

*Church of the Holy Spirit
Manse Road, Mossley*



The Dove Magazine

January/February 2021 Edition

*Parish website
www.mossley.org*

(Mossley Parish is a registered charity, NIC103262)

From the Rectory Study

On behalf of Kim, Timothy, Hannah, and myself, I would like to wish you a peaceful New Year. It is hard to believe that we are in January once again and it is even more difficult to believe that the COVID-19 pandemic remains the dominant theme of our news headlines. All of us are still directly impacted by this virus. Recent announcements from the Northern Ireland Executive have indicated that we are entering a new season of lockdown. The various regulations are stringent, but they are necessary as we seek to see a notable decrease in the transmission of coronavirus.

The past year has been a tremendous challenge for all of us. I know, from speaking to many of you, that you have greatly missed being able to gather with each other – for worship on Sundays, a cup of tea/coffee afterwards, and as part of the many parochial organisations. The sense of togetherness and community which exists at the very heart of Mossley Parish has been greatly impacted by the covid restrictions and guidelines. We all long for the day when we can meet together, without limitation, and enjoy engaging in the activities that we love and growing together as a community of faith once again.

In the days between Christmas and the New Year, I spent some time reflecting on the journey that we have all been on since March 2020. It really has been a challenge. Yet through it all God has remained close to us. Despite the physical restrictions which are in place, we can still experience the comfort of God's peace and presence. We can spend increased periods of time in prayer, reading His Word, or listening to our music. God cares deeply about us and He is there for us during these difficult and uncertain times. Could we commit ourselves to spending a few more minutes each day praying for the world, all affected by coronavirus, and those involved with the immunisation process?

Once more, I find myself focusing quite profoundly on a verse from the New Testament. Of all the translations of the Bible, I prefer the wording of this verse which is used in the King James Version: "*Draw near to God and He will draw near to you*" (James 4:8). Personally, I find these eleven words to be challenging and comforting. They challenge me to set aside time each day to spend specifically with God. In the first Sunday in January, during the Morning Service, I mentioned that I like to use the Bible In One Year study programme which has been created by Nicky Gumbel (Vicar of Holy Trinity Brompton) and I do commend it to you. These words also comfort me because they remind me that God is there for each of us. Even during this next phase of lockdown, God longs to draw alongside us and He offers each of us His peace.

May we reach out to Him during these coming days and weeks.

Your friend and Rector,

Peter Jones

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

16 th December	John Connolly	34 Bryan's House
30 th December	Sam McBride	7 Christine Park
31 st December	John Magee	117 Glenvarna Drive

PARISH OFFICE

Our Parish Office is currently closed due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. It is advised that all correspondence should be forwarded to the Rector.

ONLINE SERVICES

Although we are meeting for 'in-church worship' on Sunday mornings, we are still uploading Online Services and Bible Studies. 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.

PARISH CENTRE

We have been working hard at implementing the reopening procedures of the Parish Centre. Things were going well, and then new COVID-19 restrictions meant that we needed to halt our endeavours.

When the restrictions are eased, we will continue to explore the prospect of reopening the Parish Centre.

LENT SERVICES

On Page 5 of this magazine, you will find a list of all forthcoming worship services. Please note the inclusion of our Lent services on Wednesday evenings, beginning on Ash Wednesday (17th February).

USEFUL CONTACTS

RECTOR

Rev Peter Jones
The Rectory, 1 Woodford Manor, BT36 6FF.
028 90 832726 peterjones917@hotmail.com

ORDAINED LOCAL MINISTER

Rev Louise Bowes Tel. 07900410069

DIOCESAN READERS

Mr Tom Irwin Tel 028 90 833399

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
mossleyparish@btconnect.com

RECTOR'S CHURCHWARDEN

Winifred Clarke 07749064808

PEOPLE'S CHURCHWARDEN

David Boyd 07484700989

RECTOR'S GLEBEWARDEN

Bob Lee 07739185034

PEOPLE'S GLEBEWARDEN

Alan Bowes

HONORARY SECRETARY

John Nesbitt 07954150067
secretarymossleyparish@virginmedia.com

HONORARY TREASURER

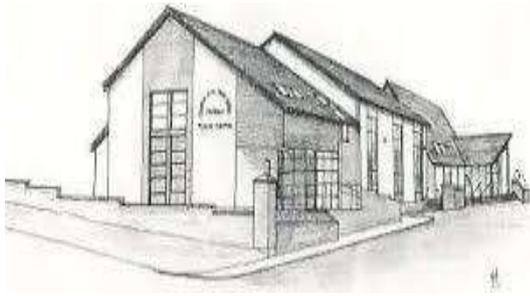
David Flint 028 90 836304

FWO RECORDER

Ken Jackson 028 90 294967

SELECT VESTRY

Tom Buchanan	George Madden
John Caldwell	Vikki Moore
Jacqui Eccles	John Nesbitt
David Flint	Julie Parkinson
Pat Flint	Valerie Porter
Joan Mackey	Ken Jackson



Covid-19 Update

“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.”

(Psalm 45:1)

Dear Friends,

By now most of you will be aware that the Executive has met with church leaders and, in keeping with the current lockdown, in-church worship will be suspended at this current time. We are thankful that we have been able to meet faithfully most Sunday mornings since 19th July and we would also like to express our sincere thanks to everyone who has ensured that this has been possible.

For the time being we will continue to offer online worship each Sunday morning. The services for each week, all of which are outlined on the previous page, will be available on YouTube, Facebook, the Dial-In Facility (02893270073), and our website (www.mossley.org) We will continue to offer Coffee Time Challenges each Monday morning, with the answers being made available on Fridays, and Bible Studies each Tuesday evening. Details regarding our new Bible Study series are available on Page 6. During the season of Lent, we will be releasing short and reflective services each Wednesday evening at 7pm, commencing on Ash Wednesday. A full list of worship services with accompanying Bible readings can be found on the next page of this magazine.

The guidance which we have received indicates that weddings and funerals can proceed but with limited numbers of people in attendance and in adherence to all the current Covid-19 guidelines.

Parish visitation has also been suspended. This is a protective action which seeks to safeguard the health of clergy and parishioners. As an alternative, the Rector, Rev Louise and other members of the parish will be in contact via telephone.

Practical help (e.g. picking up prescriptions or shopping) is available. A team of volunteers, to help with such practicalities, has been assembled. If you could benefit from such practical help, please contact the Rector or Rev Louise.

Once more, let us continue to encourage and support one another through phone calls, text messages and other creative ways. Please stay in touch. Let us also continue to trust in the sovereignty of God at this time.

Every blessing,

Rev Peter Jones

Rev Louise Bowes

Worship Services

10th January First Sunday After The Epiphany 9.30am Holy Communion 11.30 am Holy Communion	OT G	Genesis 1:1-5 Mark 1:4-11
17th January Second Sunday After The Epiphany 9.30am Service of the Word 11.30 am Service of the Word	OT	1 st Samuel 3:1-10
24th January Third Sunday After The Epiphany 9.30am Morning Prayer 11.30 am Morning Prayer	NT	Mark 1:14-20
31st January Fourth Sunday After The Epiphany 9.30am Healing Service 11.30 am Healing Service	NT	Mark 1:21-28
7th February Second Sunday Before Lent 9.30am Morning Prayer 11.30 am Morning Prayer	NT	John 1:1-14
14th February Sunday Before Lent 9.30am Holy Communion 11.30 am Holy Communion	OT G	2 nd Kings 2:1-12 Mark 9:2-9
Wednesday 17th February 7pm Ash Wednesday Service	OT	Isaiah 58: 1-12
21st February First Sunday In Lent 9.30am Service of the Word 11.30 am Service of the Word	OT	Genesis 9:8-17
Wednesday 24th February 7pm Lenten Service	OT	Jonah 3:1-10
28th February Second Sunday In Lent 9.30am Morning Prayer 11.30am Morning Prayer	NT	Romans 4:13-25
Wednesday 3rd March 7pm Lenten Service	OT	Jeremiah 18:18-20
7th March Third Sunday In Lent 9.30am Morning Prayer 11.30am Morning Prayer	NT	John 2:13-22
Wednesday 10th March 7pm Lenten Service	OT	Deuteronomy 4:5-9

Bible Studies

Before Christmas we spent some time studying the Sermon on the Mount. We had time to read, reflect, and seek to apply the lessons that Jesus taught in this most wonderful of teachings.

In recent times we have also studied Genesis, 1st & 2nd Timothy, and Titus. As we enter a new year, we are taking something of a new approach. We will not be looking at a specific book of the Bible, instead we will be undertaking character studies, looking at some of the more famous people in the Bible and seeing what we can learn from them. During the next eleven weeks we will look at different Old Testament characters each week. There will be much to journey through so if you could have a look at the focused passage for each week, before the study, that would be helpful.



12 th January	Adam and Eve	Genesis 2:4 – 3:23
19 th January	Cain and Abel	Genesis 4:1-25
26 th January	Sarah and Hagar	Genesis 16:1-16
2 nd February	Joseph	Genesis 39:1-23
9 th February	Miriam	Exodus 2:1-10
16 th February	Joshua	Joshua 24:14-28
23 rd February	Ruth	Ruth 1:1-22
2 nd March	Samson	Judges 13:1-16:31
9 th March	Esther	Esther 5:1-8
16 th March	Jonah	Jonah 1:1-2:1
23 rd March	Job	Job 1:1-22

Dove Catering

When lockdown restrictions are suitably eased, we can offer catering at funerals at a cost of £5 per person. For more details contact:

Winnie Millar	028 90 840778
Barbara Boyd	028 94 433120
Ann McCutcheon	028 90 800466

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
Clifford Holmes	028 90 848025	Joan Mackey	028 90 775366

Newtownabbey Foodbank

Back in October, when we had our harvest services for this year, we decided to have a retiring collection in aid of the Newtownabbey Foodbank. Thank you for your wonderful support of this collection! Please see, below, a letter which was sent to Mr David Flint (Hon. Treasurer) after our donation was forwarded to the Foodbank.



Newtownabbey foodbank
258 Carnmoney Road,
Newtownabbey,
BT 36 6JZ

T 07581 179 604
E info@newtownabbey.foodbank.org.uk
www.newtownabbey.foodbank.org.uk

Dear David

A special thank you to the Congregation of Mossley Parish Church for the generous donation of £581 from the Harvest Thanksgiving. This is an amazing donation and we are extremely grateful. It also gives our volunteers great encouragement to know that their work is supported.

The foodbank has continued to be busy and in the first 6 months of this year we have fed more people than in the whole of last year. Since we opened in April 5 years ago we have fed 18,000 including 7870 children. As a result of the Pandemic we expect the need to continue throughout the next six months.

Last Christmas we delivered 400 Hampers to those in our community who were struggling to feed their families and we were able to do this through the generosity of people like you. We are currently starting to pack hampers this year so your donation gives us the ability to show God's Love to many more of the vulnerable in our community.

Thank you again for your generosity.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Arnold".

Carolyn Arnold
Secretary

Rev Canon Hugh Hopkins

On Saturday 21st November 2020 we were saddened to learn of the passing of our former Rector, Canon Hugh Hopkins.

Canon Hopkins was Rector of Mossley Parish from 1981-1986 and he is well remembered as a kindly, gentle, and faithful pastor. He was much loved by the parishioners of Mossley and our thoughts and prayers are with his widow Lily and daughter Ruth.

The Rector has been in touch with Mrs Hopkins and she wishes to thank you for your prayerful support. In early December, Mrs Hopkins also sent the following letter to Mr John Nesbitt (Honorary Secretary).



Dear John,

I would ask you to extend to your rector and parishioners of the Church of the Holy Spirit, Mossley, my sincere thanks for your sympathy on the death of my dear husband Hugh. Ruth and I will miss him so much. He was a wonderful husband and devoted father. We had five lovely years in Mossley, which we enjoyed very much. Please remember us in your prayers.

Yours Sincerely,

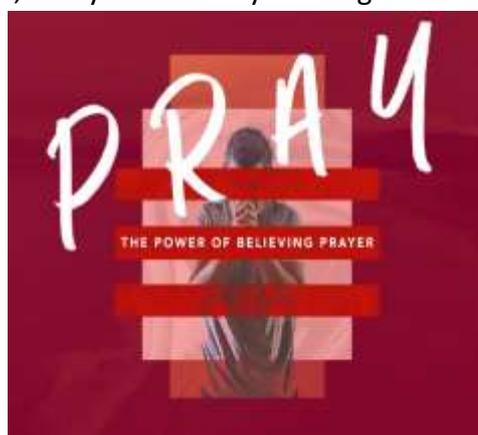
Lily Hopkins

Mossley Prayer Fellowship

Our Prayer Fellowship continues to meet, through Zoom, every Wednesday evening at 7.30 pm. We are incredibly thankful to everyone who has organised and hosted these meetings. As we enter another phase of lockdown, it is important that we continue to be prayerful people and seek to grow ever closer to God.

If you would like to join with us for a time of prayer on Wednesday evenings, please speak to any member of the Prayer Fellowship.

Equally, if you have a person or a situation that you would like prayed about, please contact the Rector, Rev Louise, or any member of the Prayer Fellowship. You can also email your prayer requests to mossleyprayers@hotmail.com



Update from the South American Mission Society

Since the last edition of our magazine, the Rector has continued to stay connected with SAMS Ireland. Two main developments have taken place.



Perú

Bishop Jorge reached out to SAMS Ireland for some help in providing practical support for Peruvian families in the days leading up to Christmas. His proposal was called 'Jesus is Christmas' and it involved providing food hampers for 100 families who were struggling at Christmas. Each hamper would contain basic groceries, rice, sugar, milk, fish, butter, jam, sweetbread, and chocolate. The cost of this project was projected to be £2000.

In early December, we were able to send £2000 from Mossley Parish (money which had been raised for mission work and was held in the Mossley Mission Account) and cover the cost of this wonderful project. It is so encouraging to think that, as a Parish, we have directly helped 100 families this Christmas.

Mexico

In early December the Rector, along with the Mission Director and a further member of the SAMS Ireland Council, took part in a Zoom call with Joel Gonzalez. Joel is married to Mayra and they have a baby boy called Joel Fernandois. Joel is seeking to establish several new Anglican churches in Mexico and was reaching out to SAMS for prayerful and practical support.

It was encouraging to hear how passionate Joel is about this venture. He reminded us that Britain fits eight times into Mexico! His state, Puebla, has a population of six million people. This is, undoubtedly, an exciting project and it is certainly ambitious. Pictured (right) is Dylan, Rebeca, and baby Asher. This family has partnered with Joel and his family as they seek to progress with the vision that God has given them of planting churches in Mexico.



Please pray for Joel, Dylan and their families as they seek to remain faithful to God's leading and strive to progress forward with their shared vision.

A range of other missionary works are ongoing in Paraguay, Brazil and Peru. For further details relating to any of these projects please go to www.samsireland.com/projects

Update from Tansen

Thank you for your ongoing support of Tansen Hospital! We were delighted to be able to forward £2000 (which had been raised for mission support) to Tansen just before Christmas. We were pleased to receive the following letter from Mr Alan Penn, UMN Support Trust.



UMN Support Trust
97 Eastern Avenue, Chippenham
Wiltshire, SN15 3SF, England

Phone: +44 1249 652029

Email: alan.penn@umnsupporttrust.org

Web: www.umnsupporttrust.org
1st December 2020

Mossley Parish Church
Newtownabbey
Northern Ireland
Sent via e-mail to David Flint – Hon. Treasurer

Your £2,000 Donation For the benefit of the work of Tansen Mission Hospital in Nepal

I am writing to you on behalf of Tansen Hospital to thank the Church and its Mission Group for the continuing support of Tansen Hospital with a donation of £2,000.

As you are probably aware United Mission to Nepal had identified that the effects of the COVID pandemic would result in the hospitals having an estimated shortfall in the first year of \$1.4m USD and launched a Save Our Hospitals campaign. To date the Appeal has reached raised more than half of the expected annual shortfall with more promised. Although the giving has slowed it is encouraging that significant amounts are continuing to be received.

Whilst there is good news about the vaccine development, COVID-19 will not be eradicated quickly. Even when it has been, the effects on Nepal and its economy will last a long time and this is especially so for those already suffering from poverty in its many forms.

The work of UMN and its hospitals has become heavier at a time when its usual main financial supporting partners will have many calls on their limited resources. Also, about 80% of the hospital income is from charging for medical treatment, and the earnings of those in the hospital's catchment area will take a long time to recover. This will result in many families having less money for medical treatment and in some cases, less funds for quality or even for sufficient food.

Recently we have learnt of further concerns relating to the hospital at Tansen. The following is an extract from the UMN Executives Director's weekly prayer pointers.

- Currently in Tansen Mission Hospital 10-16 ill patients are being cared for in our isolation ward each day. The hospital is short staffed as some staff are in isolation, having contracted COVID19 and others are off caring for sick relatives.
- Also please pray that expats' visas and work permits will be processed soon. If these are not processed we will be in a position where expat doctors and others cannot work.

Please remember us from time to time in your personal, group or church prayer times, praying for strength and protection for the workers and for adequate on-going financial provision.

Yours sincerely

Alan Penn
Trustee and Director

Children's Challenge

Happy New Year boys and girls! At the beginning of each New Year, I start to read the Bible from the very beginning. One of very first stories is about how God made the world. If you have a Bible, take a few minutes to read Genesis 1:1-31. Then, starting with Day 1, find the correct path through the maze to the things that God created on each of the days. Perhaps you should use a different colour for each day! Can you get all six days correct?

