# The Parish Church of Saint George



**PARISH MAGAZINE** 

An open door in the heart of the City







**MAY 2024** 

### **PARISH CONTACTS**

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### **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 Rev'd Ian Frazer; The Venerable Scott Harte; The Rev'd Colin Young; The Rev'd Ray Rennix; The Rev'd Keith Suckling

### 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: Lyn McGlade Tel: 07841575541 Treasurer of the Select Vestry: Douglas McIldoon Tel: 028 9023 1831

#### WORSHIP:

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### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

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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: Vacant

Church and Hall Booking: Contact Churchwardens

Church and Churchyard Maintenance: Tony Merrick; Tel: 028 9042 7739

Gift Aid and Standing Orders: Selby Nesbitt; Tel: 028 9083 2562

Sexton: Vacant

### SAFEGUARDING TRUST TEAM

The Rector, Tel: 07902-792080; Lyn McGlade, Tel: 07841-575541; Karen Brett, Tel: 07951-410737; James Beattie Tel: 07375044433.



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

### From the Rector's Desk

Dear Friends in Christ,

Ascension Day this year will be on Thursday the 9th May. There will be an order one traditional language choral Eucharist at 7:30PM. Pentecost, or Whit Sunday, falls on the 19th May. Choral Evensong at 5:00PM marks International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia. The speaker will be Dr David Allderdice. Trinity Sunday, 26th May our preacher at 11:00AM will be Fr Omid Moludy from Manchester. Fr Omid will also preside and preach at a Farsi language Eucharist at 2:30PM for our Iranian parishioners. Corpus Christi will be observed on Thursday the 30th of May with a celebration of the Eucharist at 1:00PM when the Walsingham Group will be present. Lunch will be served afterwards.

This is a time of great concern and worry for many of our Iranian parishioners as tensions between Iran and Israel are ratcheting up as I write. Whilst they have legitimate concerns about the current regime in Iran, and most of them have been forced to flee from their homeland, they nevertheless still have family and friends living there about whom they are very worried, especially if Iran is targeted in any escalation of the conflict. Please assure them of your support, friendship and prayers for peace and a just and lasting resolution of the many issues facing the Middle East at this time.

As I said in my sermon on Sunday 14th April, social media is full of people speculating and even war mongering about the Middle East. We in Northern Ireland know only too well about those from near and far who pronounced and pontificated about our conflict here and who even took sides when the reality was that probably 98% of them knew little or nothing of our history and the issues in Northern Ireland. We would all do well to apply the same logic to opinions about Israel, Palestine, Iran and the Middle East in general. Instead, as Christians whose faith was born and nurtured in the Holy Land, we should redouble our prayers for peace and support organisations, who are genuinely seeking just and lasting resolutions. I commend to you an organisation called 'Embrace the Middle East', which is a long established Christian charity which promotes a just peace in the Holy Land and supports hospitals and other positive development projects amongst Palestinians and seeks to cooperate constructively with Israel.

May we and all God's children soon know the blessings of the Prince of Peace in our troubled world.

Yours sincerely in Christ



# SAFEGUARDING POLICY AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST GEORGE, BELFAST

It is the policy of the Church of Ireland to safeguard all children and vulnerable adults sharing in its ministry and to protect them from all forms of harm and abuse.

The Church of Ireland Child Protection Policy (known as The Safeguarding Trust) states that:

The Church of Ireland believes that children and vulnerable adults should never experience abuse of any kind. Everyone has a responsibility to promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and to keep them safe. The Church of Ireland is committed to implementing procedures and practices which safeguard all children and vulnerable adults.'

Recently Safeguarding responsibilities have also come to include all aspects of Church life relating to Health and Safety. Oversight of these matters is provided to the Select Vestry by a panel of four people who are appointed to deal with specific issues that might arise and also to ensure that all adults, who would be supervising the children of the Church, undertake a criminal record check to identify if they have committed any offence that would prohibit their involvement in Safeguarding at St George's; this is known as an Access NI check. The Access NI check is renewed every 3 years and is completed by all clergy who officiate, employees of the Church, and the members of the Safeguarding panel. Training in Safeguarding policies and protocols is provided by the Diocesan office and the Clergy, Employees, and Panel members are required to complete this on a 3 yearly basis.

Annual audits of Safeguarding and Health and Safety are undertaken by the Diocesan office, either in electronic form, or by meeting with representatives of the Diocesan office.

Parishioners will have observed that there is information provided on the noticeboards in the Church hall, noting who the members of the Safeguarding panel are, who the relevant Social Services (Gateway) contacts are and the policies relating to Complaints and Disciplinary procedures, the Grievance procedure, the Anti-Bullying policy, the Communications Policy and Working in Partnership with parents/guardians Policy. These updated policies were approved by the Select Vestry in January 2023.

For more information, please visit the website at:

Safeguarding.ireland.anglican.org/child-safeguarding-ni

# HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST GEORGE, BELFAST

As a Church, we understand that we owe a duty of care to ensure the safety of those who use or visit our Church, hall or Churchyard. We are aware that as an employer, we must meet the requirements of health and safety law. In particular, we know that if an employer has five or more employees, they are required to have a written health and safety policy, under Section 2(3) of the Health and Safety at Work Act, 1974. Whilst this does not apply to St Georges because we have fewer than 5 employees, the Select Vestry is required to provide a Health and Safety statement for the Parishioners and all who use the Church buildings and car park.

Our policy is to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that all activities at St Georges are carried out safely and do not pose a risk to the health of employees, congregation, volunteers, visitors and others who may use the Church, Churchyard or other parts of the building we are responsible for.

Whilst it is the duty of every individual to exercise personal responsibility for their own safety and the safety of others, the Select Vestry have overall responsibility for maintaining the safety of the buildings, regarding maintenance and repairs, modifications, inspections and tests and addressing any hazards. For example, we have regular electrical risk assessments and fire extinguisher servicing; we provide strict guidelines for the use of the kitchen; we are currently arranging for contrasting tiles to be laid at the steps of the Chancel, to make the steps more visible; and we are having a further hand- rail constructed, to assist the congregation in approaching the communion rail.

Accident and Incident books are maintained and are currently kept in the bottom kitchen drawer beside the cooker. All issues recorded are reported to the Select Vestry who will address any issues re repairs, change of practices etc.

Precautions are in place regarding the possibility of unknown persons gaining access to the building when activities involving the children of the Parish are taking place and when parishioners are working alone in the building.

Where problems cannot be corrected immediately, interim steps are taken to prevent danger. For example, regarding difficulties encountered in the Churchyard, we liaise with Belfast City Council, PSNI, and staff from the Welcome Centre, regarding safe practices.

Where necessary, we appoint someone who is competent to assist us in meeting our health and safety obligations, for example in maintaining the first aid kits and defibrillator and liaising with the organisation Safe Hands, who provide us with emergency aid training, including the use of the defibrillator. It is our aim in the very near future to arrange for a number of people to undertake First Aid training.

### PARISH NOTICES

### EASTER (GENERAL) VESTRY 2024

The Easter Vestry was held on **Sunday, April 14th at 12:30 PM**. The following appointments/elections were made;

### SELECT VESTRY

The Rector	William McArthur
Douglas McIldoon	Michael McGlade
Lyn McGlade	Peter Hunter
Philip Black	Chris Jenkins
Matty Jeffrey	Madeleine Welch
Fr Graeme Pollock	Francis Fitzgibbon
Jim McIlmoyle	-

CHURCHWARDENS			
	James Dingley		
PEOPLE'S	James Beattie		

## GLEBEWARDENS RECTOR'S Tony Merrick PEOPLE'S Pam Tilson

## CAR PARKING DURING THE WEEK AT ST GEORGE'S Parishioner Carparking (2024-2025)

The Annual Donation is now due from Parishioners who have a key fob to allow parking within the Churchyard.

The donation (NOW £50.00) is a gift for the privilege of carparking on one half day per week and should be considered separate from your 'giving' to the Church (i.e.. Standing Order or F.W.O.).

To renew please either:-

- I. Place the donation in an envelope clearly marked 'CARPARKING' together with your 'NAME' and telephone number/e-mail address (for communication purposes) and place it on the offering plate or,
- II. Send by Direct Bankers Order to Sort Code: 98 00 10 Account No: 09028029 using Reference **'CARPARK'**.

Your donation will permit the extension of your admission fob which is due to expire on 30<sup>th</sup> April, and the issuing of a new parking badge for display on your vehicle.

Any contracts which are not renewed will result in the fob being deactivated on 31st May.

Any new member of the congregation wishing to avail of car parking within the Churchyard (to a maximum of one half day per week) should contact - Roland Bailie : Tel: 078 1360 2122 or Email: rbailie6@gmail.com

### **ECO-CONGREGATION IRELAND GROUP**

### Let Nature Into your Garden

When you want to help local wildlife, native wildflowers are a great place to start. Here are some species you can add to your garden to give your local pollinators a boost.

**Heather** flowers are great for pollinators in the early spring, and it is also an important food plant for many species of caterpillar.

Nasturtium leaves are great for the caterpillars of large and small white butterflies, while their flowers will attract bumblebees.

**Dandelions** are vital for queen bumblebees, let them flourish in your garden.

Red valerian is a great choice if you'd like to try and attract hawk moths to your garden - hummingbird hawk moths use their long proboscis to reach the nectar at the base of the long flowers.

Ragged robin is a native wildflower, but garden varieties can do well in flowerbeds.

**Scabious** species add a splash of colour as well as nectar that will see insects through into the late summer or early autumn.

### Spring garden wildlife

As your garden begins to bloom, there is plenty of wildlife to look out for! Here are just a few species to get you started.



### Diaries from Tigray



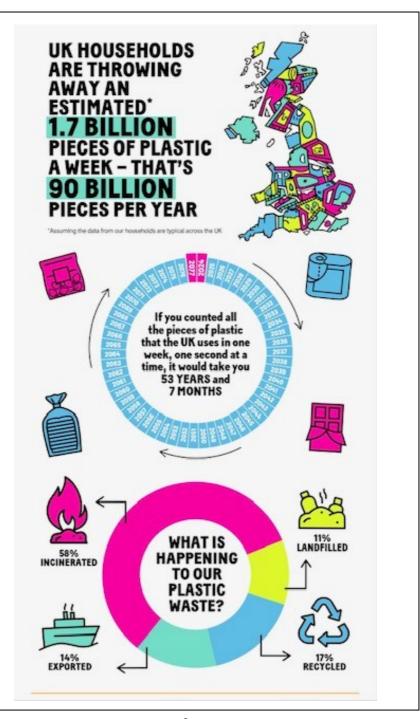
#### A message from Magnus



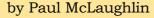
### Latest Statistics from Ethiopia

- Latest projections in Ethiopia show that almost 1 million children will suffer from acute malnutrition and 20 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, with 10.8 million including children says UNICEF.
- Relief Web states that disease outbreaks including cholera, malaria, and measles are increasing in northern Ethiopia and across the country.
- Roughly 7.06 million children remain out of school in Ethiopia which has been confirmed by <u>Education</u> <u>Cluster and UNICEF</u>.
- The WFP states that the ongoing drought has left an estimated 11.8 million people across Ethiopia facing severe hunger.

Specifically for the region of Tigray, our local partner tells us hat around half of all primary-age children are not surrently enrolled in school and around 15,000 teachers n Tigray are unaccounted for since the conflict.



### TOP MAN





Our high streets are a world away from the Belfast I remember as a youngster in the 1960s. Gone are the big department stores that still had the glamour of the 1930's with cage lifts, sweeping staircases and pneumatic tube systems that transported sales slips and money from very posh shop assistants to cashiers floors above them in the 'tube' rooms of the accounts' departments.

Gone are the hundreds of individually-owned small shops that sold everything from hardware to underwear. The tobacco shops, the emporiums, the handbag and leather stores, the half a dozen umbrella sellers, the myriad of others, most of whom boasted fine awnings that were designed to shade shopfronts from the sun, but came in handy when it rained. Which it did in abundance. Gone too, largely, is the quality of service that made customers feel special.

They are all now just memories as the malls swept all before them in the rush to modernise. No worries about the rain today as the big hitters of the high street are all under gigantic roofs, all spic and span, all very much the same.

Modernity, then on an April day in 1964, meant the Wimpey bar in Belfast's Wellington Place and an unforgettable lunch that I shared with my late father.

We had travelled to town on the number eleven trolley bus, sitting on the upper deck where my father lit a Senior Service cigarette, having struck a match on the little ridged metal bar called a stubber that was fixed to the back of the seat in front. I can still recall the smell of sulphur and how I was the only one 'upstairs' that wasn't smoking. Well, I was just eleven years old.

The results of the Eleven Plus exam had come out just weeks before and, luckily, I would be heading for the Christian Brothers' Grammar School come September. We'd passed it on our way into the city centre and it looked so grand in its red-bricked glory that I began to feel the first flush of anxiety that would mark my early days there.

But today was a different story. My father and I, for the first and only time in our lives were going clothes shopping for my new school uniform. I thought it strange at the time that my late mother was not involved, but that little mystery was soon to be resolved.

We ate hamburgers and French fries at the Wimpey, skinny chips my Dad called them, and drank tea out of Pyrex cups. I was fascinated that the placemats were printed with all that was available on the menu in vibrant, primary colours that looked good enough to eat.

All the time I watched as my father, in his good navy, serge suit, chatted about the shop that we were going to. He seemed as excited as I was.

I was not disappointed when after a long walk down the city's Royal

Avenue, where most of the population seemed to be walking to and fro and buses and cars honked and beeped for dominance in the roadway, we entered the premises of the gents' outfitters 'Jas Dunlop, Naval and Civilian Tailors'.

Inside was a world of peace and tranquility, interrupted only by the tinkle of a little doorbell that announced our arrival. Decked out in mahogany and brass the shop's main room exuded what I now realise was the atmosphere of a gentleman's club. And the gentleman who approached us was like something out of Central Casting. Think of Jeeves in an immaculate navy blue, three-piece-suit, dazzlingly white shirt and a tie, that certainly shone like silk, and the friendliest voice I had ever heard with no trace of a local accent to break the spell.

His outfit was matched only by his efficiency and within 20 minutes, a black duffle coat, black blazer, with school badge to follow, two pairs of grey trousers, short trousers of course, four pairs of grey knee socks with yellow and black bars, two grey V-neck jumpers, two grey, long-sleeved cotton shirts and underwear had been chosen and bought.

My father and the assistant who told me that his name was James, but, regrettably, not the James that owned the shop, chatted throughout like old friends.

We said our goodbyes and headed for the bus. "Do you know that man well, Daddy?" I said as we settled on the top deck once again. "Not well, Paul, but he sold me my wedding suit when I left the Royal Navy in 1946 and top men like that never forget a customer."

## A Poem by R.S. Thomas The Garden

It is a gesture against the wild, The ungovernable sea of grass; A place to remember love in, To be lonely for a while; To forget the voices of children Calling from a locked room; To substitute for the care Of one querulous human Hundreds of dumb needs.

It is the old kingdom of man. Answering to their names, Out of the soil the buds come, The silent detonations Of power wielded without sin.

Submitted by Geoffrey May

## **MUSIC LIST May 2024**

Sunday 5th May

Easter 6

11:00am Choral Eucharist Parish Choir

Processional Hymn The Church's one foundation 484

Setting Darke in e minor

Psalm 98

Gradual Hymn Come thou holy Spirit 139

Offertory Hymn Love divine 408

Communion Hymn 93

Motet Ubi Caritas - Gjello

Recessional Hymn Praise to the Lord 440

5:00pm Choral Evensong

Responses Ayleward

Psalm 45

Setting Stanford in C

Anthem Insanae et Vanae Curae - Haydn

Hymns **137**, **310** 

Thursday 9th May

Ascension Day Parish Choir

Parish Choir

7:30pm Choral Eucharist

Processional Hymn All hail the power **332** Setting Mass in G - Schubert

Psalm 47

Gradual Hymn Immortal **377**Offertory Hymn Angel Voices **336** 

Communion Hymn 308

Anthem God is gone up - Finzi Recessional Hymn Praise to the Lord **440** 

Sunday 12th May

**Sunday after Ascension Day** 

11:00am Choral Eucharist

Parish Choir

Processional hymn All hail the power of Jesu's name 332

Psalm 1

Setting Stanford in C and F

Gradual Hymn All ye who seek a comfort **63**Offertory Hymn Come let us join our cheerful **349** 

Communion Hymn 280

Anthem God is gone up - Finzi

Recessional Hymn Crown him with many crowns **352** 

### **MUSIC LIST May 2024**

### Sunday 12th May

### **Sunday after Ascension Day**

### 5:00pm Choral Evensong

**Choral Scholars** 

Responses Hunter Psalm 147: 1-11

Setting Arnold Faux bourdons Anthem If ye love me - *Tallis* 

Hymns **130**, **134** 

### Sunday 19th May

**Pentecost** 

Parish choir

11am Choral Eucharist

Processional Hymn Come Holy Ghost 138

Setting Mass of the Quiet hour - *Oldroyd* 

Psalm 104: 24-36

Gradual Hymn Breathe on me **402**Offertory Hymn O worship the King **433** 

Communion Hymn 289

Anthem Come Holy Ghost - Attwood Recessional Hymn Forth in the peace **361** 

### 5pm Choral Evensong

**Chamber Choir** 

IDAHOT

Responses Sanders
Psalm 139: 1-11
Setting Muriel in E

Anthem The Spirit of the lord - Elgar

Hymns **425**, **461** 

Sunday 26th May 11am Choral Eucharist **Trinity Sunday** 

Parish choir

Processional Hymn Holy, Holy, Holy 146

Setting Missa 'Princeps Pacis' - Lloyd Webber

Psalm 29

Gradual Hymn Angel Voices **336** 

Offertory Hymn I Bind unto myself **159** (Omit vs 4,5)

Communion Hymn 275

Anthem Make a joyful noise - *Mathias* 

Recessional Hymn How shall I sing that majesty (Coe Fen)

(See separate sheet)

5pm Choral Eucharist

Setting Merbecke

Motet Ave verum - *Byrd* Hymns **336**, **146**, **408** 

	CALENDAR May 2024		
May 5	6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - ROGATION SUNDAY		
9:30am	<b>Eucharist</b> : The Rector		
11:00am	Choral Eucharist: The Rector		
	Preacher: The Rector		
	Readings: Acts 10: 44-48; 1 John 5: 1-6; John 15: 9-17		
	Reader: Wardens		
	Intercessor: Janet Sandikli		
	Servers: Mark Claney, Agape Laoye, Tony Merrick		
	Tea and Coffee: Linda McConnell, Yvonne Doherty		
5:00pm	Choral Evensong: The Rector		
	Lessons: Song of Solomon 4: 16 – 5: 2, 8: 6-7;		
	Revelation 3: 14-22 (Fr Tom Layden)		
May 8	JULIAN OF NORWICH		
10:30am	Eucharist: The Rector		
May 9	ASCENSION DAY		
7:30pm	Choral Eucharist (Order 1)		
May 12	SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION DAY		
9:30am	Eucharist: The Rector		
11:00am	Choral Eucharist: The Rector		
	Preacher: The Rector		
	Readings: Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26; 1 John 5: 9-13;		
	John 17: 6-19		
	Reader: Wardens		
	Intercessor: Janice Carruthers		
	Servers: Banji Akinyele, Steven McQuitty, Mark Claney		
	Tea and Coffee: Fatemeh, Mohammad with Eleanor		
5:00pm	Choral Evensong: The Rector		
	Lessons: Isaiah 61: 1-11; Luke 4: 14-21 (Paddy Sloan)		
May 15	The should		
10:30am	Eucharist		
May 19 9:30am	THE DAY OF PENTECOST - WHIT SUNDAY  Eucharist: The Rector		
9:30am 11:00am	Choral Eucharist: The Rector		
11:00am	Preacher: The Rector		
	Readings: Acts 2: 1-21; Romans 8: 22-27; John 15: 26-27,		
	readings. Acts 2. 1-21, rollians 0. 22-21, John 15. 20-21,		

16: 4b-15 Reader: Brenda Claney Intercessor: The Rector Servers: Omolewa Akinyele, Steven McQuitty, Jonny

Calder

Tea and Coffee: Betty Flynn, Dot Lutton

<b>CALENDAR Ma</b>	v 2024	
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**5:00pm | Choral Evensong:** The Rector

**Speaker:** Dr David Alderdice

Lessons: Ezekiel 36: 22-28; Acts 2: 22-38

(Janet Sandikli)

**May 22** 

**10:30am** | **Eucharist**: The Rector

May 26 TRINITY SUNDAY

**9:30am Eucharist**: The Rector

11:00am | Choral Eucharist: The Rector

Preacher: Fr Omid Moludy

Readings: Isaiah 6: 1-8; Romans 8: 12-17; John 3: 1-17

Reader: Paul McLaughlin Intercessor: Fr Tom Layden

Servers: Banji Akinyele, Mark Claney, Tony Merrick

Tea and Coffee: Mina Kelly, Richard Oldfield

2:30pm | Farsi Language Eucharist

Preacher: Fr Omid Moludy

5:00pm | Choral Eucharist: The Rector

Lessons: Revelation 4: 1-11; John 3: 1-15

(Fr Graeme Pollock)

**CORPUS CHRISTI** 

**May 29** 

10:30am | Eucharist: The Rector

May 30

**1:00pm** | **Eucharist**: The Rector & Fr Graeme Pollock

The Walsingham Group meets at this Eucharist, - all

welcome.