



Leadership Team

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MAY 2023

A Bible in their hands A Saviour in their hearts A Purpose in their lives

Table of Contents

Letter to Parishioners	3
Family Fun Night	6
Safe Guarding Trust Training	7
Alan's Bible Study & Prayer Time	7
Storehouse	7
LIGHT (Sunday School)	8
C.M.S Ireland Used Postage Stamps	8
Trinity Tots - Toddlers Group	9
Young At Heart	9
Fellowship Café at Holy Trinity	9
Prayer Team	11
Carrickfergus Food Bank (JVC Church)	11
Tea & Coffee Rota	12
Carrickfergus Baby Bank	12
Welcome Team Rota	13
Holy Trinity Chair Rota - May 2023	14
Creche Rota -May 2023	15
Select Vestry	15
Uplift	16
Sunday Services	20

Letter to Parishioners

Reading: 1 Corinthians 10 verse 12



Dear parishioners,

I do not know about you but I always find May a strange month. We have bank holidays at the beginning and the end, which I think most people enjoy, even if the weather is poor. This year we have an extra bank holiday for the

King's Coronation. To mark this Holy Trinity are having a family fun night on Friday 5th May, 7.00pm-8.30pm - where there will be games and food. This is an opportunity to introduce people to Holy Trinity - so please avail of this opportunity.

One of the things I do enjoy about May though is the evenings getting longer and the fact you can, weather permitting, sit outside and read a book, whilst listening to music. I am not a great novel reader, with my usual exceptions of Tolkien, C S Lewis, Father Brown stories and P G Wodehouse novels. When I read such books I find myself sometimes ignoring the bad characteristics of people, sort of glossing over them. I think we even do the same in real life. How often have you heard someone say: "Ah, but they have a good heart?" Jeremiah would not agree with them. In Jeremiah 19 verse 9 he writes "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" That is quite a sobering thought. Especially when we set it alongside 1 Samuel 16 verse 7 where God tells Samuel that man looks on the outside but god looks on the heart of man. There is quite a challenge and warning in those two verses.

One of the things that I find when I read the Bible that it never seeks to hide or cover up the failings and sins of those we would call the heroes of the faith, those mentioned in Hebrews 11.

Often we read that in the aftermath of some great victory, usually over against great evil, the man of God fell spectacularly. Let me give you a few examples.

Noah - obediently builds an ark despite no rain falling for 120 years. Yet immediately after the flood we read a very sad and depressing story of Noah's fall in to drunkenness and all the sin that followed it (Genesis 9: 20-27). A few chapters later we meet Abraham, the father of Israel. He shows great faith and in obedience follows God's directions to leave UR and go to the land that God will show him. Yet when he arrives in Egypt he lies that Sarah is his sister and not his wife and brings shame and disgrace on his family. Then take David, the man described as a man after God's own heart. He wins an amazing battle against Goliath, giant not just physically, but we then read when he becomes king of how he sins greatly by committing adultery and murder and the result is chaos ensues (@ Samuel 11 following). If we go to the New Testament we meet Peter. Peter who can reach the heights of confessing that Christ is the Messiah, the only son of God, Saviour of the world. Only to follow it telling Christ not to go the way of the Cross. Then he swears that he is ready to die for Christ only to deny Christ three times on the eve of the crucifixion.

Heroes of the faith but as A W Pink, a theologian, wrote:

God suffers it to appear that the bed of men are but men at the best. No matter how richly gifted them may be, how eminent in God's service, how greatly honoured and used of Him, let His sustaining power be withdrawn from them for a moment and it quickly be seen that they are 'earthen vessels.' No man stands longer than he is supported by Divine grace. the most experienced saint, if left to himself, is immediately seen to be as weak as water and as timid as a mouse," (The Life of Elijah., Banner of Truth., 1963., p.201).

Thankfully God did not abandon any of these men, nor us, in their failings and sin. God is the God of the second chance. God graciously forgave these men, and us, when they repented and they went on to do great things

for God. The lesson I learn from each of these stories, and other similar stories in the Bible, is that I cannot stand on my own strength, not even for a second. When I forget or ignore that then I fall in to sin and shame. I need each morning to ask God to sustain me for that day, maybe even just of the next few minutes or hours. As I get older and journey further along the Christian life the more and more I realise how weak and sinful I am and how great, powerful and forgiving God is. As each day passes the more I know deeper in my soul that without Him, without the Holy Spirit's enabling, this day will be a failure and I will be lost in sin. The joy of my heart more and more is the grace of God that forgives me, sustains me, keeps me and one day will present me "faultless before the Lamb."

So, can I encourage you each morning as the hymn writer says:

Put on the gospel armour, each piece put on with prayer: Where duty calls or danger, be never wanting there.

The greatest danger to standing firm as a follower of Christ is complacency. Sadly, Covid-19, lockdown and post-Covid has revealed so many to be complacent when it comes to standing firm, obeying and following Christ. Let me finish by asking you: Are you trusting in your own strength or the strength of the Lord God to stand firm in these last days?

God bless

Rev Dr Alan McCann

Family Fun Night

Friday 5th May, 7.00pm – 8.30pm

An opportunity to come together, all ages, and have some fun together and enjoy some food. An opportunity to invite people who may not come to Holy Trinity to come meet us.



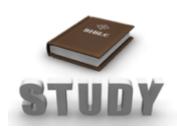
Safe Guarding Trust Training

Wednesday 10th May at 7.00pm

This is for all who have not yet completed the "accredited training session." Please do attend and make sure you sign the attendance sheet on the night so we can update our SGT database.

Rev Dr Alan McCann

Alan's Bible Study & Prayer Time



Bible Study continues on Wednesday's at 1.00pm. We will continue our study in the Psalms.

Please note the following day and times for prayer times and bible study:

Wednesday's

1.00pm-2.00pm

7.30pm-8.00pm

8.00pm-9.00pm

- Lunch time Bible Study in the Bennett Room

- Prayer Time - Kerr Room

- Bible Study

Everyone will be very welcome.

God bless

Rev Dr Alan McCann

Storehouse



Storehouse continue to help those in need within our community. Please contact me if you have items of unwanted furniture and I will gladly arrange a collection.

Thank you for your support.

Donna Harrison

LIGHT (Sunday School)



Hi everyone,

It's hard to believe we are nearing the end of another year of Light. Just to let you know prize giving is on Sunday 25th June during the family service. Thank you for regularly sending your children/grandchildren to Light.

We have loved having them - they are shining stars, eager to learn the bible. These children are a credit to you!

God Bless Chrissi & the Team

C.M.S Ireland Used Postage Stamps



Please continue to collect your used stamps and place them in my box on the church table. Don't be embarrassed if you have only a few stamps, as post is slow at this time of the year. Every

stamp counts and brings in money towards projects that CMS supports in Africa. Remember to leave a border of envelope around each stamp.

Many thanks, **Yvonne Best**

Trinity Tots - Toddlers Group



Thursday mornings, 10.00am - 11.30am for play, chat, snacks and singing.

Babies, toddlers and their carers assured of a warm welcome.

God Bless *Trinity Tots Team*

Young At Heart



Hello everyone, we hope you had a good Easter. Because of the Bank holiday there will be no meeting in May. If you wish to join us for our outing to

Hillmount Garden Centre in June, please speak

to Yvonne to book your place on the bus.

God Bless

Yvonne and her team

Fellowship Café at Holy Trinity

Every Thursday 10.30am – 12.30pm

Please note our new opening hours.

Those who have visited us over the past couple of weeks couldn't help but notice our new, bright red polo shirts. We've had our blue ones for a couple of years and it was time to freshen up. Hope you like them!!

With just two more months until our summer break, there's still time for you to call in to see us and find out what we are about. We are different from the normal type of café in as much as we don't charge for the wide range of refreshments. Instead, we offer the opportunity to voluntarily donate, or simply accept it as a gift from us. All our profits are passed to worthy causes.

If you haven't yet visited us, please call in any Thursday. A warm welcome is guaranteed.

It may feel daunting to walk through the door for the first time but once inside you will experience the easy atmosphere, the great craic and the buzz. There are always people around to chat with or you can sit quietly to read a book or just soak up that atmosphere. Please call in.

You can keep up to date by following us on facebook at: "Holy Trinity Fellowship Café"

Yours in Christ's service, *Maurice Langley*God is good † all the time

Prayer Team

Alison Allen, Joan Harvey & Libby Todd



Two members of the Prayer Team will be meeting in the Prayer Room on Sundays after the service to lift your prayer slips. Two members will also be available at the front of the church to pray with you at this time each week. We will rotate in these roles so you will see different faces from week to week. Please do ask if you

would prefer prayer in the privacy of the prayer room. The slips will continue to be lifted weekly and on 4 occasions as previously (usually over 4 weeks but may be over a longer period). Therefore, please do continue to make use of our prayer request box situated in the front hall of the church. As always, be assured that information on the slips remains confidential. We would encourage you to complete a prayer slip after you have attended for prayer so that we can continue to pray for your situation when we meet together.

If you would be interested in being part of the prayer team we ask that you consider this and know that we would dearly love to have your support. Please do approach one of us.

On behalf of the prayer team

Carrickfergus Food Bank (JVC Church)

Please place non-perishable donations into the 2 black bins in the entrance hall. The food is delivered monthly.

Thank you for the continued support which is very much appreciated.

Tea & Coffee Rota

Team	Team Members				
1	Ann Calvert	Tracey Bowden	Joanne Hunter		
2	Arlene Macartney	Hannah Hulme	Marilyn Hulme		
3	Lorraine Hagan	John Doherty	Gail Doherty		
4	Yvonne Best	Jennifer Hamilton	Gwen Wilson	Jean Jamison	
5	Wenda Gray	Sue Majury	Eva Dunn		
6	Kel McDermott	Drew Buchanan	Karen Buchanan		
7	Lorraine Ross	Maureen Lunn	Adrienne Tasker		

Team	Dates			
1	30 th Apr	18 th Jun		
2	7 th May	25 th Jun		
3	14 th May			
4	21st May			
5	28 th May			
6	4 th Jun			
7	11 th Jun			

Karen Buchanan

Carrickfergus Baby Bank

We thank you for the support and ask for donations of nappies, new baby grows, wipes, lotions, baby bath shampoo etc. Please place the items into the bin provided. The contents are delivered each month.

Welcome Team Rota

Teams	Dates	
Drew Buchanan	20th April	
Karen Buchanan	30 th April	
Jack Blair	7 th May	
Hazel Blair	/ Way	
Liz Adair	14 th May	
Janis Gibson	14 May	
Maureen Lunn	21st May	
Adrienne Tasker	21 Way	
Eva Dunn	28 th May	
Eleanor Steele	26 Way	
Sharon McNeill	4 th June	
Alison Moffett	4 June	
Helen McQuitty	11 th June	
Libby Todd	11 June	
Arlene Macartney	18 th June	
Wenda Gray	10 June	
Ann Calvert	25 th June	
Lorraine Hagan	25 June	
Joanne Hunter	2 nd July	
Laura Kerr	2 July	
Yvonne Best		
Jennifer Hamilton	9 th July	
Gwen Wilson		
Kel McDermott	16 th July	
Maurice Langley	10 July	
Donna Harrison	23 rd July	
Sue Majury	23 July	
Elaine Wright	30 th July	
Joan Cummings	Jo July	

Karen Buchanan

Holy Trinity Chair Rota – May 2023

Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 5
Kel McDermott	Dougie Hempton	Graeme Hunter	David Sprott	John Fittis
Colin McIlwaine	Simon McDonald	Jim McNerlan	Charlie Killow	Daniel Lafferty
Garry Richmond		Bert Macartney	Richard Hambleson	
Peter Moffett		Maurice Langley		

Team	Dates		
1		7 th May	4 th June
2		14 th May	11 th June
3		21st May	18 th June
4		28 th May	25 th June
5	30 th Apr		

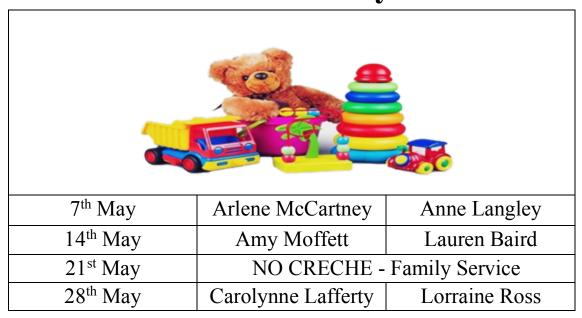


Please note: Some teams need additional help. If you think you can help, please contact Simon.

Please take note of church announcements regarding organisations using the church and possible need to put out and put away chairs each week. If possible, please liaise with the others in your group.

Thank you **Simon McDonald**

Creche Rota -May 2023



Many thanks, *Laura Kerr*

Select Vestry

If anyone wants an item raised at the Select Vestry please contact:

Marjory Edgar: secretary@holytrinitycarrick.org.uk
Drew Buchanan: treasurer@holytrinitycarrick.org.uk

or any member of SV. This includes booking the church hall for any

events.

*Marjory Edgar*Hon Secretary

Uplift

Charity Concert

Join us at the McNeill Theatre in Larne on the 26th of May for an incredible night of entertainment for a very worthy cause. It will be an evening of dance, music and other variety acts featuring lots of local talent including trad musicians, Ballyduff Silver band and Killyglen accordion band. All profits will go to Northern Ireland's Children's hospice - an amazing charity.

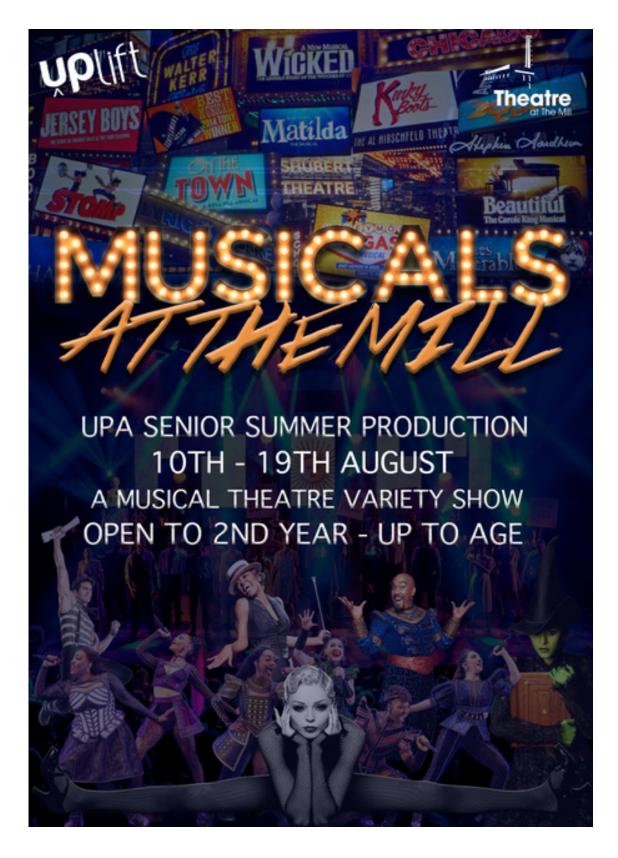


Summer Stage

Bring the kids along to our week-long summer scheme in Holy Trinity this July. In just one week your child(ren) will learn an all singing, all dancing, all acting, show which they will then perform for you on the Saturday! Our team has been working really hard to put together a fantastic experience for the kids and we can't wait to welcome them to what promises to be a fun filled and jam-packed week to remember!



Summer Senior Production



Thank you for supporting the local arts.

The Uplift Team

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Sunday Services

Date	Reading Number	Reader	Title & Prayer Leader	Book	Chapter & Verses
7th May 2023	1st Reading	Joan Cummings	HC Coronation Sunday The Three Captains	2 Kings	Chapter 1 verses 1 - 10
	2nd Reading	Rev Alan McCann	Prayers Maurice Langley	2 Kings	Chapter 1 verses 11 - 18
14th May 2023	1st Reading	Derek Burnside	Service of the Word The Four Lepers	2 Kings	Chapter 7 verses 1 - 10
	2nd Reading	Charlie Killow	Prayers Rev Alan McCann	2 Kings	Chapter 7 verses 11 - 20
21st May 2023			MP Josh (Crosslinks Link Missionary) <u>No livestream</u> at this Service		
			Prayers Yvonne Best		
28th May 2023			Family Service (Baptisms)		

Colin McIlwaine