



Puzzle Corner

Sudoku
challenge!

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

Donegall Pass Wall of Hope

There was a lot of activity at our recent Family Service when we became involved in the Donegall Pass Wall of Hope Project. Here we have Ruth displaying all our efforts!



The latest edition of the Connor Times is now available—make sure you pick up your copy at the back of the church. Our 175th Anniversary gets a special mention!

PASSWORDS



THE MAGAZINE FOR ST MARY MAGDALENE PARISH
DONEGALL PASS

Rector: Rev Bob Cotter tel: 07702495786 email: bobcotter56@icloud.com

Family Worker: Mrs Alison Shaw tel: 07547030451 (Mon, Wed, Fri)

www.st-marymagdalene.org.uk



March



*Father,
through our observance of Lent,
help us to understand the meaning
of Your Son's death and resurrection,
and teach us to reflect it in our lives.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.*

Mar 2015



CHURCH SERVICES



SERVICES	READER
1st Mar—2nd Sunday in Lent 11.00 am Holy Communion	Jane Stewart <i>Romans 4 –v– 13-25</i>
8th Mar—3rd Sunday in Lent 11.00 am Morning Prayer <i>(followed by Lenten lunch)</i>	Jacqueline Stephenson <i>Exodus 20 –v– 1-17</i>
15th Mar—4th Sunday in Lent— Mothering Sunday 11.00 am Family Service	—
17th Mar—St Patrick’s Day 12.30 pm St Patrick’s Day Service <i>(followed by lunch)</i>	—
22nd Mar—5th Sunday in Lent 11.00 am Holy Communion	Jennifer McMullan <i>Hebrews 5–v– 5-10</i>
29th Mar—Palm Sunday 11.00 pm Morning Prayer	Ann Crawford <i>Zechariah 9 –v– 9-10</i>

Thursday Lunchtime Services

There will be no Thursday lunchtime services during Lent. Instead, parishioners are encouraged to attend the mid-week Lenten Services on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm. These will be held in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

See Page 5 for further details

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



Flower Rota—March



Mar 1st	.....	Mr & Mrs J Taylor— <i>in memory of Betty Taylor</i>
Mar 8th	.....	Mrs N Reilly/Mrs R White— <i>in memory of their mother</i>
Mar 15th	.....	Mr & Mrs B McMillan
Mar 22nd	.....	The Irvine Family— <i>in memory of Charles & Agnes Irvine</i>
Mar 29th	.....	Palm Sunday

~ 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; RH = residential home]

Martha Armstrong, *Masserene Nursing Home*
David Baird, *Fairhaven RH, North Road*
Ena Belton, *Hollygate NH*
Barbara Drysdale, *Beechill House Care Home*
Mina Henry, *Arlington House, North Parade*
Annie Jenkins, *Carryduff NH*
Mary Leslie, *Arlington House, North Parade*
Eileen Ross, *Beechill House Care Home*
David Sampson, *Park Manor NH, Dunmurry*

John Burns
George and Margaret Clarke
Warren Crawford
Martha Fitzsimmons
Jim Garstang
Victor Gourley
Gloria Graham
Edna King
Frances McClean
Jean McCurrie
Elizabeth Mark
David and Emily Mason
Brian and Jean Matthews
Tom Reilly
Jim Shields
Doreen Smyth
Laura Smyth
Stella Spackman
David Stephenson
Roy and Ena Taylor
Greta Wilson



Christian Burial



Edith Booth

Carryduff Nursing Home

5th January 2015 (died 29th December 2014)

Edith Booth was a life-long member of this parish. She lived a long life and at the time of her passing was in her early 90s. She was married in St Mary Magdalene and by coincidence died on her 69th wedding anniversary. Her funeral took place in Brown & Sons, Lisburn Road with committal afterwards at Roselawn Crematorium. The service was conducted by the Rev Stewart Heaney.

Edith is survived by her sister May, her daughter Ann (Lady Mayoress of Castlereagh Borough Council) and son Jack.

In his funeral address, the Rev Stewart Heaney conveyed the love and sympathy of the parishioners of St Mary Magdalene. She will be missed greatly by her family and our thoughts and prayers go with them at this time.

Annie McCully

Belmont Care Home

3rd February 2015 (died 28th January 2015)

Annie McCully, passed away at quarter to seven on Wednesday evening, 28th January, in the Ulster Hospital at Dundonald. It was a shock to everyone, because despite her age, Annie hadn't looked or sounded like she would be leaving us all so soon. This reserved little lady was all of 93 years old, having been born on 23 November 1922. Annie was a very private person, quiet, gentle and unassuming.

As many of you will know, she was born and bred in the Pass. Like her sister Sadie, she regularly attended services in St Mary Magdalene Church and took part in all the leisure activities of the area. Barn dance or ballroom dancing, Annie was in her element.

Annie was a seamstress for years. But she also worked in the Printing Trade – firstly for 18 years in Melbourne and latterly in WG Baird's, upon her return. Annie was an intelligent woman with many skills, thoughtful and quiet, fond of crosswords and reading

When not working or dancing, Annie loved nothing more than getting in her own wee car and going for a drive, perhaps down to the caravan in Newcastle, perhaps further afield. Blackpool was a favourite spot for a holiday. I'm sure there would have been a bit of dancing there too!

Well, Annie has left us. Only six weeks after Sadie. It's a very difficult time for everyone. The timing of anyone's passing is out of our hands. We're never ready for it. Part of the pain of bereavement is the sheer unexpectedness of it all.

Annie's passing has been without fuss. She wouldn't have liked any fuss. In a way, she has just decided to leave the dance floor and to slip out unnoticed into the shadows. Her breathing difficulties are now a thing of the past.

She will be greatly missed by her surviving sister Minnie, niece Stella Spackman, nephew Tommy Dickson and the wider family circle, as well as those who remember Annie and her family amongst our parishioners, a number of whom attended the funeral service at Roselawn on 3rd February.

'I am the resurrection and the life' [John 11: 24]



The Rector writes . . .

Dear Parishioners

In the calendar year we have reached the month of March. A lot happens in March. As I wrote in the February magazine, we associate February with Lent. Following the lunar calendar, Ash Wednesday can be as early as 6th February or as late as the 9th March. In any case it always continues into March, since the 'forty days' of Lent run for six weeks or so. As you recall Sundays are not counted as part of Lent and Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday is the 40th and last day of Lent. If you are fasting, remember you can have Sundays off. They are days of rejoicing and remind us of Jesus' resurrection on a Sunday.

I hope to see as many of you as possible both at our Lenten Lunch [8th March – 16 days into Lent] and at our St Patrick's Day Service and lunch [24th day of Lent]. Sandwiched in between the two saints – David on 1st March and Patrick on 17th March we also celebrate the Mothering Sunday on 15th March. On that occasion many families will be going out to lunch! Traditionally, this was a day when children, mainly daughters, who had gone to work as domestic servants were given a day off to visit their mother and family.

But it is also used in the sense of 'Mother Church'. Centuries ago it was considered important for people to return to the 'Mother Church' [usually the Cathedral] once a year. This return to the 'Mother Church' then became the occasion for family reunions, when children who were working away from home returned home. It was quite common in those days for children to leave home for work once they were ten years old. As they walked along the country lanes, children would pick wild flowers or violets to take to church or give to their mother as a small gift.

The food item specially associated with Mothering Sunday is the Simnel Cake. As I am sure you know this is a fruit cake with two layers of almond paste, one on top and one in the middle. It is also made with 11 balls of marzipan icing on top representing the 11 disciples [Judas is not included]. Traditionally, sugar violets would also be added. The name 'Simnel' probably comes from the Latin word 'simila' which means a fine wheat flour, usually used for baking a cake. There is even a funny story about a man called Simon and his wife Nell who argued over whether the cake for Mothering Sunday should be baked or boiled. In the end they did both, so the cake was named after both of them – Sim – Nel.

Two more Sundays further on and we come to Palm Sunday which leads us on to the events of what we now call Holy Week. I would encourage you to work your way through at least one Gospel during Lent, and perhaps another one in Holy Week itself. The lectionary gospel we are using at the moment is St Mark and I will be addressing the Markan account of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. It is

the shortest Gospel – 16 chapters or 20 pages – so that it would be a joy to read it quietly through again during Lent or Holy Week.

Any of the four Gospels will suit admirably. During the three services in Holy Week this year I will be preaching on Jesus' 'Seven last words from the cross', which are drawn from three of the Gospels:

1. 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' [Luke 23: 34]; [Monday]
2. 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.' [Luke 23: 43]; [Monday]
3. 'Woman, here is your son'... 'Here is your mother'. [John 19: 26-27]; [Maundy Thursday]
4. 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' [Mark 15: 34]; [Maundy Thursday]
5. 'I am thirsty' [John 19: 28]; [Good Friday]
6. 'It is finished' [John 19: 30]; [Good Friday]
7. 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' [Luke 23: 46] [Good Friday]

Please try to come along on the Monday, Thursday and Good Friday evenings! In addition, we have had the exciting offer by the Church of Ireland Chaplaincy at Queen's University to come down to us during Holy Week, particularly to minister to the young people and children of Donegall Pass. We should pray that the Holy Spirit will be at work during this period of Youth Outreach. If there is anything else involving the students and the chaplaincy team which you might like to attend it will be announced. Planning for that is just beginning. A blessed and Happy Easter to all of you and your families.

Rev Bob Cotter



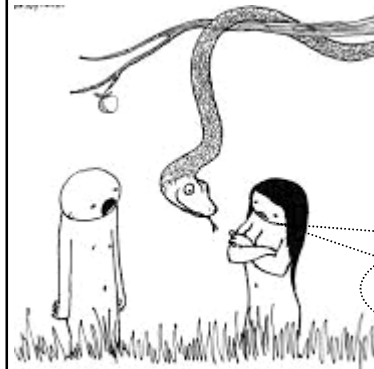
Sunday Club sessions for the under 5s have started. These involve Bible stories and activities and are running on the 1st and 2nd Sundays of each month. A rota of volunteers to work with the children is being prepared. If you would be interested in helping out, even occasionally, please contact the Rector for further details.



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Animals are such agreeable friends. they ask no questions; they pass no criticisms.

~ George Eliot ~



For your diary

Select Vestry	Mon 9th Mar	7.30 pm
Ladies' Guild Church Service	Wed 11th Mar	7.30 pm
Lenten Services	See Page 5	
Snooker Club	Tuesdays	7.00 pm
Midweek Services	See Page 2	
Parents and Toddlers	Thursdays	10-12 noon
BB	Thursdays	6.30 onwards

Where's St Patrick when you need him?

A true story from an Irish Sunday School Teacher ..

I was testing children in my Sunday school class to see if they understood the concept of getting to heaven. I asked them, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would that get me into heaven?"

"NO!" the children answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the garden, and kept everything tidy, would that get me into heaven?" Again, the answer was NO!" If I gave sweets to all the children, and loved my husband, would that get me into heaven?" Again, they all answered NO! I was just bursting with pride for them. I continued, "Then how can I get into heaven?"

A little boy shouted out, "YUV GOTTA BE ... DEAD."



for our younger readers
(and not so young!)

Here are some dancing
leprechauns for you to
colour in for St Patrick's
Day



Mid-week Lenten Services

Wednesday	4th March	7.30 pm	Lenten Service
Wednesday	11th March	7.30 pm	Lenten Service (Taize)
Tuesday	17th March	12.30 pm	St Patrick's Day Service (followed by lunch)
Wednesday	18th March	—	No service
Wednesday	25th March	7.30 pm	Lenten Service (Taize)

Holy Week Services

Monday	30th March	7.30 pm	Compline
Thursday	2nd April	7.30 pm	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion
Friday	3rd April	7.30 pm	Good Friday reflection

☒ Students from the Church of Ireland Chaplaincy at Queen's University will be working with the young people of Donegall Pass during Holy Week. Details have still to be finalised, but there will be activity times and worship times for young people as part of our Holy Week programme, in conjunction with the Chaplaincy.

☒ I will be concentrating on a series of studies during Holy Week entitled 'The Seven Last Words of Jesus from the Cross'.
(See Rector writes ... Page 4 for more details)

LENTEN LUNCH

A Lenten Lunch in aid of
Christian Aid
will take place on:
Sunday 8th March
after morning service.

Please write your name on the sheet at the back of the church if you plan to attend.

To mark Christian Aid's 70th Anniversary this year, in addition to our usual parish effort during Christian Aid week in May, we are making this special appeal for donations at the Lenten Lunch. Please come along and support this very worthwhile cause.

I am very grateful to Mrs Joan Rodgers who

has kindly agreed to take over as Christian Aid secretary for the parish. I wish to thank you for the encouragement given to me over the years and I know that Joan can continue to rely on your support.

Kate Irving

Family Worker update

REINDER- Our women's group has been meeting on Wednesday morning from 10am - 12noon. We are continuing with our parenting course over the next four weeks. During the half term holidays we enjoyed a great indoor picnic together!

Parent and Toddlers meets on Thursday from 10 am - 12 noon

South Belfast Foodbank is available to provide short term, emergency food to individuals and families. The food parcels include a variety of food products and the quantity of food given depends on the number of adults and children in a family. It is based at the Mornington community project, 117 Ormeau Road, BT7 1SH. The opening times are:

Monday 6pm-8pm
Wednesday 3.30pm-5.30pm
Friday 11am-1pm

Anyone requiring support can contact me on 07547030451 in complete confidence.

Best wishes, Alison

THE BOYS' BRIGADE
The adventure begins here



Belfast Battalion Ten Pin bowling competition

Well done to Ryan and Matthew for taking second place in their respective age groups in the Ten Pin bowling competition at Dundonald Ice Bowl. Around seventy boys took part in the competition. There was also an officers' competition where yours truly came second!!

Three second places are not bad, but we claimed first place in the race to McDonald's....."burgers all round" ☺

Upcoming events

Alton Towers Trip 21-22 March.
Weekend Camp in June. (*Junior and Company sections only*)

*William McMillan
Captain 1st Irish Company*

*Spring is coming...
Clocks forward*



29 March

Ladies' Guild



What a treat we had at the last guild meeting! We were

delighted to have Carol Fulton along to tell tales of growing up in the Belfast of the 1950s. Carol has published a book 'Coalbrick and Prefabs' and it is highly recommended that you read it.

Carol is a very talented orator, hugely funny and we laughed 'til we were sore at some of her tales. She is now writing her second book on the 1960s, and we certainly will have her back when that is published.

Many non-guild members have expressed an interest in hearing her speak, so it is likely that we will open a future evening to everyone.

The next guild evening is on Wednesday 11th March when members are encouraged to attend the mid-week Lenten Service at 7.30 pm in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

Joan Rodgers—President