

SAINTFIELD PARISH.

APRIL MAGAZINE

HOLY WEEK

FIVE DAYS OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE



“COMMEMORATING THE LIFE, DEATH, AND
RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST.”

Dear Friends

New life is a power I have been reflecting upon during this Lent leading into our Holy Week and then Easter. I see new life all around in nature producing new daffodils in our pasture, new babies being born into our parish (Hi Holly) and of course, the hour going forward this weekend. However, the lens of Jesus' resurrection isn't just about new life that happened in the past, it is an invitation to encounter a resurrection power and new life for today in 4 distinct ways.

1. An Easter power that fills us with new life:

In Luke 24:5-6, the angels at the empty tomb asked the women: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!" This powerful truth speaks to the heart of Easter.

Jesus' resurrection overcomes the finality of death, showing that no situation is beyond God's power. It tells us that even in the darkest moments — when hope feels lost — God is still working to bring new life.

2. An Easter Power that begins renewal:

Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

This is the first verse I ever memorised 40 years ago through the Navigators. To memorise Scripture embeds it in your mind so that you can meditate on it, day and night.

The Easter power of resurrection isn't just about what happened to Jesus — it's about what can happen in us. Just as Jesus rose from the grave, we are invited to rise from the struggles, sin, and burdens that weigh us down. Easter calls us to embrace the grace that allows us to be renewed beyond what is possible here on earth

3. An Easter Power that creates courage.

In John 20:19-22, the disciples were hiding in fear after Jesus' death. Yet when the risen Christ appeared to them, He greeted them with peace and breathed the Holy Spirit upon them, commissioning them to step out in faith.

This passage speaks deeply to those who feel stuck, uncertain, or afraid. Jesus doesn't expect us to be perfect — He meets us where we are and empowers us to move forward with courage.

4. An Easter Power as the source of living hope.

Peter affirms this in 1 Peter 1:3: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy, He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

This "living hope" is the foundation of Easter. It's not just a momentary feeling, but a steady confidence that God is always at work — even when we can't yet see the outcome. This Easter, we're reminded that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to us — to renew our hearts, heal our wounds, and guide us into a life of purpose and hope. Whether that means mending a broken relationship, finding strength in a season of struggle, or embracing joy after a time of grief, Easter shows us that new life is always possible.

What power and "new life" will this Easter make real for you? Chris



PALM SUNDAY



HOLY THURSDAY



GOOD FRIDAY



HOLY SATURDAY



EASTER SUNDAY

Come WORSHIP With Us

Sunday **6th April** **Lent 5**
8.30am Holy Communion (Trad)
10.00am Family Communion

11.00am **Easter General Vestry (Woodrow Room)**

Sunday **13th April** **Palm Sunday**
8.30am Holy Communion (Trad)

10.00am Morning Worship (Foodbank items collected)
 'A new hope'

11.00am Refresh: Easter preparation

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Monday – Thursday
10.00am Holy Communion in Church

April 15th **Tuesday Night**
7.30pm Joining in Kilmoor Parish
 Bishop David McClay

April 16th **Wednesday**
7.30pm Evening Worship:
 A new way (We will be washing feet!!)

April 17th **Maundy Thursday**
7.30pm Holy Communion
 A new truth

April 18th **Good Friday**
10.00am Morning Prayer
 A new death

Sunday 20th **Easter Sunday**
6.30am Sunrise Communion @ Vicarage
 & Breakfast

8.30am Holy Communion (Trad)

10.00am Family Communion
 A new life
 Rolling eggs after Easter worship

Sunday **27th Easter 2**
8.30am Holy Communion
10.00am Morning Worship: A new power

April Tea/Coffee Rota

6th **Help Needed**

13th **Help Needed**

20th **Help Needed**

27th **Help Needed**



Flowers

6th **Mrs E Lilly**

13th **Palm Sunday**

20th **Easter Sunday**

27th **Linda Peak**



Lord, I thank You for
Your sacrifice on the cross
and I thank You for Your
resurrection from the
tomb, and God, I pray that
this truth becomes alive
in every person's heart
today, that people stand
up and respond to Your
truth, saying, 'Jesus, I thank
You for what You did.
God, I lay down my old
self, I step into my new
self-resurrect me today.'

SADIE ROBERTSON HUFF



women's day

Prayer Diary April



Monday March 31st

Family members who live away from home.

Tuesday 1st

Our Schools: Academy Primary, Saintfield High, Millenium and local Grammar Schools.

Wednesday 2nd

For our Diocese Bishop David and the staff team in Diocesan office and all the ways they serve us.

Thursday 3rd

Care Homes that Chris visits and leads worship in Residential Homes @ Silver Birch and Tully West Manor.

Friday 4th

Those who struggle with mental illness.

Saturday 5th

For new ministers as they approach their first Easter

Sunday 6th

Sunday Worship & Easter General Vestry.

Monday 7th

World Health Day. Pray that we share more of what we have that so many in our world have health and hope.

Tuesday 8th

Those who are unemployed & unable to find work.

Wednesday 9th

SAMS /La Paz Our partner church in La Paz Bolivia Pastor David and the Church of the Redeemer. Also Claire Holmes from SAMS Ireland.

Thursday 10th

Our health Centres, hospitals and staff there.

Friday 11th

For all we know who struggle with Mental Health

Saturday 12th

For those we know in Hospital and residential care.

Sunday 13th

Palm Sunday Worship in Church.

Sam Bostock and congregation in 1st Saintfield.
John Torrens and congregation in 2nd Saintfield.
Father Tony McHugh and the RC Church.
Saintfield Baptist Church and Phil Boles

Monday 14th

Holy Week Worship @10.00am in Church.

Tuesday 15th

Holy Week 7.30pm @ Kilmoody Parish
and Bishop David McClay. Deanery join up.

Wednesday 16th

Holy Week 10.00am & 7.30pm in Church.

Thursday 17th

Holy Week 10.00am & 7.30pm Communion.

Good Friday

Church Worship 10.00am

Saturday 19th

For those bereaved.

EASTER SUNDAY

**For our worship today celebrating
the new life of Jesus**

Monday 21st

For time off and relaxation

Tuesday 22nd

Our staff Sally as our Office Administrator,
Ian as Sexton, William as Graveyard Convenor
and Chris as Vicar.

Wednesday 23rd

For families who look after elderly parents and who face challenges and decisions about care.

Thursday 24th

For our broken world in its need for peace,
hope and justice.

Friday 25th

For our faith and hope in Jesus that it may grow and serve and be warmed within.

Saturday 26th

For Middle East and peace may be embraced.

Sunday 27th

For Alan as he leads our Worship today.

Weekly Schedule : Parish Centre

Here is a guide to what happens during each week in the Parish Hall during April

Mondays

9.30am Pitter Patter (Main Hall) Mums & Tots
Closed 14th & 21st

10.30am Craft & Chatter (Upper Area)
Closed 21st

6.30pm Rainbows & Brownies (no Guides)
(Woodrow Room, Main Hall) **Closed 14th & 21st**

Tuesdays

10.00am Traditional Yoga (Main Hall)
Closed 22nd

6.45pm Pause & Restore (Upper Area)
Closed 15th & 22nd

7.30pm Indoor Bowling (Main Hall)
Closed 22ⁿ

Wednesdays

8.00am - 8.30am Slimming World Weigh In
9.00am Class (Woodrow Room)

10.00am Holy Communion (Church)
Not on April 23rd

10.30am Wednesday Welcome
(Upper Area) **Open April 9th**

6.00pm Broadway Boogie Fitness
(Main Hall)

7.00pm Broadway Boogie Fitness
(Main Hall)

8.00pm Badminton (Main Hall) **Closed 23rd**

Thursdays

9.45am Happy Hatchlings
(Baby Massage in Woodrow Room)
Closed 17th & 24th

2.00 - 4.00pm Ladies Hen's Shed
(Upper Area) **Closed 17th**

6.45 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts (Parish Hall)

Fridays

6.00pm Inspire Dance Company (Main Hall)
Closed 18th



Mothers' Union

Wednesday 2nd April

Diocesan Festival Service @ Seapattrick Parish Church. Leaving Saintfield Parish Car Park @ 6:30pm.



Easter General Vestry

Sunday 6 April after Morning Worship
Reports are available in the Office or can be sent to you by email.

Men Alive Upcoming Events

10TH APRIL - PRONI LECTURE.

A SERIES OF TALKS RELATING TO THE ENDING OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR 80 YEARS AGO. YOU CAN GET A TICKET VIA THIS WEB LINK :-

[HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK/E/SP
EAK-FOR-THE-DEAD-THE-CAMP-
LIBERATIONS-EIGHT-DECADES-ON-
TICKETS-](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/speak-for-the-dead-the-camp-liberations-eight-decades-on-tickets-1117707516269?aff=EBDSOPORGPROFILE)
1117707516269?AFF=EBDSOPORGPROFILE

24TH APRIL -

LUNCH @ THE WHITEHORSE

Easter Refresh/SPACE

What colour is Easter?

What customs happen at Easter?

I'm sure the first one you think of is getting

Easter eggs and eating lots of chocolate! Then you might think of going on an egg hunt or decorating a hardboiled egg and then rolling it down a hill to crack it.



Did you know:

1-An Easter egg symbolizes the empty tomb of Jesus.

2-Eggs represent new life.

3. We roll 'Eggs' after Easter Worship in graveyard.



4 - In medieval times eating eggs during lent was forbidden and so on Easter Sunday tucking into an egg was a real treat!

5-In the Orthodox tradition eggs were painted red to

symbolise the blood that Jesus shed on the cross

There are customs that happen in a church that you might not have noticed. What colour is Easter? Look up at the front of the church and see what colour the cloth on the alter table is.

We don't pick any colour of cloth to go on the alter. Through the ages Christians have come to associate different colours with different religious ideas. Sometimes the cloth can be red, green, blue or white and they all have special meanings.

What colour is Easter?

During Lent the cloth is purple.

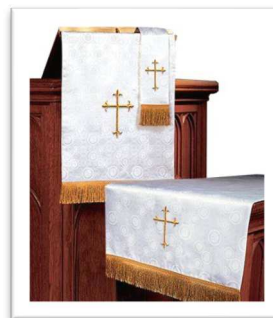
Purple is the colour of penitence or feeling sorry.

During Lent, Christians concentrate on their relationship with God in preparation for Holy Week and Jesus dying on the cross.



Purple is also the colour of royalty and the colour of Kings. Purple dye was very expensive hundreds of years ago so only rich people could afford purple cloth. On Palm Sunday the people lined the streets as Jesus rode into Jerusalem and cheered him like a king.

On Easter morning you will notice that the colour of the cloth will change. What colour would you pick for the cloth for Easter morning? I like yellow as it reminds me of the sunshine and all the lovely daffodils at this time of year. The church has chosen white



and sometimes gold to remind us that Christ is born anew and has washed our sins away and made us clean. White is a colour we associate with celebration and closeness to God.

Look out for the colour of the alter cloth in church and watch it change throughout the year.

Pentecost is the next season that starts in June. What colour will it be?



REASON FOR HOPE

SAINTFIELD | 2025
weekend



A series of events to
explore the
Christian *hope*.

Hosted by the Parish and
Presbyterian Churches
working together
for the whole Saintfield
community.

Thank you to everyone who made 'Reason for Hope' such a powerful moment of witness for our Church, congregations and the partnership with 1st & 2nd Saintfield Presbyterian Churches.

Whatever way you played your part, inviting people to come, supplying food and time to serve, praying for it all, it all worked so well with God's blessing through Rico.

Rico felt very welcome, and I know it all helped many people. Chris



Dorothy Harvey

Tuesday 4 March 2025

WITH DEEPEST
SYMPATHY

On Thursday 6 March, we offered a Service of Thanksgiving for a brave, resilient, woman of faith who we will miss from the back pew of our Church. Dorothy slipped quietly away from this world, surrounded by her family, and we offer them our deepest sympathy and support.

Dorothy was in Church every Sunday, and you could have set your watch by her as she was always 15 minutes ahead of the 10.00am Worship. She also would come to SPACE as well in the Hall and supported every aspect of Church life. We will miss her with us.

A great Space Service with Claire Holmes from SAMS Ireland.

Following the SPACE service the Men served up a superb breakfast in the Woodrow room.

A great time of food and fellowship with each other.

We raised £500

which we will send to SAMS and that will be for the work of Church of the Redeemer, La Paz Bolivia



SAMS
IRELAND

SAMS
IRELAND
South American Mission Society

PRAYER PARTNER PROFILE
PASTOR DAVID ANTEZANA



A very big **"Thank you"** to Phyllis, Phil, Sue, Pamela and Deirdre for cooking a wonderful breakfast and to Jean for providing the lovely Wheaten Bread.

Easter Bible Trivia Quiz

1. What was the name of the prisoner the people wanted released instead of Jesus?
a. Barnabas b. Haman c. Barabbas
2. What kind of crown was placed on the head of Jesus?
a. Crown of jewels b. Crown of nails c. Crown of Thorns
3. What did Jesus say would cry out as He rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday?
a. the stones b. the angels c. the earth
4. How many pieces of silver did Judas trade the life of Jesus for?
a. 25 b. 30 c. 35
5. Who was the first person to see the risen Christ?
a. Mary Magdalene b. Mary mother of John Mark c. Mary of Rome
6. How many times did Peter deny Christ after the abandoned the Lord?
a. two times b. three times c. four times
7. When Jesus died there was darkness in the land. How long did it last?
a. three hours b. three days c. three weeks
8. Where did the angel tell the women to go and see the risen Savior?
a. Mount of Olives b. Galilee c. Mount Carmel
9. When Jesus saw the disciples after His resurrection, what did He ask them to bring at the Sea of Tiberias?
a. Sheep b. Fish c. Leaven Bread
10. What is the name of the prayer which Jesus taught his disciples?
a. A Prayer of Supplication b. Intercessory Prayer c. The Lord's Prayer
11. While in the wilderness, Jesus was tempted to turn what into loaves of bread?
a. Stone b. Wood c. Sand
12. Which disciple cut off the ear of the high priest's servant in an attempt to protect Jesus from being taken as a prisoner?
a. Andrew b. Philip c. Peter
13. In repentance Judas returned the money to the priests that he was given as the price of betrayal of the Lord and then did what?
a. hanged himself b. jumped in the river c. stabbed himself
14. When Jesus entered Jerusalem during what is known as His Triumphal Entry, what animal was He riding on?
a. A camel b. A horse c. A donkey
15. What moved the object in front of the tomb door?
a. the object moved itself b. the earthquake c. an angel
16. Which of the Twelve Apostles did not believe that Jesus was risen?
a. Andrew b. John the Beloved c. Thomas





Ladies Hen's Shed

Upper Room

Thursday

2pm to 4pm

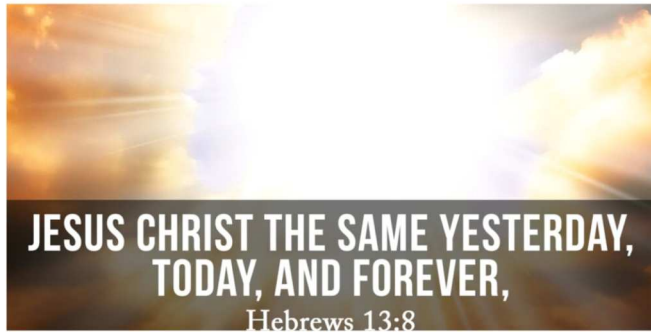


Answers to quiz :-

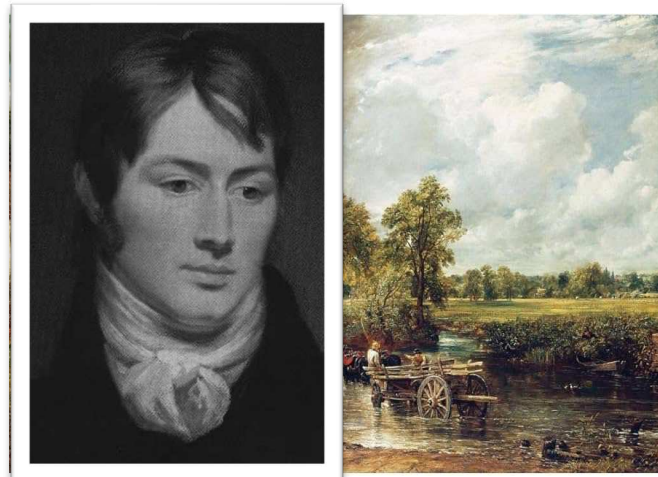
1 - C, 2 - C, 3 - A, 4 - B, 5 - A, 6 - B, 7 - A, 8 - B,
9 - B, 10 - C, 11 - A, 12 - C, 13 - A, 14 - C, 15 - C,
16 - C

Saintfield Parish

250th update



1776 – 2026



2026 is a very significant year for Saintfield Parish as it will mark the 250th Anniversary of the Parish Church being consecrated for worship. It's the same year as the American Declaration of independence (July 4th) as well as the year when John Constable (the painter) was born.

The Select Vestry have been discussing how this Anniversary could be used to both celebrate our past but also help us en-vision the future 25 years. We want this mixture of 250th 'moments' to see where we have come from, generations of faithfulness that provided us with so much today. However, we must see the good foundations we must lay for future congregations as they also 'Speak Jesus' in new and relevant ways to all the community of Saintfield.

So far, some key Sundays are already in the Diary with the Archbishop of Armagh John Mc Dowell being with us for our main Service of Celebration in March 2026. Our own bishop David is with us at Harvest and our Holy Week will have a range of preachers to lead and guide us from God's Word.

Another key events will focus on a History Weekend in June (rather like the one we had for the Platinum Celebration for our late Queen Elizabeth II). Other events will take place in different seasons of the year and we will invite the Saintfield Community to be part of what is happening.

I hope and pray that our partnership with Pastor Da-vid in La Paz, Bolivia will be deepened with a possible visit to that Church and its congregation. SAMS Ireland are happy to explore this with us.

We are considering 1 or 2 merchandise to mark the year maybe with Christmas Cards and other items people might buy. We don't necessarily want to have 'pens, pencils and knick-knacks' but items that people might want to keep.

There is much to pray over and plan.

The Select Vestry will be sending a letter to each household in the Parish to invite people to be part of the organisation of such events. The Church Services are reasonably easy to manage, but the community events will need more people in teams to take on the demands of helping make things happen. Please read that letter and consider how you can best help.

It's an exciting time. Chris.

CONTACT US



Church Sexton (ON LEFT)

Church Sexton (On LEFT)

Ian Gordon
02897 511522
sexton@saintfieldparish.org

Graveyard Convenor (ON RIGHT)

William Drury
02897 561451



Hon Sec Vestry

Stephen Erskine
secretary@saintfieldparish.org

Hon Treasurer

Caroline Kearney
treasurer@saintfieldparish.org

Magazine Editor

Leonard Hill
magazine@saintfieldparish.org

**Material for May to be with
Leonard by April 23rd 2025**

Safeguarding Contacts

Kate Beattie 02897 511671
safeguarding@saintfieldparish.org
Or Chris Pollock (Vicar)



Vicar

Rev Chris Pollock
07519668747
vicar@saintfieldparish.org



Parish Church Office Sally Milligan

office@saintfieldparish.org
02897 519653

Tuesday - Friday
9.00am - 2.00pm
(Fri @ 12.30pm)

Church House,
45 Main Street,
Saintfield,
Co Down,
BT24 7AB

