

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

Wednesday 3rd December
11.00am Holy Communion & Intercessions for the Sick

Sunday 7th December
Second Sunday of Advent
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship & Sunday School
***7.00pm** Community Carol Service followed by Lighting of Christmas Tree Lights in High Street Presbyterian Church

*** PLEASE NOTE NO EVENING SERVICE IN PARISH CHURCH**

Sunday 14th December
Third Sunday of Advent
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship & Sunday School
7.00pm Holy Communion

Sunday 21st December
Fourth Sunday of Advent
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Nativity and Christingle Service
7.00pm Nine Lessons and Carols

Wednesday 24th December
CHRISTMAS EVE
11.00am Intercessions for the sick
11.00pm Christmas Eve Communion

Thursday 25th December
CHRISTMAS DAY
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Short Christmas Family Communion Service

Friday 26th December
SAINT STEPHEN'S DAY
11am Holy Communion
(in church)

Sunday 28th December
First Sunday of Christmas
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am All Age Service
7.00pm Compline

SERVICES FOR JANUARY

Sunday 4th January
Second Sunday of Christmas
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am An All Age Family Service for Epiphany
7.00pm Compline

Wednesday 7th January
11.00am Holy Communion & Intercessions for the Sick

Sunday 11th January
First Sunday after the Epiphany
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship & Sunday School
7.00pm Holy Communion

Sunday 18th January
Second Sunday after the Epiphany
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship & Sunday School
7.00pm Compline

Sunday 25th January
Third Sunday after the Epiphany
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion & Sunday School
7.00pm Compline

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

Sunday 1st February
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship & Sunday School
7.00pm Compline

Wednesday 4th February
11.00am Holy Communion & Intercessions for the Sick

Sunday 8th February
Fourth Sunday before Lent
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship & Sunday School
7.00pm Holy Communion

Sunday 15th February
Sunday before Lent
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship & Sunday School
7.00pm Compline

Wednesday 18th February
Ash Wednesday
11.00am Holy Communion & Intercessions for the sick

Sunday 22nd February
First Sunday in Lent
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion & Sunday School
7.00pm Compline

Sunday 1st March
Second Sunday in Lent
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am 400th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service (see inside for details)
7.00pm Compline

PASTORAL CARE

It is a privilege for clergy to visit parishioners who are ill in hospital.

Please telephone the Rector or Ann Blair, our Pastoral Assistant (Ph 91883748), should a member of the Parish require a hospital visit or has returned home.



Donaghadee Parish Church

IN FOCUS

Winter Edition
2025

Rector: Rev Ian R Gamble Tel: 02891882594

Dear Friends,

As we enter 2026 can I wish you all a peaceful Christmas, filled with the joy that comes from knowing the Lord Jesus and filled with his grace and strength for the year ahead. I've been reflecting over the last year and the hymn "Count your many blessings", comes to mind. We have much in our congregational life and worship to give thanks for; the joy of our salvation in Christ, the support and friendship that we enjoy in our parish family. And the joy and anticipation that marks all our worship, traditional and contemporary, in Donaghadee Parish.

The highlight of the year was the visit of Bishop Moses, and his wife Mama Rejoice, to our Harvest Service in October. We had not expected to have the Bishop but since his NI visit program coincided with our Harvest Service, CMS enabled him to come along. We were blessed and encouraged by his words of support, thanks and vision for mission and evangelism in Maridi Diocese and to us in Donaghadee. Our link and support for Maridi is not taken for granted by Bishop Moses and the people of his Diocese. They value us and we them, as our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, within the fellowship of the Anglican Communion, rooted in Canterbury and our fellowship with the Church of England.

During their visit to Down and Dromore Diocese, Bishop Moses and Mama Rejoice celebrated harvest thanksgiving in Donaghadee.

Thank you to all those who contributed to the Parish Harvest Appeal to support clergy training in Maridi. As a Parish we will also be supporting them with a gift to help in rebuilding a new Maridi Family Centre. Our support and prayers for them will be ongoing and blesses us as we bless them!

I'm constantly reminded that Donaghadee Parish is a missionary church. The Gospel was preached by St. Patrick around 432AD and names and traditions in our location – Croag Patrick at Ballyvester- testify to this. As we enter 2026 we will begin celebrations for our 400th Anniversary of the rebuilding of the Church by Viscount Montgomery. As the year unfolds a series of events will take place, beginning with a Thanksgiving Service with the Archbishop of Armagh, the Most Revd John McDowell on Sunday 1st March 2026 at 10.30am. Other events are planned as the year unfolds along with the publication of a "History of Donaghadee Parish". By Dr Tom Neill.

Our Parish Church stands as a place of 400 years of Christian witness, be a part of this in 2026.

Can I encourage those who are not so regular at attending worship to reflect on the words of this beautiful Advent hymn:

Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty; we who set at naught and sold him, pierced and nailed him to a tree, Lord, have mercy, Let us all thine Advent see.

This hymn points us from the stable to the cross. Sunday by Sunday we proclaim the living Jesus, in the spirit of this hymn come and behold him! You will receive a joyful welcome.

May you and your family know the blessing of Jesus Christ this Christmas and into 2026.

Ian R Gamble
Rector





STOREHOUSE NORTH DOWN

Our Parish supports Storehouse North Down, a vital ministry to those who find themselves in need of food and household support.

Storehouse is always keen to replenish their stores with a wide range of items including

Jars: Baby food, jam, Bolognese sauce, pasta sauces.

Tins: Tomatoes, tuna, tinned meals, custard, rice, ham, fruit, baked beans, vegetables, sweetcorn, spaghetti, soup.

Drinks: Diluted juice, breakfast juice, long life milk

Other: Pasta large/small, dried rice, cereal—small variety or large box, biscuits, salt, pepper, cooking oil, cuppa soup, tea, coffee, jelly, washing up liquid, cleaning products.

**The Church Hall is open Wednesday and Friday mornings
10.00am—12.30pm
to receive items for Storehouse.**

**Thank you all for your
continued support for Storehouse.**

**Bangor Area
Deanery Prayer
Event at Christ
Church Primacy,
Bangor.**



“MEANDERINGS WITH MOSES”

**Tuesday, 20th January 2026, from
7 pm to 9 pm, at Christ Church Primacy,**

Charles Finney said, ‘Nothing tends more to cement the hearts of Christians than praying together. Never do they love one another so well as when they witness the outpouring of each other's hearts in prayer.’

Scripture speaks of the blessings and power of unity when God's people meet to pray and worship together (Psalm 133). You are invited to join the churches of the Clondeboy Deanery for an evening of mutual encouragement as we worship and intercede for the needs of our churches, families and local communities.

We will “Meander with Moses”, drawing on his life experience and raw encounters with God as a basis for our prayers.

The evening will include worship and opportunities to pray in small groups, in silence, or at prayer stations. There is something to suit everyone's style of praying, for as Paul reminds us, we are to ‘pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.’ (Eph 6: 18).

Whether you can make the whole event or just a part of the evening, we would love to see you, as we make our petitions and requests with thanksgiving to the Lord.



**400th ANNIVERSARY
THANKSGIVING SERVICE
For the rebuilding of Donaghadee Parish Church
1626 - 2026
Preacher ARCHBISHOP JOHN McDOWELL
PRIMATE OF ALL IRELAND
SUNDAY 1ST MARCH 2026 10.30AM**

PARISH RECORDS

Holy Baptism

2nd November
Annabelle Elizabeth Stevenson
Autumn Hilary Donna Fulton

16th November
Emily Joanna Wilsdon

We welcome these children into the fellowship of Christ's Church.

Christian Burial
15th August
Elizabeth (Liz) Hamilton

16th August
Thomas Walker Simpson

26th August
Ellen Wilson Campbell

**5th September
(Memorial Service)**
William Norman Browne

11th September
Christine Olive Elizabeth
Graham

25th November
Olivia Ellen Sampson

We extend our sympathy to these families. Please remember them in your prayers.

MONDAY CLUB

**Fun, fellowship and
great craic!**

**Coffee Quizzes
..... Poetry**

**Monday
2.00pm—4.00pm
in The Sanctuary.**

Come and join us!

PARISH TODDLER GROUP EACH FRIDAY (term time)

9.30am—11.30am



Games, songs and lots of toys. Mid-morning we take a break and enjoy a healthy kid's snack and tea/coffee with some tasty refreshments for the adults.

Come along and enjoy a fantastic morning!

CONTACT	NAME	PHONE
Pastoral Assistant	Ann Blair	91883748
Diocesan Lay Reader	David Monahan	91884278
Rector's Church Warden	Lorna Thrush	07530931823
People's Church Warden	Mandy Humphreys	07759569952
Rector's Glebe Warden	Ian Henderson	07968151156
People's Glebe Warden	Gary Robinson	07860197082
Hon.Secretary	Diane Finlay	07740250143
Hon.Treasurer	Heather Heaney	07754506415
Scouting Association	Katie	07870556767
Guiding Association	Wendy	07711518836
Parish Toddlers	Mandy Humphreys	077595699
Indoor Bowling Club	Frank Humphreys	91452862
Parish Secretary	Lilian Cunningham	91882962
Female Faith	Avril Walker	91861445
Monday Club	Katie Henderson	91274206
In Focus Convenor	George Goggins	91883458

OFFICE HOURS

Wednesday & Friday mornings
9.30am - 12.30pm

Website:: www.donaghadeeparish.co.uk



COFFEE MORNING
SATURDAY 10TH JANUARY 2026
10AM—12 NOON
IN CHURCH HALL
PROCEEDS IN AID OF BRITISH
RED CROSS

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING EVENING

We invited both members of our congregation and those who use our Church complex to attend a Defibrillator Training Course on the evening of Monday 13th October. The course was run by two members of the British Red Cross—Emma Brown and Audrey Dempster.

Emma and Audrey provided training in the life saving skills of CPR. They began the evening by explaining how to identify a problem, call for help and how to save a life.

They brought twelve CPR training manikins and several training defibrillators along for all the participants to practice on. They also explained the process involved if it was a child or an infant in danger.

Our church has two defibrillators—one in the Choir Room in the church and one in the hallway of the church halls beside the door. To say thank you for this amazing training our Parish will support a coffee morning for the work of the Red Cross. Please do come along and support this amazing organization.



Every Blessing to Jenny Smyth,
CMSI's Mission Director
on her retirement.



Church Mission Society Ireland (CMSI) has announced that the Society's Mission Director Jenny Smyth plans to retire from the role in the coming months.

Jenny served for 11 years as Mission Director, 2 years as a Partnership co-ordinator and 20 years as a Mission Partner alongside her husband, Billy. Jenny said to CMSI, "I now feel that someone with fresh energy, complementary skills and new vision would benefit the Society. We're really blessed with a very supportive Board of Trustees and a strong, stable staff team...and I am sure that they are well able to ensure continuity for the Society and keep things on track during the change of leadership."

Speaking at a recent CMS gathering, Jenny said, "I would like to thank you all and our global partners for the ongoing prayerful support that you've given and the practical ways in which you support the Society. Please do pray that God will direct and guide the process of recruitment and for the person that God has already appointed for this role."

CMSI Chair of Trustees David Reynolds led the gathering of over 120 CMSI members and friends in a time of prayer following the announcement which resulted in an outpouring of affection for Jenny demonstrated by a standing ovation and through many valedictory words offered across the day.

It is hoped that a new Mission Director will be in post in time for the Society's Annual General Meeting in March 2026. In due course, there are plans for an event to celebrate Jenny's ministry in CMSI as well as an online prayer meeting which will focus on the process of recruiting a new Mission Director. Donaghadee Parish wishes Jenny every blessing in retirement. Thank you for your support to us in mission partnership over the years.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 7th December
Second Sunday of Advent
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship &
Sunday School
7.00pm Community Carol
Service followed by Lighting
of Christmas Tree Lights in
High Street Presbyterian Church



*** PLEASE NOTE NO EVENING
SERVICE IN PARISH CHURCH**

Sunday 21st December
Fourth Sunday of Advent
8.30am Holy Communion



10.30am Nativity and Christingle Service



7pm Nine Lessons and Carols

Wednesday 24th December
CHRISTMAS EVE
11.00am Intercessions for the sick
11.00pm Christmas Eve
Communion



Thursday 25th December
CHRISTMAS DAY
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Short Christmas Family
Communion Service



Friday 26th December
SAINT STEPHEN'S DAY
11.00am Holy Communion (*in church*)

Sunday 28th December
First Sunday of Christmas
8.30am Holy Communion
10.30am All Age Service
7.00pm Compline

Sunday 4th January
Celebrating the Epiphany
8.30am Holy Communion



10.30am An All Age Family Service
for Epiphany
7.00pm Compline

HARVEST APPEAL FOR MARIDI DIOCESE

Many thanks to all our parishioners who donated to our Harvest Appeal through CMS.

The wonderful amount of

£1,644

was raised for the work of equipping
new clergy in Maridi Diocese, South Sudan.

Donaghadee Parish Church Motorbike Show November 2025

For the second year in succession, Donaghadee Parish Church has seen a large attendance at its Motorbike Show.

Proceeds from the show are shared between Air Ambulance Northern Ireland and the Church's own Stained Glass Window Appeal for its 400th anniversary, taking place next year, 2026.

This year, there were many bikes on display from across N. Ireland, providing a fascinating experience for all lovers of the two-wheeled world. Road, off-road and racing bikes were well represented.

We thank both the many visitors as well as exhibitors for their enthusiastic and very generous support.

Especial thanks are due to Davy's Motorbikes Bangor, Ella Musgrove and The Belfast Motorcycle Tyre Company, Ivan Greenfield from IAM RoadSmart, Mental Health Motorbike and to Cecil Pearson and the JAP Team.



Ella Mosgrove on her Honda NSF 250.

To make a donation or for further information, please go to www.airambulanceni.org and orwww.donaghadee.down.anglican.org



Donaghadee Parish Church was the venue last weekend for a Vintage Motorcycle Day with proceeds split between church funds and the Northern Ireland Air Ambulance. Admiring one of the many bikes in display are Gary Robinson, Norman May, George Goggins and Ted Boyd. ND2-20-11-25



Serving up refreshments at the Donaghadee Parish Church Vintage Motorcycle Show are Brenda Robinson, Ann Blair, Helen Goggins and Emily McCarty. ND1-20-11-25

A huge thank you to our Motorbike Show Team for another great event. It takes much preparation and hard work to put on this amazing display of bikes, as well as organizing the catering. Thank you from the Rector and Select Vestry for this fundraising event for both our Parish Development Fund (Church Fabric) and the NI Air Ambulance.



Thank you for the amazing sum of £4,863 raised for the Biker's Charity.



Great to see the rector's brother Don (a biker) down to see the show.



Bikes old and new. Thanks to all those who displayed at the show.