



Puzzle Corner

Try your hand at these puzzles and see how you get on!

	6		7		8				
		7	6				8	4	
	8			2					
8	9					5			
5	2		1	8	9		4	6	
		6					9	8	
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h	t	b	x	t	n	y	e	l	l	o	w
b	r	o	w	n	s	e	j	j	s	l	s
g	b	h	v	t	t	p	y	u	q	i	c
c	q	q	z	f	x	a	e	j	u	c	a
m	l	e	a	v	e	s	c	a	i	w	r
c	j	s	y	i	l	g	b	o	r	k	e
h	a	r	v	e	s	t	o	d	r	i	c
f	s	e	u	o	r	a	n	g	e	n	r
w	a	d	k	l	a	p	f	q	l	r	o
s	s	l	d	q	f	x	i	g	x	a	w
k	b	m	l	y	l	h	r	c	x	k	p
a	p	p	l	e	b	h	e	y	c	e	h

All about Autumn word search

- rake
- squirrel
- bonfire
- orange
- scarecrow
- leaves
- harvest
- acorn
- brown
- apple
- yellow
- pear
- fall

PASSWORDS



THE MAGAZINE FOR ST MARY MAGDALENE PARISH
DONEGALL PASS

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October





CHURCH SERVICES



SERVICES	READER
4th Oct—18th Sunday after Trinity 11.00 am Holy Communion	Naomi Riley <i>Hebrews 1 –v- 1-4, 2 –v- 5-12</i>
11th Oct—19th Sunday after Trinity 11.00 am Harvest Thanksgiving <i>Preacher:</i> <i>Rev David Luckman (Director of Crosslinks)</i>	David Stephenson <i>Isaiah 49 –v- 1-6</i>
18th Oct—20th Sunday after Trinity 11.00 am Trafalgar Day Morning Prayer	RNA Members <i>Isaiah 40 –v- 21-31 Acts 27 –v- 13-20</i>
25th Oct—5th Sunday before Advent 11.00 am BB Enrolment Service	BB Members <i>1 Samuel 17 –v- 41-49 Ephesians 6 –v- 10-17</i>

Thursday Lunchtime Services

The Thursday services and lunch will resume on
8th October at 12.30 pm

We look forward to seeing all our regulars and hopefully some new faces too!

Everyone welcome

*We are delighted once again to welcome the members of the
Royal Naval Association to their annual
Trafalgar Day Service on
Sunday 18th October at 11.00 am*

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 4th Mr & Mrs H Rodgers
 Oct 11th Mr S Brown
 Oct 18th Mrs M O'Rawe
 Oct 25th The Boys' Brigade

Happy 50th Anniversary

*We celebrate another Golden Wedding anniversary this month as we send our congratulations and best wishes to
Hugh & Joan Rodgers,
who were married in this church on
16th October 1965*

~ 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]	John Burns	David & Emily Mason
Martha Armstrong, <i>Masserene NH</i>	Ann Crawford	Brian & Jean Matthews
David Baird, <i>Fairhaven RH, North Rd</i>	Warren Crawford	Tom Reilly
Ena Belton, <i>Hollygate NH</i>	Martha Fitzsimmons	Jim Shields
Margaret Clarke, <i>Redburn, B'Hinch NH</i>	Jim Garstang	Doreen Smyth
Mina Henry, <i>Arlington House, North Pde</i>	Victor Gourley	Laura Smyth
Annie Jenkins, <i>Carryduff NH</i>	Gloria Graham	Stella Spackman
Mary Leslie, <i>Arlington House, North Pde</i>	Edna King (<i>RVH</i>)	David Stephenson
Eileen Ross, <i>Beechill House CH</i>	Frances McClean	Roy and Ena Taylor
David Sampson, <i>Park Manor NH</i>	Elizabeth Mark	Greta Wilson

☞ *I came across the following terrifying warning of the dangers of drug taking. Hopefully its message will reach out to young people throughout the parish.*

I destroy homes, tear families apart,
take your children, that's just the start.

I'm more costly than diamonds, more
costly than gold, the sorrow I bring is a
sight to behold, and if you need me,
remember I'm easily found.

I live all around you, in schools and in
town. I live with the rich, I live with the
poor, I live down the street, and maybe
next door.

My power is awesome; try me you'll see,
but if you do, you may never break free.
Just try me once and I might let you go,
but try me twice, and I'll own your soul.

When I possess you, you'll steal and
you'll lie.

You do what you have to just to get high.

The crimes you'll commit, for my
narcotic charms will be worth the
pleasure you'll feel in your arms.

You'll lie to your mother; you'll steal
from your dad. When you see their
tears, you should feel sad. But you'll
forget your morals and how you were
raised, I'll be your conscience, I'll teach
you my ways.

I take kids from parents, and parents
from kids, I turn people from God, and
separate from friends.

I'll take everything from you, your looks
and your pride, I'll be with you always,
right by your side.

You'll give up everything your family,
your home, your friends, your money,
then you'll be alone.

I'll take and take, till you have nothing

more to give. When I'm finished with
you you'll be lucky to live.

If you try me be warned this is no game.
If given the chance, I'll drive you insane.
I'll ravish your body; I'll control your
mind. I'll own you completely; your soul
will be mine.

The nightmares I'll give you while lying in
bed, the voices you'll hear from inside
your head, the sweats, the shakes, the
visions you'll see; I want you to know,
these are all gifts from me.

But then it's too late, and you'll know in
your heart, that you are mine, and we
shall not part.

You'll regret that you tried me, they
always do, but you came to me, not I to
you.

You knew this would happen. Many times
you were told, but you challenged my
power, and chose to be bold.

You could have said no, and just walked
away. If you could live that day over, now
what would you say? I'll be your master;
you will be my slave, I'll even go with you,
when you go to your grave. Now that you
have met me, what will you do?

Will you try me or not? Its all up to you.
I can bring you more misery than words
can tell.

Come take my hand, let me lead you to
hell.

Writer: Unknown



The Rector writes . . .

Dear Parishioner

How grateful do you feel at the moment? Do you get up every morning with a spring in your step, thanking God for the gift of a new day? As you reflect on your life, do you think you have much to be thankful for? Before you answer, just ask yourself a few more questions: Have you ever really been hungry for days on end? Have you been without a roof over your head for months, if not years at a time? Is every day a fight for survival, wondering if you'll make it through unscathed? Do you feel there is no point in making plans for the future, because you aren't even sure about the present?

We in the affluent West have so much to be thankful for. Compared with billions of people worldwide we enjoy a standard of living and sense of security which is enviable. We have a [generally] reliable water and electricity supply. We have an infrastructure of roads and railways which ensure that we can normally get to where we want to go pretty quickly. If we go to the supermarket we are faced with a dizzying range of choices in every imaginable foodstuff. Shortages only occur very short-term, perhaps because a particular item was being sold at a special [lower] price. If we take ill we expect that medical help will arrive within minutes and that we will receive the best possible care available. If we are hungry for knowledge and want to train or study for a particular career, the possibilities are many and diverse.

Compared with the people of, say, Nepal, we live in heaven. We are wealthy beyond their wildest dreams. Our countries are desirable destinations for so many people from elsewhere who are prepared to take incredible risks to get here. For them, this is the Promised Land. Just watch the news to learn what the daily reality is in Iraq or Syria or Afghanistan or countless other places. Observe the hordes of migrants streaming towards Europe looking for a better life?

Yet, do we feel as blessed as we should, not in a smug way, but in a realistic one? Do we live lives which radiate positivity? October is the month when

we celebrate the Harvest in our church, when we sing the familiar hymns and show our awareness of how fortunate we are that we are spared the privations that others undergo. Perhaps we can recall hard times in the past. We remember Ration Cards. We grew up in households where there wasn't a huge surplus, where every penny had to be accounted for.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving of course works on several levels. We acknowledge before God that he has looked after our physical needs for another year and has given us more than enough, so that can share our surplus with others. This makes a tangible link with our generous support of the Foodbank. We reflect also on the spiritual harvest that we long to see realised. In this and other churches throughout the years the Word of God has been preached faithfully, the seed has been sown and we await the harvest of souls – perhaps impatiently, perhaps sceptically. Yet we also need to look at the spiritual fruit that our own lives have produced since last year. Will there be a bumper crop or is it another lean year? Have we nurtured the seeds of faith with meticulous prayer and attention or have we allowed ourselves to go to seed?

In our Trafalgar Service we will once again recall the heroic efforts of those who guaranteed our liberty by their courage in battle, particularly in that significant year of 1805. Our gratitude for the actions of Nelson and his men on the seas has been complemented recently by our sense of profound debt to those 'few' of the RAF who kept the Luftwaffe at bay in the Battle of Britain.

In our BB Enrolment Service, we look back as well as forward. We will recall with gratitude all those who have contributed to this vital work among boys and young men throughout the many decades since its inception. At the same time, we are grateful for those who continue to take on this demanding task and those lads who attend week by week to learn how to develop 'Christian manliness' and much else besides.

This autumn let us reflect with gratitude on all that God has done for us and commit ourselves anew to follow in the footsteps of his Son to whom we owe the most profound debt of gratitude for all that he accomplished for us at Calvary.

Rev Bob Cotter



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

When you find you're at your wit's end, you'll find that God lives there.



Once upon a Time ...

An atheist was walking through the woods, admiring the beauty of creation, and not giving a thought to who created it. Suddenly a seven foot grizzly bear appeared from behind a tree and came towards him, its jaws agape, its front paws raised for the kill.

The atheist stood paralysed with terror and cried out 'O my God, Help!'

The bear froze in its attack posture, the clouds parted and a voice from the heavens exclaimed, 'Well, haven't you got a nerve. Denying me all these years and now calling on me in your hour of need. I suppose you must finally admit that you have become a Christian?'

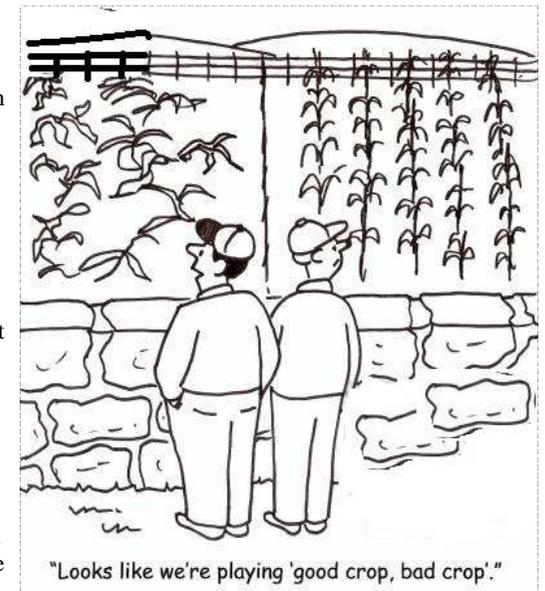
'O dear', stammered the atheist, 'I feel really bad about this, but I'd be an awful hypocrite if I suddenly became a Christian after all these years. But if you're really God, can't you make the bear become a Christian?'

There was a great sigh from above, the clouds rejoined and the bear unfroze. It dropped to its knees, clasped its front paws, bowed its head and prayed, 'Lord, for this meal that you have set before me, may I be truly thankful!'



For your diary

Select Vestry	Mon 12th Oct	7.30 pm
Ladies' Guild	Wed 14th Oct	7.30 pm
Trafalgar Day	Sun 18th Oct	11.00 am
BB Enrolment	Sun 25th Oct	11.00 am
Snooker Club	Tuesdays	7.00 pm
Midweek Services	Thursdays (from 8th Oct)	12.30 pm
Parents and Toddlers	Thurs	10-12 noon
BB	Thurs	6.30 onwards



Our Wednesday morning group continues to meet weekly from 10-12 noon. This month 'South Belfast Alternatives' are presenting a series of seminars on ethnic minorities, mental health awareness, hate crimes, anti-racism, anti-bullying and anti-social behaviour.



Our parent and toddler group continues to meet on Thursday from 10-12 noon.

Both these groups are open to anyone interested and new members are always welcome.

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

Thank You!



to everyone who sent good wishes and cards in celebration of our recent Golden Wedding Anniversary. We sincerely appreciated your kind thoughts.

Tom & Naomi



We were delighted to welcome nearly 30 visitors to our church on the European Heritage Open Day in September. It was very encouraging to see so many people turn up for a tour of our beautiful church.

A big Thank You to everyone who helped on the day



BB ENROLMENT

takes place on

**Sunday
25th October 2015
at 11.00 am**

Boys should meet in the hall at
10.30 am

Full uniform must be worn

*William McMillan
Captain 1st Irish Company*



Articles for the November magazine should be with Kate Irving by Sunday 18th October at the latest.

Ladies' Guild



The Guild starts another year of activities on Wednesday 14th October at 7.30 pm, when we commence with a service of Holy Communion in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

As part of the new season's programme, we agreed to donate to a Christmas Shoe Box Appeal. This year we are pleased to support the excellent efforts of Team Hope Ireland, an inter-denominational charity that provides support for children in Africa and Eastern Europe.

We are therefore delighted to welcome Mr John Young, a representative from Team Hope Ireland who will tell us about the work of the charity and what it means to these children to receive the presents.

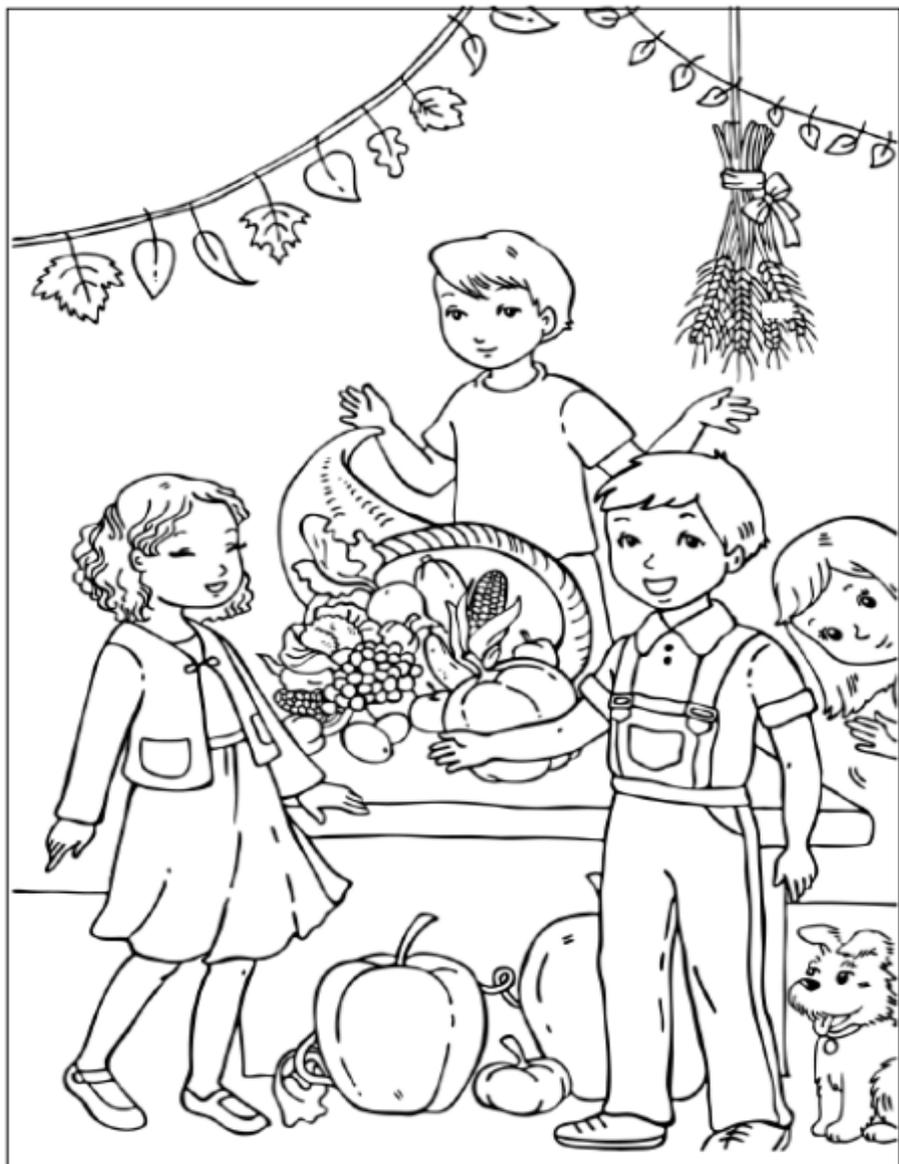
I look forward to seeing everyone back for another year and hopefully there'll be some new faces too!

Joan Rodgers—President



for our younger readers

Here's a Harvest picture for you to colour in



The annual Harvest Thanksgiving will take place on:

Sunday 11th October at 11.00 am

This year, we have decided to depart from the usual type of harvest we normally celebrate. As you know, the church is decorated beautifully each year by a very few volunteers. This takes hours of work, only to be taken down and mostly discarded after the Sunday service.

In an attempt to make our thanksgiving more relevant in today's society, we want to try an alternative format for harvest this year by offering an 'Urban Harvest' celebration. Instead of providing flowers, greenery and fresh vegetables, you are asked to bring suitable food bank items directly to church on the morning of 11th October. During the service, parishioners will be invited to bring their offerings up to the Chancel and afterwards these will be passed on to the Food Bank that we have been supporting over the past year. Any of the following items are suitable:

- Sugar
- Tea bags
- Instant Coffee
- Milk (UHT or powdered)
- Fruit Juice (carton)
- Jam
- Biscuits or snack bars
- Soup (tinned or packet)
- Pasta Sauces
- Puddings (tinned)
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned fruit
- Rice/pasta
- Cereals

Many inner-city churches have adopted this style of harvest over recent years as it has been deemed more appropriate to the social needs of those living within the parish area. We are confident that St Mary Magdalene parishioners will respond with their usual kindness and generosity.