

St. Patrick's and St. Andrew's  
News and Views  
July 2026



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## Summer Snaps

In July and August the world around us takes on a different feel: yes, the weather becomes warmer (in theory) and (sometimes) a little sunnier, but I am thinking more of the attitude we adopt to work and rest.

### **Is church-going a hit or miss choice or a central part of our lives year-round?**

In my experience, the numbers attending church in summer fluctuate in surprising ways: some weeks we have a good congregation: maybe related to the weather of the previous few days, while another Sunday everyone seems to be away!



There are two Sundays every year that a dip in attendance used to occur: the Sunday after Easter, and the Sunday in the middle of the Twelfth fortnight. Here in Coleraine those very same Sundays can be busy with holiday makers, including retired clergy families, of course, as they come to our beloved House of God!

This year on holidays in Tenerife we sought out an English speaking church, and found one a couple of miles from our hotel. It was in a basement complex of a small shopping centre. I am so glad we did. We walked back again the following week.

It was so different from our own church, but they sang hymns to glorify Jesus, they based the 20–25 minute sermon on a biblical passage, and they spent time in prayer for the needs of the world. The readings were very long, which doesn't always sit well with a congregation, but it was good to hear God's word proclaimed.

They did not have any stained-glass or choir, nor organ or pulpit, no wardens or welcome desk; but we were welcomed warmly, and spoken to afterwards. That is good: in fact we spoke to **everyone** who was there. German, English, Spanish and us, the Irish. There was one surprise though...

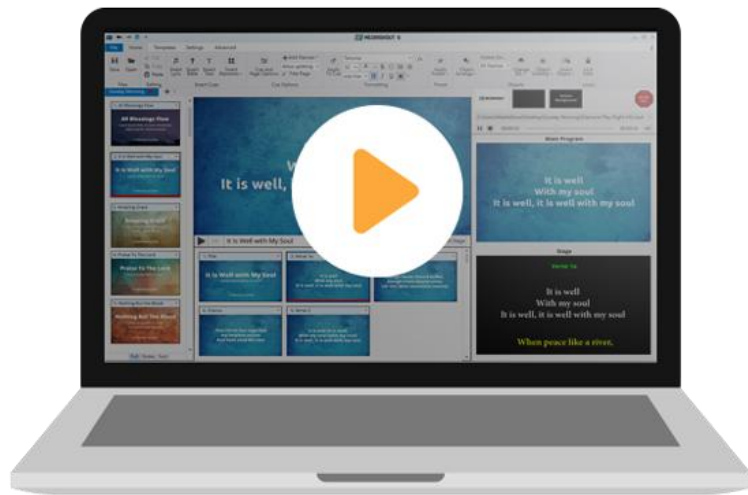
I would love to hear where you go to church if you are away these months: how did you find them, what tradition were they following, how many adults or children were there, and what did you like about the experience.

- **When in Majorca** we would walk or take a bus from C'an Pastilla to Palma Cathedral, and could pretend it was a high Church of England Church, while quietly keeping our distance from fully engaging in the worship. It was all in Spanish, but the music transcended language barriers, and the order and dignity was somewhat comforting - if a little much!
- **In Malahide** we would go to the local parish and enjoy a familiar friendly God-honouring act of worship.
- **On Sundays in Coleraine** we always went to St Patrick's - of course!!

Let us know how you got on! Post a picture naming the church/town on Facebook while linking it to the parish feed. (Type "St Patrick's and St Andrew's" in our post and it may hopefully turn into a blue link, and so appear for people following our church feed.)

... The surprise? The first week at church on Tenerife we were two of **five** of us, the second week a total of **six**!

# Screen Operators



The clergy and parishioners are incredibly grateful to those who willingly assist in presenting the text of the services on screens each week. It is a simple enough task but brings with it a great need for concentration during worship.

So let's say thank you to the one or two people who press the keyboard each week. Thank them personally some week!

We would love some extra helpers - younger or older adults - to monitor the current operators to learn how to do it, and when precisely to switch screens (there is an art to this!)

This will mean that the current team can sit with their families more often at worship. Speak to the clergy team or the wardens if you would like to have a go. Training will be given.

p	h	i	l	i	s	t	i	n	e	s	y
m	u	i	m	c	h	o	i	c	e	e	k
c	j	e	a	l	o	u	s	i	b	c	i
k	h	o	j	r	u	i	i	o	k	h	n
a	n	o	e	o	t	f	s	u	t	a	d
f	r	o	s	b	e	i	a	r	w	n	i
o	c	m	t	e	d	g	u	m	a	c	p
l	a	d	y	i	n	h	l	p	i	e	y
d	v	t	h	j	c	t	e	o	t	l	l
b	e	k	i	l	l	e	d	n	e	n	y
t	c	a	t	c	h	r	f	x	d	p	f
k	i	n	g	s	d	a	v	i	d	j	r

choice

robe

family

king

Israel

shouted

kind

army

chance

sheep

disobey

fighter

Saul

waited

catch

killed

chosen

David

notice

jealous

Philistines

majesty

fold

cave

## Baptisms in May



Jasper



Lily



Noah



Margot

# Prayers

## Parish Prayer Points – July 2026

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do and he will show you which path to take. Proverbs 3 v 5 NLT*

### **Pray for the Worldwide Church**

- That the name of Jesus would be lifted high in all the world.
- For the persecuted church and those encountering danger when they meet together.
- For peace where there is war.
- For relief where there is suffering.
- That the Lord would comfort the grieving.
- For hope where there is despair.
- That our leaders would seek wisdom from God and show integrity in all their actions.

### **Pray for our Church fellowship (St Patrick's and St Andrew's)**

*And the scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled. Romans 15 v 4b NLT*

- Thank God for all who serve in our churches.
- Ask God to give them rest and encouragement over the summer.
- Pray for the way forward for our parish and for those who will make important decisions.
- Pray for the Holiday Club (6-10 July) and Gathered Youth week (6-10 July evenings).
- Pray for the Summer Concerts on Thursdays (9-30 July).
- Pray for Christian events: Summer Madness Portglenone, New Wine Sligo, Keswick at Portstewart, New Horizon Coleraine.

### **Pray for our local community**

- For families under pressure, those who are unemployed, the elderly and the lonely.
- For peace during the marching season.
- For safety on the roads and in the sea over the holiday period.
- For the rescue and emergency services on the North Coast.
- For the witness and welcome of all the churches in our area.

## Pray for yourself

*Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. 1 Peter 5 v 7 NLT*

- Pray that we would be able to take advantage of the many Christian events on our doorstep.
- Ask the Lord to bless our families with time to relax and engage with one another.
- Pray for guidance for those of us who have to make decisions.
- Ask God to help us to gain wisdom and understanding from his word.
- Ask God to heal those of us and those we know who have health issues.

## Pray for our Mission Partners:

Rick & Alana Creighton (Crosslinks, Nigeria)  
Claire Holmes (SAMS & Prison Fellowship NI)  
Walter & Claire McConnell (OMF, Singapore)  
Andrew & Joanne Quill (CMSI, South Sudan)  
Trevor & Andrea Watson (Crosslinks, Sweden)

*Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Ephesians 3 v 20 NLT*

For more information check out the Mission Table at the back of the Church or visit the Parish Website Mission Page at <https://stpats.co.uk/mission>

## **The Prayer Room every Sunday**

*Please spend time in prayer (at your seat or with others in the Prayer Room from 9:40 am) to ask God to bathe the people at worship with his love.*

Pray for those around you, that God would pour out his Spirit on the gathered people, and speak his life-changing truth to everyone present.

## **Weeknight Prayers**

Members of the parish meet for prayer **each Tuesday night in St. Andrew's Church at 7.00 pm**. It is an opportunity to share together and to encourage one another in the work of praying for the parish. The monthly Prayer Pointers in this newsletter give you an opportunity to pray at home as well.



For over 30 years, New Horizon has been about creating space for God's people to gather — to worship, to learn, to grow, and to go.

A rich variety of speakers and musicians ensure that New Horizon each year is a fresh and uplifting experience. This August we will be challenged to consider the necessity to develop our relationship with God.

From our thinking and priorities to our relationships, responsibilities, witness, suffering, and disappointments, Christ's life transforms how we should live. As we fix our hearts on him, we discover what it truly means to live and move and have our being in Christ, and are inspired to see the eternal value of living for the glory of God in both ordinary and extraordinary moments of daily life.

To discover more about our speakers, and to check times of morning and evening sessions, please visit <https://newhorizon.org.uk> later in the month.



## Parish Reader



The Church of Ireland have had Parish Readers for many years: there were three appointed in my home parish in Willowfield in the early 1970's. The role has developed over the years and has been expressed differently in different parishes and dioceses.

The sense of every member of the church having a ministry - which grew from that era onwards - is still a key part of growing churches today. Parish Readers are a formal expression of that movement.

We already have people reading lessons well in the parish, and that will continue to be the case, but those readers are not expected to do so regularly "at the drop of a hat" but with adequate notice and time to prepare.

We are also privileged to have a number of Intercessors who lead prayers on a Sunday morning for the whole congregation. They bring a freshness of perspective to the service and often are a most meaningful part of worship. We hope they will continue to do so.

A Parish Reader is permitted to do these things, of course, and may do a little more of the intercessions than has been the case up to now. But they have additional responsibilities and are licensed to conduct parts of the services well beyond reading and interceding. This is under the supervision of clergy, and as an assistant leader of the service when clergy or Lay Readers are present.

**Heather Barnett** has been asked to take on the role of Parish Reader and happily she has agreed and been accepted by the diocese for a trial period. She will, God willing (DV), be introduced and commissioned for her new role on Sunday 2nd August at 10:00 am by The Rev Brian Harper, Rural Dean. The service will take place in St Patrick's where her service will initially be based.

We wish Heather well, and commend her to your prayers as she seeks God's help to serve in this new way.

## Have you read your Bible today?

In Jeremiah the prophet describes how God's people were to read God's word and law but to know it in their hearts:

**'I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts.**

*I will be their God, and they will be my people.* Jeremiah 31:33–34

In 1984 the great Dr John R W Stott was speaking at a conference in Dublin. He spoke about reading your bible everyday, as no doubt he also did. He recommended a system of reading called McCheyne's Method. It involved reading four; yes **four** chapters of the Bible every day. It is very hard work, and at times it can be difficult to continue.

Since then, during some years, I have tried to read the whole bible using McCheyne's or some other method. But it all started with children's bible reading notes from Scripture Union where a *few verses a day* was challenge

enough! And that is a **very good place to start!**

Try reading the Gospel of Luke asking yourself questions



like these:

1. What (if anything) is special about Jesus in this passage?
2. How would you react if you had been there when this story happened?
3. Do Jesus words strike you as challenging or encouraging? What do you need to do about it?
4. Was there anyone in the story with whom you would identify?
5. Imagine what you might say to God in thanks, inquiry, confession or praise. Then say it to him in your daily prayer!

July	Verses in Luke
1	1:1–25
2	1:26–38
3	1:39–56
4	1:57–80
5	2:1–20
6	2:21–39
7	2:40–52
8	3:1–20
9	3:21–4:13
10	4:14–30
11	4:31–44
12	5:1–11
13	5:12–26
14	5:27–6:11
15	6:12–36
16	6:37–49
17	7:1–17
18	7:18–35
19	7:36–50
20	8:1–21
21	8:22–39
22	8:40–56
23	9:1–17
24	9:18–36
25	9:37–50
26	9:51–62
27	10:1–24
28	10:25–42
29	11:1–13
30	11:14–36
31	11:37–53



## Glebe Update

The drainage pipes have all been laid. The bricks on the path should be completed by the end of the month. Tarmac will be done when all other work is complete. The railings and coping stones should be coming back end of July to beginning of August. When the gates were taken away for refurbishment the two pillars were found to be unstable and unsafe and will have to be dismantled, all the bricks numbered, before being rebuilt. Some of the stones have to be repaired. The electric lights require removal and a new electric consumer unit fitted as the old one does not meet with British Standard 7671. This has come at an additional cost of £30,000, which we had not budgeted for.

**Any suggestions for fundraising welcome.**



**Trevor Surgeoner – a very proud and happy father.**

“Gareth (my youngest son and head of the UK division of Wacker Neuson) is delighted with your photos. He says I look very happy in them – as indeed I am. His outfit is, he says, now working on the successor to number 412 parked near the choir vestry door.”

## Counterpoint Concert



Counterpoint supported two Charities with the proceeds from their concert. Sophie's Clinical Nurse Specialist & Portrush RNLI

## Evensong Service with 122 in attendance



### Hymns for professionals

**Dentist:** Crown Him with many crowns. **Contractor:** The church's one foundation

**Obstetrician:** Come, labour on. **Golfer:** There is a green hill far away.

**Politician:** Standing on the promises. **Librarian:** Let all mortal flesh keep silence.

**Barrister:** In the hour of trial. **Dry Cleaner:** O for a faith that will not shrink.

**Census taker:** All people that on earth do dwell. **Tax officer:** We give thee but thine own.

**Traffic patrol:** Where cross the crowded ways of life. **Credit card user:** A charge to keep have I.



We have received our first batch of knitted poppies. If you have any photos of yours please send to [admin@stpats.co.uk](mailto:admin@stpats.co.uk)

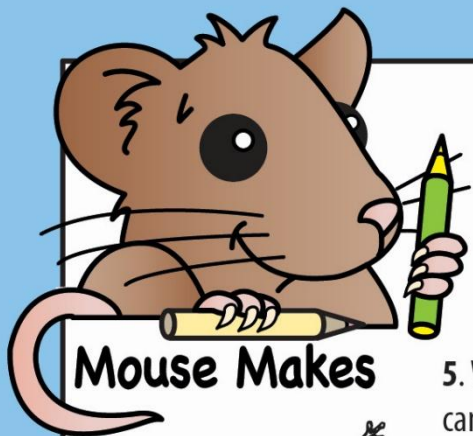
### **Christian Burials:**

Helen McKINNEY 10th June 2026, peacefully at Causeway Hospital, Hester Helen, 8 Portstewart Road, Coleraine. Dearly loved wife of the late William, loving mother of Malcolm (Ashley), Anne (Iaan), Hazel and the late Ian, much loved grandmother of Alex, Craig, Joshua, Eiréné and Nikita; also a dear great-grandmother and sister of the late Donald.

William Harte HARTE – 14th June 2026, peacefully at home, 6 Cloonavin Park, Coleraine. William A. (Willie), dearly loved husband of Margaret, precious dad of Karen, Darron, Jason, Aaron, Dijon and Shauna-Lee, father-in-law of Ian, Louise, Kerry, Miriam and Carol and a devoted granda of 10 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

ALCORN (nee Kearney) – 15th June 2026 (suddenly) at her home, 41 Elms Park, Coleraine, Brenda, dearly loved wife of Marcus, precious mother of Vicky, Katrina, Marcia, Grant and the late Maxine, a loving mother-in-law and grandmother, dearest daughter of Davy and the late Carol and a dear sister and sister-in-law.

Michael Ferguson FERGUSON, 15th June 2026 suddenly at his home, Rathain Fold, Union Street, Coleraine. Michael (Mickey), dearly loved husband of Jenny, beloved son of the late Beth and Norman, father of Sam, brother of Ronnie and the late Colin.



# Mouse Makes

1. What bird makes its nest on high?  
*Job 39:27*



2. What ate the seeds along the path?  
*Matthew 13:4*



3. The hair of which animal was used to make curtains?  
*Exodus 36:14*

4. What insect can we learn from?  
*Proverbs 6:6*

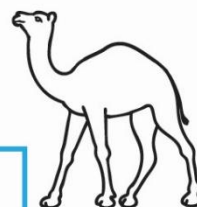
7. Which animal was Jesus compared to?  
*John 1:29*



5. What plague came out of the River Nile?  
*Exodus 8:6*



6. What animal would go through the eye of a needle easier than a rich person?  
*Luke 18:25*



**B I B L E**

8. What bird did Noah release from the ark first?  
*Genesis 8:7*



9 across.  
In what creature's mouth was a coin found?  
*Matthew 17:27*

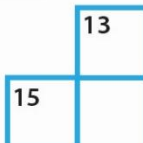


**C R E A T U R E S**

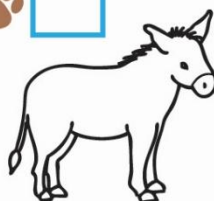
9 down.  
What lives in holes?  
*Matthew 8:20*



12. Which bird did the Holy Spirit appear as?  
*Luke 3:22*



13. Which animal did Jesus ride on?  
*Matthew 21:7*



14. What bird did God provide for food in the wilderness?  
*Exodus 16:13*

10. What insect would God send to destroy the enemy?  
*Deut 7:20*



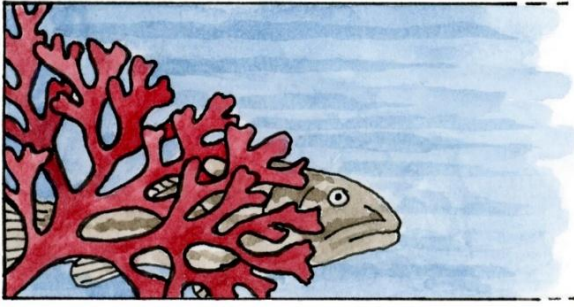
11. What animals eat crumbs from under the table?  
*Matthew 15:27*

15. What insects did John eat in the wilderness?  
*Matthew 3:4*



16. Which animal is the "mightiest among beasts"?  
*Proverbs 30:30*





# July 2026

## 28 June Sunday Trinity 4 SHL

(Green)

10:00 Morning Prayer  
11:30 Morning Prayer

St Patrick's  
St Andrew's

## 1 July Wednesday SHL

1:00 Midweek Communion

St Patrick's

## 5 July Sunday Trinity 5 SGEL

(Green)

10:00 Parish Communion  
11:30 Parish Communion

St Patrick's  
St Andrew's

## 8 July Wednesday RJS

1:00 Midweek Communion

St Patrick's

## 12 July Sunday Trinity 6 DPH with Ric Creighton

(Green)

10:00 Sunday Morning Prayer  
11:30 Sunday Morning Prayer

St Patrick's  
St Andrew's

## 19 July Sunday Trinity 7 ICB

(Green)

10:00 Church Family at Worship  
11:30 Church Family at Worship

St Patrick's  
St Andrew's

## 26 July Sunday Trinity 8 ICB

(Green)

10:00 Morning Prayer  
11:30 Morning Prayer

St Patrick's  
St Andrew's

## 29 July Wednesday ICB

1:00 Midweek Communion

St Patrick's

**Parish Office will closed Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July inc.**