



# Sudoku Competition Corner

Congratulations to our April winner—Mrs Liz Taylor. Well done Liz, your prize is coming! Go ahead and try this month's entry. Remember, there is only one rule and it is that every row, column and box of 3 x 3 cells must contain the numbers 1 through 9 **only once**. A prize will be awarded to the first correct answer opened and the winner notified in the June magazine.

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

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*Place your completed entries in the box at the back of the church by **Sunday 23rd May**.*

*The winner will be announced in the June magazine.*

*If you don't want to tear this page out of the magazine, just draw the grid out on paper and don't forget to include your name and address*

**Good Luck!**

Name: .....

Address: .....

# PASSWORDS



**THE MAGAZINE FOR ST MARY MAGDALENE PARISH  
DONEGALL PASS**

Rev Terence P Kerr B.D., M.Phil. ☎ 028 9079 0977  
Rev Adrian McCartney B.Ed., L.Th., B.Th. ☎ 07970626384  
Rev Stewart Heaney B.A., B.Ed., B.D., M.Phil.

[www.st-marymagdalene.org.uk](http://www.st-marymagdalene.org.uk)



*"While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven."*

**May 2010**



# MAY SERVICES



SERVICE	MINISTER	READER (Morning Service only)
<b>May 2nd—5th Sunday of Easter</b> 11.00 am Holy Communion 6.30 pm Evening Prayer	Rev T P Kerr Rev T P Kerr	Kate Irving <i>Revelation 21 –v– 1-6</i>
<b>May 9th—6th Sunday of Easter</b> 11.00 am Morning Prayer 6.30 pm Evening Prayer ( <i>St Aidan's</i> )	Rev A McCartney Rev T P Kerr	Ann Sheppard <i>Acts 16 –v– 9-15</i>
<b>May 16th—7th Sunday of Easter</b> 11.00 am Holy Communion 6.30 pm Holy Communion	Rev T P Kerr Rev T P Kerr	Raymond Moore <i>Revelation 22 –v– 12-14, 16-17, 20-21</i>
<b>May 23rd—Pentecost</b> 11.00 am Family Service 6.30 pm Holy Communion ( <i>St Aidan's</i> )	Rev A McCartney Rev T P Kerr	Selected readings
<b>May 30th—Trinity Sunday</b> 11.00 am Morning Prayer 6.30 pm No evening service	Rev T P Kerr	Joan Rodgers <i>Proverbs 8 –v– 1-4, 22-31</i>

*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

These take place every Thursday at 12.30 pm in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.  
Followed by lunch in our bistro

*all welcome*

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.



## Flower Rota—May



May 2nd .... Miss J Stewart  
 May 9th .... Mrs A Jenkins  
                   The Irvine Family—in memory of Charles & Dolly Irvine  
 May 16th ... The Craig Family—in memory of their mother  
 May 23rd .... Miss J Stewart  
 May 30th .... Mr S Brown  
                   Mrs K Narroway—in memory of Jackie



## Christian Burial



**May Thompson**  
 56 Dunluce Avenue  
 7th April 2010  
 died 2nd April 2010

May passed away peacefully, surrounded by her nephews and nieces, Des, Rosaleen and Lorraine. She had a long and happy life that spanned 98 years. She was married to the playwright Sam Thompson and was very supportive of his work. The couple married in St. Mary Magdalene in 1957. Be assured of our prayers for her remaining family and friends and especially her son Warren.

### He's just a Prayer away

No matter what your troubles are  
 No difference large or small  
 Each upset that may come your way  
 Each time you slightly fall  
 The smallest fear you've ever had  
 Is always known by God  
 Each step you've walked He counted  
 On every road you've trod  
 So never feel that you're alone  
 When shadows cloud your day  
 But speak His name and you will see  
 He's just a prayer away.



### UNDER THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

In the month of May we can remember two very different men who fought under the sign of the cross.

On the night before a great battle, the Roman Emperor Constantine dreamt of a cross in the sky and the words 'in this sign conquer'. After his victory, Constantine ended 300 years of persecution and Romans were allowed to become Christians. Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire. Constantine died on 22<sup>nd</sup> May in the year 337.



Some 1,500 years later, Jean Henry Dunant (who was born on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1828) was horrified to see the dreadful suffering after the Battle of Solferino. He spent the rest of his life working for the casualties of war, fighting under the banner of the Red Cross to relieve world-wide suffering.

### WHAT'S IT FOR?

What would you do with these things? All the words are in the Bible but are rarely heard today. Answers at the bottom of the page.

- 1. KNOP a) polish it  
b) eat it  
c) harness it
- 2. DARIC a) herd it  
b) sharpen it  
c) spend it
- 3. HYSOPP a) carry it  
b) cultivate it  
c) dig with it
- 4. SHOFAR a) drive it  
b) play it  
c) prune

it



Roses are red,  
Violets are blue.  
Some poems rhyme,  
This one doesn't.



Answers: 1. a) polish it, it is an ornamental knob, part of the lamp-stands in the tabernacle. 2. c) spend it, it's gold coin 3. b) cultivate it, it's a type of plant 4. b) play it, it is musical instrument made from a ram's horn.



Dear Parishioners

### THE ASCENSION

The Ascension is set aside by the Church to celebrate the occasion of Jesus leaving this world. We recall the words of the Apostles' Creed, "On the third day He rose again and ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father".

But His leaving his disciples is not a sombre occasion. It is full of joy and hope and reminds us how the disciples' lives had changed, of how they had come to trust in God's ultimate purpose for them and believe that all will indeed be well because Christ will always be with them.

Sadly, Ascension Day seems to have been pushed to the fringes of the Church's year. Maybe we find Ascension difficult because of the images that we associate with it; of Jesus stepping onto a fluffy white cloud and waving to his disciples on some kind of divine escalator, not helpful.

I am not going to dwell on the mechanics of the Ascension, the how, but rather to focus on its effect.

By the Ascension the disciples had come to understand that the Resurrection was not just a physical reality, as indeed it was, the tomb was empty but an ongoing spiritual experience as well.

The day of resurrection was not an end but a beginning. Yet a beginning not defined by fear but filled with hope and joy.

Jesus leaves his disciples and he ascends into heaven; they will never see him again. But listen again to a few words from the end of the Gospel for the day. 'While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.'

They 'returned to Jerusalem with great joy.' These were no longer men and women held prisoner by their fear. The transformation that Jesus wanted in their hearts and minds so that now they were willing to become fodder for the lions, martyrs for the faith.

They had an unshakeable conviction in God's sovereign power over all the earth. They knew that whatever fate befell them as individuals; ultimately all would always be well.

So let us rejoice this Ascension Day as we remember the transforming journey that the disciples had undertaken in the days after the resurrection.

We too are caught up in the resurrection life, we believe that despite all the trials and pains of this life, that all will be well, that Christ does sit at the right hand of God, guiding his Church and us his people, leading us through his spirit as he promises into 'all truth'.

Let us commit ourselves to live as people not limited by their fears but a people transformed by Our Christ who is risen, ascended and glorified.

The Rector

# Outreach Update



I am in my first week in the new role as "outreach coordinator". That is a grand title! I love a good title. However titles don't get the work done, so here we go.

Let me share some thoughts. We want to be fruitful in bringing the love of God to people in the two parishes. This could be anyone from those who have been involved and perhaps aren't now for any number of reasons right through to people who simply live in the parishes and have no idea that we are even there.

There is a process of change required here for us -

- We need to have compassionate hearts for people. Please note that this is not the same as wanting people in our church. It may result in that but our motivation must first be compassion and love.
- We need to take a realistic look at the area and see what we can do.
- We need to try to understand our world. Some of the things that worked in the past may not work any more. No point in insisting on using a steam engine just because we have fond memories of steam engines.
- We need to think it through and then put it into action. The plan may have some immediate action but also some longer term goals that will take time to work towards.

If we are fruitful in our endeavours we need to realise that our church will change. Imagine your family home – the arrival of a new baby, or granny moving in, or friends coming to stay all require some rearranging of things. This can be challenging but usually we get used to it. After all someone else must have had to move a few things when we arrived to make us welcome.

Here is a possible plan between now and the summer...

- 1 Gather a small group from each parish to give me a better understanding of each congregation. If you want to be part of this please tell me. Otherwise I will have to just ask few people. I imagine this will only require a couple of meetings.
- 2 These groups will then organise a series of three meetings in each parish which will be open to all to come along and engage in some of the thinking.
- 3 Begin to form an understanding of where we have come from, where we are now and how we might go forward.



## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

*The will of God won't ever put you in a place that the Grace of God can't keep you*

## New Car



A husband, the owner of a new car, was somewhat reluctant to allow his wife to drive his prize possession, even to the local shops, a few streets away from the house. After she insisted, he finally relented, cautioning her as she departed, "Remember, if you have an accident, the newspaper will print your age!"



For your diary

<b>Select Vestry</b>	Mon 10th May 7.30 pm
<b>Ladies' Guild</b>	Wed 12th May 7.45 pm
<b>Antiques Fair</b>	Sat 15th May 12.30-4.00 pm <i>Teas rota:</i>
<b>Snooker Club</b>	Tuesdays 7.00 pm
<b>Midweek Services</b>	Thursdays 12.30 pm
<b>BB</b>	On summer recess



...the good news is - I've found a way of heating the church on unwanted chip-fat!...

Articles for the May magazine should be with Kate Irving by Sunday 16th May 2010

## ANNUAL GENERAL VESTRY MEETING

It was both pleasing and encouraging to see so many turn out for this important meeting. The following appointments were made for the year 2010-2011:

*Rector's Church Warden* Mr Hugh Rodgers  
*Rector's Glebe Warden* Mr Jim Garstang  
*People's Church Warden* Mr Peter Ainley  
*People's Glebe Warden* Mr Hugh Gabbie

### Select Vestry:

Mr Percy Copley  
 Mr Cecil Dunwoody  
 Mr Hayder Dyer  
 Mrs Libby Garstang (*Treasurer*)  
 Mrs Kate Irving  
 Miss Betty Lennon  
 Mrs Marie Luney  
 Mrs Dawn McDowell  
 Mr Raymond Moore  
 Mr David Rodgers  
 Mr Philip Rodgers  
 Mrs Jacqueline Stephenson (*Secretary*)

Church Auditors: Mrs Sandra Stephenson & Mrs Liz Taylor

A summary of the Rector's and Treasurer's report can be found in the Annual Report & Accounts for year ended December 2009, which you have received with this month's magazine.



*all who are ill or in need:*

- Betty
- David M
- David S
- Emily
- Jim
- Lizzie
- Ronnie

*those who have been bereaved:*

- the Thompson family on the death of May
- for all who minister within our parish:*
- Rev T Kerr, Rev A McCartney, Rev S Heaney, and Jim Caldwell currently training for the ministry

don't forget!



### Agape Meal—Holy Thursday

If you weren't present at the Agape Meal evening you missed a truly wonderful experience. Not only was the meal absolutely delicious, but the sense of fellowship, belonging and worshipping together was very special. We were delighted to share this occasion with our friends from St Aidan's.

Our thanks go to Rev Adrian and to the chefs, Raymond and Dawn for organising this very special event for both parishes.

I have jumped the gun a bit (simply because time is rushing past us) and I have asked a couple of friends if they could help us do some work with children in the Sandy Row area and some work with youth in the Donegall Pass area in July. Much more detail later and opportunity for all sorts of people to get involved in all sorts of ways.

Hopefully this will get us started. None of us is really sure how this will all pan out but at least we will have a good go at it and enjoy the adventure along the way. One thing we can be sure of is that it will do us no harm. And maybe...you never know...is it possible...some things might work...

Rev Adrian McCartney

**POVERTY LET'S END IT—  
 Christian Aid Week  
 9th-15th MAY 2010**



That is the message for this year's Christian Aid Week. What began as the churches' response to the horrors of the refugee crisis in Europe after the Second World War has become the country's biggest 'house-to-house' collection – with 300,000 volunteers delivering envelopes and picking them back up from householders in the week. In all, it raises more than £9 million a year.

The Annual Christian Aid appeal will soon be taking place. You will be given an envelope in church on Sunday 9th May to be returned with any donation by Sunday 16th May. It can be given to one of the church wardens or placed on the collection plate.

We continue to be indebted to Molly Scales, Jean McCurrie, Liz & Jim Taylor for once again volunteering to carry out door-to-door collections in the Donegall Pass area. In the past, parishioners and residents have been very generous in their donations to Christian Aid and we thank them for their continued efforts for this excellent cause.

You can find out more about Christian Aid Week by visiting their website <http://www.caweek.org>.

## The Boys' Brigade

### BB Prize Giving

I would just like to say a big thank you to all the parents and grandparents, family and friends for attending the BB prize giving service on Sunday the 25th April, I'm sure you will agree that Mr Jim Caldwell gave a super address not only to the boys but to the adults as well. Also my thanks go to the boys who read the lessons and led the prayers and not forgetting all the prize winners—well done boys.

### Company Section

The Company Section boys have entered the South & East Group 5-A-Side football competition which will be held on Thursday 13th May at BBRC at Belvoir on (grass) - boys will get more details nearer the time.

### Mourne Mountain Walks

Walks will take place during May for company section boys, they will go towards badge work, more info soon.

### Anchor Boys

The Anchor Boys will be heading to Indiana Land, the date is still to be confirmed but we are looking at Thursday evening 20th May. We will also head to McDonalds after Indiana Land. Cost per boy £2, parents/guardians will get more information in a few weeks.

"Who said the BB had finished for the summer.....I did and I've sure got that wrong!

*Bill McMillan—Captain 1st Irish Company*

*The Rector, Select Vestry and Parishioners would like to thank Bill, Elizabeth, Jennifer, Chris and David for all their hard work in relation to the BB. We have a great Company in the 1st Irish—due to the efforts this team makes on behalf of the boys.*



## Ladies' Guild

If you haven't yet visited the newly refurbished City Hall, you are really missing out on a big treat. The Guild members had a tour in April. It was just wonderful to witness the splendour and restoration of this magnificent building right in the heart of our city.

Our guide, Cindy, inspired us with really interesting facts, not only about the City Hall, but about Belfast and its history in general.

My sincere thanks go to Betty Lennon for organising this trip.

It's hard to believe that our Annual General Meeting is approaching again—where does the year go? We're looking forward to having Rev Adrian McCartney along as our guest speaker. Rev Adrian will be telling us about his work with Boring Wells.

As usual, we will meet in the hall at 7.45 pm. This will be your opportunity to vote in a new committee for the next year.

Don't forget that the cost of June's outing (£15.00) should be paid to Kate at the next meeting.

*Joan Rodgers—President*

## Why your television is like the Trinity

### The 5 Minute Meditation

Here is a trick question: How many colours does your television set use?

Answer: Just 3: red, green and blue. And in that order, just like a rainbow. This is known as "RGB".

These are the television's 3 primary colours which, when their luminescence is fired at your eyes, give all the colours of the visible spectrum. In fact, mix these 3 together in different proportions, and your screen can offer you 16 million colours.

You'll soon call out the repair man if your television loses one of its 3 colours and all the presenters look as though they came from Mars. But change the intensity of any one colour (red, green or blue) even slightly and you change the overall colour.

Switch them all off, and you are left with black. Let all 3 of them shine at full brightness, at the same point - and then as if by magic you only have white!

It's a parable which illustrates the Holy Trinity. Three completely distinct persons (Father, Son and

Holy Spirit), just as your TV set has three quite separate colours: red, green, blue.

Take away any One member of the Trinity and you slip into theological error; just as if you take away any one of the 3 colours on your TV, you call out the TV repair engineer! So -

It **DOES** matter that God is our Creator and Father - otherwise our whole life is merely a meaningless illusion.

It **DOES** matter that Jesus is God the Son, for otherwise his death is simply a human tragedy, with no promise of salvation or eternal life.

It **DOES** matter that the Holy Spirit is with us here and now, otherwise we are disconnected from God.

**Yes it really does matter!** Just as it is essential that a TV set needs all 3 colours to work together, the doctrine of the Trinity is far from being a complicated bit of theological nonsense, but is a sort of theological test-card, to make sure that we've got the right picture of God, without distortion.

