

# St Aidan's Parish Magazine

Enabling People to find a living faith in a loving God

Summer 2018

SERVING CHRIST IN THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1895



Sunday Worship at 11 am

1st Sunday - Holy Communion

2nd and 4th Sunday - Morning Prayer

3rd & 5th Sunday - Informal Service

Minister in Charge: Revd Bobbie Moore

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

Website: [www.staidan.connor.anglican.org](http://www.staidan.connor.anglican.org)

Charity Registration No. CCNI 101978



## Service Times June – August at 11am

### JUNE

**3 Trinity 1:** Parish Communion

**10 Trinity 2:** Morning Prayer - Baptism

**17 Trinity 3:** informal Service - Thanksgiving for Family Pets Celebrating God's Creation. All pets and owners welcome!

**24 Trinity 4:** Morning Prayer

### JULY

**1 Trinity 5:** Parish Communion

**8 Trinity 6:** Morning Prayer

**15 Trinity 7:** Informal Service

**22 Trinity 8:** Morning Prayer

**29 Trinity 9:** Informal Service - Songs of Praise hosted by Mothers Union in aid of fundraiser 'The Summer of Hope'

### AUGUST

**5 Trinity 10:** Parish Communion

**12 Trinity 11:** Morning Prayer

**19 Informal Service**

**26 St. Aidan's Day Morning Prayer**

Hymns of Praise to celebrate St Aidan's Day

*Although Children's Church takes a break during the holiday season, children are welcome at all services. We don't provide a formal crèche but the church room is available for parents to supervise children if they become restless.*



### **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,

I'm writing this on Ascension Day, the fortieth day of Easter, the time when, as recorded by Luke, 'Jesus was taken up to heaven'. (Acts 1:1). His earthly ministry complete, he left the future of the Church with his followers. He told them to be his witnesses - but only after they received the gift of the Holy Spirit, his continuing powerful presence, which would enable them to continue his work – proclaiming the Good News of salvation for all people.



St Aidan's is part of that continuing witness in this place at this time. As I reflect on the work and witness of our parish church, the image of family is very much to the fore. We are a family, there are those who know each other well, meet regularly on a Sunday and at other times and enjoy friendship and fellowship together. Then there is the extended family, those at a distance. Perhaps reading this you fall into that category. You have a connection, but it is not a close one. It might be that you attended church as a child and have grown away from that practice, or maybe your parents or grandparents were members. However, there are times when you return – perhaps for a baptism, a wedding or a funeral. I meet many of you on those occasions. You tell me how much St Aidan's means to you and how welcome you feel when you come. It is particularly encouraging when young families come for baptism; but so disappointing when often we do not see them again until the next 'special' occasion.

With this issue of the magazine you will receive a copy of the Annual Report. In it you will see the large number of people who make up St Aidan's family, those who are on the parish list who contribute through the freewill offering system. You will find your number there and be able to see the amount of your contribution. Many of you are generous in your giving, but you will see from the financial statements that we are not making ends meet. The large number of extended family members could make an enormous difference to the life of the church by their more regular attendance and financial support.

After Ascension comes Pentecost. God by his Holy Spirit breathes life into his Church. My prayer is that we would all be willing to receive that gift so that we may continue to be his witnesses both individually and as members of St Aidan's Church Family.

*“Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

*Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

*Warm Greetings in Christ,*

*Revd Bobbie.*



[www.facebook.com/staidansandyrow](http://www.facebook.com/staidansandyrow)



## ST AIDAN'S GIRLS BRIGADE ROUND UP FROM GB!!!!



On returning from our Christmas break, Friday nights in the hall from January through to March were mainly focused on completion of activities for section badges, preparing girls for judging and bible class exam. We also started preparing items for our Family and Friends evening.

Our judging took place on 23rd March 2018, two officers from Finaghy Methodist GB came along and assessed the girls. We would like to thank them for giving up their time to adjudicate. On the same night the Juniors sat their bible class exam covering the course sat by GB HQ. We would like to thank Rev. Bobbie for taking the time to come down on Friday nights to cover the course with the girls, it is very much appreciated. We would also as a company like to thank all parents, grandparents and friends of the company who came along to our Family and Friends evening on 27th April 2018 to support the Officers and girls. The Officers were delighted that Mrs Dorothy Coates accepted the invitation to be our "Guest of Honour" and what a great job she did.

We know Dorothy and others in the congregation are always interested in our work and it was lovely to have someone close to the company to present the girls with their awards.

We hope you enjoyed the evening especially our colourful items "The Rainbow Fish" and "The Princess and the Pea". The girls really enjoy taking part and there is great excitement when auditioning for parts. Well done girls you all did fantastic.

Thank you also to our President, Mrs Margaret Close. Margaret comes down faithfully every Friday night and helps wherever she is needed. She organises the tuck shop and keeps it well stocked up with the girl's favourites. Margaret also coached the Explorers in Verse Speaking where they attained a distinction in the Northern Ireland Finals. Well done everyone.

We would like to congratulate all girls on their achievements throughout the session, you all looked great and worked hard at our Family and Friends evening, special well done to those girls who were awarded cups on the night.

We hope you have a lovely break over the summer and look forward to seeing you all back in September. *The Officers*

### AWARDS 2017 - 2018

#### SCRIPTURE AWARDS

**Junior** - 1st - Zara Dickson - 90% Tie for 2nd - Brooke Allison & Imogen Swain - 70%

**Brigader** - 1st - Zara Gregg - 97%

#### SECTION ALL ROUND CUPS

##### **Tiny Tot 1**

Tie for 1st - Evie McAllister  
& Hannah-Rose Burns

2nd - Georgie Meehan

3rd - Jorgie McCormick

##### **Junior**

1st - Bobby Butler

2nd - Zara Dickson

##### **Brigader**

1st - Zara Gregg

##### **Brigader**

1st - Zara Gregg

1st - Olivia Henning

2nd - Taylor Gill

##### **Explorer 1**

1st - Heidi Norris

2nd - Khaili Cooper

3rd - Maisie McComb

##### **Explorer 2**

1st - Jessica Campbell

2nd - Alex Meehan

3rd - Oratile Leso

##### **Best Recruit**

1st - Maci-Nicole Philip - Tiny Tot 2

2nd - Maisie McComb - Explorer 1

##### **Best Progress – Younger Sections**

1st - Abigail Sergeant – Explorer 2

2nd - Jorgie McCormick – Tiny Tot 1

3rd - Channel Cooper – Explorer 2

##### **Best Progress – Company Section**

1st - Bobby Butler - Junior

##### **Badgework Cup**

1st - Khaili Cooper (Explorer)

# Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Sunday 17th June is "Father's Day".

In John 3:1 we read: How great is the Love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

It's great when the relationship between Dads and their children (whatever their age) is solid. Yet for many sadly this isn't the case, for all sorts of reasons.

Then Father's Day can be a painful time.

But no matter how well or otherwise Fathers fulfil their role, they will never be perfect, we can't expect them to be!

Only our heavenly Father is the true model of perfection for us.

All of us, children and fathers alike, can only know total security through loving and being LOVED by God.

**Pray for Dads:** For Fathers to be equipped and enabled as they live out the responsibilities that go with the title, and for their joys to outweigh their challenges. *Amen.*

We as members of MU know the importance of prayer in our daily lives.

We have a resource through the MU Prayer Diary, this enables us as Christian women to pray.

Let us over the summer, focus on prayer for all parents, single, or step parents and not forgetting grandparents whose wisdom

can create lasting bonds.

As we break for the summer, do enjoy your families and come back refreshed and focused.

We meet again on September 20th at 8pm in the Church hall when we will have a talk from Mr George Ellwood on the subject 'The Big Yellow Bus'. *Barbara Bowden*

## THE FIRST FATHER'S DAY

In 1909, a woman was listening to a sermon on the virtues of Motherhood and she began to wonder why fathers weren't honoured in the same way.

The more she thought about it, the more the idea took hold and she decided to do something about it.

Sonora Dodd enthusiastically campaigned to this end and in June 1910, in her home town of Spokane, Washington,

The first Father's Day was celebrated. Gradually, this idea spread across the United States and then became accepted worldwide.

Isn't it truly amazing what can be achieved by something that starts as a simple thought?







Our June meeting of Messy Church will take place on Friday 8 June from 4-6pm.

During the summer months there will be some holiday Bible clubs for children.

#### **Friendship House**

Monday 30th July- Friday 3rd August

Monday 13th August - Friday 17th August

#### **Great Victoria Street Baptist**

Monday 13th August - Friday 17th August

#### **Craft Group**

Jaki Polly will be organising a craft group in the church (NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE) during July and August.

More details in pew notes at a later date.



#### **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

We have had a fairly quiet time since Christmas but our numbers have held up and it is exciting to see some new faces joining us. We had a lovely morning with Erin's daughter Caitlin.

Our outing to Indiana land will be on Saturday 26th May and our final Children's Church, with prize giving will be on Sunday 27th May.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Lynn, as she mourns the death of her mother and of course with Matthew, James and Emma, who will always remember their granny.

We are always grateful to our supportive parents/grandparents etc. As usual we value your prayers and encouragement.

Our opening Children's Church will take place on Sunday 23rd September.

*Barbara, Dorothy, Gladys and Lynn.*

#### **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.

We are planning our barn dance, which will take place on Friday 18th May and will probably be over by the time you read this, so I hope we have all enjoyed a great night.

We have nothing planned for June as the usual sponsored walk, organised by Elizabeth Collins and Margaret Griffin, will take place on 1st June and is the major fund- raising event

#### **Food Bank**

Thanks to all for the Easter 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 used to buy items in short supply and to pay the rent for storage.

#### **Diary Dates**

Saturday 1 September - **Parish Quiet Morning in Church** 10.30am – 1.30pm

Bring your lunch: tea/coffee provided

22nd September 2018 - **Macmillan Coffee Morning**

November - **Anniversary of The End of World War One / Music Hall Night.** Date later

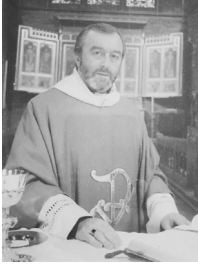
Sunday 2nd December 2018 - **Route Choir / Christmas Light Switch on**

Plenty to look forward to. We look forward to seeing you at all these events

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

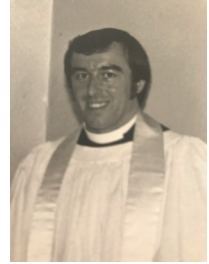


## OBITUARY



Reverend John Mackey 04.03.1934 - 07.05.2018

It was with deep regret that we learned of the death of the Revd. John Mackey of Crewe, England and extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Audrey and family.



John grew up in the parish of St. Aidan's. He lived in Aughrim Street with his parents Bobby and Maud and his two younger sisters Ruby and Margaret. He attended Workman Infant School across the road from where he lived, then onto Blythe Street School and finishing in Linfield Intermediate. John left school at the age of fourteen to start work in Hanna and Browne as an apprentice French Polisher and later leaving there, to go and work in the Belfast Telegraph.

John was very much involved in St. Aidan's parish life, attending church and Sunday school each week, becoming a member of the C.L.B. and joining the church choir. He was a popular young man and made many friendships that lasted long after he left these shores, in fact they lasted a lifetime.

His love of the church put him on a spiritual path and John left Sandy Row to travel to England and train as a minister. While training in England he met and married Audrey, a union that was to last fifty-five years. John and Audrey settled down into married life and had three children, Michael, Ruth and Peter.

John never forgot his roots in Sandy Row or the love he had for St. Aidan's. Returning home on his many visits to see his family, he liked nothing better than walking up Blythe Street to St. Aidan's and sharing in the fellowship with family and friends and occasionally preaching as well.

He loved to travel and organised many church trips to the Holy Land and Rome, taking a special delight in seeing the places and cultures he had only read and talked about on a Sunday. He also enjoyed the great holidays he and Audrey spent with their sons who were living in the Far East, travelling to Thailand, Hong Kong and China. John retired from the Ministry in the year 2000, his last parish was St. Michael's in Coppenhall, Crewe. When retired he became interested in studying his family tree. Through doing this, Audrey and him were able to travel to Canada and the United States and join in a big reunion of the Mackey family, meeting relatives they had never known.

The last years of John's life were overshadowed with ill health but he still retained that spark and love of life and involved himself in as many things as he physically could, enjoying day trips out with Audrey, family and friends. John touched many lives in his lifetime, his life as a minister brought him into contact with many people. John was a loving husband, father, grand-father, great grand-father, brother, uncle, cousin and friend. Sadly, John died on the 7th May.

He will be very much missed by all who knew him.

He will be very much remembered by St. Aidan's Church Family.



### A WORD FROM CANON KEN

My eight year old grandson can't understand why I keep saying that Spring is my favourite season. "But Grandad", he said, "the weather's better in the summer and in all those weeks off school I can do stuff!"

And it's certainly difficult to argue with that. He doesn't understand about deadness in the garden and in the fields giving way to new growth, and even if he did – so what? But maybe someday, when he too is an old man, he'll appreciate how my spirit surges when I see a plant or shrub that is clearly dead, parts of it already rotting in the soil perhaps, suddenly produce new fresh shoots of foliage. It's hard to believe but as the next few days come and go there are more shoots, some of them already opening up with promise for the summer season around the corner.

Not exactly a riveting concept for a child but for the rest of us it is an annual reminder of how God renews the earth with His seasonal activity. He brings forth new life from deadness.

But it's also his purpose for our lives as well - and I don't just mean the resurrection to eternal life for every believer (though that's powerful enough!), but God renews us every-time we bring our 'deadness' to him and ask for his touch in our lives; the deadness of unconfessed sin, the deadness we experience when we neglect our prayer life and worship, the deadness of spiritual apathy, the deadness of wrong attitudes, the deadness brought about by worry, sorrow and fear, by poor health – the things that sap up our spiritual energy and make us feel empty inside – and we no longer feel alive. Recognise that feeling?

Well it's Spring! In fact it can be Spring any day of the year when you bring your despair and despairing circumstances to God.

Allow him to work in you and in your circumstances - and look for signs of renewal, of new hope and a new life. It's how God works. He brings new life out of deadness.

He INVENTED 'renewable energy'!

God Bless - *Canon Ken*

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### **BOWLS**

#### St. Aidan's Bowling Club

The club is now on summer recess. I wish the members a restful summer break and hope to see you all return.

The bowling club resumes once again on Monday the 10th September at 7.30pm, meeting as usual in the Church Hall. *Many thanks. Gladys.*



**PARISH REGISTER**

**BAPTISMS**

EBEN PHILIP JOHN CAIRNDUFF	21 FEBRUARY
(at home) (Received into church 1 April 2018)	
DAISY LILY MEEHAN	18 MARCH
AIMÉE LAUREN MARTHA HULL	29 APRIL
CHARLIE CADDEN	20 MAY

**FUNERALS**

MARGARET MERCER	27 FEBRUARY
WINNIE HUNTER	28 FEBRUARY
RAYMOND (RONNIE) HUMPHRIES	23 MARCH
MAUREEN DUNLOP	26 MARCH
MARI SMYTH	12 APRIL
NINA MILLAR	14 APRIL
RITA CARDWELL	10 MAY

**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.

# Flower Rota

**June**  
**3rd Mrs. I. McCreery**  
**10th Mrs. W. Campbell**  
**17th Mrs. N. Baillie**  
**24th Mrs. I. Annett**

**July**  
**1st .....**  
**8th .....**  
**15th .....**  
**22nd Mrs. B. Wilson**

**August**  
**5th .....**  
**12th Mrs. E. Collins**  
**19th Mr E. Gill**  
**26th The Walsh Family**

Please inform Revd Bobbie or the Church 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 6th August. 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.**

**Community Outreach 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**