



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH



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People's Glebewarden – Fred Shasko	07999 854 267
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Contact for Light – Christine McDermott	07746 041 007
Church Admin Secretary	028 9335 5609

OCTOBER 2023

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

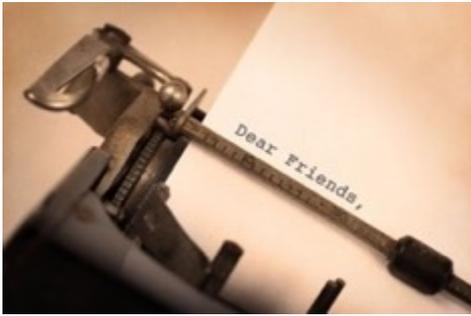
www.holytrinitycarrick.org.uk

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Letter to Parishioners

Reading: Judges 6:12-13



Dear Friends,

I am sure we have all had the experience of meeting someone who asks: “Why has this happened to me/us?” Only last week I sat with someone who asked “What have I done wrong that members of my family have died?” We may have even asked such questions ourselves.

If you have, take a moment and read the two verses above. You will see that Gideon asked a similar questions of the angel of Lord who had appeared before him. I find it just slightly ironic that the angel calls Gideon “mighty man of valour” when at that precise moment he is hiding in a well threshing wheat so that the Midianites, who have invaded Israel, do not take the grain from him. Hardly the picture or a mighty man of valour.

Gideon asks the questions voiced for millennia: If God is for us then why has He allowed this to happen to us? If God is for us, then why does He allow trouble, suffering and pain in to our lives? If we are honest we are with Gideon in asking such questions.

Our lives are so full of ifs, buts, and why’s. The encouragement that I receive and take from Judges 6 is that if God can, and did, answer Gideon, then He can answer my seemingly difficult questions and queries. Even if those answers are not what I expect, thought they ought to be or even wanted to hear.

In Judges 6:7 when the people of Israel cry out to God for deliverance in their suffering under the Midianites, God responds not by sending a delivering army of angels but a prophet to teach them (verse 8). Not the answer they were expecting and maybe not the answer they wanted either.

God knew that in the midst of all their trials and tribulations they needed to hear and understand His Word. Ultimately they needed to turn back to Him and trust in His promises. The prophet told them what the angel would tell Gideon: “The Lord is with you!” The presence of God and the existence of trials, trouble and suffering can, and do, coexist. That is often forgotten in the midst of all that we experience in this life. We somehow think that suffering and God cannot coexist. Read Genesis 50:20 or any of the Gospel accounts of the Crucifixion to see how wrong such thinking is.

Now read verse 14. There was no conversation between God and Gideon over the plight of the nation of Israel. God did not seek to explain the reasons behind the invasion by Midian. Instead God tells Gideon to go and save Israel.

Verse 15 - I think is the response of all of us. Gideon protests that his clan is the smallest and weakest in Israel and that he himself is the least in his father's house. How can I save anyone? This was the first step to his victory over the Midianites. He admitted his inadequacy and his dependence on God. This is where God begins the work in all of us.

Only when we know our shortcomings and admit we are helpless, powerless and unable to save ourselves, no mind anyone else, and that we need God's help - then the work of the Lord begins in us.

God in His Word promises that our weakness plus His strength is sufficient for any task He calls us to (Philippians 4:13).

So, today as you face the trials and the troubles of this weary life trust in God's promise to never leave you nor forsake you. Trust in His promise that in Him you can do all things. Trust His Word, even when the circumstances of life challenge it.

Personally I take encouragement from Gideon (and numerous Psalms) that it is okay for me to ask God Why questions in my prayers and to seek His face for answers. When I voice such in prayers there is such a relief and then I turn to God's Word and remind myself of His promises and I rest secure in those.

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

Young At Heart



It was lovely to be back together again after our summer break. Our next meeting is on Monday 2nd October at 11.00am. We are looking forward to our speaker from the Bible Society and also to our usual chat and very welcome cuppa! If you know of any ladies who would enjoy coming to our group, please do invite them along. We run a varied program throughout the year and meet on the first Monday of each month.

God Bless
Yvonne and her team

HARVEST THANKSGIVING – SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2023

GUEST PREACHER: REV JAMES BOYD (DERRYVOLGIE)



We will meet on Saturday 14th at 10am to decorate the church for Harvest Thanksgiving.

We have not decorated the church in past years and it would be good to see the place filled with flowers, fruit, vegetables but most importantly with people. Come and join in this act of worship as we give thanks to God for His harvest.

Rev Alan McCann

Quiz Night

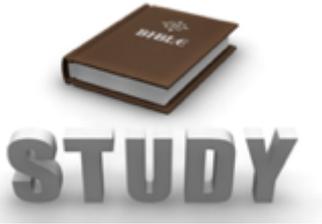
Friday 6th October 2023 @ 7.30pm

Teams of 4-6 people please. £3 per head, supper includes supper. Please make sure you have paid in advance. This event is for everyone over 8.

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

Corps of Drums

I am forming a Corps of Drums, (Drums, Flute and Bugle) The band is open to anyone aged 11 years and upwards. If anyone wishes to join or would like more information please come and see me, I am still looking for a Drum instructor however hopefully by the first practice on Friday the 20th of October at 7.30 pm someone will be in place.

If anyone is interested in helping or even if anyone is interested in being on the committee please come along to the first meeting.

Many thanks

Richard Hambleton

Trinity Tots - Toddlers Group

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



It was great to be together again and see how our babies and toddlers have progressed over the summer. Some are now walking, some talking and some have new baby brothers and sisters who have joined our group. We all enjoyed playing, singing and, of course, snacks!

Our lovely group of helpers are kept busy and it would be great if we had a few more pairs of hands to help with preparing and serving the snacks- toast, toasted pancakes and fruit- or chatting with the children and their carers. Please do give it some thought, even one or two Thursdays a month if you are unable to commit to every Thursday. We meet at 10.00 - 11.30am each Thursday morning.

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

Fellowship Café at Holy Trinity



**Every Thursday
10.30am – 12.30pm**

It's just as if we hadn't had a summer break at all.

We are already back in full swing and have seen some busy cafes with many of our regular visitors returning.

It would be nice to see a few more new faces as well. If you haven't yet visited us, please call in any Thursday. You will be warmly welcomed and you will enjoy the experience.

We offer you amazing food, either home-baked or purchased locally, unlimited tea/coffee/soft drinks and awesome craic.

If you are on your own, please don't let that put you off. We always have members of our team keen to sit and chat with you. Nobody is left alone, unless that's how they wish to be.

If you like 'busy' our main area can get busy but we also have quieter areas where you can sit and chat or simply read a book.

AND it's all free, unless you wish to make a voluntary donation.

All of our profits are passed to local, national and international worthy causes. So, you can have a cuppa and a chat whilst helping somebody, somewhere who is less fortunate than yourself. Simple.

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.

Samaritans Purse Christmas Boxes - Operation Christmas Child.



DEAR FRIEND,

We give God the glory as we celebrate a historic Operation Christmas Child milestone: 200 million shoebox gifts packed since 1993. I am thankful to God for all the boys and girls around the world who have had an opportunity to hear the Good News that “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved” (Romans 10:13).

Every shoebox prayerfully packed in Jesus’ Name is special. We have seen time and time again how God places just the right gift into the hands of a specific child. This gift is a tangible expression of God’s love for a child in desperate need.

God is using Operation Christmas Child and our discipleship programme, The Greatest Journey, to open doors for the Gospel in places where people have never heard about Jesus. As boys and girls receive Jesus as their Saviour, many begin sharing their faith with family and friends. Their witness is transforming entire villages and leading to new churches being started.

Thank you for your prayers and your service. We couldn’t do this project without you. May God bless you.

Sincerely,

Franklin Graham President, Samaritan’s Purse

Please take a box and fill it and return it before 31st October 2023.



TOYS

A football and pump, cuddly toys, dolls, toy cars, small musical instruments, yo-yos, skipping ropes, balls, small puzzles etc.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks, solar calculators, colouring & picture books etc.



HYGIENE ITEMS

Toothbrush, bars of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel.



OTHER ITEMS

Hat, gloves, scarf, sunglasses, cap, socks, T-shirt, flip-flops, hair accessories, jewellery set, watch, wind-up torch etc.



DO NOT INCLUDE

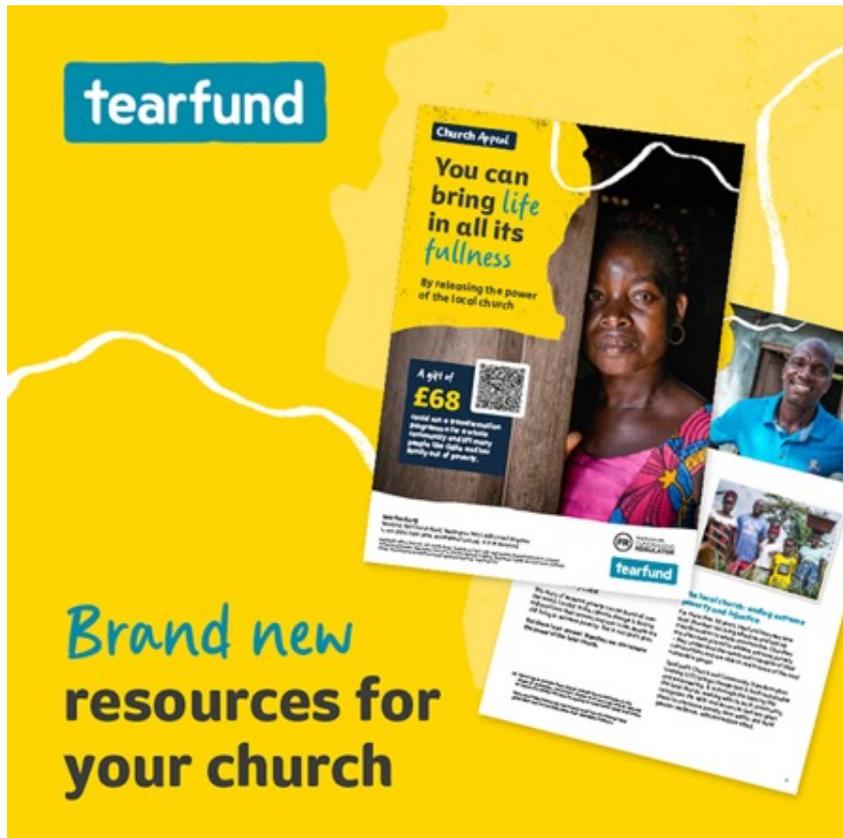
Toothpaste, sweets, lotions and liquids; used or damaged items; war-related items; seeds, gum, chocolate or food items; religious or political literature; medicines, aerosol cans, sharp or fragile items.

Items packed from this list will be removed from shoeboxes.

Crosslinks



Tearfund



Please remember our link missionaries in your prayers

Drew Buchanan MBE
Honourable Treasurer

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

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		8 th Oct
2		15 th Oct
3		22 nd Oct
4		29 th Oct
5		5 th Nov
6	24 th Sept	12 th Nov
7	1 st Oct	19 th Nov

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	24 th Sept	31 st Dec
Ann Calvert Lorraine Hagan	1 st Oct	7 th Jan 24
Joanne Hunter Laura Kerr	8 th Oct	14 th Jan
Yvonne Best Jennifer Hamilton Gwen Wilson	15 th Oct	21 st Jan
Kel McDermott Maurice Langley	22 nd Oct	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		1 st Oct	5 th Nov	3 rd Dec
2		8 th Oct	12 th Nov	10 th Dec
3		15 th Oct	19 th Nov	17 th Dec
4	24 th Sept	22 nd Oct	26 th Nov	24 th Dec
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



1 st October	Maureen Lunn	Helen Fittis
8 th October	Carolynne Lafferty	Gemma Fittis
15 th October	Amy Moffett	Lauren Baird
22 nd October	Lorraine Ross	Laura Kerr
29th October	NO CRECHE	FAMILY SERVICE

Many thanks,
Laura Kerr

Uplift



Thank you for supporting the local arts.

The Uplift Team

East Antrim Battalion Heritage Society

The BB Museum will open on Wednesday 4th October 2023 at 31a High Street Carrickfergus from 2pm. The museum will be there 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
1st October 2023	1st Reading	Garry Richmond	HC Manasseh - could not escape prayer	2 Chronicles	Chapter 31 verses 1 - 13
	2nd Reading	Rev Alan McCann	Prayers Libby Todd	Matthew	Chapter 6 verses 25 - 34
8th October 2023	1st Reading	Colin McIlwaine	MP Hebrew Boys - meet Christ in a fire	Daniel	Chapter 3 verses 1 - 15
	2nd Reading	David Sprott	Prayers Rev Alan McCann	Daniel	Chapter 3 verses 16 - 30
15th October 2023	_____	_____	Harvest Sunday Rev James Boyd	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
22nd October 2023	_____	_____	Family Service	_____	_____
	_____	_____	Prayers Janis Gibson	_____	_____
29th October 2023	1st Reading	Wenda Gray	Service of the Word Canaanite Woman	Matthew	Chapter 15 verses 21 - 28
	2nd Reading	Laura Kerr	Prayers Fred Shasko	Matthew	Chapter 7 verses 7 - 11

Colin McIlwaine