



St Patrick's Parish News



Summer 2026

The Rector writes –

As we move further into the summer season, we give thanks for all that has been happening in the life of our Church over recent weeks. Our Easter Services were a real encouragement, as we gathered to celebrate the hope and joy of the risen Jesus together. It was wonderful to join with First & Second Broughshane for a great teaching week and to have our own special Maundy Thursday service ahead of a joyous Easter Sunday, as we welcomed visitors and families to celebrate the good news that Christ is risen!

One of the highlights recently was a shared Sunday lunch together after the service. It was such a lovely opportunity to spend time with one another beyond the pews — sharing food, conversation, laughter, and fellowship. These simple moments of community are such an important part of church life, helping us grow not only in faith but also in friendship.

We have also been delighted to see the Alpha Course running both in the evenings and mornings. It has been encouraging to gather with people exploring faith, asking honest questions, and discussing life, difficulty, meaning, and the person of Jesus in a relaxed and welcoming environment. Please do continue to pray for everyone attending and helping with Alpha over these weeks.

Alongside this, our Life Group has recently been working through *The Prayer Course* by 24-7 Prayer. It has been a rich and practical encouragement as we reflect on how prayer shapes our relationship with God and sustains us in everyday life. The course has sparked honest conversation, fresh encouragement, and a renewed desire to grow deeper in prayer together.

As we look ahead to the summer months, there is much to look forward to in the life of the Church. We are excited for opportunities to gather, welcome others, and continue growing together as a church family. Summer often brings a slightly different rhythm, but it also provides wonderful opportunities for community, hospitality, and outreach.

Thank you to everyone who continues to serve so faithfully in so many, different ways. Whether through hospitality, music, children's ministry, practical help, prayer, or simply encouraging one another, every contribution helps build up the life of the church. We pray that this summer season will be one of joy, refreshment, and continued growth in faith for us all.

With every blessing,
Marcus

Sundays

10.00am – Contemporary Worship & Sunday Club

11.00am – Coffee & Connect in the Hall

11.30am – Traditional Worship

Holy Communion will be celebrated at both Services on 1st Sunday of the month

Facebook and YouTube Weblinks are available on www.stpatricksbroughshane.com/online-sunday-service

Radio: Church Services are broadcast on short wave 27.60 Frequency 27 MHz

Services will continue to be available on Facebook, YouTube, the website and by telephone after 1pm on Sunday on **028 2517 0014** (*calls are charged at local rate*)

Wednesdays

**Together at Ten - Holy Communion (Form1) at 10:00am
With tea/coffee and cake afterwards
in the Stoney Room**



Well Done, Stuart!

Canon Stuart Lloyd completed 72 hours without food to raise funds for Christian Aid Week again this year. He raised an amazing £3357.75!

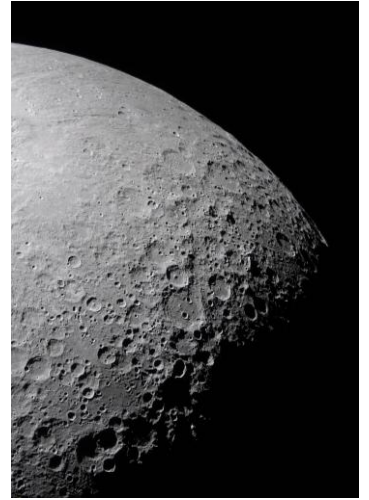
During his three fast days, Canon Lloyd sat in the mall outside James McNeill's store, collecting donations and raising awareness of Christian Aid's work. Thank you to all those who spent time keeping him company over this time.

A very big thank you to everyone who contributed to this tremendous achievement and especially to Stuart for his commitment to this worthy cause.



Space Beckons

I remember the night well: I was working as a student on a summer job in a pea factory in England, and I was very nearly sacked. On a night shift we were having a break in the canteen when the first manned landing on the Moon was on the television. Break time ended before the astronauts descended to the surface - and we wanted to witness it. When we finally returned to work, we were warned that next time it would result in dismissal! Fifty years on I was pleased to catch the launch of Artemis 2 just before dropping off to sleep. Weren't we all amazed at the views of Earth from space, and at the ingenuity of mankind that made this possible. The first Moonwalk was declared to be a giant step for mankind, and now humans have gone further than ever before passing, behind the Moon and venturing beyond.



Yet even this venture is tiny in the context of the vastness of our universe. Man's achievement is small in comparison to our God's work – the creator and sustainer of all that there is – the Lord of the Universe. This is the bigger picture. A children's song profoundly declares "*...Our God is great big God and He holds us in His hands...*". The prophet Isaiah, in Ch.55 v 9, similarly gives us the bigger picture "*... As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts...*". We see Earth differently from the Moon's perspective – we need to see humanity from God's perspective – the bigger picture.

Behind the Moon, Artemis 2 was cut off from any living connection for forty minutes – total isolation. Then connection resumed thanks to the advanced means of communication. Seeking to connect through outer space is to be celebrated, but what about connecting with the person beside us. We may get better at the first but seem to be failing often with the second. Yes, we should strive to cross frontiers but must not be isolated from each other. Space rightly beckons, but we should not let space and distance develop between one another or with our God, who still wants to hold us in His hands.

Stuart Lloyd



On 22nd April we were delighted to have Rhonda Hughes from 'Grace & Beauty Salon' to be our Guest speaker. We were privileged to hear her journey to faith and how God's grace had helped her build a 'little beauty haven' in the village. She described how grace had carried her to the beauty business, enabling her to bring all that she has learnt in the industry to her clients. Rhonda is a skin specialist and offers bespoke facials to clients in a relaxing environment.



She kindly gave a demonstration on Carolanne to show how important daily skin cleansing and moisturising routines are for our skin, the organic products used and the incredible boost of facials. Carolanne looked amazing!

As well as facials, Grace and Beauty offers skin assessments for clients, facial sculpting, lash lifts, brow shaping, manicures, pedicures and relaxing body massages.

It was a lovely evening, thanks to Rhonda's own grace and beauty! Our next Mothers' Union meeting will be on Wednesday 24th June at 8.00pm and the Speaker will be Rev Mark Reid, Chaplain to the Mission to Seafarers, who will give a talk on his work in Belfast.

All are welcome - do join us and join in!

Gail Logan Clements



St Patrick's Tots

Thursday 9.30 - 11.30
in the Church Hall

For children under 5
Parents, Grandparents
and Carers
£2 per family



Mum's and Tots group is looking for volunteers for a couple of hours on a Thursday morning. There is a flexible rota in place.

Please contact Violet Lucas for more information if you would be interested in helping out.



At Sunday Club we have been looking at stories from both the Old and New Testaments. The children enjoyed the edible crafts with the story of Samson and the games we played representing the story of how Jesus calmed the storm.



We all enjoyed our annual Easter Egg hunt with fun games and a lot of chocolate! We look forward to our annual water fight and BBQ which will be on Friday 12th June at 6.00pm.

We finish Sunday Club this year with our Children's Day Service on Sunday 14th June. We would love to see as many children and family members come together at this service.



Thanks

Sunday Club Leaders



**Sunday 14th June
11am - Children's Day
followed by bring &
share lunch**

**Confirmation Service
conducted by
The Bishop of Connor
the Rt Rev George Davison
at 6pm**



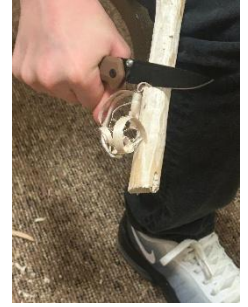
Explorers

To start the term there was a focus on mental health, with Broughshane hosting the Explorers mental health first aid. This took place over 3 weeks and covered managing one's own mental health and helping others.

Explorers were able to join with Scouts for Robert Burns Night. This meant that they could join in with the culinary creating of the Scouts. This also gave Explorers an opportunity for small-scale public speaking in front of their peers and Scouts.



During this time, we have also had various Duke of Edinburgh training trips getting ready for the various levels that the group are aiming to gain. To add to these outdoor skills, we have done some wood craft. This has included knife work and understanding how to use them safely. With these new



skills the Explorers made a wedge for splitting wood and whistle to attract attention in the forest.



We do come to a bit of a gap now in our programmes as the Explorers come to the exam time so please keep them in your thoughts at this time.

Andrew

Scouts

Last term's highlights include a trip to the Fire Station to learn all about Fire Safety. I was impressed with our youngsters' knowledge, answering questions from the firefighters. They were in awe of the mobile Command Board!

We also held our first Robert Burns Night when we cooked haggis, neeps and tatties with oatcakes and washed down with some Irn-Bru. One or two had a go at Scots by reciting some of his poems,

We finished off our Spring Term with Piece of Mind, a programme run by Inspire for school children to develop coping skills, strengthen resilience and promote mental health and wellbeing.



We then kicked off Summer Term with some Emergency Aid ahead of the District Emergency Aid Competition where the scouts' skills were tested with a variety of scenarios. Those who attended learned a lot from the evening and were awarded their Emergency Aid 3 badges.

We also attended the village's first Community Morning at the Community Centre where we were able to show visitors some of the skills they've learned, share their experiences with others who might be interested in scouting and most importantly, make s'mores!



We're finishing up the Term with some practical skills ahead of our Group Summer Camp, playing lots of outdoor games and working away at badgework to hopefully earn a few Chief Gold Scout Awards.

Hilary and Samantha

cubs

This spring term has been a busy one for the Cub Scouts. Highlights were taking part in the district hike around beautiful Glenariff, and a fun-filled 'Nerf' battle evening which proved to be very popular with the Cubs.



The Pack completed the Environment Badge by carrying out a litter pick along the Riverside Walk, helping to keep the local area tidy.

We would also like to warmly welcome several new Cubs who have recently moved up from

Beavers.

Ash & Chrissy

Beavers

This term Beavers have been working towards their Safety Badges. We have been learning about the Green Cross Code, water safety and 'stranger danger'. Beavers also received basic instruction on First Aid from a First Aid trainer.



In April Beavers attended the District Hike at Cullybackey River Walk, learning about the history of the location, and local flora and fauna.

In May Beavers headed to Crawfordsburn for the Annual Beaver Rally Day. They took part in crate building, the challenge course, arts and crafts and then made s'mores. This year's theme was STEM, and Beavers enjoyed interactive presentations from the Armagh Planetarium and W5.

In June, our Beaver, Max, will be receiving his Bronze award before moving up to Cubs in September. Well done, Max!

We have capacity for more Beavers in our Colony. Email saintpatricksscout@yahoo.com for more information.

Vanessa and Mags



Together @ Ten

Communion & Community

Wednesdays at 10am

followed by coffee & cake!



The Rainbow Guides have been out of this world this spring! As part of the 'Have Adventures' theme, we have been learning about the solar system.

Many of us followed the recent Artemis 2 NASA mission which circled the moon. This was a great interest point throughout our own 'explorations'.

The girls started by learning what it takes to be an astronaut. In addition to their knowledge, astronauts also need to be physically fit, have agility & dexterity and be able to problem solve.

Next, the girls learnt about how the earth orbits the sun, and the moon orbits the earth.

Finally, we launched an epic tour of all 8 planets. For each planet we played a game or did an experiment to learn interesting facts.

We will be winding down soon, but if you know a 4-7 year old girl who would like to join, be sure to visit www.girlguiding.org.uk.

Lori, Siobhan & Emma



Brownie Guide Unit

Brownies are in the middle of another busy and exciting term. We were delighted to welcome two new members, Abigail and Brooke.



At the start of the term, the girls helped plan the activities in which they would like to take part. They have been focusing on Skill Builders, including the '*All Creatures Great and Small*' activity, where they learnt about endangered animals around the world, the challenges they face, and how we can help protect them. There was also plenty of fun, including acting out animal movements!

The Brownies also enjoyed taking part in the Women's Irish FA Football Challenge. This gave the girls a great opportunity to experience the joy of football while building confidence, teamwork and new skills.



This term, we said goodbye to several Brownies who have completed their time in the unit and moved up to Guides. We will miss Imogen, Lottie and Alexandra, and we wish them every success in their new section.



We are also very proud of three Brownies who achieved their Gold Award (*the highest award in Brownies*) – Imogen, Lottie and Chloe. This is a fantastic achievement that reflects their hard work and dedication.

We are looking forward to 'Snore 'N' S'mores camp at Lorne with our Guides & Rangers in June.

If you would like to join us please speak to a leader or visit <https://go.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us/join-as-member/>

Jacqueline, Lynsey, Geraldine & Laura,



Our spring term was busy with crafting for Mother's Day and Easter. In anticipation of going camping this year, we had an evening of campfire songs when we, not only, revisited our favourites, but also learnt some new songs to share with the girls we meet at camp.

After the Easter break, we had a visit from some of Brownies who were almost ready to move up to Guides. They helped us to make sitters for camp weaving together folded newspaper for a soft seat. Geraldine kindly volunteered her sewing skills and covered them in material. Then we waterproofed them with plastic and duct tape. We learnt how to pack our camping gear to keep it watertight and tested our attempts with a watering can - thankfully everything remained dry!



the
by

Moving on from camp preparations, our creative sides were let loose on 'Tailor-made': we decorated cloth bags to show the things that are most important to us. As we love to eat, we chose 'Taste Testing' when we compared different foods and drinks of varying brands and prices, and ranked them before the leaders revealed which brands and prices were

which. We were surprised that some of our favourites were the supermarkets' own brands.

We have lots more camp preparation to do before we head away, but we cannot wait and hope the weather will be kind.



We welcomed Lottie, Imogen and Alexandra to guides and wish them well on their Guiding journey with us. As always if you would like to know more or to join us please speak to a leader or visit <https://go.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us/join-as-member/>

member/

Hannah, Geraldine & Laura



We completed the Skill Builder 'Campaign Codebreakers', exploring making change happen and using codes and puzzles. We continued working towards Theme Awards with 'Balance It Out' tested teamwork and creativity using limited resources. We designed album covers reflecting our personalities and interests. We also enjoyed making Mother's Day cards and crafts: card-making can be quite a challenge!



After Easter We completed 'Seizure Support', learning how to deal safely with people having a seizure. We focused on interview skills, identifying strengths and practising how to present ourselves confidently for future careers and opportunities. In a more light-hearted activity, we created

skipping rhymes inspired by the Ranger unit. We built a giant shelter in the hall, bringing along pool floats to help complete the structure, the giant dragon fruit float and inflatable kayak.



We enjoyed a special evening of fire and food, made firelighters, prepared cheesy potato cakes and cooked using methylated spirit-soaked salt burners. The feast of sausages and potato cakes was enjoyed by everyone.



Three Rangers completed their Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition in the Sperrins. Over three arduous days, a group of six successfully achieved their project whilst walking in

remote and challenging terrain.

Congratulations to everyone involved on a fantastic achievement. Special thanks go to James and John for all their help and support during the expedition.

Cathy & Geraldine



The Parish Magazine will be issued three times per year to coincide with school terms. The deadline for the next issue will be announced on the Church Facebook page and Church notices



Safeguarding Trust

"It is the policy of the Church of Ireland to set standards for the welfare of all children sharing in its ministry with a view to protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional harm."

We work according to this policy using the laid down Code of Practice. It is incumbent on St Patrick's to create a safe environment for children.

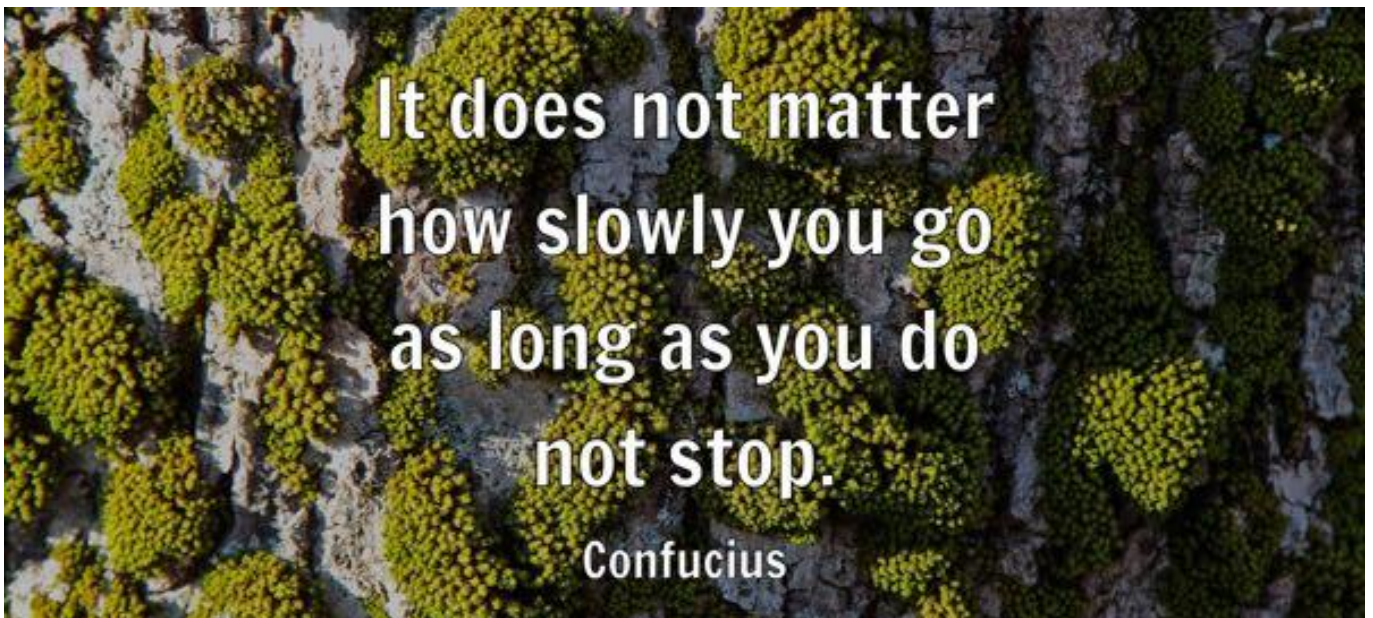
If you have any concerns relating to Safeguarding, contact one of the Safeguarding Panel below:

Marcus Hart
Sandra Adams

Vicky Thompson
Andy Kennedy

Who's Who Organisations

Sunday Club (Primary Schoolers)	Rainbows Lori Hartman Siobhan Davis	Beavers Mags Carson
Mothers' Union Gail Clements	Brownies Jacqueline McClintock Geraldine Linfood	Cubs Chrissy Moffett
Tots Violet Lucas	Guides Hannah Aldridge Geraldine Linfood	Scouts Hilary Arthur
	Rangers Cathy McCaig Geraldine Linfood	Explorers Derek McKillop



Who's Who at St Patrick's

Rector	Rev Marcus Hart
Honorary Secretary	Julie Thompson
Honorary Treasurer	Steven Ewing
Rector's Church Warden	Sandy Wilson
People's Church Warden	Beth Clyde
Rector's Glebe Warden	Freddie Patterson
People's Glebe Warden	Gavin Mark
Parish Administrator & Fire Warden	James Linford
Sanctuary Flowers	Beth Clyde
Catering Committee	Suzanne Beckett
Heating	Derek Mills-Westley
Magazine Editor	Geraldine Linford

Select Vestry

Rector, Church Wardens, Glebe Wardens,
Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer,
Suzanne Beckett, Anne Brownlee, Emma Erwin,
Geraldine Linford, Laura Montgomery,
Kathryn McGall, Derek McKillop, Richard Reade,
Vicky Thompson, Stephen Tuff, Stephen Young