

## The Rector's Letter

## God's worldwide Church.

Recently we have had two important opportunities helping to remind us that the Church is a worldwide fellowship of Christians.

#### **SOMA Week of Mission**

Our Bishop invited the international organisation SOMA (Sharing of Ministries Abroad) to bring a team to the Diocese in June to hold a mission and time of renewal throughout the Diocese. In Seagoe we hosted a team from Friday 2nd to Wednesday 7th June. Our team consisted of Rt. Rev. Bishop Praises (Nigeria), Rev. Melinda McMahon (Australia), Justin Lau (London), Princy Abraham (India) and Andy Williamson (Shankill Parish, Lurgan). It was an honour to have a team of such diverse nationalities and personalities.

On Friday evening the team enjoyed mixing with those at the bowling club and having a go at throwing a few bowls! Sunday was our main mission focus with input into all our services. It was so encouraging to see so many people availing of personal prayer and anointing. The Parish Picnic in Peatlands Park in the afternoon provided a great opportunity for people to mix informally with the team members.

Each morning people had the opportunity to meet with the team



informally over refreshments in the Parish Centre. On Monday evening Rubies arranged a walk followed by refreshments and interview of two team members by Hannah Abraham. On Tuesday evening those involved as leaders in the Parish organisations met for a time of encouragement and faith sharing with the team.

The team was delighted to be welcomed into Seagoe and Edenderry Primary Schools and had a great time of sharing with the children. **Bishop** Praises led our Wednesday Holy Communion Service and enjoyed the refreshments that followed. Following a day of sightseeing on the North Coast, all the SOMA team members gathered at Saul Church for a barbecue and closing service.

We thank God for the team and pray that we will continue to be encouraged both by our memories of their visit and the strengthening of our faith by their ministry to us.

#### Partnership with Mar Thoma Indian Church

With our Bishop's agreement we have just welcomed the Mar Thoma Church to Seagoe which will be holding services from time to time on Sunday afternoons when we are not using the building. In addition it will occasionally hold events in the Parish Centre. We encourage our parishioners to make the Mar Thoma congregation welcome.

Mar Thoma Church is one of the ancient Churches in the world. It is traditionally believed that St. Thomas (Mar Thoma in Syriac), the disciple of Jesus Christ, came to India in AD 52 and established the

Church based in the southwestern India state of Kerala. The Church is in full communion with the Anglican Communion of Ireland and England and is a member of the Churches Together in England (CTE), Churches Together in Britain and

Ireland (CTBI) and World Council of Churches (WCC). It has members who currently meet in Cloughfern Parish, Belfast but is keen to plant this new congregation in Seagoe to minister to the many Indian members who live in this area.

We seek God's blessing on our partnership.

We are thankful to God for these opportunities to enlarge our vision of Church and we pray that we will continue to work to make everyone welcome in Seagoe and to grow His Church as a result.













### Easter General Vestry **Appointments**

#### **Easter General Vestry Appointments**

This year's Easter General Vestry meeting held on 27th March. Select Vestry members were elected to serve for one year as follows:

#### Select Vestry:

Jeanette Carson

Beth Howell

Rev. Canon Terence Cadden **Rev. Stuart Moles** Rev. Jim Fleming Rector's Churchwarden- Kathlene Crowe People's Churchwarden-Neill Robinson Rector's Glebewarden-Philip Morrison People's Glebewarden-Edward Graham Phyllis Richardson (Hon. Secretary) Philip Holland (Hon. Treasurer) Jim Aughey Nicholas Bell

lim Howell Rodney Johnston David Kerr Eric McCartney Sarah O'Hare Stephen Vaughan

#### Auditors:

Barry Thompson and Company

In addition, being the triennial year, the following were elected to serve for the next three years:

#### **Diocesan Synodmembers:**

Philip Morrison Janette Carson Eric McCartney Keith Livingstone **Judith Paulin** Stephen Serplus Supplemental Synodmembers

Paul Richardson Nicholas Rell Allan Milligan Phyllis Richardson

Sylvia Perrott Clive Bowles Under 30yrs Synodmember Rebecca Richardson Supplemental under 30yrs Synodmember Luke Nicholl

#### **Parochial Nominators:**

Beth Howell **Eric McCartney** Stuart Paulin Philip Morrison **Supplemental Nominators:** 

Stephen Serplus Jim Howell Janette Carson Sarah O'Hare

Parishioners are encouraged to pray regularly for all those appointed as their exercise their onerous responsibilities on behalf of the Parish, and in particular the members of the Select Vestry who are tasked with so many issues to make decisions upon.

## Church Renovations

arishioners will be aware that over many years the Select Vestry has been undertaking a major restoration and renovation of our Church building. To date the roof has been replaced and a major restoration of the tower has been completed. The next phase of the work, the replacement of the heating system, has been under discussion for many years. The extent of the work involved

has provided the opportunity to undertake other aspects of interior renovation at the same time. Parishioners have been informed of the Vestry's thinking and planning through updates in the magazine and presentations in Church. The overall aim, as with past



renovations and amendments to the building, is to improve the interior of the building to produce a worship space more appropriate to the current and anticipated future ordering of worship. Recently plans approved by the Church authorities as being appropriate were posted in the Rotunda for parishioners to

comment on. The Vestry decided to pause the project near the start of this consultation period as there were some aspects of the work that had not been finalised and to give time to consider comments received. Vestry wishes to thank those parishioners who communicated directly with members concerning the plans. In light of the range of comments received Vestry is consulting with our conservation Architect and his team to investigate points raised by parishioners and to consider amendments to the plans. We are not sure how long this process of revision may take as

Vestry wants to give adequate time to consider all comments on this important project before its findings and revisions are presented to the Parish. In the meantime, please continue to pray for the Select Vestry in this and all aspects of its work.

#### **Contacts**

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Mob: 07954994749 Email: jim@seagoe.co.uk



ACTING YOUTH LEADER Gareth Campbell
Killicomaine Youth Centre
Tel: 3839 4441



YOUTH WORKER Edwina Livingstone Seagoe Youth Group Tel: 3833 5279

Seagoe Youth Group email: youthgroup@seagoe.co.uk Tel: Killicomaine Youth Centre 3839 4441

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	Date	9.00am	10.30am	6.00pm St. Patrick's
	July		<b>经工程的证据的证据的证据的证据的</b>	
SUNDAY	2nd	Holy Communion	Family Service	Evening Worship
SUNDAY	9th	Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Evening Worship
		7.00pm Seagoe Evening Worship with Orange Order		
SUNDAY	16th	Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Holy Communion
SUNDAY	23rd	Holy Communion	Family Holy Communion	Evening Worship
SUNDAY	31st	Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Holy Communior
	August		<b>的现在分词</b>	
SUNDAY	6th	Holy Communion	Family Service	Evening Worship
SUNDAY	13th	Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Holy Communion
SUNDAY	20th	Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Evening Worship
SUNDAY	27th	Holy Communion	Family Holy Communion	Evening Worship
	September			
SUNDAY	3rd	Holy Communion	Welcome Back Family Service	Evening Worship
SUNDAY	10th	Holy Communion	Morning Worship 10.00am Breakfast and Sunday Light Launch Service	Holy Communion
SUNDAY	17th	Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Evening Worship
		7.00pm Rotunda Praise Service		
SUNDAY	24th	Holy Communion	Holy Communion with Bishop Jered (Rwanda)	Evening Worship



#### **Summer Worship**

Over the Summer we try to make our services more informal, and generally try to keep to an hour. We encourage people to enjoy the after-service refreshments in the Rotunda which take on a 'summer aspect' with additional items such as ice-cream and popcorn! Please make every effort to attend these informal services, and as always, please invite and bring others with you.

# September • Body to Church Month This year we are extending our Back To

Church initiative not only for the whole month of September, but also, in addition to encouraging people back to Church services, we are encouraging people back to the whole of church life.

Everyone will have the opportunity, and responsibility, of contacting and encouraging people to come back to everything that happens in the life of our Parish.

Throughout September our Church services will be geared towards welcoming people back and encouraging people to attend regularly. Our organisations will also be planning launch events to welcome people to the new season of activities.

There will be a lot of work for us all, but as we see more people around there will be great encouragement for us all.

### Seagoe Healing Prayer Group

The healing prayer group is part of the Church's Ministry to intercede on behalf of those who are sick and in need of the healing touch of God.

When you are sick or in despair, it is sometimes difficult to pray for yourself. So it is a great comfort and encouragement to know that there are others who are praying to the Lord on your behalf.

We have had blessings of healing and thankfulness in plenty to our group for their faithfulness in prayer.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 7 pm for 1

Our next meeting is Wednesday 28th June 2023 at 7 pm. We would love to see new members.

If you or someone you know is sick and in need of prayer, with the persons' consent we can add their name to our list. We just need their Christian name and a little detail about their illness, also the name of the person nominating them so I can keep in touch for progress.

You can text or ring me on 07752809989 or leave the request with Terence or Diane in the parish centre.

Without the Lord we can do nothing. - Janette McCartney



## This summer there's lots going on in Seagoe Youth Group.

or those who are in primary school we are hosting our usual three weeks of Summer Scheme. Week one takes place in Killicomaine Youth Centre from Monday 3rd until Thursday 6th July. Weeks two and three will be held in Seagoe Old School on weeks beginning Monday 24th and Monday 31st. All of our programmes include a day out on an educational visit as well as time spent enjoying the sunshine at our venues. If you would be interested in sending any children please do get in contact as soon as possible.

Young people in secondary education are welcome at our weekly drop-in, which happens every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the summer months, with the exception of the 12th week. Some outings for this group are also on the cards and forms will be given out over the next few weeks.

Finally to note there are big changes happening in regards to the leadership team in Seagoe Youth Group in 2023. As many of you are aware Boyd McClurg left as leader in charge at the beginning of the year to take up a new role with ABC and since then I have been acting up in the vacancy. From September however, I will also be leaving as I have just been appointed as curate assistant in Christ Church, Lisburn.

I'd like to take this time to thank you all for your support over the pass number of years with our events, fundraisers and even hosting Exodus teams. I have thoroughly enjoyed my team in Seagoe and the potential for ministry and witness in the community. We have seen lives changed over the past number of years, and even seen people come to know Christ for the first time. Please do keep our management committee in your prayers as they seek to appoint a new leader in charge and cast a vision for the next exciting chapter of Seagoe Youth Group.

Many Thanks Gareth Campbell







#### **Ladybird Bags**



Boys presenting Julie Flaherty with all the lovely items we collected over a few weeks to make up ladybird bags, (bags that are provided to parents that have kids going into hospital). Thank you all for the kind donation of so many items.

#### Pretty 'n Pink



Boys presenting Karen Hoy from Pretty 'N Pink Charity with a cheque for £400, money kindly donated from our parents night retiring collection. Thank you all for your generous donations.

#### Parents Night Thursday 16th March 2023:

Celebrating another successful year at Seagoe CLB, we are very proud to say we are the largest company both in NI and the UK with currently having 117 boys in our company. We will be sad to see the senior boys leave as they embark on their next phase of their studies or training for careers. We wish those boys the very best for their future and want them to know we will gladly have you back as leaders someday. We will miss you all!













## Thanks Beulah .. Happy Retirement!

eagoe youth group has said thanks to one of our longest serving employees, Mrs Beulah McIvor who has been a cleaner at St. Patrick's Hall Killicomaine for over 20 years! What a wonderful commitment Beulah often assisted by her late husband Ronnie, has gone beyond the call of duty to care for our premises. In her quiet caring manner she has endeared herself to those who have been privileged to work with her over the years. We celebrated her work and retirement with an Afternoon Tea in her honour and enjoyed reminiscing over many happy and amusing moments. We say thank to Beulah and send her our love, best wishes and God's blessing for a long healthy and happy retirement!



Thank you again - Edwina



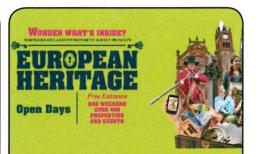
## Killicomaine kids and parents - sponsored Baby Bounce.

e are a group of babies, toddlers, mums, dads, grandparents, carers and friends who meet on Friday mornings in St Patrick's Hall. We enjoy a chat and a cuppa while the children enjoy the toys and activities. We welcome kids and parents not only from Killicomaine but all over town. We look forward to welcoming a few new arrivals this summer. Best wishes to the parents to be!

Recently we held a sponsored Baby Bounce (all safe! - we had a bouncy castle) to raise money for the Children's Heartbeat Trust in memory of and thanksgiving for Suzanne (Stewart) one of our much loved mums, whose children will benefitted from this charity. Special thanks to all who come all each week, to helpers May and Jeanette who do so much to make it happen and to Eva who is calling in again. Hope you all have a lovely summer. And we'll see you on Friday 8th September

With thanks and God's blessings





ach year hundreds of properties including Seagoe Parish open their doors and many organisations put on events for FREE across Northern Ireland as part of European Heritage Open Days (EHOD). EHOD takes place every year on the second weekend of September. This year that is the 14 and 15 September which presents an opportunity to explore the tangible and intangible elements of heritage and learn about our history and architecture.

The Church will be open on Saturday from 11am-4pm and on Sunday from 2pm-5pm. Refreshments will be available.

This year we will have a guided tour of the church and an opportunity to explore the rich archives which Seagoe possesses both physically, from the births marriages and deaths from 1670 and on the website seagoearchives.uk

## **RUBIES LADIES' MINISTRY**

ubies is a new initiative which began back in September. We are a women's ministry group which aims to reach the women of our church and the surrounding area with the love of Christ, seeking to introduce them to the One who can change their lives and encourage those who have already trusted in Him.

The meaning behind our name is taken from the encouraging words of Proverbs 3:15: "She is more precious than rubies'.

We launched back in September with a series of Walk for Life events on Monday evenings. This was a wonderful opportunity to get to know one another, to go for a walk and to hear from various speakers who shared their testimonies with us of how God has been at work in their lives. We also gained fab fashion and skincare tips from Lynne Givan, as well as fitness advice from our very own Kathryn McMeekin!





Other events throughout the year have included a Christmas floral arrangement workshop with Kathryn Stafford from the Posy Barn, stories of hope from Hope and Light - which is a jewellery business supporting victims of human trafficking-, Tropic skincare advice from Claire Savage, and acoustic and testimony evenings. In April we had a fabulous trip to Kildare village which was a great time of fellowship and retail therapy! We finished the year with an encouraging Walk for Life evening with members of the SOMA mission team. It was truly a blessing to hear from Princy and Bishop Praises about how God has been at work in their lives.

We decided to support Flourish NI this year as our chosen charity. Flourish seeks to build a brighter future for victims of human trafficking in providing long term tailored survivor centred

support to overcome trauma and rebuild lives. Thank you for supporting our fundraising initiatives throughout the year. We ask that you would please remember Flourish in your prayers and praise God for the invaluable work that they do in caring for others.

We are so grateful to you as a parish for all your support and prayers for Rubies. It really has meant so much to us as a team. Thank you to those of you who have come along to our meetings each month. God has been so good and faithful and we look forward to seeing what he has in store next year.

God willing, we hope to re-launch with a fabulous brunch on Saturday 9th September! We look forward to seeing you then.

Thanks again,

Kathryn Kerr, Kathryn McMeekin, Kathleen Crowe, Lyn Graham, Judith Paulin and Hannah Abraham.





### 1st Duke of Edinburgh Gold in Seagoe

Congratulations to David Livingstone who was presented with his Gold Duke of Edinburgh's award at Hillsborough Castle. David is the first member of Seagoe Youth Group to have achieved the Gold award. Well done David.



## **Christian Aid**



Thank you all for your support for Christian Aid. Amount raised was £1428. This money will go towards help to our global neighbours such as The war in Ukraine, flooding in South Sudan ,severe doughy in Kenya, famine in Afghanistan,Boosting incomes in Malawi and peace building in Myanmar .In March this year a Climate Act law was passed in Stormont which Christian Aid has supported from 2008, which was an achievement. Thanks again Patrica Trueman and Margaret.



## **Coronation Celebrations**



e were delighted to have a service of thanksgiving for and celebration of the Coronation of King Charles III on Sunday 7th May following his Coronation the previous day. In addition to a lively service we had a Church Picnic and fun day in the Parish Centre and grounds. It was great to see so many people taking part in the activities. As part of the celebrations, we asked parishioners to make Coronation cakes and enter them into our competition for the best decorated cake. We were delighted that one of our younger parishioners, Tilly, won the competition with her amazing cake!! Well done Tilly, and keep using your baking skills.











## Seagoe Men

his past year, the Men's group have been exploring some of the parables of Jesus. It has been an interesting and encouraging year. We began with an introduction to the parables and the importance of telling stories, not just in scripture, but in our own lives, as we considered the necessity of storytelling in the world around us and how it shapes the way we think and communicate.

Then in November, Trevor helped us to explore a parable from the Old Testament, the prophet Nathan's parable of the ewe-lamb, which he used to challenge King David over his actions regarding Bathsheba. It was a powerful reminder of not only how parables are used to confront much deeper issues that get right to the heart of the matter, but also of the rich tradition of storytelling that Jesus would have been aware of as a Jewish rabbi, and indeed, also an important part of himself. After the Christmas break, Stuart looked at the 'Lost parables' of Luke 15 and how these parables encourage us to reach out to those on the outside.

In February, Neil helped us to think through the parable of the talents, and how it is important to use our gifts for God. March saw Stuart back again to explore the selection of parables in Matthew 13, and the thread that connects them all-the Kingdom of Heaven. After a short break for Easter, we had a special guest. Former deacon intern, and now current rector of Kilhorne Parish in Annalong (and certainly no stranger to us in Portadown), Geoff Hamilton, or Titch as he is known to many, shared with us about the parable of the sower.

It was an great night, especially as it gave the men the opportunity to share with and encourage one another. Our final night of the year in



June saw us ending with a BBQ and our rector, Terence sharing with us from Luke 14. We will be having a break for summer, but look forward to returning in the new term.

Some of the men enjoying a burger and some chat

The opportunity to gather our men has been such an encouragement and we'd love to see more of our men get involved. The men's group meets about 7 or 8 times a year, on a Tuesday evening, with a time to catch up over some tea/coffee and a sweet treat (although don't tell any of our lady folk!). Please pray for and encourage our men, and especially extend that invitation to others to join with us for fellowship and teaching.



## SEAGOE MOTHERS' UNION BRANCH

by thanking everyone who contributed to our Emergency Toilet Bags appeal during Lent. We were able to produce 104 bags with a minimum of soap, flannel, toothpaste, toothbrush.



comb/brush, and a Mothers' Union Prayer Card. Most of the bags also had extra items such as tissues and disposable razors for gents. There is also 40+ part bags which we will complete in future months. To date 40 bags have been delivered to Craigavon Area Hospital Emergency Department and the Sister has my phone number to contact me when she needs more as her storage space is limited.

Some of our members are very skilled when it comes to knitting and crocheting and we thought it would be a nice idea to provide knee blankets for folk in residential care homes. Naturally we thought of the kindness given our oldest member, Mrs Nan Ferguson, by the staff of Rosemount Care Home and we were able to donate 25 beautiful 'handmade with care' blankets to the Home. It doesn't end there though; we have also been able to provide little handknit baby hats to the Premature Baby Unit

in the hospital too.

May I also thank the everyone in the congregation who joined with us in our Centenary Service of Thanksgiving. We were humbled to receive a message from our Worldwide President and to have our All Ireland and Diocesan Presidents along with our Diocesan Chaplain and local civic leaders. Indeed, we were delighted that our MP, Carla Lockhart, tabled

a message of congratulations for our branch in the House of Parliament. This means we are now in the history books of government papers, wow.

We were very pleased to be able to have our traditional end-of-season day out after the restrictive years of the pandemic. Having met in the Church carpark we went on to the Abbey Centre for morning coffee (and the mandatory shopping). We then visited the very impressive King Charles III Coronation Garden in Hazelbank Park, Newtownabbey. This is an amazing garden with a remarkable must-see structure as its centrepiece. It should definitely be on everyone's day trip list. We couldn't have had better weather all day and as we finished our travels in Carrickfergus many of the ladies enjoyed a light lunch but for me the ice-cream



shops were calling, I felt obliged to answer their call. The air conditioning was very welcoming as we returned home after a day filled with fun, friendship, and freedom from the housework.

That's us until September but we hope to see many new faces in our next season as we continue to reach out to the communities around us. As I look around the church, I can

see many ladies who would enjoy being part of our global Christian movement. Why not join with us as we move forward with strength into our next Centenary.

> The MU Centenary book is available in the rotunda for a donation to our funds

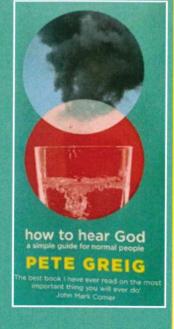
## How to hear God

ete Greig the founder of 24-7 Prayer, a global movement of prayer, mission and justice, and the Senior Pastor of Emmaus Road Church in England wrote the Lectio Devina course that we recently used in our Fellowship Group. He also co-writes the Lectio 365 daily devotional that some of our parishioners use. He has authored a number

to learn to hear and be attentive to the voice of God, and so in his recent book, How to hear God, he is trying to expand our thinking of how and when we would hear the voice of God speaking to us. Pete unveils the different ways we can grow in listening to God beyond our normal quiet times

I highly recommend this book to all, hopefully, it will help us to enrich our lives in

Eric McCartney



## Parish Register

Our Centenary

Seagoe Mothers: Union

**Christian Marriage** 

11th May 2023

Luke McCullough and Amy Pedlow, Ballynacor Meadows, Portadown

Anne Irene McLean,

Marshfield, England

Grove, Portadown

**Christian Burial** 9th March 2023

5th April 2023

23rd May 2023

26th May 2023

10th June 2023

Amy Morrow, Formerly Princess Way, Portadown Elizabeth Lynette McCann, Clanbrassil Gardens, Portadown Steve (Jock) Pendleton, Kernan Hill Manor, Portadown Ronald Alan (Ronnie) Cunningham, Killicomaine

**Burial of Ashes** 10th June 2023

Pauline Marlene Helen McKay, **Belfast** 







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## **Seagoe Church** Car Park

Cars £5 / Vans £10

All welcome to sell, browse or buy Thank you for your support

Any queries contact Edwina on 028 3833 5279

#### KILLICOMAINE KIDS AND PARENTS

Welcome all babies, toddlers and parents/carers



10:30 am - 12:30

St. Patrick's Hall, Princess Way (beside the school gates) Lots of toys, fun, friends and a cuppa!