

*Church of the Holy Spirit
Manse Road, Mossley*



The Dove Magazine

November / December 2024 Edition

*Parish website
www.mossley.org*

(Mossley Parish is a registered charity, NIC103262)

From the Rectory Study

A few years ago, I came across an interesting article that was published on the website of the Stress Management Society. It was entitled 'Destress This Christmas' and it sought to offer five helpful tips for people who find the Christmas season to be a stressful time of the year. This article began by asking the following question: is the run up to Christmas more "Ho Ho Ho" or "Oh No?" November and December can be particularly busy months. There is often so much planned within the Church, at school / work, and in our local communities.

This edition of our Parish magazine contains details of many of the services and events that we have planned for the next few months. There is much to engage with and look forward to. In November we will have the Fiftieth Anniversary Service for the Bowling Club, Remembrance Sunday, our Christmas Fair, and the launch of our third Christmas Hamper Appeal. Then as we enter December, we will have a Grief Share Service, our Nativity and Carol Services will take place and we will also have the usual extra provision that we offer during the season of Advent. On top of all of this, our parochial organisations will have special events and our Parish Centre continues to be extensively used.

As I reflect on the busyness of the next few months, particularly in relation to Parish life, I actually find myself giving thanks to God! I am delighted that so much will be taking place and that we can journey together towards Christmas. All the services and events that have been planned offer us opportunities to grow closer as a community of faith and grow wider as we seek to engage in mission and ministry within our local community. Additionally, as we reflect on the story and meaning of Christmas, we are encouraged to grow even closer to God and deeper in our knowledge and love of Him.

In coming weeks, we will reflect (once again) on the journey of Mary and Joseph as they made their way to Bethlehem. We will celebrate the joy of Jesus's birth and be reminded that this was the most significant birth in human history. C. S. Lewis, the famed author of the Chronicles of Narnia, reminds us why the birth of Jesus is so important. "The Son of God became a man to enable men to become the sons of God." This is made clear in the Nativity Story. In Luke 2:11 we read these words, spoken by an angel to the shepherds: "Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."

Please do join with us in our church services and special events as we journey towards Christmas. It is my prayer that all of us would experience the fullness of God's love, joy, hope and peace during this Christmas season.

On behalf of the Rectory family, may I also wish each of you a very blessed Christmas and a peaceful 2025.

Your friend and Rector,

Peter Jones

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

14 th September	June Meighan	67 Forthill Drive
19 th September	Dorothy Shields	21 Fairview Crescent
24 th September	Victor McCrea	Tudordale Care Home
22 nd October	Jean McCartney	Glenabbey Care Home

HOLY BAPTISM

29 th September	Kayson Kucharski (21 Ballyhenry Crescent)
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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

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The Rectory, 1 Woodford Manor, BT36 6FF.
028 90 832726 rectormossley@hotmail.com

ORDAINED LOCAL MINISTER

Rev Louise Bowes Tel. 07900410069

DIOCESAN READERS

Mr Tom Irwin Tel 07841478427

Mrs Valerie Murray Tel. 028 90 835761

ORGANIST

Miss Jane McCartney Tel. 028 90 848854
jane_mccartney@btinternet.com

PARISH OFFICE

Tel. 028 90 832936
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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

John Nesbitt 07954150067
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 3rd November Fourth Sunday Before Advent 11am Holy Communion 6pm Evening Prayer	OT G NT	Psalm 146 Mark 12:28-34 Revelation 7:9-17	Pamela Marron Preacher Jacqui Eccles
Sunday 10th November Third Sunday Before Advent 11am Remembrance Service 6pm Healing Service	OT G NT	Isaiah 2:1-5 John 15:9-17 John 14:1-14	Adam Parkinson John Nesbitt Winifred Clarke
Sunday 17th November Second Sunday Before Advent 11am All-Age Service 6pm Bowls Anniversary Service	NT NT	Mark 13:1-8 1 Timothy 4:7-10	Club J / Ignite Bowling Club Member
Sunday 24th November Kingship of Christ 11am Morning Prayer 6pm Holy Communion	NT OT G	John 18:33-37 Psalm 72:1-7 John 6:1-15	Harry Brolly Caroline Rogan Preacher
Sunday 1st December Advent Sunday 11am Morning Prayer 6pm Evening Prayer	NT OT	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Joel 3:9-21	John McQuillan Bob Lee
Sunday 8th December Second Sunday of Advent 11am Holy Communion 6pm Grief Share Service	OT G OT	Malachi 3:1-4 Luke 3:1-6 Isaiah 40:1-11	Winnie Millar Preacher Jacqui Eccles
Sunday 15th December Third Sunday of Advent 11am Nativity Service 6pm Nine Lessons and Carols	NT	Luke 2:1-11 Various	Club J / Ignite Various
Sunday 22nd December Fourth Sunday of Advent 11am Morning Prayer 6pm Service of the Word	NT NT	Luke 1:39-45 Matthew 1:18-25	Bob Lee Winifred Clarke
Sunday 29th December First Sunday of Christmas 11am Morning Prayer	NT	Luke 2:41-52	Albert Patterson

Christmas Fair 2024

We are really looking forward to our Christmas Fair on Saturday 30th November. Sincere thanks to the organising committee for their hard work. Please do come along, bring friends and family with you, and help us spread the word by telling others about the Christmas Fair.

Entry: Adults £1 (includes free prize draw) Kids Free Entry

Church of the Holy Spirit Mossley

CHRISTMAS FAIR

SAT 30TH NOV

10AM – 1PM

- HANDMADE GIFTS
- VARIOUS GIFT STALLS
- HAMPERS
- BAKED TREATS
- BRIC –A– BRAC
- RAFFLES
- KIDS GAMES
- CHRISTMAS TEA ROOM
- LOTS HAPPENING

Visit Santa's Grotto
No Booking Required

IN AID OF PARISH FUNDS - MOSSLEY PARISH IS A REGISTERED CHARITY NIC103262

Calling All Knitters!

We are hoping to have a stall of handknit and crocheted items at our Christmas Fair. If you can help out by making some items please speak to Valerie Porter or Barbara Boyd.

Calling All Bakers!

We also plan to have a Christmas Tea Room at the Christmas Fair. If you can help out by baking some tray bakes or other goodies, please speak to Leeanne Kelly.

Confirmation 2024



It was a delight to welcome Bishop George Davison back to Mossley on Sunday 20th October for our Service of Confirmation. It was wonderful to see the church building full for this service and it was a really special and encouraging service. We even had a delicious cake to enjoy over a cup of tea/coffee after the service!

Ashton, Stephen, Zach, Blayne, Jack, Ruby and Evan all showed wonderful commitment and diligence in suitably preparing for this

important step in their own faith journeys. Please do continue to pray for them as they seek to fulfil the promises that they made during this special service.

Advent Services and Daily Reflections

Advent is an important time for Christians. It is a time of preparation as we celebrate Jesus' first coming and look forward to his return in glory. It is also a season of personal reflection, an occasion to take stock of our lives and seek to realign with God's revealed plan for us.



This year, during the season of Advent, our daily Thoughts for the Day will return (each morning at 10am, except Sundays). These will be available on Facebook, YouTube, our website, and via the dial-in facility. The first Thought for the Day will be released on Monday 2nd December and they will conclude on Christmas Eve.

We will also have three Advent Services this year. They will be on Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the church building, starting on Wednesday 4th December and concluding on Wednesday 18th December.

Guild of Lesson Readers



Thank you to everyone who has offered to read lessons and to all who have already done so. The 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.

Prayer Fellowship

*'In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice;
In the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.'
(Psalm 5:3)*

We all know that our first thoughts and habits upon waking each morning have an enormous effect on our attitude and mood for the rest of the day. It's natural to begin planning and worrying about everything we are about to face. Instead, why not take a little time to talk to God first? When we make our first thoughts about our heavenly Father, we are welcoming His peace, protection and guidance into everything we plan to do.



It's good to begin our prayers by expressing our gratitude for all our heavenly Father's many, many gifts and goodness to us - not least the gift of a new day! Even during challenging times there are always things we can be thankful for. God delights in us when we maintain hearts full of gratitude. Ephesians 5:20 encourages us to "...always give thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Starting the day with thankful hearts helps us align our hearts with God's purpose for us.

Having done that, we can then go on to tell our Father about any worries and fears we may have about what is ahead of us. By making prayer our top priority, we are entrusting our day into God's care. When we place our lives into His hands, He strengthens and directs our paths.

Another wonderful early morning habit to develop is spending a little time reading the Scriptures. God communicates with us through His Word and even 10 or 15 minutes reading and meditating on a Bible passage can have a profound influence on our day. Psalm 119:105 reminds us that "Your word is a lamp for my feet; a light on my path." Without that light we risk stumbling into darkness. However, when we meditate on His Word we are constantly reminded of His promises, His love and the plans He has for us.

Each morning we should take a moment to dedicate our entire day to the Lord. This simple pledge will set the tone for everything we encounter. By committing our plans and activities to our Heavenly Father we invite His guidance into every decision we make. It not only enriches our spirit but fosters a deeper connection with Him as well. All we have to say is: 'Father this day is Yours. Let Your will be done in everything I do.' These simple words declare our trust in God and invite Him into every moment and every challenge of our day.

The Prayer Fellowship meets each Wednesday evening in the Pentecost Room at 7.30pm just for an hour to sing God's praise, hear His Word and talk to Him about all our hopes, worries and plans. Silent prayer is absolutely fine! If you are free, we would be delighted to see you.

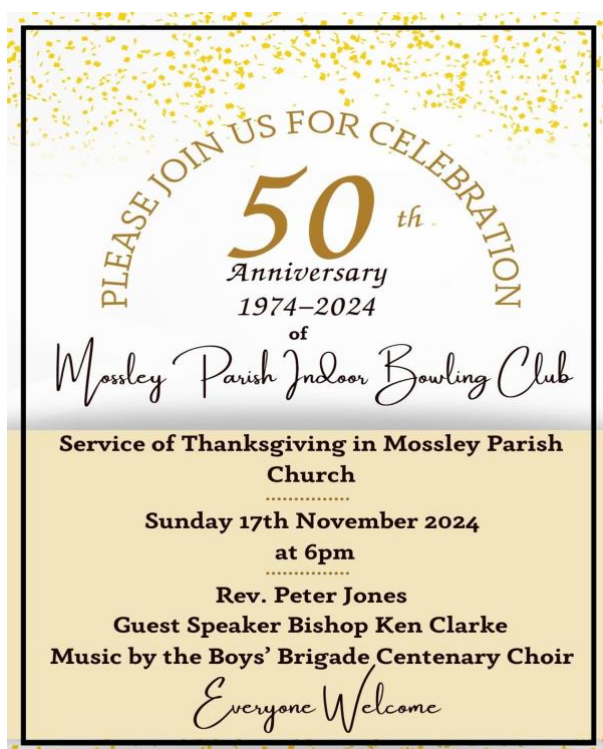
Bowling Club

The final round of this year's Fun Bowls competition finished on 4th September and I'm happy to say that the winning team was skipped by our very own John McQuillan – aided by Pearl and Alan, who are both members of Carnmoney Presbyterian Bowling Club. It was a keenly fought final round with only a few shots separating the top three teams, but John's team came out on top.



Since our club nights recommenced in September, our membership has increased as we have been joined by some bowlers from Glengormley Presbyterian and St. Gerard's. These clubs, for various reasons, have ceased playing and because of the fellowship of the Summer Bowls a number of bowlers have decided to come and join with us in Mossley.

Our own club competitions have already started. The Harry Morrow Trophy, which is played for by both ladies and gents, has been won by Brian Magowan.



In the Glengormley and District Churches League (G&DCL) there are signs that competitive matches may soon be about to start. This year, four teams have already withdrawn from the G&DCL and this leaves eight clubs to play matches. For the past few years all matches have been played on a friendly basis but it looks like proper league matches may soon resume (or so we hope).

As the Bowling Club prepares to celebrate its 50th birthday, a reunion night for past members and friends will be held on Wednesday 30th October. We aim to have quite a few photographs on show, dating back to when the Club first started. It will be interesting to see how these photographs will generate memories and stories of fifty years of bowling in Mossley Parish.

On Sunday 17th November at 6pm, we will have our 50th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service. There will be music by the Boy's Brigade Centenary Choir and the address will be given by Bishop Ken Clarke. Please do come along and join with us as we celebrate fifty years of Mossley Parish Indoor Bowling Club.

(G. Curry)

Bible Study

Our Bible Study continues to meet every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre and an Online Study is released at 7pm. It has been encouraging to see good numbers of people engage, either in-person or online, with our study programme.



This year we are looking at the incredible book of Nehemiah and there have been many interesting lessons for us to learn. We have reflected on what it means to listen to God and serve Him faithfully within our local contexts, and we have also observed how Nehemiah dealt with opposition and discouragement. Following the half-term break, the Bible Study will resume on Tuesday 12th November and we will be looking at the fourth, fifth and sixth chapters of Nehemiah. On Tuesday 17th December we will have our annual Christmas Study and this year it is entitled '*Because Of Bethlehem.*' As ever, this will be followed by seasonal refreshments.

If you have never been to the Bible Study, please do come along and bring a friend with you.

Harvest Thanksgiving

We had our annual Harvest Thanksgiving services on Sunday 6th October and it was good to be able to give thanks to God for His many blessings. We were delighted to welcome Rev Capt. Isaac Hanna as the guest preacher at our morning service. It was encouraging to see a good number of parishioners at our harvest services and we offer our sincere thanks to Jane and the Choir for leading us in worship and for their beautiful anthem.



There were lots of flowers, fruit, vegetables and other food products offered as gifts for our harvest decorations. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously and to the team who met to decorate the church building.

On Monday 7th October we were able to distribute some harvest gifts to parishioners. We were also delighted to be able to partner with Mossley and Earlview Primary Schools as a total of 28 bags of fruit and vegetables were given to families within the local community. Thank you so much to everyone who made all of this possible.

Parish Magazine (January / February 2025)

We plan to have the next edition of the Parish Magazine ready for release on Sunday 5th January. Could all articles and notices please be with the Rector before Thursday 2nd January? It would be great to have a wide variety of articles and photos from all parish organisations.

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. Since the last edition of this magazine, our online provision has been watched over 1100 times and this equates to an incredible 187.3 hours of watch time. Thank you to everyone who makes this possible and it really is a blessing to many people who join with us faithfully each week through the wonders of technology.

Each week, our online service is available on YouTube from 11am and it is then released on Facebook, our website and the dial-in facility at 12.30pm. As outlined on page six, we will have extra online provision during the season of Advent as our Thoughts for the Day return.

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, Rev Louise or Bob Lee.

Badminton Club

After a well-deserved summer break, the Badminton Club resumed on Thursday 3rd October at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. It was good to see the players back, and the competitive streaks bubbling to the surface once again.

If you would like to have some fun and a little friendly competition, please do come along. You will be made most welcome!



Dove Tots



Dove Tots has been going really well this year! The Parish Centre has certainly been very busy each Friday morning. We had a brilliant time at our scary half-term fancy dress party on Friday 25th October.

Dove Tots will be off on Friday 1st November but will recommence on Friday 8th November. We look forward to welcoming all the boys and girls, along with their parents and carers, each Friday morning.

A massive thank you to the Dove Tots team who do a brilliant job each week. We are always on the lookout for more helpers. For more details, please go to the Dove Tots Facebook page.

Update On Minor Hall



At the Select Vestry meeting in September, approval was given for the repair works to begin in the Minor Hall. To remind you, water has been seeping in through the wall which has caused a considerable amount of damp, which if not addressed would continue to seep further into the church building. We are now at the stage where work can commence to rectify this problem and, at the same time, make the Minor Hall a space suitable for use for both parish and non-parochial groups.

The total cost of the works will be around £50,000, of which £15,000 will come directly from legacies and church funds and £35,000 from a bank loan to be repaid over a period of five years. It is important to say that the Vestry is confident of meeting these costs with no effect on the day-to-day running of the Parish. However, we do hope to organise a few social events to raise some funds and the Church will be appreciative of any donations or contributions made.

Work is due to start very soon and should not affect the Parish Centre. We will, however, expect some minor inconvenience around the rear of the building (both inside and outside) and we apologise for this. When the works are completed, we hope to see a new, large and comfortable room which will be used in conjunction with the rest of our facilities as we continue to invest and develop our Parish.

John Nesbitt (Hon. Secretary)

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.

10 th November	Remembrance Sunday
24 th November	Winnie Millar
8 th December	Albert Patterson
22 nd December	Anne McCutcheon



Service of Grief Share

On Sunday 8th December we will be having a special service of reflection at 6pm. This service will be particularly relevant to anyone who has recently experienced bereavement or is struggling with a sense of grief. Please do join with us as we look to God for His comfort and hope, and as we seek to experience the peace that only He can give.

Community Lunch



Once again it is that time of year! Christmas is fast approaching and we are now taking names for our Christmas Dinner.

The dinner will be held in the church hall on Wednesday 11th December, meeting at 12.30pm for 1pm. The invitation is extended to all Parish members and friends. The cost will be £10 for Community Lunch members and £12 for non-members and friends. The day will consist of Christmas Fayre (dietary requirements catered for), music, dancing and a visit from the big man in the red suit.

Please inform Kay or Hilary if you wish to attend. The closing date for numbers (65 max) will be Wednesday 27th November and all money must be paid by then. We extend a special thank you to Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council for their support of this event.

Don't forget – the Community Lunch continues on the second and fourth Wednesday in the month from 12noon. Please come along and enjoy soup, cheese, a selection of breads, tea/coffee, biscuits and a bit of craic for £4.

Everyone is welcome.

Kay Thompson (07969835916)

Hilary Gillies (07840243427)

Bric-A-Brac



The bric-a-brac sale continues to do very well each Saturday morning. In late October the bric-a-brac team presented the Rector with a cheque for £4000 for church funds. Last May the team also donated £4000 to the Church, bringing their 2024 total to an amazing £8000. This is an incredible achievement and our sincere thanks go to the bric-a-brac team and everyone who comes along each Saturday morning to support the sale.

A great new venture for the bric-a-brac has been successfully running for a few months now - a monthly Bakery Stall with a great selection of bread, scones, cakes, pastries etc. The Bakery Stall is on the first Saturday of each month and the next one will be on 2nd November. We would love to see you there and all proceeds will go to Church funds.

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).

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



Each Sunday, after our 11am service, we are delighted to be able to meet for a cup of tea or coffee. This is a great opportunity to spend time with each other and grow closer together as a community of faith. It has been really encouraging to see good numbers of people in the Parish Centre each week.

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!

November 3rd, 10th, 24th

Iris Allen, Karen Henry & Marie Dollin

December 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd

Maureen Irwin, Isobel Jack & Winnie Millar

Please note, no tea after church on 29th December

Bible Week 2025

It's almost that time of year again when we gather along with members of other local churches in Mossley Primary School for a week of worship, Bible teaching and mission. Plans are well underway for Bible Week 2025 and we look forward to welcoming people from near and far for what will undoubtedly be a week of great blessing.



From Sunday 19th January until Thursday 23rd January we will be meeting in Mossley Primary School at 7.30pm each evening and our speaker will be Bishop Andrew Forster. Bishop Andrew has recently served at the President of the Irish Council of Churches and he is the current Bishop of Derry and Raphoe. During his time with us he will be reflecting on the Book of Jonah. Throughout the week we will also worship and praise God, hear testimonies, and we will be welcoming various Christian singers and musicians. The book stall will also be back this year and it will have a range of interesting Christian books and resources.

This event is being organised by the Newtownabbey Churches Fellowship and is open to everyone. Please mark the dates in your diary and do plan to come along.

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.

Freewill Offering and Building / Maintenance Fund Envelopes for 2025



Freewill Offering and Building / Maintenance Fund Envelopes for 2025 will be available at Sunday services from the Parish Centre during December 2024. You are kindly requested to collect your envelopes, and those of any parishioners who live close to you, as quickly as possible and so reduce the large volume of envelopes which are delivered by hand each year.

Within any Parish the regular giving is usually one of the following:

1. Loose Collections

This is money that is put on the plate at each church service and is very much dependent upon attendance.

2. Freewill Offering Envelopes

This has, traditionally, been the most popular means of presenting our offering. Every year a set of envelopes is supplied for each week of that particular year. We place our offering into the envelope and put it onto the plate when we are at Church. Some people adopt the regular practice of filling a weekly envelope and even if they are unable to attend Church, they donate the filled envelopes upon their next visit to Church.

3. Standing Orders

Increasing numbers of parishioners are now using a Standing Order. This method of payment is particularly beneficial to the Parish in that it allows us to budget more efficiently when we know how much income we will have in any given month. We would encourage as many parishioners as possible to use this method for your Church offering. A Standing Order is very easy to set up. You simply decide how much you want to subscribe on a monthly basis and request a form from Ken Jackson, our Parish Recorder. The completed form is then submitted to your bank/building society. Alternatively, you can set this up yourself if you bank online.

If you are a tax payer, you can register to Gift Aid your contributions to the Church. This means that we can claim an extra 25% from HMRC on an annual basis. For further details please speak to Ken Jackson.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank parishioners for their generosity and ongoing support of Mossley Parish.

Smile Lines

A musical concert was about to be performed in a prison. The Governor was talking to a lady guest, explaining that the orchestra was made up of men convicted of various crimes.

The lady then pointed to a man in the corner, holding a trombone. "He looks a tough customer," she whispered. "Whatever has HE done?" The Governor paused and smiled. "Ah, actually, he is the Chaplain."

Choir Notes

We have had a bit of a disappointing summer and here we are back to dark winter nights again. I am not complaining as I am glad to be here enjoying the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness. We had our Harvest Festival on Sunday 6th October and the choir sang the Anthem 'The Sower Went Forth Sowing.'



Unfortunately, some of us were missing in action (including me) but the remaining choir members did us proud. We may be few in number but I have never met such a group of committed, loyal and dedicated ladies

Tragically we lost one of our youngest choir members on 10th September. June Meighan was a lifelong member of the choir and she will be sadly missed. The choir were privileged to be able to sing at her Thanksgiving Service on 14th September. June leaves a young daughter, Danielle, and we pray that Danielle will be uplifted by all the love and support she will receive from everyone in Mossley Parish.

We look forward to the next few busy months in the life of our Parish. It is a great privilege to sing in a choir. I am always uplifted by the singing and the friendships I have found in our Parish. We do need some new members. Please speak to any member of the choir. We really are a friendly bunch.

Keep singing, Joan

MusicMakers

After a longer summer break than usual, MusicMakers continues on Thursdays.



Many congratulations to Simon who recently passed his Initial piano exam with distinction. Well done, Simon!

At the time of writing, the boys are composing a piece about Halloween. They are also developing their note reading skills through activities and looking forward to learning some Christmas Music next month.

Keep up the great work, boys!

Jane

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

We will have a service of Holy Communion at 11.15pm on Christmas Eve. There will also be a service of Holy Communion at 9am and an All-Age service at 10am on Christmas Day

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.



Please note that there will be no Kidz Klub in November as we will be attending the Light Party which is being hosted in our Parish Centre – details are on the Parish Facebook page. We are also looking forward to a special Christmas night on Saturday 7th December.

Youth Club



After our summer break, Youth Club started back on Saturday 7th September. This year we availed of online registration and within a matter of days we had over fifty children registered. At present, Youth Club is fully booked and we are thankful to all the leaders who give so willingly of their time. We are always on the lookout for extra leaders. If anyone is able to help out on a Saturday night, even on a rota basis, this would be greatly appreciated. Please speak to the Rector or Rev Louise for further details about what would be involved.

The children really do enjoy Youth Club. There are always plenty of arts & crafts, as well as football, badminton, pool, the Wii, Xbox and board games. Youth Club is for children from P4 up to Second Year (Year 9) and it meets every Saturday during term time in the Parish Centre, costing £1 per night. We are currently planning an outing to the ice-hockey on Saturday 30th November. More details will be released to Youth Club members when we resume after the half-term break on Saturday 9th November.

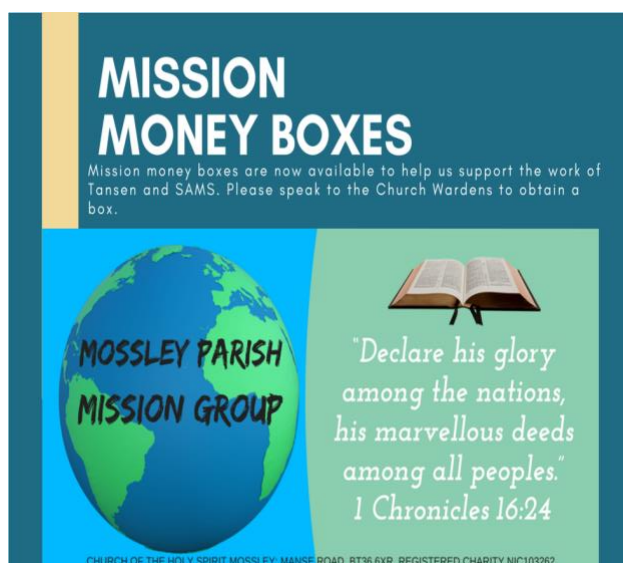
Not long after Youth Club resumed, we heard the sad news about the passing of June Meighan. June was leader-in-charge of the Youth Club and we would like to record our sincere thanks for her commitment and dedication throughout the years. We would also like to extend our condolences to June's daughter, Danielle, and assure her of our ongoing prayers. As a mark of respect, Youth Club was cancelled on Saturday 14th September and many parents sent messages of support and sympathy.

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

Mission Boxes



As a Parish, it is our Christian duty to support those whose need is so much greater than our own. With this in mind we are kindly asking that if your mission box has not been emptied recently, it would be appreciated if this was returned before mid-December. Mission boxes should be given to Ken Jackson. Each box will be emptied, counted and returned to you with a receipt for the amount enclosed.

If you have mislaid your mission box and require a replacement, or would like to take a box for the first time to support our mission partners, please speak to Ken Jackson or the churchwardens. You can read about the ongoing work of Mossley Mission Group on page twenty-one of this magazine.

We are ever-grateful for your continued support of our mission partners and we are delighted to be able to forward your donations to support their ongoing ministries.

Girls' Brigade

Girls' Brigade has got off to a great start this year. The girls have been busy making a video which was played at the Enrolment Service, practicing their skipping, playing lots of games, and completing various arts and crafts. The hot chocolate is always very popular!

Thank you to everyone who came along to our soup and cheese lunch on Sunday 6th October. We were absolutely delighted that £410 was raised towards GB funds.



On Sunday 13th October our annual Enrolment Service was held at 6pm. It was really encouraging to see many of the girls in attendance and they were brilliantly behaved. We are so proud of each of them.

We are always glad to welcome recruits of any age from 3+, including older girls / ladies who are keen to share their skills and knowledge or just want to help out. Please speak to any leader if you are interested.

Memory Lane

Harvest Thanksgiving was celebrated at our Memory Lane service in October and we were pleased to welcome a few new folk. Our next service on Thursday 7th November 2024, at 2.30pm, will include a short act of Remembrance and then on 5th December 2024 we will have our Carol Service.

If you know anyone who is living with dementia, their carers, family or friends, please do invite and encourage them to come along to our dementia-friendly services and they will be made very welcome. Fellowship continues after the service with a cuppa.

God bless, Rev Louise

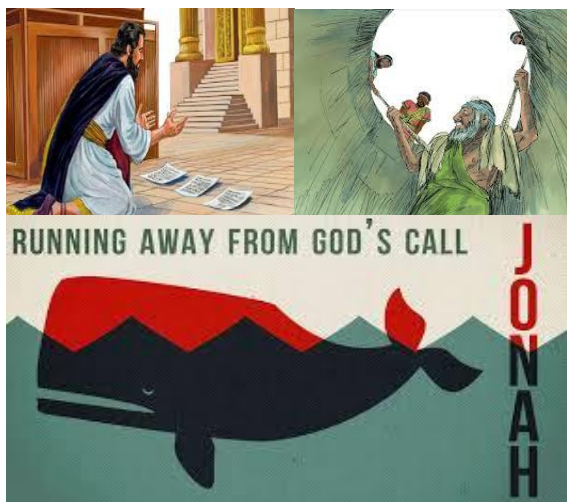


Club J & Creche

Have you noticed our nice new notice board in the Parish Centre?

If you've been in the Parish Centre recently, you may have noticed our bright, new noticeboard! The children have made some Bible Character Fact Files, which not only highlight the stories for others to read but give a glimpse of what they have been learning themselves.

What have we been learning about?



This year, the children in Club J have been diving deep into the characters of the Old Testament, exploring important Christian traits and how these stories relate to their own lives. For example, they've learned about trust through the story of Hezekiah, who trusted God during difficult times. They've also reflected on perseverance through the example of Jeremiah, who didn't give up hope even when he was cast into the well. We have also focused on obedience in Jonah, who listened to God despite his initial reluctance.

The children have loved the activities led by our leaders and these are designed to help them experience the stories in practical ways. Each session ends with a challenge for the children to apply these valuable lessons in their own lives. It's been a wonderful journey of growth and learning for the children, and such a joy for all involved!

Upcoming – Nativity Service



As Christmas draws near, one of the most anticipated events in the Parish calendar is our annual Nativity Service. It's always a highlight of the Sunday School year and this year will be no different! The children and young people will soon be preparing to remind us all about the greatest story ever told – the birth of Jesus Christ.

Please note Sunday 15th December in your diaries for the 11am Nativity Service. Your presence and encouragement mean so much to the young people. They put a great effort into making this service a meaningful and memorable experience. Everyone is warmly invited and we hope to see you there, supporting the children and celebrating with us! Let's come together to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and experience the joy that our children bring to this special occasion.

Please continue to pray for all our young people and their families.

Kim

Antrim & Newtownabbey Street Pastors



It doesn't seem as if two months have passed since I last put pen to paper for the article from Street Pastors for this magazine. We are moving into the darker nights and more challenging weather for our monthly outings on the streets of Newtownabbey.

Last month I mentioned the difficulties that are being experienced, not just by Street Pastors but many other organisations, since COVID. For example, there is the difficulty in finding recruits. However, I am pleased to announce that we have found three recruits and they are undergoing the necessary training sessions. One of them has even been out on the streets already!

Earlier this month I was out on a cold and dampish night and there were few people about. We called into one of the supermarkets where the staff often speak to us about young people being boisterous in the shop. The staff are always delighted to see us as we engage with those young people and seek to build positive relationships. Over the years I have found that the young people are, more often than not, only too happy to engage with us. We seek to encourage the young people and suggest positive approaches to behaviour and engagement within the local community.

Later that same evening, we chatted with a member of staff in another business. She is always happy to see us and she is willing to engage in meaningful conversation. We also called in with a Young Persons Resource in the centre of Newtownabbey. This is very like a Youth Club. The young people go with their friends and play pool, chess/draughts, and watch movies. Places are limited at this club and poor behaviour is not accepted by the leaders. Newtownabbey could do with more places like this! They are organised by paid staff, some of whom are not much older than the young people they look after. They undertake training for their youth leader roles.

Have you ever thought about coming out for an evening as an observer? You don't have to stay all night. Even an hour would give you a more complete insight.

On Saturday 9th November 2024 our founder, Rev Les Isaac, is coming over for an All-Ireland gathering of Street Pastors. This will be held in Glengormley Methodist Church and starts at 9.30am, running until 3.30pm. Free tea and coffee will be available and a light lunch of soup and sandwiches will also be provided. There is no charge for this event. We simply ask that if you would like to attend, please let us know in advance for catering purposes. During this event there will be reflections on what we, as Street Pastors, do and how we engage in our mission and ministry. At present there are Street Pastor teams in Antrim and Newtownabbey, Belfast, Ards and North Down, Coleraine, Dundonald and Lisburn, Dublin and Cork.

Thank you once again for supporting Street Pastors and allowing me the pleasure of going out on the streets of our Borough as a Christian, representing our Lord and sharing with others the love of Christ our Saviour.

Mossley Mission Group

Our Mission Committee met on Wednesday 18th September and we were encouraged by the level of support (both prayerful and financial) that has been offered by parishioners. We are delighted to report that we are in a position to be able to send £1250 to Tansen Hospital and £1250 to SAMS Ireland. Thank you for your generosity! The mission boxes continue to be a great source of income and we would like to thank everyone who contributes regularly to our mission partners through the use of these boxes. If you do not have a mission box and would like one, please speak to Ken Jackson.

We intend to host a soup and cheese lunch on Sunday 17th November and we are always looking for eager volunteers who could help us at this event. Please speak to the Rector or Rev Louise if you could help out in any way. We are also planning to host further fundraising events. Some artists have been provisionally booked for a concert and we will release full details in the New Year.



Last year we were amazed with the response to our Christmas Hamper Appeal and we intend to produce hampers again this year. In partnership with Mossley and Earlview Primary Schools, we would like to provide food hampers to families who are finding life difficult at this time. Everything that is donated to this appeal will go to those who need it the most. Just like last year, we aim to distribute the final hampers about one week before Christmas Day.

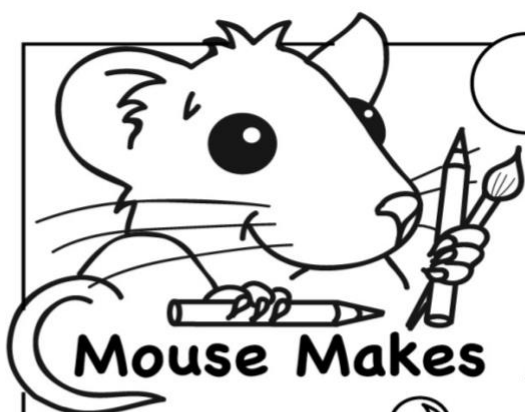
We are tremendously thankful that the Black Santa Appeal has awarded us a generous grant of £880 for our Christmas Hamper Appeal. This money will be used to purchase items for inclusion in the hampers. On Sunday 3rd November we will launch this year's appeal and there will be posters and flyers highlighting the items that we plan to have in the hampers. As in previous years, a basket will be left in the church porch for items to be left in. Alternatively, if anyone would like to contribute financially towards this project please speak with the Rector. All financial assistance will then be used to buy food items for inclusion in the hampers.

We would like to thank you for your ongoing support and please do continue to pray for our mission partnerships in Tansen Hospital and South America. Please also pray for our Christmas Hamper appeal. If anyone would like to join Mossley Mission Group please speak to the Rector. You would be made most welcome!

Church of the Holy Name, Greenisland

Sincere thanks to everyone who donated towards the diocesan appeal for Greenisland Parish. We are delighted that £947 has been raised.

Challenge Time



"DO AS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU."

The disciples had met with Jesus in an upper room to share a meal together, but there were no servants to wash their dusty feet. Jesus got up from the table, took off his outer clothing, wrapped a towel around his waist and began to wash the disciples' feet just like a servant would do.



Then Jesus said:

"Do you understand what I have done for you? Now that I, your Lord and Teacher have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example, that you should do as I have done for you."



READ
the story in
John 13:1-17

By washing his disciples' feet, Jesus showed that as God's people we are never too important to serve and care for others.

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 LORD • TEACHER
 SERVANT • MASTER

GARMENTS • CLOTHING • TOWEL • WAIST • WATER • BASIN • WASH • FEET • WIPE
 CLEAN • UNDERSTAND • OTHERS • EXAMPLE • DO • LOVED • CHOSEN • BLESSED