

Parish News

Greenisland Parish Magazine

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Inside:

- Message from the Rural Dean
- Church during COVID-19
- Easter General Vestry Meeting
- Christmas Services
- Church Notices



The Church of the Holy Name

G r e e n i s l a n d

Rural Dean	Revd Brian Lacey (Home) 90777053
Parish Secretary	Mrs Christine Jones T: (Office) 9085 9676 (Home) 9086 7322
Parish Visitors	Tony Jones, Roger Martin,.
Mission Partners	Gary & Mary Reid, Cecilia Valdiviso.
Parish Panel	Rural Dean, Mr Roger Martin & Mrs Christine Jones.
Churchwardens	Roger Martin (Rector's) Lorna Brown (People's)
Glebewardens	Harry Donnelly(Rector's) Vacant (People's)
Select Vestry	Jenny Robinson, Doreen Faulkner, Fiona Gray, Erin Hill, Lynn McClurg, Catherine Evans, Christine Jones, Sandra Gourley, Leslie Gourley.
Hon Secretary	Mrs Doreen Faulkner
Hon Treasurer	Mrs Erin Hill
FWO Secretary	Mrs Christine Jones
Gift Aid Manager	Mr Roger Martin
Gazette Representative	Mrs Joan Robinson
Hon Auditor	Mr Harry Knott

Weekly Events (subject to Covid19 restrictions)

Sunday Services	10.30am Family Communion (1st Sunday)
	10.30am Service of the Word (2nd Sunday)
	10.30am All Age Worship (3rd Sunday)
	10.30am Morning Prayer (4th Sunday)
	10.30am Service of the Word (5th Sunday)

Wednesday	2.00pm	Sewing Group
	7.00pm	Sewing Group (fortnightly)

Thursday	7.30pm to 9pm	Prayer available in church
	7.30pm	Select Vestry (3rd Thursday)

Parish Office	Wed 10am - 12noon, Thursday 9.30am - 1.00pm, Friday 9.30am - 1.00pm	T: 028 9085 9676
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www.greenisland.connor.anglican.com
facebook.com/greenislandparish

Registers and VisitationP2

Message from Rural DeanP3

Church Services During Covid19.....P4

Christmas ServicesP5

Easter Vestry ReportP6/7

Special Services/Open Door.....P8

Church NewsP9

Kids Page.....P10

Kidz @ ChurchP11

Church NoticesP12/13

Church Services.....P14

Greenisland Parish Magazine	
	Registers and Visitation

Funerals:

11th Sept . Matilda McCracken, Knockleigh Drive, Greenisland.

Weddings:

3rd Oct. Matthew James Todd and Emma Louise Blair.

Baptisms:

18th Oct. Katie Sophia Hadden, Station Road, Greenisland.

17th Nov. Anthony Daniel Bissett, Moyard Gardens, Greenisland

PASTORAL VISITS

In place of a rector, the Rural Dean, Rev'd Brian Lacey (90777053) will oversee the provision of pastoral care, alongside our Lay Pastoral Care Team, led by Roger Martin (07884182838). If you need pastoral care, then please do get in touch.

Anyone going into hospital should be asked their religious denomination, but unfortunately this does not always happen. It is therefore important that you take the initiative to let us know if you or a loved one will be—or has been—admitted to hospital.

Coronavirus regulations have impacted on how the Church provides pastoral care, and this means that visits to hospital or parishioners' homes have been understandably curtailed. We can, however, talk over the phone or use modern methods of communication such as WhatsApp video. With regard to hospital visits, the Rural Dean will inform the relevant hospital chaplain, who will be pleased to visit and pray with you.

Greenisland Parish Magazine	
	Articles

Message from The Rural Dean

Dear Parishioners

Greenisland Parish has now been vacant for almost two-and-a-half years, which means that this is the third time I have written a Christmas message. I don't recall the previous two occasions, which means that you probably don't either. Such a lapse in memory comes in very handy in the Church, as it means that clergy can get away with repeating sermons once in a while and nobody seems to notice. But it also shows that the Church is always moving forward; there is always something new happening, and the events of the past fade away. Of course, this past year in particular has been so memorable that it's hard to remember the normality of life before Covid-19. I mean, can you even remember shaking hands with people, and the good old days when only burglars wore masks? Do you remember when you could cough or sneeze in public without causing an international incident? There's no doubt about it: The world has changed. What hasn't changed, however, is the love of God for each of us. And even though many people have experienced great financial, physical, and emotional hardship during the Pandemic, God has been with us throughout. He has given strength to us during times of hardship, and he has received into his loving arms all those who have died. As we think about Christmas presents in the coming weeks, let's remember the greatest gift that we have received: The peace, joy, and love of Jesus Christ.

Elsewhere in the magazine, you'll read about the newly elected Select Vestry and Officers for the parish. May I thank them on behalf of both the parish, for volunteering for these important roles which are vital to sustain the work and witness of the Church.

During the ongoing vacancy, please do contact me in order to arrange a baptism, wedding, or funeral, or if you simply need to talk. I will be delighted to help in any way that I can.

Perhaps it's too early to say this, but have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

God be with you,

Brian (*Rev'd Brian Lacey, Rector of St Peter & St James, Belfast*)

Greenisland Parish Magazine	
	Articles

Church Services During COVID19

The Rural Dean and Select Vestry made the decision to re-open the Church of the Holy Name for worship on Sunday 6th September. It is wonderful to praise God together again, but please note and follow these rules if you intend to come to church:

- The service will begin as normal at 10:30am, and last forty minutes.
- Please use hand sanitiser when you enter the building. You must, if possible, wear a face mask. If you wish to wear gloves, please wear a fresh pair that have not been worn elsewhere.
- For the purposes of contact tracing if someone falls ill, your name and telephone number will be recorded each time you come to worship.
- There will be a one-way system: You will enter through the foyer of the halls, and exit through the external door of the church
- The rows of seats have been spaced out further, and a distance of two metres will be maintained between members of different households.
- You will be instructed where to sit by the Churchwardens, filling up from the front of the church
- Instead of a printed order of service, the text of the service will be displayed on the projector screen.
- There will be no congregational singing, but there may be a small choir who will sing one or two hymns.
- Children will remain with their parents throughout the service.
- If there is Holy Communion, you will remain in your seat, rather than moving forward to the communion rails.
- To limit the amount of movement within the church, there will be no FWO collection during the service. Any FWO envelopes or loose money should be deposited before or after the service in the marked box at the back of the church.
- Except in the case of serious emergencies, the toilets will be unavailable as otherwise they would need to be cleaned thoroughly between each person using them.
- At the end of the service, you should remain at your seat until the Churchwardens instructs you to leave.
- Despite our understandable desire to have a chat with those whom we haven't seen for a few months, groups of people will not be permitted to form inside the church building and will be strongly discouraged on church grounds.

Greenisland Parish Magazine	
	Christmas Services

Christmas at Greenisland Parish Church



**Sunday 13th December (Rev Paul Redfern)
10-30am: Santa With A Difference**

Gifts for this service can be donated from Sunday 29th November onwards (Advent Sunday). This year the gifts will have to be left at back of church 72 hours before the service on 13th December (in line with strict Covid-19 protocols). They can be toys or toiletry gifts as all donations will again be sent to Women's Aid in Carrickfergus to help needy families in Carrickfergus/Greenisland area. Gifts should be unwrapped and left on the table outside Parish Office on Sundays from 29th November onwards.

Santa will be making an appearance! But it will be a little different this year as children cannot come up to front of church to give their gifts to Santa - all gifts/donations will be at back of church but he will talk to everyone from front of church!

**Sunday 20th December (Rev Paul Redfern)
10-30am: Christmas Carol Service
Nine Lessons and Carols**

**Christmas Day (Rev David Armstrong)
10-30am: Family Service**

**Please note , due to latest Covid restrictions there is no service on
6th Dec**

Christmas Choir

Sadly, due to Covid19 restrictions we are unable to have a Church Choir at Christmas, Sandra will contact individual performers about Christmas arrangements.

If anybody has a favourite hymn or Carol they would like to hear at Sunday Service, please let our Music Director, Sandra know.

Greenisland Parish Magazine	
	Easter Vestry Meeting

Annual Easter Vestry Elections 2020

The Easter Vestry meeting is as the name suggests is normally held around Easter, but this year has not been a normal year due to the Coronavirus pandemic and the restrictions imposed to control the spread of the virus. This year the meeting was held on Sunday 11th October after the Harvest Service. In the absence of an incumbent rector, the meeting was chaired by the Rural Dean, Rev Brian Lacey.

The minutes of the 2019 Easter Vestry were approved and the Honorary Treasurer, Erin Hill gave a report on parish finances which was noted and accepted by all present.

A major item of business for the meeting was the election of the Select Vestry and various parish officers who will serve for the forthcoming year to Easter 2021, a somewhat shortened term of office. In addition, as this was a Triennial Easter Vestry, Diocesan representatives and Parochial Nominators, who will serve for three years, were also elected.

This year one existing member of the Select Vestry, Dana Cochrane, decided not to seek re-election, our thanks to Dana for her contribution to the work of the Select Vestry in recent years. In addition a number of positions were left unfilled and there is scope for four further members to be added to the Select Vestry. If any Church member is interested in volunteering to join the Select Vestry and/or take up one of the unfilled posts, they would be more than welcome and should speak to one of the Churchwardens in the first instance.

The following appointments/elections were made:

- Rector's Churchwarden:** Mr Roger Martin
- People's Churchwarden:** Mrs Lorna Brown
- Rector's Glebewarden:** Mr Harry Donnelly
- People's Glebewarden :** Vacant

Greenisland Parish Magazine	

Select Vestry Members:

Mrs Jenny Robinson, Mrs Doreen Faulkner, Mr Leslie Gourley, Mrs Sandra Gourley, Mrs Fiona Gray, Mrs Erin Hill, Mrs Lynn McClurg, Mrs Catherine Evans, Mrs Christine Jones.

Honorary Treasurer:

Mrs Erin Hill

Honorary Secretary:

Mrs Doreen Faulkner

Diocesan Synodspersons:

Mrs Erin Hill and Mrs Lorna Brown

Supplemental Diocesan Synodspersons:

Mr Roger Martin and Mr Harry Knott

Diocesan Synod Representative (aged under 35):

Vacant

Parochial Nominators:

Mrs Doreen Faulkner, Mr Roger Martin,

Mrs Lynn McClurg, Mr Harry Donnelly

Supplemental Parochial Nominators:

Mrs Lorna Brown and Mr Harry Knott

A Daily Prayer

Dear Lord, I don't know who or what will cross my path today. But I do know that You are my rock and my Fortress. You are my Shield and my Strong Tower. Help me to anchor myself to You today. Teach me how to stand strong in You and choose only Your way today. Help me walk by Your truth and not my feelings. Help me to embrace anything that comes my way as an opportunity to see You at work and as an opportunity to point others to You.

Amen

Greenisland Parish Magazine	
	Special Services

World Day of Prayer Service

The World Day of Prayer Service will be held in our church on Friday 5th March 2021 at 7.30pm.

The theme this year is 'Build on a Strong Foundation' and the Service Booklet has been prepared this year by the people of Vanuatu.

Everyone is welcome and other churches in Greenisland will be invited to attend this service.

Open Door Service

During the Covid19 pandemic the monthly Open door service has been cancelled. It is hoped that this will re-commence later this year and details will be announced in Church and on the website.

The Open Door service is normally held monthly and starts with worship (a Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion service) followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre.



Prayer Evenings

Prayer is an essential part of our relationship with God, he promises that he hears our prayers and he will answer them. Prayer time is our private meeting with God, it is a time when we can help develop our relationship with him and draw closer to him.

We are delighted that the lifting of some Covid19 restrictions has allowed us to open the Church for prayer on Thursday evenings. Every Thursday evening from 7-30PM to 9PM the Church is open for prayer. Everyone is welcome to come and spend some time listening and talking to God.

Greenisland Parish Magazine	
	Church News

Greenisland Parish Community Shop

The Parish Community Shop, is trading well and continuing to provide a valuable service to the local community, particularly during the Covid19 lockdown period.

We would urge you to continue to support the shop both as a customer and perhaps as a volunteer. If you haven't tried the shop you are missing out on some great bargains!

We are always looking for volunteers to do even a few hours each week to help the staff currently working there. No previous experience needed and I can assure you - you will enjoy the craic!

Anyone interested please have a word with any member of the Select Vestry or see David in the shop.

Thanks for your support.
Roger

Church Flowers

Every Sunday it is nice to see the Church decorated with fresh flowers. This adds colour to the church and reminds us of the beauty of Gods creation.

Sadly there is now only a small number of people on the weekly flower rota. If you would like to add your name to the rota or simply donate flowers, please speak to the Church Wardens or Doreen Faulkner.

Thank You!

Holy Communion

Whilst Covid19 restriction are in place the early morning Holy Communion service on the third Sunday in the month will be cancelled. Any change to this will be announced in Church. Holy Communion will still be celebrated at the 10-30 service on the first Sunday in the month.

Colour the Christmas Scene:



There are some great resources on the Ripple website for Kids , I have borrowed one below. Check it out at: <https://www.rippleconnor.or.uk/resources/>

Angel Buns (reproduced from Ripple Children's ministry Connor)

You will need

Marshmallows
Melted chocolate
White Chocolate Buttons Maltesers
Bun Cases

What to do

Put some chocolate in the bottom of the bun case (like a top hat)

Put in a marshmallow

Attach the Malteser on top using melted chocolate

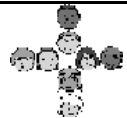
Use melted chocolate to attach white chocolate buttons for halo and wings.



Greenisland Parish Magazine	
	KIDSZ@CHURCH



KIDZ @ CHURCH



Due to the Covid19 pandemic and the restrictions in place to control the spread of the virus and try to keep us all safe, the Sunday club and other Kids activities have been temporarily suspended. We hope that this restriction will soon be relaxed but for now kids will have to remain in church throughout the service with their parents.

Sadly, the Covid-19 restrictions means that our usual Christmas Nativity Play will not be possible, however we hope to have a Nativity performance on Sunday the 13th December when we also expect a visit from Santa with a difference. Sadly even Santa has to keep his distance but we hope he will still chat to the children from the front of the Church.

This year the gifts for Santa will have to be left at back of church 72 hours before the service on 13th December (in line with strict Covid-19 protocols). They can be toys or toiletry gifts as all donations will be sent to Women's Aid in Carrickfergus to help needy families in the Carrickfergus/Greenisland area. Gifts should be unwrapped and left on table outside the Parish Office on Sundays from 29th November onwards.

Prior to the current situation it has been great to see so many of our younger people regularly at church and Sunday Club, you are a blessing! We hope that the current suspension will not dampen your enthusiasm and that those who can will continue to attend church and return to Sunday club when it recommences.

On the third Sunday of each month we have our all-age family service when everyone stays in church together. And the younger members of the Church take a leading role in the service. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate all that God has done for us, encouraging each other in our faith, however tall or small we are!

There is no better way to give your child the best start in life than bringing them regularly along to church and being involved in our kids activities.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER FUNERAL SERVICES

Covid19 restrictions mean that we are not able to offer refreshments after funeral services. This situation may change and if so it will be announced in Church. When making funeral arrangements with the Rural Dean you can check if refreshments are available, if they are and you wish to avail of the service please ask the Rural Dean for details. Typical prices for the refreshment service are:

Sandwiches, shortbread, tea/coffee £5 per head

Soup, sandwiches, shortbread, tea/coffee £7 per head

Sandwiches, sausage rolls, £8 per head
cocktail sausages, shortbread,
tea/coffee

You will be asked to give approximate numbers to be catered for, and which of the above menus you require. Should the numbers taking refreshments exceed the numbers given you will be invoiced for the numbers who have received refreshments.

Mission Agency Information

In the foyer of the Parish Centre you can find information about various Christian mission agencies that our church supports. God's work is wide ranging! From agencies involved in compassionate mission work in Northern Ireland to those who minister to street children in South America.

All the literature is free. I encourage you to stop for a moment at the display and take booklets about the mission work that you find interesting.

Greenisland Parish Magazine	
	Church Notices

CHILD PROTECTION

The Safeguarding Trust Panel is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Church of Ireland's child protection policies.



The Panel will meet in January 2021 to receive any reports from concerned parishioners, and to prepare for the year ahead.

If you are concerned about the safety of children during worship, Sunday School, or parish events, then please bring your concerns to the attention of the Panel as soon as possible.

The members of the Safeguarding Trust Panel are:

Mrs Christine Jones: 028 90 867 322
 Mr Roger Martin: 07884 182 838
 Rev'd Brian Lacey 028 90 777 053

Christmas Events at St Anne's Cathedral

10th Dec : Lunchtime Organ Recital : Ian Mills. 13:10-13:45

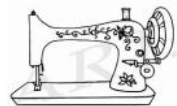
20th Dec : Children's Crib Service 15:30-16:30

22nd/23rd/24th Dec: Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols : 19:30-20:45

Due to Covid-19 these are provisional , more details at: <https://www.belfastcathedral.org/events>



Crafty Ladies and Sew Good Friends



Subject to Covid19 restrictions Crafty ladies meet every Wednesday afternoon 2pm – 4pm and Sew Good friends meet every other Wednesday evening 7pm – 9pm. Come along and have some fun time knitting, crocheting or sewing and enjoy a cuppa.

Greenisland Parish Magazine		
		Sunday Services
Sunday 6th December	Second Sunday of Advent	No Service, due to Covid Restrictions.
Sunday 13th December	Third Sunday of Advent	Service of the Word (with Santa with a Difference) 10.30am (Rev Paul Redfern)
Sunday 20th December	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Christmas Carol Service. Nine Lessons and Carols. 10.30am (Rev Paul Redfern)
CHRISTMAS DAY 25th December	Christmas Day	Christmas Day Family Service 10.30am (Rev David Armstrong)
Sunday 27th December	First Sunday of Christmas	Christmas Morning Prayer 10.30am (Rev David Armstrong)
Sunday 3rd January 2021	Second Sunday of Christmas	Parish Holy Communion 10.30am
Sunday 10th January	Epiphany Sunday	Service of the Word 10.30am
Sunday 17th January	Epiphany 2	All-Age Family Service 10.30am
Sunday 24th January	Epiphany 3	Morning Prayer 10.30am
Sunday 31st January	Epiphany 4	Service of the Word 10.30am
Sunday 7th February	Second Sunday before Lent	Parish Holy Communion 10.30am
Sunday 14th February	Sunday before Lent	Service of the Word 10.30am
Sunday 21st February	First Sunday in Lent	All-Age Family Service 10.30am
Sunday 28th February	Second Sunday in Lent	Morning Prayer 10.30am