

NEWSLINK



St John's Parish Moira

April & May 2024

Our Parish's Mission Statement is:

Growing closer to God in love and obedience

Growing closer together in caring & sharing

Growing closer to others in friendship & witness

www.moiraparish.org.uk



St John's is registered with the Charities Commission for Northern Ireland NIC 101047

Rector's Letter

Dear friends

A number of weeks ago in our staff meeting we read these words from Ephesians 3:20 'God can do immeasurably more than we can think or imagine.' I wonder what is the 'more' that he wants to do in our lives as individuals and as a church?

In order to see the 'more' which God has for us I believe we need to get ready to receive it. Part of that is repentance. It's a bit like a spring clean. We generally get rid of some things in our wardrobes before we buy other clothes. We cannot fit in more until we have made room. In spiritual terms, preparing for the 'more' that God has for us, requires that we rid ourselves of the sin that, as the writer to the Hebrews says 'so easily entangles'. History would tell us that any time of revival is preceded by a time of repentance. Repentance, which is more than saying sorry, it's turning intentionally away from our sin and turning towards God, doing what He wants, is a necessary prerequisite to God doing 'more' in our midst.

Which leads me to ask the question - where do we need to repent? What could be 'a stumbling block' from preventing God, by the power of His Holy Spirit, doing more in our lives and in the life of this church? Whatever 'it' is, are we willing to let 'it' go for the sake of reaching others with the Gospel?

Whenever we do repent we are saying 'God I'm ready to receive more of you.' Truth is we need more of Jesus to be displayed in our lives - we need to grow in holiness, joy, peace, compassion.... As we do, we will know the transforming power of God in our own lives and in the lives of others because ultimately we want 'more' of Jesus to be seen in our increasingly secular society.

God can do immeasurably more than we can ever think or imagine- do we really believe this? Your family, your workplace, your worries and fears- God can do more than we think! If we really believe this, we will participate with God in it. We will pray it into being, we will plead with God to work amongst us, in this village, in our land, in this world! Someone has said 'we can test how much we really want God to work amongst us, by how much we are willing to get on our knees and pray it into existence.'

There's no limit to what God can do in answer to our prayers because His capability goes far above and beyond anything we can ask, dream or even comprehend. Our narrow imaginations cannot limit the richness of God's gifts!

If you've ever been blown away by an answer to prayer, then you've sampled the meaning of Ephesians 3:20. Paul was teaching his readers what he himself already knew, that it is impossible to petition God for too much because His capacity to give far exceeds the believer's ability to ask or imagine. No matter how extravagant we make our requests, God in His matchless power can do more and far beyond what our finite minds can imagine.

Love
Joanne

Church Services

9.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Centre (with Sunday School & Creche)

11.30am Morning Prayer

6.30pm Evening Service



Easter Vestry

Tuesday 9th April // 7.30pm
The Parish Centre

All Welcome!

Ibba Link

Tom and Billy have just returned from South Sudan. There will be an update in the next magazine.



REVIVE

Sundays 28th April & 26th May // 7.30pm
The Parish Centre

A time of informal worship and talk. Lasts no longer than an hour.
Come along and be blessed! All welcome!

Sunday School

Sundays (term time) // 10am

The Parish Centre

Sunday school provides a safe, fun environment where children and young people can enjoy learning about God. The programmes are interactive, relevant and geared for each age range.

Sunday School is from 10.30 to 11.15am in the Parish Centre. We encourage children to attend Morning Worship first which begins at 10.00am and then they will leave the service to go to Sunday School.

If you have children of Sunday School age who aren't yet involved in Sunday School, why not give it a try?

Senior Sunday School BLAST (Year 8-10)

Meets every Sunday too 10.30-11.15am in the Parish Centre

If you would like more information on our Sunday school, please contact Jack: Jack@moiraparish.org.uk.

KidsQuest

Wednesdays 24th April & 22nd May // 6.30pm - 7.45pm

The Parish Centre

Kids Quest happens on the first Wednesday of each month and is open to all primary school age kids. Come along for craft, games, stories and much more.

We are delighted that so many kids are coming along, so if you could help out with KidsQuest please get in touch with Jack.



JellyTots

Mondays // 10am - 11.30am

The Parish Centre

An opportunity for mums, dads, grannies, grandads, carers to meet up and share a cuppa whilst their little ones (babies - nursery school age) play together and enjoy toast and juice and craft.



JellyTots won't meet on Mondays 1st & 8th April

Revelation

Sundays // 6.45pm - 8.30pm

The Parish Centre

For all those in Yr 8 - Yr14. We would love to see you there!



Prayer Pods



We currently have a number of prayer pods which meet:

Tuesdays at 5.45am via zoom (contact Laure Martin for login details)

Sunday morning at 9.20am in Parish Centre

If you'd like to start a zoom Prayer Pod, please let Joanne know. It would be great to see at least one meeting every day of the week: joanne@moiraparish.org.uk

Prayer Breakfast

Saturdays 13th April & 11th May // 8am - 9am

The Rectory

Why not pop in for our time of prayer as we pray for the life and witness of the parish, issues in our country and further afield. You don't have to pray out loud but if you want to, you can. A bite of breakfast finishes off our time together. Come along and be blessed.

Grief Support

Mondays // 7.30pm

The Parish Centre

Living with grief is not easy. It's often a long and painful process. We want to help you on your journey. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, we encourage you to come to Grief Support, where you will meet others who are in a similar situation. There is a short talk followed by a cuppa and a confidential chat with people who are going through similar experiences. You'd be very welcome. For more information please contact Daphne on 07796 675078 or the Parish Office.

Men Together

Tuesdays 16th April & 14th May // 7.45pm

The Bateman Suite

Men Together is a monthly group for men of all ages to learn together from the Bible, pray and encourage one another in Christian living. No evening of Men Together would be complete without a cuppa and chat. If you've never been before, why not give it a go?



INDOOR

CAR



SALE

& COFFEE MORNING

1ST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
FROM 9.00AM - NOON

St John's Parish Centre

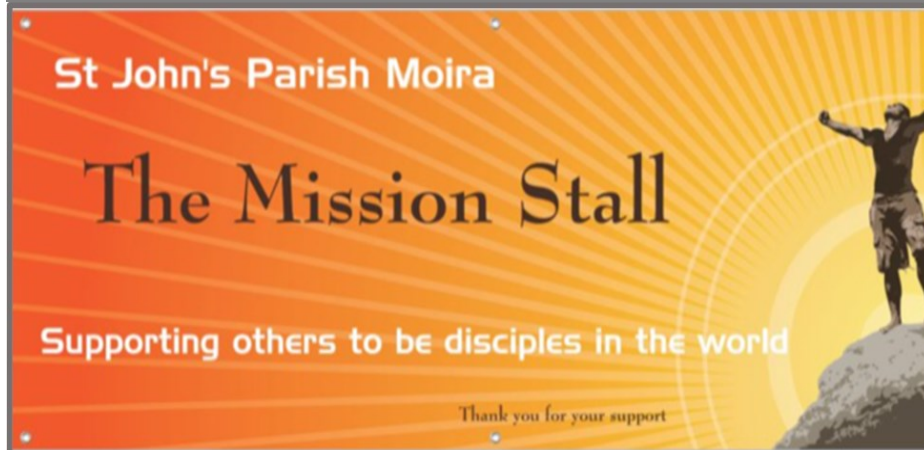
Cost  car £5,  van £10,  indoor table £6

Contact the Parish Office for further details hello@moiraparish.org.uk or
David Johnston on 07717 732489

If you don't have stuff to sell, why not come along and browse the stalls and have a cuppa with some fresh scones or sweet treats.

If you have any items which you would like to donate to the 'Mission Stall' (which is a stall at the Car Boot Sale) please contact the Parish Office. Money raised by the 'Mission Stall' helps to provide financial assistance to those going on short term Mission Trips.

The Mission Stall



What is it: Mission Stall gives financial support to those who are going on short mission trips. You can apply for support towards your trip to The Chairperson of St Johns' Vestry or Rev Joanne Megarrell.

When does it happen: We have a 'Book Stall' and a miscellaneous table at the Car Boot Sale which runs on the first Saturday of every month. (Except January)

How can you support us: Donations of unused gifts, bags, scarves, jewellery, household items (no electrical) and small items of furniture and of course books (please make sure they are in good condition).

Volunteer: Help on the stall a few times a year on the first Saturday of any month?

Contact Elaine on 07973298221 for donation or information and before leaving anything in the church. Thank you.

Connected

Mondays 8th April & 13th May // 7.30pm - 8.15pm

The Bateman Suite

Join us in the Bateman Suite for a time of worship and prayer. All Welcome.

Fusion Men's Drop In

Thursdays 18th April & 16th May // 8 - 9.30pm

LOGIC

"Fusion" a drop in centre for Men from teens up! Within this drop in we have pool, table tennis, Nintendo switch, air hockey, coffee corner, board games, tuck shop and many more things. A perfect place for Men of all ages to come along in fellowship and to do life together.

This is very exciting and a perfect place to invite other Men where they can come along and enjoy Christian company without the pressure of going into a church building! All Welcome!

Teaching Time

Tuesday 16th April & Tuesday (3rd Tuesday this month owing to Easter) & 14th May // 7.30pm

Parish Centre

We're continuing our study of David. If you've not been before, why not come along? Don't worry we'll get you caught up on where we are with David so far. All welcome!

REIGNITE

Saturdays 20th April, 4th & 18th May // 6.30am

The Parish Centre

Come along to our monthly men's discipleship group. A time for growth, fellowship, learning together and of course, breakfast!

Bible Study

Thursdays // 8pm

The Parish Centre

Each Thursday evening at 8pm - A great opportunity to study God's word together. Speak to Barry Harrison or Joanne for more info.

Parish Weekend Away - 'Kilbroney 2024'

This is a weekend of Biblical encouragement for the whole church family and we're looking forward to having Bishop Harold and Liz Miller sharing with us! There will be something for all ages and the opportunity to do some outdoor activities should you wish to do so (weather permitting).

When: 19th - 21st April 2024

Cost :

Preschoolers and babies - free!

Children of Primary School age £70

Adults and young people of post Primary school age £80

To register, please contact Kelly in the Church Office: 02892 617136 // Kelly@moiraparish.org.uk (a non-refundable deposit will be taken).

Booking Open:

Booking forms are available from the welcome desk in the Parish Centre now!

We don't want anyone to miss out on this opportunity due to financial pressure so please do speak to Kelly or Joanne if this is an issue for you.

The Book Nook

We will be reading a variety of different texts and meet in two different homes. Anyone interested in joining us would be very welcome. Contact Mary Good for further information, 07753358891.

EmpowHER

Tuesday 23rd April // 8pm

The Parish Centre

We are back with more Biblical encouragement, women's life stories and of course a cuppa.

Judith Hooks will be our speaker this month and we look forward to hearing her share about her journey with Cancer as a young Christian woman and how she has set up 'Fire Lily' to encourage other young women journeying with cancer by pointing them to how God brings beauty from the ashes and gives an unshakeable hope and peace amidst the storm.

If you've never been before, why not come along and be encouraged and empowered. All welcome!

Mustard Seed

Thursday 18th April // 7.30pm - 9pm
The Bateman Suite

Come along for a cuppa and some crafting. Please bring your own crafts to these evenings.



NB: we will not meet in May or June.

Life Groups

Life Groups and Bible Study are an opportunity to meet with others and discuss the Bible in an informal setting. You don't have to have all the answers about faith, in fact small groups and Bible Study provide an opportunity to learn together from each other. There is also the opportunity to pray together and have a cuppa. Life groups meet at various times and days of the week.

Bible Study meets in the Parish Centre. If you'd like further information about joining a group, please contact Joanne.

Mindful Mandate



Wednesdays 17th April, 1st & 15th May // 7pm

A men's group that meets for a cuppa and some 'hand's on' work. We are continuing with some maintenance at the Parish Centre.

Contact David Kerr for more info: 07510223932

Wednesday's Word

Wednesdays // 1pm - 1.30pm

The Parish Church

If you've never been before, why not join us for a short Bible talk each Wednesday at 1pm - 1.30pm in the Bateman Suite. Feel free to bring your own lunch with you. All welcome.

After Easter we return on Wednesday 10th April.

Dates for your diary

15th June: Churches Together Men's Breakfast

22nd - 26th July: Summer Holiday Bible Club

LOGIC



Thank you for continuing to pray for all that goes on in LOGIC, we are truly appreciative. Your unwavering support is deeply appreciated as we engage in ongoing activities.

Recently we took a group of 50 along for a thrilling day out to Emerald Park, Co. Meath, there was lots of fun had and we had a brilliant day out despite the weather! Our Young Leaders recently delivered a compelling presentation to the Education Authority, sharing their impactful experiences serving on the Global Service-Learning team in Washington last summer. Their presentation left a lasting impression, and the EA representative was thoroughly impressed.. They've enjoyed some quality downtime while enhancing their teamwork skills through airsofting at The Mill in Portadown.

On alternate Thursday evenings, the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award scheme participants meet and their training is well underway. They have been out in the elements following their successful practice expedition in the Mourne at the beginning of April and continue to train towards their final expedition.

We're thrilled to announce that our P7 Club will kick off at the end of April, running every Friday afternoon until the end of June, we have already had a lot of interest and lots of young people have signed up, we would love to welcome any young people in their final year of Primary School, for more information please visit our website: www.logicmoira.com/programme.

Our Drop-In sessions continue to thrive every Friday and Saturday evening, catering to the vibrant community of those in Years 8 – 14, with consistently high attendance. Remember, our doors are open every Wednesday afternoon for Drop-In from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm. We would love to see more young people dropping by, and they can enjoy FREE tea and toast too! To be part of this action, reach out to Matt and discover how your time can truly make a difference.

Revelation maintains its momentum every Sunday evening, fostering meaningful friendships and fortifying the faith of numerous LOGIC young people. Keep those prayers coming as we aim to impact lives and draw more young hearts to faith through this vibrant ministry.

LOGIC and Revelation are gearing up for the Summer Madness festival in Portglenone from June 28th to July 2nd, with a heavily subsidized cost of only £65 per person. This covers festival admission (valued at £95 when booked directly through Summer Madness), transportation, food, and tents!

Ready to elevate your support? Contribute to the work of LOGIC through monthly donations or a one-time gift. Explore www.logicmoira.com/giving for all the details.

Stay informed about all LOGIC trips and activities by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok if you haven't already.



FIRST *things*

A PURPOSEFUL GATHERING
OF **EVANGELICALS** IN THE
CHURCH OF IRELAND.

MOIRA PARISH CENTRE
10AM-4PM

Your
INVITATION

SATURDAY 27 APRIL 2024

FIRST things

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO JOIN US ON SATURDAY 27TH APRIL FOR THE 'FIRST THINGS' GATHERING OF EVANGELICALS IN MOIRA PARISH HALLS.

In a society of continual change, the call to Christians remains constant; to make disciples, baptise believers and teach the truth revealed through scripture. The challenges to the church are great but the power and love of Christ are all surpassing.

The **First Things** gathering 2024 is aimed at all those in the Church of Ireland who have a heart for this call to baptise, disciple and be rooted in biblical truth. It will seek to promote fellowship and support, encourage new visions for our church and inspire a new generation of evangelicals. So whether you are young or old, or in leadership or not, we'd love for you to be there.

SPEAKERS


Our keynote speakers are **Archbishop Justin Badi** (*Primate of South Sudan*) and **Canon John McGinley** (*Director of the Myriad church planting programme*) together with input from a variety of Church of Ireland speakers.

WHEN

Saturday 27th April from 10am to 4pm in **Moira Parish Centre**. Transport is available to & from Moira train station.

COST

£15 for over 23 years and **£10** for under 23. This includes lunch and refreshments.

Tickets and more information are available by scanning here: 



www.firstthings.church

First Things is a collaboration of evangelical groups in the Church of Ireland including CIEF, EFIC and New Wine

St John's Indoor Bowling Club



Tuesdays // 7.30pm
The Parish Centre

Come along and learn something new in a relaxed setting, make new friends and enjoy some fun with others.

Moira Friendship Group

Moira Friendship group is an initiative of St John's to promote fellowship and friendship for those who are over 50.



Everyone is welcome to come along. Contact Alison Bell for more information: 02892 612119.

Parish Records

In order to keep our Parish Records up-to-date and compliant with data protection laws, could you please let us know if you move to a new address, change phone number or email address. Please contact Kelly@moiraparish.org.uk with the updated information. Many thanks.

Admission to Hospital

If you are admitted to hospital, please let Joanne know. Please don't rely on the hospital chaplain informing her. Many thanks.

Parish Registers

Burials

28 March

Ann Elizabeth (Elsie) Rowan

Baptisms

3 March

Elijah Gaw

Financial Update - 2024 Year to date:

Free Will Offering donations (excluding standing orders) £17160.14

Building Fund donations (excluding standing orders): £991.00

Thank you to everyone who supports us financially. We could not do what we do without your generosity.

If you don't have envelopes can we encourage you to set up a Standing Order or write a cheque. We really appreciate your kind giving at this time.

Please contact Kelly at the Parish Office Kelly@moiraparish.org.uk // 028 9261 7136) if you would like **weekly envelopes** or **gift aid declaration forms**.

How can I set up a Standing Order?

The best way to give free will offerings is by regular standing order.

If you wish to make a payment to St John's through your online banking please use the details below:

Free Will Offering: Account Name: Moira Parish Church

Account No: 18144007 Sort Code: 98-10-75

Building Fund:

Account Name: Moira Parish Church BLD

Account No: 18144197 Sort Code: 98-10-75

(If you have an envelope number then please use this as your reference so we allocate the payment correctly.)

Contact Us

Rector: Rev Joanne Megarrell // joanne@moiraparish.org.uk

Children's & Youth Development Officer : Jack Wilson //

jack@moiraparish.org.uk


Diocesan Evangelist: Kyle Harris // kyle@moiraparish.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Kelly Johnston // kelly@moiraparish.org.uk


Logic Development Officer: Matt Peach // matt@logiccafe.org

Logic Administrator: Tracey McKinley // tracey@logiccafe.org

St John's Parish, Main Street, Moira, BT67 0LQ

 St John's Moira

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 @stjohnsmoira

