

SEAGOE

MAGAZINE

Winter 2022

Welcoming | Growing | Encouraging | Serving

Rector's Letter

'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'

These words from Mark 1.3 refer back to Isaiah 40 where God speaks through the prophet to comfort his people in the knowledge that the Lord is coming to their aid, despite the difficulties they are living through. In verse 3 of both Isaiah 40 and Mark 1 the people are called to prepare for the Lord's coming: there is work to be done!! The picture language used in Isaiah speaks of making a straight, even road for the Lord's arrival, whereas in Mark, John the Baptist calls people to prepare their hearts for the arrival of Jesus, the Messiah.

Advent is the Church's season of preparation for the coming of King Jesus, both in looking back to his birth and in looking forward to His return; but I think it is also appropriate to say that it is a season



of preparation for his coming to us in the present. There is a physical preparation of buildings and events, but there is also a spiritual preparation as we respond to the Good News of Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us.

We will be busy decorating the buildings, buying in food for events, preparing for concerts, planning for parties and services etc. It might not seem as difficult as Isaiah's call to make straight roads, but it does not happen without a team of volunteers working hard together, and for everyone's input we are so grateful.

All those preparations are important in creating a welcoming atmosphere, but they are not ends in themselves as they all serve to create opportunities for us to celebrate the Good News of the coming of God among us. This year we trust that the range of events planned and prepared for will provide many opportunities for people to come together to consider afresh the wonderful message of God coming to enrich our lives here on earth, and for all eternity. The message truly is the most awe-inspiring, life-changing message of God coming to bless us beyond our wildest dreams.

Many of us will plan to attend some of what is on offer, but just as Isaiah and John called all their listeners to prepare, so we also are called to follow their example by

likewise inviting others to join with us in considering afresh the Good News. We may not be preachers like Isaiah and John, but we can all play our part in inviting and bringing others along with us to the events that are on offer where the Good News will be shared.

Imagine if Isaiah or John had simply prepared themselves for the coming of the King. They would have been blessed had they opened themselves to Him, but how many would have lost out as a result of not being invited to hear the Good News. If we simply go along to events ourselves we may enjoy them and benefit from the experience, but think how much better it would be to have others there with us. There is greater blessing when we see others also being blessed around us.

So this Advent I encourage you to prepare for Christmas by starting early to pray for, invite, and bring others with you to the range of events on offer. You will read of many of them in the pages of this magazine, but please keep an eye to our Facebook page-Seagoe Parish, for further details. As a result of coming along and bringing others with you, I pray that together we will all be blessed as we remember Christ's first coming, prepare for His second coming, and receive Him as He comes afresh to us this Advent and Christmas.

A happy Christmas and blessed New Year to you all.

Yours in Christ,

Terence



Christmas & New Year's Eve Services

Sunday 4th	10.30am	Nativity Play
Sunday 11th	6.00pm	St. Patrick's Carol Service
Sunday 18th	10.30am	Christingle Service
	7.00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols by Candlelight
Christmas Eve	11.00pm	Holy Communion by Candlelight
Christmas Day	9.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Christmas Family Service
		No Evening Service
New Year's Eve	11.30pm	Watchnight Service
New Year's Day	9.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	New Year's Day Service
		No Evening Service

*The staff at the Parish wish
everyone a Happy Christmas and
a blessed New Year*

Parish Finances

As the end of year approaches, we thank most sincerely everyone who has contributed towards Parish funds over the past year. Without the generous giving of Parishioners the life and work of the Parish could not be sustained. We are delighted that many people have contributed regularly by Standing Orders or by Freewill Envelopes. At this time of year we have the opportunity to check our giving and consider making up any contributions that we may have missed throughout the year before the financial year closes on 31st December.



A number of options are available for contributing to Church funds:

Standing Orders are set up through your bank to credit the Parish account as follows: Seagoe Parish, Sort Code 98-12-90 Account Number 33191057. Monthly orders are preferable to weekly orders, however to contribute the same amount per year it is necessary to give more for 12 monthly contributions than 4 times a weekly figure. Eg £25 X52 weeks=annual contribution of £1300 whereas £100X12=annual contribution of £1200

Freewill Offering Envelopes Available through the office or treasurer.

One-off contributions by cheque or a direct payment to account name Seagoe Parish, Sort Code 98-12-90 Account Number 33191057

Card reader Our new card reader provides an easy way to contribute when in Church if you do not have cash with you, however the reader provider charges us a small fee of 1.69% on contributions.

Gift Aid All of the above means of giving provide the opportunity for the Church to reclaim the tax you have already paid on your contributions. Each £1 after gift aid becomes £1.25. A simple Gift Aid form to complete is available from the office or treasurer to cover all your contributions.

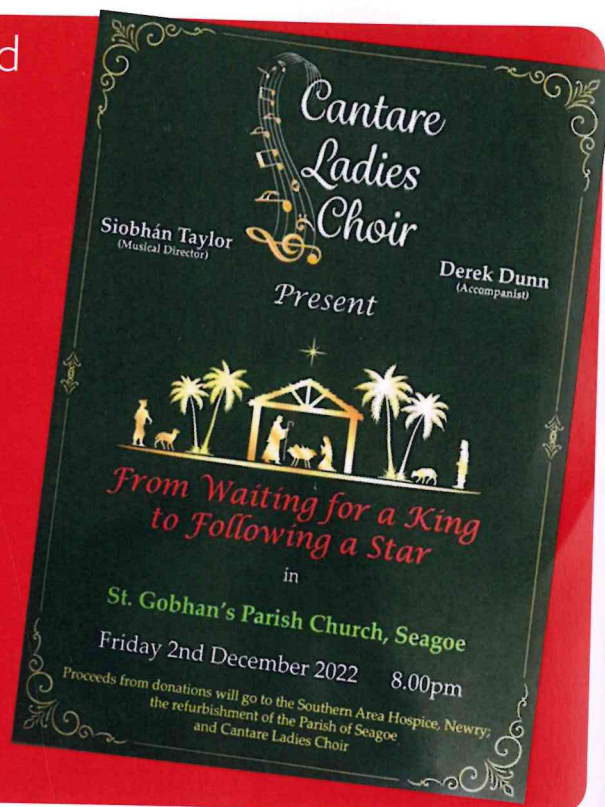
Loose plate collection Cash put directly on the collection plate (no record of giving is available for Church membership records or Gift Aid)

Legacies If you would like to leave a legacy in your will in favour of the Parish it is preferable if you leave it for general purposes.

If you require assistance or information please contact our treasurer, Philip Holland, at philip@hi-systems.co.uk or 07801552520

Concert 2nd December

We are delighted to welcome Cantare to Seagoe for its Advent Concert. The choir has generously included our Restoration Fund for a share of the contributions it will receive on the evening. Other beneficiaries will be The Southern Area Hospice and the Choir itself. Members of our Parish will serve seasonal refreshments. Please spread the word about the concert and plan to attend.



CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER

6.30PM-8PM

SEAGOE PARISH CENTRE

FESTIVE FUN FOR ALL

THE FAMILY

SEAGOE
PARISH
Welcoming | Growing | Encouraging | Serving

All young families!
Ready for some
festive fun?



RECTOR
Rev. Canon
Terence
Cadden



8 Upper Church Lane,
Portadown BT63 5JE
Tel: 3833 2538
Mob: 078 9498 7702
Email: terence@seagoe.co.uk

ASSOCIATE
MINISTER
Rev. Stuart
Moles



149 Kernan Hill Manor
Portadown
Mob: 077 3918 1466
Email: stuart@seagoe.co.uk

KILlicOMAINÉ
COMMUNITY
CHURCH LEADER
Rev. Jim
Fleming



145 Princess Way
Portadown, BT 63 5EL
Mob: 07954994749
Email: jim@seagoe.co.uk



YOUTH LEADER
IN CHARGE
Boyd McClurg
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

SEAGOE PARISH OFFICE 46 Seagoe Road, Portadown BT63 5HW Office Opening Hours: 9am - 12 noon
Office: 3835 0583 Email: info@seagoe.co.uk www.seagoe.co.uk Facebook: seagoe parish

	Date	9.00am	10.30am	6.00pm St. Patrick's Except Seagoe in bold
	December			
SUNDAY	4th	Holy Communion	Nativity Play	Holy Communion
SUNDAY	11th	Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Carol Service
SUNDAY	18th	Holy Communion	Christingle Service	7.00pm Seagoe Carols by Candlelight. No service in St. Patrick's
CHRISTMAS EVE SATURDAY	24th			11.00pm Seagoe Christmas Communion
CHRISTMAS DAY SUNDAY	25th	Holy Communion	Christmas Family Service	No service
NEW YEAR'S EVE. SATURDAY	31st			11.30pm Seagoe Watchnight Service
2023	January			
SUNDAY	1st	Harvest Communion	New Year's Service	No service
SUNDAY	8th	Holy Communion	Family Service	Holy Communion
SUNDAY	15th	Holy Communion	Morning Worship Café Church in Quiet Room	Evening Worship 7.00pm Rotunda Praise Service
SUNDAY	22nd	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Worship
SUNDAY	29th	Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Evening Worship
	February			
SUNDAY	5th	Holy Communion	Family Service	Evening Worship
SUNDAY	12th	Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Holy Communion
SUNDAY	19th	Holy Communion	Morning Worship in Church Café Church in Quiet Room	Evening worship 7.00pm Rotunda Praise Service
Ash Wednesday	22nd	10am Holy Communion	Holy Communion	8pm Ash Wednesday
SUNDAY	26th	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Worship

Nativity Play

We are delighted this year to offer a really special Nativity. Play it by Ear, a Christian drama company, will be coming to Seagoe for our Nativity Service on Sunday 4th December at 10.30am. This will be a great event for all the family. Everyone is encouraged to dress up as a character or animal involved in the Nativity. After the service we will have a bring your own picnic fun lunch in the Parish Centre. In addition to your own picnic there will be other food on offer and various treats.

The whole event is open to everyone, so please spread the word and bring others with you.

Christingle Service

Christingles are a great way for children to make something that represents some aspects of the Christmas message. On Sunday 18th December at 10.30am our Christingle Service will provide a fun opportunity for worship and making Christingles together. It would be great if everyone could bring along their own orange, but we will have some available for anyone who forgets!!!

Please let others know and invite them to come



Party of Light

Hitting the right note for all our young families at the start of the autumn half term weekend the 'Party Of Light' saw lots of princesses and superheroes and their families having an enjoyable evening in Seagoe Parish Centre,

with crafts and quizzes, paper plates and plasticine it was all go!! Facepainting and lantern making gave it a special twist. And as we finished off decorating our chocolate apples and enjoyed our sweet treats the seasonal message of the Pumpkin Prayer was a thought provoking and fitting end to the evening.



Are you a Young Person 11+... Seagoe Youth Fellowship is Calling

Youth Fellowship takes place every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the Month, 7.00pm to 8.30pm in the Parish Centre and offers a relaxed and informal place for you to meet new people your age and make lasting friendships. We have some games and activities, some food each evening and regularly look at a particular topic or book of the Bible and spend time together discussing how we can apply the truths uncovered in our own lives.

We also have guest speakers and end of term trips.

The remaining dates for YF this year are 27th November, 11th December and then will recommence after Christmas Holidays on Sunday 22nd January

If you are aged 11+ we would love to see you, and if you have any questions please contact Stuart.

YOUTH Fellowship

EVERY 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month @ 7PM to 8.30PM

Seagoe Parish Centre

OPEN TO ALL YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 11+

**JOIN US FOR YOUTH FELLOWSHIP!
FOOD, GAMES, BIBLE STUDY & BANTER**

**FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CALL
07739181466 or email stuart@seagoe.co.uk**

Church Lads' & Church Girls' Brigade

At this time of year the members of the CLB are busy making a range of Christmas Crafts etc in addition to their other activities. The annual Christmas Party Night with Mr Slushtails on 8th December (CLB's last night of 2022) is always a highlight! CLB will return after the Christmas break, on Thursday 12th January 2023 with a busy schedule of sports and competitions. An auction is provisionally planned for 31st March 2023.

It is great to have the Church Girls' Brigade back up and running and able to attend events. We can now receive



visitors to our hall and we welcomed the community police giving a safety talk to our Martins and JTC groups. We attended the Remembrance Sunday parade with the boys and marched to church for the first time in three years. We are looking forward to the upcoming events in the new year.



Seagoe Youth Group Members Go Global.

A team of 14 Global Service Ambassadors from Seagoe Youth Group heard the real backstories of Calvin, Michelle, Robert and Penny at the National Coalition for the Homeless in Washington DC on day one of a week-long programme of education and volunteering with homelessness charities in Washington DC. Their mission is a balance of helping individuals to find support and also finding the ear of politicians to influence government policy towards affordable housing. Really interesting to hear that serious moves are being made towards universal basic income in a culture where wages in the tip/hospitality industry have stagnated at 2 dollars 15 cents since 1990.

The group put in a day of hard work and fantastic teamwork volunteering at an organization called Martha's Table, with a truck to unload and food to pack and then distribute at a pop-up marketplace. The weather gave us all sorts of treats including dancing in a thunderstorm on the way home. Two mornings involved a 6.00 am start at SOME, So Others



Might Eat. The young people knuckled down to some really hard work delivering 150 breakfast burritos, grits (don't even ask), coffee and orange juice to people coming in from the streets and tented villages of Washington DC and listened to some real-life stories of hardship in modern America.

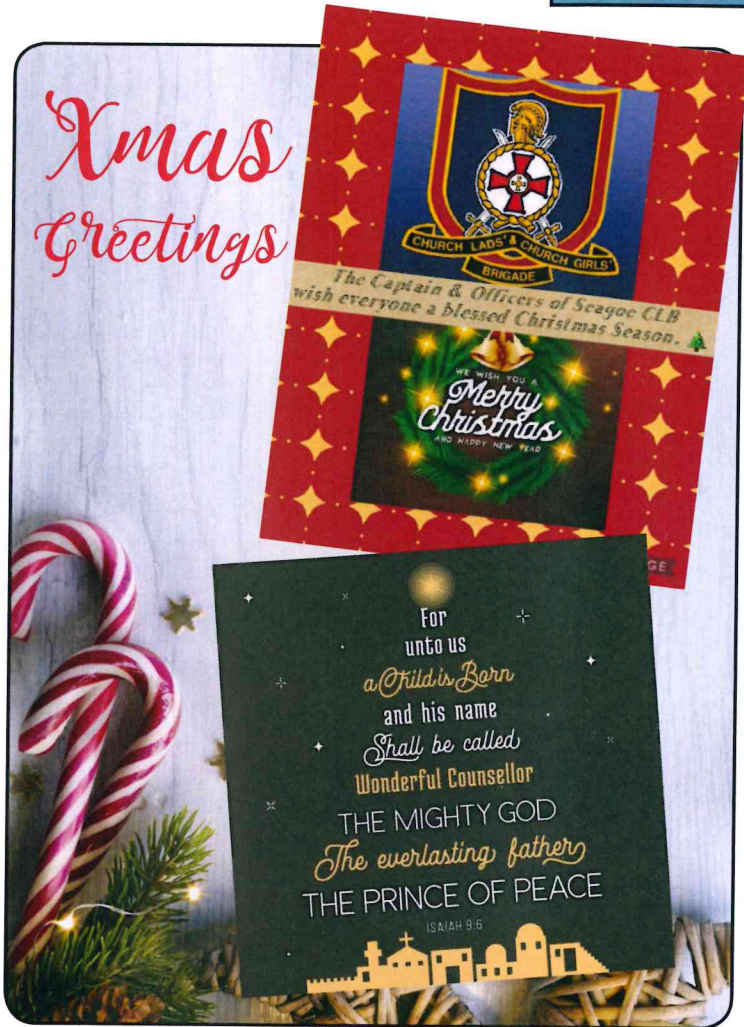
Among the sights of Washington, we explored the Washington Monument, WW2 Memorial, Arlington Cemetery, Lincoln Memorial, National Archives, Ford's Theatre where President Lincoln was assassinated and had a beautiful river taxi trip on the Potomac River and a spin on the big wheel above National Harbour, Maryland.

On the last full day in Washington DC, We toured the awesome Capitol building where the Rotunda is almost as impressive as the one

at Seagoe. We also took some time to take in the Korean War Memorial and the Vietnam War Memorial. A poignant reminder that Freedom Is Not Free. Our Amizade host, Torey, was fantastic and gave us the best experience mixing volunteer service with sightseeing and understanding the social fabric of this big, crazy, complicated country. The temperatures were 96F all week so after a trip to see the Whitehouse in the evening we enjoyed the air conditioning and the mighty menu at the Cheesecake Factory.

The group would like to thank parishioners who sponsored their fundraising hike over Slieve Donard/Slieve Commedagh and to the Missionary Committee and Church Lads Brigade for their generous donations. A grant from the Education Authority and other fundraising activities allowed for equal participation from members right across Seagoe Youth Group.

This was a real learning experience for all involved and our follow up sessions are exploring the development of a world view based in compassion and social justice. To see more photos from the trip or to follow other activities at Seagoe Youth Group, make sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



Church refurbishment

The Select Vestry is delighted that our architect is close to bringing the refurbishment detail for the Church to the tender stage. The drawings have been forwarded to the Church authorities for approval. When approvals are in place tenders will be sought from a variety of contractors. When contract prices are received the Vestry will then make the final decision about moving ahead with the project. We are anticipating that the project will cost a lot of money and so we will be seeking to raise additional funds to help cover the costs. You may like to start considering what you might be able to contribute towards the project. The Select Vestry will produce an explanatory fund raising brochure when we know the final price.

Our Mothers' Union branch continues to celebrate this our Centenary year. A group of our members went along to the Down and Dromore diocesan overseas meeting in St Ignatius Carryduff



on 7th November. The weather was awful for travelling in but what a privilege it was to hear our Worldwide Mothers' Union President, Sherman Harper from Guyana, talk about her passion and experiences in the service of Mothers' Union. We were in really good company too, as our Diocesan Chaplain Rev Duncan Pollock, All Ireland President June Butler, Zonal Trustee Iris Suiter and Diocesan President Mavis Thompson also took part in a great evening of friendship and fellowship.

We were greatly honoured by Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon on 29th November when the Lord Mayor, Councillor Paul Greenfield give us a Civic Reception in acknowledgement of our MU reaching the milestone anniversary of hundred years. Not many groups or organisations reach their centenary but we have been blessed with many faithful members who have worked quietly and tirelessly in the background and continue to do so. We hope to put some photos on our Church Facebook page and in the next Parish magazine.

As the cost of living crisis continues to have an adverse impact on our community, we will start 2023 with a talk from Jim on the work of Christians Against Poverty. This group gives amazing help to many people struggling with debt and will support them until they are debt free. Why not come along to the January meeting and hear more about their work. Don't wait to be asked, come along to MU, you'll be warmly welcome.

Shirley Branyan, branch leader



FAMILY APPEAL NORTHERN IRELAND



Salvation Army Present Appeal

With the cost of living crisis this year we are aware that many families will struggle with providing Christmas presents for their families. Seagoe parishioners are always so generous in their support of the Salvation Army Toy Appeal, and we are therefore requesting support again this year. The collection of gifts (unwrapped please) will take place on Sunday 4th December. Toys can be brought to all our services that Sunday. You can watch a short video about the appeal at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ky0dp11BiLc>. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Seagoe Men

The Men's group began its autumn activities with a very successful Men's breakfast, during our back to church month. Over 35 men gathered on the morning of Saturday 24th September, where we enjoyed not only food for the body, but food for the soul. A small team of men organised and prepared the breakfast, and we were joined by Rev. Pete Smith, the rector of Loughgall and

Grange Parish, and a former parishioner here in Seagoe.

Pete regaled us with tales of his youth, and shared with his about his journey of faith, and all present were encouraged

by his testimony. Thanks to all the men who turned up, and especially our men who worked so hard behind the scenes in preparing the breakfast!

Just a few weeks later, the Men's group then began its new series for this year, focusing on the parables of Jesus. Our first session together offered 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, we had a deep dive into 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. We will be having a short break over the Christmas season, but look forward to our programme resuming again in the new year, as well as a number of guest speakers. Please do encourage our men to join with us at the various men's events throughout the year, and pray for the ongoing work of our men's ministry.



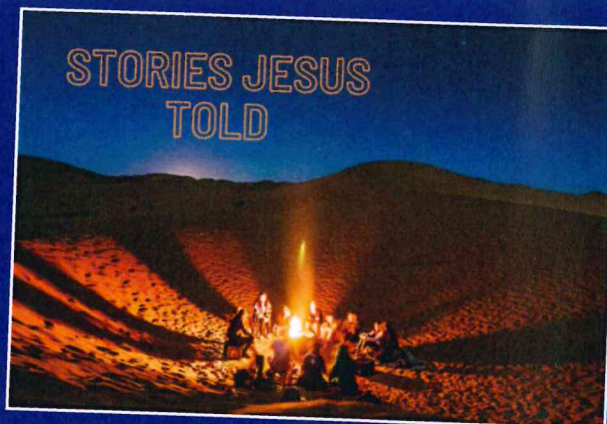
Seagoe men's club has introduced an initiative which begins this November with the aim of offering a little help to those in need. The idea is to use the skills and abilities of those in the men's group to offer a helping hand to those who may be finding things difficult. There are those with practical and pastoral skills and all men are keen to make life just a bit easier.

The initiative takes the form of a wooden box that will be placed in the Rotunda and will contain postcard-size forms. Simply complete the form and place it in the lower drawer of the box. These forms will be collected and contact made with the person requesting a helping hand. The initiative will be conducted with the strictest of confidence. Indeed, if a congregation member knows of someone who could benefit, the form can be completed on

that person's behalf, with their approval.

The box is named HELP standing for Helping Everyone Loving People. The initiative will run for 6 months with a review as to its success being conducted at the end of January 2023.

Edward Graham



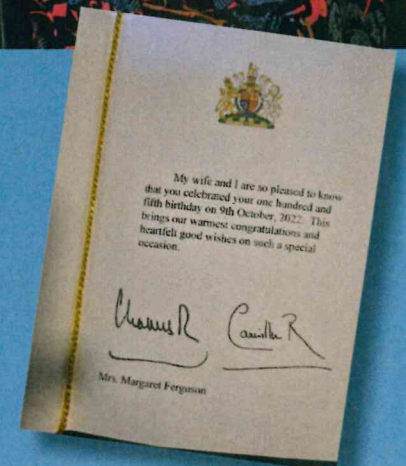
WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

Seagoe Parish has been hosting Macmillan Coffee Mornings for over 20 years...even in recent times we organised a 'Take Home' variety which was very popular. We want to thank everyone for their generosity over the years which has resulted in us raising an amazing £12,400 for this worthy cause. We trust this money has blessed many over the 20 years..... so A SINCERE THANK YOU!

Nan Ferguson 105

Terence was delighted to be invited to celebrate Nan Ferguson's 105th birthday with her and her family and to bring them Holy Communion. Nan was her usual alert self, full of fun and stories. When Nan was 100 she received a card from her late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth. On her 105th Birthday Nan was thrilled to receive another card from His Majesty King Charles and the Queen Consort, Queen Camilla. Both cards will have pride of place framed on her wall.

Congratulations and God's Blessing Nan.



9th October 2022 Cyril Frederick James Gilpin
9th October 2022 Patricia Caroline Sarah Ann Gilpin



Raise **FREE** funds for us every time you shop online!

Shop at 4,000+ stores

M&S
EST. 1844

Booking.com

John Lewis

Argos

DEBENHAMS

ebay

HOUSE OF FRASER

amazon.co.uk



Give as you Live®

www.giveasyoulive.com/join/seagoeparish

George McNabb & Co. FUNERAL DIRECTORS & MEMORIAL MASONS

24 Hour Professional & Caring Service Independent
Portadown Family Business
With over 45 Years Experience



Golden Charter Pre-Paid Funeral Plans Headstones
& Additional Lettering

A Dignified Professional Service in your time of need

Telephone: (028) 38351516

WWW.GEORGE McNABB.CO.UK

106 Bridge Street, Portadown, Co. Armagh BT63 5AP



It would be much appreciated if people parking cars could please use the parking bays and not park on the church roadways or at the kitchen area to avoid any difficulty if ambulances etc needed access to the buildings.

On Sundays the car parks at the School can also be used.
Disabled spaces are provided in the back carpark to allow for easy access to the buildings.

KILLICOMAIN KIDS AND PARENTS

Welcome all babies, toddlers and parents/carers



**Starts Back on Friday
9th September**

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

ALAN WRAY & CO. INDEPENDENT FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS




QUIET AND DISCREET SERVICE
FULL FUNERAL HOME FACILITIES

PERSONALLY SUPERVISED BY ALAN WRAY
MBIE MEAE MBIFD DIP. E.D.

'The Old Meeting House'
24A Portmore Street, Portadown,
Co Armagh BT62 3NG

TEL: 07989 303897 | 24 HOURS



Do you enjoy singing, especially hymns and songs? If so, you might like to join members of the Choir for an hour or so each Tuesday in the Quiet Room, beginning on Tuesday 13 September @7.30pm. There is no requirement to read music (although it helps!) and you will be made most welcome among this group of friends. We rehearse music ahead of each Sunday service and will be looking at appropriate music for Harvest Thanksgiving. Anyone of any age is welcome to join us. (Contact details below.) For the record I would like to thank all those members of the Choir who have faithfully sung at weekly services throughout the pandemic, taking them beyond their comfort zone and behind microphones in this season of live streaming!

Alison Cadden (07535 638880)

*Wishing all our
Parishioners a
Blessed Christmas
and Healthy,
Happy New Year*

