

The Parish Church of Saint George



PARISH MAGAZINE

An open door in the heart of the City



The Transfiguration of Our Lord



AUGUST 2023

PARISH CONTACTS

The Parish Church of St George
105, High Street, Belfast. BT1 2AG
Tel: 028 9023 1275

e-mail: stgeorgesoffice@btconnect.com
www.stgeorges.connor.anglican.org
Facebook: The Parish Church of
St George, Belfast

NI Charity No. NIC101556

CLERGY

The Rector: The Reverend Brian Stewart Mob: 079 0279 2080
The Curate: The Reverend William Odling-Smee Tel: 028 4484 1868
Honorary Assistant Priests: The Reverend Ian Frazer; The Venerable Scott Harte;
The Reverend Colin Young; The Reverend Ray Rennix

SELECT VESTRY

Rector's Churchwarden: James Dingley Tel: 028 9059 5886
People's Churchwarden: James Beattie Tel: 07375044433
Rector's Glebewarden: Tony Merrick Tel: 028 9042 7739
People's Glebewarden: Pam Tilson Tel: 07803235362
Secretary to the Select Vestry: TBA
Treasurer of the Select Vestry: Douglas McIlldoon Tel: 028 9023 1831

WORSHIP:

Director of Music: David Falconer; Tel: 078 2455 3695
Servers Guild: Tony Merrick; Tel: 028 9042 7739
Sacristan: Tony Merrick; Tel: 028 9042 7739
Flower Guild: Helen Crowe; Tel: 028 9079 8247
Readers and Intercessors Rota: The Churchwardens

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday Club for Children: Moyra Haslett; Tel: 028 9065 8352
Confirmation Class: Fr. Brian Stewart; Tel: 028 9070 1350
Magazine Editors: William Odling-Smee & Selby Nesbitt; Tel: 028 9083 2562

PARISH LIFE

Mission Liaison: Eleanor Maynard; Tel: 028 9084 9753
Walsingham Group: Fr. Graeme Pollock; Tel: 028 9065 4868
Foodbank Collections: Betty Flynn; Tel: 028 9032 4651

ADMINISTRATION

Hon. Parish Administrator:
Church and Hall Booking:
Church and Churchyard Maintenance: Tony Merrick; Tel: 028 9042 7739
Gift Aid and Standing Orders: Selby Nesbitt; Tel: 028 9083 2562
Sexton: Simon James; Tel: 078 6977 3382

SAFEGUARDING TRUST TEAM

The Rector, Tel: 07902792080; Eleanor Maynard, Tel: 07912222500;
Lyn McGlade, Tel: 07841575541; Peter Hunter, Tel: 077 5978 1282



CONTENTS



From The Rector's Desk	4
Parish Notice - Parishioner Parking Restrictions	5
Helping Children Read Better - Jeffrey Johnston	5
Parish News - Eco-Congregation Ireland	6
Eco-Congregation Ireland Group	7
Poem - From 'Intimations of Immortality'	8
Framed to Perfection by Paul McLaughlin	9
Music List	12
Calendar	13

St George's Parish Magazine is published on the Sunday nearest the first day of the month, except August and January. Please send contributions to the Parish Office - stgeorgesoffice@btconnect.com. Views expressed by contributors do not necessarily represent the views of the parish.

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

From the Rector's Desk



Dear Friends in Christ,

I have been very pleasantly surprised by the size of Sunday congregations during July. Numbers at the 11:00 AM Eucharist have been consistently in the high 60s in what is the traditional Belfast holiday month and with the choirs off on their summer break. The 5:00 PM service has also had a good attendance, despite the fact that there is no music and many parishioners are on holiday. I am very grateful to Fr Keith Suckling, Archdeacon Scott Harte and Fr Terence Dunlop for presiding at worship when I was away in England for a week.

The repointing of the chancel brickwork is now scheduled to begin on Monday, 7th August and the refurbishment of the choir room will also be taking place at the same time. That means there will be scaffolding in place on the Church Lane side of the church and so parking on that side will be heavily restricted. This will mainly affect those parishioners who park on that side of the church during the week. If there is no space available on the Church Lane, (right hand) side of Saint George's and the places directly in front of the church are also occupied, then you will have to park somewhere else, such as the High Park car park. Please do not park in any of the marked out spaces which are solely for the use of our business users from Monday to Friday each week. I apologise for this inconvenience, but the repairs to the church are essential and unavoidable.

I will be on holiday from the 25th August until the 30th August. Please do not hesitate to contact me on my mobile, even when I am away, if a pastoral emergency arises. If I cannot respond personally, I will arrange for one of our assistant priests to call. My mobile telephone number is 07902792080. Non essential matters can be dealt with after the 31st of August.

Every blessing in Christ

Brian Stewart

PARISH NOTICE

IMPORTANT PARKING NOTICE.

Scaffolding is to be erected at the East end of the church and the office area on **Monday 7th August** and will be in place for at least four weeks.

It is therefore requested that parishioners do not park beyond the line of cones on the right hand side of the church. Please **DO NOT** park in any of the marked spaces reserved for business users.

Access to the church will continue to be available through the side door and through the doors at the entrance to the Parish Hall.

A TIME TO READ - HELPING CHILDREN READ BETTER by Jeffrey Johnston

Children who fail to read well before they leave their primary school, have a reduced prospect of doing well both in their secondary school and later in finding work.

Time to Read provides volunteers, who spend one hour each week helping two pupils in a primary school to read better. They are able to give the one-to-one tuition that the class teacher cannot give. Schools also find that pupils who read with a volunteer gain added confidence and self esteem.

Time to Read is sponsored by Business In The Community, so many volunteers are released by their employer for an hour, while others give of their own time. Volunteers do a short training course. Their reward is to see children start to enjoy books.

If you feel you could help at a primary school near you or would like to know more, why not contact me, Jeffrey Johnston, Tel: 9086-4993 or email: jeffreyjohnston175@gmail.com

PARISH NEWS

From: Eco Congregation Ireland Info <info@ecocongregationireland.com>

Subject: Tearfund Ireland - Faith and Climate Survey

Dear Friends of Eco-Congregation Ireland

Tearfund Ireland have partnered with Praxis and VOX Magazine to understand your thoughts on the changing climate, your experience with the church, what matters to you, and how this could shape the church in the future. They are particularly keen to hear from younger adults (under 40s), so please send this survey on to others you know – the more people they hear from the better!

People of any age can complete the survey, however they are particularly interested in hearing from the under 40's. They would be very grateful if you could share the survey with your networks. Here is a link to the survey, together with a QR code:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WCVHDTR>



For further information please contact Emma Lynch, Church Engagement and Education Manager, Tearfund Ireland at emma.lynch@tearfund.ie.

Kindest regards

Karen Nicholson

Eco-Congregation Ireland

Wildlife in the Hot weather



Provide enough water

Provide a shallow dish of water for thirsty birds, mammals and even insects. Placing a small stone in the centre will help any insects that may fall in!



Top up the bird bath

Birds need water to bathe to keep their feathers in good condition, so top up the bird bath regularly with fresh, clean water



Top up your bird feeders

Keep bird feeders topped up and scatter some food, like apple chunks, on the floor for thrushes and other animals



Provide enough cover from the sun

Provide logs, stone slabs, rockeries and tall grass, which provide cover for frogs and newts seeking shelter from the sun



Top up your pond

Ponds that are low can be topped up. If your rain barrel is empty, use tap water – but add little and often



Stay messy

Wilder areas in the garden will provide shelter for a wide range of wildlife, so don't be too tidy

FROM 'INTIMATIONS OF IMMORTALITY'

by Wm Wordsworth

Then sing, ye Birds, sing, sing a joyous song!
And let the young Lambs bound
As to the tabor's sound!
We in thought will join your throng,
Ye that pipe and ye that play,
Ye that through your hearts to-day
Feel the gladness of the May!
What though the radiance which was once so bright
Be now for ever taken from my sight,
Though nothing can bring back the hour
Of splendour in the grass, of glory in the flower;
We will grieve not, rather find
Strength in what remains behind;
In the primal sympathy
Which having been must ever be;
In the soothing thoughts that spring
Out of human suffering;
In the faith that looks through death,
In years that bring the philosophic mind.

And O, ye Fountains, Meadows, Hills, and Groves,
Forebode not any severing of our loves!
Yet in my heart of hearts I feel your might;
I only have relinquished one delight
To live beneath your more habitual sway.
I love the Brooks which down their channels fret,
Even more than when I tripped lightly as they;
The innocent brightness of a new-born Day
Is lovely yet;
The Clouds that gather round the setting sun
Do take a sober colouring from an eye
That hath kept watch o'er man's mortality;
Another race hath been, and other palms are won.
Thanks to the human heart by which we live,
Thanks to its tenderness, its joys, and fears,
To me the meanest flower that blows can give
Thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears.

Submitted by Geoffrey May

FRAMED TO PERFECTION

by Paul McLaughlin



The frame will be of humble pine stained black to look like the much more expensive ebony it deserves, according to my mother and it will last a lifetime. It is her idea that it should look as impressive as possible, for as long as possible.

“You’ve done really well to get this certificate”, she says, “And we must have it looking its best”.

She has spoken to Mister Price, the framer who has ‘boxed’ practically every family photograph that that has ever hung on the walls of our terraced house. In those days in the early 1960s, the walls of our living room, covered top to toe in flowery wallpaper that would have embarrassed Kew Gardens, were like a who’s who of the family stretching back three generations.

Grannies and Grandas, aunts and uncles, a couple of great aunts of my mother that would have frightened Cinderella, as well as our own family looked down on us from the picture rail that ran right round the room. They had been there for more than ten years, but all was set to change.

Mister Price had suggested the pine alternative, while praising my efforts in the elocution examination that had generated the certificate. There was no hint of Yiddish tones in his voice, despite his family origins in Eastern Europe, and he cycled all the way from East Belfast, or ‘over the bridge’ as we called it back then, to ply his trade in the west of the city.

I remember him as a smiling, happy person, respectful and very well spoken. He had framed pictures for our grandmother since just after World War II and seemed to have been with our extended family for a lifetime. His praise for my efforts at elocution was the ultimate stamp of approval, at least to twelve-year-old me.

Our elocution teacher, Corkman Sean Dynan, known to all, behind his back of course, as ‘Dickie’, had spent a full year trying to unravel the strangulated vowels and smooth the rough, flat edges of our Belfast accents, that he described as ‘horrendous’. From the first day when he opened the old, brown attaché case, peered into it and began speaking to ‘Gertie’, he had our class in the palm of his hand.

‘Gertie’ turned out to be a leather strap that he waved about like a madman, describing her as an encourager of young men working for self-improvement. “You will”, he said more than once, “When I am finished with you, be speaking in the same rounded tones as BBC newsreader Malcom Kellard and have the bruises to prove it”.

Mister Kellard was the possessor of presentational skills, authority and easy charm, as well as a golden Northern Ireland voice – think Liam Neeson doing a honey advert – that made him the best in the business.

Dickie had picked an impossible man to imitate, but even so, I would watch and listen to the tea time news as often as I could to hear what the man was all about. He was about perfection.

Meanwhile schooldays at speech class were spent practising diphthongs and triphthongs and a series of nonsense rhymes and little poems designed, as Dynan put it, ‘to iron out the creases in our lazy tongues’.

Pastry Katy’s favourite cake, Timothy Titus and his two tups, the five plump peas in their pods, nothing was safe as we murdered the English language loud and not so clear.

The certificates were awarded at the end of the year when the Irish Speech Training Society examined some of us – only those who had paid the fifteen shillings to enter – and gave the best little Lord Fauntleroy the nod.

The rogues’ gallery of family came down that year when the new ‘trendy’ wallpaper went up. It was the Sixties after all. The pictures were wrapped safely in brown paper, put into individual pillowcases and despatched to exile in the attic.

The pine-framed certificate, celebrating a grade two in speech training from which Malcom K had nothing to fear, took its place proudly opposite the brass and oak crucifix that dominated the far wall where it remained for years. It had been made for life and, although the certificate is meaningless, the frame still looks as robust as the day it was made.



For Sound Expertise and Advice

formula HEALTH

Disability Aids including
Wheelchairs Walking Sticks
Scooters
Easier Living Rehabilitation Products
Incontinence Bed Pressure Care
Bathing Surgical Appliances
Toileting Cosytreat Footwear

Household Mobility Comfort & Dressing
• Easy Parking • Mail Order Available

Tel 028 9023 1002 City Centre Location

Open: Mon-Sat 8.45 - 5.30
59 High Street, Belfast BT1 2AB

www.formula-health.co.uk
email: formulahealth@aol.com

VICTORIA SHOE AND KEY SERVICES

THE NO.1 IN SHOE REPAIRS
WHILE YOU WAIT SERVICE

EVERY SHOE CAN BE REPAIRED

COMPREHENSIVE KEY SERVICE, LEATHER SOLES STITCHED ON, COMANDOS ETC.

QUALITY SHOE REPAIRS SINCE 1955

GOOD WORKMANSHIP ISN'T EXPENSIVE
IT'S PRICELESS.

CHURCH LANE
HIGH STREET
Belfast BT1 4QN Tel: 079-3476-0467

MUSIC LIST August 2023

Sunday 6th August **The Transfiguration of Our Lord**

11:00am Parish Eucharist & Holy Baptism

Processional Hymn Tis good Lord to be here **178**

Psalm 97

Gradual Hymn Glory to thee who safe has kept **233**

Offertory Hymn Jesu lover of my soul **383**

Recessional Hymn We have a gospel to proclaim **486**

Sunday 13th August

Trinity 10

11:00am Eucharist

Processional Hymn Christ whose glory fills the skies **234**

Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b

Gradual Hymn Thy kingdom come, O God **499**

Offertory Hymn O thou who camest from above **431**

Recessional Hymn The church's one foundation **484** (Omit *)

Sunday 20th August

Trinity 11

11:00am Parish Eucharist

Processional Hymn In the cross of Christ I glory **379**

Psalm 133

Gradual Hymn Blest are the pure in heart **341**

Offertory Hymn Love divine, all loves excelling **408**

Recessional Hymn O Jesus I have promised **420**

Sunday 27th August

Trinity 12

11:00am Parish Eucharist

Processional Hymn Christ is the King O friends rejoice! **345**

Psalm 124

Gradual Hymn All for Jesus **272**

Offertory Hymn Firmly I believe **360**

Recessional Hymn Forth in thy name I Lord I go **235**

CALENDAR August 2023

August 6

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

9:30am Eucharist: The Rector

11:00am Parish Eucharist & Holy Baptism: The Rector

Preacher: The Rector

Readings: Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1: 16-19; Luke 9: 28-36

Sanctuary Flowers: *Colin Young in memory of his parents, Margaret and James Young*

Reader: *Eleanor Maynard*

Intercessor: *Fr Tom Layden*

Servers: *Laura Brannigan, Mark Claney, Tony Merrick*

Tea and Coffee: *Fr Keith Suckling, Steven McQuitty*

5:00pm Evening Prayer: The Rector

Lessons: (Exodus 24: 12-18; 2 Corinthians 3 *Fr Graeme Pollock*)

August 9

10:30am Eucharist: The Rector

August 13

10th Sunday after Trinity

9:30am Eucharist: The Rector

11:00am Parish Eucharist & Holy Baptism: The Rector

Preacher: The Rector

Readings: Genesis 37: 1-4, 12-28; Romans 10: 5-15; Matthew 14: 22-33

Sanctuary Flowers: *Angela Keyes in memory of her mother Amy Hanna*

Reader: *George Woodman*

Intercessor: *Pam Tilson*

Servers: *Banji Akinyele, Joan Calder, Jonny Calder*

Tea and Coffee: *Linda McConnell, Yvonne Doherty*

5:00pm Evening Prayer: The Rector

Lessons: (1 Kings 11: 41 – 12: 20, Acts 14: 8-20 *Fr Tom Layden*)

August 16

10:30am Eucharist: The Rector

CALENDAR August 2023

August 20

11th Sunday after Trinity

9:30am Eucharist: The Rector

11:00am Parish Eucharist: The Rector

Preacher: The Rector

Readings: Genesis 45: 1-15; Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15: 21-28

Sanctuary Flowers: *Carol Ward in memory of Bill and Carrie Abell and daughter Kathy*

Reader: *Pam Tilson*

Intercessor: *George Woodman*

Servers: *Banji Akinyele, Omolewa Akinyele, Mark Claney*

Tea and Coffee: *Brenda Claney, Judith Fawcett*

5:00pm

Evening Prayer: The Rector

Lessons: (2 Kings 4: 1-37, Acts 16: 1-15 *Paddy Sloan*)

August 23

10:30am Eucharist: The Rector

August 27

12th Sunday after Trinity

9:30am Eucharist: Fr Terence Dunlop

11:00am Parish Eucharist: Fr Keith Suckling

Preacher: Fr Keith Suckling

Readings: Exodus 1: 8 – 2: 10; Romans 12: 1-8; Matthew 16: 13-20

Sanctuary Flowers: *In memory of Eric and Emily Boston*

Reader: *Janet Sandikli*

Intercessor: *Ann McBride*

Servers: *Steven McQuitty, Geoff Newell, Tony Merrick*

Tea and Coffee: *Valerie Roberts, Eileen Fee*

5:00pm Evening Prayer: Mr Meisam Khalili

Readings: (2 Kings 6: 8-23, Acts 17: 15-34 *Janet Sandikli*)

August 30

10:30am Eucharist: Fr Keith Suckling

August 31

1:00pm Eucharist: Fr Graeme Pollock

The Walsingham Group meets at this Eucharist – all welcome

