

AUTUMN 2018 EDITION

SAINTS *Alive!*

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THE MAGAZINE OF ALL SAINTS' PARISH, ANTRIM

END OF TERM RESULTS


School reports are generally given out at the end of a school term or year. It was not an occasion I looked forward to. I will never forget one of the comments I received from my third year Latin teacher, 'An abysmal mark (32%) in an otherwise excellent class.' At the age of 14 I thought Latin was useless and didn't put much effort into it as I thought it would not be beneficial to me in later life. When I had to study Greek at university as part of my theological studies, I realised how short sighted I was and thoroughly enjoyed the challenges of learning this ancient biblical language.

If we were to do a report on all the activities of our parish, I think our report would make for interesting reading.

Our parish centre is a hive of vibrant activity. Day by day, dozens of people pass through its doors and experience a place of fun, welcome and fellowship with activities that cater for our youngest members in Tots'n'us right through our older members in the Evergreens. Not only is this a place for our own parishioners, but the centre is used by outside groups such as Slimming World, Starburst Theatre School, the Contact Centre and the Blood Transfusion Service.

We strive to make our worship as welcoming and as meaningful as possible so that it engages all our parishioners from our youngest members right across the age range to our eldest. It is not easy to try and cater for all preferences in one single act of worship,

ALL SAINTS' PARISH CHURCH



REPORT CARD

Church Fellowship	A*
Parish Centre Activities	A*
Parish Finances	A*
Generosity of Parishioners	A*
Quality of Worship	A*
Influence in the Community	A*
Sunday School Attendance	B-

Year: 17/18 Head: S. McBride

but we have developed a blend of worship that incorporates the best of modern services and music along with those services which reflect our Church of Ireland roots. There is a service whose style will accommodate most preferences. Our worship includes the quietness of the 8.30 Holy Communion and the reflective nature of our evening worship along with our new family service in the Parish Centre and an upbeat service of morning prayer.

Unfortunately we have experienced quite a decline in attendance figures in the past two years. I know that this has not happened because people have fallen out with the clergy;

rather, the rush of life, other activities to do on a Sunday and falling out of the habit of Sunday worship have led to our main Sunday service of regularly having congregations of less than 140 worshippers. Aaron and I have been encouraging parishioners over the past few months to help boost our dwindling attendances. When one or two miss, the worshipping family is diminished.

Please don't be praying the following prayer:

"Dear Lord, I am not going to church today because..." rather, put on your hat and coat and help us address the one area that is lacking in our parish activities.

ALL SAINTS' PARISHIONERS HONoured AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Two of our parishioners visited Buckingham Palace in 2018. Cynthia Cherry went to receive an MBE for 'Services to the Community and Charitable Fundraising in N.I.' on 15 March and the award was presented by Prince Charles. Paddy Wallace was invited to attend a function in the Art Gallery in the Palace in January for her services with Macmillan.

Cynthia said 'I am very humbled to receive this award and while it was awarded to me I consider that it also includes the many people that gave of their hard work and support towards the events that I have organised over the last 14 years.' Cynthia's fund raising activities began when she jointly founded Antrim Junior Chamber. Over the past number of years she has also

been instrumental in generating funding for the building of the Breast Screening Unit at Antrim Area Hospital, Muckamore Abbey swimming pool and has channelled most of her energies with Macmillan. Alongside these areas, Cynthia has given devoted service to All Saints' Parish as our Hon Treasurer along with service at diocesan level on Council and the Finance Committee and on the central Representative Church Body for the Church of Ireland in Dublin where she is on the Pensions Board. Cynthia was accompanied by Marretta Coleman and Irene Gates who represented her Charitable Fundraising and Community Service along with Louise Crooks who represented Cynthia's family.



AN UNEXPECTED INVITATION



When an envelope bearing the Buckingham Palace crest arrived in December, 2017, Paddy Wallace was mystified. It was an invitation to a Reception at the Palace hosted by the Prince of Wales to honour Macmillan volunteers. Paddy and Maud Simpson from the Antrim Fundraising Group with seven others invited from Northern Ireland were among 180 from all over the UK. For nearly three hours on a January evening they enjoyed meeting one another in the wonderful surroundings of the Art Gallery. They were grouped so that Prince Charles, a Patron of Macmillan, spoke with each in return. Paddy said it was a memorable occasion and a privilege to share with so many dedicated volunteers.

PARISH WEBSITE NOW LIVE

We've been working hard to try and bring our website up to date. You can now find articles, copies of our magazines, our social media and links to the live camera feed by visiting antrim.connor.anglican.org



WHAT'S ON

EVENING SERVICES WILL BEGIN ON SUNDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

FUNDAY CLUB

Our Funday Club resumes on **Sunday 9 September**. Please note children must be of primary school age for Funday Club.

RAINBOWS

Rainbows begin on **Monday 10 September at 6.00pm**, and continue each Monday night from 6.00pm - 7.30pm. in All Saints' Church Hall. If you are aged between 4 and 7 years old, would like to make new friends, play games, make things and have a lot of fun, then come along and join us.

3rd ANTRIM BROWNIES

Brownies begin **Monday 10 September at 6.00pm**. We meet every Monday in All Saints' Church Hall in Railway Street, Antrim from 6.00pm - 7.30pm. We do badge work, games, gardening and at Christmas we go Carol singing.

5th ANTRIM SCOUTS

Begins with registration on **Tuesday 11 September at 6.30pm**. Beavers (6 - 8 Year Olds), Cubs (8 - 10½ year olds) and Scouts will begin on **Tuesday 18 September**.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Sunday 14 October - Gifts of flowers, fruit and vegetables can be left in the Church on Friday 12 October from 7.00pm onwards. Volunteers are also requested to come and help decorate the Church at this time.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Sunday 11 November - An Act of Remembrance will take place during the Morning Service at 11.30am. The town's united Act of Remembrance will be held in the Antrim Forum at 3.00pm on the same day.

CHORAL EVENSONG

Resumes at 6.30pm on **Sunday 14 October** in All Saints'. This service is a festival of choral music and the service concludes with refreshments in the Massereene Chapel.

BOWLING CLUB

The Bowling Club resumes on **Wednesday 12 September** at 7.30pm. New members will be made very welcome. The Bowling Club provides many hours of friendship, sport and relaxation throughout the dark hours of winter. Instead of sitting at the fireside why not come along and join in? It doesn't matter if you have never bowled before, you'll soon be given a few handy hints.

HOSPICE COFFEE MORNING

Sunday 14 October after Family Service.

THE EVERGREENS

Begins on **Tuesday 11 September** at 11.00am.

- 11 Sept Stephen Gourley -
The Community Navigator Service
- 9 Oct The Air Ambulance Service
- 13 Nov Age Concern
- 8 Dec Christmas Lunch

MOTHERS' UNION

Summer is slipping by quickly and autumn is on its way. I hope everyone had a relaxing and peaceful break away from all activities and you are now feeling refreshed and ready for another season of activity.

- 13 Sept Holy Communion and
Jim Logan - Funny Stories
- 11 Oct Catherine Campbell -
Faith when time is tough
- Nov Area Service (*to be arranged*)
- Dec Christmas Entertainment (*to be arranged*)

We are looking forward to see you all and new members are always very welcome.



HOG ROAST

Following last year's marvellous and delicious Hog Roast, we are staging another one on **Sunday 16 September** in the parish centre following morning service. Tickets are priced as follows, Adult £7.50, Children over 5 £5, Family £20 (2 adults & 2 children)

AL SAINTS' EVENTS

Over the past few months, there have been some very enjoyable activities in the parish centre and beyond. In April at Massereene Golf Club around sixty people attended our first **Murder Mystery night**. There were several very suspicious and shifty characters present, all with strong motives to commit murder. It was a ghastly attack on a young man. By degrees, suspects

were eliminated and thankfully the murderer was brought to book. Thanks to Claire Thompson and Wendy Smyth for all their efforts to cajole cast members and to everyone who supported the event.



As part of our **Christian Aid** week support, we had a most enlightening service in the parish centre. We watched how people have been trying to rebuild damaged home and lives in the wake violent storms and hurricanes in Haiti. As part of the service we built our own house crafted with prayer bricks, where parishioners wrote prayers of thanksgiving for our blessing and intercessions for those who need so much help to rebuild their lives and devastated communities.



This year's **Wine Tasting** featured wines chosen by several of our parishioners. We began the evening with a rather delicious Freixenet prosecco which had the desired effect of getting the conversations and laughter flowing. Appropriately for the church hall surroundings, we sampled The Holy Snail chardonnay followed by a less well known but equally acceptable Vigneti del Vulture Pipoli Basilicata. Our selection of reds took us first of all to Argentina and a Beef Steak Club meaty Malbec from Mendoza, then it

was off to Spain for an Altos Ibericos Crianza Rioja (probably the most popular sup of the evening) and finishing off with an Il Passo Verde Vigneti Zabu from Italy. Thanks to everyone for their support and to Patrick the new MD of the Vintage for supplying our wines at a very competitive price. £461 was raised for Parish Funds.



It was another exciting **Duck Race** this years, but it was also a bit of an adventure for our catchers as a handful of our yellow friends managed to escape. Instead of the customary 100m paddle, some evaded the catchers and made their way quite a distance down the Six Mile river in a bid for freedom. Not only is this a great fund raiser for All Saints (£994), it provides us with an excellent opportunity for parishioners from all age groups to meet together in a relaxed manner. Thankfully we managed to get everyone served with their burgers and hot dogs before the heavens opened.



MOTHERS' UNION

Our **Mothers' Union** members have been extremely active in the weeks following Easter. On several Monday evenings our Holy Knitters have been knitting and crocheting matinee coats, angel blankets and bonnets for some of the new born babies in the neo-natal unit in Antrim Area Hospital. Members have also supplied wash bags for people who have undergone an emergency admission to the hospital arriving without any of the bare essentials to make their stay a little more comfortable. The children in ward A2 have been supplied with colouring books and pencils. Thanks to those who have supplied wool, thread and knitting needles.

The Holy Knitters will begin again on Monday 24 September at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend and you don't have to be able to knit!

An annual project for Mothers' Union Members throughout Ireland and beyond is the **Mums in May**. This year our MU members organised a **May Mad Hatters Tea Party** which realised a marvellous £410 which was supplemented by £80 raised through a fireside quiz. The evening's entertainment was all home grown. Dr Brian Ford amused us with his excellent anthology of poems, his granddaughter Lara Burton-Ford continued to provide us with lots of laughter by introducing us to an international array of opinionated characters. Three of our couples were quizzed about their marital secrets in a staging of Mr & Mrs and the evening concluded with some community singing. The two highlights of the night were the comedy drama 'Football Mad' which showcased several MU members and others in a hilarious skit and the sumptuous supper.



Over 100 pairs of glasses were collected for a project being run in conjunction with MU and Specsavers. The glasses are destined for people in Uganda who have sight difficulties but cannot afford to purchase a pair of specs.

PARISH REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM

BORN AGAIN OF WATER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

18 March 2018	Brody James	son of Nadine & James Brown 30 Oaktree Drive, Antrim
	Cameron Robert, Reece Richard & Lucy Isobel	sons & daughter of Claire McIntyre & Richard Crockard 43 Argyll Street, Antrim
	Kian Richard Philip	son of Patricia Montgomery & Philip McDermott 25 Andraid Close, Antrim
29 April 2018	Molly Caroline	daughter of Kerry & Simon Clarke 8 Laurel Wood, Ballinderry
	Cleo Olivia	daughter of Ruth & Benjamin Scott 180 Brantwood Gardens, Antrim
13 May 2018	Isla Ellen	daughter of Catherine O'Hara and Mark Burrows, 153 Donore Crescent, Antrim
	Jack Alan Ryan	son of Suzanne Fenton, 44 Kilbeg Walk, Antrim
	Archie James Michael	son of Suzanne Fenton & Ryan White 44 Kilbeg Walk, Antrim
10 June 2018	Thomas Leigh	son of Ashleigh Alexander & Nathan Hadley 68A Kilgreal Road, Antrim
	Nevaeh Payton	daughter of Nikita McClelland & Christopher Nesbitt 8 Brick Hill Park, Newtownabbey
	Alfie Andrew Stephen	son of Claire & Andrew Wignall 28 Kilbeg Walk, Antrim
	Emma Rose	daughter of Catherine & Alister Woods 8 Greenvale Park, Antrim
29 July 2018	Ayyaan Samuel	son of Shaistah & Luke Andrews 26 Mayfield Drive, Mallusk
19 August 2018	Freddie William	son of Natalie Fisher & Thomas Rowan 3 Coral Crescent, Antrim
	Emily Ellen	daughter of Kirsty & Colin Johnston 37 Abbeyview, Antrim

HOLY MATRIMONY

WE CONGRATULATE

5 May	Alexander Riddick & Michelle Thompson	2 Gun Carriage Walk, London 2 Gun Carriage Walk, London
24 May	Simon Woodside & Kelli Taggart	2 Lyle Hill Court, Templepatrick, 15 Meadowside, Antrim
9 June	David Moore & Laura Ferguson	10 Kilbride Gardens 20 Oakfield

CHRISTIAN BURIAL / CREMATION

WE SYMPATHISE WITH THOSE WHO MOURN FOR

22 March	Denny Clarke	25 Six Mile Water, Antrim
2 April	Audrey Hefferon	2 Beechfield, Antrim
4 April	Mary Young	23 Moylena Grove, Antrim
7 April	Russell Simpson	18 Donegore Hill, Donegore
17 April	Ellie McCombe-Totton	4 Castle Park, Antrim
1 June	Harold Knott	18 Hillcrest, Antrim
10 August	Robin McCabe	158 Muller Road, Blenheim, NZ
10 August	Betty Burns	30 Greenpark Drive, Antrim

THE EVERGREENS

The Evergreens is now a well-established group within the life of the parish. Membership is made up of parishioners and friends and the fellowship is greatly appreciated. All are welcome. We have had a diverse set of speakers this year, with subjects ranging from Peter Corry's journey to storytelling from one of our own Evergreens, Mabel Jenkins. One of the highlights was the visit of Brian Gault who though has Thalidomide, is not in the least disabled. His life story was simply inspirational.

To end the year the group left one Tuesday morning in a coach bound for the Somme Museum just outside Newtownards. Spirits were high and the craic was mighty. Inside the museum we were given a tour around the

'yesterdays of the Great War,' and we were told the story of the war as it applied to the world's stage and how it then impacted the people here. It was followed by a stop in Newtownards for a little retail therapy. The day was rounded off with a lovely dinner at The Stables in Groomsport and an optional paddle. A few decided to go to the beach across the road and dip their toes into the water.

If you are not already a member, please come along on the second Tuesday of the month for 11 o'clock in the parish centre and you'll receive a warm welcome, refreshments, hear a speaker and get lunch for £4.



NEXT STEPS

Sometimes leaders have a tendency to look around at other groups and see only what good things those groups seem to be doing, how many they have going etc. What I have always done, is to look at the strengths of the group I help with and see if there are any potentials in the kids that could be nurtured. Faith is a small seed that produces much if it is fed and watered. As I look at the close of this year, that we have indeed helped their faith grow, and have accomplished small yet great things with this bunch. They may be a small group, but they are faithful in coming every week, which says more about the character of these kids than it does about us as leaders.

To end the year, we took them to Portstewart and as you can tell by the smiles, they enjoyed themselves. Some of them had never had a Morelli's before, so that needed to be rectified! The fun and adventure at the Edgewater Sports experience was a great way to finish off our year's activities. They had a great time.

What we do at Next Steps is try to balance faith with life. We don't want them becoming so heavenly that they are of no earthly use. Equally, we desire to see them engage with faith in a way that it impacts their every day lives.



We want them to ponder the big questions and provide a safe space for them to ask. Finally, I want to thank the parents for bringing the guys every week.

One thing though – I hope what we talk about in the group becomes the chat around the dinner tables. These kids' faith most actively grows from the home, so please, talk about faith and God. And come as a family to their other family home, in church.



Aaron

HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB

No matter how many Holiday Bible Clubs there have been over this summer, kids will still flock to them all. You could have the best kitted out Bible Club, with bells and whistles, but if the kids don't connect with the leaders they won't come back after the first session. At All Saints' Parish Antrim we succeeded in providing a balance between a well structured program and leaders that the kids could relate to. We had action songs, short interactive talks, Sid and Bert puppet shows, games and craftwork with the underlying theme of King David and over arching theme of a sports academy.

We've had a steady turnout this week, and hopefully we have showcased not only what role church plays in the upbringing of these kids, but have also given parents encouragement that church is genuinely interested in all aspects of family life.



WHO'S WHO

Vicar: The Venerable Dr Stephen McBride, The Vicarage, 10 Vicarage Gardens, Antrim
Tel: (028) 9446 2186 E-mail: archdeacon@connor.anglican.org

Curate: The Rev Aaron McAlister MTh, 7 Beechfield, Antrim
Tel: (028) 9446 3469 E-mail: aaronmcAlister@btinternet.com

Parish Administrator: Audrey McClements - Church Office
Tel: (028) 9446 0042 E-mail: all.saints2@btconnect.com

Vicar's Churchwarden: Valerie Houston **People's Churchwarden:** Wendy Smyth

Vicar's Glebewarden: Paul Smyth **People's Glebewarden:** Cecil Barton

Select Vestry: Jacqueline Adams, Sylvia Barton, Cynthia Cherry, Trevor Davies, Noreen Hurst, William Hurst, Mervyn Kidd, Audrey McClements, Brian Neill, Claire Thompson, John Wallace

Hon Treasurer:	Mrs Cynthia Cherry	Tel: 07703 547 647
Parish Recorder:	Mr Brian Neill, 13 Vicarage Gardens, Antrim	Tel: (028) 9446 3708
Caretaker:	Mr C Barton, 40 Oaklands, Antrim	Tel: (028) 9446 5770

The Clergy will be grateful for any notification of serious illness in the Parish and for information regarding the admission and discharge of parishioners from hospitals outside Antrim

SUNDAY SERVICES:

8.30 am Holy Communion
11.30 am Morning Prayer
Parish Communion on
1st Sunday of each month
6.30 pm Evening Prayer
Holy Communion on
4th Sunday

FAMILY SERVICE:

11.00 am 3rd Sunday
of each month

MIDWEEK SERVICE:

11.00 am Wednesday Holy Communion
in the Parish Centre

FUNDAY CLUB:

11.30 am Junior and Senior in Parish Church and later in Church Hall. Children leave Morning Prayer at appropriate point in the Service. No Club on 3rd Sunday (Family Service).