

Puzzle Corner

Sudoku

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

Work off the Christmas pud by tackling these puzzles!

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

PASSWORDS



THE MAGAZINE FOR ST MARY MAGDALENE PARISH
DONEGALL PASS

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Charity No: XN69978

D
e
c
e
m
b
e
r

★
For
unto
you is
born this
day in the
city of David
a saviour, which
is christ the Lord.
luke
2:11

Dec 2016



SERVICES



SERVICES	READER
4th Dec—2nd Sunday in Advent 11.30 am Holy Communion	Molly Scales <i>Isaiah 11 –v– 1-10</i>
11th Dec—3rd Sunday in Advent 11.30 am Morning Prayer 6.30 pm Festival of Lessons & Carols	Valerie Ireland <i>Isaiah 35 –v– 1-10</i>
18th Dec—4th Sunday in Advent 11.30 am Family Service	Megan & Chloe Stephenson <i>Isaiah 7 –v– 10-16</i>
24th Dec—Christmas Eve 11.30 pm The First Holy Communion of Christmas	Joan Rodgers <i>Isaiah 52 –v– 7-10</i>
1st Jan—The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus 11.30 am Morning Prayer	Jacqueline Stephenson <i>Numbers 6 –v– 22-17</i>



Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

 Our Carol Service will be held on Sunday 11th December at 6.30 pm. This is always a lovely service and it gets us in the right frame of mind for celebrating the true meaning of Christmas—the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ.. Please come along.

Thursday Lunchtime Services

The last Thursday service for this year will be on 1st December and will resume on Thursday 12th January 2017.

The Church of Ireland “Safeguarding Trust” Policy operates in this church. Panel Members are the Rev Robin Moore, Mr Cecil Dunwoody and Mr Peter Ainley. Notices to this effect have been placed in the church and halls.



Flower Rota ~ December



- Dec 4th Mr & Mrs P Copley
- Dec 11th Mr & Mrs J Taylor—*in memory of loved ones*
- Dec 18th The Irvine Family—*in memory of James & Agnes McCullough*
- Dec 25th The Irvine Family—*in memory of Charles & Agnes Irvine*
Mr & Mrs C Dunwoody—*in memory of loved ones*

FLOWER LIST 2017

 Another year has almost passed and it's time again to arrange the flower rota. We continue to be very grateful to everyone who contributes to this fund and especially to Mrs Joan Rodgers who faithfully arranges the flowers so beautifully week by week. Please see Kate as soon as possible if you would like to secure date(s) for 2017.

~ Parish Prayer List ~



You are asked to include the following in your daily prayers. Take 4 or 5 names per day and ask for God's blessing on each one. Some of our parishioners will remain on the list permanently, especially those who are in homes of one kind or another, housebound or suffering from chronic and ongoing conditions. If you know of someone whose name should be added, please inform the Rector or one of the church wardens. No name has been omitted intentionally.

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------|
| NH = Nursing Home; CH = Care Home; | John Burns | Naomi & Tom Reilly |
| RH = residential home] | Warren Crawford | Jim Shields |
| Martha Armstrong, <i>Masserene NH, Antrim</i> | Jim Garstang | Laura Smyth |
| David Baird, <i>Fairhaven RH, North Rd</i> | Gloria Graham | Stella Spackman |
| Margaret Clarke, <i>Redburn, B'Hinch NH</i> | Edna King | David Stephenson |
| Mina Henry, <i>Arlington House, North Pde</i> | Frances McClean | Roy & Ena Taylor |
| Annie Jenkins, <i>Carryduff NH</i> | David & Emily Mason | Greta Wilson |
| Eileen Ross, <i>Beechill House CH</i> | Brian & Jean Matthews | |

Big Breakfast'



Thank you to everyone who supported and contributed to the November Big Breakfast effort.

We raised an amazing £1000 ☺

Well done to all!!!

*Freewill Offering Returns for 2016 *

In order to be included in the 2016 accounts, you are asked to ensure that any outstanding Freewill Offering envelopes for 2016 are placed in the church by Sunday 8th January 2017. Thank you for your continued and faithful giving.

Libby (Honorary Treasurer)



If you have not yet returned your Leprosy Mission boxes (*Elizabeth McMillan*) or Crosslink Missionary Society boxes (*Lena Lemon*), please do so now.

Thank you

There will be no magazine in January.

Articles for the February magazine should be with Kate Irving by Sunday 15th January 2017.

A very happy and blessed Christmas to all.



The Rector writes . . .

Hello,

“Now there were shepherds in that region living in the open fields and by turn keeping watch over their flock by night”. Luke2:8. The very first proclamation of the fact that the Messiah had actually been born was made to poor shepherds. They were a despised class. Not only was it difficult for them because of the very nature of their occupation to observe all the regulations of the law, but in addition they were suspected of confusing "thine" with "mine". For these reasons they were looked down upon. However Luke's narrative makes clear that these shepherds were different. They were devout men. They were encamped in the open by turns keeping watch over their flock. Does the singular "flock" mean that all these sheep were owned by one person or does it mean that flocks of several owners had been brought together so as to form one flock? During the day these animals were out on the grass. In the evening they could be led into crude shelters. Near them always watching were the shepherds. Luke reverses things. In 2:11 it says, “To you is born” - meaning the shepherds. Not to the emperor, the king, the high priest but to humble shepherds.

Over 70 shoe boxes contributed! Well done the Ladies' Guild! A tremendous effort by everyone!

Your support for the Food Bank has also been outstanding. These things are what Christmas is really all about.

*Happy Christmas!
God bless
Robin Moore*

Family Worker update

Events for December

Wednesday women's group. ~

We will continue our cookery course during December culminating with a Christmas dinner on Wednesday 14th.

Thursday Parent and Toddlers ~

We have been pleased to welcome some new families to our group on Thursdays and are looking forward to spending the next few weeks together as the excitement of Christmas builds up for the children. We will finish both groups with a Christmas party on Wednesday 21st December.

Best wishes to all for a Happy Christmas and a very Peaceful New Year.

Alison



Our friends in St Aidan's Parish Church are planning a couple of events in the near future.

The first is a film morning on 3rd December showing "ELF" and the second is a production of 'Joseph' in February 2017. Auditions for parts in 'Joseph' are welcome.

For further info on either, see contact details below.

JOSEPH
And the Amazing Birth of the Messiah
PRODUCTION DATE: FEBRUARY 2017
 Could you play a part?
WANTED:
 Actors: Singers: Helpers:
 Age 7 - 100
 ADULTS: Tuesday 8.00pm Contact: Margaret 90520116 or
 CHILDREN: Saturday 1.00pm Dorothy 07850119981
 WHERE: ST AIDAN'S CHURCH HALL, DONEGAL ROAD, BELFHEW

I would like to sincerely thank everyone for the love, thoughts, prayers and gifts received over the period of my recent surgery. I also have to add that Tom was very well looked after during this period and we truly appreciate all the kindness shown to us both.

Naomi



Gift Day Envelopes

Hopefully you have received your Gift Day envelope by now. If not, you can pick one up at the back of the church. It will be greatly appreciated if you can return this as soon as possible and please be assured that your generosity is truly appreciated.

The Select Vestry



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"It's Christmas in the hearts that puts Christmas in the air".

WT Ellis



CALENDARS

Donegall Pass Social History Group has produced 2017 Calendars. These are currently on sale at only £5.00 each. We have some copies available at the back of the church for parishioners to purchase. They'd make a great Christmas Gift for friends who grew up in 'The Pass', so hurry up and get yours before they're all gone!



Select Vestry	Mon 12th Dec	7.30 pm
Ladies' Guild	Wed 14th Dec	7.30 pm
Musical Evening	Fri 16th Dec	7.30 pm
Snooker Club	Tuesdays	7.00 pm
Women's Group	Wednesdays	10-12 noon
Parents and Toddlers	Thursdays	10-12 noon
Midweek Services	Thursdays	12.30 pm
BB	Thurs	6.30 pm onwards



"Lose some weight, quit smoking, move around more and eat the carrot."



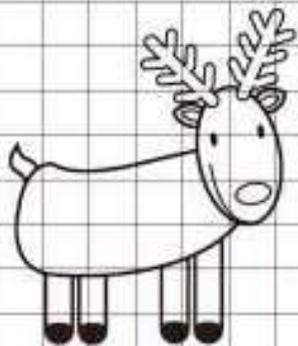
for our younger readers

1	TSRA	
2	AMGREN	
3	YMAR	
4	PESHE	
5	YDOEKN	
6	A EGLN	
7	PJHOES	
8	SJSEU	
9	GIKSN	
10	BSTAEL	

All these words come from the Christmas story. Can you unscramble them? Answers below



Copy the Reindeer



Word scramble answers

1 STAR, 2 MANGER, 3 MARY, 4 SHEEP, 5 DONKEY, 6 ANGEL, 7 JOSEPH, 8 KINGS, 9 JESUS, 10 STABLE



The List

I've written out my Christmas List
And checked it more than twice
But I know there's somethin' missin'
So I might need some advice.
If I run the whole list by you
Will you check I've not left out
Any thing that's real important -
But there's somethin' I've no doubt..

I've written all the Christmas cards
And left them out to post.
The turkey has been ordered
And the ham which I will roast.
The presents have been bought and wrapped
And the children jumped with glee
As we put the decorations
On our lovely Christmas tree.

The letters that they've written
Have been sent to Santa Claus
But I know there's somethin' missin'
I'll just take a breath and pause.
What's that you say's forgotten?
I've left out the very thing
That Christmas time is all about -
The birth of Christ the King!

How could His name slip by me?
I suppose I'll need to think
My priorities will have to change
'Cause He's the missin' link.
What point is there to Christmas
If we forget the Holy One
Born in the town of Bethlehem
For us - God's own dear Son!

JS



Seniors' Christmas Dinner

in Donegall Pass Community Centre

Friday 9th December 6pm - 9pm.

Cost £5.00 pp

(Includes 3 course Christmas Dinner and Entertainment)

Contact either Terry Watson or Community Centre.



Christmas Musical Evening

in St Mary Magdalene

with 'Class Act'

Friday 16th December @ 7.30 pm

Tickets available now! @ only £5.00 each

(see Marie Luney or one of the church wardens)

Light refreshments served. All proceeds to church funds



Christmas Shoebox appeal 2017!



BB Enrolment and Family Service

A big well done to all the boys who attended our annual Boys' Brigade enrolment service last month, also to the parents, grandparents, family and friends for supporting the boys and leaders. I'm sure you will agree The Rev Moore's address was one of the best in many a year. So if you can get "round to it", please come along to this month's Family Service on Sunday 18th December.

Christmas Holidays

The last night before the Christmas Holidays will be **Thursday 15th December**. We will resume again on **Thursday 5th January** at the usual time 6.30pm to 8.00pm.

A happy and blessed Christmas from the 1st Irish.

*William McMillan
Captain 1st Irish Company*

Ladies' Guild



We were just overwhelmed by the support for our Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2016, which resulted in being able to deliver 70 boxes to Team Hope Ireland for transportation to children in Eastern Europe and Africa. Huge thanks to our members, other parishioners, families and friends, our Wednesday Women's Group and other work colleagues, for their enormous generosity. Team Hope Ireland were truly delighted to receive your donations. The wonderful thing about this is the fact that so many people told us how much they had enjoyed filling their boxes—it is just so true that 'in giving, we receive'.

This month's activity will see us making a Christmas Card, perhaps for that 'someone special' in our lives! We very much look forward to welcoming Mrs Sandra Bradshaw who will be our teacher for the night.

On Saturday 7th January, we meet at 12.30 pm for our regular trip to La Mon House Hotel when we will enjoy a New Year Lunch together. In the meantime, may I take this opportunity to wish all readers a very happy and blessed Christmas.

Joan Rodgers—President