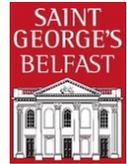


# The Parish Church of Saint George



## PARISH MAGAZINE

*An open door in the heart of the City*



Mary Magdalene



**JULY 2022**

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Editorial Team: William Odling-Smee, Selby Nesbitt, Tony Merrick.

## From the Rector's Desk



Dear Friends in Christ,

We are now officially into summer and as I write this. The weather is lovely and the temperature is just about perfect for most of us i.e., warm and sunny, but not too hot at least as far as most Irish people are concerned. As a motorcyclist, I particularly enjoy weather like this, as it means I can go for a run on the bike without worrying about carrying a lot of heavy wet weather gear. My days of riding motorbikes all year round are long behind me and they are strictly for fair weather use now. I hope to enjoy five days riding around Brittany in early June with an old school friend who now lives in Devon. It will be a short break using one of my friend's bikes, but nevertheless one I am looking forward to immensely. I hope that each and everyone of you can experience some sort of holiday break or period of relaxation over the summer months. Even a short break of a few days can do wonders for our wellbeing and perspective and also allow us to recharge our batteries. If you do manage a few days away, then don't forget to visit a church or two in your chosen destination, whether near or far. If you can pick up a leaflet or booklet about it or the services then please do, as I like to read and hear what other parishes are up to. I hope to visit some of the churches in Brittany when I am there and perhaps gain insight into what is going on in the local parishes there.

There will be a visiting choir on Sunday, 24th July in St George's when New College, Oxford will sing at 11:00 AM. Further details of this visit and any other visiting choirs will be publicised on our parish Facebook page.

I hope to reintroduce a fuller rota of parishioners to read lessons at the Choral Eucharist and Evensong services and also to lead the Intercessions at the Coral Eucharist. It is the right and privilege of the people to undertake these two liturgical functions and indeed it is most appropriate that they do so. These tasks should not be restricted to the clergy and there is no reason why anyone who can fulfil them should not do so. If you would like to read or lead intercessions occasionally, then please let me know over the next couple of months. I hope to have enough willing volunteers to give people an opportunity to carry out one of these ministries about once every two or three months. A good, strong, clear voice is all that is required.

I will continue with pastoral calls to the sick and house bound over the summer. If you know of anyone who needs a visit or if you yourself are unwell then please do contact me on 079 0279 2080 or send an e-mail to me at [bstewart1662@gmail.com](mailto:bstewart1662@gmail.com). The Rectory telephone number is 028-9070-1350

Have a restful and relaxing summer. Enjoy what break or holiday you may be having and don't forget to attend church and pray for St George's when you're visiting another church.

God bless you all.

Yours sincerely in Christ

*Brian Stewart*

## PARISH NOTICES

### Sanctuary Flowers 2022

3 July	Graeme Pollock	In memory of his parents Eric and Margaret Pollock
10 July	William McArthur	In memory of George Walker
17 July	Pam Tilson	In memory of her mother Irene
24 July	Carol Ward	In memory of her sister Sandie Millicevic
31 July	Judith Fawcett	In memory of loved ones



 **Kingdom Voices**  
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 **SAMS**  
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### Choral Eucharist - 11:00am, 24th July

We are pleased to welcome the choir of New College, Oxford who will sing the 11:00am Choral Eucharist on 24th July.

The choir will also sing at a Concert in St George's at 3:00pm the same afternoon.

We are also very pleased to welcome Donal McCann, the Assistant Organist at New College, who was an Organ Scholar in St George's.

## ECO-CONGREGATION IRELAND GROUP

### HOW TO BE AN ECO-GARDENER

- Go peat free; there are lots of alternatives available, including Dalefoot Compost which uses surplus British wool fleeces mixed with bracken, or you could try making your own. Check that your plug plants and bulbs aren't grown in peat.
- Avoid chemical sprays and plant wild flowers to attract bees. Provide shelter for insects with stacks of circular tubes of untreated wood. Bugs like cool, damp conditions; bees need to be in full sun.
- Slug pellets containing metaldehyde have been banned. Instead, make a beer trap with Guinness in a half-submerged saucer. Or try a seaweed slug repellent from Sarah Raven or Shell on Earth's ground-up whelk shells.
- Try swapping plants - The Plant Exchange helps members trade, swap or sell plants.
- Avoid plastic pots and opt for terracotta, clay and wood instead. Dobbies nurseries will recycle plastic pots; Elho makes pots and water butts from recycle pots; Ocean Plastic Pots are made from old fishing nets.

### REWILDING SAINT GEORGE'S.



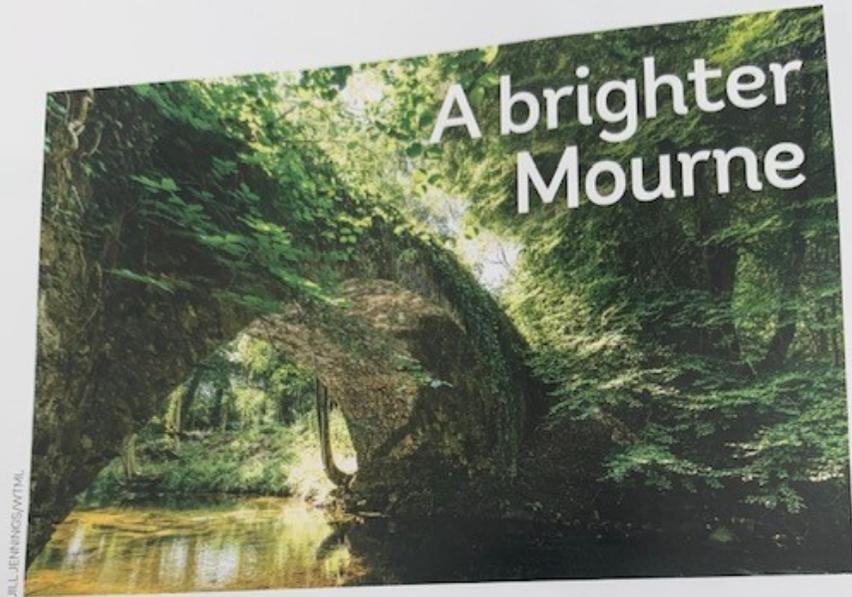
Some of you may have noticed recently that Saint George's green spaces are looking a bit "untidy". Never fear! This is not due to a lawnmower malfunction but a



deliberate move toward helping to save our planet. Every little helps. I am reliably informed by Geoff Newell that we have White Clover, Lesser Trefoil and Bird's Foot Trefoil already establishing itself in the undergrowth. The grass will be cut coming into the autumn. Once cut, it needs to be left to lie for a few days for the seeds to fall; then it will be lifted. We'd like to put a sign on the grass explaining to passers-by what we are doing with our green area. Is there anyone in the parish with better IT/design skills than me who could help with this?



Janet Sandikli



IT'S ALREADY giving the kiss of life to Northern Ireland's largest ancient wood. And the Trust's flagship project in the Mourne Mountains could soon get even more exciting, with plans afoot to snap up seven neighbouring fields and plant almost 100,000 trees.

We need to raise £5.2 million to take on a final slice of the Mourne Park estate, where 500-year-old woods swaddle the slopes of the Whitewater River, rising to meet the panoramic 1,000ft summit of Knockree Mountain.

"This is the north's richest

surviving spread of ancient woodland for wildlife," says the Trust's Laura Thompson, "with pine martens, red squirrels and great spotted woodpeckers.

"We now have a once in a lifetime chance to extend that habitat, as well as linking up 20km of trails for the 100,000 visitors we hope will come to enjoy the valley. We aim to plant all the trees by hand, which will help keep carbon locked into the soil."

The Trust has already been flexing its planting muscles on nearby Aughrim Hill:

110,000 oak, birch and Scots pine saplings are leafing and a new car park welcomes folk to explore 5km of new footpaths.

Down by the river, meanwhile, our fledgling volunteer crew is helping drag out the exotic laurel and rhododendron that smother the forest floor, allowing foxgloves and bluebells to recover.

### **CAN YOU HELP?**

We're racing to extend Mourne Park for nature. Donate at [woodlandtrust.org.uk/mournepark](http://woodlandtrust.org.uk/mournepark).

## THE BALLAD OF FATHER GILLIGAN - WB YEATS (1869-1939)

The old priest Peter Gilligan  
Was weary night and day  
For half his flock were in their beds  
Or under green sods lay.

Once, while he nodded in a chair  
At the moth-hour of the eve  
Another poor man sent for him,  
And he began to grieve.

'I have no rest, nor joy, nor peace,  
For people die and die;  
And after cried he, 'God forgive!  
My body spake not I'

He knelt, and leaning on the chair  
He prayed and fell asleep;  
And the moth-hour went from the  
fields,  
And stars began to peep.

They slowly into millions grew,  
And leaves shook in the wind  
And God covered the world with  
shade  
And whispered to mankind.

Upon the time of sparrow chirp  
When the moths came once more,  
The old priest Peter Gilligan  
Stood upright on the floor.

'Mavrone, mavrone! The man has  
died  
While I slept in the chair.'  
He roused his horse out of its sleep  
And rode with little care.

He rode now as he never rode,  
By rocky lane and fen;  
The sick man's wife opened the  
door,  
'Father! you come again!'

'And is the poor man dead?' he cried  
'He died an hour ago.'  
The old priest Peter Gilligan  
In grief swayed to and fro.

'When you were gone, he turned  
and died,  
As merry as a bird.'  
The old priest Peter Gilligan  
He knelt him at that word.

'He Who hath made the night of  
stars  
For souls who tire and bleed,  
Sent one of this great angels down,  
To help me in my need.

'He Who is wrapped in purple robes,  
With planets in His care  
Had pity on the least of things  
Asleep upon a chair.'

*Submitted by Geoffrey May*

# WHAT NORTHERN IRELAND MEANS TO ME

by Paul McLaughlin



*SHARED FUTURE NEWS* is an online publication dedicated to providing news, information, and personal stories on the topics of peace-building, reconciliation, and diversity. It publishes to an audience interested in the history and politics of Ireland and Northern Ireland. It believes that it is important to spread the news of those working for a shared future in Northern Ireland.



**What Northern  
Ireland Means to Me**

Edited by Allan Leonard and Julia Paul



To mark the centenary of Northern Ireland, Shared Future News has published a book, 'What Northern Ireland means to me', showcasing the thoughts of individuals from a wide range of disciplines about Northern Ireland's past, present, and future.

St George's parishioner Paul McLaughlin, development officer with the Northern Ireland Mixed Marriage Association, shared his contribution with the publication. The following piece by Paul is taken from a two hour recorded interview.

My father was in the Royal Navy during the war. He travelled the world. Yet he came home to live in Belfast, because he said he had never been to a better place, he had never met better people. My mother came from a forces' background as well. She was a great believer in people. She brought us up to treat people with respect and partly to paraphrase Saint Paul, to treat others as you would like to be treated.

So, my Northern Ireland is where my home is and where my heart is. And every day when I meet new people, from both sides of the so-called peace line, I think to myself, "Aren't I lucky that I stayed?" I could have gone, you know; contemporaries of mine from school and college said, "Oh, there's no future here." And I thought, well, the only way there is going to be a future here is if some of us stay and try to make one. So that is what I have tried to do.

And thank goodness I have got involved with the Northern Ireland Mixed Marriage Association. It's only a little thing, but it's my little contribution. My work with NIMMA, basically, it's the pastoral care of people who are either in mixed marriages or, to use an awful word,

contemplating a mixed marriage. So I am just there basically as a sounding board, first of all, because a lot of the people who come to us have problems that they are not able to discuss within their own families or friends.

One day a politician said that mixed marriages dilute a person's identity. Now, before I had the chance to explain to him that they actually enrich a person's identity, because they give them a foot in both camps, or give them an understanding of two marvellous cultures, and they give them the opportunity to marry those cultures together, he had already gone, because he realised very quickly that I wasn't a potential voter.

So, the political scene saddens me. We should have statesmen and women capable of seeing the bigger picture and not saying that what we had, or where we came from, was simply 'no good'.

I also don't hark onto some of the characters who think that, because there are more "Catholics than Protestants", that this means that there will be a vote for a united Ireland. And despite the fact that I come from a Roman Catholic background, I just don't see that. I see people who look at the bread and butter issues. They look at what I describe as the fairness of Britain.

I mean, I was brought up by two parents who I have described as Christian socialists, where they had their God, they had their faith, but they saw their faith as being the faith of Jesus Christ as being part of the manifesto of the old Labour party. And that's how I was brought up. That's where I sit today. I would love to see that the meaning of Christ brought down to the streets, and brought back to our people.

I feel that Northern Ireland has so much to offer the rest of this island and that has been ignored. So, despite everything, I am optimistic about the future. I speak to so many young people who are trying to build a future for their families without bigotry or prejudice that it encourages me, even at my advanced age, to think we have better times to look forward to.



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## "THE ADORATION OF JESUS"

We don't seem to know much about the writer of the Hymn "Jesu, my Lord, my God, my all", Henry Collins (1827-1919).

He was ordained into the Church of England in 1853 when he was 26, but four years later he seceded to the Roman Catholic Church. In 1860 he entered the Cistercian Order and was known as Father Augustine. For many years he ministered to the Cistercian Nuns at Wimborne Abbey, Dorset, as their chaplain.

This was one of two hymns written by Collins and published in "Hymns for Mission" (Leeds 1 854), a collection of thirty-seven hymns, and the book was republished later in Oxford under the title "Love of Jesus desired".

Fr F.W. Faber, who also seceded to the Roman Catholic Church, wrote a hymn for the Feast of Corpus Christi!. This began with the same opening line, "Jesu my Lord, my God, my all" and had the refrain:

"Sweet Sacrament, we thee adore,  
O make us love thee more and more."

It has been suggested that this was the inspiration for Collins' hymn, written five years later.

1. Jesu my Lord, my God, my all,  
Hear me, blest Saviour, when I call;  
Hear me, and from thy dwelling place  
Pour down the riches of Thy grace.

*Chorus:* Jesu my Lord, I Thee adore,  
O make me love Thee more and more.

Down the ages Christianity has produced a gallery of doubters - Darwin, Colenso, Barnes, Robinson, Cubitt, A.M. Wilson, and Dawkins, to mention but a few, and of course, the very first recorded one, Thomas. Poor old Thomas gets a bad press - "Doubting Thomas" we call him, but in reality he was probably the most intellectual of the disciples - a born thinker. He was a seeker of the Truth, but needed proof that in any circumstance a resurrection was possible. Jesus provided him with the truth, and a completely convinced Thomas, no longer doubting, cried "My Lord and my God". Thomas was a new creature, born again - the first Christian.

In the opening line of verse 1 Collins has no doubts at all - Jesus is

everything: Lord, God, the Saviour who listens to our pleas, one to love and adore: that is his prayer and ours when we sing it.

2. Jesu, too late I Thee have sought;  
How can I love Thee as I ought?  
And how extol Thy matchless fame,  
The glorious beauty of Thy Name?
3. Jesu what didst Thou find in me  
That Thou hast dealt so lovingly?  
How great the joy that Thou hast brought,  
So far exceeding hope or thought.

These two verses pose a number of questions, deep searching questions impinging on our Christian witness, and our inadequacy to reach the standard. He is saying, "Jesu, you know I was a late starter, but now that you have accepted me in love, I'm so happy I hardly know I'm living - the joy of being a Christian.

4. Jesu, of Thee shall be my song,  
To Thee my heart and soul belong,  
All that I am or have is Thine,  
And Thou blessed Saviour, Thou are mine.

Here he has become the child of God, accepted and sanctified, so he sings, and Jesus is the theme of his song. The third line is saying a lot - "All that I am or have is Thine": read it again and think about it for a moment. Isn't it absolutely true? Then the climax - I am His and He is mine - Jesus is all in all. So we pray in the final chorus:

Jesu, my Lord, I Thee adore,  
O make me love Thee more, and more" - and more!

As that great mystic St John of the Cross wrote, "At the evening of our life we will be judged on Love."

*Billy Adair*

# MUSIC LIST July 2022

## Sunday July 3rd

St Thomas

### 11:00AM Sung Eucharist

Setting Marbecke  
Psalm 31: 1-6  
Hymn **379, 467**

## Sunday July 10th \_

Trinity 4

### 11:00AM Sung Eucharist

Setting Marbecke  
Psalm 82  
Hymn **378, 374**

## Sunday 17th July

Trinity 5

### 11:00AM Sung Eucharist

Setting Marbecke  
Psalm 52  
Hymn **239, 341**

## Sunday July 24th

Trinity 6

### 11:00AM Sung Eucharist

**Sung by the choir of New College, Oxford**

Setting  
Psalm 85  
Hymn **352, 393, 499, 436**

## Sunday 31st July\_

Trinity 7

### 11:00AM Sung Eucharist

Setting Marbecke  
Psalm 107: 1-9, 43  
Hymn **339, 359**

# MUSIC LIST August 2022

## Sunday 7th August \_

Trinity 8

### 11:00AM Sung Eucharist

Setting Marbecke  
Psalm 50: 1-8, 23-24  
Hymn **271, 492**

## Sunday 14th August \_

Trinity 9

### 11:00AM Sung Eucharist

Setting Marbecke  
Psalm 80: 1-2, 9-20  
Hymn **180, 185**

## Sunday 21st August

Trinity 10

### 11:00AM Sung Eucharist

Setting Marbecke  
Psalm 71: 1-6  
Hymn **336, 378**

## Sunday 28th August

Trinity 11

### 11:00AM Sung Eucharist

Setting Marbecke  
Psalm 81: 1, 10-16  
Hymn **342, 186**

## FROM THE ORGAN LOFT



Our end of year recital on June 24th was a terrific way to end a year. After the false starts of Covid 19, the isolation on the balcony, the choir blend has not had its usual full year to develop, instead really only getting started in March when they returned to the choir stalls. The concert showed an excellently blended and bonded choir who performed with the utmost professionalism. The choral scholars had their choice of programming due to the wide repertoire taught by Maeve Falconer, and the evening was just a true concert performance.

The scholars each performed in the centre of the concert, the choir opened with Fauré's 'Cantique de Jean Racine' and closed with the 'Five mystical songs' by Vaughan Williams.

Nicholas Falconer sang 'Music for a while' by Purcell. In the last concert, he was head chorister on decani so quite a transformation to bass voice. Outgoing scholar Patrick Humphries followed with 'Après une rêve' by Fauré. Previous cantor is head chorister Luke Armstrong who sang Harry's 'Sea fever', Daniel Quinn followed with 'Whether must I wander', by Vaughan Williams. James Falconer sang 'Blow blow thou winter's wind' and Garbhan McEnoy sang 'Come away death' both from Quilter's setting of the three Shakespeare songs.

The soloists in the five mystical songs featured the three outgoing choral scholars. James Falconer sang 'Easter, Rise hart' Garbhan McEnoy sang 'Love bade me welcome' Patrick Humphries sang 'Come my way', and 'I got me flowers' was sung by one of the choir gentlemen, Michael McGlade.

Returning to church music roots, the choir closed with Palestrina's 'Sicut Cervus' in exquisite polyphony.

As always, thanks to Mark McGrath for his outstanding accompanying. We look forward to a new term in September and especially to welcoming the new girls to the SSA choir.

David Falconer