May 2018

Jesus loves me



this I know

1. John 4:19

www.groomsportparishchurch.org



Parish Officials

The Rector	Revd Duncan Pollock 028 9146 4476	
The Rector's Warden	Helen Parkinson	028 9147 9984
The People's Warden	Hester Kelly	028 9146 3541
R Glebe Warden	Billy McAnneney	07812 042833
P Glebe Warden	Tony Anderson	07803 282200
Treasurer	Wesley Quinn	028 9145 6472
Secretary to SV	Heather Pentland	07834 771075
Gift Aid Secretary	Ian Sloan	028 9145 7092
Sunday School	Maggie Townsley & Helen Carter	07748 208649
Verger/Caretaker	Susan Moore	028 9185 7509
Organist	Stuart Tanner	07411 178230
Parish Office	Elaine Lester 028 9127 1311 07791 569432	

Administrative enquiries please contact: Elaine 028 9127 1311 or gpcoffice@btinternet.com

Church Hall bookings please contact: David McKnight 028 9127 3130 or linden.lodge@btopenworld.com

For Hall problems, please contact: William McAneney (07812 042833) or Tony (07803 282200)

Rector's Hour

Please note that the Rector will be available in the Vestry office on Tuesdays from 6.00pm – 7.00pm, for short meetings to sign passports, driving licence documents etc., or to arrange a lengthier meeting for another time.

Rector's Recess

Whilst our Rector is always available to his congregation at all hours of every day, it is hoped that, where possible, the period between lunchtime Friday and Sunday Services may be void of contact so as to allow him family time, quiet reflection and preparation for the week ahead; emergency requirements and visits excepted.

From the Rector



It creeps up on you imperceptibly. There doesn't seem to be any particular change, until one day you look out at the garden

Our little sun trap is restored to a quiet, inviting place to sit, even on windy days.

Sometimes we don't need to do a complete refurbishment job on our individual or corporate faith. Sometimes, what is required, all that is required, is low key, general maintenance. It is surprising how a short bible verse, a simple prayer, and a few moments in reflection, can perk you up, help you see things a little more clearly, just as cleaning windows can give you a better view of the bird feeders and garden.

In that challenging final book of the New Testament, St John writes: "And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new..." And that is the truth; all things have been made new. Simply washing the windows, for example, helps us to see things afresh, anew. Simply spending that few minutes in God's presence helps to see things through His eyes.

The coming month gives us the necessary impetus to crack on with this work. We will hear of Christ taking His rightful place in

"He makes all things new"

and you realise that the windows are filthy! And then you begin to look around you and you discover the dust on top of the tall bookcase; the cobwebs above the curtain rails – where did they come from? I'm sure they weren't there yesterday. The oven, after heavy duty through the winter, needs a clean and how did that stain appear on the carpet? The paths in the garden look tired and dirty. The flower beds need weeding, the tubs need sorting. All of a sudden everything needs attention and it all needs attention NOW!

This has all come about because I decided to clean the paving on our scrap of patio in the back garden. It seemed fine to me, but a friend asked if I wanted it "power-washed". Well, I can't believe the difference. It is as new! The flag stones are no longer browney-grey, but back to their pale yellowy beige.

heaven on the feast of the Ascension (May 10); we wait for ten days then celebrate the giving of the Holy Spirit on the Feast of Pentecost, Whitsun (Sunday May 20); and then we celebrate the wonderful loving mystery of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit on Trinity Sunday (Sunday 27 May).

Behold, He makes all things new, and we have been given the joy of entering into His newness!

Duncan





Church Services April

Sunday 6 May - Easter 6

Welcome Team: Freddie and Susan McNair

Reader: TBA

8.30am	Holy Communion	
10.30am	Family Service*	
6.00pm	Evening Prayer	
* Coffee after 10.30am service in Church Hall. All welcome! Hosted by TBC		

Thursday 10 May

7.30pm	Parish Communion for Ascension Day
--------	------------------------------------

Note:

The Office of Compline is said every Tuesday at 7.30pm

Holy Communion is celebrated every Thursday at 11.00am

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Wednesday of the month at 10.30am in the Chapel at Mt Stewart House.

Sunday 13 May - Sunday after Ascension

Welcome Team: Peter, Andrea and Hannah Johnston

Reader: Carol Walters

8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Parish Communion
6.00pm	Compline

Sunday 20 May - Pentecost

Welcome Team: Neil, Andrea, Matthew and Ben Adams

Reader: Maureen Taggart

8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Service of the Word for Pentecost
6.00pm	Evening Prayer

Please note the Church Hall is open every day for private prayer and meditation.

Sunday 27 May - Trinity Sunday

Welcome Team: Neil, Andrea, Matthew and Ben Adams

Reader: John Parkinson

8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Morning Prayer
6.00pm	Holy Communion



Sunday 3 June - Trinity 1

Welcome Team: William and Florence McAnenney

Reader: Joan Haddick

8.30am	Holy Communion	
10.30am	Family Service*	
6.00pm	00pm Compline	
* Coffee offer 10 20cm, convice in Church Hell. All welcomet. Heated by		

* Coffee after 10.30am service in Church Hall. All welcome! Hosted by Mareen and Noel Taggart, Zandra and Ian Slon

Announcements



Walking for Softies

March's walk was by train from Bangor to Cultra Station and from there to the coastal path and walked into Holywood. It was such a lovely mild morning that we had to dispense of our coats as it got quite warm. Refreshments were taken in First Holywood Presbyterian Church and then back to Bangor by Train.

Our next walk will be to CS Lewus Square on Sat 27th May. We will take the 9.57 train to Sydenham

Ken Boyd 91465103

NEW - Tai Chi for Health Tuesdays 10am - 11am



Beginners' class commencing 24 April for 6 weeks in Maxwell Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Wear comfortable clothing and trainers or similar shoes.

Help your Mind, Body and Groomsport Church's Building Fund.

The Evergreens

We started back after Easter with a get together to try and put a programme together. Next week we are having Bingo and after that there is to be glass decoration, tub planting, a visit to Donaghadee Garden Centre, the Tudor Cinema and perhaps a visit to The Tayto Factory with lunch somewhere on the way. As you can see a truly interesting programme so perhaps anyone (male or female) 50+ will come and joins us, a lot of fun, tea and biscuits for only £3 per week. See you there.

Valerie Boyd (91465103)





It's not often that I feel inspired to turn to Google in order to gain some background information about our guest speaker for a forthcoming meeting. But then I knew that I would find a string of entries about Angela Hendra MBE, our speaker at the meeting of 16 April. Not only is she a seven times Olympic medallist - in 2016 she won the all-Ireland highest award for her contribution to disability sport - the Irish Paralympic Order. Angela is a founding member, former Chairperson and current President of Disability Sport NI, a charity set up in 1998 to tackle underrepresentation of people with disabilities. Angela is a true inspiration, not only to people with a disability, but to everyone with whom she comes in contact.

Angela was born in Malin Head, Donegal, but her childhood and education was disrupted severely by extended periods in hospital. She was left paralysed as a result of a cyst on her spine which reached her spinal cord. One of the most significant and positive aspects of her early teenage years was the time she spent in Stoke-Mandeville Hospital. Apart from the physical rehabilitation, the support and treatment there gave her self-confidence, assertiveness and an introduction to sport, where she discovered a talent for archery and table tennis. Her achievements in the sporting field gave her a taste for travel, which she was to experience throughout her life.

On her return from Stoke Mandeville Angela was sent to a convent school where her qualities of tenacity, bravery and care for others were used to great advantage. Her stories of the harrowing treatment of children in the convent were spine chilling and she used her new found assertiveness to the full in writing to the Department of Education about the treatment of the children, with the result that they were all taken out of the convent by the government officials. As you can imagine she got herself into trouble with the nuns, and she could be described as 'a rebel with a cause' but she could tell the difference between right and wrong and was determined to do something about it.

Although her secretarial training did not provide the skills needed, Angela, by using her charm and winning ways, secured a job as a Laboratory Technician in the City Hospital, a role which she carried out for 43 years, specialising in the analysis of cervical smears.

Angela's illustrious sporting career continued with the achievement of three silver, three bronze and one gold medal in Table Tennis and Lawn Bowls in four Paralympic games between 1972 and 1984. She lit the Paralympic Cauldron at Stormont at the start of the 2012 Olympic Games, and the torch from that special occasion is displayed in the hall of her lovely home.

Angela now dedicates her life to improving the position of people with disabilities in society and in sports and was awarded an MBF in 1991.



Our members at the meeting agreed that Angela's story is one of the most inspirational they have ever come across. She is not self-pitying, but instead is so thankful for all the wonderful opportunities she has had in her life to date. I think we would agree that the lesson for all of us is to be positive, and never to let our set-backs

deter us, but rather to make us stronger, resourceful and thankful for all the good things in life and for the people around us.

Branch Outing: There are still a few places left for our outing on Monday 21 May, to HMS Caroline with lunch in Titanic Hotel. Please contact Valerie or myself for details.

Soap Bags and Knitting: Ladies, please keep up the industry on both these fronts. They are so welcomed by the recipients. It would be great to have a wheelbarrow full of goodies for Hester to distribute after our next meeting which will be in September.

And finally....... I hope you all have a happy and peaceful summer. We resume meetings in September.

Mae

Magazine Sponsorship

Many thanks for all those who have given and continue to give to the magazine we are so very grateful.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE MAGAZINE IS 17TH OF EACH MONTH. THANK YOU

taranm@hotmail.co.uk or gpcoffice@ btinternet.com or zandrasloan@hotmail.com or via any of the Parish Officials.

Tara Brown

Vestry Notes April 2018

Thanks were expressed to all those who had so willingly given of their time to clear the Church and take things to storage.

The Vestry confirmed that the PA and loop system, arranged by David Dalzell, in the Church Hall were working well for Services.

The anonymous donor has kindly agreed that his or her money can be used for new kneelers for the Communion rail.

21% of the Gift Aid rebate was due to fundraising for the refurbishment project. It was unanimously agreed, therefore, that a

proportionate amount of the Gift Aid rebate should be credited to the Building fund.

Arrangements are being put in place for Tara to hand over the running of the website to Maureen Taggart.

There will be a trial period when chairs for Church will be left out in the Canon Tyney Hall and other organisations will use the Maxwell Hall.

There are several people looking at the possibility of renting the Rectory, but as some work now needs done to it, the property will not be available for rent until June.





Family Fun Day



M

Saturday 2nd June 2018 at the Meadow Playing Fields

The day will start with a treasure hunt around the village at 3pm, ending at the Meadow.

BBQ and disco will start at 4pm.

Cost will be £8 for adults £4 for children.

Tickets available from the following.

Billy McAneney 07812042833

Andrea Johnston 07780628622

John Hand, 07540375785

We have two Hyundai cars supplied by Mellons cars. They will be filled with balloons and you have to guess how many balloons. There will be a prize for the winner.

There will also be target football, bouncy castle, raffle prizes and a tea and traybake stall.

This is to raise funds for the new Church organ. Please ask everyone to support this worthy cause.



Due to some confusion, the Rector once again clarified that Helen Kennedy has been appointed as PR specifically for the Refurbishment Project, not for Events. Kate, as Events coordinator, and her Events Team will continue promoting events in the usual way as has happened since the formation of the Events Team some years ago. The Vestry agreed that all PR material pertaining to the project should be run past the Rector prior to going to print.

The Rector has written to the Bishop to invite him to lead a Prayer Day for the Parish some time in September. The idea is only in its early stages.

The disabled loo has been repaired. The Rector reminded everyone that if they spot something which needs fixing, they should report it to the Glebe Wardens. All electrical points in the halls have been safety checked and passed fit for purpose.

Vestry members have been asked to have a look before the next Vestry meeting at suitable sites for the Notice Board outside the Church Halls.

75 tickets have been sold for the Anniversary Dinner.

It was agreed how well the hall looked for Church Services, but it was agreed that the table in front of the Holy Table needed to be replaced.

A list of dates for Vestry meetings for the year was agreed by the Vestry.

The Select Vestry Members



Rev Duncan Pollock



Zandra Sloan



Barry Greenaway



Heather Pentland



Wesley Quinn



Jenny Craythorne



Tony Anderson



Dorothy Ann Crawford



Bert Smith





Kate Murrau



John Hand



Helen Parkinson



William McAneneu



Hester Kellu



Freddy McNair



Andy Craig



ROTA FOR SETTING UP CHURCH HALL 8 APRIL - 30 SEPTEMBER 2018

	OTHER SOSEITEMBER 2010
8 April	B. McAneney, D. McKnight, F. McNair, J. Love
15 April	Kate and John Murray, Zandra and Ian Sloan
22 April	Maureen and Noel Taggart, Kate and John Murray
29 April	Trevor and Rosemary Smith, Ken Boyd, Tony and Eleanor Anderson
6 May	B. McAneney, D. McKnight, F. McNair
13 May	Trevor and Jenny Craythorne, Zandra and Ian Sloan
20 May	Maureen and Noel Taggart, Andy Craig, Robert Watters
27 May	B. McAneney, D. McKnight, F. McNair
3 June	Ken Boyd, Andrea and Peter Johnston, Robert Watters
10 June	Trevor and Jenny Craythorne, Andy Craig, Robert Watters
17 June	B. McAneney, D. McKnight, F. McNair, J. Love
24 June	Barry Greenaway, Robert Watters, Tony and Eleanor Anderson
1 July	Carol and Ian Walters, Barry Greenaway, Robert Watters
8 July	B. McAneney, D. McKnight, F. McNair
15 July	Maureen and Noel Taggart, Mrs Brown, Robert Watters
22 July	Carol and Ian Walters, Zandra and Ian Sloan
29 July	Trevor and Rosemary Smith, Andrea and Peter Johnston
5 August	Billy and Flo McAneney, Mrs Brown
12 August	Trevor and Rosemary Smith, Andrea and Peter Johnston
19 August	Walter and Mae Burke, Robert Watters, Mr Brown
26 August	Walter and Mae Burke, Tony and Eleanor Anderson
2 September	
9 September	Neil Adams
16 September	
23 September	
30 September	



SERVICES IN THE CHURCH HALL

8 APRIL - 30 SEPTEMBER 2018

Canon Tyney Hall	Sunday 8.30am	Holy Communion
Canon Tyney Hall	Sunday 10.30am	Main Service
Canon Tyney Hal	Sunday 6.00pm	Evening Service
Canon Tyney Hal	Tuesday 7.30pm	Compline
Canon Tyney Hal	Thursday 11.00am Holy Communion	

Please contact William McAneney on 07812042833 if you can assist on any of the September dates on previous page. Thank You.

William McAneney

Events Update

175th Birthday Celebration Dinner

Bangor Golf Club proved to be the perfect setting for the Parish's 175th Birthday Celebration Dinner. Eighty very well turned out Parishioners enjoyed a great evening of food, music and craic. A drinks reception was followed by a lovely two course meal and coffee with a slice of birthday cake baked by our very own Masterchef, Carol Walters. Carol decorated the cake with an amazing model of the church and this will be displayed in the church halls over coming weeks.

A quiz, based on the opening line of hymns, kept everyone guessing throughout the meal and was won by Pat Love, Barbara Swan and Florence McAneney who got all twenty answers correct. The ballot to raise money for church funds was compered by the Rector, resplendent in bow tie. Fifteen fantastic ballot prizes were won, including a lovely painting of Rowallane Gardens by Betty McKinney, Newbridge Silver Napkin Rings and a Men's Rally Jacket. The star

prize of a pair of 9 carat gold emerald earrings was won by Rosemary Smith.

The disco provided by Trevor was a great hit, particularly with the ladies who danced the night away. Queen of the dance floor was undoubtedly Maggie who kept the party going.

The function room was beautifully decorated and there was a great buzz and sense of friendship and enjoyment throughout the evening. It was certainly a very fitting way to celebrate such an important milestone in the life of our Parish.

Thanks must go to John Hand, Kate Murray and Heather Pentland who organised the event, Dorothy Anne Crawford and Pearl Dyer who provided the beautiful floral arrangements and of course Carol for the fantastic birthday cake.

Opposite is a copy of the challenge given to those who attended the Anniversary Dinner. We thought other parishioners might like the challenge too. How well do YOU know your hymns?

ANSWERS IN NEXT MONTH'S CONTACT

1. M H B	
2. L T L O Y L I S	
4. S Y F T K O G	
6. B S F T P O T L	
13. W Y A H I T S O L	
14. T G B T G	
17. W Y T W T C M L	
18. A W M F F T E	

Planned Events 2018



Christian Aid Coffee Morning (in Presbyterian Church)
Groomsport Fun Day and BBQ
Craft Fair Eagle Wing Festival
Mr & Mrs Night
La Treeno Italiano musical nigh
Nov 03 Book Fair
Nov 09 Quiz
DEC 02 Rededication Service
DEC 08 Christmas Fair

ALL proceeds from the above events will contribute to the Renovation Project.





Northern Ireland Charity Number: 103258

Book Stall for May

This month there are some rather different books on offer. To begin with one I made the acquaintance of during time in the prayer room. It struck me so forcibly that I obtained a copy for our bookstall. I hope some of you find it as remarkable as I did.

The Visit by Adrian Plass



The short story told in this illustrated book is related by an active member of a church that "did all the things that churches do just about as well as they could be done". However, when the members of the congregation hear that they are to be paid an extended

visit from their "Founder" the reactions are not quite what one might expect. When He arrives He behaves in a way which disturbs the narrator's carefully planned itinerary and certainly defies expectations. At 68 pages long, in well-spaced, generous print, this book can be read in a short afternoon or less, but the thoughts behind it remain. If you take it from the shelves, I urge you to return it when you have finished with it. It is well worth reading for many of us I think.

That Girl From Nowhere by Dorothy Koomson



This novel caught my eye because the information on the back of the book stated that it was about adoption, a subject close to my heart. I didn't however start it with great expectations, imagining it to be rather superficial. Instead I found it to be a

fascinating story with some really interesting secondary threads as Clemency, almost by accident, finds her birth parents and her, rather complex, family of siblings. As she uncovers more of her past the impact on her adoptive family is necessarily significant and she discovers secrets there which further complicate her feelings. All this is told in the fascinating context of her job, which is jewellery making, or, more correctly, jewellery refashioning. As someone very interested in craft of all descriptions, this aspect of the novel brought added interest. A good read.

I Wonder Why



Here is a lovely set, in perfect condition, of children's books. These are ideal for Key Stage Two children and a great help to parents (and grandparents!) in answering those awkward questions. They are beautifully illustrated throughout and the format is a series of questions with the appropriate answers. Each book has a subtitle to illustrate the breadth of the information. I wonder why Snakes shed their Skin and other questions about reptiles: I wonder why Triceratops Had Horns and other questions about dinosaurs: I wonder why Castles Had Moats and other questions about long ago: I wonder why Pyramids were built and other questions about Ancient Egypt. I have enjoyed these books with my pupils and grandchildren and incidentally learned a good deal along the way!

Carol

Hall Usage - May

Sunday		
Every Sunday	10.30am	Sunday School Contact: Maggie Townsley & Helen Carter Mob. 07748 208649
		Monday
1st Monday of the month	7.30pm	Select Vestry Meeting Contact: Heather Pentland Mob. 07834 771075
2nd & 4th Mondays of the month	7.30pm	Chattering Needles Chattering Needles is a craft group whose interests include knitting, crochet, cross stitch card making etc. If you want to learn come along. £2 includes supper. For more info please contact me. Jenny 07748580541
3rd Monday of the month	8.00pm	Mothers Union (Maxwell Hall) Contact: Mae Burke Mob. 07810 440492
		Tuesday
2nd Tuesday of the month	8.00pm	Groomsport & District Gardening Club Contact: Yvonne McIlmail Tel: 02891 469420 E. y.mcilmail@sky.com
Every Tuesday	10.00am	Tai Chi for Health 10am - 11am Contect: Janet Wilson Tel: 028 91077948 Mob: 07703360385
		Wednesday
Every Wednesday	9.30am	You can with Ann Motivation & Exercise class Contact: Ann Parker Mob. 07854 787121
Every Wednesday	10.30am	Keep Fit Exercise Class Contact: Ann Parker Mob. 07854 787121
Every Wednesday	2.00pm	Scrabble Contact: Elaine Lester Mob. 07791 569432 E. elliewag57@yahoo.com
Every Wednesday	3pm-4pm	Tai Chi For Health Contect: Janet Wilson Tel: 028 91077948 Mob: 07703360385 Class resumes in September

	ı	
Every Wednesday	5.30pm	You can with Ann Motivation & Exercise class Contact: Ann Parker Mob. 07854 787121
Every Wednesday	6.30pm	Keep Fit Exercise Class Contact: Ann Parker Mob. 07854 787121
Every Wednesday	7.30pm	Bible Study (Avril Morley Room)
3rd Wednesday of the month	7.30pm	Cookery Club Contact: Heather Magill E. mag16ill@hotmail.co.uk
Thursday		
Every Thursday	2.00pm	Evergreens Open to all over fifty year olds and new members always welcome. Contact: Valerie Boyd Mob. 02891465103
Every Thursday	2pm- 5pm	Groomsport Parish Art Class Continues to meet on Thursday afternoons. All welcome. Further information Stuart Tanner: 07411178230 or Carol Barbosa: 02891456971
Every Thursday except 1st of the month	7.30pm	Table Tennis Club This is a game for everyone whatever your age so please join us. Contact: John Hand Tel. 028 9146 8061 Mob. 07540 375785
Saturday		
4th Saturday of the month	10.00am	Walking for Softies Venues vary. Meeting at 10.00am at chosen location. Contact: Ken Boyd Tel. 028 9146 5103

Thoughts of a Blow In...

So, winter finally seems to be on the wane. We are creeping into double figures temperature-wise, with only the odd hailstorm to keep us on our toes. There's not too much in the way of sunshine, but we can't expect everything!

With an early and chilly Easter this year, that made the social aspect of catching up with friends even warmer and more special. I had a wonderful time with an extended family and all their nearly grown-up children, home briefly from university or their first jobs over the water. During the evening, they soon forgot their adult dignity and even engaged in an impromptu Easter egg hunt with shrieks and giggles!

It was young Sam's birthday over in England at Easter time too. He has been working very hard for his for his first bigschool exams, so I sent him a voucher as a gift. I got a lovely card from him to say that he was putting it towards a Marvel Avengers Lego set, so he is a happy boy!

I did a little Easter baking for my neighbours, and saved a good portion of the lemon drizzle cake for the family next door. I spotted the little ones going up the front steps with their mum and called out if anyone wanted cake. This prompted an invasion by all three of them barreling through the door in no time.

After a slight squabble as to who should have the honour of carrying the plate, (Leo won, on the proviso of being carefully supervised by his big sisters) I was then instructed to cut the cake into five equal pieces (one each for them and one each for mummy and daddy) with them all watching over me, beady-eyed.

When this ceremony was duly done to their satisfaction, Leo took the plate, looked dubiously at the cake, then back up at me and said, "That's not very much!"

Since they had all the cake that was left, I have no idea how he expected me to magic up any more from nowhere!

I couldn't resist choosing a verse from Percy Bysshe Shelley's poem The Sensitive Plant which describes the coming of spring so beautifully.

Cynthia



Prayer Room

I found this poem during one of my spells in the prayer room and was very moved by it. It has so much to say to us, encourages us in many of the aspects of life which frustrate and concern us. It has been printed on a recent weekly flyer but I thought it so worthwhile that I would repeat it once more.

Be not afraid to pray.

Be not afraid to pray – to pray is right. Pray, if thou canst, with hope; but ever pray, Though hope be weak, or sick with long delay; Pray in the darkness, if there be no light. Far is the time, remote from human sight, When war and discord on the earth shall cease; Yet every prayer for universal peace Avails the blessed time to expedite. Whate'er is goo to wish, ask that of Heaven, Though it be what thou canst not hope to see: Pray to be perfect, though material leaven Forbid the spirit so on earth to be; But if for any wish thou darest not pray, Then pray to God to cast that wish away. Hartley Coleridge 1796-1849 asses of

Some observations and thoughts from our "Visitors' Book":-

Faith makes all things possible
Hope makes all things work
Love makes all things beautiful.

Space to just be.

Time to think.

Desire to pray

Thank you.

alexan

We now have another rich source of your prayers, hopes and reflections, I hope you look forward as I do to sharing them during the coming months, thank you to all those who contributed to this column during Holy Week.

Carol

