian to the Gregorian Calendar, the eastern church refusing to play any part in such a radical change. So this day remains the chief day of celebrating the Incarnation in Orthodox Churches.

The Conversion of Paul **25 January -- Festival -- Apostle -- White**

The conversion of the anti-Christian zealot, Saul, to the apostle of Christ, Paul, is clearly related in the reading from the Acts of the Apostles, but it has to be remembered that this was a beginning: Saul took some time to become Paul and some time to begin to understand that his call to preach -- to Jew and to Gentile -- the saving power of Jesus, the Son of God, was something that was a whole life's journey for him. Paul says in his Letter to the Church in Galatia, "God set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace ... Three years after (the Damascus Road conversion), I went up to Jerusalem." The preparation for this moment of his conversion was his whole life. This feast has been celebrated in the Church since the sixth century but became universal in the twelfth century.



Brigid, Abbess of Kildare **1 February -- Festival**

Brigid (also known as Bride) was born in the latter part of the fifth century, of humble origin just five miles from Kildare. She was to become first a nun in the monastery there and then its Abbess. She is believed to have been baptised by and the stories of her portray a woman of great compassion. She is even said to have been consecrated a bishop by Bishop Ibor, because of her resemblance to the Virgin Mary, but this may have been put abroad to support the claim of the primacy of the Abbey of Kildare. By her prayers and miracles, she is reputed to have strongly influenced the formation of the Church throughout Ireland, where she is, with St Patrick, the patron saint. She died in about the year 525.

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) **2 February -- Principal Feast -- Gold or White**

This day marks the completion of forty days since the birth of Jesus, when Mary and Joseph took the child to the Temple in Jerusalem. The requirement in Levitical law was for Mary to be 'cleansed', the completion of her purification following the birth of a male child. Until that day, she could touch no holy thing nor enter the sanctuary. Yet on seeing the holy family, Simeon praised God and acclaimed the infant as 'the light to enlighten the nations' and the prophet Anna gave thanks and proclaimed him her Redeemer. The image of Christ as the Light has led to the celebration of light countering darkness, with candles often taking a central place in the observance.

George Herbert, Priest **27 February -- Lesser Festival -- Pastor -- White**

Born in 1593 into the aristocratic Pembroke family, George Herbert went up to Cambridge in 1614, eventually becoming a fellow of Trinity College. At the age of twenty-five, he became Public Orator in the University and then a Member of Parliament, apparently destined for a life at court. To everyone's surprise, he decided to be ordained and, after spending a time with his friend Nicholas Ferrar at Little Gidding, he was made deacon in 1626. He married in 1629, was priested in 1630 and given the care of souls of the parish of Bemerton, near Salisbury, where he spent the rest of his short life. He wrote prolifically, his hymns still being popular throughout the English-speaking world. His treatise, *The Country Parson*, on the priestly life, and his poetry, especially *The Temple*, earned Herbert a leading place in English literature. He never neglected the care of the souls of Bemerton, however, and encouraged attendance at the weekday recitation of the daily office, calling to mind the words of his hymn, 'Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee'. He died on this day in 1633.

