



HOLY TRINITY
CHURCH



Leadership Team

Rev Dr Alan McCann	028 9336 2126
Lay Reader - Jack Blair	07766 527 552
Music Ministry – Louise Hanley	028 9332 8976
Rector's Churchwarden – Richard Hambleton	07857 143 357
People's Churchwarden – Karen Hambleton	07767 157 037
People's Glebewarden – Fred Shasko	07999 854 267
Select Vestry Secretary – Marjory Edgar	07912 747 118
GB Captain– Hannah Hulme	07889 052 993
BB Captain – Contact Admin Office	028 9335 5609
Contact for Light – Christine McDermott	07746 041 007
Church Admin Secretary	028 9335 5609

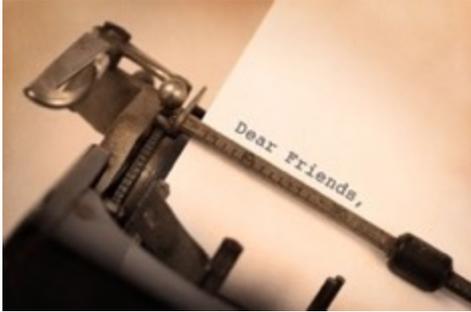
NOVEMBER 2023

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

www.holytrinitycarrick.org.uk

Letter to Parishioners

Reading: John 12 verses 1-10



Dear Friends,

At the beginning of this letter I am going to issue a warning: Some who read this will be offended by its content. However, we all need to prayerfully address what is being written here and, if necessary, repent and change our

attitudes and actions.

I want in this letter to address and issue that has troubled me for many years. It is not a new issue, in fact it is as old as the earth: The Priority of Worship.

A number of years ago, pre-covid, the Church of England decided that regular church attendance would be counted as one Sunday in four. At the time they were derided for such a decision but all they were doing was acknowledging the reality on the ground. To be honest this is a pattern that I now see at Holy Trinity. On any given Sunday I can count between 40 and 60 people missing from corporate worship. It would appear, even for those who claim to be followers of Christ, public worship on a Sunday is no longer a priority.

Livestream is not a substitute for in person worship with the people of God. I realise that some people, for genuine medical reasons, find livestream a means of worship and participation that otherwise would be denied to them. That is acceptable. However, what is not acceptable is the laissez faire attitude to being present with the people of God each Sunday. Scripture does not give us an option - we are commanded to worship God. It is the reason we were created.

Turn to verse 3 of the reading above. I want to draw your attention to three things which are, I believe, taught here about worship.

Thoughtful Preparation - Mary's devotion was the result of thoughtful preparation. It was not a spur of the moment or sudden rush of enthusiasm. Mary came prepared to worship the Lord Jesus. No one carried a pound of expensive perfume around in a bag in those days. In those days such expensive perfume was reserved for a wedding dowry or the anointing of a body at the time of death. For Mary to give it to Jesus she had to retrieve it from its place of safekeeping and to carry it to the dinner party. Thoughtful preparation in action.

Likewise, worship is not something that happens on the spur of the moment but requires premeditation, preparation and personal presence. If we rely on our feelings motivating us to go to worship then it is not a priority for our lives, even if we are born again.

Personal Consecration - Mary's act of devotion was an expression of personal consecration. Mary's ambitions and aspirations were wrapped up in this pound of perfume. Her social acceptability was implicated in what she did with it. She laid herself open to severe criticism from those around her. Yet she did it freely, even eagerly, because she recognised when her brother walked from the tomb, if never before, that Jesus was the Messiah, the Christ.

When Jesus said, verse 7: "She may keep it for the day of my burial" He was suggesting that Mary had recognised the purpose of His coming. Mary had recognised that here was the One who would die for the sins of the world and bring salvation to her and others. In light of this she offers all that she has, her greatest treasure, not to mention herself in worship.

If our worship is to be genuine then we, like Mary, must offer ourselves in consecration at the feet of Jesus. Christ is worthy of all we have. Nothing less than the consecration of our hearts and lives to Him is worthy of Him. He is not Lord of our lives if we cannot, or will not, be present on a Sunday morning to worship Him with His people.

Transformation - we read that the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume Mary offered (verse 3). It would have permeated the whole house and everyone present. When those present left that house the aroma of the perfume went with them. No doubt people asked Where have you been? What is that smell? In 2 Corinthians 2:14-16 Paul uses a similar metaphor to describe the knowledge of Christ.

Being in God's presence in worship leaves God's fragrance on us. This can only come about when we are physically present in public corporate worship. Read Romans 12:1-2 - where Paul writes about the transformation that comes through offering ourselves as living sacrifices to God and through the renewing of our minds. Is worshipping God transforming you? That can only be answered if you are actually worshipping God with His people on a Sunday.

It has not been my intention to hurt, offend or depress anyone with this letter. In one sense it matters not the numbers who come on a Sunday morning. The audience is One - the living Lord Jesus. However, please carefully pray about what I have written. Pray for those who once worshipped with us but have drifted. Pray and then make contact with them and encourage them to come back. Lastly, pray for your own heart and life to be prepared, consecrated and transformed as we worship together the living risen Lord Jesus each week.

God bless
Rev Dr Alan McCann

Harvest Appeal

Thank you to all who supported the harvest appeal (it's not too late) by placing an envelope in the mission bucket.

The vestry has decided to spend this money on the refurbishment of the toilets, which are now 30-year-old.

Young At Heart



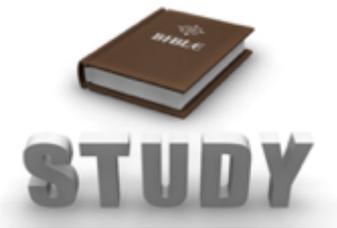
We are looking forward to our next meeting on 6th November at 11.00am when we will be welcoming some members from Guide dogs for the Blind association to tell us of the amazing work they do. Yes, they will be bringing a dog for us to meet!

They will be bringing some merchandise too- notebooks, pens, badges etc - a perfect way to support this great organisation.

God Bless

Yvonne and her team

Alan's Bible Study & Prayer Time



Bible Study continues on Wednesday 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 | - Lunch time Bible Study in the Bennett Room |
| 7.30pm-8.00pm | - Prayer Time - Kerr Room |
| 8.00pm-9.00pm | - Bible Study |

Everyone will be very welcome.

God bless

Rev Dr Alan McCann

Trinity Tots - Toddlers Group

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



Hello everyone, what a busy month we had in October! It has been great fun getting to know all of our babies and toddlers and, of course, their carers. We all love the chat and fellowship together. We have welcomed many new members and hope they continue to enjoy their visits to Holy Trinity.

There will be no meeting on Thursday 2nd November as it is school half term but will look forward to seeing you all again on Thursday 9th.

God Bless
Trinity Tots Team

C.M.S Ireland Used Postage Stamps



Keep saving those used postage stamps (remembering to leave a small envelope border) and pop them in the box on the church table or hand them to me. The money raised from their sale continues to support Christian based projects in Africa.

Many thanks,
Yvonne Best

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

Fellowship Café at Holy Trinity



Every Thursday
10.30am – 12.30pm

During every year since we started, back in 2014, we have set aside one Thursday for fund raising for a specific cause. This is the only time we are solely about money. We are doing it slightly differently this year by donating all of our profits during the month of November to the Surgical and Clinical Services at Antrim Area Hospital. This is in recognition of the care and treatment they have given to Chrissi, a valued member of our team. The donation will be used to replace equipment.

We appreciate that many of you are unable to attend our café so, if you wish to donate to this very worthy cause, please hand your contribution to any member of our café team.

Thank you.

We have been really blessed over the past couple of months with visitors from several of the local churches. It's good to welcome them, and they all appear to enjoy the fellowship we share with them.

If you are free any Thursday morning please call in for a cuppa and a chat. 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)

We are asked to consider donating items suitable for Christmas now. These may include tinned ham, fruit, biscuits, chocolate, small selection packs, Christmas puddings, Shloer and diluting juice.

Please place into the 2 red bins in the entrance hall. The food is delivered monthly.

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

Samaritans Purse Christmas Boxes - Operation Christmas Child.



The last date for returning the shoe boxes is Sunday 5th November. Thank you for the boxes returned already and for the financial support towards the cost of sending the boxes.

Drew Buchanan MBE
Honourable Treasurer

Crosslinks



Any scrap metal such as ; kitchen utensils, car parts, unwanted trampolines, garden gates, tools of any kind, central heating boilers, etc, etc, collected and redeemed for cash, proceeds to Crosslinks Missionary Society.

Contact : Lynn Rodgers, 07970974604.

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		26 th Nov
2		3 rd Dec
3		10 th Dec
4	29 th Oct	17 th Dec
5	5 th Nov	24 th Dec
6	12 th Nov	31 st Dec
7	19 th Nov	7 th Jan 24

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 Karen Buchanan		12 th Nov
Jack Blair Hazel Blair		19 th Nov
Liz Adair Janis Gibson		26 th Nov
Maureen Lunn Adrienne Tasker		3 rd Dec
Eva Dunn Eleanor Steele		10 th Dec
Sharon McNeill Alison Moffett		17 th Dec
Helen McQuitty Libby Todd		24 th Dec
Arlene Macartney Wenda Gray		31 st Dec
Ann Calvert Lorraine Hagan		7 th Jan 24
Joanne Hunter Laura Kerr		14 th Jan
Yvonne Best Jennifer Hamilton Gwen Wilson		21 st Jan
Kel McDermott Maurice Langley		28 th Jan
Donna Harrison Sue Majury	29 th Oct	4 th Feb
Elaine Wright Joan Cummings	5 th Nov	11 th Feb

Karen Buchanan

Holy Trinity Chair Rota

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		5 th Nov	3 rd Dec	7 th Jan 24
2		12 th Nov	10 th Dec	14 th Jan
3		19 th Nov	17 th Dec	21 st Jan
4		26 th Nov	24 th Dec	28 th Jan
5	29 th Oct		31 st Dec	



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 –October 2023



5 th November	Amy Moffett	Lauren Baird
12 TH November	Anne Langley	Helen Fittis
19 th November	Carolynne Lafferty	Gemma Fittis
26 th November	NO CRECHE	FAMILY SERVICE

Many thanks,
Laura Kerr

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

Uplift

uplift

The
**CHRISTMAS
SHOW**

SATURDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2023 - 2PM
MCNEILL THEATRE, LARNE
BOOK YOUR TICKETS ONLINE

WeAreUplift.com

Thank you for supporting the local arts.
The Uplift Team

East Antrim Battalion Heritage Society

The BB Museum will be open at 31a High Street Carrickfergus until December and further opening times can be found on the website www.bbeab.org but generally Tuesday – Saturday, 10am -12 noon and 2pm - 4pm.

Everyone welcome.

Sing-a-long with Third Carrickfergus Band

*It's Beginning to
Sound A Lot
Like Christmas*

Christmas Carol Concert

TICKETS £10 | REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Friday 1st December 2023
Holy Trinity Church
Prospect Road, Carrickfergus
DOORS 7PM | START 7.30PM

In aid of
East Antrim Battalion
Heritage Society

Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC109612

Concert tickets are available from Drew Buchanan.

Sunday Services

Date	Reading Number	Reader	Title & Prayer Leader	Book	Chapter & Verses
5th November 2023	_____	_____	Swaziland Women's Choir	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
12th November 2023	1st Reading	Derek Burnside	HC The Singers of Sorrow	Psalm	Psalm 137 verses 1 - 9
	2nd Reading	Helen Annesley	Prayers Rev Alan McCann	Matthew	Chapter 11 verses 7 - 19
19th November 2023	1st Reading	Alison Moffett	Service of the Word Jairus - A Father's plea	Mark	Chapter 5 verses 35 - 43
	_____	_____	Prayers Kel McDermott	_____	_____
26th November 2023	_____	_____	BB/GB Enrolment	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Colin McIlwaine