

*Church of the Holy Spirit
Manse Road, Mossley*



The Dove Magazine

March / April 2025 Edition

*Parish website
www.mossley.org*

(Mossley Parish is a registered charity, NIC103262)

From the Rectory Study

Just a few weeks ago, Storm Eowyn brought winds of more than 90mph when it reached Northern Ireland on 24th January. Red weather warnings were issued, schools were told to close and widespread disruption was expected. As the storm arrived it was apparent that significant damage would occur. In total, 285,000 homes and businesses were left without electricity, broadband services were affected and it was reported that 2300 obstructions were removed from our roads and motorways. This led to Storm Eowyn being referred to as the Storm of the Decade!

As I reflect back on the storms and wintry conditions that we have experienced in recent weeks and months, I am relieved that spring is coming. Just a few days ago I was travelling along the Doagh road and I noticed the colours emerging in the flower beds at the playing fields. The evenings are also beginning to lengthen and the weather is showing subtle signs of improvement. At the end of March, British Summer Time begins as the clocks spring forward.



I really like this time of year and there is so much to look forward to. Within the life of our Parish this is another particularly busy season. Our journey through Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (5th March) and we will be having a special service at 7pm in the church building. We will have our Lenten services each Wednesday evening, up to and including Wednesday 9th April. Then, as we enter Holy Week, we will be gathering each night for a

special series of services. Further details can be found on page five of this magazine. The next few weeks provide each of us with an opportunity to draw close to God and experience the wonder of His love and peace. We are challenged to reflect on our own journeys of faith and we are reminded of how much He cares for us.

Just before the beginning of Lent in 2021 Pope Francis called on Christians to "...renew our faith, draw from the living waters of hope, and receive with open hearts the love of God." As we journey towards Easter, it is my prayer that each of us would respond to this challenge and that we would seek God with all our hearts. This will require us to pray and read our Bible each day, to embrace stillness and wait patiently upon the Lord. As we do this, we hold tight to a wonderful promise that we find recorded in Isaiah 40:31, "...they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." (KJV)

As we journey through Lent and towards Easter, may we know and experience the fullness of the peace and presence of God.

Your friend and Rector,

Peter Jones

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

28 th January	Jackie Fulton	189 Victoria Road, Carrickfergus
26 th February	Rev Wallace Fenton	2 Beech Green Doagh

HOLY BAPTISM

5 th January	Stacey Bell	33 Ballyfore Road
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LENT SERVICES

Our Wednesday evening Lenten services begin on 5th March 2024 at 7pm and continue each week up to and including Wednesday 9th April.

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

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ORGANIST

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PEOPLE'S GLEBEWARDEN

Stephen Beck

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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 March Sunday Before Lent 11am Morning Prayer	OT	Exodus 34:29-35	Adam Parkinson
6pm Evening Prayer	OT	Genesis 4:1-16	Jacqui Eccles
Sunday 9th March First Sunday In Lent 11am Holy Communion	OT G	Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Luke 4:1-13	Harry Brolly Preacher
6pm Late Evening Office	NT	Luke 18:9-14	Winifred Clarke
Sunday 16th March Second Sunday In Lent 11am All-Age Service	NT	Luke 13:31-35	Club J / Ignite
6pm Holy Communion (<i>St. Patrick's Day</i>)	OT G	Deuteronomy 32:1-9 John 4:31-38	Caroline Rogan Preacher
Sunday 23rd March Third Sunday In Lent 11am Morning Prayer	NT	Luke 13:1-9	John McQuillan
6pm Healing Service	OT	Genesis 28:10-19	Bob Lee
Sunday 30th March Fourth Sunday In Lent (<i>Mothering Sunday</i>) 11am Healing Service	OT	Exodus 2:1-10	Winnie Millar
6pm Compline	NT	2 nd Timothy 4:1-8	Jacqui Eccles
Sunday 6th April Fifth Sunday In Lent 11am Morning Prayer	OT	Isaiah 43:16-21	Bob Lee
6pm Evening Prayer	NT	John 12:1-8	Winifred Clarke
Sunday 13th April Sixth Sunday In Lent (<i>Palm Sunday</i>) 11am All-Age Service	NT	Luke 19:28-40	Club J / Ignite
6pm Holy Communion	OT G	Isaiah 5:1-7 Luke 20:9-19	Caroline Rogan Preacher
Sunday 20th April Easter Sunday 11am Holy Communion	OT G	Isaiah 65:17-25 Luke 24:1-12	Albert Patterson Preacher
NO EVENING SERVICE			
Sunday 27th April Second Sunday Of Easter 11am Morning Prayer	NT	John 20:19-31	Eugene Marron
6pm Service of the Word	NT	1 st Corinthians 15:1-11	Bob Lee

Holy Week 2025

This year, the title of our Holy Week journey will be '**Going Deeper For Holy Week.**' We will be looking at the well-known Holy Week story as we seek to reflect on the depth and magnitude of what God has done for us.

Each weekday evening at 7.30pm we will meet for a worship service. On Easter Sunday morning there is also the opportunity to join with neighbouring congregations for our Easter Dawn service in Bellevue Zoo Carpark. The various themes and service types for Holy Week 2025 are as follows.

Monday 14th April

Café Church in the Parish Centre

THEME: *Comfort In The Chaos (John 14:1-14)*

Tuesday 15th April

Service of the Word

THEME: *Barabbas And Me (Luke 23:13-25)*

Wednesday 16th April

Evening Prayer

THEME: *The Insult Of Betrayal (John 12:1-11)*

Maundy Thursday (17th April)

Holy Communion

THEME: *His Hour Had Come (Mark 14:32-42)*

Good Friday (18th April)

At the Foot of the Cross: a service of readings and reflections

THEME: *Why Do We Call The Worst Day 'Good?' (Mark 15:21-32)*

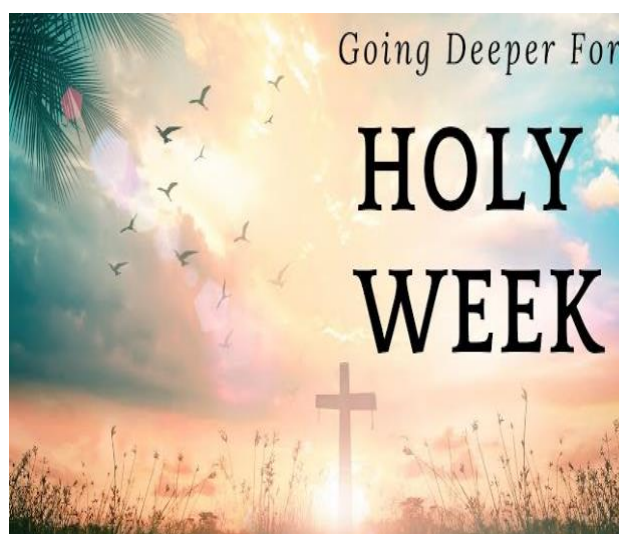
Easter Sunday (20th April)

Easter Sunrise Service (Bellevue Zoo Carpark)

Holy Communion (9am)

Holy Communion (11am)

THEME: *The Triumph Of Joy (Luke 24:1-12)*



Please note that there will be no evening service on Easter Sunday

An Easter Prayer

Almighty, all-powerful Father God, you brought light and hope out of darkness and despair. You brought life out of death when you raised Jesus that first Easter Day. Thank you that the tomb is forever empty and that Jesus is forever alive! No matter what is going on, no matter how little we understand, help us to hold on to the Easter truth – Jesus is risen! He is alive today and in him we can put our trust, completely and confidently. Because of Jesus, death is defeated. Because of Jesus, the best is yet to be. Love wins! Hallelujah! We praise you, Lord, in Jesus' name, Amen.

Women's Guild

I hope everyone is looking forward to the brighter evenings and that they will encourage more people to come out over the next few months of meetings:

- 12th March Fire Safety Talk, *NIFRS*
- 16th March Fundraiser: Soup and Cheese Lunch
(All funds will go to the Women's Guild and Parish funds)
- 9th April Cathy Wolf, Community Chat – Glengormley History
- 14th May Adventures of Rosie Diffin
- 14th June (Saturday) Guild Outing *(Details to follow)*

Due to the cold weather in January, we made the difficult decision to cancel the meeting - but fear not! I have managed to secure David Hume, Hands on History, for our October 2025 meeting. We will look forward to hearing from David.



Our February meeting was a busy one as we had the Lord Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey, Neil Kelly, telling us about his most interesting journey to becoming the Mayor. Our annual Bring & Buy sale took place after the Mayor left. As usual, the ladies were extremely generous and we raised £70 on the night - which we will hold until the end of the year and make one donation to our charity, which is still to be decided.

We will be looking forward to our March meeting when a few members of the local fire station will be coming along to give us a talk on fire safety. If anyone would mind volunteering for the tea/coffee during our March meeting, please let me know ASAP.

We also have a few items remaining for our soup and cheese lunch. Please get in touch with me to see what is left on the list.

Many thanks as always and God Bless,

Leeanne

Parish Magazine (May / June 2025)

We plan to have the next edition of the Parish Magazine ready for release on Sunday 4th May. Could all articles and notices please be with the Rector before Monday 28th April? It would be great to have a wide variety of articles and photos from all parish organisations.

Watoto Concert



Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda will be returning to Mossley on Tuesday 18th March. We are really looking forward to their concert which is entitled 'Better Days.' The concert will be held in Mossley Primary School and it begins at 7.30pm. This will be a wonderful evening of music, dance and personal story.

The Watoto Children's Choir travel internationally to help raise an understanding of the plight of Africa's orphans. Since 1994 various Watoto Choirs have toured all over the world and performed to audiences in schools, retirement homes, churches, parliaments, state houses and royal palaces.

There are no tickets or admission fees for this event but an offering will be taken on the night. All donations will go directly to the Children's Choir.

This will certainly be an inspirational evening and everyone is very welcome!

Online Services

We continue to offer an online service each Sunday morning. It is available on YouTube from 11am and it is then released on Facebook, our website and the dial-in facility at 12.30pm.

Since the last edition of this magazine our videos have been watched almost 900 times and this equates to approximately 129 hours of watch time. We also have a number of parishioners who avail of the dial-in facility and they faithfully listen to the Sunday Service and Bible Study each week.

Thank you to everyone who makes this possible and it really is a blessing to the many people who join with us faithfully each week through the wonders of technology. 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.



Bible Week 2025



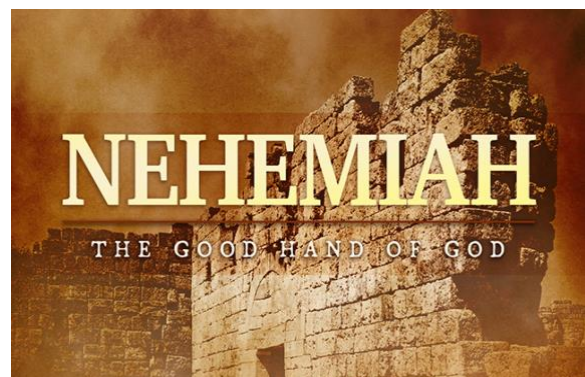
From Sunday 19th January until Thursday 23rd January we met in Mossley Primary School at 7.30pm each evening. This year our main speaker was Bishop Andrew Forster and he shared a series of talks with us, all relating to our theme of *'Faithful Steadfastness Through Trying Times.'* Using the Book of Jonah as his text, Bishop Andrew spoke with enthusiasm and insight. For anyone who was unable to attend the Bible Week or missed some of the talks, these are now available online. Please go to www.newtownabbeybibleweek.org

It was such a blessing to see large numbers of people, from various denominations, gather together with the intention of worshipping God and reflecting on His Word. This year we also heard from local youth and school leaders as they shared with us about their faith. Our thanks are also due to the various praise groups who led us in our worship of God each night.

There was a great sense of togetherness and we were richly blessed by all that took place during Bible Week 2025. It has also been encouraging to see the Newtownabbey Churches Fellowship continue to grow and plans are already well underway for Bible Week 2026. God willing, we will meet in Mossley Primary School from Sunday 18th January until Thursday 22nd January 2026. Our speaker is yet to be confirmed.

Bible Study

After the Christmas break, we got straight back into our studies of Nehemiah and there has been much for us to engage with. We have been looking at the greatness, goodness and grace of God, as well as what it means to apply God's Word to our daily lives. Each week we also have two reflective questions to consider and these stimulate discussion and encourage us to draw close to God.



The in-person Bible Study, at 7.30pm each Tuesday evening, incorporates short video clips. We would love to see even more parishioners come along to the Carntall Room for our gathered meetings. It really is a great blessing to be able to sit together around God's Word and discuss it with each other. Please do consider coming along.

Our Bible Studies will continue during March and early April but will pause for Holy Week and Easter Week. When we reconvene, after Easter (which is later this year), we will have two final studies and then our end of year service of Holy Communion on Tuesday 13th May.

Prayer Fellowship

What exactly does the term 'Prayer Fellowship' mean? Sometimes it's helpful to consider what is meant by a particular term or title. As we seek to find the definition of a term or title, some of us turn to a hard copy of the dictionary while others prefer an online search.

Prayer is defined by the Oxford English dictionary as, "a solemn request for help or expression of thanks addressed to God." The online Encyclopaedia Britannica defines prayer as, "an act of communication by humans with the sacred or holy." The term 'Fellowship' conveys the meaning of a, "friendly association, especially with people who share one's interests."

The most important source of definition is the Bible. So, what does God's Word say about such a gathering as a Prayer Fellowship? We read in Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them" (NLT). This is a promise from God that we can claim and rely on. Acts 12 gives us a great example of a Prayer Fellowship. The chapter begins with the gruesome news of the disciple James's death by the sword. We then learn of Peter's arrest and imprisonment. These were challenging times, yet (v5) tells us that "...the church was earnestly praying to God for him."

People were praying for Peter with urgency, particularly after what had happened to James. The passage reveals that these prayers helped Peter have a deep sleep as we read that he was not fretting in prison as he awaited trial. Indeed, when the angel came to rescue Peter from prison he had to be wakened from his sleep! Interestingly, Peter then made his way to the house where the Prayer Fellowship was taking place. The servant girl, Rhoda, was so overjoyed when she realised it was Peter knocking that she forgot to open the door! Imagine being part of that gathering all those years ago. That certainly would have been some experience to share.

God still hears and answers all our prayers according to His good and perfect will for us. The chorus reminds us:

Sometimes God answers yes when I pray...
Sometimes God answers no when I pray...
Sometimes God answers wait when I pray...
But I know God always answers
Just because He loves me so.



At Mossley Parish you are most welcome to come to the Prayer Fellowship. Over the years comfort has been brought to so many individuals who are aware that God's people are praying for them. You can pray silently in your own heart and there is no pressure to pray out loud. Hearing others pray is an encouragement and sitting silently in the presence of God is also very special. It is aptly named a Prayer Fellowship rather than a Prayer Meeting.

The Prayer Fellowship is held every Wednesday from 7.30pm in the Pentecost Room and lasts for about an hour or so. You don't have to come every week or even stay for the full hour. Please do consider coming along.

Guild of Lesson Readers



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

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

Bowling Club

The Bowling Club has continued to meet during January and February. We had to rearrange a series of matches that had been scheduled in the Glengormley & District Churches League (G&DCL) and we also had a cancelled club night due to the bad weather. During these opening months of 2025 we have played club competitions and worked through all the league matches. Mossley won some of these games and those that we lost were primarily due to us not being familiar with the mats of our opponents (at least that's our excuse).

On Wednesday 19th February we finished the men's Jubilee Shield competition and this had been played over two nights. After a very close match that went to the last bowls of the final end (verified by our own in-house VAR system), the winner was Derek Randall.

As March is nearly with us, the Bowling Club has only four more nights left and one internal competition to play. Then the season is over for this year.

During the past few months some club members have experienced health problems and we send them every good wish during their recuperation. We hope that they will be back bowling with us again very soon.

On behalf of the Bowling Club, I would like to thank all who helped out in the kitchen making the tea / coffee and washing up afterwards. Sincere thanks also to everyone who helped putting the equipment out for our games and assisted in clearing the hall afterwards. A club cannot function without those silent helpers.

Following a short break in April, the Bowling Club will then look forward to the start of the Fun Bowls in May, continuing throughout the summer months.

(G. Curry)



Bric-A-Brac



Our Saturday morning bric-a-brac sale continues to meet faithfully each week. The Bake Sale on the first Saturday of each month is proving to be really popular! There is always a great selection of bread, scones, cakes,

pastries etc. The next Bake Sale will be held on 5th April. We would love to see you there and all proceeds will go to Church funds.

The sales have been going well and we are thankful to the bric-a-brac team who give so willingly of their time. There have been some very generous donations of bric-a-brac in recent weeks and many of these items have sold quickly! If you would like to grab yourself a bargain and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee (or even a sausage roll), pop over to the Parish Centre any Saturday morning from 8.30am onwards.

Anyone who has any donations of bric-a-brac should contact Alec Orr (02890836286).

We would also like to make an appeal for volunteers who could offer some of their time in helping to set the bric-a-brac out on a Friday afternoon / Saturday morning. If you can help, even on a rota basis, please speak to the Rector or Alec Orr.

Easter General Vestry

It's hard to believe that Easter is fast approaching! This year, our Easter General Vestry will be held on Wednesday 30th April at 7.30pm. This is one of the most important business meetings in the life of our Parish and is, in many ways, very similar to an Annual General Meeting. It is the occasion when we reflect on the past twelve months and are presented with our annual accounts.

GENERAL

EASTER VESTRY

MEETING



A new Select Vestry will be elected at this meeting, as will a People's Churchwarden and People's Glebwarden. The Rector will also appoint a Rector's Churchwarden and a Rector's Glebwarden.

Any member of the Parish can attend the Easter General Vestry and can speak at the meeting, but only those who have signed the Register of Vestry Persons can vote or hold office.

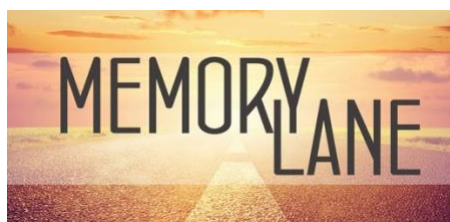
Please make a note of the date of this very important meeting. Tea / Coffee and refreshments will be served following conclusion of our business. It would be great to see you there!

Badminton Club

The Badminton Club meets on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. It is great to see everyone having fun and playing badminton. If you would like to try your hand at badminton, and engage in a little friendly competition, please do come along. You will be made most welcome!



Memory Lane



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

In December we had our Carol Service and it was an absolute joy to be able to hear the readings and join in the wonderful carols together. Thank you so much to everyone who came along.

We look forward to another year together and we would ask for your help in spreading the word about Memory Lane. Everyone who comes along will be made very welcome.

God bless, Rev Louise.

World Day Of Prayer – Friday 7th March 2025

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation led by women that encourages us all to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world. The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world - through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.



The theme of this years' service, prepared by the Christian women of The Cook Islands, is '*I made you wonderful.*' Christianity reached this tiny island nation two hundred years ago and the people today see themselves as guardians and caretakers of God's marvellous work on their island of the sea.

This year, our local World Day of Prayer Service will be held on Friday 7th March in St. Brigid's Church, 48 Ballyclare Rd, Glengormley, at 11am. The service is open to everyone, so please do come along as we share the stories of three different generations of women from The Cook Islands and become part of the wave of prayer throughout the world.

Community Lunch

The Community Lunch Group continues to meet on the second and fourth Wednesday in the month. We have been greatly encouraged by the increase in numbers attending and at times have had almost thirty people.

Again, I ask if anyone would like to help by making a pot of soup (once a year) it would be very much appreciated.

We look forward to seeing everyone again soon. For further information please contact:

Kay Thompson (07969835916)

Hilary Gillies (07840243427)



Tea Brew



It is encouraging to see the Parish Centre busy each Sunday morning after our 11am service. Meeting together for a cup of tea/coffee and a chat is really important as we seek to grow together as a community of faith.

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!

March 2nd, 9th, 23rd, 30th

April 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

Kay Thompson, Hilary Gillies & Deborah Blair

Ann McCutcheon & Hilary McCoy

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.

2 nd March	Joan Mackey
16 th March	Lillian & Wesley Smyth
30 th March	Cynthia Markwell
13 th April	Palm Sunday
20 th April	Easter Sunday (Pat Flint)
4 th May	Karen Henry



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

Following our Christmas break, Youth Club resumed on Saturday 11th January at 7pm. The tuck shop was well stocked, there were plenty of arts & crafts, and lots of board games. The football and badminton prove to be ever popular.



We are thankful to the Education Authority who have awarded the Youth Club an operational grant. This has enabled us to buy some new equipment. The Bluetooth speaker has led to the development of music playlists and our new pool table is being greatly enjoyed. As ever, the Wii and Xbox are always in demand and we have purchased some new games.

It is great to see so many children in the Parish Centre on a Saturday evening and we are thankful to the leaders who give of their time so willingly. We have now established a rota for the leaders and this seems to be working well. If anyone would like to help out, even once a month, please speak to the Rector.

At present, Youth Club is fully booked. If any places become available, we will make an announcement on the Parish Facebook page and in the weekly Parish Bulletin.

Dove Tots



After a well-deserved Christmas break, Dove Tots returned in January and was as busy as ever! It's been just wonderful to see the children with their parents / carers on a Friday morning in the Parish Centre. We had a great time with Jo Jingles at the beginning of February.

We have enjoyed the fun and the tasty treats each Friday. Thank you to everyone who comes along! We look forward to all the exciting things that we have planned for the next few months, especially as we get closer to Easter!

Girls' Brigade

We have been having lots of fun at GB. We have been very busy learning about Chinese New Year and Burn's Night. We also celebrated Valentine's Day by creating beautiful heart shaped crafts for our loved ones while chatting about the love that God has for us. Our younger girls have also been getting to grips with cosmic yoga which they loved and was a great way for them to have fun while exercising.

Soon we will be preparing for Parent's Night. It seems to come around quicker every year! The girls will be working very hard towards this and they love to show off for their friends and family.

Please remember Danielle and Emma in your prayers as they prepare for the final interviews for their Queen's Award. They have been working very hard for the last two years - studying for exams, completing projects and volunteering. The interviews are the final piece of the puzzle.



Summer Fair



We are looking forward to our Summer Fair in Mossley Parish. This year's Fair will be held on Saturday 17th May from 10am until 1pm.

We plan to have gift stalls, craft stalls, baked goods, sweets & treats, a tearoom, games and so much more. Any help from parishioners and parish organisations would be gratefully received. We would love to be able to fill the Parish Centre again, as we did as Christmas, and it's such a blessing to see everyone have a great time.

Please speak to the Rector, Rev Louise, or Mrs Kim Jones for further details.

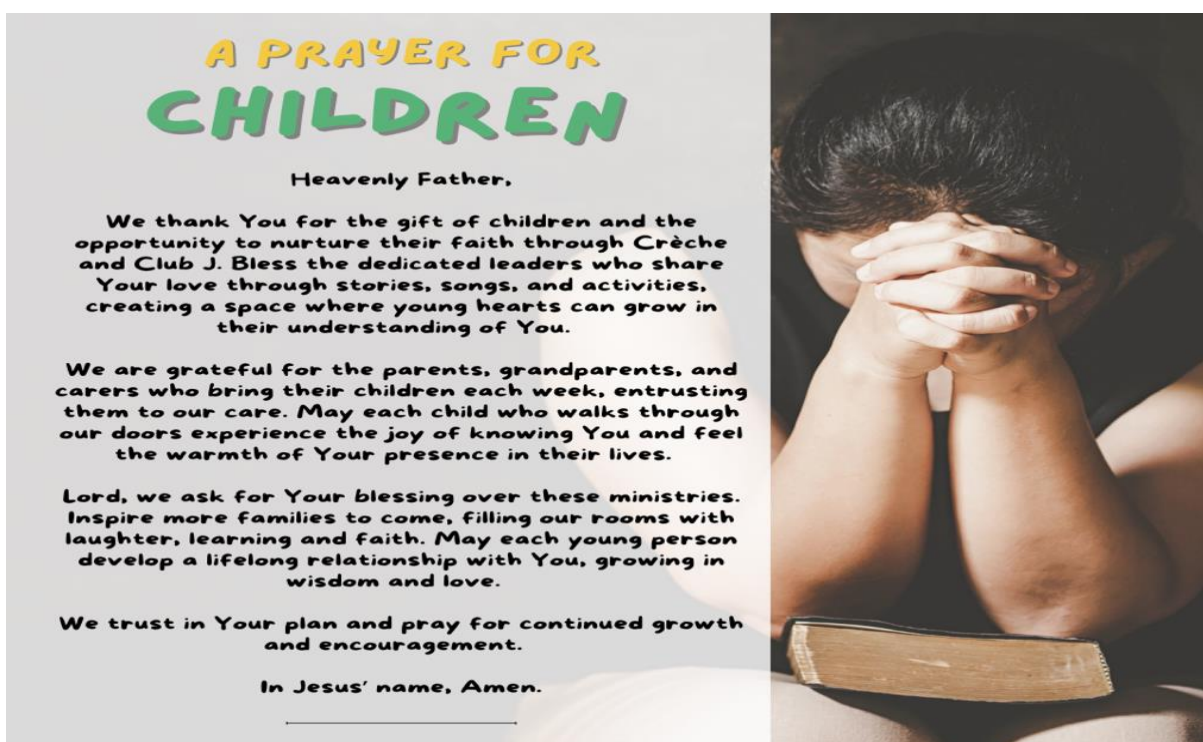
Easter Home Communion

The Rector and Rev Louise will be undertaking pastoral visits for Easter. If you would like, or know of someone else who would like, to receive Holy Communion, please inform the Rector.

Club J, Creche & Ignite Youth

Since we restarted following the Christmas break, the children at Club J have been sharing their favourite Bible characters, reflecting on their stories and personal meanings. It has been truly amazing to hear them speak with such depth, expressing why these characters resonate with them. Their knowledge and insights have been inspiring, and they even created meaningful thinking frames in the form of a craft to help guide their discussions.

Building on this, I shared my own favourite Bible character (Samuel) with them, highlighting his faith, obedience and how God calls and equips people (even a young child like Samuel) for His purpose. I also shared how I made a commitment to follow Jesus when I was nine years old and how that decision has shaped my life. God continues to develop and equip each of us when we have a meaningful relationship with Him - talking and listening to Him, just as Samuel did.



A PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the gift of children and the opportunity to nurture their faith through Crèche and Club J. Bless the dedicated leaders who share Your love through stories, songs, and activities, creating a space where young hearts can grow in their understanding of You.

We are grateful for the parents, grandparents, and carers who bring their children each week, entrusting them to our care. May each child who walks through our doors experience the joy of knowing You and feel the warmth of Your presence in their lives.

Lord, we ask for Your blessing over these ministries. Inspire more families to come, filling our rooms with laughter, learning and faith. May each young person develop a lifelong relationship with You, growing in wisdom and love.

We trust in Your plan and pray for continued growth and encouragement.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

The image on the right shows a close-up of a child's hands clasped in prayer, with their head bowed. The child is holding a book, likely a Bible, which is partially visible at the bottom of the frame.

As we move into Spring, the children will be exploring the journey to the Cross and the incredible hope that there is to be found in the Easter story. With plenty of fun planned, we encourage you to bring your children along to be part of our weekly program.

Please remember to keep all the children in your prayers. Every Blessing, Kim.

Safeguarding Trust

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

Rev Peter Jones	028 90 832726	Carolyn Caldwell	028 90 844040
John Nesbitt	07954150067	Joan Mackey	028 90 775366

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Mt 21:1-11, Mk 11:1-11, Lk 19:28-38, Jn 12:12-19

Thousands of people went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover feast each year. This year Jesus and his friends went too.

Two miles outside Jerusalem Jesus said to two of his friends



Go into that village and bring back the donkey you find there.

If anyone asks, say 'The Lord needs it.'



So off they went...

and they found it as Jesus had said



Why are you taking our donkey?

The Lord needs it.



That's alright then

They brought it back to Jesus, and made a saddle from a cloak.



They spread more cloaks on the road to make it a way fit for a king.



Others cut palm branches and waved them.

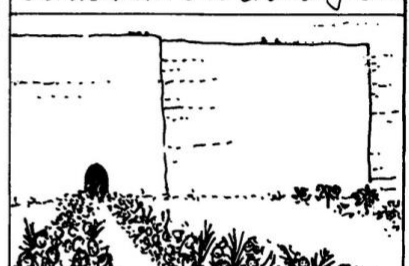


They shouted the traditional welcome to the Passover feast

God bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord!



As they got closer to Jerusalem the crowd grew.



Everyone shouted to welcome Jesus as king



The teachers of the laws were angry



Teacher, you should stop them calling you 'king'.

But Jesus replied



What they say is so true that even if I made them stop, the stones would shout!

Antrim & Newtownabbey Street Pastors



In December, due to illness and non-availability, we were reduced to only having two patrols out. January and February are already looking better as far as numbers are concerned.

We are always on the lookout for new recruits and when we invite people to join with us, we often get the reply, "I'm too old." In response, I often reply by saying "You're not old!" We may not always be able to do the things that we were once able to do but we are thankful for being able to do what we can.

On a recent Saturday evening I was out with a team. During the course of the evening, we called into one of the coffee shops with the intention of speaking to some of the staff. We were aware that they had been receiving abuse from some of the young people. The staff were busy so we decided to have a hot drink and wait for things to quieten down. Whilst there, we noticed a few younger people who were in the premises and they were behaving poorly. The manager of the shop went over to speak with them and he eventually asked them to leave as they weren't buying anything and were interfering with other customers. They refused to go and he warned them again about their behaviour. We decided to see if we could help by engaging in conversation with them and see if we could deescalate the situation. They didn't really like our intervention and we became the focus of their abuse. Before long the Police arrived but the young people made off as soon as they saw the Police car turning into the carpark. The staff came over and thanked us for trying to help them. Eventually two of the young people came back and apologised for the behaviour of their friends.

Annual Antrim & Newtownabbey STREET PASTORS Service

Save the Date:
7pm on Sunday 13 April 2025
GLENGORMLEY METHODIST CHURCH
Speaker: Rev Michael Spence
Light Refreshments served!
ALL WELCOME

CARE, LISTEN & HELP

It is very satisfying to be able to help other people. It was also encouraging to have those young people return to us and apologise, even if most of us didn't deem it necessary. All of us, regardless of age, can help to be a positive influence on others. If you read this and want to know more about this little story, then please speak with me. I might respond by inviting you to get involved in some way with Street Pastors.

We are holding our annual Church service in Glengormley Methodist Church on Sunday 13th April at 7pm. You are all very welcome. Thank you for taking the time to read this and continuing to support me in the way that you do.

God Bless,

Bob.

Mossley Mission Group

On Friday 31st January the Rector took part in the SAMS Ireland event, Friday Night Live. This was an evening of reports and updates from South America and some photos from the evening are available on the SAMS Ireland Facebook page. Written reports will also be available in the next copy of the SAMS Ireland *Buena Vista* magazine.

During the next few weeks, the process of recruiting a new Mission Director for SAMS Ireland will gather speed. Please do pray for all involved and that the person of God's choosing will be appointed.

The most recent update from Tansen Hospital is included below.

Good news! The United Mission Hospital Tansen (UMHT) was honoured for our efforts during COVID-19 by the Family Planning Association Nepal on World Humanitarian Day, August 19th. This recognition has brought a great boost to the spirits of our entire hospital team.



We are also pleased to announce that Ear, Nose and Throat services have finally started at UMHT with regular procedures now taking place. This service is proving to be invaluable for the well-being of many patients. Additionally, we've welcomed back one of our doctors who recently completed a spine surgery fellowship. This has opened the door to starting more spine procedures. In our lab, we've upgraded our immunology services with the installation of a Chemiluminescence Immunoassay machine, providing faster and more accurate blood test results.

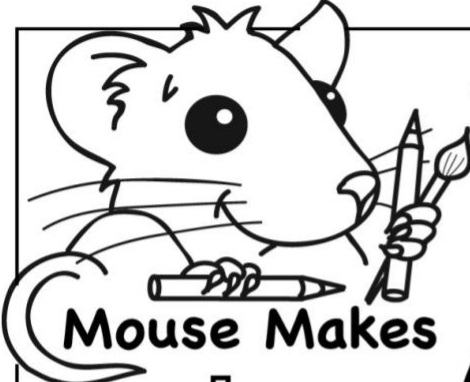
Two key infrastructure projects are also progressing well: the wastewater system for the Bhusaldada community supported by a Rotary International grant, and the expansion of our maternity services. Both projects are nearing completion, with the wastewater system set to begin operations soon.

However, due to ongoing financial challenges, we have made the difficult decision to discontinue the National Health Insurance Scheme to maintain financial stability. While this has reduced some losses, it has also resulted in a decrease in patient numbers. Nevertheless, our dedicated staff remain optimistic, using this opportunity to provide even more focused care for our current patients.

Please do continue to pray for the ongoing work in Tansen Hospital and South America. Thank you so much for your continued support of our mission partners.


Further details relating to our quiz night will be released in the Parish Bulletin very soon.

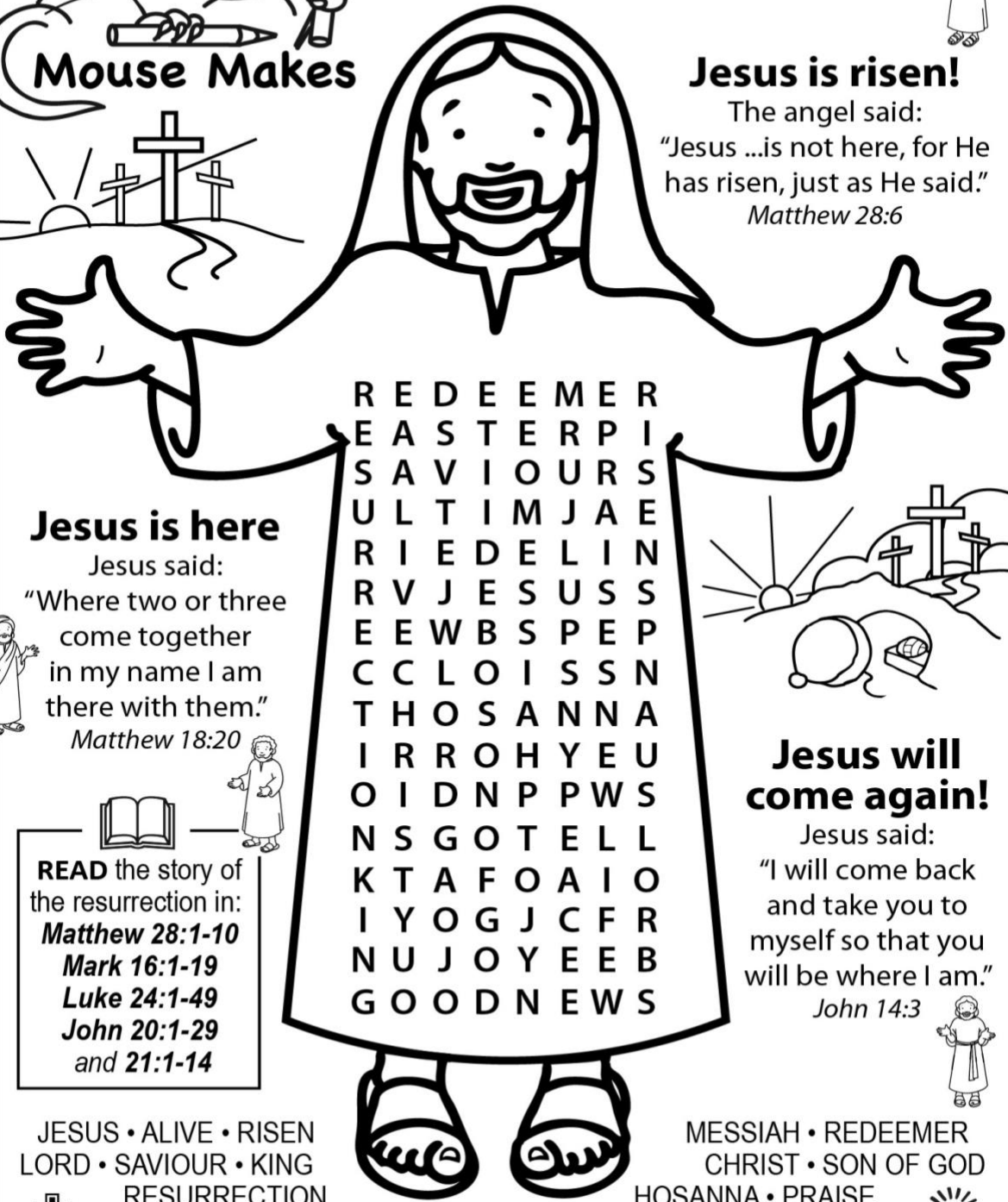
Challenge Time




Mouse Makes

On the cross Jesus opened wide his arms for us.
 Jesus put an end to death by dying for us,
 and showed us the resurrection to
 come by His raising to new life!






Jesus is here
 Jesus said:
 "Where two or three
 come together
 in my name I am
 there with them."
Matthew 18:20




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

Jesus is risen!
 The angel said:
 "Jesus ...is not here, for He
 has risen, just as He said."
Matthew 28:6



Jesus will come again!
 Jesus said:
 "I will come back
 and take you to
 myself so that you
 will be where I am."
John 14:3



READ the story of
 the resurrection in:
Matthew 28:1-10
Mark 16:1-19
Luke 24:1-49
John 20:1-29
 and *21:1-14*

JESUS • ALIVE • RISEN
 LORD • SAVIOUR • KING
 RESURRECTION
 PEACE • NEW LIFE • JOY • GOOD NEWS

MESSIAH • REDEEMER
 CHRIST • SON OF GOD
 HOSANNA • PRAISE
 GO TELL • EASTER