

## News from the Parishes

Church of the Ascension, Annahilt

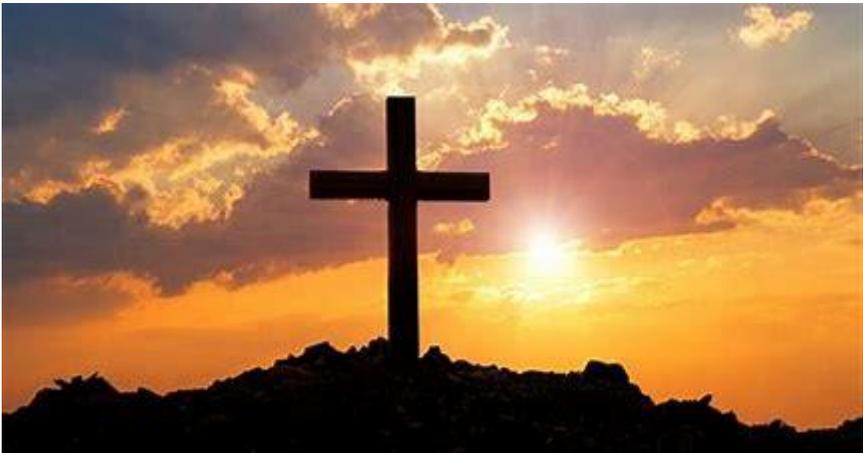


Magherahamlet Parish Church



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March & April 2021



**Rector:**            **The Revd Canon Robert Howard**  
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## The Rector writes....

My dear Parishioners

I wonder if you have ever been struck by how music can transport you to other places and times in your life?

Sometimes we hear a song on the radio or a hymn in church and it takes us back, perhaps, to our school days or holidays or memories of what we were doing when that song was first released and then played repeatedly on the radio for weeks and perhaps months afterwards.

I always think of the season of Lent as a journey. It's a journey that Christians are invited to take as they accompany Jesus to Jerusalem and eventually to the Cross. If we decide to try to live with Jesus at the centre of our lives, it involves taking Him into the good parts as well as some of the more challenging and difficult parts. Sometimes we are walking along on that journey and we feel fulfilled and content but at other times we seem to be assailed by doubts and questions. We feel angry and confused as unexpected circumstances seem to derail us without warning. We wonder why something has happened to us - an illness, a bereavement, a crushing disappointment. We find it hard to get the courage to put our shoes on again and go outside the door.

Notwithstanding existing circumstances, I want to encourage you to take a spiritual walk with Jesus through the season of Lent towards the Cross. Everyone is suffering at the present time to a greater or lesser extent because of the pandemic. Many of the liberties we normally take for granted are denied us. We cannot walk or travel as freely as we would wish. It is not possible to visit friends or family under the current restrictions and we are not able, at the time of writing, to attend our accustomed places of worship.

Does this mean that God has disappeared or is unable to break through into our lives? I do not believe so. Our task is to *keep* walking with him. It's to be faithful and honest and admit those times when we are struggling. It's about making ourselves available to hear from him whether through daily Bible readings or times of prayer. It's about availing of those opportunities available to us through the online services either from our own parish churches or from somewhere we have never been before. During this season how much space can you allow to say important things to you or to teach you things you need to learn and receive?

During Holy Week this year I myself will lead our devotional journey. From Monday 29 March to Maundy Thursday 1 April the daily Services will be on-line from 7.00 pm. On Good Friday evening, 2 April, DV we expect to return to Magherahamlet

Parish Church at 8.00 pm for the now familiar Tenebrae Service. On Easter Day, 4 April, we intend to have Services in both Annahilt and Magherahamlet to celebrate the joy of our Lord's Resurrection.

In the uncertainty of these times when so much is 'up in the air', do please endeavour to avail of this opportunity either on-line or in person to journey with Jesus through this Holy Season and be blessed by what you discover in your encounter with Him.

I wish you and yours a peaceful and blessed Easter.

Your sincere friend and Rector

Robert Howard

### **Congratulations...**

.... to James Finlay on his recent engagement to Michelle Herron.

....to Matthew Wilson, Annahilt on being awarded a PhD specialising in neuromuscular physiology. That is the study of the connections between the brain, nerves and muscles. Matthew's thesis specifically looked at how the human body adapts to different forms of resistance exercise training and how to increase someone's strength.

Matthew did this whilst working for the Scottish Institute of Sport as a performance scientist, and carried out much of his research with elite swimmers.

# Lent, Holy Week and Easter

## Statement from the Church of Ireland Bishops in Northern Ireland in relation to Public Worship

Following the Northern Ireland Executive's decision to extend the current Covid-19 restrictions to Thursday 1 April 2021, representatives of the Churches met with Ministers from the Executive Office, the Minister of Health and the Chief Medical Officer. At that meeting the Chief Medical Officer stressed that it would make a significant difference and be of huge benefit to public health and safety, if churches were willing to continue, for the time being, not to gather in-person for services and other meetings.

In the light of the Executive's extension of the current restrictions, and on the basis of the continued and unequivocal public health message that people should continue to stay at home, we have agreed that all in-person Sunday gatherings for worship, along with all other in-person church gatherings, should remain voluntarily suspended for the time being in all Church of Ireland parishes in Northern Ireland until Thursday 1 April 2021 - with the exception of weddings, funerals, arrangements for recording and/or live-streaming, drive-in services and private prayer (as permitted by regulations).

We have also agreed to further assess the situation immediately after the next NI Executive review of current lockdown provisions on Thursday 18 March 2021, in the cautious anticipation that, from Friday 2 April (Good Friday) onwards, our parishioners in Northern Ireland could return to in-person gatherings for worship, with all necessary precautions and mitigations in place. This recognises importance of Easter, the significance of which was acknowledged by the Minister for Health and the Chief Medical Officer at their most recent meeting with Church representatives.

We welcome that a similar approach is also being taken by the Methodist Church, the Presbyterian Church and, in a slightly different form, by the Roman Catholic Church.

+John Armagh  
+Andrew Derry and Raphoe  
+David Down and Dromore  
+George Connor

In Annahilt and Magherahamlet we are making preparations to have all our services available on-line. However, if we are allowed to gather in person and believe it to be safe to do so, we will have that possibility before us.

## **Annual Easter General Vestry Meetings 2021**

The annual business meetings in our Group of Parishes, the Easter General Vestries are scheduled to take place on the following dates:

Annahilt	Monday 19 April	8.00 pm	Parochial Hall
Magherahamlet	Wednesday 21 April	8.00 pm	Parochial Hall

At these meetings the Rector gives a Report about the previous year's activities and the Parochial Accounts are presented. Churchwardens and others are appointed to hold office for the coming year and a new Select Vestry is elected.

Those who are over the age of 18 and whose names are on the Register of General Vestrypersons registered are entitled to vote and / or stand for office at this meeting.

Please watch the Parish Website closely and note any other subsequent announcements to ascertain if we can go ahead with these meetings on the planned dates in light of the current restrictions.

## **In-Church Worship in the Church of the Ascension, Annahilt and Magherahamlet Parish Church**

DV, In-Church Services will take place in Magherahamlet on **Good Friday** evening and in **both** Annahilt and Magherahamlet on **Easter Day**. Numbers will be reduced because of the legal requirement to facilitate safe distancing. Because of this, it would be very helpful if those intending to come to church on Good Friday or Easter Day would give notice of their intentions.

### *Annahilt*

Trevor Hill [trevorhill111@btinternet.com](mailto:trevorhill111@btinternet.com)  
Ivan Bradford [ivan.bradford@aps-group.co.uk](mailto:ivan.bradford@aps-group.co.uk)

### *Magherahamlet*

Hillary Edgar [hillary.edgar01@btinternet.com](mailto:hillary.edgar01@btinternet.com)

Alternatively, you may contact by telephone:

### *Annahilt*

Trevor Hill 07890552930  
Ivan Bradford 028 9263 8884

### *Magherahamlet*

George McCurry 028 9756 3955  
Hillary Edgar 028 4481 1361

For Annahilt, notification of attendance can also be given via the Parish website up to the Friday before.

## **Church Services in the Parishes of Annahilt and Magherahamlet**

'I was glad when they said to me: "Let us go to the house of the Lord"'

Sunday 7 March	<b>Lent III</b>	
10.00	Parish Communion	<i>On-line</i>
Sunday 14 March	<b>Lent IV (Mothering Sunday)</b>	
10.00	Family Service	<i>On-line</i>
Wednesday 17 March	<b>St Patrick's Day</b>	
10.00	Holy Communion	<i>On-line</i>
Sunday 21 March	<b>Lent V (Passion Sunday)</b>	
10.00	'The Cross of Christ'	<i>On-line</i>
	<i>A Devotional Service of Readings, Anthems and Hymns</i>	
Sunday 29 March	<b>Lent VI (Palm Sunday)</b>	
10.00	Family Service	<i>On-line</i>

*During Holy Week on Monday 29, Tuesday 30 & Wednesday 31 March, Maundy Thursday 1 & Good Friday 2 April there will be a series of addresses 'The Passion: Isolation, Distance and Loneliness' given by the Rector*

### **Monday**

7.00 pm	Evening Service	<i>On-line</i>
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**Tuesday**

7.00 pm Evening Service *On-line*

**Wednesday**

7.00 pm Evening Service *On-line*

**Maundy Thursday**

7.00 pm Commemoration of the Institution of the Lord's Supper *On-line*

**Good Friday**

**8.00 pm** Tenebrae Service Magherahamlet

Sunday 4 April

**Easter Day**

10.00 Parish Communion Annahilt

12.00 Parish Communion Magherahamlet

Sunday 11 April

**Easter II**

10.00 'Risen with Christ' Annahilt  
*An Easter Devotion of Readings and Hymns*

12.00 'Risen with Christ' Magherahamlet  
*An Easter Devotion of Readings and Hymns*

Sunday 18 April

**Easter III**

10.00 Parish Communion Annahilt

12.00 Morning Prayer Magherahamlet

Sunday 25 April

**Saint Mark's Day**

10.00	Morning Prayer	Annahilt
12.00	Morning Prayer	Magherahamlet

Sunday 2 May

**Easter V**

10.00	Parish Communion	Annahilt
12.00	Parish Communion	Magherahamlet

**GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE 8.00 pm**

What is a Tenebrae Service? The word 'tenebrae' is Latin for shadows. The purpose of the Tenebrae service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story and is one of solemnity.

The service is specially designed for Good Friday. It contains appropriate hymns, a sermon and several scripture readings. The church is in candlelight for the Tenebrae service. There are as many candles as there are readings, plus a white candle. As each reading is read a single candle is extinguished until only the white candle (representing the light of Christ) remains. Then the white candle is put out, leaving the congregation in near total darkness— and near total devastation. At this point, the service ends. There is no benediction and the Service ends in silence.

The purpose of the service is to recreate the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the events and it is left unfinished, because the story isn't over until Easter Day.

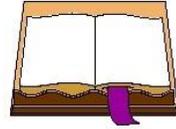
This service has been experienced in our Group of Parishes on Good Friday for ten consecutive years and has been very well received.

DV, the Tenebrae Service will be an 'In-Church' occasion on Good Friday evening at **8.00 pm**. Following the usual schedule of rotation between our two Churches it will take place this year in **Magherahamlet**. However, it is, as always, very much a Group occasion for the parishioners of both Annahilt and Magherahamlet. Let us bring our Holy Week observances to a worthy climax this year with a full attendance on Good Friday evening. Of course, we will be observing 'safe distancing' in our seating arrangements. If necessary there will be additional seating in the Parochial Hall.

## **From the Parish Registers**

### **Christian Marriage**

*'What God has joined together let no one put asunder'*



### **Church of the Ascension, Annahilt**

3 March 2021

Andrew Corry and Amy McKeown

We congratulate Andrew and Amy and wish them every happiness in their married life.

## **Confirmation in Annahilt and Magherahamlet**

The Bishop, the Rt Revd David McClay has provisionally arranged to administer the Rite of Confirmation in the Church of the Ascension, Annahilt on **Sunday 20 June 2021** (Time to be arranged).

Young people from both Annahilt and Magherahamlet of usual confirmation age and who are in Year 9 in Post primary School are invited to consider being admitted to full membership of the Church by being confirmed.

Adults who have not previously been confirmed are also invited to consider this step.

All those interested in being confirmed should get in touch with the Rector as soon as possible.



## **Divine Healing Ministries — Everyday Prayers for this Time**

### **For the vulnerable**

*God of mercy, whose son Jesus Christ lived among the poor, oppressed and marginalised; hear our prayer for those who are fearful, vulnerable and isolated; be their strong defence in times of need, and grant us compassion and courage to minister Christ to them, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.*

**Amen.**

### **For our Church leaders**

*Heavenly Father, please give wisdom and guidance to our church leaders, strengthen them to organise care for their congregations, facilitate in-church and online worship and to lead their flock as the church reaches out to its local community.*

**Amen.**

### **Private sector business**

*Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for the short-term support from Government aimed at helping businesses survive the ongoing storms of COVID-19. We hope and pray that this necessary support will continue to be available. We also pray for satisfactory outworkings on the new UK-EU trade deal and the NI Protocol. In Jesus' name we pray.*

**Amen.**

### **For young people**

*Lord of all, hear our prayers for the young people of our land; enthusiastic young people with so many gifts and fresh ideas to offer. Lord, they live with all types of pressures, demands and temptations. Bless them and protect them from evil.*

*In your Name we pray.*

**Amen.**

### **Prayer resources for the pandemic**

To our brothers and sisters who have contracted and are suffering due to Coronavirus disease, we pray that God's healing hand may rest upon you.

To medical doctors, nurses and the supporting staff who are in the frontline of the fight against COVID-19, may the Lord sustain you and inspire you to render your life-saving services with due care, love and compassion.

To all those who have lost their loved ones due to the Coronavirus outbreak, we convey our deepest sympathies.

We pray that God may grant all bereaved families his consolation and strengthen their faith and hope in Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord.

**Amen.**

Dear Lord, at this time of pandemic,

Let us foster respect and solidarity with others, especially those who are weak or poor.

Let us remain calm and ignore unsubstantiated rumours.

Let us take advantage of living together as a family.

Let us attend to moments of prayer.

Let us cultivate responsibility, patience and hope.

**Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, light of the world, thank you for the hope you have given us.  
Help us to give our worries to you and, above all, to trust in your unfailing love.

For you have promised us "Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you."

Almighty God, our protector, let us trust in you to carry us through this time of uncertainty.

Jesus, hear our cries as we mourn those who've left us.

Whatever tomorrow may bring, we will praise your name.

**Amen.**

Loving God, at this time of crisis when so many are suffering, we pray for our nation and our world.

Give our leaders wisdom, our Health Service strength, our people hope.

Lead us through these parched and difficult days to the fresh springs of joy and comfort that we find in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Loving Father God, be with us in our distress; be with our families, friends, and neighbours, our country and our world.

Give health to the sick, hope to the fearful, and comfort to mourners.

Give wisdom to our frontline and key workers, insight to our Government, and patience to us all.

Overcome disease with the power of your new life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult days, we turn our hearts to you. In ages past, you have delivered our nation from disaster.

Do it again, we pray.

Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to our leaders,

Give strength beyond human strength to the NHS and all our frontline workers.

Give comfort beyond human comfort to the elderly and all who grieve.

Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult days, turn your face towards us, have mercy upon us, and heal our land, we pray.

**Amen.**

## Flowers for the Churches

### Annahilt

#### April

4 Easter  
11  
18  
25



### Magherahamlet

Easter

## Church Cleaning, Annahilt

#### March

#### April

2 – 3 Mrs E Ogle  
9 -10 Mrs J Guiney  
16-17 Mrs A Patterson  
23-24 Mrs L McCambley



#### Apr / May

30 -1 Mrs J Bolas  
7-8 Mrs A Maxwell  
14-15 Mrs H Hill

Mrs H Cardosi

Mrs E Harrison

Mr A Bolas

Mr R Maxwell

Mr T Hill

# Mothers' UNION

## Christian care for families

Hello Everyone

We are now in the month of March, a time when we can really look forward to the beginning of Spring. We will have more days of warmer weather and an opportunity to be outside for a longer period of time to fill our lungs with fresh air and to experience the joy of seeing the Spring bulbs peeping through the soil and coming into bloom. We can be optimistic about the current fall in the number of Covid cases, the ongoing roll out of the vaccination programme and the opportunity for the children to return to school. We pray that these improvements can be sustained.

March is certainly a month of hope and promise but it also includes a special day for members of the Mothers' Union across the world. In 1897 the Mothers' Union formally adopted 25 March as its annual day of prayer, intercession and thanksgiving. It is a day when members remember the Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to Mary and Mary's faithful response as recorded in the Gospel according to Saint Luke Chapter 1; verses 26-38. Usually plans would already have been made for a Diocesan Festival Service to take place but as this is not now possible, you might like to read the following as part of your prayers and reflection on 25 March. It is an extract from a service prepared by Mary Sumner House in 2020.

***In her initial response to the Lord's call upon her life, Mary declared her hope and confidence in the word of God.***

The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. <sup>31</sup>You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over Jacob's descendants for ever; his kingdom will never end.'

<sup>34</sup> 'How will this be,' Mary asked the angel, 'since I am a virgin?'<sup>35</sup>The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.'

**36** Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month.

**37** For no word from God will ever fail.'

**38** 'I am the Lord's servant,' Mary answered. 'May your word to me be fulfilled.'  
*Luke 1:30-38*

*The truth of Mary's hope and confidence in the word of God was evident to those who had also encountered the Lord's divine intervention in their life.*

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, <sup>40</sup>where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>42</sup>In a loud voice she exclaimed: 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! <sup>43</sup>But why am I so favoured, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.

**45 Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfil his promises to her!'** <sup>46</sup>And Mary said: 'My soul glorifies the Lord **47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.** *Luke 1:39-47*

*At the time of Mary's greatest sorrow her hope and confidence in all God had spoken to her through the years kept her faithful to her dying son on the cross and she was blessed once more by the word of the Lord.*

**25** Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

**26 When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing near by, he said to her, 'Woman, here is your son,'**

**27 and to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.'**

From that time on, this disciple took her into his home. *John 19:25-27*

*As the wonders of Pentecost approached Mary was to be found still following the word of her Lord as she joined in prayer and waited for the gift of the Spirit.*

Jesus gave them this command: 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

**They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.**

*Acts 1:4-5, 14*

May Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with hope and confidence to trust his promises and follow his will.

For most of the last twelve months there has been a lot of emphasis on activities that we cannot now do in everyday life and a lot of thought has been put into working out what it is that we can do, safely. For many of us, especially myself (Esme) this apparent state of limbo causes confusion and means that I end up doing nothing at all because by the time that I have agonised over it the opportunity has passed. This is certainly not so in the case of two ladies from our parish. When they read last month's Parish Magazine and found out that the Action and Outreach Branch of Mother's Union were requesting items of baby clothing for the very tiny babies born in the Neo Natal Units of Belfast and Craigavon Hospitals they immediately accelerated their knitting and crochet activities and between them were able to donate an amazing number of items- that is 45 cardigans, 45 baby hats and 27 small quilts. On behalf of everyone, we would like to say a very sincere and huge 'Thank You' for all your hard work and generosity. We can guarantee that each tiny baby item will be very gratefully received and appreciated.



Inspired by both of these ladies, I have decided to put aside my indecision and spend half an hour, twice a week, praying and doing something positive to help someone else. Sometimes it is not the doing of something that is the hardest part but it is the 'getting started.'

May God encourage us to be his helping hands on earth and make it easier for us to say to ourselves, "Come on now, Ready, Steady, Go"

Kindest regards

Beth  
Esme

Avril  
Anne

**Mothers' Union—Midday Prayers—March 2021**  
**Rebuilding hope and confidence**  
**Fasting and feasting in Lent**

**Monday: Hope**

Fast from discouragements; feast on hope. *W.A. Ward, 1921-1994*

**In this season of Lent we fast from all which harms our soul and gladly feast on the blessings of God.**

Hope in the One who has endured all things that we might know freedom.

Hope in the One who has given us his Spirit that we might have power.

Hope in the One who has loved us beyond death that we might have life.

Hope in the One who prepares a place for us that we might share eternity with him.

**For hope that endures, we thank you Lord.**

**Amen.**

Hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

*Romans 5:5 (NRSV)*

**Tuesday: Prayer**

Fast from problems that overwhelm; feast on prayer that undergirds. *W.A. Ward, 1921-1994*

**In this season of Lent we fast from all which harms our soul and gladly feast on the blessings of God. With faith and hope we bring our prayers to God; we draw near to him with joy.**

Let us be swift to approach our Lord.

His ear is open to our prayers. His mercy draws us close; his grace is all we need.

May we cherish these times: precious moments with God to pour out our hearts and listen for his reply.

**With joy and praise we bring our prayers to God; we draw near to him with faith.**

**Amen.**

The Lord is close to everyone who prays to him, to all who truly pray to him.

*Psalms 145:18 (NCV)*

### **Wednesday: Truth**

Fast from personal anxiety; feast on eternal truth. *W.A. Ward, 1921-1994*

**In this season of Lent we fast from all which harms our soul and gladly feast on the blessings of God.**

When we are troubled by life's concerns we seek the Lord for answers; to deliver us from our fears. As we taste and see that the Lord is good we are blessed by his protection and provision for our needs. As we gaze upon our Saviour and embrace the truth of his eternal love, may our lives reflect the glory of Christ.

**For earth and sky will pass away but the word of God endures forever.**

**Amen.**

*Based on Psalm 34*

His loving kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord is everlasting.

Praise the Lord!

*Psalm 117:2 (NASB 1995)*

### **Thursday: Forgiveness**

Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness. *W.A. Ward, 1921-1994*

**In this season of Lent we fast from all which harms our soul and gladly feast on the blessings of God.**

*Jesus said, Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.*

*Luke 23:34*

Loving Saviour, your words to me of total forgiveness stop my appetite for bitterness over others' hurtful words and deeds, and drive me to prayer. The glory of your compassion overshadows my craving for justice and drives me to worship.

**Loving Saviour, forgive me when I deny others that which you freely bestow.**

**How can I not forgive when I have received such mercy?**

**Amen.**

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

*Ephesians 4:32*

### **Friday: Gratitude**

Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude. *W.A. Ward, 1921-1994*

**In this season of Lent we fast from all which harms our soul and gladly feast on the blessings of God.**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

His love is everlasting and extends to all creation.

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!  
Bringing wholeness and peace beyond understanding.**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

His arms open wide welcoming home the prodigals.

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!**

**His promises are sure**

**His kingdom shall last forever.**

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!**

**Amen.**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

*Colossians 3:15*

### **Saturday: Promises**

Fast from thoughts that weaken; feast on promises that inspire. *W.A. Ward, 1921-1994*

**In this season of Lent we fast from all which harms our soul and gladly feast on the blessings of God.**

Gracious God, we praise you for your promises: for your steadfast love which is ever new yet unchanging through the ages. When we founder in our weakness, your steadfast promises inspire us as a rock upon which we depend. You keep your unfailing word to a thousand generations. Your mercies never cease.

**How gracious is our God! We feast on your promises with thankful hearts.**

**Amen.**

I know the plans I have for you, promises the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

*Jeremiah 29:11*



## **Grant for Equipment**

Annahilt Parish recently were awarded another small grant from The Dept. for Communities Voluntary, Community and Social Economy Fund and this has enabled us to buy a "Fogging" machine to sanitise our church and hall properties when necessary/between services or events, additional hand sanitising stations and additional necessary PPE and consumables.

## **Organ Repairs**

For some time the Annahilt Select Vestry have been very aware that some restoration and repair was necessary to preserve our 1895 historic 2 manual Connacher organ for future generations. Following a detailed report and quote from Wells-Kennedy Partnership, Organ Builders and Consultants, it was unanimously agreed to proceed with the works. Our treasurer subsequently made application to The Pilgrim Trust and after various communications we have been awarded a grant of almost £15K to cover the cost of the project excluding VAT. This will be received on completion of the work. We hope to be able to reclaim the VAT element from another funder in due course. Wells-Kennedy commenced the work in mid-January and it will take several weeks to complete.

## **Recording of Services**

For the past year most of us have been able to benefit from the audio recordings of our Sunday and other special occasion Services either online via the website or from a CD recording.

We hope that you are availing of one of the methods of listening to the services. If you require any advice on locating the website or audio recording on your device (phone/tablet/laptop) or would like a CD copy please do not hesitate to contact the Rector on 028 9263 8218.

## **LISBURN FOODBANK**

The Foodbank provides emergency food and support to local people in crisis in the Lisburn area.

During the present government ordered restrictions it is not possible to leave items for the Foodbank at Church. However, if parishioners would like to continue to donate at this time, and it is hoped that many will, they may wish to know that the collection points at the two supermarkets, Tesco and Sainsbury's, are permanent points and will allow people to continue to remember those who rely on the Foodbank in a very practical way.

A particular request from the Foodbank is for items listed below:

Easter eggs/chocolate  
Coffee  
Diluted juice  
Sugar

The Lisburn Foodbank is providing an essential service to those within our community who are experiencing difficult times, often due to circumstances beyond their control.

**YOUR HELP WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.**

## **Parish Website: [AnnahiltAndMagherahamlet.org](http://AnnahiltAndMagherahamlet.org)**

Parishioners are reminded that the website [annahiltandmagherahamlet.org](http://annahiltandmagherahamlet.org) has been created to provide information on church related activities and organisations for parishioners and the wider community. Since the first lockdown began in March, a year ago, the website has hosted online services each Sunday. It also contains a list of upcoming church services and news from our group of parishes, as well as downloadable versions of the parish magazine. The site will be continually developed, so if you have any submissions, suggestions or requests relating to the website, these can be sent to [admin@annahiltandmagherahamlet.org](mailto:admin@annahiltandmagherahamlet.org).



[www.annahiltandmagherahamlet.org](http://www.annahiltandmagherahamlet.org)

## **Parish Magazine**

Any contribution for the next edition of the Parish Magazine should be left with the Rector or Roger Maxwell ([roger.maxwell1@btinternet.com](mailto:roger.maxwell1@btinternet.com)) by Sunday 18 April 2021.