

*Church of the Holy Spirit  
Manse Road, Mossley*



*The Dove Magazine*

*May / June 2026 Edition*

*Parish website  
[www.mossley.org](http://www.mossley.org)*

*(Mossley Parish is a registered charity, NIC103262)*

## *From the Rectory Study*

In the September / October 2025 edition of this magazine, I reflected on the proposed renovation of the Minor Hall. A special Harvest Gift Day was organised and this was supported incredibly well by the parishioners of Mossley. We also suggested that various fundraising projects would need to take place and the Select Vestry made a commitment to explore any grants that would become available. Applications were made to the Marshall Beresford Fund and the Church Fabric Fund, both of which are administered by the Representative Church Body of the Church of Ireland. On 17<sup>th</sup> April I was delighted to receive correspondence to say that we had been successful in these applications and that grants had been awarded.

Last autumn we also heard about the Department of Communities Infrastructure Fund and we started to explore the possibility of applying for financial support towards the renovation of the Minor Hall. Having been successful in our initial application we were invited to complete a Stage Two application. Following the assessment of our application, I was informed on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April that we had been successful and that a grant had been awarded.

It was with great joy that I was able to share this news at our services on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April. We have been told that there will be further meetings to outline the specific details relating to the Department of Communities grant and I will attend these meetings with representatives of the Select Vestry. These grants, when added to the generosity of the parishioners of Mossley Parish and the excellent financial oversight of the Select Vestry, now mean that the building work can begin in the very near future. I would like to record my sincere thanks to everyone who worked so hard to secure the grants and to all who have contributed to the Minor Hall project. It will be great to see the builders on site and even better to see the project complete!

As I shared this great news with parishioners, I deliberately encouraged all of us to give thanks to God for His goodness and His provision. I have no doubt that God has blessed us immensely during recent times and it is only right and proper that we give Him thanks and praise. Bishop Tom Wright once suggested, "We know with our heads at least, if we have any Christian faith at all, that our God is the giver of all things: every mouthful of food we take, every breath of air we inhale, every note of music we hear, every smile on a friendly face which we see. All of this, and a million things more, are good gifts from His generosity."

Let me invite each of us to pray and say thank you to God for His blessings to us as a Parish – especially the amazing financial provision towards the renovation of the Minor Hall. May we follow the example of the Psalmist who declared, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever (Psalm 136:1)."

Your friend and Rector,

Peter Jones

### **CHRISTIAN BURIAL**

25 <sup>th</sup> February	Colin Williamson	17 Rathmena Gardens Ballyclare
20 <sup>th</sup> April	Sally Gilliland	14 Carwood Crescent
29 <sup>th</sup> April	Joe Chambers	4 Fairview Grove

### **SUMMER EVENING SERVICES**

Please note that there will be no evening services during July but they will resume at 6pm on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.mossley.org))
3. YouTube ([www.youtube.com](http://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 four 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.  
028 90 832726 [rectormossley@hotmail.com](mailto:rectormossley@hotmail.com)

#### **ORDAINED LOCAL MINISTER**

Rev Louise Bowes Tel. 07900410069

#### **DIOCESAN READER**

Mr Tom Irwin Tel 07841478427

#### **ORGANIST**

Miss Jane McCartney  
[jane\\_mccartney@btinternet.com](mailto:jane_mccartney@btinternet.com)

#### **PARISH OFFICE**

Tel. 028 90 832936  
[mossleyparish@btconnect.com](mailto:mossleyparish@btconnect.com)

#### **RECTOR'S CHURCHWARDEN**

Leeanne Kelly

#### **PEOPLE'S CHURCHWARDEN**

Alan Bowes

#### **RECTOR'S GLEBEWARDEN**

Bob Lee 07739185034

#### **PEOPLE'S GLEBEWARDEN**

Stephen Beck

#### **HONORARY SECRETARY**

John Nesbitt 07954150067  
[secretarymossleyparish@virginmedia.com](mailto:secretarymossleyparish@virginmedia.com)

#### **HONORARY TREASURER**

Jacqui Eccles 07891254196

#### **FWO RECORDER**

Ken Jackson 028 90 294967

#### **SELECT VESTRY**

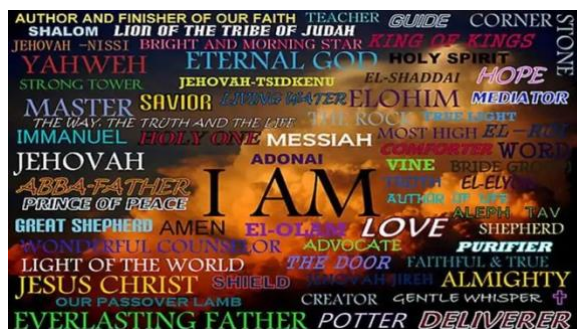
David Boyd	John Nesbitt
John Caldwell	Julie Parkinson
Winifred Clarke	Valerie Porter
Jacqui Eccles	Julie Robinson
Pamela Marron	Jim Sloan
Elaine Maxwell	

## Sunday Services and Lesson Readers

<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b> Fifth Sunday of Easter 11am Morning Prayer 6pm Evening Prayer	 NT  NT	 John 14:1-14  Revelation 21:1-14	 Julie Parkinson  Jacqui Eccles
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May</b> Sixth Sunday of Easter 11am Holy Communion 6pm Compline	 OT G  NT	 Isaiah 41:17-20 John 14:15-21  Revelation 21:22 - 22:5	 Bob Lee Preacher  Winifred Clarke
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May</b> Seventh Sunday of Easter 11am All-Age Service 6pm Healing Service	 NT  OT	 1 <sup>st</sup> Peter 5:6-11  Ezekiel 39:21-29	 Club J / Ignite  Bob Lee
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May</b> Pentecost Sunday 11am Morning Prayer  <b>NO EVENING SERVICE</b>	 NT	 Acts 2:1-21	 Pamela Marron
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May</b> Trinity Sunday 11am Healing Service 6pm Holy Communion	 OT  OT G	 Isaiah 40:27-31  Isaiah 6:1-8 John 16:5-15	 Maureen McCrea  Caroline Rogan Preacher
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b> First Sunday After Trinity 11am Morning Prayer 6pm Evening Prayer	 NT  NT	 Matthew 9:18-26  Luke 8:41-56	 Kay Thompson  Jacqui Eccles
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June</b> Second Sunday After Trinity 11am Holy Communion 6pm Late Evening Office	 OT G  NT	 Genesis 21:1-7 Matthew 10:1-8  Luke 11:14-28	 Harry Brolly Preacher  Bob Lee
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b> Third Sunday After Trinity 11am Service of the Word 6pm Healing Service	 NT  NT	 Matthew 10:24-39  Luke 14:12-24	 Adam Parkinson  Winifred Clarke
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June</b> Fourth Sunday After Trinity 11am Morning Prayer 6pm Holy Communion	 NT  OT G	 Matthew 10:38-42  1 <sup>st</sup> Samuel 28:3-19 Luke 17:20-37	 Albert Patterson  Caroline Rogan Preacher

## Prayer Fellowship

Have you ever stopped to think about the many names we use for God? It would be hard to find a single page in the Bible where God is not named in some way. From the very first words of Genesis — “In the beginning God” — we are introduced to Him. These names are far more than simple titles like Mr, Mrs, or even (dare I say) Rev! They give us insight into who God is and remind us of His character and His promises. Many of us are named after family members and sometimes after figures from the Bible. Do you know what your name means?



If we handed everyone a piece of paper as they arrived at church on Sunday and asked them to write down their favourite name for God, I wonder how many we could collect - Lord, Father, Jehovah, King of Kings, Abba, Saviour. The Book of Common Prayer is a wonderfully rich place to draw from for an exercise like this. The Psalms, in particular, are filled with beautiful names for God: my Shepherd, my Rock, God Most High. Psalm 27 declares: “The Lord is my light and my salvation... The Lord is the stronghold of my life.”

As Christians, we recognise prayer is essential to our lives. It is our opportunity for two-way communication with Almighty God. Many of us are used to praying in simple terms but God always invites us to know Him more deeply and intimately - and one key way is through using His many names. Praying with God’s names is far more than ritual or repetition, it helps make our conversations with our Father more personal and meaningful. We can call on Jehovah Rapha (the Lord who heals) as we seek healing for ourselves or others. It strengthens our faith as we remember the ways God has revealed Himself across the generations. We can reflect on Him as “The Great I Am” or “The Ancient of Days.” Or, we can say thank you to Jehovah Jireh (the Lord who provides) – as the Rector has encouraged us to do on page two of this magazine.

In the ordinary moments of our day, God’s names can help focus our prayers. In private and in corporate prayer we can be united with Christians everywhere as we remember all the wonderful things God is to us and how He blesses us. I challenge all of us to introduce the simple practice of beginning our prayer time reflecting on the many names we have for our loving Heavenly Father. Maybe we’ll try it at Prayer Fellowship on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm in the Pentecost Room. We would love you to join us.

### Prayer List

Each week we publish a prayer list in our weekly Parish Bulletin. Names can be added to the prayer list by filling out a prayer card and placing the card in the box on the table in the church porch. If you are submitting the name of someone else, please ensure that they permit their name to be added to the prayer list.

## **Easter General Vestry**

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April we held our Easter General Vestry Meeting in the Parish Centre. This was a triennial year, which means that we needed to elect Diocesan Synod Representatives and Parochial Nominators (and supplementals for both roles) as well as Churchwardens, Glebewardens and a Select Vestry. It was encouraging to see such a good attendance at this meeting and the supper was enjoyed by everyone.

**GENERAL**

*EASTER VESTRY*

**MEETING**



During this meeting the financial accounts of the Parish were presented, the workings of the Select Vestry were discussed and the Rector offered some reflections on the past year. When it came to the elections, Mr Ken Jackson indicated that he felt it was his time to retire from the Select Vestry. Ken has served with commitment and distinction as a member of the Select Vestry from the earliest days of the Parish. We are thankful for his service and pleased that he will continue as our Freewill Offering Secretary.

We would like to offer our sincere congratulations to all who were appointed or elected to the following positions:

**Rector's Churchwarden**                      Leeanne Kelly

**People's Churchwarden**                      Alan Bowes

**Rector's Glebewarden**                      Bob Lee

**People's Glebewarden**                      Stephen Beck

### **Select Vestry**

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

### **Diocesan Synod Representatives**

Alan Bowes, Winifred Clarke, John Nesbitt, Julie Parkinson.

### **Supplemental Diocesan Synod Representatives**

Bob Lee, Valerie Porter, Pamela Marron, Jim Sloan.

### **Under-35 Diocesan Synod Representative**

Nicole Rea

### **Parochial Nominators**

David Boyd, Alan Bowes, Jacqui Eccles, Valerie Murray.

### **Supplemental Parochial Nominators**

Winifred Clarke, Leeanne Kelly, Elaine Maxwell, Jim Sloan

## Women's Guild

Hello everyone. I hope you are all enjoying this beautiful spell of weather. We are rapidly approaching the end of our year. Am I the only one that feels this year has passed in the blink of an eye? The Committee will be trying to come up with a new and exciting schedule for the incoming year and we are very open to any suggestions or recommendations.

I'm afraid our end of year trip has had to be cancelled. This has been a really difficult decision to make and it is largely due to the rapidly rising cost of coach hire. When added to the cost of any activity that we would seek to do, the overall price for an outing was proving to be too expensive.

On a positive note, I have received some dates for a trip to Cliftonville House during the summer months and if anyone would be interested, please let me know. I will see if we can organise travel by sharing lifts – as we did for our trip to the RUC GC Memorial Garden. If you can help with this, please speak to me.

The last few months have been busy for the Women's Guild. We hosted the barn dance on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March and what a super night we all had! A huge thanks to everyone who helped make the evening such a wonderful success – from the setup, to all the lovely food that was made for our supper, to the clean-up at the end of the night. We can't forget to thank our caller, Dorothy Crampton, and Mervyn the music maestro. They certainly kept us all on the right track!

In April we welcomed the lovely Sharon Dickson, who is part of the Storyteller's Guild, and she entertained us with an incredible night of laughter, reflection and connection that brought so much joy to the room. From hilarious laugh out loud moments to deeply moving reflections, it was a beautiful reminder of the power of words and how we all carry a unique story on our journey through life.



We are looking forward to our final meeting of the year on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May when we will be joined by Carolina Schmidt, who has travelled all the way from Chile. The Rector met Carolina in Santiago in November and she will be spending several days in the Parish. I am looking forward to hearing Carolina's story and what her mission work involves in Chile and how SAMS Ireland is involved with this work. It is rumoured that the Rector and Rev Geoff 'Titch' Hamilton might also make an appearance at this meeting!

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May we have the Spring Fair and we will be hosting the home baked stall. All baking is greatly welcomed so please do pop your apron on and create some lovely delights. As always, help will be needed the evening before and on the day with staffing the stall and tidying up at the end. We are always so grateful for all the help and donations we get for the stall.

See you all soon. Take care and God Bless.

Leeanne

## Women's Guild Barn Dance



## Spring Fair

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> 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  
KIDS FREE  
(INCLUDES FREE  
PRIZE DRAW)**

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
MOSSLEY**

**SPRING  
FAIR**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
10 AM - 1 PM**

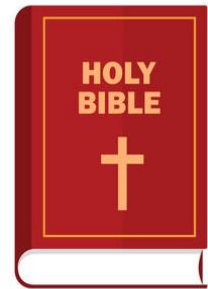
**GIFT STALLS - CRAFT STALLS - BAKING STALLS -  
BRIC-A-BRAC - RAFFLES - TOMBOLA -  
TEA ROOM - BBQ - KIDS GAMES -  
WIGGLE IT DANCE - TEDDY BEARS PICNIC AND  
LOTS MORE...**

**Mossley Parish - Church of the Holy Spirit, Manse Road, Newtownabbey  
In Aid of Parish Funds - Registered Charity NIC103262**

## Guild of Lesson Readers

The reading rota for the next two months can be found on page four 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.



## Memory Lane



Our April gathering of Memory Lane was a joyful celebration of Easter and the hope found in the resurrection. The afternoon opened with a time of singing, where everyone joined together in well-loved Easter hymns that reflect the meaning of the season. The familiar words and melodies created a sense of unity and gratitude, and many commented on how uplifting it was to share these songs together.

After our time of worship, the fellowship continued over refreshments. Conversations flowed easily as friends caught up and enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere. It was a simple but meaningful reminder of the community we share and the encouragement we find in one another. Overall, it was a warm and memorable gathering, filled with music, reflection and companionship - an ideal way to mark the Easter season.



We continue to meet on the **first Thursday of every month at 2.30pm**, with the exception of July. The dates for the year are listed below and everyone is warmly welcome to join us as we continue to share companionship, music and faith together.

**7<sup>th</sup> May 2026**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> September 2026**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> December 2026**

**4<sup>th</sup> June 2026**  
**1<sup>st</sup> October 2026**

**6<sup>th</sup> August 2026**  
**5<sup>th</sup> November 2026**

With every blessing,

Rev Louise

## 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. Once again, 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 1100 times and this equates to the equivalent of 155 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.

## 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.

3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Karen Henry
17 <sup>th</sup> May	Available
31 <sup>st</sup> May	John Nesbitt
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Liz Holmes
28 <sup>th</sup> June	Celia Catherwood
July / August	Silk



## Community Lunches



The Community Lunches will continue on the second and fourth Wednesday in May. There will be no soup and cheese lunches in June, but we will finish for the summer months on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June with a final get together from 12noon. Sandwiches, sausage rolls, finger foods, cakes, tray bakes, tea and coffee will be served.

A special thank you to everyone who supported us during the year – to those who made soup, baked bread, provided transport or helped in any way to make the lunch such a success. We hope everyone has an enjoyable summer break and we look forward to meeting up again on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

Many thanks,

Kay Thompson – 07969835916

Hilary Gillies – 07840243427

## Bowling Club



March turned out to be a very busy month for Mossley Parish Indoor Bowling Club. So much so that an extra Tuesday night was requested from the Rector to play our semi-final match in the Hospice Cup against Glengormley Methodist. This was a very enjoyable match which, after three hours of bowling consisting of 40 played ends, the final score was 36 shots for each team. One extra end was required to decide the winner and, by only one shot, Glengormley went through to the final. However, the real winner on the night was the Children's Hospice as £200 was collected and donated to the overall fund, now standing at £835.

Also in March, the last club competition was played over two nights. In the pairs final were Darryl and Jeannette, playing against Steven and Derek, with Steven and Derek winning by 7 shots to 4. On 27<sup>th</sup> March the Bowling Club held its AGM, with a fantastic turn out of members. The Rector presented the cups and trophies to the following winners:

Jean Rea Cup: Freda Luney

Harry Morrow Trophy: Colin Gourley

Men's Jubilee Shield: Brian White

Pairs Competition: Steven Horner and Derek Randall

Chairman's Shield: Catherine White and Freda Luney



After many years of service to the Bowling Club as Hon. Treasurer, Robin Clarke decided it was time to step aside as he has held the position since 2015. Also stepping down, as Hon. Secretary was George. Both were presented with vouchers from the Bowling Club Chairman, Eugene, who thanked them for their service to the Bowling Club. They are succeeded by Catherine White as Hon. Treasurer and Gavin Lennox as Hon. Secretary.

The Summer Fun Bowls will be starting on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm and will continue until the end of August. The regular Bowling Club evenings will restart on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. The Summer Fun Bowls is a great opportunity to give indoor bowls a try. So, if you haven't already done so, please come along and experience the fun, friendship and fellowship of indoor bowling at Mossley Parish.

The Bowling Club would like to acknowledge the recent passing of Joe Chambers. Joe's name first appears in the Bowling Club's minutes when he was elected as a committee member in October 1977. Since then, Joe went on to hold various position within the Club and his loyalty and support to the Club were second to none. Mossley Parish Indoor Bowling Club would like to express our sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to the Chambers family at this sad time. (George Curry)

## 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.

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>     Elsie Christie & Julie Parkinson

June 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>             Joanne Graham & Elaine Maxwell

From April 2025 until March 2026 the Tea Brew donations have enabled the following financial contributions to be made:

Christian Aid	£50
Poppy Appeal	£50
Hamper Appeal	£50
Church Funds	£1000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1150</b>



## Watoto at Stormont



On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March Winnie Millar, Karen Henry, Hannah Jones and the Rector attended a special concert at Assembly Buildings, Stormont. The Watoto Children's Choir were invited to perform their music and share their stories in what proved to be a very special evening. It was lovely to be able to reconnect with members of the Watoto team who visited Mossley last year. Please do continue to pray for everyone associated with Watoto and we thank you for your ongoing support.

### **Parish Magazine (July / August 2026)**

We plan to have the next edition of the Parish Magazine ready for release on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June. Could all articles and notices please be with the Rector before Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June? It would be great to have a wide variety of articles and photos from all parish organisations.

## Choir News

Hello Parishioners.

Choir practices began again on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April - we had a well-earned short break after all the Easter services. The Choir sang two anthems on Easter Sunday, *Resurrection Day* and *All in the April Evening*. Thank you for all the favourable comments received from the congregation. It is not easy to attend every Thursday evening in winter and this year was particularly difficult due to weather conditions. There seemed to be one gale warning after another! However, some catch-up practices were held on Sundays after the 11am worship. We do need some new faces (and voices) and would be so happy to welcome new choristers. Many thanks to Jacqueline for helping us out at Easter.



We are looking forward to summer and some warmer weather. I don't know about you but I have been economising on heating due to the fearsome cost of oil. Extra jumpers, blankets, socks etc have been utilised. I just refuse to pay the extortionate cost for 500 litres of oil. I feel sorry and worry for families with young children and I pray that this war will soon be over and we can return to some semblance of normality. Thank goodness we will soon be into May and some warmer weather, hopefully!

I hope you all have a lovely peaceful summer with lots of sunshine. If you are going away, I wish you all safe travels and remember to keep singing! Joan

## Bric-A-Brac



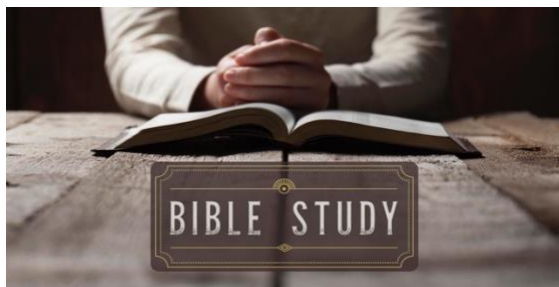
What would a Saturday morning be without a visit to the bric-a-brac sale in Mossley Parish Centre? It is wonderful to see so many people coming from near and far to grab a bargain, and then enjoy a cup of tea or coffee. Please do pop over to the Parish Centre any Saturday morning.

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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 any member of the bric-a-brac team. All help would be greatly appreciated!

## **Bible Study**



Since September we have been looking at Galatians and Ephesians and our study series is almost complete. On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

There has been much for us to reflect on and learn from in our studies of Galatians and Ephesians. We have been encouraged to listen to God, be wholeheartedly committed to Him, and strive to become the people that He longs for us to be. One major theme that has resonated throughout our studies, of both Galatians and Ephesians, has been that of spiritual growth. We have unpacked some really important lessons and discussed some major biblical themes that will help us in our Christian living.

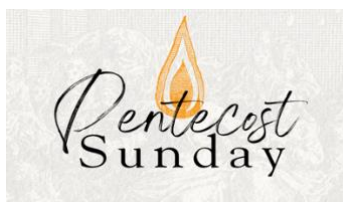
Sincere thanks to everyone who has attended the Bible Study Group in-person during the past year, and to everyone who joins us online. It really is a privilege and a blessing to study God's Word together. We will enjoy the summer break but it won't be long until September and we will embark on a new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

## **Newtownabbey Churches Fellowship**

In the last edition of this magazine, we reflected on the special time that we had at Bible Week 2026. Plans are already well advanced for Bible Week 2027 and we are delighted to announce that the speaker will be Dr Alan Wilson. Dr Wilson was formerly a Baptist Pastor in Switzerland and Portstewart and is now a member of Dollingstown Parish in the Diocese of Down and Dromore. He is a published author and lecturer at Belfast Bible College.



It was also great to be able to gather with other churches for the Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday – although a last minute change meant that the service was held in our church building as opposed to the carpark at Belfast Zoo. Last year there was no community breakfast following the service but we were delighted to be able to host this in our Parish Centre. Sincere thanks to all who helped set up the hall and those who got up really early on Easter Sunday morning to provide breakfast for all in attendance.



As we seek to grow together in faith, the Newtownabbey Churches Fellowship will be holding a United Praise Service on Pentecost Sunday (24<sup>th</sup> May) in Glengormley Methodist Church at 7pm. Please do plan to come along for a time of worship, praise and Bible teaching.

## Safeguarding Trust



Sincere thanks to everyone who attended our Safeguarding Trust training on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March. Our thanks are also extended to Rev Brian Lacey who came along to provide the training. This training is required once every three years and further training sessions have been organised at other locations throughout the Diocese. Any parishioners who were unable to attend the training in Mossley, and are actively involved in any form of children's ministry in the Parish, will be able to book in for the training at one of these alternative venues. For further details, please speak to any member of the Parish Panel.

At the training in Mossley, Access NI forms were distributed and we are seeking to get these completed as soon as possible – certainly before the summer holidays. The Rector needs to sign each form and take copies of the various identity documents. We will arrange suitable times for this to be completed and details will be released in the Parish Bulletin during coming weeks.

### 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

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> May.

## Trip to Rathlin

We are really looking forward to our trip to Rathlin Island on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June. We will be leaving the Parish Centre carpark at 7.30am and board the Rathlin ferry in Ballycastle at 10am. The walks around Rathlin are always spectacular and they showcase the incredible scenery and wildlife. There really are routes for all ages and abilities. A signup sheet is in the church porch. Please speak to Alan Bowes for more details.



## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> May but will restart again in September.

## Girls' Brigade

We can't quite believe another GB year is over already! We want to say a massive thank you to everyone who has supported us over the past year. To all our parents – thank you for all your help, encouragement and for everything you do behind the scenes to support the girls and our GB company. A huge thank you, as well, to our amazing leaders for giving up their time each week and for all the hard work, care and energy you put into GB. We are so lucky to have such a fantastic team. And to our girls – you have been absolutely brilliant this year! We are so proud of every one of you and all that you have achieved.

Our Parents' Night was such a special evening and the girls were amazing from start to finish. They were confident, enthusiastic and did themselves proud, showing everyone what they have been learning and working on this year. We couldn't have asked for more!

A special thank you also goes to the Templeton family for kindly donating our beautiful new Scripture Cup. We are so grateful for their generosity and we know it will be a special part of GB for many years to come.

We hope all our girls, families and leaders have a lovely summer break and enjoy some well-earned rest over the holidays. Thank you for another fantastic year at GB. We can't wait to see everyone again after summer!



## Youth Club



The Youth Club has met faithfully each Saturday night, during term time, since early September. 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.

Just before Easter we enjoyed an evening at the bowling alley in Glengormley and the competition levels were certainly high. We booked seven lanes and everyone had a brilliant time. Youth Club will be concluding for the summer break on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May.

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.

## Boys' Brigade

As announced in the previous edition of this magazine, we plan to see the return of our Boys' Brigade Company in the autumn. This will be on Monday evenings and more details will be released as soon as possible. We are currently working through the necessary administrative tasks and ensuring that all leaders will undertake the necessary safeguarding and Boys' Brigade leaders training. Hopefully this will be completed very soon.



## Holiday Bible Club 2026



We are really looking forward to our Holiday Bible Club which, this year, is called *Kingdom Builders*. We will be having a builder theme and we will look closely at the kingdom of heaven. *Kingdom Builders* will begin on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August and continue until Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August. As ever, there will also be a family fun night with BBQ and inflatables on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> 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 how the kingdom of heaven is like treasure, who the King of the kingdom is, and how we can become part of the kingdom. 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.

## Crèche, Club J & Ignite Youth



In the weeks leading up to Easter, something special has been happening among our children. They have been rising to the challenge of learning well-known Bible memory verses. Week-by-week, leaders have had the joy of hearing these verses confidently shared. The children's efforts have not only been inspiring but it has also been a great encouragement to hear and see them grow in their knowledge of the Bible.

Easter brought even more opportunities for creativity and reflection. As the children explored the story of Jesus' death and resurrection, they expressed their understanding in a hands-on and meaningful way by painting stones. Each stone became a simple yet powerful reminder of the message of Easter - that Jesus died and rose again for each one of us, making a way for us to return to God and find forgiveness. Watching the children engage so thoughtfully and creatively has been a true highlight.



## You are invited to Children and Youth Sunday!



Join us for Children and Youth Sunday during the 11am service on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May. This special service will provide an opportunity for us to give thanks to God for the amazing children and young people that we have in Crèche, Club J and Ignite.

We have been preparing a range of pieces for this service - from spoken pieces to creative expressions. Through it all, we aim to showcase the enthusiasm, dedication and talent of our children and young people. We will also take time during the service to celebrate their involvement during the past year as we conclude Crèche, Club J and Ignite for the summer until September.

Everyone is warmly invited to come along and support our children and young people. Your presence makes a real difference and shows them that they are valued and encouraged by the whole church community. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Every Blessing,

Kim

**Picture Parable**

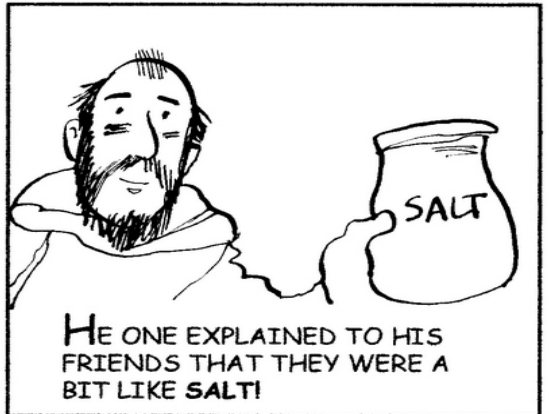
The tale of  
the  
Salt  
and  
Light



JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS



HE ONE EXPLAINED TO HIS  
FRIENDS THAT THEY WERE A  
BIT LIKE SALT!



IN JESUS' DAY, SALT WAS  
VERY PRECIOUS. IT HELPED  
PRESERVE FOOD....

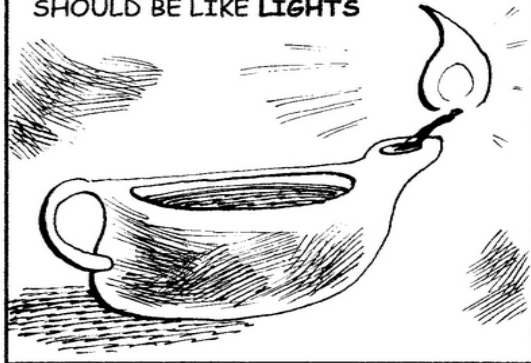


....AND SALT GAVE FLAVOUR.  
IT WAS VERY USEFUL INDEED



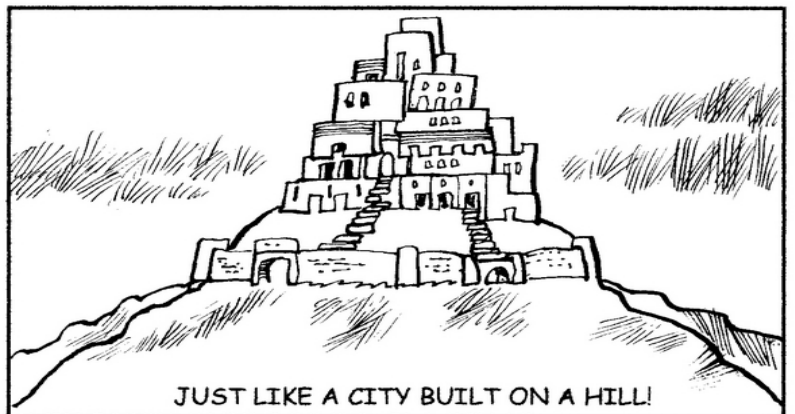
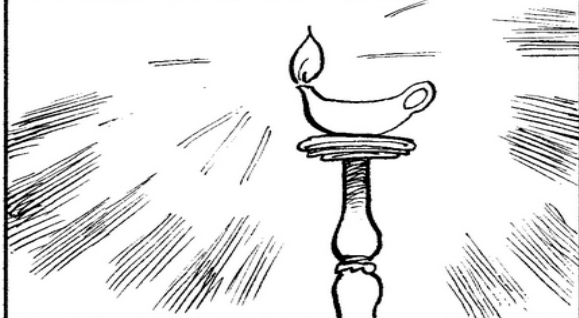
SALT HELPED MAKE LIFE  
BETTER - WE TOO SHOULD HELP  
MAKE LIFE BETTER IF WE  
CHOOSE TO FOLLOW JESUS!

JESUS ALSO SAID HIS FOLLOWERS  
SHOULD BE LIKE LIGHTS



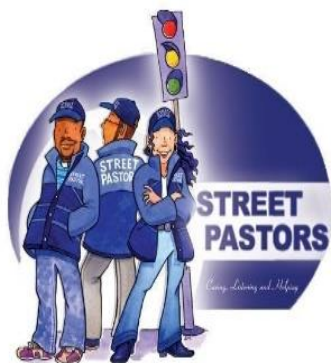
'NOBODY LIGHTS A LAMP - THEN PUTS  
IT UNDER A BOWL', SAID JESUS

THE WAY WE LIVE OUR LIVES AS  
CHRISTIANS SHOULD BE AN EXAMPLE  
TO THE REST OF THE WORLD.



JUST LIKE A CITY BUILT ON A HILL!

## Street Pastors



It seems like quite some time since I updated you about Street Pastors. Our annual church service took place on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April in Muckamore Presbyterian Church. Although not a member of the Street Pastors initiative, they have been a loyal supporter since one of their members joined us a few years ago. I had the pleasure of giving her a lift to some training sessions which were held in Newtownards. Whilst there, she met her sister who had joined Street Pastors in Newtownards at the same time.

At this service we were impressed by the sermon which was not unduly long and was based on the Parable of the Good Samaritan. We were challenged to reflect on the aims and expectations that we have in our Christian life, particularly when instructed to follow the example of the Good Samaritan. This was a special service and we also enjoyed a time of fellowship over tea / coffee afterwards.

We have now completed eight of the ten Saturday training sessions that we sought to provide. We all have to repeat our training every three years. While this doesn't have to be done at the same time, for logistical reasons, we sought to start at the beginning of a new year and offer continuous training sessions so that new recruits would not have to wait too long before joining us. Four of our own people have turned up at each training session, along with some from Dublin, Lisburn and Dundonald, as well as others from Belfast and Castlereagh. Most of the training sessions only last a few hours and we do get something to eat and drink half way through each one. It really is refreshing to share with people from other churches and reflect on those things that we have in common as Christians.

We would invite you to become a member of Street Pastors, as either a Street or a Prayer Pastor. The ongoing training is open to everyone and the next session will be held in Glengormley Methodist Church on 9<sup>th</sup> May at 9.30am. You would be very welcome.

We continue to go out on patrols at the weekends - mostly covering Glengormley, Rathcoole, Monkstown, Mossley, Ballyclare and Antrim. As part of our aim to cover all of the Borough, the management team is looking at how we can move into Randalstown. In order to meet this aim, we will have to recruit further Street and Prayer Pastors.

We are holding our Annual General Meeting in the Carntall Room of our Parish Centre on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm. This is not a closed meeting so everyone is welcome to attend.

Thank you for continuing to support us as we try and spread God's love and faithfulness, as we are all commanded to do.

Bob

## **Mossley Mission Group**

Sincere thanks to all who helped out and came to our Quiz Night in March. We were absolutely delighted that £600 was raised. It is great to think that we can support the work of the Kingdom in South America and Nepal through our financial giving and our prayers. God is moving and the following story is a wonderful reminder of His care and compassion.



A young mother who had travelled far, at twenty-seven weeks pregnant, arrived at Tansen. The mum was rushed to the maternity ward and gave birth to twin girls, weighing just over 2lbs each. Both twins were struggling to breathe. The twins needed expensive 'surfactant' medicine and specific ventilators – none of which Tansen had. The doctors worked with an alternative ventilator and the equipment that they had and the twins stabilised. Then at 3 weeks, both developed life-threatening intestinal complications needing intravenous nutrition – which, again, Tansen did not have. By the grace of God, both twins were able to begin feeding after only some bowel rest and IV antibiotics. With the worst complications over, the older twin then developed a leg abscess which was successfully drained and antibiotic treatment was also provided.

At 10 weeks old, both twins were feeding well and discharged. There was much thanksgiving to God and tremendous joy.

Tansen has produced a new magazine (pictured below) which you can access on line using the following link. Some printed copies will also be available in the church porch.

<https://www.umn.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/FoT2026.pdf>

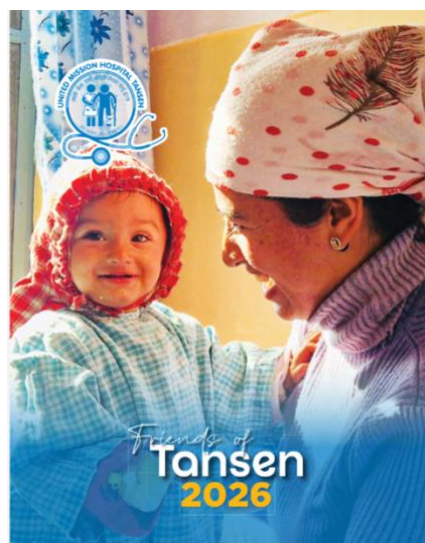
### **Praise and Prayer Points:**

Training - praise for new course starting for Skilled Birth Attendants and those attending Diploma in Counselling & Personal Transformation.

Travel - pray for Dr Rachel as she has a busy month ahead – some trips take over 3 days

Finances - pray Board approvals are secured to the plans which have been presented by Tansen

**Hold the date:** Autumn Concert on Friday 18th September.



## News from SAMS Ireland



Across the globe, many of the poorest communities are Indigenous peoples living in remote and often overlooked regions. Revd. Marcos Humacata travels extensively throughout the Chaco region of northern Argentina, a vast semi-arid landscape roughly the size of France, characterised by isolation and limited infrastructure. He provides accessible biblical training that equips Anglican churches to participate in God's mission, rooted in Scripture. Marcos is deeply committed to ensuring that the Wichí have study resources in their own language, enabling them to engage with the Bible for themselves, experience transformation, and live faithfully within their communities.

Marcos overview: "I was born in 1989 into a large Christian family as the second of ten siblings. Faith, community and shared responsibility shaped my early life and continue to inform my vocation today. After completing my studies in biochemistry, I began to feel a growing call to theological formation. At the age of 25, encouraged by my church community, I travelled to Chile to study at the Centro de Estudios Pastorales, an Anglican seminary, where I completed three years of training. This period deepened my faith, strengthened my teaching skills and shaped my theological reflection through mission, community and service. My involvement with Indigenous communities developed gradually, culminating in a decisive moment when Bible translator Cristóbal Wallis invited me to participate in a Vida Abundante training workshop in a Wichí community. Hearing Wichí brothers and sisters share their stories and express their faith awakened in me a desire to understand their culture more deeply and walk alongside them. This inspired me to begin studying the Wichí language, a journey I continue today. I currently serve as coordinator of the Vida Abundante course, travelling to support local Wichí tutors, provide resources and organise training workshops. Each journey into the Chaco is both a challenge and a joy, offering moments of learning, connection and witness that continually renew my faith and commitment to God's mission."

**Praise:** Give thanks for Marcos and for God's clear calling on his life. Give thanks that, following the visit of Revd. Peter Jones and Revd. Geoff Hamilton in November 2025, SAMS began a partnership with him in April 2026, committing to support and uphold his ministry in prayer. Celebrate the remarkable growth of Vida Abundante (Abundant Life), an 18-session course in Wichí that strengthens, encourages and equips the local church.

**Prayer:** Pray for Marcos as he travels extensively, often along difficult and demanding roads. Ask for wisdom and discernment as he faces complex and challenging situations. Pray, too, for steady encouragement and strength as he serves faithfully alongside Wichí communities.

Challenge Time



Mouse Makes



“May the grace of the Lord  
**JESUS CHRIST** and the  
love of **GOD** and the  
fellowship of the  
**HOLY SPIRIT** be  
with you all.”

2 Corinthians  
13:14



V H I W V E N L R S L A E P L G H A L D O O R E M E W O R D P B R E A D W H L A L P H A E E M C G J Y R M E H O E K D M I R S S T S A V I O U R P N E S N S U O U N T L O T M E S S I A H R L G B F I S K E O M E G A	O I S D J Y I A M A C G O D J M L R O C K U A M E L O R D J I A B B A G E G T D E B E S H O Y R F E T T R A H A T Y Y G H O I E F V S W L A R A O H E Y E N T J E H O V A H I K I N G L E S H I E L D R S A V I O U R	V U D E T R U T H T H A H S R I O S P O W E R U L F L I F E P O W Y N D R A W I S D O M D B E P B V C V W T I R E O O I E R E F M C T R I A I F A N N T T R O T E A C H E R E S L G I F T D S G U I D E T H E L P E R
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**JESUS • CHRIST**  
SON • SAVIOUR • LORD  
EMMANUEL • MESSIAH  
SHEPHERD • LAMB • WAY  
TRUTH • LIFE • DOOR  
BREAD • WORD • HEALER  
VINE • ALPHA • OMEGA

**GOD • FATHER**  
ABBA • LORD • JEHOVAH  
YAHWEH • ALMIGHTY  
HOLY ONE • SAVIOUR  
ETERNAL • CREATOR  
KING • MAJESTY • JUDGE  
SHIELD • ROCK • I AM

**HOLY SPIRIT**  
GIFT • HELPER • WITNESS  
COMFORTER • GUIDE  
ADVOCATE • WISDOM  
POWER • TRUTH • BREATH  
LIFE • ETERNAL • DOVE  
WIND • FIRE • TEACHER

