

Letter from the Rectory

Hello

It's September and a new term has begun for many organisations after the summer break. Summer is one of those times when we seek a period of rest and for many it recharges the batteries in preparation for another season or indeed simply to be able to see the

winter months through.

It will soon be a year since I was instituted as your NEW rector. We have settled well and feel so at home in Derryvolgie. I have spent much of the last year watching and listening as I have got to know you. I have also been praying strategically and pastorally for the parish and the community in which we have been placed.

I believe with all my heart that God has BIG things for this community. As we look through the scriptures we see that every move of God has always begun with a period of individuals and churches seeking God in a new and fresh way.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYING LIKE JESUS

EACH SUNDAY MORNING AT 10.30AM

TAKING IT DEEPER EACH WEDNESDAY AT 7.30PM

ST COLUMBA'S DERRYVOLGIE



PRAYER TIME

**Starting
Thursday 12th Sept
7.00AM**

It's time to get our hands dirty

www.derryvolgie.com

That is why we are looking at the **LORDS PRAYER** as we launch this term. Learning to pray like Jesus. Each Sunday we will take a different phrase from the prayer and see what it means for us as a church. Then on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm we will take that same theme deeper as we explore it together gathered around God's word. I would love you to commit to be a part of this.

We will also be gathering at 7.00am on Thursday mornings to pray. Often we are unsure what that might look like or think that we might be asked to do something. Can I assure you that you can have confidence that you will not be forced to do anything you are not comfortable with. I am also certain that it will be a time of blessing for those who come as we seek the Lord. The format will be simple – gathering at 7.00am, there will be tea/coffee and toast and you are free to leave at whatever time you need to but we will be finished by 8.00am.

Archbishop William Temple once said '*When I pray, coincidences happen, and when I don't, they don't.*'

We often use the phrase 'getting our hands dirty' to describe a situation where someone is at work. There is no greater work the Christian can be involved in than that of prayer.... It's time to get our hands dirty.

Every Blessing, James



The Big FABulous Holiday Bible Club!!

An average of 35 children joined us for fun, games and teaching each evening. It was evident that the week was a success by the great number of children and their families who came and took part in our closing service and barbeque on Sunday 25th August. The sun shone, the food was great, church members and visitors were in no hurry to rush away – a great reflection on how friendly and welcoming our church family is!

A big thank you to all who took part – the leaders, sign in and welcome team, snack preparers, barbeque cooks and servers, James our leader, those who set up and tidied away, and all the church who welcomed and joined in enthusiastically with our action antics!

FAB is now back on for more fun and Christian teaching for primary age children at 6.30 – 8 pm the first 3 Fridays each month. We have plans made and a great team in place who would love to welcome children of this age group, so spread the word!

Derryvolgie Kids:

My name is **Emily Buchanan**. I am 10 years old. I like singing, reading, drawing and writing. I love church because I like hymns and Sunday Club and I have lots of friends at church. Being a Christian is great because you get really involved with God and church so it's like another family.

I'm **Rebecca Buchanan** age 8 and I like reading and drawing. My favourite animal is a cat. I like coming to church to learn about God and I like Sunday Club, it is fun especially the biscuits afterwards and playing in the hall! I like drawing pictures of what happens in the Bible. Being a Christian means a lot to me.





Sunday Club

Our Prize giving service in June was a wonderful celebration of our young people with action songs and choice of books for all young people in our church family and for the presentation of the Trophy. To me, all our children are winners and it is such a difficult decision, but this year it was shared by two families' Allegra and Stephen Robinson and Rebecca and Emily Buchanan. Congratulations!!

We start back on 15th September when Anne and I will share responsibility for coordinating Sunday Club.

Due to increased numbers we are now splitting the class into two. I will lead the Nursery to P3 age group and Anne will lead P4 up. We are also joined by a great team of people to teach and assist, allowing Anne and I to be in church to continue our Christian learning!

We all look forward to a fun term as we continue to pilot the scheme, **All Aboard**, planned by Jill Hamilton, and plan to take our part regularly in the church service keeping you fit as you join us in action song!!

Noreen Kavanagh

Busy Bags



This is a very simple idea yet a very powerful one that says to young families – you are welcome here. We have been able to provide several busy bags that are filled with different age appropriate activities for babies and young children. They are now available at the back of church. All you need to do is look for the one with your age on the tag, pick it up on the way in and leave it back on the way out. A big thank you to the crafters who made the bags and to those who supplied the items for inclusion.

Praying for Harmony Hill Primary School

TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

9.15 for coffee

Gathering to pray at 9.30am





HARVEST CELEBRATIONS INFORMATION

Our Harvest Appeal donations will be divided between Emerge and Derryvolgie Church Funds. If you would like to give a donation, please use the envelope provided in this magazine or pick one up in the Church Foyer.

The Pot Luck lunch operates on the principle that everyone makes a contribution to the Lunch (Main courses & desserts) if you can bring something tasty along, add it to the list in the foyer.

Sat 12th Oct, 10.30am - Meet at the church for our Autumn Tidy Up and to decorate the church for the Harvest Service. We also need help setting up the bottom hall for the lunch so the more volunteers the merrier! Thank you!

Sun 13th Oct, 10.30am - Harvest Sunday Service followed by Lunch **Everyone Welcome**. Please add your name & number attending to the list in the foyer.

Emerge – Our Harvest 2019 Charity

Harvest is celebrated by churches around the world to remember the splendour of creation and to give thanks for the provision of a faithful God. As we look up to be thankful it is also an opportunity to look outward enabling us to bless others. This year half of our Harvest donations will go to a local charity here in Lisburn called EMERGE. They offer a variety of services which include – drop-in, counselling and training for anyone who has concerns with mental health. You can find out more about their work by visiting www.emergecounsellingservices.co.uk. They have only been in existence for less than a year and already have seen a large volume of people seeking help through their services. They are solely reliant on community funding and we are pleased to say that we will be able to help them in this regard. Please give generously to such a great charity.



Our underwear goes a long way.

SMALLS FOR ALL
Smalls for All® is a Scottish charity which collects and distributes underwear to help women and children in Africa and the UK. In Africa, they help those living in orphanages, slums, IDP (internally displaced persons) camps and schools, as well as those in hospitals suffering from medical conditions like obstetric fistula.

While people living in Western Society tend to have easy access to underwear and take it for granted, in many more remote or poorer parts of Africa, that's far from the case. Underwear is a luxury that isn't easily available and, if it is, many people just can't afford.

They accept donations of new pants and new bras and gently worn bras and we are pleased to say we recently dispatched two large parcels which have been received with thanks. You can find out more about the charity by visiting www.smallsforall.org. Thank you to all who have donated and you can continue to do so by speaking to **Shirley Boyd**.



A FAVOURITE HYMN – “What a friend we have in Jesus.”



There can be few hymns that are sung more often or enjoy the popularity of “What a friend we have in Jesus.” A child can understand the idea of friendship that is central to the hymn while an adult may identify with the ‘trials and temptations,’ the ‘sorrows’ and the ‘load of care’ that life often brings with it. It is a hymn of hope and comfort.

Interestingly, it began life, not as a hymn but as a poem. The writer was Joseph Scrivens who was born in Banbridge County Down in 1819. Scrivens’ life was not without its sorrows and cares. On the day before he was due to be married, his bride-to-be fell from a horse crossing a bridge and drowned in the River Bann. Scrivens left Ireland and settled in Canada. He had become influenced by the

Plymouth Brethren and devoted his life there to tutoring, preaching and doing good works for the poor and needy.

In Canada, tragedy once again struck him. His new bride-to-be there developed pneumonia and died in August 1860. In spite of his hardships, Scrivens maintained his hopeful spirit and continued his ministry helping the poor and needy.

The first version of “What a friend we have in Jesus” was written by Scrivens to his mother in the form of a poem. The poem was entitled “Pray without ceasing”. Scrivens’ mother had become ill. Joseph did not have the means to return to visit her but he sent her these inspiring words of encouragement and hope. The poem was later set to music. Scrivens died in uncertain circumstances in Canada in 1886.

DERRYVOLGIE MEN's GROUP

The members of the Men’s Group ended their programme with meetings in May and June before the summer break. On a pleasant evening in May, a group of the more sporting members gathered at the Down Royal course for the traditional golf competition. By all accounts, the standard of golf needed to be seen to be believed! There was, however, no doubt about the enjoyment of the evening. James and Mark proved to be players with a lot of potential and were indeed first-time prize winners on the night. The evening concluded when the golfers and the not so sporting members joined together at Fred’s house for his traditional BBQ. We are very grateful to Fred for his hospitality and for the fine array of food he provided.

In June, the meeting was in-house. Pizza and a bit of craic were the order of the evening. We had an introduction to some of the Ulster Scots language used in various parts of NI. If you want to know what a “thrapple” is or if you hear the word “wringin” and don’t know what it means, then James is the man to help you out. Alan regaled us with the Ballad of William Bloat while Joe recited “Holy Water,” the story of a nun’s ingenious way of filling the petrol tank of her car! It was time for a generous helping of pizza and some discussion on ideas for next year’s programme. DVM looks forward to starting again in September.



Cameo

Derryvolgie Ladies’ Group

On Monday 2nd September we held our first meeting of 2019/2020. Fifteen ladies were present and it was a suggestion night for our new programme. We think we have something to suit everyone! We said a big ‘thank you’ to our two previous hosts Lyn and Nuala.

Our group is open to any of the ladies in the parish as well as friends and family, they would be made very welcome. Come along and enjoy a bit of craic and cup of tea/coffee and biscuits. We meet on the 1st Monday of each month at 7.30pm in the committee room. We look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting on 7th October! **Your new hosts - Carol and Johanna**

DERRYVOLGIE NEEDS YOU!!!

On Saturday 23rd November we will be hosting another festive craft fair. This is a blend of community open day and fund raiser. Last year the Ladies’ Group had a table where we sold handmade items with a Christmas theme and it proved to be both fun and successful. The Church has requested a table again this year and donations for sale are needed. This is not restricted to the Ladies’ Group or to females in particular. It is a parish event so if you can provide anything which people might want to buy coming up to Christmas, please get cracking! If you can knit, sew, paint, create, carve, etch or anything else, then Derryvolgie needs you!

Lyn Dobbin



The churches of the Diocese of Connor came together in Ballymena on the afternoon of 13th June 2019 for their annual Synod meeting. A service of Holy Communion in St Patrick's Church of Ireland set the tone for the day's business. Communion was followed by the business part of the Synod. This was held in the conference hall of the nearby Elim Pentecostal Church.

In a video message to the Synod, the Bishop gave an update on his health. He expressed his thanks and best wishes to the members of the churches in the Diocese. The Synod is a bit like an Annual General Meeting. The reports presented illustrate the amount of

work carried on throughout the year by a variety of committees and individuals.

Amongst the reports which were presented this year, we learnt about an exercise to update parish boundary maps. The intention is to understand better the economic make-up of parishes. We got an insight into the use of communication in the diocese, through website, press releases and facebook. Developments, especially around St Ann's cathedral and the new university campus in Belfast were highlighted. Youth involvement at summer camps and youth weekends was enthusiastically described. Church Treasurers were delighted to be told that the General Fund assessment of parishes was to remain unchanged for 2019. A very practical presentation was given by a representative of the PSNI. He spoke about their SCAMWISE programme and gave advice on avoidance of scams.

The evening session was a panel discussion centred around the theme of "A heart for mission". This was led by Phil Potter, leader of Church of England Fresh Expressions team.

There was a lot of information to be grasped at the Synod. For a lay person too, finding yourself surrounded by Archdeacons, Canons and rows of clergy, dressed in various shades of clerical grey, needed a bit of getting used to! However, the Synod brought home to me the positive work done across the churches of the diocese. It served to remind me that, although we belong to our own parish, we are very much related to and part of a bigger unit.

Derek Shuter



Toddlers Together

have just started back on Tuesday 10th September! We had quite a few new faces along with returning members. On a normal day we would have playtime, a craft item, snacks

and drinks and sometimes followed by singing. Toddlers meet every Tuesday morning from 10am to 12noon in the youth hall and it is open to all pre-school children, their Parents, Grandparents, Aunties, Uncles and Carers! Everyone Welcome!! If you would like to help out at Toddlers' Together, Please see Margaret, Lyn or James.

scamW!seNI

At the Diocesan Synod, those present were given information by the PSNI on the increasing number of scams in NI. For example, between Jan and May 2019, 1.7million pounds were lost due to different types of scams. The PSNI are keen to ensure that church members are aware of the advice contained on their SCAMWISENI website. For information and advice, visit:

www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/scamwiseni

SCAMWISENI provides information on different types of scam (phone, cold call, online, postal, doorstep, etc). PSNI advise people to be on their guard and to apply the SCAM test:

- S** – seems too good to be true
- C** – contacted out of the blue
- A** – asked for personal details
- M** – money is requested





Stuart Townend Trip

On the 17th May Carol, Frank and I set off for Annaghmore Parish Church to see Stuart Townend on his 'Courage' tour. It was an exciting prospect to see such a talented composer and performer who has inspired our worship over the years. He appeared on stage in his trademark cap supported by his band which included his son Joe and daughter Emma. His set for the night included his most well-known songs such as 'In Christ Alone', 'There is a Hope', 'The Power of the Cross' and his beautiful arrangement of 'The Lord's My Shepherd'. The audience was clearly inspired by his gospel-centred worship songs and moved as he shared the challenges he faced when he recently lost his brother to cancer. By the end of the night we understood why some of the hundreds of people in the audience had travelled from the North Coast to see him for the second time that week - a wonderful night of worship, prayer and music.

Susan Buchanan



Kirsty Orr
Musical Director

Derryvolgie Pop Up Choir

St. Columba's is very fortunate to have a resident group of amazing / enthusiastic choir singers. We meet once a month, singing on either the second or third Sunday and rehearsing on the Thursday night prior to the gig from 7.30 - 8.30. We participate in the church's festivals, singing on Harvest and Christmas, and generally enhance the worship of the church. We sing old and new songs, and hopefully there is always something for everyone. We are a welcoming bunch, and would love to see more members join us.

Our performance dates are:-
15th September
13th October

17th November
15th December (Carol Service)
19th January
9th February

22nd March
19th April
17th May
21st June







ST COLUMBA'S DERRYVOLGIE

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

23 NOVEMBER 2019 10.30 - 3.00PM



FESTIVE CRAFT FAIR

Come one come all to our Christmas Craft Fair! Yes, ladies and gents, it's that time of year again where we have a host of super talented makers and creators under the one roof all of which are locally sourced and **HANDMADE!!** So put the **Saturday 23rd November**, 10.30am to 3pm in your diary, tell your friends and family and get a wiggle on and venture down to a great morning's Christmas shopping followed by a catch up and a natter over lunch! What's not to like? Follow our makers on our events tab on our Facebook page! Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Laura Coburn



CONGRATULATIONS!!

St Columba's is one of the seven parishes which make up the rural deanery of Derriaghy. We are pleased that our Rector has been appointed as **Rural Dean of Derriaghy**. We extend our congratulations to James and offer our best wishes to him as he takes up this new part of his ministry.

Congratulations, too, to **David Pedlow**! In June, David completed the Lisburn 10K race and, in doing so, raised sponsorship of £964.08 for the church. We thank David and congratulate him on this achievement. On his Just Giving page, David quotes a useful piece of general advice from Hebrews where Ch 12 reminds us to: ".....run the race that is before us and never quit."



The **Rev Aaron McAlister**, who is currently serving as Curate Assistant in All Saints Parish Church, Antrim, has been appointed Incumbent of Derriaghy parish. Rev. McAlister's institution will take place on Thursday 26th September at 7.30pm. Please come along and show your support for our neighbouring Rector in his newly appointed role.





SAMS Mission Partner Claire Holmes

Greetings to you all from Paraguay. Here, we are just coming to the end of winter (the last few days it has been 40 degrees). Winter time here always brings volunteers from the UK and Ireland. It has been great to have three sets of visitors who have been working with the children and young people and it is always a big encouragement for the church. One of them painted and helped us set up an area we want to use as a prayer room and we pray it will be a real blessing for all those who use it, and all those who we pray for.

Thank you so much for all your support and prayers. They make a difference.

Love and God bless, Claire



Sunday Tea Rota

As you know, each Sunday a time of informal fellowship, with a cup of tea or coffee follows our Service. We would ask anyone who would like to join the Rota to give their names to Rhona or one of the Church Wardens. Although many members like to bring little "extras" (which are yummy and always welcome!) It is only necessary to provide biscuits and milk. Thank you to everyone for all the continued encouragement and support.



LISBURN CHURCHES FOOD BANK

**THIS WEEK WE ARE
ALMOST OUT OF :**

Tins of custard/rice

Coffee

Sugar

Jam

Pasta Sauce

Biscuits

Toiletries (Men and Women)

Thank you!



Thank you for continuing to provide non-perishable foods on the **second Sunday** of each month for Lisburn Churches Food Bank. They have ample pasta at present. Thanks so much for supporting this important ministry. For more information please visit:

<https://lisburn.foodbank.org.uk/>

ON THE WINGS OF A PRAYER

Just close your Eyes and open your heart,
And feel your worries and cares depart.
Just yield yourself to the Father above,
And let him hold you secure in his love.

For life on earth grows more involved,
With endless problems that can't be solved,
But God only ask us to do our best,
Then he will take over and finish the rest...

So when you are tired, discouraged and blue,
There is always one door that is open to you,
And that is the door to The House of Prayer,
And you'll find God waiting to meet you there.
And The House of Prayer is no further away,
than the quiet spot where you kneel and pray.

For the heart is a temple when God is there
As we place ourselves in his loving care.
And he hears every prayer and answers each one
When we Pray in His name - Thy will be done.
The burdens that seemed too heavy to bear
Are lifted away on the wings of a prayer.

Inspirational Verses by HELEN STEINER RICE

