

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

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Dealing with Road Rage

How have the roads been near you recently? In recent months I have witnessed

- An R-Plated car overtaking on the motorway at around 80 mph with their windows so tinted that the rear plate was invisible?
- A hyped up driver who is sure there's no chance of a car coming from beyond the blind corner a few metres ahead, yet visibly curses when the car it is overtaking tries to slow down to avoid a 50 mph triple-crash?
- The white 'weaver' with their high-powered machine who takes little thought for the panic-stricken drivers on either side of them who are just trying to get home in one piece?

I've witnessed zero deaths, which is good, but have experienced understandable anger and fear in me, and seen the other shaken road-users they leave in their wake!

Have you experienced controlled anger when people using the road around you, drivers and pedestrians, take risks because of their inexperience, their impatience or their inconsiderate behaviour?

I know I have: and whoever is with me gets the privilege of hearing my frustration - and relief! - when nothing too serious results! In my holier moments I sometimes even pray for them - that they will get some shock to help them see the folly of their ways!

In just ten days before this was written ten young people have been killed as a result of their own decisions about how one of them was using the road: urging the driver on, sharing in loud conversation, or cheering misdirected courage.

Two other vehicles, whose occupants, it seems, were completely innocent, were caught up in the carnage, leaving two policemen dead and a family of women and a child seriously injured. I am not sure whether the M9 crash and the A66 crash which I am describing will be widely remembered in a few months' time, but twelve families, and many friends of the boys involved as well as colleagues of the officers will endlessly recall the moments: imagine being so irate with a friend of the child you have lost that your grief will be forever tinged with that anger?

Having had the tragic duty of helping families bury their dead following road accidents, caused, I suspect, by their or other's inattention, ill preparation or violence in the era of the troubles, I can only say this: Drive with sensible people around you, with your body and mind free from drugs or exhaustion, and think twice before you drive on two wheels after a winter off the road (or feel the need for speed).

Were you the driver? The Lord God brings comfort and strength to those who will grieve after your fatal accident, but the memory your contribution to the accident that caused their sorrow is a heavy burden to your parents, spouses or children. Think of them too.

See [*The Independent*](#) and the [*Irish Examiner*](#) for further news

SHL

Causeway Coast Challenge

At the start of July 4 members of our parish part in a walk in order to raise money for local causes. James, Alistair, William and Kingston walked 41.2 km (25.6 miles). They travelled from Portballintrae to Ballintoy Harbour and back along the breathtaking Causeway Coast Way.

They were supported financially by many friends and parishioners and we are delighted with both the efforts of the walkers and the generosity of the followers. At the end of August it was announced that the total raised through the adventure was £3352.

With money arriving online via JustGiving, and donations made in the Parish through offerings by individual prisoners, the money has been divided between the two chosen charities: WaterAid and Age Concern Causeway

We thank them for doing this as an example to all of us, and they thank you for your encouragement and support.

Prayer Pointers – September 2026

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”. Philippians 4 vs 6-7

God invites us to exchange our worries for conversations with Him. No topic is too small, we bring everything to Him because he cares for every detail of our lives and the outcome is the promise of His divine peace.

Pray for our Church

- Ask God to fill our leadership team with the knowledge of God's will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. Colossians 1 v 9
- Pray for all who seek to teach and guide our children and young people. For Sunday School, GB, BB, and Gathered as they prepare for a new term. Ecclesiastes 12 v 1
- Pray for the young people who will step forward to confirm their faith later this month. May the commitment they make be a firm foundation for the rest of their lives. 1 Peter 2 v 9

Pray for our Community

- Pray for our local schools and University that they would be places that will equip young people to make good choices as they prepare for the real world. Pray that Christian teachers would have opportunity to witness to the Gospel by how they teach and encourage children. Proverbs 1 v 7
- Thank God that He “created mankind in His own image” Genesis 1 v 27, and that this truth gives every person's work real dignity no matter what they do for a living. Pray for those who are unemployed that doors of opportunity will open for them.
- Pray for those you know who work in any health care situation. Pray that Christian doctors, nurses, chaplains, carers and patients would have opportunity to share a word of comfort to those who are troubled. 1 Corinthians 1 vs 3-4

Pray for our World

- Pray for those who live in places affected by war and terror in our world. Those who have had to leave everything behind and for whom the future looks bleak. Pray for those agencies who seek to bring relief, that they would have the resources to do so. Ps 56 v 3
- Pray for governments around the world that they would seek to improve the wellbeing of their people and promote peace. 1 Timothy 2 v 2
- Pray for our mission partners – The Creighton's (Nigeria), Claire Holmes (SAMS & Prison Fellowship), The McConnell's (OMF), The Quill's (South Sudan) and The Watson's (Sweden)
Ask God to give them encouragement and strength in their work and witness advancing Christ's Kingdom.

A Prayer for Ourselves (1 Peter 5 v 7)

Heavenly Father, today I come to you just as I am seeking your strength and renewal. Quiet my anxious thoughts and remind me that I do not have to carry the weight of the world on my own shoulders. Where I feel weak, be my strength, where I feel overwhelmed, be my peace and where I doubt myself, remind me of my worth in Your eyes. Fill me with hope for the future, and let me feel your loving presence guiding me through every challenge. Amen

Christian Burials

We extend our sympathies and prayerful good wishes to the families of those who have died in recent months.

Mrs Elizabeth Ethel Martin BARTON (aged 90 years), whose funeral took place on 12th July 2026. While from Market Harborough, England, she was formerly from Coleraine and born in Londonderry. Beloved by her family.

Mr John SHEPPARD died peacefully at hospital and his funeral took place on 22nd July 2026. Formerly of 19 Mulberry Gardens, Coleraine, a dearly beloved son of the late Davy and Eva Sheppard, of Rosemary Place, Coleraine.

The funeral took place on 2nd August this year of the late Hilary TOSH of 5 Hazeldene Drive. We extend our good wishes to all who mourn her passing.

On the 3rd August Barbara GOSLING was laid to rest.

Mrs Sheila DOHERTY nee McDonald was buried on 8th August. She had lived part of her long life in New Zealand and Australia. We thank all who sympathised with her family at the private service.

Confirmation 2026

The work of Gathered continued through the year, including some wonderful events and programmes over the summer. The latest of these from 16–19 August was a confirmation preparation time where young people from across the rural deanery took part.

The fruits of Johnny and the team's work will be visible as around 17 young people come for confirmation at the end of September. It is our privilege in Coleraine to host the event where Bishop George Davison will confirm the young adults. Some of the young people will be from our own local gathering, but all will have been part of the rural deanery programme led by Johnny Diamond and chaired by Canon Amanda Adams.

It is our hope that the congregations of St Andrew's - where Gathered often meets, and St Patrick's - the host church, will be well represented.

The service, God willing, takes place on **Sunday 27th September at 7:00 pm.** During the service the candidates will affirm their faith and their allegiance to serving Christ in the Christian Community. We will invite the Holy Spirit to strengthen and fill them - and all of us - to help us all stay strong in our journeys with Jesus.

Please pray for them.

*Father God,
we thank you for your call to all people to lay
down their lives and follow Jesus.
As you have called those prepared for
confirmation to offer themselves to you,
we ask you to deepen their assurance of your
love for each of them,
and to equip them for service,
for your Glory. Amen.*



Poppies: Keep Knitting!!!



*Please bring
any finished
Poppies to
Church please*



Knitting poppies has given one lady a new lease of life!

Holy Baptism



On the left we see Baby Johnny baptised in St Andrew's and on the right we see children Sully & Margot who were brought to baptism in St Patrick's



Summer Recitals

Summer Lunchtime Recitals End on a High Note at St Patrick's Church.

St Patrick's has enjoyed a memorable month of music with the conclusion of its popular Summer Lunchtime Recital Series. Organised by Jenny McGeehan and her dedicated team, the four weekly recitals attracted audiences of around 200 people each, with every recital receiving warm appreciation through enthusiastic applause, standing ovations and generous donations. The opportunity to enjoy lunch and conversation after each performance added to the welcoming atmosphere and sense of community.

The series showcased four of Northern Ireland's finest performers, beginning with organist Daniel Clements, followed by ten-year-old boy treble Max McGinley, soprano Mary McCabe with accompanist Tristan Russcher, and concluding with a stunning piano recital by the outstanding young pianist Senan Sheridan.

Daniel Clements opened the series with a varied programme of major organ works, demonstrating both his exceptional musicianship and the impressive capabilities of St Patrick's fine organ. In an age when fewer young musicians are taking up the organ, it was particularly encouraging to hear the instrument played with such flair and confidence. Daniel is well known throughout Northern Ireland as an accompanist and is Director of the acclaimed Renaissance Chamber Choir.

The second recital featured local boy treble Max McGinley, whose remarkable talent continues to delight audiences across the area. His beautiful performance of *Walking in the Air* brought inevitable comparisons with Aled Jones's famous recording of more than forty years ago, leaving many wondering whether Max might one day follow a similar path. Accompanied by well-known Coleraine musicians Les Magee and Alastair Kinghan, he brought the recital to a joyful conclusion with *Consider Yourself* from *Oliver!*, complete with all the Artful Dodger's cheeky charm and a wonderfully authentic Cockney accent.

Mary McCabe, accompanied by Tristan Russcher, captivated the audience with an operatic programme that demonstrated both vocal power and artistic sensitivity. A familiar face with Northern Ireland Opera, where she has performed many leading roles, Mary has also toured extensively to critical acclaim. Her rich soprano voice effortlessly filled the church, while her expressive interpretations brought each aria vividly to life, drawing prolonged applause from an appreciative audience.

The recital series reached a spectacular conclusion with eighteen-year-old pianist Senan Sheridan, whose virtuoso performance was nothing short of

brehtaking. Performing demanding works by Liszt, Chopin, Debussy and Scriabin, he displayed astonishing technical brilliance combined with remarkable musical maturity and poise. It was a performance that held the audience spellbound from beginning to end and confirmed his status as one of Northern Ireland's most exciting young musicians.

Senan's growing list of achievements is already impressive. He was the NI Young Musician of the Year 2025, winner of the 2024 Glasgow International Youth Piano Competition and a multiple prize winner at Feis Ceoil. He continues to attract widespread attention for his exceptional talent, and local music lovers will have another opportunity to hear him when he joins the Ulster Orchestra to open their new season at the Ulster Hall on Friday 25 September, performing Benjamin Britten's *Young Apollo*.

The success of this year's recital series once again demonstrated the strong appetite for high-quality live music in Coleraine. Thanks to the vision and hard work of Jenny McGeehan and her team, audiences enjoyed four outstanding recitals, showcasing established artists and rising stars alike. Judging by the enthusiastic response throughout July, the series has become a much-valued highlight of the local cultural calendar, and many will already be looking forward to its return next summer.



Pianist Senan Sheridan brought St Patrick's Church Summer Lunchtime Recitals to a close with a brilliant

Glebe update

Wall: The render was cracked on the wall and had to be chipped off and replaced. The removal of the old render revealed that the wall was unstable. The wall had to be stabilized. There is an additional cost which we have not received yet.

Gate Posts/Pillars: The pillars were carefully taken down and removed for restoration. A steel post was required within each pillar to ensure a safe and stable installation. The restored stone is re-erected around the steel supports. Due to the lack of existing supports, the steel posts incur additional cost.

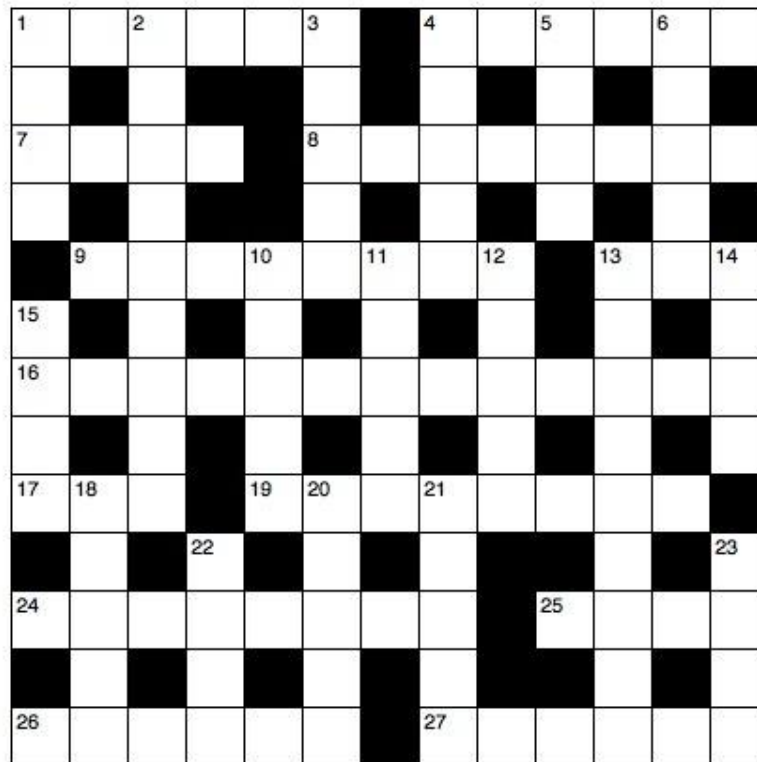




Groundforce with Greg!



Crossword

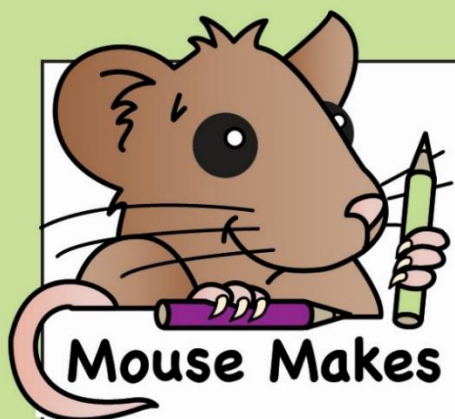


Across

- 1 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders - in vain' (Psalm 127:1) (6)
- 4 Season of the year (Psalm 84:6) (6)
- 7 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. - here and keep watch with me' (Matthew 26:38) (4)
- 8 It came over the whole land from the sixth to the ninth hour on the first Good Friday (Luke 23:44) (8)
- 9 Paul invariably did this in the synagogues he visited on his missionary journeys (Acts 17:2) (8)
- 13 'It is God who works in you to will and to — according to his good purpose' (Philippians 2:13) (3)
- 16 Members of the Church of Scotland(13)
- 17 When he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountain side and - down' (Matt5:1) (3)
- 19 Mock (Luke14:29 8)
- 24 Disgrace (Psalm 44:13) (8)
- 25 First month of the Hebrew calendar (Exodus13:4) [4]
- 26 Christianity of the Britons before Augustine arrived from Rome (6)
- 27 Mean (Numbers 35:23(6)

Down

- 1 Whoever finds his life will - it (Matthew 10:39) (4)
- 2 'My lord the king, let the - - on me and on my father's family, and let the king and his throne be without guilt (2 Samuel 14:9) (5,4)
- 3 O raid (anag:) (5)
- A 'If two of you on earth - about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven' *Matt 18:19* (5)
- 5 Take care of (1 Samuel 17:15) (4)
- 6 What the older son heard as he came near the house the day his prodigal brother came home (Luke 15:25) (5)
- 10 'Do not think of yourself more highly than you gught but rather think of yourself with - judgment' (Romans 12:3) (5)
- 11 Do ten (anag. 5)
- 12 Architectural style first used in Greek temples in the sixth century BC (5)
- 13 Capable of being used (1 Kings 7:36) (9)
- 14 'Each one sho uld - his own actions (Galatians6:4) (4)
- 15 Among the items imported by Solomon's fleet of trading ships (1 Kings 10:22) (4)
- 18 'But I am afraid that just — — was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray (2 Corinthians 11:3) (2,3)
- 20 Outstanding 18th-century hymn writer, - Watts(5)
- 21 One of the four sons of Asher (Genesis46:17) (5)
- 22 Be distressed (Proverbs24:19) (4)
- 23 He was the father of Gaal, who threatened rebellion against Abimelech (Judges 9:28) (4)



Mouse Makes

THE TRUE VINE

Who is the vine?

— — — — —
John 15:1

What does Jesus ask us to do?

"Go and bear

— — — — —"
John 15:16

What happens to the branches that do not remain in the vine?

Thrown into the

— — — — —
and

John 15:6



READ
John 15:1-17

How many times does Jesus use the word **FRUIT**?

What does Jesus command?

To — — — — —
one another.

John 15:12,17

How many times does Jesus command us to **LOVE** one another?

H T H R O W N A W A Y
I R A B I D E W I S B
D U F R U I T F U L U
N E R A J S I A M J R
C V U N F C U T V P N
L J I C W I T H E R S
E O T H O P J E S U S
A Y V W R L C R O N V
N G A R D E N E R E I
O S F J E S I S W S N
E R E M A I N F I R E

JESUS • I AM • TRUE • VINE • FATHER
GARDENER • FRUIT • FRUITFUL
BRANCH • PRUNES • CUT • WITHERS
CLEAN • THROWN AWAY • FIRE • BURNS
REMAIN • ABIDE • DISCIPLES • JOY

Girls and Boys Brigades Open



BB: Please come for
Registration & Uniform Orders
on Thursday 3rd September 2026
at 6.30pm in St Andrews

Boys' Brigade starts on
Thursday 10th September

Anchor Boys (P1-P4) &
Junior Section (P5-P7)

6.15 pm to 7.30 pm

Company & Senior Sections

7.30 pm to 9.00 pm

Girls' Brigade is starting: in St Andrew's
ALL WELCOME

from *Wednesday 2nd September 2026*

Explorers 3-7 yrs at 6.15 pm to 7.15 pm

Juniors 8-10 yrs }

Seniors 11-13 yrs } at 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm

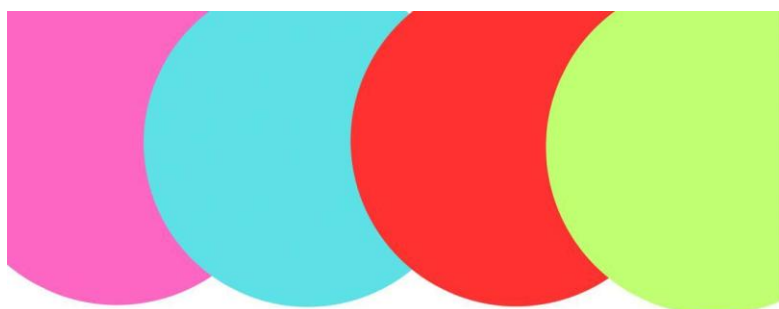
Brigaders 14+ yrs }



Mothers' Union meets again on
Monday 14th September at 7 30
pm in St Andrew's Church for
our **Worldwide Evening**.

We are looking forward to
welcoming Andrew and Joanne
Quill from CMS Ireland and
hearing about their work in the
Diocese of Ibba in South Sudan.

Andrew and Joanne are Mission
Partners of this church and so
we invite you all (**men and
women**) to this special event.



**AN EVENING CELEBRATING THE LIFE,
MUSIC & FAITH OF ELVIS PRESLEY
WITH CANON PAUL HOEY AND ANDY RODGERS**



**ST MARY'S, MACOSQUIN
HARVEST SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER
6PM
ALL WELCOME**

Flowers



Flowers for Sunday 30th August are from Dorothy Sharpe in loving memory of her husband Denis



Crossword answers

across 1. labour 4. autumn 7. stay 8. darkness 9. reasoned 13. act 16. presbyterians 17. sat 19. ridicule 24. reproach 25. abib 26. celtic 27. intend

down 1. lose 2. blame rest 3. radio 4. agree 5. tend 6. music 10. sober 11. noted 12. doric 13. available 14. test 15. apes 18. 20. isaac. 21. ishvi 22. fret as eve 23. ebed

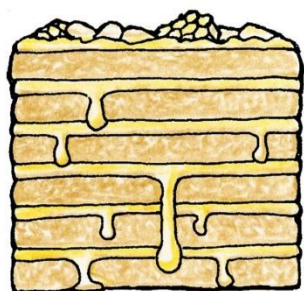


The Parish office will be closed on Bank Holiday Monday 31st August.

Also for Annual Leave Monday 7th September to Friday 11th September inc.

September

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September 2026

2 September	Wednesday	
1:00	Midweek Communion	St Patrick's
6 September	Sunday Trinity 14	(Green)
	Sunday School starts today	
10:00	Parish Communion	St Patrick's
11:30	Parish Communion	St Andrew's
9 September	Wednesday	
1:00	Midweek Communion	St Patrick's
13 September	Sunday Trinity 15	(Green)
10:00	Morning Prayer	St Patrick's
11:30	Morning Prayer	St Andrew's
14 September	Monday CMS IRELAND (Ibba Report)	at St Andrew's
7:30	Mothers' Union (for men <i>and</i> women) with the Quills	
16 September	Wednesday	
1:00	Midweek Communion	St Patrick's
20 September	Sunday Trinity 16	(Green)
10:00	Church Family at Worship	St Patrick's
11:30	Church Family at Worship	St Andrew's
23 September	Wednesday	
1:00	Midweek Communion	St Patrick's
27 September	Sunday Trinity 17	(Green)
10:00	Sunday Morning Prayer	St Patrick's
11:30	Sunday Morning Prayer	St Andrew's
7:00	Confirmation Service (Rural Deanery) with Bishop George Davison	St Patrick's
30 September	Wednesday	
1:00	Midweek Communion	St Patrick's
Advance Notice 11 October		
11:00 am	Harvest Thanksgiving	St Patrick's