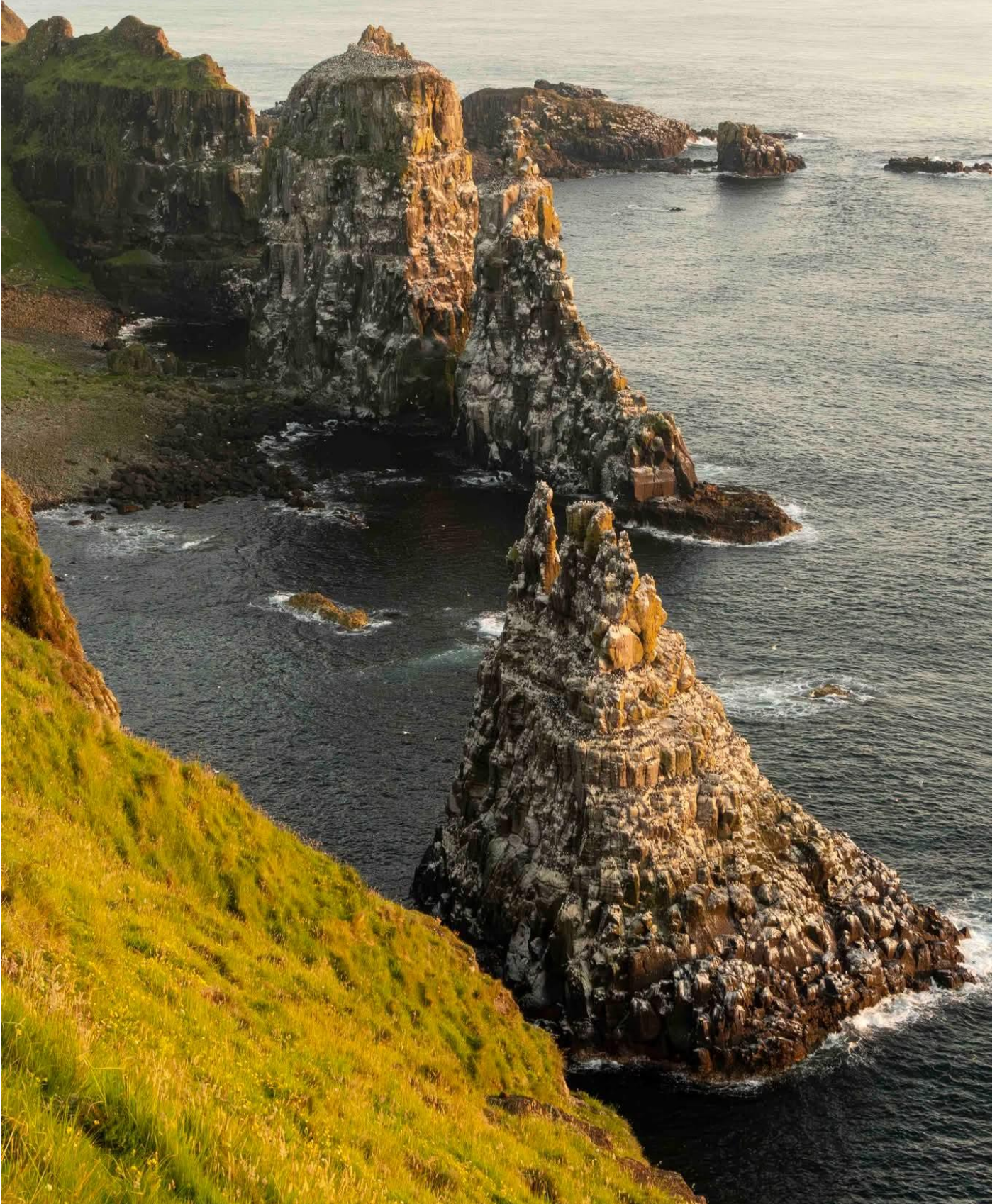


**St. Patrick's and St. Andrew's
News and Views
August 2026**



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The above sections (online) are live to go directly to the page of the Newsletter

Fruitfulness

In August we tend to see the first signs of either a fruitful or a fruitless harvest. Among the most annoying indicators are the appearance of scabs on apples, stalled growth in the greenhouse, and soaking wet soil drowning the vegetable patch. As a note all I have are a few apple trees and two bags of potatoes, so we are not talking about risk of starvation or anything.



But if the apples we pick in a few months' time are not the perfect green and red fruit we hope for, it may be because disease and poor aeration have been left unchecked.

As believers we want to be useful to God, to our church, to our community, but we prove unfruitful when other issues crowd into our lives leaving no room for spiritual devotion and Christian service. We prove useless when we refuse to address the habits that corrupt our thoughts, corrode our witness and compromise our characters.

As September draws near and the routine of life goes up a gear, what habitual pattern do we need to **remove** from daily life and what act of service in Christ's name - in church or community - do we need to **start**?

In those hot days in the middle of June and again in July, the daily watering of the freshly sown seeds and the newly planted flowers, was a necessity.

Do we take the maintenance of our spiritual lives as seriously?

Have you *started* reading your Bible yet?

I hope you enjoyed reading Luke in July. *You didn't try it?* It is not too late! When I am bible reading, I sometimes get a few days behind my planned schedule (I'm three days behind on July's readings from the last magazine!) But they are short enough to catch up (if you feel you need to)!

So **how do you make bible reading a habit** that you just can't stop?

- Make it **easy** to do by leaving your bible in the same place every day.
- Make it **pleasant** by preparing a cup of tea or coffee to enjoy while you read.
- Make it **comfortable** by choosing a suitable chair to use as the "place I pray."
- Make it **regular** by choosing a time of day and sticking with that if you possibly can.
- Make it **memorable** by asking yourself questions and even taking a one sentence note about a new thing you discovered by reading!
- Make it **yours** by choosing, in advance, which portion of the bible to read next, different in style from the current choice.

What will you read next? When you have finished Luke on or about 31 August, line up a Letter of Paul, like Colossians, and read it in the paragraphs that the typesetter has suggested. Later you may like to read a psalm-a-day for a week or so, then go to your next choice. This variety means you are reading stories, receiving challenges, and deepening your worship. Just avoid going back to the one psalm or verse that you like and imagining that is all God wants to say to you as you read! There are 66 books from which to choose! SHL

Date of Month	Suggested Reading
1 Aug	Luke 12:1-12
2 Aug	Luke 12:13-34
3 Aug	Luke 12:35-59
4 Aug	Luke 13:1-17
5 Aug	Luke 13:18-35
6 Aug	Luke 14:1-24
7 Aug	Luke 14:25-35
8 Aug	Luke 15:1-32
9 Aug	Luke 16:1-13
10 Aug	Luke 16:14-31
11 Aug	Luke 17:1-19
12 Aug	Luke 17:20-37
13 Aug	Luke 18:1-17
14 Aug	Luke 18:18-34
15 Aug	Lk 18:35-19:10
16 Aug	Luke 19:11-27
17 Aug	Luke 19:28-44
18 Aug	Lk 19:45-20:26
19 Aug	Luke 20:27-21:4
20 Aug	Luke 21:5-38
21 Aug	Luke 22:1-13
22 Aug	Luke 22:14-30
23 Aug	Luke 22:31-46
24 Aug	Luke 22:47-65
25 Aug	Lk 22:66-23:25
26 Aug	Luke 23:26-43
27 Aug	Luke 23:44-56
28 Aug	Luke 24:1-12
29 Aug	Luke 24:13-35
30 Aug	Luke 24:36-53

WHAT'S ON

in Coleraine

P1-P7

Sept-June

Sunday Club

Sundays 10am

St Patrick's

Sunday Club

Sundays 11:30am

St Andrew's

Sunday Club

Sundays 10:30am

Kildollagh

Sunday Club

Sundays 12noon

Ballyrashane

Girls Brigade

Wednesdays

(P1-P4) 6:15pm-7:15pm

(P5-P7) 7:30pm-9pm

St Andrew's

Boys Brigade

Thursday

(P1-P4) 6:15pm-7:30pm

(P5-P7) 6:15pm-7:30pm

St Andrew's



**All
Age**

Sunday Worship

Sundays 10am

St Patrick's

Sunday Worship

Sundays 11:30am

St Andrew's

Sunday Worship

Sundays 10:30am

Kildollagh

Sunday Worship

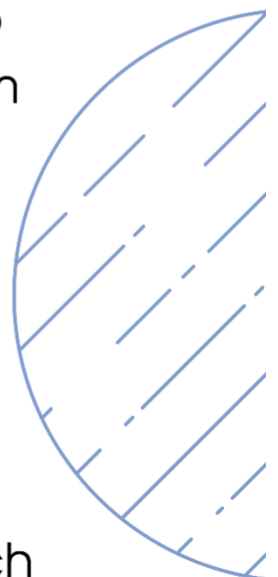
Sundays 12noon

Ballyrashane

Gathered Service

26th July 7pm @ Ballintoy Parish Church

30th August 7pm @ Dunluce Parish Church





Holiday Club 2026



A successful Gathered Youth week



St. Patrick's Summer Recitals

Women in Music

Tuesday 18th August 12.30pm

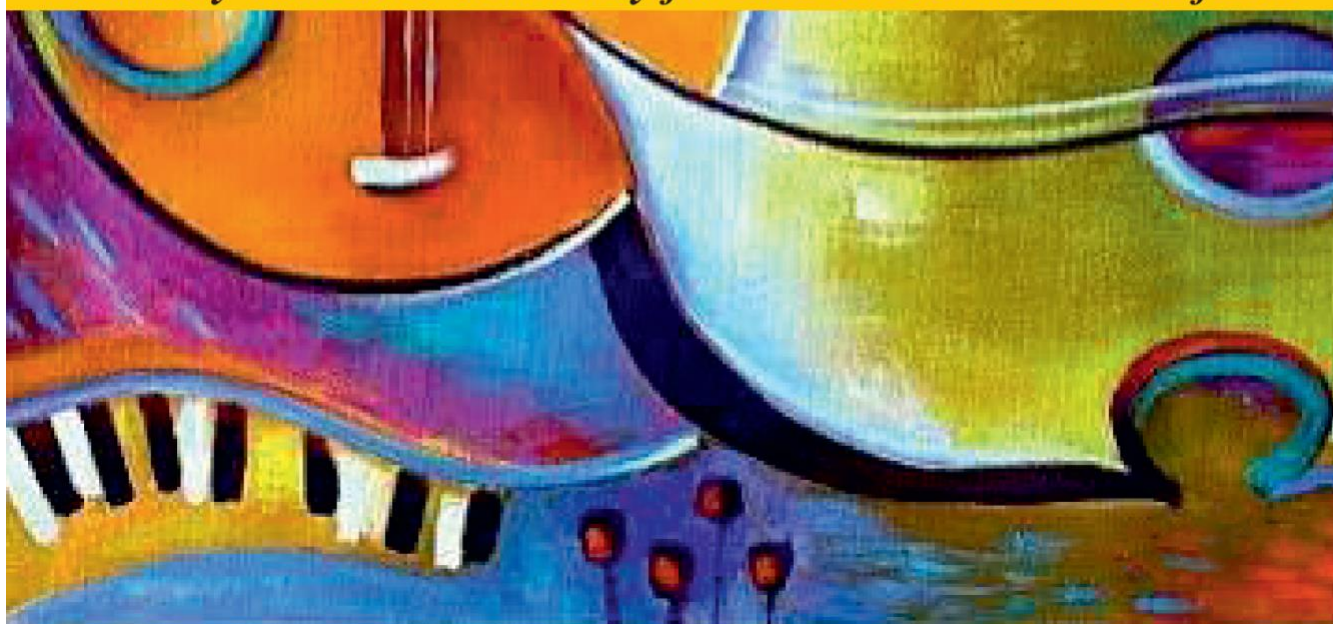
Gwyneth Reid - *Cello* • Lauren McKeown - *Oboe* • Shonagh Lyons - *Soprano*

Jazz at St. Patrick's

Thursday 27th August 12.30pm

Alistair Kinghan - *Piano* • Peter McIlreavy - *Saxophone*
Kevin Smith - *Acoustic Bass* • Andrew Collins - *Percussion*

Voluntary donations on the day for St. Patrick's restoration fund.



new horizon

New Horizon: 1st - 7th August

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

If you wish to have anything included in the September Newsletter. Please contact the office before Friday 21st August



Parish Prayer Points

August 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, comfort and hope in suffering and death.

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 and ask Him to give them rest and encouragement over the summer.

Pray especially for Heather Barnett as she is commissioned to serve as Parish Reader on August 2, and as she takes up the rôle. May she be richly blessed, and us through her ministry.

Pray for the way forward for our parish and for those who will make important decisions on our behalf.

Pray for the August Recitals on Tuesday 18, Thursday 27.

Pray for New Horizon, Coleraine, August 1-7, and for the young people undertaking confirmation preparation, in St Andrew's, August 17-19.

Pray for our Political Leaders

Pray for PM Andy Burnham and his new Cabinet members as they settle into their new roles, and into working together as a team...for godly wisdom, integrity and mutual respect.

Pray too for the new Secretary of State for NI, Sir Chris Bryant, that he will

establish good working relationships with all the parties and assist in moving our local government forward.

Pray for our local community

For families under pressure, those who are unemployed, the elderly and the lonely.

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 must make decisions, especially as exam results come out.

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)

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>

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. Eph 3:20 NLT

Sunday Morning Intercessions

How wonderful to have people in the parish who are willing to set aside time to prepare and then lead prayers on a Sunday morning at St Patrick's and St Andrew's! Speak to one of the clergy if you would consider joining this team. To encourage you in this important ministry, here are a few suggestions.

If possible, read in preparation one of the bible readings for the Sunday. Allow God to draw your mind to one or two words or ideas or themes that stand out. Write two or three of them down, and stay with those in the next part of your preparation.

Often those leading prayer will read a bible phrase or verse first and then turn that into a prayer for a few moments: e.g. "God so loved the world that he gave his Son" *followed by* e.g. "Lord, we thank you that in your love for us you gave us your Son: help us to love the people in the world around us as you loved us. Amen."

Remember, you are *not* preaching a sermon on a verse you have chosen, merely justifying the nature of your prayer from a message of the bible. It encourages us all to be biblically guided in our prayers.

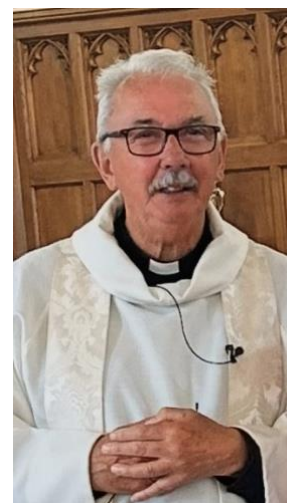
Sometimes you are aware of a confidential issue that you are tempted to bring into the public sphere through the prayers. This is always dangerous, a bit like sanctified gossip, and is best avoided. Instead, if you are aware of some such situation, merge this along with other concerns, so that it does not stand out. Members of the congregation who *already know* the situation will be reminded to pray for the unnamed person or situation, while no-one will be made inquisitive and so will not start asking questions over coffee.

Remember God knows our needs, but he likes to hear our trust, so we pray!

SHL

Pastoral Visiting

We thank Rev Ian Gallagher for writing a little about his work in the parish to support the housebound and sick. If you have a need of pastoral visiting for yourself or someone else, please contact the church office with details. Phone number 028 7034 4213



Pastoral visiting is a vital part of the ministry at St Patrick's Coleraine and St Andrew's Ballysally, expressing the Church's commitment to caring for people beyond the walls of the church building. Through regular visits to parishioners in hospital and in their own homes, the Church offers practical support, friendship, prayer, and encouragement to those who may be experiencing illness, loneliness, or isolation.

Many members of the parish family are no longer able to attend worship because of age, illness, or reduced mobility. Home visits ensure that they remain connected to the life of the Church and continue to feel valued as members of the Christian community. These visits provide an opportunity to listen to concerns, share Scripture, pray together, and, where appropriate, administer Holy Communion. For many who live alone, the visit may be one of the few meaningful social contacts they receive, bringing comfort and reassurance.

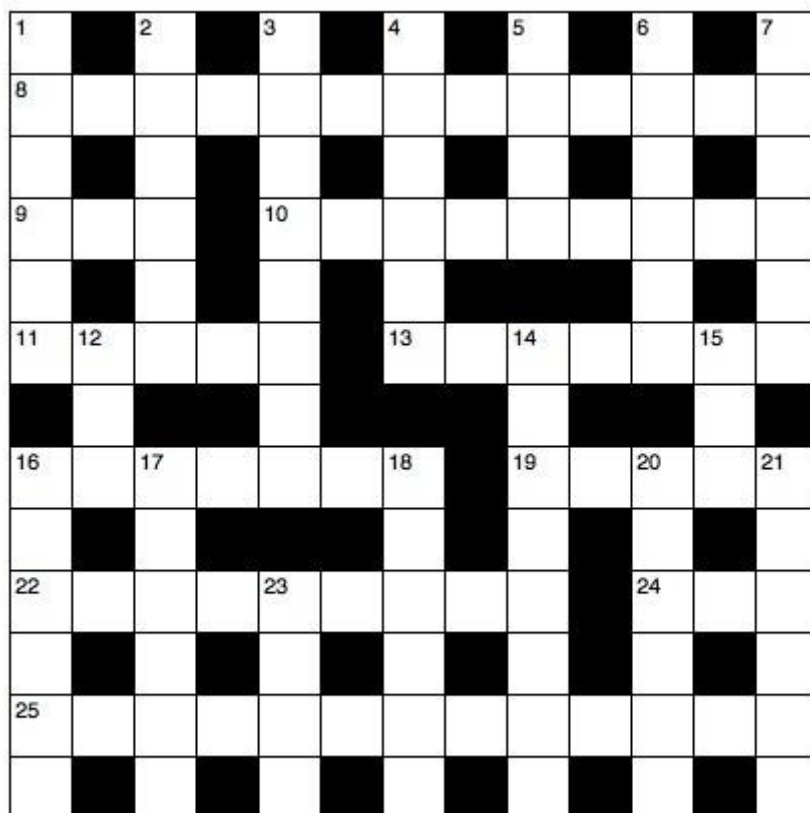
Hospital visiting is equally important, offering spiritual and emotional support during times of treatment, recovery, or uncertainty. The presence of a familiar face from the parish reminds individuals that they are remembered in prayer and supported by their church family.

Pastoral visiting also enables clergy and pastoral visitors to recognise changing needs, identify opportunities for additional practical support, and encourage family members and carers. It strengthens relationships across both congregations and reflects Christ's compassion through acts of kindness and attentive care. By maintaining regular contact with those unable to participate in worship in person, St Patrick's Coleraine and St Andrew's Ballysally continue to foster a welcoming, caring, and inclusive parish community where every individual knows they are loved, valued, and never forgotten.

Ian Gallagher

News & Views

Crossword



Crossword Clues

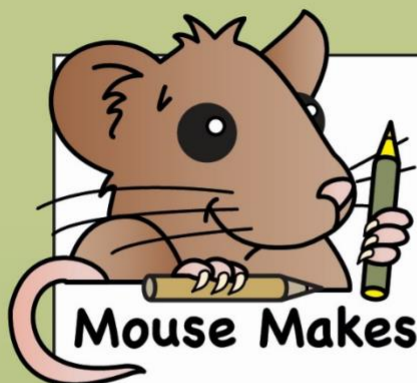
Across

- 8 One of the titles given to the Messiah in Isaiah's prediction (Isaiah 9:6)(6,2,5)
 9 International Nepal Fellowship (1,1,1)
 10 Single (I Corinthians 7:27)(9)
 11 Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's seminal book about Soviet prison camps, The — Archipelago (5)
 13 Treachery (2Kings 11:14) (7)
 16 Of India (anag) (2,3,2)
 19 "God has put us apostles on display at the end of the procession like men condemned to die in the — = (1 Corinthians 4:9) (5)
 22 Follower of a theological system characterized by a strong belief in predestination (9)
 24 'Put these old rags and worn-out clothes under your arms to— the ropes' (Jeremiah 38: 2) (3)
 25 They brought together all the elders of the Israelites in Egypt (Exodus 4:29) (5,3,5)

Answers on page 15

Down

- 1 The season when kings 'go off to war' (2 Samuel 11:1) (6)
 2 Simon Peter's response to Jesus by the Sea of Galilee: 'Go away from me, Lord; I am a — man' (Luke 5:8) (6)
 3 _Beaten with whips (1 Kings 12:11) (8)
 4 'You shall not — adultery' (Exodus 20:14) (6)
 5 Encourage (Hebrews 10:24) (4)
 6 Service of morning prayer in the Church of England (6)
 7 'Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and _ _him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving' (4,2)
 12 Run (anag)(3)
 14 Member of 17th-century party that denied the right of autonomy to the Church (8)
 15 'We will triumph with our tongues; we—our lips' (Psalm 12:4) (3)
 16 Earnings(1 Corinthians 16:2) (6)
 17 'I rejoice greatly in the Lord that— —you have renewed your concern for me' (Philippians 4:10) (2,4)
 18 How Paul described Philemon (Philemon 1) (6)
 20 Multiple territories under the rule of a single state (Daniel 11:4) (6)
 21 'You have been unfaithful; you have married foreign women _ to Israel's guilt' (Ezra 10:10) (6)
 23 This month (abbrev) (4)



Mouse Makes

4 across

After Paul was stoned, where did he travel to with Barnabas?

Acts 14:19-20

4 down

Where was Saul travelling to when Jesus appeared to him?

Acts 9:3



7 down

Where did Noah's ark come to rest after its journey?

Genesis 8:4

9. To which city did Philip travel to proclaim Christ?

Acts 8:5

10. To which river did people travel out to to be baptised?

Mark 1:5



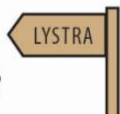
1. To which city did God send Jonah?

Jonah 1:1-2



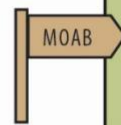
3. Which sea did Jesus walk beside before he went up on the mountain?

Matthew 15:29



2. Where did Paul travel to after seeing a vision?

Acts 16:9-10



5. Which town did Naomi and Ruth travel to after leaving Moab?

Ruth 1:22



6. Where did Paul and Barnabas go after being persecuted in Antioch?

Acts 13:51



7 across

Where did the Church in Jerusalem send Barnabas?

Acts 11:22



11. After a five day journey where did Paul arrive?

Acts 20:6



12. Which sea did Moses walk through to get away from the Egyptians?

Exodus 15:4

8. To where did Mary and Joseph flee to get away from Herod?

Matthew 2:13



13. Where did Paul travel to after he left Athens?

Acts 18:1

Back to school, ALREADY?

Have you noticed how the autumn school term seems to be starting earlier and earlier every year? Is it my imagination or did it used to start on or about 1st September, except for new intake pupils who arrived for a morning the day before?



Now the autumn term seems to start for teachers in early August, and for children around a week or ten days before the previously common date. It seems strange to me, not least because the summer school term doesn't seem to have ended any earlier!

Summer holidays, some parents reckon, are long enough; in an age where many homes have both parents working, child-care presents itself as a problem rather than a blessing.

I investigated the available statistics* on child-care where both parents are working. I discovered a trend where an early estimated figure from 1956 was below 23%, to more reliable figures from 1976 to 2016 that showed a rise from 49% to 68%, and in 2021 up to 73.9% of families where both parents were in employment.



No wonder long school holidays are a strain! How is it for people in *your* family circle?

My reading of the bible does not provide specific responses to the issue of managing child care in a modern age, but it does give guidelines on the choices we make which effectively enable or restrict offering good child-care. Some of those choices have an impact on how much "spare" time we have for our children.

Do these following observations help shed any light?

In the Book of Proverbs the writer makes a wise observations:

Better a dry crust with peace than a house full of feasting with strife. Proverbs 17:1.

The wealth we enjoy, whether in modest living or in living life to the limits, has a big impact on the quality of the relationships in a home.

Give me neither poverty nor wealth; feed me with the food I need. Otherwise, I might have too much and deny you, saying, "Who is the LORD?" or I might have nothing and steal, profaning the name of my God. Proverbs 30:8-9.

Again, too much makes us *proud* of ourselves and *unaware* of our dependence on God, while too little tempts us to cheat - stealing time *from our families* or short-changing our honesty in life.

St Paul had learnt the inner secret to a well managed life: *contentment* with what we have -

I know how to make do with little, and I know how to make do with a lot. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being content Philippians 4:12.

Do I, do you, invest so much of our time in creating comfortable and rewarding lifestyles, that we have risked denying our children the time they need - from us to grow into reliable, honest, godly adults?

As school holidays draw to a close in the next few weeks, let us make sure we have spent enough of our time building our children up, rather than enriching our material lifestyles.

SHL

* <https://stpats.co.uk/dual-earner-table>

ACROSS: 8, Prince of peace. 9, INF. 10, Unmarried. 11, Gulag. 13, Treason. 16, In aid Of. 19, Arena. 22, Calvinist. 24, pad. 25, Moses and Aaron.

DOWN: 1, Spring. 2, Sinful. 3, Scourged. 4, Commit. 5, spur. 6, Matins. 7, Feed on. 12, Urn. 14, Erastian, 15, Own. 16, Income. 17, At last. 18, Friend. 20, Empire. 21, Adding. 23, Inst.



August 2026

2nd August Sunday Trinity 9 Commissioning of Parish Reader (Green)

10:00	Commissioning of Parish Reader at HC	St Patrick's
11:30	Parish Communion	St Andrew's

5th August Wednesday

1:00	Midweek Communion	St Patrick's
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9th August Sunday Trinity 10 (Green)

10:00	Holy Baptism	St Patrick's
11:30	Morning Prayer	St Andrew's

12th August Wednesday

1:00	Midweek Communion	St Patrick's
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16th August Sunday Trinity 11 (Green)

10:00	Sunday Morning Prayer	St Patrick's
11:30	Holy Baptism	St Andrew's

18th August Tuesday Lunchtime Summer Recital

12:30	Women in Music	St. Patrick's
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19th August Wednesday

1:00	Midweek Communion	St Patrick's
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23rd August Sunday Trinity 12 (Green)

10:00	Church Family at Worship	St Patrick's
11:30	Church Family at Worship	St Andrew's

26th August Wednesday

1:00	Midweek Communion	St Patrick's
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27th August Thursday Lunchtime Summer Recital

12:30	Jazz at St Patrick's	St. Patrick's
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30th August Sunday Trinity 13 (Green)

10:00	Morning Prayer	St Patrick's
11:30	Morning Prayer	St Andrew's
7:00	Gathered Service	Dunluce Parish Church