

Puzzle Corner



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

Harvest word scramble

1. CULUTRALIRGA _____
2. EASTF _____
3. MERSRAF _____
4. TURELUCTIROH _____
5. ELDSIF _____
6. PINGAER _____
7. THERNIGAG _____
8. EATHREW _____
9. RAGNEDNIG _____
10. TIOUNBFUL _____
11. SSONAE _____
12. RUITFFUL _____
13. LENTYP _____
14. NEALG _____
15. PROC _____
16. MIRT _____
17. OPL _____
18. VESTERHAR _____
19. TILCUTEVA _____
20. EMITESTVARH _____

20. HARVEST TIME
19. CULTIVATE
18. HARVESTER
17. LOP
16. TRIM
15. CROP
14. GLEAN
13. PLENTY
12. FRUITFUL
11. SEASON
10. BOUNTIFUL
9. GARDENING
8. WEATHER
7. GATHERING
6. REAPING
5. FIELDS
4. HORTICULTURE
3. FARMERS
2. FEAST
1. AGRICULTURAL

PASSWORDS



THE MAGAZINE FOR ST MARY MAGDALENE PARISH
DONEGALL PASS

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October

Harvest



Oct 2014



CHURCH SERVICES



| SERVICES | READER |
|--|--|
| 5th Oct—16th Sunday after Trinity 11.00 am Holy Communion | Libby Garstang <i>Philippians 3—v- 4b-14</i> |
| 12th Oct—17th Sunday after Trinity 11.00 am Morning Harvest Festival 7.00 pm Evening Harvest Festival | Bill Jeffrey <i>Isaiah 35 —v- 1-10</i> Kate Irving <i>Deuteronomy 26 —v- 8-11</i> |
| 19th Oct—18th Sunday after Trinity 11.00 am Trafalgar Day Service | RNA members |
| 26th Oct—5th Sunday before Advent 11.00 am Family Service | — |

We are delighted once again to welcome the members of the Royal Naval Association to their annual Trafalgar Day Service on Sunday 19th October at 11.00 am

Thursday Lunchtime Services

These take place in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit with lunch 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—October



| | | |
|----------|-------|--------------------|
| Oct 5th | | Mr & Mrs H Rodgers |
| Oct 12th | | Mr S Brown |
| | | The Elliot Family |
| Oct 19th | | Mrs M O’Rawe |
| Oct 26th | | The Boys’ Brigade |

Donegall Pass Community Centre

Open Day

Saturday 4th October

11.00 am-4.00 pm

All welcome

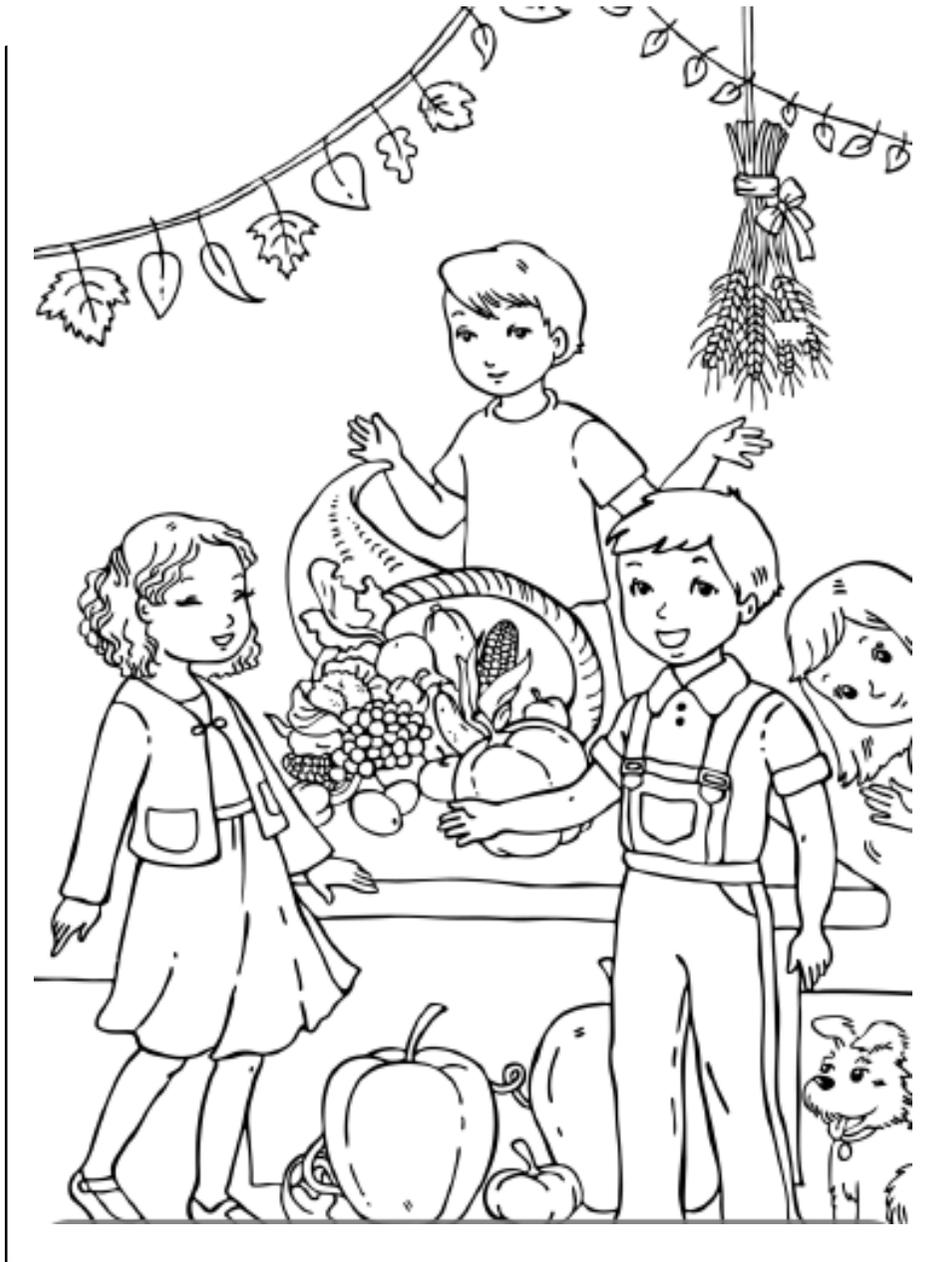


ICE BUCKET CHALLENGE

Check out our website and/or Facebook page to see footage of the Rev Bob Cotter’s Ice Bucket Challenge. Brrrr!

All donations in aid of Macmillan Nurses

Colour in this harvest picture



The Rector writes . . .

Dear Parishioners

‘Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.’ [Acts 2: 46-47]

These two verses from Acts are often cited as a sign of the ideal church and in many ways I agree with that analysis. They come at the end of the chapter which is read every Pentecost, describing the coming of the Holy Spirit, an event often referred to as ‘the birthday of the church’. We can sense the excitement, the enthusiasm, so often associated with something new. It is a familiar story: a new fashion trend, a new TV series generates a lot of interest at the start. It flashes across the sky like a comet, everyone looks up in wonderment for a while and then it is replaced by the next craze.

We see it all the time in the modern media. Something catches on YouTube or Facebook and, before you know it, it has gone ‘viral’. More often than not, it is consigned in due course to the history books. ‘It has had its day’ we often hear, or ‘it is no longer relevant to the 21st century’.

Every institution needs to re-invent itself, to re-establish its relevance to the age it is trying to woo. We have seen this with the monarchy. On countless occasions, it has been suggested that it is ‘out of place’ in the modern age and should be discarded. Yet, at the present time it enjoys greater prestige and affection than ever before. We all saw, however, the way in which it struggled to modernize in the wake of the death of Princess Diana. Belatedly, perhaps reluctantly, it responded to the mood of the nation and regained its credibility in the eyes of some. Anyone who has watched the film ‘The Queen’ with Helen Mirren will recall how crucial it was that opportunities were not squandered.

The Christian Church is still around after more than two thousand years. Like some other great religions it has seen its eras of rapid expansion. One of those times was in the wake of the Resurrection and the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Interest was aroused and many new Christians joined the ranks. The same happened again after the Emperor Constantine issued his Edict of Toleration for Christianity in AD 313. Thereafter, the large-scale persecutions of Christians ceased and people could worship in peace and begin to invest in impressive church buildings.

There have been periodic revivals of Christianity in the centuries since. In fact, there were notable religious revivals in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Each institution, including the church, needs to periodically renew itself, to re-focus on its central mission. It also needs to regain all the excitement and enthusiasm of the times when its members came to faith. Perhaps some have retained that candle of faith in bright and pristine condition, but most of us can benefit from revisiting the sources of our faith. The Reformation of the 16th century was one such occasion when the church went back to its sources ['ad fontes' in the Latin phrase of the time] to rediscover core truths and doctrines.

One of the key sources was the record of the Early Church, as recorded by St Luke in the pages of the Acts of the Apostles. It is a great and compelling story of growth, of setting out on a journey of faith in the power of the Holy Spirit. I would encourage you to spend some time re-reading Acts in the coming months. I believe you will find it both inspiring and challenging, as you read about how the church overcame obstacle after obstacle, how people worked together [and occasionally fell out e.g. Paul and John Mark, Paul and Peter] to ground the new faith in the lives of peoples of diverse nations and cultures.

Notice how these verses remind us that the Christians 'spent much time together'. Scripture knows nothing of the solitary Christian. Meeting with other Christians is how we grow together in the faith. Unless we are prevented by duties or ill health from attending church, it is a visible sign of our adherence to Christ that we meet together with his other followers. It may not be a condition of being considered a Christian, but it is certainly an indication of where our heart lies. The Early Church just couldn't get enough of the company of other Christians.

As we approach both our Harvest Festival in the middle of October and our Parish Mission at the end of November, leading up to the 175th anniversary of our establishment as a Christian community in this part of Belfast, we would do well to reflect on why it is important that we are still here, how we should be showing our faith in attractive and relevant ways in the 21st century, and how our presence in this community should be one of the most positive things anyone could ever say about us: 'that's Mary Magdalene Parish Church – the beating heart of Donegall Pass since 1839 - and still going strong!'

Rev Bob Cotter



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

*Always do your best.
What you plant now
you will harvest later.*



'Mrs Jones, may we borrow your hat for the harvest festival?'



For your diary

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Select Vestry | Mon 13th Oct | 7.30 pm |
| Ladies' Guild | Wed 8th Oct | 7.30 pm |
| Harvest Festival Weekend | Sat/Sun 11/12 Oct | See Page 6 |
| Snooker Club | Tuesdays | 7.00 pm |
| Midweek Services | Thursdays | 12.30 pm |
| Parents and Toddlers | Thursdays | 10-12 noon |
| BB | Thursdays | 6.30 onwards |

The Dog

A Minister was walking down the street when he came upon a group of boys, all of them between 10 and 12 years of age. The group had surrounded a dog. Concerned that the boys were hurting the dog, he went over and asked "What are you doing with that dog?" One of the boys replied, "This dog is just an old neighbourhood stray. We all want him, but only one of us can take him home. So we've decided that whichever one of us can tell the biggest lie will get to keep the dog." Of course, the reverend was taken aback. "You boys shouldn't be having a contest telling lies!" he exclaimed. He then launched into a ten minute sermon against lying, beginning, "Don't you boys know it's a sin to lie," and ending with, "Why, when I was your age, *I never* told a lie."

There was dead silence for about a minute. Just as the reverend was beginning to think he'd gotten through to them, the smallest boy gave a deep sigh and said, "All right, give the reverend the dog."



175th Anniversary

As mentioned in last month's magazine, a number of dates are being organised as part of our 175th anniversary celebration. One of these very special events will be a weekend of Parish Mission, led by Bishop Ken Clarke. Further details will be announced next month, but in the meantime, please mark the following dates in your diary!

| Event | Date | Time |
|--|--|--------------|
| Parish Open Day | Sat 15th November | 2.00-4.00 pm |
| Healing Service | Sun 16th November | 11.00 am |
| Dinner to mark opening of Parish Mission weekend | Fri 28th November | 7.30 pm |
| Mission Event | Sat 29th November | 7.30 pm |
| Mission Family Service | Sun 30th November (Bishop Ken Clarke) | 11.00 am |
| 175th Anniversary Service | Mon 1st December | 7.00 pm |



Also, don't forget our next 'Big Breakfast' ~ Saturday 8th November 9.00 -12 noon.



~ 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*
- Edith Booth, *Carryduff NH*
- Barbara Drysdale *Silver Birch Lodge NH, Saintfield.*
- Mina Henry, *Arlington House, North Parade*
- Mary Leslie, *Arlington House, North Parade*
- Annie McCully, *Belmont CH*
- Sadie Parker, *Belmont CH*
- David Sampson, *Park Manor NH, Dunmurry*
- Desmond Spratt, *Lagan Valley Hospital*

- John Burns
- George and Margaret Clarke
- Warren Crawford
- Martha Fitzsimmons
- Jean Fulton
- Jim Garstang
- Victor Gourley
- Gloria Graham
- Annie Jenkins
- 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

Don't forget
CLOCKS BACK
OCTOBER 26th

Articles for the November magazine should be with Kate Irving by Sunday 19th October at the latest.



HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Sunday 12th October 11.00 am and 7.00 pm.

DECORATING THE CHURCH

Saturday 11th October 2.00 pm—4.00 pm

YOU can help by:

- coming along and giving a hand
- supplying flowers, greenery, fruit, vegetables
- Cleaning up afterwards

VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS WELCOME

HARVEST COLLECTION

This year, our special Harvest Collection will be in aid of 'Help for the Homeless'. This charity provides help to individuals and families who are at risk of becoming homeless, or who are homeless, in Northern Ireland. A collection plate will be placed at the back of the church for any donations. If you pay income tax, please consider gift aiding your donation—forms will be available. Please remember that gift aiding costs you nothing!



The Boys' Brigade

has now restarted as follows:

Anchor Boys (5-8 yrs)
6.30 pm - 8.00 pm

Junior Section (8-11 yrs)
6.30 pm - 8.00 pm

Company Section (11-18 yrs)
7.45 pm - 9.30 pm

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

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 or Elaine on
07713383943

Ladies' Guild



The Guild will recommence on Wednesday 8th October with our usual opening celebration of Holy Communion in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit at 7.30 pm.

I wish to thank all the members who attended our 'review' meeting in September. It was most encouraging to receive such positive comments and feedback from everyone and of course, this has inspired the committee to proceed with this year's programme of events. We are sure this will be to everyone's liking.

Subscription fees will remain the same as last year—£15.00.

I look forward to seeing you all on the 8th — and of course — to welcoming any new members who may wish to join us. We'd love to see you.

Joan Rodgers—President