



Puzzle Corner

As well as the Sudoku, try your hand at finding all the lovely fruits in this wordsearch

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

I	E	A	P	S	C	P	E	R	P	A	P	A	Y	A	S
B	S	L	S	I	A	A	E	S	K	I	A	S	S	I	T
R	R	T	S	S	S	E	N	I	R	A	T	C	E	N	Y
E	S	U	O	R	P	S	E	T	W	S	E	L	P	P	A
A	R	I	E	C	R	C	M	E	A	S	N	A	S	S	S
A	E	I	P	A	I	P	G	N	T	L	N	O	E	E	E
B	L	U	E	B	E	R	R	I	E	S	O	I	M	P	O
A	E	P	T	N	A	S	P	W	R	T	R	U	S	E	B
N	B	S	S	P	E	G	A	A	M	R	K	S	P	S	L
A	A	L	E	G	R	P	I	B	E	A	P	E	E	E	O
N	K	S	N	R	B	E	L	B	L	R	T	I	A	A	S
A	B	A	A	R	M	G	W	R	O	E	E	R	C	E	I
S	R	T	E	R	B	A	E	E	N	T	T	R	H	L	W
O	S	E	I	R	R	E	B	P	S	A	R	E	E	N	I
C	I	C	E	T	G	E	S	S	E	A	B	H	S	R	K
I	L	C	S	S	P	L	U	M	S	A	E	C	E	R	S

- Apples
- Apricots
- Bananas
- Blueberries
- Cantaloupes
- Cherries
- Grapes
- Kiwis
- Lemons
- Nectarines
- Oranges
- Papayas
- Peaches
- Pears
- Plums
- Raspberries
- Strawberries
- Watermelons

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



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

May 2015



CHURCH SERVICES



SERVICES	READER
3rd May—5th Sunday of Easter 11.00 am Holy Communion	Raymond Hamill <i>1 John 4 –v- 7-21</i>
10th May—6th Sunday of Easter 11.00 am Morning Prayer	Naomi Riley <i>Isaiah 45 –v- 11-13, 18-19</i>
17th May—7th Sunday of Easter 11.00 am Healing Service	Ronnie Luney <i>Psalms 71 –v- 9-18</i>
24th May—Day of Pentecost 11.00 am Holy Baptism	Jacqueline Stephenson <i>Acts 2 –v- 1-21</i>
31st May—Trinity Sunday 11.00 am Family Service	—

Thursday Lunchtime Services

These continue to take place on at 12.30 pm in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.
Lunch is served afterwards in the hall.

All welcome

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—May



May 3rd Mr & Mrs J Pentland
 May 10th Miss J Stewart
 May 17th Mr & Mrs R Luney
 May 24th Miss J Stewart
 May 31st Mr S Brown

~ 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
 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

At the time of the magazine going to print, we have just learned of the death of Mr George Clarke. We remember Margaret and the rest of the family at this time. George’s obituary will appear in next month’s magazine.

Back again



Big Breakfast'

OUR 'BIG BREAKFAST'

takes place on

Saturday 9th May

9.00 am—12 noon

Please support us by coming
along
and having a superb breakfast!

All proceeds to church funds

Still costs only £4.00 each
and *still* the

Best fry in Belfast!



The Rector writes . . .

Dear Parishioner

'Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing'. They said to him, 'We will go with you'. [John 21: 3]

Jesus has risen from the dead and revealed himself to Mary Magdalene and on further occasions to groups of disciples gathered in Jerusalem. Now the scene has changed and a small group of the disciples seem to have gone home for a break. Peter, James, John, Nathaniel and Thomas are by the Sea of Galilee, away from the public eye in Jerusalem. It has been a bewildering and busy time. The arrest and crucifixion of Jesus, and then his resurrection are behind them and now they at last seem to have some time on their hands.

It has been a roller-coaster ride with Jesus and they are emotionally exhausted. In St John's account of the beginnings of the Jesus movement, it all began with John the Baptist pointing out Jesus as the 'Lamb of God' to two of his own disciples. They literally follow Jesus about until he notices them and there is an unspoken contract of a pupil-teacher relationship. They stay with Jesus for most of the day and are 'hooked' on his teaching. One of them is identified as Andrew who is so impressed by Jesus that he immediately goes to find his brother Simon Peter. He tells him 'We have found the Messiah' and 'brought Simon to Jesus'. Personal testimony leads to personal invitation to share in the wonderful teaching opportunity he had discovered. In the next section it is Jesus who issues an invitation to Philip to 'Follow me.' Philip then in turn invites his friend Nathanael to join them.

These are key illustrations of how the Church grows – it all depends on a personal invitation or a recommendation! There is nothing there about anonymous appeals, or blanket invitations, but it is very much a one-to-one dynamic. We are all individuals, but if we have found something we think our friends and family would benefit from we feel moved to mention it to them. Nowadays, some of us might discover a website or a digital article which we share with our friends on Facebook or we provide them with a link to the site, so that they can discover it for themselves. Whether the invitation or recommendation is offered face-to-face or electronically, it is tailored to those people in our group of friends who would be likely to show the most interest, who would be open to that kind of invitation.

The same happens in the life of faith. We cannot bring people to Jesus unless we have got to know both parties ourselves, so we readily offer ourselves as the 'link'. We bring those people to Jesus whom we anticipate will be most receptive to his

message, to his presence. The ground has already been well-worked before the seed is sown. Friends and family are the most natural groups to approach. We know their needs, their way of life, their way of thinking. That is the recipe for gathering a group who are most likely to continue to learn together from the person they hold in high esteem.

Simon Peter seems to want to revert to his old way of life, as a commercial fisherman. He has been called by Jesus and followed him for over three years, but is now awaiting further instructions. He is no doubt feeling rather ashamed of his denial of Jesus and is wondering if Jesus views him differently now. Perhaps he feels that he has been a failure as a disciple, and maybe now is the time to go back to what he knows best. But Jesus teaches him that he still values him and that his future is not in that kind of fishing. Spiritual fishing and then looking after the new recruits in the Jesus movement is to be his role after all. Jesus again urges Peter twice more 'Follow me!' Peter has not only been reinstated as a disciple, he is clearly given a leading pastoral and teaching role.

We can all be eaten up by our past failures, we are apt to wallow in self-pity, or to try to go back to what we know best, but once God has called us, he remains faithful to us despite the setbacks. There is no going back after Easter. Jesus' task is finished and ours, as his followers, begins again. Let us never tire of following or finding other followers for him, for that is the dynamic of the Gospel and the secret of an abundant life!

Rev Bob Cotter



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

10-16 MAY 2015

Christian Aid week will soon be here again. If you could give an hour or two to carry out street collections in Donegall Pass, please contact Joan on 90790232. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Envelopes will be distributed in church as usual.



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

If you can't sleep, don't count sheep; talk to the Shepherd!

Kid's Mission

The recently held 'Kid's Mission' was a huge success with around 20 local children attending each evening during Holy Week.

We are grateful to the Rev Barry Forde and a team from 'The Hub' at QUB for all their help and hard work during this time.

Our thanks also go to the Rector, his wife Sally and of course to our Family worker, Alison.

Photos and video of the week are on our website and Facebook page.



For your diary

Big Breakfast	Sat 9th May	9-12 noon
Ladies' Guild	Wed 13th May	7.30 pm
Select Vestry	Mon 18th May	7.30 pm
Snooker Club	Tuesdays	7.00 pm
Midweek Services	Thursdays	12.30 pm
Parents and Toddlers	Thursdays	10-12 noon
BB	on Summer Recess	



"Last thing I remember was my wife wishing me 'Godspeed'!"

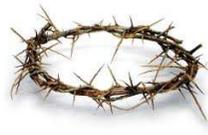


Congratulations to Matthew Smyth on the completion of his long-awaited sky dive in aid of the Children's Hospice. More photographs can be seen on our Facebook page.



YOU TOOK MY PARKING SPACE AT CHURCH!

One day, a man went as a visitor to a church. He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up near by and parked. The driver got out and said, "I always park there! You took my place!"



The visitor went inside for the service, found an empty seat and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You took my place!" The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but still said nothing.

After the service, the visitor went into the Sanctuary and sat down to pray. Another member came up to him and said, "That's where I always sit! You took my place!" The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still said nothing.

Later as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and his appearance began to change. His clothing became a simple robe. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his now sandaled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, "What happened to you?" The visitor replied, as his hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from his eye, "I took your place!"

When you read this, say a prayer, that's all you have to do. Just show this to other people and see what happens. Maybe, just maybe, we can get the world to start thinking of "who took our place."



The last night of the 2014-15 session was held on Thursday 30th April. Well done to all the boys, especially those who won cups or shields. A big thank you to all the boys for attending, but attendance could have been better.

To the leaders, Jennifer, Elizabeth, Chris and David - thank you for all the time and hard work you have given throughout the session and not least to the members of the congregation and the Select Vestry for their financial support..

*William McMillan
Captain 1st Irish Company*

**Parents and Toddlers
Thursdays
in the church hall
from
10 am to 12 noon.**

If you have any questions/enquiries please contact Alison on 07547030451

Ladies' Guild



What fun we had on our first ever 'Members night' held in April.

Apparently the laughter disturbed the concentration of the snooker players next door! A huge thank you to those who organised the activities and the lovely supper.

Our 'Comedy Night' takes place on Wednesday May 13th, when we hope everyone will enjoy the short episodes of entertainment that have been chosen.

Can I remind members that numbers for the afternoon tea in June need to be finalised that evening.

I look forward to seeing you then.

Joan Rodgers—President



for our younger readers



St Mary Magdalene
Parish Church
Donegall Pass

Family Fun Day

Saturday 6th June
12 noon—2.00 pm

Fun & Games Bouncy Castle Hot Dogs

Burgers, Fun and lots more!

ADMISSION FREE!!

ANNUAL GENERAL VESTRY MEETING

The Annual General Vestry meeting took place on Monday 13th April. It is disappointing that more parishioners do not attend this important church occasion, but we continue to be grateful to those who faithfully turn up year after year.

The following appointments have been made for the coming year:

Mr Hugh Rodgers	<i>Rector's Church Warden</i>
Mr Peter Ainley	<i>People's Church Warden</i>
Mr Ronnie Luney	<i>Rector's Glebe Warden</i>
Mr Bill McMillan	<i>People's Glebe Warden</i>

Select Vestry:

Mr Percy Copley	Mr Bill Jeffrey
Mrs Sally Cotter	Mrs Marie Luney
Mr Cecil Dunwoody	Mr Billy McDowell
Mrs Libby Garstang (<i>Treasurer</i>)	Mrs Joan Rodgers
Mr Raymond Hamill	Mr David Stephenson
Mrs Kate Irving	Mrs Jacqueline Stephenson (<i>Secretary</i>)

Summaries of the Rector's Report and Treasurer's Report can be found in the Annual Report & Accounts, which you should have received with this magazine.