

St Aidan's Parish Magazine

Enabling People to find a living faith in a loving God

Spring 2018

SERVING CHRIST IN THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1895



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

We join St Simons and Donegall Road Methodist for Holy Week Services at 7.30pm

March 28th Wednesday Donegall Road Methodist

29th Maundy Thursday Communion St. Simons

30th Good Friday Meditation St. Aidans

April 1st Sunday 11am Easter Communion Celebration St. Aidans

Minister in Charge: Revd Bobbie Moore

Church address: Blythe Street, Sandy Row, BT12 5HX

Website: www.staidan.connor.anglican.org

Charity Registration No. CCNI 101978



SERVICE TIMES March - May

MARCH

- 4 Lent 3:** 11am Confirmation and Communion
11 Lent 4: 11am Informal Service for Mothering Sunday
18 Lent 5: 11am Baptism
25 Palm Sunday - 11am Informal Service
28 Wednesday of Holy Week - 7.30pm Donegall Road Methodist
29 Maundy Thursday - 7.30pm HC Communion St Simons
30 Good Friday Meditation - 7.30pm St Aidan's

APRIL

- 11 1am Easter Communion Celebration**
8 Easter 2: 11am Morning Prayer
15 Easter 3: 11am Informal Service
22 Easter 4: 11am Morning Prayer
29 Easter 5: 11am Baptism 7pm Service for Healing and Wholeness in St Simons

MAY

- 6 Easter 6:** 11am Parish Communion
13 Easter 7: 11am Morning Prayer
20 Pentecost: 11am Baptism
27 Trinity: 11am Children's Day
Lenten Talks (Canon Ken) Church Hall Wednesdays at 7.30pm
Mid-week Service: First and Third Thursdays at 3pm



DAILY PRAYER POINTS – PUSH (Pray Until Something Happens!)

One helpful structure for prayer is given by the acronym “ACTS”, representing adoration, confession, thanksgiving and supplication (or intercession). **Adoration** is to adore God, to worship him and to fulfil the commandment to love him with all of our heart, mind and soul.

Many of the psalms will help us. **Confession** allows us to clear away the things in the relationship between us and God which are displeasing to Him. All of us have sinned.

Thanksgiving. From childhood we are brought up to say “Thank You” when someone does something for us, or gives us a gift. Each moment God is blessing us, every minute we can recall the wonderful things that God has done for us, and the gifts that we have been given.

Supplication or Intercession. Finally we come to ask God for our needs and the needs of others. There are many demands on our prayer time - many topics and issues that we could pray for, so we need to choose, and to be specific.

Pray for others. Pray for your family members, and for neighbours and friends and the Church family. It's also good to pray for those who don't know Jesus to come to faith - many Christians have come to believe in Christ through the prayers of others.

Pray for world issues: for peace in difficult situations, for leaders and those in influential positions, especial for our local politicians; for global issues such as care of God's environment, justice for the poor, relief of suffering in less developed countries, and other issues that come to you.

Pray for your own needs too. It's easy to neglect this, but Jesus encourages us to do so in the **Lord's Prayer** - the model for prayer that He gave us.

Dear Church Family,

This year Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day fell on the same date. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent - a time for penitence and fasting while St Valentine's Day is all about hearts and flowers, cards and gifts celebrating romantic love. However there is a wonderful connection between these two very different designations of the same day as they each have love at their source. True love is a beautiful thing, but the most beautiful love of all is the love God has for you and me. 'For God so loved the world!' The message of the cross leads us on our journey through Lent to Easter, when once again the date gives us pause for thought. Easter Day falls on 1 April, also known as All Fools Day! The Apostle Paul reminds us -



"The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God". 1 Co.1:18

Lent is a season of re-turning to God for healing and reconciliation. I invite you to use this time to think seriously about your relationship with a loving God who died to save you and who lives to give you life - abundantly

What to Give Up for Lent!

GIVE UP grumbling! Instead, "In everything give thanks." Constructive criticism is OK, but "moaning, groaning, and complaining" are not Christian disciplines.

GIVE UP 10 to 15 minutes in bed! Instead, use that time in prayer, Bible study and personal devotion.

GIVE UP looking at other people's worst points. Instead concentrate on their best points. We all have faults. It is a lot easier to have people overlook our shortcomings when we overlook theirs first.

GIVE UP speaking unkindly. Instead, let your speech be generous and understanding. It costs so little to say something kind and uplifting. Why not check that sharp tongue at the door?

GIVE UP your hatred of anyone or anything! Instead, learn the discipline of love. "Love covers a multitude of sins."

GIVE UP your worries and anxieties! Instead, trust God with them. Anxiety is spending emotional energy on something we can do nothing about: like tomorrow! Live today and let God's grace be sufficient.

GIVE UP TV one evening a week! Instead, visit some lonely or sick person.

There are those who are isolated by illness or age. Why isolate yourself in front of the "tube?" Give someone a precious gift: your time!

GIVE UP buying anything but essentials for yourself! Instead, give the money to God. The money you would spend on the luxuries could help someone meet basic needs. We are called to be stewards of God's riches, not consumers.

GIVE UP judging by appearances and by the standard of the world! Instead, learn to give up yourself to God. There is only one who has the right to judge, Jesus Christ.

Craig Gates, Jackson, MS, "What to Give up for Lent"

Warm Greetings in Christ,

Revd Bobbie.



www.facebook.com/staidansandyrow



ST AIDAN'S GIRLS BRIGADE



Following on from the last magazine update. Each week the officers and girls continue to work on a programme of varied activities, under the headings of Spiritual, Physical, Educational and Service towards each girl achieving their badges at the end of the year, together with their attendance awards if they have attended enough nights throughout the year as set by Girls Brigade HQ.

Our Enrolment Service took place on Sunday 25th November, the company parading to and from church as usual led by Suffolk Melody Band, we are very thankful for their support each year. The numbers in the company have fallen especially in the older sections and it was great to see the majority of girls attending and looking lovely in their uniforms. It was also very encouraging to see so many parents and friends supporting us at this very important service in our GB year. Special thanks also to Canon Ken McReynolds and his daughter for the puppet show and talk they prepared, the girls enjoyed the puppets very much.

Junior girls had another visit this time to the Fire Station on the Lisburn Road. The fire crew were very welcoming and happy to show the girls around, they even got a ride in the fire engine, worked the water hoses and some got to dress in fire suits. You will see from photos it was a fun evening for everyone.

On Saturday 2nd December our Explorer verse speaking team travelled to Ballymena for the N.I. Choral Speaking Finals where they performed brilliantly and did St. Aidan's proud. Well done girls for all your hard work practicing and thank you to our President Margaret Close for training the girls.

Friday 8th December was Christmas Party night, Tiny Tot, Explorer and Junior girls all went to Indianaland for the evening, braving the snowy weather. Thankfully we got there and back safely and the girls enjoyed all the slides and climbing frames. I am sure they slept well that night.

During December we made reindeer lollies and reindeer food which we sold at our tuck shop in aid of The Northern Ireland Children's Hospice, we are delighted to have been able to send a £100 from our fundraiser.

We started back on Friday 5th January and the Explorer girls were very busy designing and painting their T-shirts for GB HQ T-Shirt design competition. The girls were really artistic and creative in their designs and used the theme of Under the Sea and Fishers of Men bible story with pictures of Jonah and the Whale and Noah's Ark painted on the T shirts. 40 winning T-shirts will be sent to Uganda for a new school through Fields of Life charity. You will see from the photographs how well the T-shirts were presented.

Unfortunately this year we have not been able to enter teams into PE competitions due to low numbers.

IMPORTANT DATES

We have decided this year to run both the Judging and Bible Class exam on the same evening, Friday 23rd March 2018.

Family and Friends Evening – Friday 27th April 2018.

GIRLS WILL GET FURTHER DETAILS FOR ALL EVENTS NEARER THE TIME

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT FIONA ON 07776234830 THANK YOU - THE OFFICERS

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

LENT

Lent is a time in our lives where we are especially called to reflect on our own lives and ask ourselves, how much do we thirst for an intimate relationship with our loving Lord Jesus, who is just waiting for us to respond to his Love?

Although Jesus was the perfect Son of God with no work of repentance or sanctification necessary, He still did go through experiences in the wilderness. He battled and overcame the devil; He proved the power of God's Word and confirmed the truth of His divinity.

He then returned from the wilderness in the power of the Holy Spirit ready to begin his public ministry on earth. So, carrying on the theme of the wilderness, I thought I'd use the scriptures Jesus quoted, when tempted by the devil as a focus this lent.

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. Deuteronomy 8:3

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Service on the 2nd March at 7.30pm
Will be held in Donegall Road Methodist Church,

This service has been written by the Christian women of Suriname who have chosen for their theme: 'All God's Creation is very good'.

Please do join us as we participate in this annual service.

MOTHERING SUNDAY

11th March is the day in which many celebrate the love of their mothers.

MU is no different, in that they to reach out with your help to "Make a Difference" in mothers lives around the world.

If you wish to "Make a Mother's Day Donation" please see order booklets or speak to myself, I will have all the details required.

THE MU FESTIVAL SERVICE will take place in St. Anne's Cathedral at 3.30pm on Sunday 18th March 2018.

This annual service is well supported by the members from across the diocese.

For something different we will next meet at the Church instead of the church hall.

More information will be available at the March meeting.

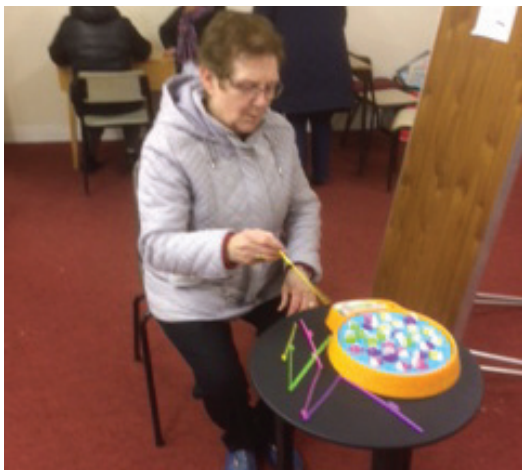
THE MU SOUTH BELFAST AREA SOCIAL

will take place in Vic-Ryn's on the Lissue Industrial Estate, Moira Road, Lisburn at 10.30am on Sat 26th May,

Barbara Bowden



St Aidan's Activities & Events



A Mother's Day Prayer

Our Father in heaven Whose love is Devine
Thanks for the love of a mother like mine.
In thy great mercy, look down from above
And grant this dear mother, the gift of your love.

And all through the year, whatever betide her
Assure her each day that you are beside her.
And, Father in heaven, show me the way
To lighten her tasks and brighten her day.
And bless her dear heart with the insight to see

That her love means more than the world to me.

Author. *Helen Steiner Rice.*

Happy Mother's Day

And Grandma's too.....

While we honour all our mothers with words of love and praise

While we tell about their goodness and their kind and loving ways

We should also think of Grandma, she's a mother too you see...

For she mothered my dear mother as my mother mothered me. *Author Unknown.*

(Mothers hold their children's hands for a short while, but their hearts forever)

From Another Church Mag.

Don't be surprised if you find mistakes in this church newsletter. We aim to print something for everyone. And some people are always looking for mistakes!

Life is ... Rather like a tin of sardines:

We're all looking for the key. *Alan Bennett.*

Man: A creature made at the end of a week's work when God was tired. *Mark Twain.*

Memoirs: When you put down the good things you ought to have done and leave out the bad ones you did do. *Will Rodgers.*

Moral Indignation: Jealousy with a halo.

H.G. Wells.

Radical: One with both feet planted in the air.
Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Easter - THE RESURRECTION

Matthew ch28 v 1-6

After the Sabbath at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, went to look at the tomb.

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it.

His appearance was like lightning and his clothes were white as snow.

The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here"

HE HAS RISEN.

The Value of a Smile

It costs nothing but creates much.

It enriches those who receive without impoverishing those who give.

None are so well off that they can get along without it

And none so poor but are richer for its benefits.

It creates happiness in the home, fosters goodwill in business

And is the countersign of friends.

It is rest to the weary, daylight to the discouraged,

Sunshine to the sad and nature's best remedy for trouble.

Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen,

For it is something that is no earthly good to anybody

Until it is given away.

To smile then is to look at others with the eyes of Christ.

To know how to love them and smile at them, through our tears if need be,

Is to breathe in advance, the atmosphere of Heaven.



Over this last term in Messy Church we have been focusing our thoughts of putting on “the whole armour of God” (Ephesians 6 v. 10). We have made “the shield of faith” and “the belt of truth”, so that we can be “strong in the Lord and his great power”.

Over the next term we plan to meet on:

Friday 13th April.

Friday 11th May

Friday 8th June

from 4 to 6pm in St Aidan's church hall.

Many Thanks. Alison Shaw



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

We had a great time at Christmas. Our Nativity Play went well.

The children took more of the major parts and made a brilliant job of them. Of course we had our usual willing helpers from the congregation. Thanks to all for a lovely morning.

Our final Children's Church, with prize giving will be on Sunday 27th May. We will of course have had an outing before this. More details nearer the time.

We have a healthy Children's Church with a very faithful group of children and very supportive parents/grandparents etc. As usual we value your prayers and support

Barbara, Dorothy, Gladys and Lynn.

Craft Group

Jaki Polly and her craft group will have met on Tuesday 13th February for Easter craft. We look forward to seeing the results at Easter.

Relevant To All Ages

The Relevant To All Ages Team consists of Alison Shaw, Alice Redpath, Dorothy, Margaret, Arlene, Brenda, Andrea and Jaki, with, of course, help from many people who support our efforts. Well, what can I say, we had a brilliant Christmas. The Christmas Light Switch On was amazing. All the lights worked and “The Route Singers” lifted the event to a whole new level. They sang three carols outside and then we had an evening of music in the church. A great night. We enjoyed a games night on the 20th of January. Thanks to all who turned out on such a cold night. Our barn dance is postponed until May 18th due to clashes of dates with Lenten Meetings.

Food Bank

Thanks to all for the Christmas collection. The South Belfast Food bank really appreciates our support and since we put our donations into Friendship House, they are used for people in our own area. Monetary donations are welcome and are used to pay the rent for storage facilities and to purchase items which are in short supply. We will have an Easter collection.

Diary Dates

Easter egg Hunt after service on Easter morning 1st April

(Donations of eggs for this event will be welcome) *This is NOT an April Fool joke*

Barn Dance 18th May 2018

Don't forget to pass on any ideas you have to a member of the Relevant to All Ages Team.

A WORD FROM CANON KEN



Every time I'm visiting in the shadow of Windsor Park (and we have quite a few people on our lists up there) I feel myself to be in kind of enemy territory! You see since I retired and moved to live in the Lurgan area I have become something of a Glenavon fan. Linfield supporters in the parish may have heard of us. We beat you in last year's cup final and we are currently Six points above you in the league! Just thought I'd mention it!!

However, my next-door neighbour who is a lifelong Glenavon supporter keeps our feet on the ground with his realism; he says Glenavon are like the Grand Old Duke of York – they 'bring us near the top of the league and bring us down again!'

You know, as we seek to live as professing Christians, our lives can be like that too. We're gliding along smoothly, the sun is shining, God is in his heaven looking down on us and we're 'riding the crest of the wave' – and then, wham, we 'have a bad result'. Maybe we fail God badly or something in our lives becomes a barrier between us and Him. Maybe we have just neglected living in fellowship with him by spending time in His presence, or perhaps even trying times in our lives make us question if He really cares.

For one reason or another we're down again – and the 'valley' can be a difficult place to be. If only we could skip from one mountain top to another – always on top. But life isn't like that.

However in that place of failure, pain and struggle there's someone we can look out for and find – because he spends a lot of time there looking for his children. He calls himself the Good Shepherd and he wants to bring our wounded lives back to his fold. Look for him 'at the bottom of your hill'

As for Glenavon – no Divine promise here! We're on our own. Either we're good enough to the end of the season or we're not. If we finish badly I've a feeling there'll be a few men around St Aidan's who will delight in humming 'The Grand Old Duke of York' when they see me coming!

Canon Ken

BIBLE STUDY

New Six Week Session during Lent.

On Wednesday evenings during Lent, Canon Ken will give a series of illustrated talks entitled ***"What is unique about the Christian Faith?"*** 7.30pm in church hall.

BOWLS

The Bowls will be meeting as usual on Monday nights. We also ask members to attend the Good Friday service in church on the 30th March @ 7.30 pm. See you there, Gladys.



PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

SHANNON NELSON	18 FEBRUARY 2018
CHANTELLE HINDES	18 FEBRUARY 2018
KREE MOOREHEAD	18 FEBRUARY 2018
RUBY CALVERT	25 FEBRUARY 2018

FUNERALS

JOHN STRINGER	29 DECEMBER 2017
AGNES CARLISLE	25 JANUARY 2018

PASTORAL NOTES

Baptisms: Are usually held during Family Service on the third Sunday of each month. Parents should contact Revd Bobbie who will be happy to discuss what is involved. Baptism is the beginning of a faith journey: parents and godparents are required to make promises before God, that they will nurture faith in their children.

Weddings: Couples should contact Revd Bobbie to discuss arrangements before any firm bookings are made.

Funerals: Please notify Revd Bobbie immediately upon serious illness or death. Clergy should always be consulted before any funeral plans or times are arranged. The Church is available for any funeral service.

Finance: Details of Freewill Offering Envelopes, Gift Aid and Parish Financial Report are all available on request.

Please inform Revd Bobbie or the Church

Flower Rota

March

4th

11th Mrs. W. Campbell
18th The Mackey Family
25th Mrs. D. Hamill

April

1st Mrs. M. Hoy
8th Mrs. S. Sloan
15th The Hilditch Family
22nd Mrs. B. Weir

May

6th

13th Mrs. G. Hollywood &
Mrs. B. Bowden
20th Mr. & Mrs. B. Richardson
27th Mrs. E. Williamson

Wardens of parishioners who are ill at home or in hospital and those who wish to receive Communion at home. Also let us know if you would like a name added to the weekly parish prayer list or contact the prayer line: **07733 712942.**

Please ensure that all articles for Summer Magazine reach Liz Adair / Margaret Close by the 8th May Thank you



Thrift Shop

OPEN MOST WEEKDAYS
11am – 3pm BRIC A BRAC
& CLOTHING
Providing a service to the community

WHO'S WHO IN ST AIDAN'S

Minister in Charge: Rev. Bobbie Moore

02892 682789 / 07746583470

Assistant Minister: Canon Ken McReynolds

Parish Reader: Mr John Collins BSc.

Family Parish Worker: Mrs Alison Shaw

07547030451

Organist: Mr Daniel Clements

Honorary Secretary: Mr. John Griffin

07729204457

Honorary Treasurer: Mrs. Dorothy Coates

02890 692132

Rector's Church Warden: Mrs. Barbara Bowden

02890 312620

People's Church Warden: Mr. Robert Redpath

Rector's Glebe Warden: Mr. Alwyn Campbell

07712935504

People's Glebe Warden: Mr. Eddie Murray

02890 586733

Members of Select Vestry for 2017 – 2018

Mr. J. Griffin, Mr. R. Griffin,

Mr. A. Serplus, Mrs. E. Adair,

Mr. J. Hunter, Mrs. M. Close,

Mrs. E. Collins, Mr. J. Collins,

Mrs. D. Coates, Mrs. A. Hunter,

Mrs. A Richardson.

Parish Organisations & Contacts

Sunday Children's Church: Mrs Dorothy Coates

02890 692132

Monday Bowls: Mrs Gladys Holywood

Wednesday Bible Study Group: Revd Bobbie

07746583470

Thursday Mothers' Union: Mrs Barbara Bowden

02890 312620

Select Vestry: Mr John Griffin

07729204457

Friday Girls Brigade: Mrs Fiona Hendren

07776234830

Messy Church: Mrs Alison Shaw

07547030451