# FEBRUARY 2026



St Philip and St James
Holywood Parish Church

**Parish Office**
**10am-12noon**(reduced hours)
**Monday to Friday**
71 Church Road
BT18 9BX
Tel: 9042 3622
www.holywoodparishchurch.co.uk
info@holywoodparishchurch.co.uk

St Philip and St James
**Holywood Parish Church**

## PARISH STAFF TEAM

***VICAR***
**The Rev'd Canon Gareth Harron**
Tel: Parish Office 9042 3622
garethharron@btinternet.com
Mobile: 07711 885317

***ASSOCIATE MINISTER***
Rev Thomas Murray
thomas@holywoodparishchurch.co.uk
Tel: 9042 3622

***VICAR'S SECRETARY***
Pauline Clarke
Tel: 9042 3622
pauline@holywoodparishchurch.co.uk

***PARISH YOUTH WORKER***
Lorcán Speier
Tel: 07413 183448
lorcan@holywoodparishchurch.co.uk

***ORGANIST & CHOIR DIRECTOR***
Edwin Gray
Tel: 07796 170075
edwinjgray608@gmail.com

***CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP COORDINATOR***
Simon Burrowes
Tel: 07832 769099
simon@holywoodparishchurch.co.uk

***CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY WORKER***
Emily Parker
emily@holywoodparishchurch.co.uk
Tel: 07443 334690

## SELECT VESTRY OFFICE BEARERS

***VICAR'S CHURCH WARDEN***
Raymond Orr

***HON SECRETARY***
Heather McCord

***VICAR'S GLEBEWARDEN***
Bob Cooke

***PEOPLE'S CHURCH WARDEN***
Chris McIlroy

***HON TREASURER***
Brian Beatty

***PEOPLE'S GLEBEWARDEN***
Leslie Allen

## MAGAZINE

The magazine is created by volunteers from the Parish. Please send content to **editor@holywoodparishchurch.co.uk**

Please contact the office for information about advertising, content or subscriptions. Subscription: £1/issue or £10/year.



# The Vicar Writes

**One of my fondest memories of my late maternal grandmother was when she stayed with us in Bangor in the 1970s.** Living over 100 miles away we only got to see her a few times a year and usually on her patch in County Fermanagh. On this occasion, she came to visit us and was watching a comedy programme on TV; I am pretty sure it was 'You're Only Young Twice'. The thing that has stayed with me was that she laughed and laughed...until she cried.

I hope you have experienced these happy tears at times but all too often our emotions spill over in sadness and lament.

Tears are a natural response to life's circumstances - they can be penitential and cathartic. Tears can bring great release as we acknowledge the burdens we are carrying. You may have heard me use the phrase 'liquid prayer'. Sometimes I use it in the context of anointing where the oil can be a potent symbol of God's presence but I think tears often accompany heartfelt prayer. The Psalmist expresses a crisis in their life with these words, *"My tears have been my food day and night"* Psalm 42:3.

You may not think this talk of tears sets a very positive tone as my opening remarks of the new year but I hope that it admits that many of us carry sadness and pain with us much of the time. It also serves as an introduction to this year's Lenten series starting this month.

After the Ash Wednesday service, we will gather on Tuesdays to trace the story of tears through the Old Testament. Then our Holy Week series will centre on the intense emotion of the passion narrative (but we have to wait almost until April to get to these studies). I have not come up with a suitable title for the series yet and I would welcome suggestions for something that conveys the concept in a way which might connect with those who do not attend worship regularly.

One of the most encouraging lachrymal passages in the New Testament is this promise in the book of Revelation,
*"He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away"*
Revelation 21:4.

I pray that 2026 will be a year of honest reflection where tears of joy overflow among us and we grow in God's grace.

Yours in Christ
Gareth

**SWEENEY'S PHARMACIES LIMITED**
52 HIGH STREET,
HOLYWOOD 9042 2222

HEADLINE DESIGN
Lesley Cull
State Registered Hairdresser (Gents)
33 Church Road | Holywood
County Down | BT19 9BU
Tel: 028 9042 8558



MERDYN
DAY NURSERY
2 Plas Merdyn, Church Road, Holywood
0-5 years, Mon-Fri 07.30 - 18.30
For more info contact:
nicky@merdyn.co.uk
Website: www.merdyn.co.uk
Telephone: 028 9042 8355



WINDYRIDGE
*Interiors & Gifts*
*Now Open in Bangor*
16 Rathmore Road BT19 1DL

HANNAH'S FLORISTS
13-15 CHURCH ROAD, HOLYWOOD
*Flowers for all occasions*
***Top quality fresh-cut flowers and pot plants***
Phone now for a fast, efficient service
9042 4102



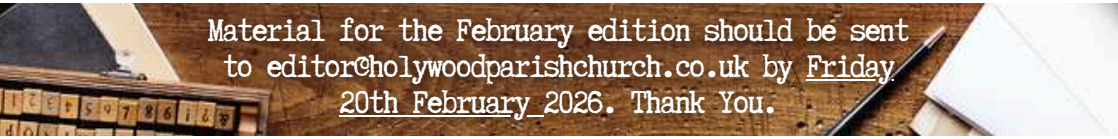
# Notes from the magazine team

Hello readers,

Letters, inspirational stories, a concert, lunches, prayer opportunities, poetry and pancakes! There's so much to read and so many exciting upcoming events that I'm keeping this section short to make way for all the exciting articles and announcements! With so many welcoming events in the next couple of months, there's no reason to feel 'Blue Monday' - not least that it's now been outed as a marketing ploy rather than a scientific observation!

I hope your 2026 has started well and continues to go from strength to strength.

Sally




## Storehouse North Down

Please consider picking up some items to donate to Storehouse and drop them in the trolley at the back of church

**Cut out and keep this list for your next 'big shop'**

- Cuppa soup
- Long life milk
- Tinned ham
- Tinned custard
- Dilute juice
- Tinned soup
- Pasta
- Rice
- Baby food
- Washing up liquid
- Beans
- Soap

STOREHOUSE



**John Gray & Co**
Funeral Directors

**Serving the local community for over 50 years**

johngrayfuneraldirectors.com

**Holywood**
028 9042 4853
138 High Street,
Holywood
County Down
BT18 9HW

John Gray & Co Funeral Directors are here to support and guide you. We offer a friendly, professional service to families.

- 24-hour service
- Bereavement advice
- Home visits
- Private rest rooms
- Floral Tributes
- Memorial Masonry
- Prepaid Funeral Plans

**Call us for immediate support, advice or to arrange a home visit or to find out more about our prepaid funeral plans.**
**We are here to help 24 hours a day.**

EST. 1921
FOSTER & SONS
REMOVALS

Home/Office Removals - Storage
Packing/Unpacking - Cleaning
International Shipping

389 Holywood Road, Belfast, BT4 2LS
e-mail:sales@fosterandsons.co.uk T: 028 9042 4403
www.fosterandsons.co.uk

4 GENERATIONS OF
MOVING EXCELLENCE

HOLYWOOD
PLAY .Co
Play is the business of childhood

Holywood's exciting childcare provider.
We offer after-school care
and holiday childcare.
Providing a relaxed home-from-home
atmosphere meeting children's individual
needs.

Contact us on 07837598691
or e-mail holywoodplayco@hotmail.co.uk

OAK & CLOVER
GARDEN SERVICES

**Grass Cutting - Hedge & Shrub Cutting**

***Availability in Holywood and the surrounding areas.***

Friendly and professional service
Fully insured
Weed control / prevention PAI/PA6 certified



**Call:- 07875095217 • Email:** oakandclovergs@gmail.com
**www.oakandclover.co.uk**

Dear friends in Holywood Parish,

I am looking forward to meeting you all and beginning my role as Associate Minister in Holywood. It is a real joy and privilege to be joining you and I come excited to be a part of all that God is doing amongst you.

My wife, Jodie, and I are especially excited to be entering this new season with our family. We have three children: Theodore, who is six, Annabel, who is four, and Isaac, who has just turned one. As a family, we are very much looking forward to becoming part of the life of the parish, getting to know people of all ages and backgrounds, and sharing in the rhythms of church and community life in Holywood.

I have been encouraged by the church's vision of being a *down to earth* community of Christ-followers who love Jesus and are keen to share His love with others. That desire resonates deeply with my own calling. The words of Colossians 1:28–29 shape the heart of the ministry. I hope to bring: proclaiming Christ, nurturing one another toward maturity in Him, and relying wholly on God's strength at work within us.



We are very thankful for the welcome already shown and look forward to serving alongside you as together we seek to make Christ known.

With every blessing,
Thomas

## World Day of Prayer Service

**First Holywood Non Subscribing Presbyterian Church**

The service has been prepared by the women of Nigeria.

**Friday 6th March 2026**
8:00PM (for one hour)

2026 theme:
**I will give you rest, come.**

Everyone welcome.

This is always a beautiful, restful Service to which all are invited.



Calvert
Contact: Scott Thompson
Tel: 028 9040 1360
e-mail: scott@calvert.co.uk
Web: www.calvert.co.uk

Sales Service Solutions
One of the largest providers of multifunctional copiers and network printers in Northern Ireland.
KYOCERA Document Solutions
Canon

Simon Lorimer
Painters & Decorators
028 9185 2725 or 07802 386480
s.p.lorimer@gmail.com
TRUST MARK
Government Endorsed Standards
www.trustmark.org.uk

Dulux SelectDecorators

GUY BLACKWELL
HNC Building Contractor
- All types of building work
- Roofing
- Drainage
- Garages
- Extensions
- Estimates free
- Repair and replace
- PVC windows and doors

078 6051 2878

Laura Walker Ballet School
Holywood Old School House, Church Road
Wednesdays and Fridays
P1-P2 2.30pm P5-P6 4.15pm
P3-P4 3.15pm Seniors 5.15pm
Tel: 07711 643958
facebook: laurawalkerballetschool
Royal Academy of Dance Syllabus

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

For the first meeting of Mothers' Union in 2026 it was lovely to have Angela Megarry as our guest speaker - so familiar to us all having worked with children and families in the parish over the past eight years. Angela told us about her recent trip to Cambodia to support Eggshell, a charity founded by Mark and Liz Featherstonehaugh, a couple known to Angela from Willowfield parish. Mark and Liz were so moved by the plight of young children in Cambodia they sold their home and business and moved to Cambodia to try to help. Over seven years they have worked to create a daycare centre which provides a safe and loving environment for very young children who are at risk of trafficking and exploitation.

Angela joined a team from Ballyhenry parish and together they travelled to Phnom Penh, a city described by Angela as hot, noisy and full of chaotic traffic. Half an hour's drive from the city was the daycare centre where they were to spend most of their time. It was in a village known as "Where No One Wants to Live", the name given because it is beside the prison and is where the prisoners' families live. There, the centre provides for the most vulnerable children who are particularly at risk when left alone while their parents try to find work. Thirty-five children, aged between eight months and seven years, are cared for in a four-storey building. Angela and the team worked with the staff to assist with their daily routine, playing games, teaching songs and to run a holiday Bible club. Her photographs of smiling, well-fed children interacting with staff in a bright cheerful setting showed how successful Mark and Liz have been. Amidst extreme poverty, Eggshell's work has been described as like a lighthouse shining God's love into a very dark place.

The team also gave English classes to older children in the village and helped in the city with the charity, Hard Places. It wasn't surprising to learn that a few puppets had travelled with Angela, nor that she used these when engaging in street activities in the city.

Summing up her two weeks in Cambodia, Angela said she was exhausted but felt really blessed to have met such beautiful people who showed such humility. She left us with the message from Proverbs, "The ways of right-living people glow with light, the longer they live the brighter they shine."

**Next Meeting**
Our next meeting is on Wednesday 4th February when Sam Eccles, Community Officer with the PSNI, is giving a talk on "Scams and Safety".

# Men's Society

**At our January meeting we had one of our most interesting and enjoyable evenings for a long time.** George Gribben, Auctioneer and Silver Expert, brought a veritable Aladdin's Cave of silver items, including a magnifying eye glass, magnets, and brooches and rings dating from around 1790. George gave a talk and answered questions from the audience. The questions segment went on longer than usual, such was the interest in what he shared. As a side note, it was through contacts of George that the brass reading stand, dated 1832, was returned to St Philip and St James last year. In conclusion, the meeting was another great night at the Men's Society.

Next month, Grant Turnbull - Builder of Massive Houses for the Stars in California. Grant, originally from Moira, went to America with a dream. It came true even bigger than one can imagine! Another fantastic evening is promised.

Our season finishes in May and a few spaces are available. Come along and join in the fun and camaraderie, going home with a feel-good factor. Membership is £20, which is waived for the last four months.

Any queries regarding the society contact me below.
Robert Bussell Hon Sec.,
robertbussell@me.com
Mob 07710762323

## Tea-Time Toccatas



The fourth in the popular Tea Time Toccatas series will be held in church on Sunday 15th February at 4.30, when Edwin will be joined by flautist Darren Canmore. As well as being head of the EA Music service, Darren is an accomplished soloist. Join us at 4.15 for tea/coffee and traybakes, and then stay to enjoy half an hour of classical favourites - along with one or two surprises!

The event is unticketed and free to attend.

cmsireland
equipping the church in mission

## CMSI and Maridi Link

Since the last magazine went to press we received Christmas greetings from Bishop Moses in Maridi. It included a message for us in this new year.

“As we enter the New Year, may the Lord grant you good health, strength, wisdom, and fresh anointing for the ministry ahead. May 2026 be a year of God’s favour, fruitfulness, and divine guidance for you and your family.

Please be assured of my prayers and best wishes during this holy season and beyond.”

We, in turn, pray for all of the work of the diocese of Maridi, especially in the light of the Advent Appeal for a new centre in the diocese. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the appeal. The total being passed on from our parish exceeds £1750! This project will make a difference for those coming to terms with ongoing conflict and rebuilding community.

In this new year, the neighbouring diocese of Ibba, where Andrew and Joanne Quill are based has held a Peace Day. People are returning to rural areas and have been inspired by what they have learned in Ibba.




If you would like to know more about Andrew and Joannes’ work, please look at the CMS Ireland facebook page.

CMS Ireland is part of the forthcoming Racial Justice Sunday with a special service in Belfast Cathedral on **Sunday 8th February at 3.30pm.** The promotional material promises a service of different musical cultures and languages.

**www.cmsireland.org**

The Church of Ireland GAZETTE

Reflections and highlights on the Church of Ireland's monthly magazine, by Betty McLaughlin

**The RCB with Benefact Trust to launch Buildings Climate Impact Fund**
"The earth is the Lord's and all that therein is.' (Psalm 24:1)

Did you know that taking positive action to address climate change is one of the five marks of Anglican mission? This was the question raised by Mr David Ritchie, the Chief Officer and Secretary General of the Representative Church Body. RCB is supporting parishes to achieve this objective in partnership with Benefact Trust, providing new funding support for parishes seeking to implement climate change projects. The RCB conducted a survey of Church of Ireland parishes to assess initiatives they have taken and their climate change focus around the four target areas identified in the RCB Climate Policy.

These four focus areas - energy usage, transportation, waste reduction, and increased biodiversity - are considered to be where parishes can make the most difference in minimising climate impact and preserving biodiversity. Church of Ireland parishes are embracing the call to care for creation with inspiring commitment and creativity. The RCB Climate Action Questionnaire, completed by 91 parishes from every diocese, shows a commitment on environmental engagement and a growing movement toward sustainability, biodiversity, and energy efficiency.

Over 40% of parishes have already conducted or planned energy audits to understand and reduce carbon dependency. Many have implemented practical energy-saving measures: installation of LED lighting is the most popular, followed by improved insulation, providing smart heating controls, and installing renewable energy generation (for example, solar panels). These changes reduce emissions and costs whilst demonstrating Christian stewardship.

Parishes are also improving biodiversity on church grounds. Waste reduction and minimising printed service sheets can, over the long term, make a significant difference. Several parishes have installed electric vehicle charging points, whilst others are exploring providing clergy with electric vehicles.

This wide-ranging article ended by announcing the upcoming launch of the Buildings Carbon Reduction Grant Support Competition early this year. Further details will be available in a future issue of the Gazette and on the Church of Ireland website. Any questions, please get in touch with the RCB's Project Manager, Mr Dermot Burns at +353 1 425660 or dermot.burns@rcbcoi.org

**History made in St Patrick's Armagh**
For the first time in the history of St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, girls have graced the ranks of choristers. The momentous change took place during Choral Evensong in November, when girls joined their voices to the worship. A spokesperson for the Cathedral said: 'We hope and pray they will each find blessing and fulfilment as they sing to God's praise and glory now and in the years to come.'

**Chart-Toppers and Cloud-Descenders**
In Canon Paul Arbuthnot's article he asks, who wrote songs for Cliff Richard, Rick Astley, as well as Kylie Monogue's 'I should be so lucky'? He was also a judge on the talent show Pop Idol, a precursor to reality television singing competition The X Factor. He was, of course, talking about Pete Waterman.

In the church, we even have our own equivalent of the Pete Waterman of his day - except our one pumped out slightly more edifying content - the writer was talking about Charles Wesley. Apparently he wrote over 6,000 hymns in his 80 years. His achievement is quite exceptional. Whilst the hits churned out by Pete Waterman and others may all be forgotten in 20 years time, here we are 300 years later, still singing the hymns Charles Wesley wrote. What a gift Charles Wesley gave the Church! He gave us an accessible, catchy, and easy way not only to sing the praises of God, but also to learn theology and deepen our understanding of faith.

**Subscribe to the *Church of Ireland Gazette* for access to the full articles**
Visit the *Gazette* website for more information: www.gazette.ireland.anglican.org
or call 028 9266 7580

St Philip and St James
Holywood Parish Church

# KIDS



There were plenty of fun activities for our kids and families over Christmas. From hot chocolate at the Christmas Eve service, to crafts and christingles at GIGGLE! Thank you to everyone who joined the celebrations.

Our next GIGGLE is on **Friday 27th February** - hope to see you there!

Anyone with questions about children and families work at Holywood Parish should contact **Emily Parker,** Children and Families Worker
emily@holywoodparishchurch.co.uk

**2026 Asha News**
As we enter a new year Asha continues to bring hope to slum dwellers in 103 slum communities in Delhi.

Last November was a most successful fundraising month for Holywood Parish Support Group. On 1st November, Peter Crookes and Gareth Lewis entertained us with a programme entitled 'A Musical Evening of Fun and Romance' with Helen Crookes providing impressive refreshments. On 25th November, Rosemary Jayne Brangam and Helen's Bay Players presented 'Christmas Belles' with ticket money being donated to Asha. At the beginning of November I received an email from Dr Kiran explaining a Christmas Appeal which she was launching. She writes,

> 'This year we are launching a Child Nutrition Programme in slum communities across Delhi to care for 25-30 of the most vulnerable children between the ages of 6 months and 5 years in each slum centre. They will receive nutritious meals, regular health check ups and the warmth of love and safety. We also plan to supply warm clothes and small Christmas presents, simple yet powerful reminders that they are seen, loved and valued.
>
> These are the most vulnerable years of life. Their fathers labour long hours as vendors or daily wage workers struggling to earn enough money for their families' basic needs. Their mothers leave home before sunrise to clean other people's houses and return late at night, exhausted after long hours of work and endless chores. With little means or time for their children these little ones are often left with older siblings or neighbours, wearing thin clothes in the cold and surviving on a single meal a day. In their eyes I see suffering and deep desire for love, comfort and care.
>
> As I look back over the past 37 years since I first walked into a slum with my stethoscope and faith I can only marvel at what God has done. He has guided every step of this journey and throughout I've had the faith and generosity of people like you whose commitment has helped turn this vision into a living reality for hundreds of thousands of lives.'





Thanks to the generosity and hard work of Peter and Rosemary Jayne and all who supported our fundraising events we were able to forward £5000 to this appeal. This will provide 60 children with nutritious meals and warm clothing for one month.

I assure you Dr Kiran, Freddy and the Asha team are most grateful to all of you for your continued support over the past 23 years.

Hazel

# In Conversation with...

# Florence Loughins



Florence's name has been synonymous with Holywood over many years. Born in Belfast in 1932, she moved with her parents to the town in the 1950s where she met Danny.

Both were fond of ballroom dancing and Florence recalls attending dances along with Jim and Sally Sims and John and Moyna Fennell.

Florence and Danny were married in the parish church in 1957 and went on to have two sons, Peter and Stephen.

Danny was involved in the world of badminton at many levels, representing Northern Ireland as an umpire at the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh in 1970. Our parish badminton club also benefited from his knowledge of the game, as he taught many juvenile members to play, reminding them to turn up in their 'whites'! Both sons played badminton and Peter went on to represent Ulster.

Florence loved singing and was given lessons by then organist and choirmaster, Godfrey Brown. She went on to be a member of the parish choir for over fifty years. In the 1980s, Florence and her good friend Marjorie McCormick were members of the Ards Choral Society, singing at nursing homes in the district.

The term 'volunteering' was very much part of Florence's life. Close to her heart was Cancer Research, as she served on its committee whilst also volunteering in their shop on Bloomfield Avenue, Belfast. She organised the annual Community Carol Service for 25 years raising around £450,000 for the charity, and this was acknowledged with an invitation to a service for volunteers in Westminster Abbey, London.

Florence was also involved in the Golden Age Club and, in the 1970s, was a member of the Peace People, with the Holywood group organising marches and demonstrations as well as visiting prisoners' families and children. Florence also attended a peace conference in Germany in the late 1970s.

In earlier times, Florence was a keen flower arranger and was a regular contributor in beautifying our church. The other 'Florence', namely the wife of our former vicar Jim Monroe, suggested starting parish lunches in 1999, and it was her namesake who acted as honorary treasurer. In those days, Florence (L) along with Marjorie McCormick and others, would organise the food to be served - and it is a credit to them and all the volunteers that parish lunches have continued to be in existence for the last 27 years and are thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed by all who attend.

Florence's skills as treasurer also included serving on the Holywood & District Community Council with input into the May Day Fairs and Christmas Lights switch-ons. She fully participated in the work of the Women's Institute as a committee member, treasurer and president, and greatly enjoyed being involved in pantomimes and shows performed in the Queen's Hall.

Florence was also a member of the young wives group and is now an indoor member of Mothers' Union enjoying visits from members. She is grateful to have been able to travel extensively with friends Marjorie and June and memories made.

Faith and choral music have always been an important part of Florence's life, and although now living in a nursing home, she is so grateful for the memories she has and the constant love and attention given her by her two sons Peter and Stephen and the extended family.

Thank you Florence for all the years of volunteering in our community.

Betty McLaughlin

---

**Note from the editor**

'In Conversation With' is firmly my favourite part of the magazine. Learning about wonderful life stories and hearing how parishioners are connecting to help share each other's stories and experiences is a joy.

If you would like to help someone tell their story, or would like to tell your own, please get in touch with editor@holywoodparishchurch.co.uk or ther Parish office.



# Wednesday lunches

4th and 18th February
Parish Centre
12:30pm

Please contact the office (during the current reduced office hours) to book your place

## Pancakes in the Parish Centre or Pancakes at *your* Place

Last year we made so many pancakes that we delivered some of them to neighbours of the Church. People were pleasantly surprised to have this unusual post delivered to their doors!

Before the season of Lent you are very welcome to join us in the parish centre. We will be meeting and eating from **11.00am-12.00noon on Tuesday 17th February.**

If you live within the parish boundaries and can't get down to the parish centre, just contact the office and we will deliver some - or you could even nominate a friend or neighbour. Please be sure to let us know any food allergies or intolerances.

## Operation Angel

The Holywood Parish 'angels' traveled the length and breadth of the parish boundary throughout December, delivering leaflets and gifts to every single household! The group pictured are just a small number of those who got involved. Thank you to everyone who played a part.





## God still calls us

When the clouds of doubt and fear come at you thick and fast
And the days of youth are long, long past
When the hearing's dull and limbs are stiff
And every hill seems like a cliff
While spirit's willing, flesh is weak
And if I kneel, my knees will creak
When friends grow scarce and families move
Sometimes too far to keep in touch
I sit a while and think of thee
The one who said, *I'll set you free*
I close my eyes then see a light
It's dim at first but then grows bright
The voice of love breaks through the mist
*I am the Lord, the risen lamb*
*You are my child, I love you still*
*From life's first cry to final breath*
*So journey on through joy and pain*
*My love for you will never wane*
*So close your eyes and rest a while*
*There's much to do, your work on earth is not yet done*
*So take my hand, we'll go as one*

Maureen Quinn

# Thank you Angela






Angela's work as Children and Families Worker at the parish was celebrated at the 9.45 service. We wish her well in her growing outreach through the "Say No to Drugs" programme.

# From the registers



## Bereavements

13th January 2026 Ronnie Bentley

22nd January 2026 Billy Cleland

**Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful servants.**
Psalms 116:15



## Revision of General Vestry Register

Revising the General Vestry Register is an annual process in the Church of Ireland to update the list of eligible members who can vote at the Easter Vestry Meeting and serve on the Select Vestry.

It requires parishioners to confirm residency or attendance and financial contributions via declaration forms to ensure accurate records for parish governance.

If you are over 18 years of age, live within Holywood Parish, or have been worshipping among us for a minimum of 3 months, and subscribe to parish funds in a form for which a receipt can be given (standing order, parish envelope scheme etc. - loose collection offerings do not qualify) then you are encouraged to register.

The current select vestry will meet on Monday 23rd February at 7.30pm. At this meeting the vestry will add new names to the list and will also remove the names of those who have died in the past year and those who no longer meet any of the requirements above.

**Monday 23rd March at 7.30pm**

Please note the date of this year's General Vestry meeting. This year is a triennial year, meaning that in addition to electing an incoming Select Vestry we will also elect parochial nominators and representatives to the diocesan synod. Nomination sheets will be available in early March.

# February 2026

**Sunday 1st February**
**The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**

| | |
|---|---|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion Form 1 |
| 9.45am | Holy Communion at Morning Worship |
| 11.30am | Holy Communion |
| 5.30pm | Choral Evensong |
| 7.00pm | Evening Worship |

**Sunday 8th February**
**The Second Sunday before Lent**

| | |
|---|---|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion Form 1 |
| 9.45am | Morning Worship |
| 11.30am | Morning Prayer |
| 5.30pm | Compline |
| 7.00pm | Evening Worship |

**Weekday Communion service every Wednesday at 10.30am**

**Sunday 15th February**
**The Sunday before Lent**

| | |
|---|---|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion Form 1 |
| 9.45am | Morning Worship |
| 11.30am | Morning Prayer |
| 5.30pm | Compline |
| 7.00pm | Worship Night at St. Brendan's, Sydenham |

**Wednesday 18th February**
**Ash Wednesday**

| | |
|---|---|
| 7.30pm | Ash Wednesday Service |

**Sunday 22nd February**
**The First Sunday in Lent**

| | |
|---|---|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion Form 1 |
| 9.45am | Morning Worship |
| 11.30am | Morning Prayer |
| 5.30pm | Holy Communion Form 1 |
| 7.00pm | Holy Communion at Evening Worship |

MORE ONLINE

SIGN UP FOR DIGITAL UPDATES