

Church of the Holy Spirit
Manse Road, Mossley



The Dove Magazine

November / December 2025 Edition

Parish website
www.mossley.org

(Mossley Parish is a registered charity, NIC103262)

From the Rectory Study

In the last two editions of this magazine, I have made reference to the proposed renovation of the Minor Hall. This will be a significant project for our Parish and one that will richly benefit our continued mission and ministry. We had our special Gift Day during our harvest weekend in early October and all donations that were received will be in aid of the renovation project. Once again, the incredible generosity of the parishioners of Mossley was clearly demonstrated and I am delighted that £11,605 was raised. When gift aid is applied to these donations then our overall total will be approximately £14,000. I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone who donated to this appeal and encourage us to unite in giving thanks to God.

The renovation of the Minor Hall is part of our ongoing strategic plan within Mossley Parish. In April 2022, at our Easter Vestry, I shared a presentation that focused on vision setting and offered some ideas as to how we could progress and develop as a parish in the post-COVID years. The vision was based on three main words and these related to three stages of parish development: regather, rebuild, renew. During the past three years we have been working through the regathering and rebuilding phases. The attendance levels at our Sunday services are almost back to their pre-COVID levels and it has been encouraging to welcome new parishioners to Mossley. Many of our parochial organisations are also growing and we long to see this trend continue. We are engaging with our local community in a variety of positive and meaningful ways, and we seek to develop this even further. I have no doubt that the renovation of the Minor Hall will be significant as we pursue this vision.

As we approach 2026, we are now entering the third and final phase of the strategy that I shared in April 2022 – the renew phase. This will be an exciting chapter for us in Mossley as we seek to step, with confidence, into God's future for our Parish. We will look to develop our mission and ministry as we strive to live out our Christian faith within our local community in new and ambitious ways. I often reflect on the massive potential for growth that there is within our local community. This is encouraging but also challenging. It leads me to ask some big questions with openness and honesty. How effective are we at radiating our Christian faith to those who live around us? What are we doing well and what are the areas where we need to develop?

In a few weeks it is Christmas. The birth of Jesus reminds each of us that God cares deeply about us. Regardless of what we might be facing or how significant the challenges may be, the reality that Jesus is Immanuel, God with us, speaks clearly and powerfully. We can trust God and we should trust God. This Christmastime, let us rejoice in what God has done and continues to do for us. Let us pray for our Parish as we enter 2026 with confidence.

On behalf of the Rectory family, may I wish each of you a blessed Christmas and I pray that we would all know and follow the leading of God in 2026.

Your friend and Rector,

Peter Jones

HOLY BAPTISM

19th October

Albie Craig
(4 Dorchester Park)

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 (except July) beginning at 2.30pm.

Further details about Memory Lane can be found on page 8 of this magazine.

ONLINE SERVICES

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

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

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday

9am Holy Communion

11am Morning Service

6pm Evening Service

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

Wednesday

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

USEFUL CONTACTS

RECTOR

Rev Peter Jones
The Rectory, 1 Woodford Manor, BT36 6FF.
028 90 832726 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

PARISH OFFICE

Tel. 028 90 832936
mossleyparish@btconnect.com

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 2nd November Fourth Sunday Before Advent 11am Holy Communion 6pm Evening Prayer	OT G OT	Habakkuk 1:1-4 Luke 19:1-10 Lamentations 3:22-33	Julie Parkinson Preacher Jacqui Eccles
Sunday 9th November Third Sunday Before Advent 11am Remembrance Service 6pm Compline	OT G NT	Isaiah 2:1-5 Mark 13:3-8 Matthew 22:15-22	Pamela Marron Preacher Winifred Clarke
Sunday 16th November Second Sunday Before Advent 11am All-Age Service 6pm Healing Service	NT NT	2 nd Thessalonians 3:6-13 Matthew 13:1-9	Club J / Ignite Caroline Rogan
Sunday 23rd November Kingship of Christ 11am Morning Prayer 6pm Service of the Word	NT NT	Luke 23:33-43 John 18:33-37	Kay Thompson Bob Lee
Sunday 30th November First Sunday of Advent 11am Healing Service 6pm Evening Prayer	NT OT	Matthew 24:36-44 Isaiah 52:1-12	Harry Brolly Jacqui Eccles
Sunday 7th December Second Sunday of Advent 11am Morning Prayer 6pm Grief Share Service	NT OT	Matthew 3:1-12 Psalm 121	Adam Parkinson Winifred Clarke
Sunday 14th December Third Sunday of Advent 11am Holy Communion 6pm Compline	OT G NT	Isaiah 35:1-10 Matthew 11:2-11 Philippians 4:4-7	Winnie Millar Preacher Caroline Rogan
Sunday 21st December Fourth Sunday of Advent 11am Nativity Service 6pm Nine Lessons and Carols	NT	Matthew 1:18-25 Various	Club J / Ignite Various
Sunday 28th December First Sunday of Christmas 11am Morning Prayer	NT	Matthew 2:13-23	Albert Patterson

Christmas Fair

We are really looking forward to our Christmas Fair on Saturday 29th 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.

**MOSSLEY PARISH
CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**
60 MANSE ROAD, NEWTOWN ABBEY, BT36 6XR

Christmas Fair

Saturday 29th November 2025
10am - 1pm

Baked Goods | Handmade Items
Gift Stalls | Tombola | Raffles
Christmas Items | Bric- A- Brac
Breakfast Baps | Festive Tea Room

Visit Santa's Grotto for a photo and present

IN AID OF CHURCH FUNDS
REG. CHARITY NIC103262

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

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 range of tasty goodies at the Christmas Fair. If you can help out by baking some tray bakes or other items, please speak to Leeanne Kelly.

When God says 'NO'

Can you remember some of the times when you were young and you asked your parents for things that were either unaffordable or very unhealthy? The answer was usually 'No!' and may have been shortly followed by 'Because I said so!' We sensed that they knew better but we still resented not getting what we wanted.



As adults, we pray and ask our Father in heaven for reasonable, sensible things like a home, a career or partner in life. Indeed, didn't our Lord say "Ask and it will be given to you" (Matt. 7:7), and yet, no matter how hard we pray, sometimes the answer seems to be 'No.' We can think that God is cold and uncaring, and this leads to terrible resentment. God always responds to our prayers but, like the wise Father He is, He prefers to give us what is good for us, rather than what we necessarily ask for. Remember that He also said, "I know the plans I have for you.

Plans to prosper you and not to harm you" (Jeremiah 29:11). Dr Charles Stanley said that sometimes when God says 'no' He's protecting you; sometimes He's saying 'not yet.' C. S Lewis once reflected, "If God had granted all the silly prayers I've made in my life, where would I be now?"

There are many instances in the Bible where God used His wisdom and foreknowledge for the greater good of His people. King David offered to build a temple to house the ark of the covenant but God declined knowing that David still had battles, both moral and military, in the years ahead that would take his full attention. Solomon was permitted to build it instead (2 Sam. 7:13). Three times St. Paul prayed to have a 'thorn removed from his flesh' and three times God refused in order to teach Paul that His grace was enough (2 Cor. 12:7). The most profound example, of course, was that of our Lord Jesus on his knees in the Garden of Gethsemane imploring his Father to take the horror of crucifixion away from him (Mark 14:36). We will never begin to know how hard that must have been for God to say no to His most beloved son! The price was our salvation.

We may understand all of this, but what about the time someone we loved dearly was gravely ill and we prayed with all our heart and strength that they be healed ... but they died anyway. Angry and forlorn, it's understandable that we might turn our backs on God. We grieve for ourselves, for our own loss, but Bishop Abernethy once suggested that God's most perfect healing for the one we love was sometimes simply to take them home to be with Him forever. Immanuel means 'God with us' and He is there supporting and comforting us in our grief, just as much as He was with His own beloved son on the cross. We don't understand the 'no' but, because of our Saviour's resurrection and our trust and faith in our Father God, we have the certain assurance that the separation is temporary and we will one day be together again with those we love dearly.

The Prayer Fellowship meets each Wednesday evening in the Pentecost Room at 7.30pm 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.

Community Lunches

The Parish Christmas Lunch will be held in the Parish Centre on Wednesday 10th December, 12noon for 12.30pm. We will be serving turkey, ham and stuffing with vegetables and potatoes. There will be a choice of two deserts: Christmas pudding or apple crumble and custard, with tea and coffee.

A special thanks to Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council who, once again this year, have allocated a grant towards the meal. This allows us to keep the cost at £12 per person.

A list will be left in the porch of the church building from Sunday 2nd November for anyone wishing to attend or you can contact Kay or Hilary by telephone.

The Community Lunches will continue during November and will recommence on 14th January 2026. Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Kay Thompson - 07969835916

Hilary Gillies - 07840243427



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.

Badminton Club

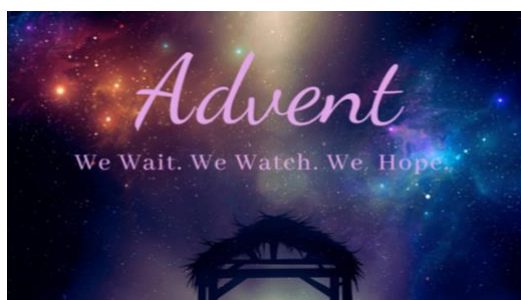
After a well-deserved summer break, the Badminton Club resumed on Thursday 18th September at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. It was good to see the players back, and the competitive streaks bubbling to the surface once again.

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



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 1st 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 3rd December and concluding on Wednesday 17th December.

Memory Lane



At Memory Lane, in October, we celebrated Harvest and enjoyed singing the old harvest favourites. Along with our many friends from the Croft, we welcomed the Rev Arlene Moore and Rev Denise Caddoo, and our dear friend Mrs Emily Wilson who was recently awarded the BEM for services to those living with dementia in Northern Ireland. Congratulations Emily, you so deserve it!

Our next dementia-friendly service is on Thursday 6th November at 2.30pm, and it will be a Service of Remembrance and our Carol Service will be at 2.30pm on Thursday 4th December. Please help us spread the word and encourage those you know who are living with dementia, their family and friends to come along. Everyone will be made very welcome.

God bless, Rev Louise



Harvest Thanksgiving



We had our annual Harvest Thanksgiving services on Sunday 5th October and it was good to be able to give thanks to God for His many blessings. We were delighted to welcome Rev Matthew Gaw as the guest preacher at our 11am service. It was encouraging to see good attendances at these services and we offer our sincere thanks to Jane and the Choir for leading us in worship and for their 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 6th October we were able to distribute some harvest gifts to parishioners. We were also delighted to be able to partner with Earlview Primary School as a total of 28 harvest hampers of fruit and vegetables were given to families within the local community. Thank you so much to everyone who made all of this possible.

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 almost 1000 times and this equates to an incredible 126 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.



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 eight, 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.

Parish Magazine (January / February 2026)

We plan to have the next edition of the Parish Magazine ready for release on Sunday 4th January. Could all articles and notices please be with the Rector before Tuesday 30th December? It would be great to have a wide variety of articles and photos from all parish organisations.

Women's Guild

I hope you have all enjoyed the last few evenings at the Women's Guild. At our first night of the year, we welcomed the Watoto Choir, *Stories of Restoration*, and the donations for the evening came to a total of £145. This is a super amount and many thanks to all who came and supported. Thanks also to those who helped on the night with the refreshments and ensuring everything went well during the course of the evening.



Our long-awaited speaker, David Hume, joined us in October and he gave us a truly hands on history talk. He brought some items with him and we were all able to pass them around and have a good look. He has lots of other talks and I wouldn't be surprised if you see his name on our schedule again in a few years' time!

I am looking forward to our meeting in November and this will be our Christmas Craft night. As you all know, I just love Christmas time and I enjoy making things for Christmas. During the course of the evening, we have planned a number of different items for us to make and we may even decide to sell some of these items at the Christmas Fair.

Saturday 29th November is our annual Christmas Fair. We will, as usual, be hosting the cakes and bakes stall and any donations of home baked goods or bought goodies will be gladly accepted. During our meeting in November, I will take a list of names of anyone wishing to help out at the stall, as well as those who can assist with set up on and before the day.

I have purchased all the tickets required for our trip to the theatre on Wednesday 10th December and I will give these out at our Christmas Craft night. Please let one of the committee members know if you need a lift to the theatre on the night.

See you all soon.

Take care and God Bless.

Leeanne

Service of Grief Share

On Sunday 7th 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.



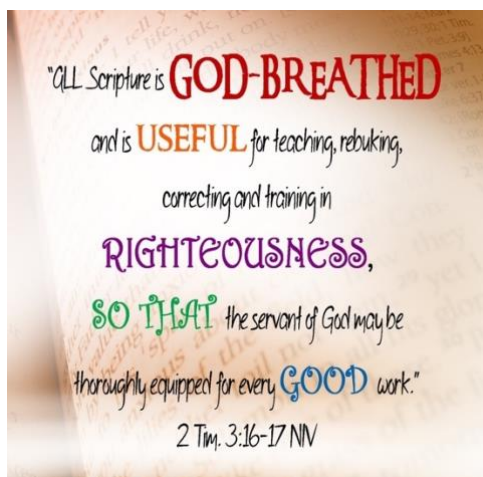
Flower Rota

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.

9 th November	Remembrance Sunday
23 rd November	Winnie Millar
7 th December	Albert Patterson
21 st December	Anne McCutcheon
4 th January	McCartney Family
18 th January	Freda Luney



Newtownabbey Churches Fellowship



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 underway for Bible Week 2026 and we look forward to welcoming people from near and far for what will undoubtedly be a week of great blessing.

From Sunday 18th January until Thursday 22nd January we will be meeting in Mossley Primary School at 7.30pm each evening. Details relating to our theme and speaker are still being finalised.

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 available 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.

Bowling Club

Since the Bowling Club restarted in September it has been very busy. The fixtures for matches in the Glengormley & District Churches League (G&DCL) have been arranged and our own club nights and competitions have also been scheduled. This year St. Brigid's Glengormley have rejoined the league, making it nine clubs in total. On Wednesday 29th October we played our first home match against Glengormley Methodist and on Friday 7th November the Club is away to St. Comgall's, Rathcoole.



The first competition for the Harry Morrow Trophy, which is an open competition for both ladies and gents, started with twenty members taking part and continued over three nights. It's a knockout competition with the winner of each game going forward into the next round. After two exciting semi-finals and the final, this year's winner was Colin Gourley.

During the last few weeks, the Bowling Club has lost two faithful members: Davy and Tom. Davy Haughey had been a club member for many years. He played for various clubs in Carrickfergus but was very loyal to us here in Mossley Parish. He played in the summer fun bowls and usually as a skip in our club matches in the G&DCL. Tom Kearney came to bowl with us in Mossley a few years ago and his family have told me that from the moment he arrived at the Club he felt at home, largely due to the friendships and warm welcome he received. Davy and Tom will be very sadly missed by the members of Mossley Parish Bowling Club.

This year the Bowling Club has welcomed two new members, Dorothy and Vera, and I hope they enjoy their bowling with us here in Mossley. We would love to welcome some more new members, so why not come along on Wednesday evenings at 7pm.

G. Curry



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

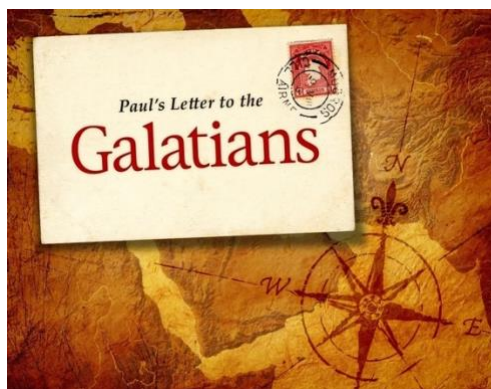
John Nesbitt

07954150067

Joan Mackey

028 90 775366

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. We are delighted to see the Carntall Room filled each Tuesday evening and we have welcomed a number of new members.

This year we are looking at Paul's letter to the Galatians and there has been much for us to think about. We have reflected on the significance of God's grace and how we can be transformed by God

into the people He wants us to be. There have also been important lessons in what it means to be faithful to God's Word and how we must be on our guard against false teaching.

Following the half-term break, the Bible Study will resume on Tuesday 11th November and we will be looking at the fourth, fifth and sixth chapters of Galatians before Christmas. On Tuesday 16th December we will have our annual Christmas Study and this year it is entitled '*Behold The Saviour.*' As ever, this will be followed by seasonal refreshments.

If you have never been to the Bible Study, or haven't been recently, please do come along and bring a friend with you.

Parish Finance

Freewill Offering and Building & Maintenance Fund envelopes for 2026 will be available for collection from the Parish Centre during December 2025. Perhaps you have recently come to reside in the Parish and don't know who to ask, or maybe you have been intending for some time to obtain envelopes and just haven't got around to it. Maybe you have started in your first job and would like to have your own envelopes to make your personal contributions to the work of Mossley Parish. Whatever the reason, please speak to either of the churchwardens or Ken Jackson (Church Recorder) at any of the Sunday services.



An alternative method of giving is the use of a standing order whereby you authorise your bank to pay the Church a fixed amount on a specific date each month. This would be the preferred method of contribution as it means that our income is spread evenly throughout the year. Additionally, if you are a tax payer, there is the opportunity to gift aid your contribution to the church and this increases your offering by some 25%.

If you require any further details, please contact Ken Jackson.

Bric-A-Brac



The bric-a-brac sale continues to do very well each Saturday morning. It is encouraging to see people gather in the Parish Centre and catch up over a cup of tea / coffee, perhaps also grabbing a bargain from the sale.

The Bake Sale is also proving to be popular and successful. On the first Saturday of each month there is always a great selection of bread, scones, cakes, pastries etc. Please do come along and get yourself a homemade treat for the weekend! 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 2nd, 9th, 23rd, 30th Iris Allen, Karen Henry & Marie Dollin

December 7th, 14th, 21st Winnie Millar, Maureen Irwin & Isobel Jack

Please note, no tea / coffee after church on 28th December

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.

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 half-term fancy dress party on Friday 17th October.

Following the half-term break, Dove Tots will recommence on Friday 7th 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.

Girls' Brigade

Girls' Brigade has got off to a great start this year. The girls have been busy and there has been lots to do each Monday night in the Parish Centre.

Thank you to everyone who came along to our soup and cheese lunch on Sunday 5th October. We were absolutely delighted that £403 was raised towards GB funds.



On Sunday 19th 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.

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.

Youth Club



After our summer break, Youth Club started back on Saturday 6th September. We, once again, used online registration and within a few days we had fifty-four children registered. Since then, we have been contacted by a significant number of parents / carers asking if we had anymore spaces available. At present, we have been unable to register any more children due to our need to comply with the necessary safeguarding ratios. In some ways this is actually an encouraging problem to have, yet we would love to be able to offer spaces to every child who would like to attend. This requires us to recruit further 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.

Following the half-term break, we resume on Saturday 1st November and there will be much to look forward to as we journey towards Christmas.

Christmas Hamper Appeal 2025



It's hard to believe that it's almost that time of year again! Our Christmas Hamper Appeal will be launched on Sunday 2nd November and this will be the fourth year of this initiative.

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.

Following a recent meeting of Mossley Mission Group, it has been decided that the hampers will be assembled during the week beginning Monday 15th December and it is envisaged that they will be distributed later that same week. All help will be gratefully received and further details will be released in the weekly Parish Bulletin nearer the time.

Posters and flyers will be released very soon and they will highlight the items that we plan to have in the hampers. As in previous years, a basket will be 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. Please do commit the Christmas Hamper Appeal to your prayers.

Crèche, Club J & Ignite Youth

A Fresh Look at the Miracles of Jesus

In Club J, we've been taking a fresh look at the miracles of Jesus. These incredible events are a great foundation for our younger members to understand how Jesus, who was born here on Earth, had a very special mission before He died and rose again. Each miracle reminds us of His power, His compassion and His purpose. Check out the noticeboard in the Parish Centre which displays some of the children's work about 'The Miracles of Jesus.'

Ignite Youth at Connor Takes the Castle

Members from Ignite Youth recently attended *Connor Takes the Castle* for a two-night residential at Castlewellan. This event for young people was hosted by Connor Diocese. It was fantastic to see them fully involved in modern worship, Bible study and prayer times. Alongside these spiritual activities, they enjoyed a wide range of fun challenges - including archery, wall climbing and team games. This event was a wonderful opportunity for our young people to grow in faith while building friendships and having fun!



Upcoming – Nativity Service

Take a note of **Sunday 21st December**! Our eagerly awaited Nativity Service is a wonderful celebration, with the children from Crèche, Club J and Ignite looking forward to taking part. Parents, grandparents, family and friends are warmly invited to join us and support the children as they share the story of Jesus' birth. It would be fantastic to see you there!

Please continue to keep all the children of our Parish in your prayers, especially as they prepare for the Nativity Service.

Every Blessing, Kim



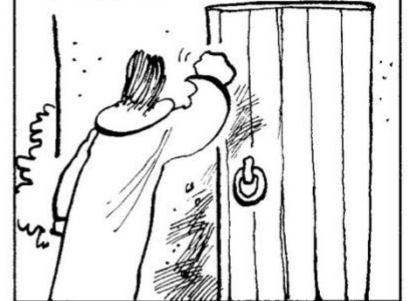
Picture Parable

Words and Actions

JESUS HAD MANY FRIENDS - AND HE OFTEN WENT WALKING WITH THEM.



ONCE, ON A JOURNEY, JESUS CALLED AT THE HOME OF MARTHA AND MARY



MARTHA WAS VERY PLEASED TO MEET WITH JESUS, AND SHE MADE HIM WELCOME



MARY WAS VERY EXCITED TOO AND WANTED TO LISTEN TO EVERYTHING JESUS HAD TO SAY



BUT MARTHA, WAS NOT VERY IMPRESSED WITH MARY! SHE THOUGHT HER SISTER SHOULD BE HARD AT WORK. NOT SITTING AROUND - JUST LISTENING



LORD, DON'T YOU CARE THAT MARY HAS LEFT ME TO DO ALL THE WORK BY MYSELF?!



MARTHA, YOU ARE WORRIED AND TROUBLED OVER SO MANY THINGS



JESUS TOLD MARTHA THAT THERE ARE FAR MORE IMPORTANT THINGS IN LIFE THAN JUST FUSSING OVER A CLEAN HOUSE!



PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING WE CAN LEARN, LIKE MARTHA, IS TO MAKE TIME TO LISTEN TO JESUS.



See Luke 10.38-42

Antrim & Newtownabbey Street Pastors



Prayer has always been an important part of Street Pastors. Indeed, each patrol evening and all of our other events always begin with prayer. We pray for each other and we pray for other people who may be experiencing difficulties or challenges. Quite often, we also pray for good weather when we are heading out at night. It does seem to rain less when we pray for good weather!

Sometimes when we are out on patrol, we actually have the opportunity to engage in silent prayer walking. As we walk, we identify localised issues that we can pray for. There are signs of poverty and hardship, as well as indicators of excess and plenty. There are also the parties in the pubs, as well as young people gathering in open areas to consume alcohol and sometimes drugs.

Prayer is also of tremendous benefit to each of us in our own lives. We can spend time with God, ask for His forgiveness for all the times we have let Him and other people down, and ask for His blessing on our families and friends. All of us have things that we could pray about. Personally, I have always found that prayer helps me to experience the peace that only God can give.

I remember being asked by a group of four young women if I would pray for them. They were 'out on the town' and one, who was a church goer, asked me what God would think of them heading out. After we spoke for a few moments, we had a group hug and I prayed for them. Twenty or thirty years ago I would never have contemplated finding myself in that sort of situation, praying for and with total strangers on the street.

In Street Pastors we have a group of volunteers who are called 'Prayer Pastors.' They don't normally go out on the streets. Rather, they meet with the Street Pastors at the start of an evening and pray for them. They continue to pray for the Street Pastors throughout the evening. Normally, contact is maintained throughout the evening via telephone. Any prayer requests are passed onto the Prayer Pastors. Could you become a Prayer Pastor?

Even if you would not consider doing this (we are always looking for recruits) can I ask you all to pray for me and the other Street Pastors - or indeed anyone else who goes out onto the streets to engage in mission and ministry. Thank you for the peace which I receive knowing that I am supported by you all.

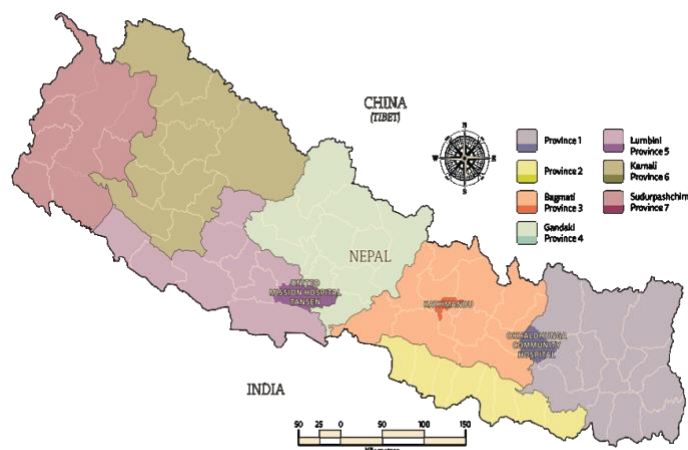
God Bless you,

Bob

Mossley Mission Group

Mossley Parish continues to support Tansen hospital and SAMS Ireland, and we are thankful for your continued generosity. In this edition of the magazine, we have a special focus on Tansen.

Where is Tansen?



The hospital is in the Tansen Municipality of the Palpa District of Lumbini Province of Nepal, serving thousands of patients from western Nepal and northern India. Nepal is an independent, landlocked country situated between India and China. It shares a long border with China to its north and with India to its south, east and west. It has eight of the world's highest mountains, including (of course) Mount Everest. The capital is Kathmandu.

How did the work in Tansen hospital begin?

In 1951 an ornithologist called Dr Fleming and his wife, who was a medical doctor, along with Dr Friedericks and his family, visited Tansen. While there, they treated patients and even performed surgery. The people asked them to establish a hospital. In 1954, the newly formed United Mission to Nepal (UMN) agreed to start health work in the Kathmandu valley and Tansen. UMN is a faith-based development organisation whose vision is “fullness of life for all in a transformed Nepali society.” Since 1959, when the first building opened, more has been added: a training hostel; accommodation and classrooms; a new nursing station; a high dependency unit. June 2024 saw great 70th birthday celebrations and the development of a new administration building.



This year, two big infrastructure projects reached completion. The wastewater project for the hospital and the local community was a long time in planning (seven years), and also a new postnatal ward creating an eighteen-bed facility for mothers and new-borns. It is thrilling to see how this work has developed and grown, and continues to do so.

The latest addition of the CT scanner will really help as it means patients will not have to be referred elsewhere for expensive tests. The photo shows the arrival of the CT scanner.

How did Mossley Parish start to support Tansen?

In 1986 Rev Cutcliffe decided that, following the good work in building the church by Rev Forsythe in the 1970s and Rev Hopkins in the early 80s, it was time to look beyond our Parish boundaries. He approached C.M.S Ireland and they proposed supporting a young nurse called Sandra O'Donnell and she ended up working in Tansen hospital. In 1988 Sandra became our Mission Partner and the Sunday School children, under the guidance of Dorothy Beck, wrote to Sandra. This link continued when Billy McCormick took over as Sunday School Superintendent later that year. We are grateful to Billy for providing this background.

Points for prayer

- Praise God for His hand over many years on the work at Tansen Hospital.
- Seek His blessing and guidance upon Dr Rachel Karrach, Hospital Director.
- Give thanks for the new CT scanner which has arrived and is due to be installed soon

Mission Boxes

Finally, if any of you would like to support the work of Mossley Mission Group, and our current Mission Partners (Tansen hospital and SAMS Ireland), Ken Jackson can give you a mission box. Many parishioners already do support these very worthwhile causes through the mission boxes and the Parish is most grateful for this dedicated support. Ken has asked me to remind you that all boxes should be returned **ideally during November**. If you are a taxpayer, please do complete a gift aid form – Ken can provide any help you need with it.

Dates For Your Diary

Sunday 16 November 2025

Rev Geoffrey Hamilton (Mission Director of SAMS Ireland) will be speaking at our 11am service and this will be followed by a Soup & Cheese lunch hosted by Mossley Mission Group.

Friday 27th March 2026

Following the great evening we had last June, we will be hosting another Table Quiz in the Parish Centre. Please do plan to come along.

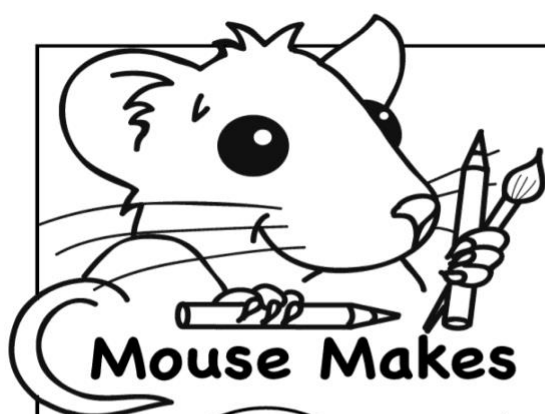
Mid-September 2026

An Autumn Concert will be held and plans are advancing. We look forward to being able to gather together for an enjoyable and special evening.

Finally, a parting thought. Billy McCormick reflected on his days leading the Sunday School. *"I continued the link with Tansen which I found useful in showing the children that though young they could also be a part of the mission work which our Father in Heaven calls us to do."* This surely is a challenge to us all, whatever our age, to get involved in spreading the good news about Jesus – wherever and whenever we can.

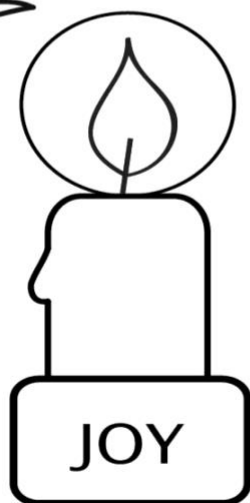
Thank you for your continued prayers and support of Mossley Mission Group and our Mission Partners.

Challenge Time

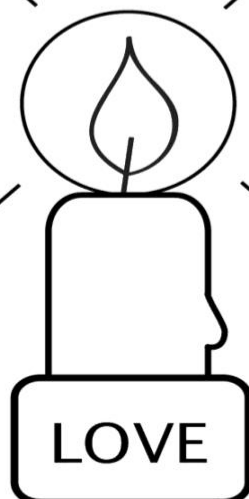


LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Advent Sunday this year falls on 30th November. ADVENT is a time to celebrate the ARRIVAL of Jesus, God's Son, our Saviour. We look forward with HOPE, we give thanks for God's LOVE and the PEACE and JOY we have in Jesus.



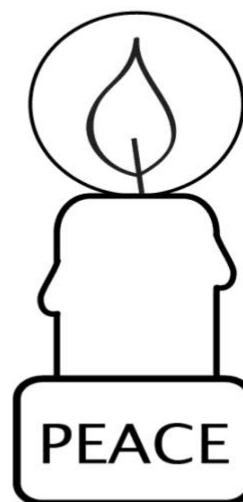
Read:
LUKE 2:10-11
Who is 'God's news of great joy' for?



Read:
John 3:16
How did God show He loves us?



Read:
Isaiah 40:5
What shall be revealed?



Read:
Romans 5:1-2
Through who do we have peace with God?

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

ADVENT • ARRIVAL • HOPE • JOY • LOVE • PEACE • GOD • GLORY
MESSAGE • PROMISE • PROPHECY • FORETOLD • JESUS • SAVIOUR
CHRIST • GIFT • GOOD NEWS • RETURN • CANDLE • LIGHT

