



Puzzle Corner

Work off the Christmas pudding by having a go at these puzzles

- SANTA CLAUS
- SLED
- SNOWMAN
- STAR
- STOCKING
- SUGARPLUMS
- TOY
- TREE
- VIXEN
- WORKSHOP
- WREATH
- GIFT
- GINGERBREAD
- NOEL
- NORTHPOLE
- NUTCRACKER
- PEACE
- PRANCER
- PRESENT
- REINDEER
- RUDOLPH
- SACK
- BALL
- BELL
- BLITZEN
- CANDYCANE
- CHIMNEY
- CHRISTMAS
- COMET
- CUPID
- DANCER
- DASHER
- DONNER
- ELF

2		3		6				8
	7			5	1	3		
	5	9						
4		2	6	3			5	9
				9				
3	9			1	4	2		6
						4	2	
		1	8	4			3	
7				2		9		5

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Christmas Word Search

U Z F H R U D O L P H P U H U
 N U V A Y E L L E B A R W N T
 L O S I G T I L S C U P I D E
 T E R A X L S N A M W O N S M
 S S P T N E J O D B R H R E O
 T T R S H T N I R E H S A D C
 N O E L U P A A K F E K T Y H
 Y C S E W G O C C Z X R S E T
 B K E D R R A L L Y Y O T N A
 G I N G E R B R E A D W I M E
 S N T N C W M G P E U N B I R
 M G N T N E Z T I L B S A H W
 K O U D A N C E R F U S A C K
 D N P R R C H R I S T M A S A
 L A A G P E A C E A Z V S V K

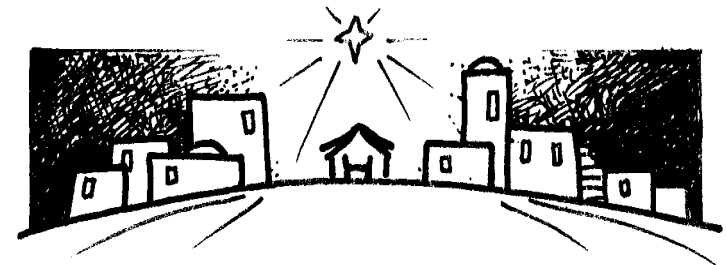
PASSWORDS



THE MAGAZINE FOR ST MARY MAGDALENE PARISH
DONEGALL PASS

Rev Terence P Kerr B.D., M.Phil. ☎ 028 9079 0977

www.st-marymagdalene.org.uk





DECEMBER SERVICES



SERVICE	READER (Morning Service only)
Dec 4th—2nd Sunday of Advent 11.00 am Holy Communion 6.30 pm Holy Communion	Betty Lennon <i>II Peter 3 –v– 8-15a</i> (Page 221)
Dec 11th—3rd Sunday of Advent 11.00 am Morning Prayer 6.30 pm Annual Sandy Row Ecumenical Carol Service—in Great Victoria St Presbyterian	Billy McDowell <i>Isaiah 61 –v– 1-4, 8-end</i> (Page 655)
Dec 18th—4th Sunday of Advent 11.00 am Christmas Family Service 6.30 pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols	Various
Dec 24th—Christmas Eve 11.30 pm First Holy Communion of Christmas	—
Dec 25th—Christmas Day 11.00 am Family Holy Communion (<i>St Aidan's</i>)	—
Jan 1st 11.00 am Holy Communion 6.30 pm No Evening Service	Libby Garstang <i>Galatians 4 –v– 4-7</i> (Page 179)

*Readers read the First Lesson of the Day—taken from the Pew Bible.
Readers should confirm their reading with the Rector/Minister*

Thursday Lunchtime Services

The last service this year will take place on 15th December and resume again on 12th January.



Flower Rota—December



Dec 4th Mr & Mrs P Copley Mr & Mrs J Taylor—in memory of loved ones
Dec 11th Mr & Mrs C Dunwoody
Dec 18th The Winters Family—in memory of their mother Kathleen
Dec 25th Miss E Ross—in memory of loved ones The Irvine Family—in memory of Charles & Dolly Irvine



Remember in Prayer:

- Annie
- Betty
- David M
- David
- Desmond
- Francis
- Leila
- James W
- Lily
- Martha
- Mary
- Mr Morrow
- Raymond
- Ronnie
- John
- Susan

**Don't forget to inform the Rector
of anyone who is in hospital or
unwell**

**A happy and blessed Christmas to
all parishioners**

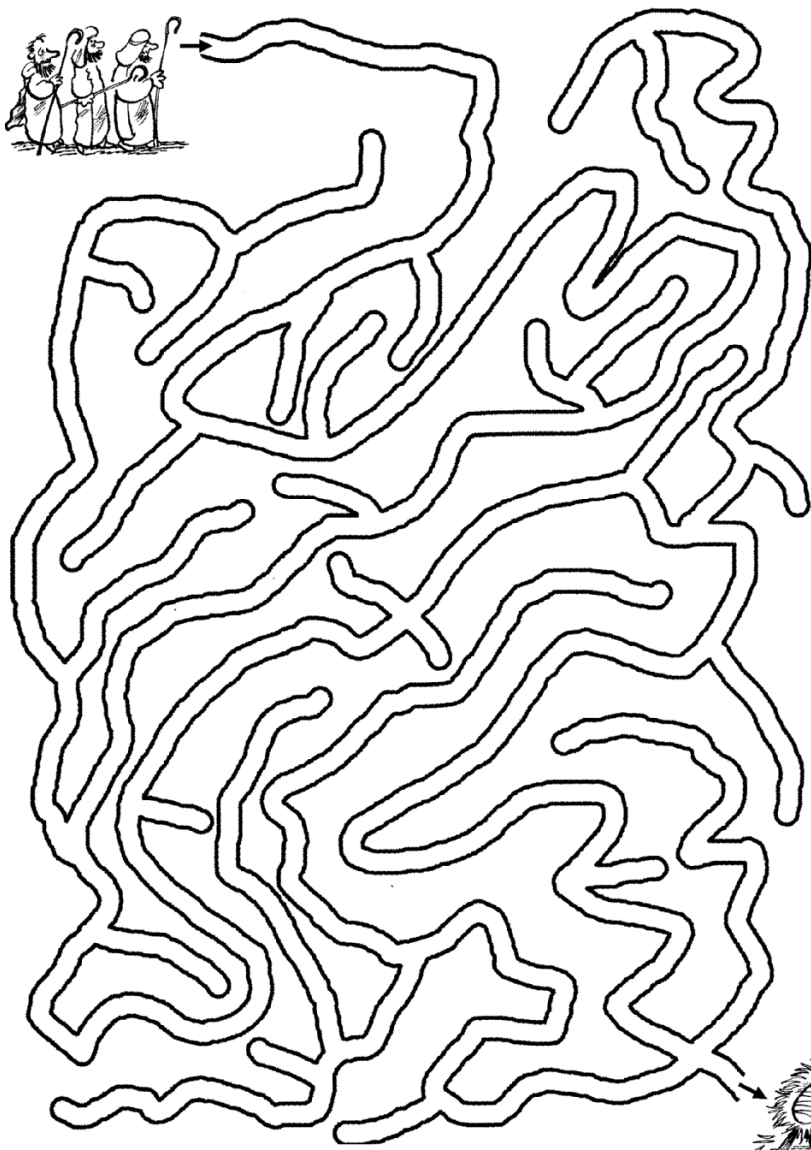
The Church of Ireland "Safeguarding Trust" Policy operates in this church. Panel Members are Rev Terence Kerr, Mr Cecil Dunwoody and Mrs Catherine Irving. Notices to this effect have been placed in the church and halls.



for our younger readers

The Christmas Journey

The most wonderful story of all time tells of the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. Some angels gave the good news of Jesus' arrival to shepherds in nearby fields. Can you help the shepherds find their way to the manger?



The Rector writes ...

Dec 2011

Dear Parishioners

Advent and Christmas are wonderful seasons in the Church of Ireland cycle of worship. Please plan to attend our church services, as often as possible, to remember the Coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The One who was born in a stable who went on to become King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

A Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year to all the parishioners and their families.

Rev Ferry

STAFFING CHANGES IN OUR PARISH

Last month the parish said farewell to Rev Adrian McCartney and this month we say our farewells to Reverend Heaney. The Rev Stewart was very popular in the Parish of St Mary Magdalene. In particular he had considerable talents in pastoral visitations. He was able to engage with parishioners regarding their worries and concerns and brought a Christian perspective to their lives. I am confident that he will find other ministerial opportunities where he will be able use these talents and I wish him every blessing for the future.

Rev Ferry

THE SHEPHERD BOY

"Tell us the story Grandad," the children added "please!"
As one sat down beside my feet and two upon my knees.
They'd heard me tell it many times but still they loved to hear
The story which they knew by heart, my memory bright and clear.

A long time past in Bethlehem when I was but a lad,
I tended sheep with other boys, my uncles and my dad.
And every night my dad would say: "Now, Samuel don't you sleep,
"Keep watch lest prowling beasts creep up and take away the sheep!"

The nights were long and oft-times cold but I would stay awake,
No beast would creep into my flock, my lambs I'd not forsake!
But one dark night I trembled sore, I had to shield my eyes
For glorious light was all around and shone down from the skies.

My shaking hands I took away, afraid I'd see a ghost,
But the sky was filled with brightness and I saw the angelic host!
An angel said: "Be not afraid for good news do I bring,
"On this night is born a babe whose name is Christ the king.

"And you will go to see Him, to a stable you'll be led,
"And he'll be dressed in swaddling clothes, a manger for his bed."
Then there was such sweet singing as the sky filled with delight
Before it darkened once again, like any other night.

We hurried then to Bethlehem, my uncles, dad and I,
Still dazed at what we'd seen and heard that night up in the sky.
And when I found the tiny babe - no gift had I to bring,
But I fell down and worshipped the infant Christ the king.

And so dear children I was glad to be a shepherd boy
Upon that night of wonder and amazement, full of joy.
How blessed that I was chosen and allowed to grow so old,
To share the greatest story that the world will e'er be told.

JS



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

*If you see someone
without a smile—give
him one of yours.*

What to buy for the single person



Are you buying a Christmas present for a single person this year? If so, consider the latest trend: sales of kitchenware designed for single servings are rising to cater for the record numbers of us who now live alone. So - why not consider a frying pan big enough for a single egg, small plates, and teapots that hold one cup? These items have been best-sellers at Debenhams in recent weeks.



For your diary

Select Vestry	Mon 12th Dec 7.30 pm
Ladies' Guild	Wed 14th Dec 7.30 pm
Antiques Fair	Sat 17th Dec 12.30-4.00 pm <i>Teas rota: Jacqueline & Kate</i>
Snooker Club	Tuesdays 7.00 pm
Midweek Services	Thursdays 12.30 pm (See page 2)
BB	Thursdays 6.30 pm onwards (See page 6)



"Do you think it's God's way of saying,
"Thou shalt not illegally copy the
carol service music'?"

Big Breakfast

What an amazing day we had at our last 'Big Breakfast'. Where the people came from we just don't know, but come they did and the fries were coming off the pans fast and furious! We raised over £1000—the best total yet. Thanks to everyone who supported this event—the cooks, waitresses, washer-uppers and of course to everyone who came along and enjoyed the 'best fry in Belfast'!

Flower List

It's hard to believe another year has gone by and it's time to thank everyone who contributed to the Flower Fund in 2011. We remain indebted to Mrs Joan Rodgers who week-by-week arranges the flowers that adorn our church. Of course a big thank you is also due to her husband Hugh, who by all accounts transports Joan around the various flower shops!

The rota for 2012 is currently being drawn up. If you would like to contribute flowers, please see Kate as soon as possible.

There will be no magazine in January. Articles for the February magazine should be with Kate Irving by Sunday 15th January 2012.

Annual Gift Day

We are grateful to everyone who has contributed to this annual fund. If you haven't yet returned your envelope, it would be much appreciated if you could do so as soon as possible.



God's Word to God's World

It would be appreciated if all missionary boxes and subscriptions were returned by the beginning of December 2011.

Karen Salmon (pictured opposite) is a nurse who finished her MA at All Nations College in England. She has just returned to Ethiopia in September last. Pray that she will be given wisdom and protection as she works with HIV patients.

Pray also for Rev Trevor Johnston who works as Irish Co-ordinator.

Church Painting

I am sure everyone is delighted to see our chancel painted and restored to its former glory. Hopefully in the near future, we will be in a financial position to paint some more of the church building. Funds gathered from the Gift Day Collection, Big Breakfast and other fund raising activities go towards this maintenance. At the moment, the main emphasis is to get the heating system working again—a very costly business as you can imagine.

We remain grateful for everyone's co-operation in holding the Sunday services in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. It can be a bit of a tight squeeze sometimes, but at least we're warm!

Thank you for your interest, prayers and generous giving. Mr Cecil Dunwoody has agreed to help me in this work.

Lena Lemon



Karen Salmon

TIME FOR CHANGE

As we sat in church last month at our BB enrolment service it was different from what we normally have, some modern songs and a talk from Chris that all the boys in the BB enjoyed, but most importantly he got the message across. We have been going to All Saints' Church for the last number of weeks with Bill, we think it's better than St Mary Magdalene, it's more modern. This church needs to move into the 21st century to encourage us to come along or there will not be a St Mary Magdalene for any of us.

L/Cpl. Matthew Smyth

*L/Cpl. Martin Neill
 1st Irish Company*

I asked Matthew and Martin to write for this month's magazine on last month's enrolment service - youth have asked for change... they await your answer. Will you take a leap of faith and change so St Mary Magdalene can grow like other churches. Personally change needs to happen and I will support all the youth in that goal.

*Bill McMillan
 Captain
 1st Irish Company*

Letter to The Boys' Brigade and the Parish

I am delighted that the boys enjoyed the more modern songs and the family address by Chris using the media data projector. I was asked by the Select Vestry to make the family service more up to date and as a result we will be incorporating more modern worship in our once a month celebration.

At present I am in the process of advertising for a youth worker who will hopefully be talented musically. By God's grace I am hoping to have our own music group that could lead our family worship. It will take time, but I believe we need to combine our traditional worship with a more modern style, so that all of us both young and more mature in years will feel at home in the worship of Almighty God.

May I take this opportunity to encourage our young men in The Boys' Brigade. *Rev Terry*

Christmas break

The BB will stop on Thursday 15th December and start again on Thursday 5th January.

A Happy Christmas from the 1st Irish.

B McM

Ladies' Guild



What fun we had at our ceramics evening in November!

The creations were magnificent—ranging from Christmas angels, to reindeers, santas, snowmen, hearts and trees! Amazingly, I think we had our first 'green' snowman—wonder if he's going to be named 'Paddy'! We are indebted to Bronagh and her two helpers, Declan and Clodagh for the success of the evening.

At our next meeting, December 14th, we will be enjoying a film evening—dreaming of a 'White Christmas'. I'm sure we'll all look forward to singing along a bit! **Please note that we will meet at 7.30 pm on that evening.**

Since there is no magazine in January, I would like to remind everyone about our 'Let's bring in the New Year' lunch, which will take place on Saturday 14th January. We will meet outside the church at 12.30 pm.

In the meantime, I would like to wish all our members a happy and blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Joan Rodgers—President

Christmas Alphabet



Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1v 3*

How shall we neglect so great salvation. *Hebrews 2v 3*

Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth. *Ecclesiastes 12 v 1*

I am the way, the truth and the life. *John 14 v 6*

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found. *Isaiah 55 v 6*

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart. *Proverbs 3 v 5*

My spirit shall not always strive with man. *Genesis 6 v 3*

All we like sheep have gone astray. *Isaiah 53 v 6*

Salvation is of the Lord. *Jonah 2 v 9*

