

*Church of the Holy Spirit
Manse Road, Mossley*



The Dove Magazine

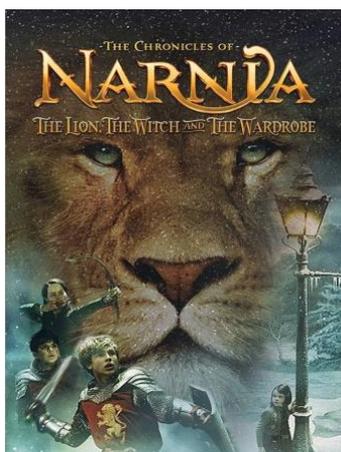
May / June 2025 Edition

*Parish website
www.mossley.org*

(Mossley Parish is a registered charity, NIC103262)

From the Rectory Study

Have you ever visited C. S. Lewis Square in Belfast? It is located at the intersection of the Connswater and Comber Greenways, just off the Newtownards Road. I remember visiting this for the first time when we had some guests staying with us in the Rectory and they were interested in the famous Chronicles of Narnia. Within the Square there are seven different bronze sculptures from *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, including Aslan, the White Witch, Mr Tumnus, the Beavers, the Robin and the Stone Table. It really is a special place and, if you get the chance, please do visit and enjoy this stunning display of public art.



I'm sure that many of you have also read some of the Chronicles of Narnia. Just recently, Timothy's class have journeyed through *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* in Mossley Primary School. This was the first of the Narnia books that was written by Lewis and it was released in 1950. He really enjoyed writing this book and embarked on its sequel, *Prince Caspian*, soon after he finished the first novel. I was fascinated to discover that the initial critical response to *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* was rather muted. Some reviewers suggested that the story was overly moralistic and others contended that certain scenes might actually frighten children. However, in time, the Narnia tales became incredibly popular. The University of Worcester released a survey in 2012 and it suggested that it was the second most common book that UK adults had read as children.

The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe has, at its core, a strongly Christian emphasis. The story is an allegory of Christ's crucifixion and the significance of his resurrection. Recently, I had the opportunity of watching a theatrical production of *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* and I was very aware of the underlying Christian message. There was a moment when Aslan was sombre and reflective and it got me thinking about Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. The dramatic scene where Aslan was sacrificed in place of Edmund challenged me to reflect on the trial and crucifixion of Jesus. Then the final act that saw the stone table broken in two and Aslan come back to life is a clear reference to the resurrection of Jesus. In its entirety, this a hope-filled story that reminds us of the vastness of God's love and grace. It reminds us of Easter hope.

Billy Graham once said, "The resurrection blasts apart the finality of death, providing an alternative to the stifling, settling dust of death and opens the way to new life." This offers us confidence as we journey through life. The message of the Empty Tomb is one of eternal hope, offered to each of us who would turn in faith to Jesus Christ. No matter what is going on in our lives, God is always greater and He offers us lasting peace and hope. Let us truly depend on Him.

Your friend and Rector,

Peter Jones

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

28 th March	Oliver Leitch	7 Carntall View
3 rd April	Irene Wisener	Massereene Manor, Antrim

SUMMER EVENING SERVICES

Please note that there will be no evening services during July but they will resume at 6pm on Sunday 3rd August.

MEMORY LANE

Our Memory Lane service for people living with dementia, their carers, friends and family will be held in the church building on the first Thursday of each month beginning at 2.30pm. More details on page 5.

ONLINE SERVICES

Although we are meeting for in-church worship on Sundays, Online Services and Bible Studies will still be available. You can find these on:

1. The Parish Facebook Page.
2. The Parish Website (www.mossley.org)
3. YouTube (www.youtube.com). On YouTube simply search for Church of the Holy Spirit Mossley and this will lead you to the videos.
4. For an audio service telephone 02893270073. Calls will be charged at a local rate but for many people will be included in your call package.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday

9am Holy Communion

11am Morning Service

6pm Evening Service

The particular services for each week, at 11am and 6pm, are outlined on Page 4 of this magazine.

Wednesday

We have a short service of Holy Communion each Wednesday at 10am. This usually lasts thirty minutes.

USEFUL CONTACTS

RECTOR

Rev Peter Jones
The Rectory, 1 Woodford Manor, BT36 6FF.
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ORDAINED LOCAL MINISTER

Rev Louise Bowes Tel. 07900410069

DIOCESAN READER

Mr Tom Irwin Tel 07841478427

ORGANIST

Miss Jane McCartney
jane_mccartney@btinternet.com

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RECTOR'S CHURCHWARDEN

Alan Bowes

PEOPLE'S CHURCHWARDEN

John Nesbitt 07954150067

RECTOR'S GLEBEWARDEN

Bob Lee 07739185034

PEOPLE'S GLEBEWARDEN

Stephen Beck

HONORARY SECRETARY

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secretarymossleyparish@virginmedia.com

HONORARY TREASURER

Jacqui Eccles 07891254196

FWO RECORDER

Ken Jackson 028 90 294967

SELECT VESTRY

David Boyd	Pamela Marron
John Caldwell	Elaine Maxwell
Winifred Clarke	Julie Parkinson
Jacqui Eccles	Valerie Porter
Ken Jackson	Julie Robinson
Leeanne Kelly	Jim Sloan

Sunday Services and Lesson Readers

Sunday 4th May Third Sunday Of Easter 11am Morning Prayer	NT	Acts 9:1-6	Julie Parkinson
6pm Evening Prayer	NT	John 11:27-44	Jacqui Eccles
Sunday 11th May Fourth Sunday Of Easter 11am Holy Communion	OT G	Numbers 27:12-23 John 10:22-30	Kay Thompson Preacher
6pm Compline	OT	Isaiah 63:7-14	Winifred Clarke
Sunday 18th May Fifth Sunday Of Easter 11am All-Age Service	NT	John 13:31-35	Club J / Ignite
6pm Healing Service	OT	Daniel 6:6-23	Caroline Rogan
Sunday 25th May Sixth Sunday Of Easter 11am Morning Prayer	OT	Joel 2:21-21-27	Maureen McCrea
6pm Holy Communion	OT G	Zephaniah 3:14-20 Matthew 28:16-20	Bob Lee Preacher
Sunday 1st June Seventh Sunday Of Easter 11am Morning Prayer	NT	John 17:20-26	Pamela Marron
6pm Evening Prayer	NT	Ephesians 4:7-16	Jacqui Eccles
Sunday 8th June Pentecost Sunday 11am Holy Communion	OT G	Genesis 11:1-9 John 14:8-17	Jacqui Eccles Preacher
NO EVENING SERVICE			
Sunday 15th June Trinity Sunday 11am Service of the Word	NT	Romans 5:1-5	Adam Parkinson
6pm Healing Service	OT	Exodus 33:7-20	Winifred Clarke
Sunday 22nd June First Sunday After Trinity 11am Morning Prayer	NT	Luke 8:26-39	Harry Brolly
6pm Service of the Word	NT	Mark 5:21-43	Caroline Rogan
Sunday 29th June Second Sunday After Trinity 11am Healing Service	NT	Galatians 5:13-25	Winnie Millar
6pm Holy Communion	OT G	1 Kings 19:15-21 Luke 9:51-62	Bob Lee Preacher

Easter General Vestry

On Wednesday 30th April we held our Easter General Vestry meeting in the Parish Centre. Once again there was an encouraging attendance at this meeting and we enjoyed a time of fellowship afterwards. Sincere thanks to all who helped with the supper.

During this meeting the financial accounts of the Parish were presented, the workings of the Select Vestry were discussed, and the Rector reflected on the past year as well as the future progression and development of the Parish. We would like to offer our congratulations to all who were appointed to the Select Vestry for 2025-26.

Rector's Churchwarden	Alan Bowes
People's Churchwarden	John Nesbitt
Rector's Glebwarden	Bob Lee
People's Glebwarden	Stephen Beck

GENERAL

EASTER VESTRY

MEETING



Select Vestry

David Boyd, John Caldwell, Winifred Clarke, Jacqui Eccles, Ken Jackson, Leeanne Kelly, Pamela Marron, Elaine Maxwell, Julie Parkinson, Valerie Porter, Julie Robinson, Jim Sloan.

Memory Lane



Our dementia-friendly church service, Memory Lane, continues on the first Thursday of every month at 2.30pm. It provides a welcoming, inclusive and safe worship space for those living with dementia, their carers, family and friends.

In April it was an absolute joy to celebrate Jesus' resurrection and sing familiar Easter hymns. Thank you so much to everyone who came along.

We look forward to worshipping together on 1st May, 5th June and 7th August. Please note that there won't be a service in July.

We would ask for your help in spreading the word about Memory Lane. Everyone who comes along will be made very welcome.

God bless, Rev Louise

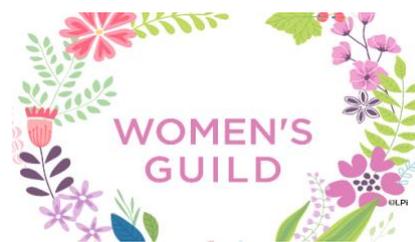


Parish Magazine (June / July 2025)

We plan to have the next edition of the Parish Magazine ready for release on Sunday 29th June. Could all articles and notices please be with the Rector before Monday 23rd June? It would be great to have a wide variety of articles and photos from all parish organisations.

Women's Guild

Hello everyone. It's hard to believe that we are almost at the end of our meetings for the year and what a busy year it has been! I hope you all have enjoyed our programme.



In March, the Northern Ireland Fire Brigade from Glengormley came to visit us and they shared about fire safety around the house. They certainly gave us a lot of good tips and also left some leaflets with us. These can be found on the coffee table in the Parish Centre for anyone to take.

Kathy Wolf from the Barron Hall in Glengormley joined us in April and she shared her Reminiscent Box with us. It was such good fun going through all the items she has collected over the years, taking us right back to our childhood memories. There were embroidered doilies, brooches and brush sets and they were all certainly good talking points.

We will look forward to welcoming Rosie Diffin to the Women's Guild to speak with us on 14th May. Our annual outing will take place on Saturday 14th June and some details are as follows:

9.15am	Pick up in Church carpark
10.15am	Arrival at Lissan House Morning tea/coffee and tour of newly renovated house
12.30pm	Drop off at Cookstown for shopping and free time
2.30pm	Afternoon Tea at the Royal Hotel.
4.30pm	Leave the Royal Hotel for the homeward journey back to Mossley
5.30pm	Arrival at Church carpark

There are still a few spaces available. Please come and speak with me ASAP if you are wishing to join with us for the trip. The price for the day trip is £48. All monies are to be paid to Leeanne or Julie Parkinson by our next meeting on Wednesday 14th May.

Saturday 17th May is the Church Spring Fair and the Women's Guild have kindly agreed to host the home baking stall. The fair starts at 10am and will finish at 1pm. I am looking forward to seeing all the delights that everyone is planning to bring along for sale and I am trying to get a list of helpers for the day and the evening before to help set up. Please see me as soon as possible if you are able to help out.

We are hoping to get a quick meeting on Wednesday 11th June. This will be our AGM when we look back over the past year and make plans for the future.

Many thanks as always.

God Bless,

Leeanne

Spring Fair

Saturday 17th May is approaching very quickly and we are looking forward to our Spring Fair in Mossley Parish. From 10am until 1pm there will be plenty for all the family in the Parish Centre. There will be gift stalls, craft stalls, baked goods, sweets & treats, a tearoom, games and so much more.

Sincere thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help out. Your support is gratefully received. We would love to be able to fill the Parish Centre again, as we did as Christmas, and it's such a blessing to see everyone have a great time.

ENTRY : ADULTS £1 (INCLUDES FREE PRIZE DRAW) KIDS FREE ENTRY

MOSSLEY PARISH
CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
NEWTOWNABBEY

SPRING FAIR

SATURDAY 17TH MAY
10AM - 1PM

VARIOUS STALLS – HANDMADE GOODS
BAKED GOODS – PLANT STALL
TOMBOLA – HAMPERS
BRIC-A-BRAC –
RAFFLES – TEA ROOM –
BBQ– TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC –
WIGGLE IT – MUSIC
KIDS ACTIVITIES & LOTS MORE.....

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, MANSE ROAD, NEWTOWNABBEY, BT36 6XR
IN AID OF PARISH FUNDS // REG. CHARITY NIC103262

Watoto Children's Choir



On Tuesday 18th March we were delighted to welcome the Watoto Children's Choir to Mossley. There was great excitement in Mossley Primary School as the Watoto Choir performed two short concerts. Some of the teachers and the children from Mossley even had the opportunity to dance with the Choir. Rumour has it that even the Rector got involved!

Later that evening the Watoto children performed their '*Better Days*' concert for members of our local community. It was a wonderful evening of music, dance and personal story, delivered by children who have suffered the loss of one or both of their parents.

During the concert the Watoto children sang with wonderful joy and danced with boundless energy. They are passionate about their faith and enjoy telling people about their love for God. Through the power of their testimonies the children shared stories of how God has blessed them and transformed their lives.



Many thanks to everyone who attended the concert, which raised £1260 for Watoto. Thanks are also due to all who catered for the Choir, helped prepare for the event, and hosted the children in their homes.

Bible Study



Since September we have been looking at Nehemiah and our series is almost complete. On Tuesday 17th May we will meet in the church building for our end of year Holy Communion service. This is always a special occasion as we reflect on the past year and gather around the Lord's table together.

Nehemiah has proven to be both challenging and inspirational. When our journey began, back in September 2024, we reflected on a quote from the biblical scholar Geoff Treasure. He observed, "Can one man with the help of God turn a vision into reality? Nehemiah did. The walls of Jerusalem arose from rubble. A wayward people were brought together as a worshipping community. But the book of Nehemiah is not simply history. It challenges and encourages us all, whether leaders or church members, to face the issues and problems confronting our churches today." This has proven to be incredibly accurate.

Sincere thanks to everyone who has attended the Bible Study Group in-person during the past year, and to everyone who joins us online. It really is a privilege and a blessing to study God's Word together. We will enjoy the summer break but it won't be long until September and we will embark on a new study series together.

Choir News



How wonderful to see the Spring sunshine and feel the warmth of the sun. Everything is springing to life and the trees, which have been dirty and brown, are now a delicate shade of green. I love this time of year and am so glad to see the end of the dark, grey winter. Everyone looks so much happier when the sun shines, don't you think? Maybe it's the thought of no astronomical fuel bills for a few months. That was a big blow having our winter fuel allowance snatched away!! It was a big help though to receive £100 from the Stormont Assembly.

The choir have been practicing several new hymns and our Anthem for Easter Sunday. Our wonderful choir, who are no spring chickens (with one or two exceptions 😊), turn out faithfully every Thursday night and Mossley Parish are grateful for their dedication.

Our Easter Anthem was '*All In An April Evening*' by Hugh Robertson. When I was a teenager, I sang in a Church choir and this was one of the anthems I learned. I have loved it ever since and our choir really enjoyed singing it on Easter Day.

We are a happy bunch and feel privileged to lead our 11am worship every Sunday.

Keep singing

Joan



Thank you, Joan! I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the choir for all their hard work over the past few months, learning new hymns and the Easter Anthem on Thursday evenings in church and at home during the week. The two-part Anthem on Easter Sunday was excellent, and we greatly appreciate all the positive comments from the congregation. As Joan said, we are privileged to have such a good ladies' choir, but we would be delighted to welcome some male voices.

Jane

MusicMakers

MusicMakers continues on Thursdays for children P4 – Year 12. Several weeks ago, the wonderful Watoto Children's Choir visited Mossley and anyone who had the privilege to attend was truly blessed by their exceptional performances and infectious enthusiasm. Any children in our parish (P4 – year 14) who were inspired by the Watoto choir and would like to participate in musical performance, either singing or playing an instrument, should get in touch.



Jane

Online Services

We continue to offer Online Services and Bible Studies. These are made available on YouTube, Facebook, our website and the dial-in facility. Our Easter Sunday service was particularly well engaged with and it was actually one of the most viewed services that we have released in the past few months.



Since our last magazine, our online provision has been viewed just over 1000 times and this equates to the equivalent of 139.8 hours of watch time. This is very encouraging and sincere thanks to everyone who makes this possible. If anyone would like to learn more about the livestream system or be willing to help on a rota basis, please speak to the Rector or Rev Louise.

Newtownabbey Churches Fellowship



In the last edition of this magazine, we reflected on the special time that we had at Bible Week 2025. Plans are already underway for Bible Week 2026! It was also great to be able to gather with other churches for the Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday at Belfast Zoo. Unfortunately, there was no community breakfast this year but we hope that this will return next year.

As we seek to grow together in faith, the Newtownabbey Churches Fellowship will be holding a United Praise Service on Pentecost Sunday (8th June) in Carnmoney Presbyterian Church at 6.30pm. Please do plan to come along.

Community Lunch



The soup and cheese lunch group will finish for the summer on Wednesday 11th June. We will have the two lunches as normal on the second and fourth Wednesday in May.

Many thanks for your continued support and a special thanks to the soup makers and bread bakers.

To finish, we will have something a little different on 11th June and we will then recommence on Wednesday 10th September. We hope you have an enjoyable summer break and we look forward to catching up again in September.

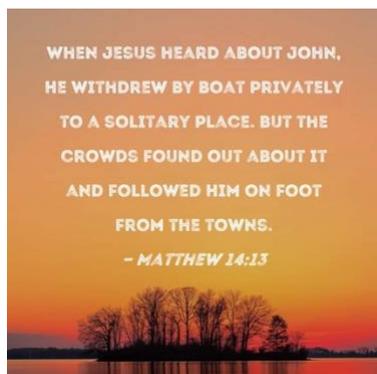
Many thanks,

Kay Thompson – 07969835916

Hilary Gillies – 07840243427

Prayer Fellowship

When I was growing up my dad played cricket and I would go with him regularly to watch. More often than not, I saw little of the match as I was too busy playing with the children of the other team members...and enjoying the amazing post-match tea!! Lots of very yummy treats! After a while, everyone would leave and I was the only one left. So, I would go and find my dad and ask if we could go home. He always said, "In a minute. Go and help tidy up." Or "In a minute, I'm talking to someone." I would get so frustrated.



I read recently in Matthew 14 that when Jesus heard about the death of his relative, John the Baptist, he went to a remote area to be alone. However, the crowd heard where he was going and followed him. I'd have got back into the boat and hurried off somewhere else, but not Jesus. Instead, he "...saw the huge crowd and had compassion on them and healed their sick." Like my dad's reaction with me, the disciples tried to send the people away, but Jesus stayed with them, talking to them, listening and helping.

So often in our busy lives we can just go, go, go. We think time is of the essence and we hurry our conversations instead of taking time, like Jesus, to be in each other's presence, and show love and compassion to those who need it.

It's the same with our prayer life. We promise ourselves (and God) that we will spend more time praying for family, friends and every situation we face throughout the day - but then we jump on to the "busy" bandwagon and God is pushed to the back again.

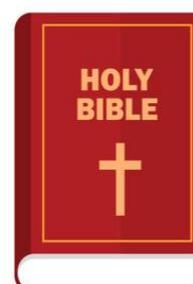
Our beautiful Pentecost Room is a quiet, peaceful space where we can purposefully set time aside to be with God - listening, talking or just resting. The Prayer Fellowship meet here on Wednesday evenings for a time of worship, Bible reading and, most importantly, prayer. We pray for the people and situations named on our prayer list, for our parish organisations, our Rector and the ministry team, the local community and much more.

If you would like to learn more about prayer, or you know God is placing people and situations on your heart, then please join us. You will be made very welcome. Please be assured, you will gain so much from knowing you have spent time with God. He will never say "I'm too busy" or, "I'll talk to you in a minute."

Guild of Lesson Readers

The reading rota for the next two months can be found on page 4 of this magazine. Any changes to allocated readings can be made by speaking to either of the churchwardens.

We are always on the lookout for more readers! If you would be interested in reading lessons during church services, even if you have done so before, please speak to either the Rector or Rev Louise.



Bowling Club



The final night of bowling took place on 19th March and although, at times, I thought that we were never going to have enough club nights to fit everything in, we succeeded! During the period from January until the end of March, we played all of our matches in the Glengormley & District Churches League. We also played and finished our internal club competitions – and even had a couple of ordinary club nights to spare (if there is such a thing as an ordinary club night).

The Bowling Club held its AGM on Wednesday 26th March and there was a good turnout of members. The Rector presented the trophies and cups to the various winners.

The Jean Rea Cup	Evelyn Reid
The Harry Morrow Trophy	Brian Magowan
The Pairs Competition	May Haddock & Freda Luney
The Men's Jubilee Shield	Derek Randall
The Club Chairman's Shield	Colin Gourley



Derek, who was the winner of the Jubilee Shield this year and also last year, kindly donated a new shield to the Bowling Club as the current shield had run out of space for the names of the new winners. The first winner of the old shield was Mr M Holmes in 2003. Thank you, Derek. Your gift is much appreciated.

After a month's rest, this year's Summer Fun Bowls will start on Wednesday 7th May and will continue each week until the end of August. We look forward to meeting up once again with our friends from the various bowling clubs in Newtownabbey. This is also a great opportunity for anyone who would like to try indoor bowling for the first time. Please do come along and experience the fun and friendship.

We also look forward to meeting with you all at our garden stall at this year's Spring Fair on Saturday 17th May.

(G. Curry)

Dove Tots



Dove Tots has continued to meet each Friday at 10am. Just before Easter we had a brilliant Easter Party and it was great to see so many children with their parents / carers. We have had a brilliant year together and our sessions with Jo Jingles continue to be incredibly popular. We look forward to all the exciting things that we have planned for the next few weeks before our summer break. Our final session will be on Friday 16th May.

Bric-A-Brac



What would a Saturday morning be without a visit to the bric-a-brac sale in Mossley Parish Centre? It is wonderful to see so many people coming from near and far to grab a bargain, and then enjoy a cup of tea or coffee. Please do pop over to the Parish Centre any Saturday morning.

The sales continue to do very well and we are thankful to the bric-a-brac team who give so willingly of their time and show such devotion and commitment.

We continue to receive generous donations of bric-a-brac and many items have sold very quickly! It is always good to get new items and if anyone has a donation of bric-a-brac, please contact Alec Orr (02890836286). The Bake Sale on the first Saturday of each month is proving to be really popular! There is always a great selection of bread, scones, cakes, pastries etc. The next Bake Sale will be held on 7th June. We would love to see you there and all proceeds will go to Church funds.



We would also like to appeal for volunteers who could offer some of their time in helping to set the bric-a-brac out on a Friday afternoon or putting it away around noon on Saturdays. If you can help, even on a rota basis, please speak to the Rector or Alec Orr. All help would be greatly appreciated!

Tea Brew



We all enjoy being able to gather for a cup of tea / coffee after our 11am service each Sunday. Sincere thanks to everyone on the Tea Brew rota and Mrs Winnie Millar who organises the monthly rota.

If you haven't yet come along for a cuppa after the service, you will be made most welcome!

May 4th, 11th, 18th, 25

June 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th

July 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

Elsie Christie & Vikki Moore

Leeanne Kelly & Elaine Maxwell

Pat Moore, Julie Parkinson & Joanne Graham

On behalf of Mossley Parish Tea Brew a massive thank you to the team who helped over the three days when Watoto Children's Choir were with us - those who helped in the kitchen with the cooking of their meals and all who generously gave various items of food, traybakes, juice, crisps etc. We would like to record our sincere and heartfelt thanks.

It was certainly a privilege to be able to help these children in our small way and we were greatly blessed by them – especially their appreciation and smiles. Once again, our sincere thanks from the Tea Brew team.

Flower Rota

We are blessed to have beautiful flowers in our church building every week. Sincere thanks to those who work so faithfully in providing beautiful displays and everyone who donates so generously in memory of loved ones.

4 th May	Karen Henry
18 th May	Available
1 st June	John Nesbitt
15 th June	Liz Holmes
29 th June	Celia Catherwood
July / August	Silk



Badminton Club



The Badminton Club has now concluded for the summer but will restart in September. During the past year it was great to see everyone having fun and playing badminton on Thursday evenings. All new members will be made very welcome in September.

Holiday Bible Club 2025

We are really looking forward to our Holiday Bible Club which, this year, is called *Deep Sea Divers*. We will be having an underwater-theme and we will look closely at the life and mission of Jesus.

Deep Sea Divers will begin on Monday 18th August and continue until Thursday 21st August. As ever, there will also be a family fun night with BBQ and inflatables on Friday 22nd August.



Each night we will meet at 6.15pm in the Parish Centre and finish up at 7.30pm. During the week we will be looking at some stories from Matthew's Gospel and the children will learn about the deep, deep love of Jesus. We will also play games, take part in challenges and learn more about the Bible. We always have great fun together!

Please help us spread the word about this event. If you would be interested in helping out as a leader, even for one or two nights, please speak to the Rector or Kim.

Kidz Klub

On the first Saturday night of each month Kidz Klub meets in the Parish Centre. This is a club for children from nursery school age to P3. Each night, Kidz Klub begins at 5.30pm and finishes at 6.45pm. There are games, crafts and other activities for the children to enjoy. For further details please speak to Elaine Maxwell.

Kidz Klub will conclude for the summer break on Saturday 3rd May but will restart again in September.



Youth Club



The Youth Club continues to meet on Saturday evenings from 7pm until 9pm, costing £1 per night. It has been really encouraging to see so many children in the Parish Centre and they always have a great time. We would like to offer our sincere thanks to all the leaders who give so willingly of their time and show such dedication and commitment.

We only have a few nights left in the current session of Youth Club as we will be concluding for the summer break on Saturday 17th May. In our remaining evenings we will have plenty of arts & crafts, as well as football, badminton, pool, the Wii, Xbox and board games. There might even be end of year bargains in the tuck shop!

At present we are beginning to prepare for next year and we will recommence in September. We are working with the Education Authority to secure funding for our programme and look forward to being able to offer a wide and varied range of activities. If anyone would like to help out as a leader, even on a rota basis, this would be of great assistance. You would be welcome to come to Youth Club any Saturday night and join in the fun! Please contact the Rector for further details.

Smile Lines

A recently retired man was attempting to build a patio for the first time. He bought 100 cement blocks. Laying them out in a pattern, he discovered the chosen area was too small. He stacked the blocks against the house and cleared more space. The next day he put the cement blocks back down, only to find that the ground was too hard to keep the patio level. He ordered a truckload of sand to be delivered the following morning. Again, he stacked the 100 blocks against the house.

Observing all this, our next-door neighbour asked, "Are you going to put your patio away every night?"

Girls' Brigade

We have reached the end of another successful year at GB and we are more than ready for our summer break. Just before Easter we held our annual Parents Evening, where the girls entertained us with drill, skipping and dance. Our awards were given out and achievements were celebrated.



This year we had the privilege of awarding a new cup in memory of our friend and fellow officer June. The June Meighan Perpetual Cup for kindness was presented by Danielle. She chose Poppy as her winner for the kindness she shows to others each week in making sure that everyone is included and the attention she gives to Aimee. It was a very emotional moment.

Emma and Danielle reached the final interviews of their Queen's Award, which they both passed with flying colours. The girls received their badges from their mentors, Kim and Louise, at the Parents Evening and will be presented with their certificates at an official GB ceremony in Ballymena on 16th May.

Our final event of the 2024/25 season was our end of year party. This year's theme was VE Day and we celebrated the 80th anniversary of victory in Europe. The girls came dressed in their red, white and blue, or 1940s dress, and everyone had a great night. The photo booth was a hit, as always.



We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and safe summer holiday and look forward to seeing you all on our return in September. The provisional start date is 8th September.

A Prayer For The Month Of June

Dear Lord, June is the loveliest month, with long days and the beauty of summer all around us. Thank you that, in June, we remember one of the loveliest of your followers – Barnabas, known as the Son of Encouragement. He encouraged the believers in Antioch to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. Through his ministry of encouragement, a great number of people were brought to know you. Lord, we all thrive when we are encouraged. And we, your people, so need to be encouraged today in this world which can seem so confusing and discouraging. So, thank you for those who have encouraged us in the past, and for those who encourage us now. Help us to read your living unchanging Word and to remain true to you with all our hearts. Help us to be a Barnabas to those we know who might be struggling. May we bear fruit in our discipleship. We ask this in Jesus's name. Amen.

Club J, Creche & Ignite Youth

Throughout the spring, the children explored how the Bible encourages us to give thanks - especially for the people who bless our lives. Lessons around Mother's Day helped them understand the importance of expressing gratitude, particularly towards mothers and caregivers. These teachings were beautifully complemented by our reflections on Palm Sunday and Easter. Through these stories, the children learnt about Jesus' journey to the cross and his victorious resurrection. This helped them gain a deeper appreciation for the themes of sacrifice, hope and the joy that comes from trusting in him.



Looking Ahead to Children's and Youth Sunday



We are preparing for one of the highlights of our church year, Children's and Youth Sunday, which will take place during the 11am service on Sunday 18th May. This special day shines a spotlight on the incredible talent and dedication of the children and young people involved in creche, Club J, and Ignite. Over the past weeks, they have been preparing a

variety of items to share with the congregation. These moments are always a joy to witness and serve as a powerful reminder of the importance of nurturing faith from a young age.

As part of the service, we'll also take time to recognise the children's participation throughout the year.

We encourage everyone to join us and invite friends and extended family to share in the celebration. Your presence shows our young people that they are supported, valued and loved by the wider church community.

Every blessing,

Kim

Safeguarding Trust

Our Parish is committed to the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Trust policy. Should you have any concerns regarding the welfare of children in the Parish, please contact a member of the Parish Panel:

Rev Peter Jones

028 90 832726

Carolyn Caldwell

028 90 844040

John Nesbitt

07954150067

Joan Mackey

028 90 775366

Antrim & Newtownabbey Street Pastors



Recently I had conversations with two separate people. They told me that they had illnesses that could be defined as terminal and they were reflecting on how much longer they could continue with Street Pastors. Neither person has any desire to stop their involvement and they were seeking to change the nature of their participation and their commitment of time.

During the month of April, we had our annual service and I gave a little talk on those members who had died during the lifespan of this initiative in Antrim and Newtownabbey. There were eight in total, including one from Mossley Parish.

Whilst I was preparing the short talk, I was very conscious of two things. Firstly, that my words had to be positive and, secondly, that I couldn't possibly miss any one out. I have to say that my apprehensions were mistaken. Can I look at someone and say I hate them and then play a part in every Sunday church service afterwards? It was very easy with the list of names because I liked each and every one of them, even if I had disagreed with them on quite a lot of subjects. The Church's celebration of Christ's crucifixion, his burial in the tomb and his rising from that tomb are demonstrations of God's love for each and every one of us. This compels each of us, as followers of Christ, to forgive and be kind to people. This is not always common practice in the world of today, as we so clearly see in news broadcasts.

At our annual service, I thankfully missed no one and told the truth about them. They all had one thing in common - although they came from different churches and denominations, they were committed to the love of God and his teachings. I am glad to be counted amongst them and hope I do their memory justice.

Last Saturday night I was out in Glengormley again with Street Pastors. It was a quiet and dry night, with not many people about - except for a crowd of about twelve young people at the bus stop at the Spar on the Antrim Road. They were well behaved and there was no sign of drink or drugs, which contrary to belief is more often the case than not. Only one of them had not encountered Street Pastors before. Interestingly, the others were quick to inform him that we were a "soft touch" for sweets! We did tell him what we did, where we came from and why we did it. This was an excellent opportunity to encourage them to invite Christ into their lives. We all feel blessed by having such opportunities.

If you feel that you would like to know more, or even come out with us for a short time one evening, just speak to me and I can arrange that. Whilst I do say that anyone can do it, being a Street Pastor (out and about on the ground) may not be for everyone. However, we can always find opportunities within this organisation to put your talents to good use in other ways. The rewards are tremendous.

On 20th May we will hold our AGM in Church of the Holy Spirit at 7.30 pm. All are welcome to attend. Thank you for your continued support and please pray for the two members of Street Pastors that I mentioned earlier in this article.

God Bless, Bob

Mossley Mission Group

We are hoping to hold a couple of events later in the year and we hope that these will raise funds that we can forward to Tansen and SAMS Ireland. As such, we will be having a meeting of Mossley Mission Group on Thursday 22nd May at 7.30pm in the Carntall Room. Anyone who has an interest in mission work and would like to get involved with the work of Mossley Mission Group should speak to the Rector or Rev Louise.

A few weeks ago, the Rector received the following email from SAMS Ireland.

Dear Peter

We have recently received a report from Chile about the Christmas meals which we want to share with you. The church in Santiago, Chile, extend their heartfelt gratitude to you for your generosity and for being part of blessing people in Chile, who are struggling financially, with a Christmas meal which was also a gesture of God's love for them. Your support contributed to 250 families and 100 other individuals being able to receive a Christmas dinner. With the dinners the Church was also able to give out New Testaments.



Thank you so much again for your support and for being part of sharing the Good News of the Gospel and God's love. It is very much appreciated.

God Bless.

The SAMS Team.

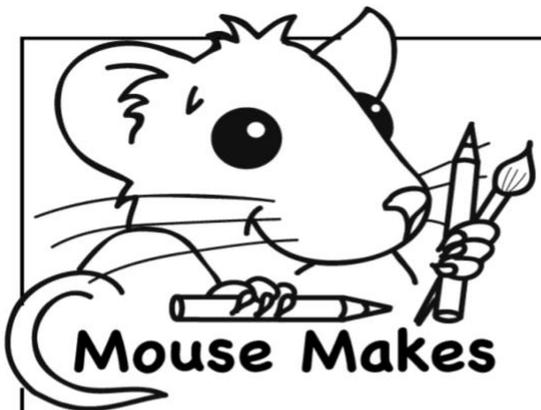
We are also delighted to share the following update from Tansen Hospital which was released at the end of April 2025.

Earlier this month, UMN hosted a workshop with 25 men in Rukum East, focusing on ending child marriage and harmful practices through positive masculinity and intergenerational dialogue. A training on Child Club Management was also organised for 34 participants to support the sustainability of Child Club initiatives.

Meanwhile, in partnership with EduTech Nepal, 22 teachers from Kapilvastu and Nawalparasi participated in an ICT (Information and Communication Technology) training, where they explored how AI and other tools can transform the teaching process.

Thank you so much for your continued financial and prayerful support of SAMS Ireland and Tansen Hospital.

Challenge Time



Mouse Makes

PENTECOST • WIND • FIRE
 HOLY • SPIRIT • TONGUES • RESTED
 JERUSALEM • JEWS • GALILEANS
 HEAR • LANGUAGE • ARAMAIC • GREEK
 HEBREW • PARTHIANS • MEDES
 ELAMITES • MESOPOTAMIA
 JUDEA • CAPPADOCIA • PONTUS
 ASIA • PHRYGIA • PAMPHYLIA
 EGYPT • LIBYA • CYRENE
 ROME • CRETANS
 ARABIANS • GOD



READ
 Acts
 2:1- 41

It was fifty days since **Passover**, and Jews from many countries had come to **Jerusalem** to celebrate Passover. As the **Apostles** were gathered together the **Holy Spirit** came upon them and they began to speak in other **languages** as the Spirit enabled them. The crowd that were listening were amazed as they heard about God in their own language. *How many people heard, believed and were baptised that day?*

DID YOU KNOW?
 The Bible or parts of the Bible have now been translated into over 3,000 different languages since it was first written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek.

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