



## THE DUNDALK GROUP OF PARISHES

Dundalk: St Nicholas' Dundalk; St Paul's Heynestown.

Ballymascanlan & Carlingford: St Mary's Ballymascanlan; St Andrew's Rathcor (Bush)

Crossmaglen: Creggan Parish Church

## NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2020

CONTACT DETAILS: Rev. Capt. Geoffrey Walmsley Tel: 087-4669806/042-9321402

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Safeguarding Trust is the Church of Ireland's policy to safeguard all children sharing in its ministry from all forms of harm and abuse (see [www.sg.ireland.anglican.org](http://www.sg.ireland.anglican.org)). Each parish has a panel whose task it is to oversee the implementation of Safeguarding Trust. The panel members in the Dundalk Group of Parishes are Rev Geoffrey Walmsley, Ken Donald (Ballymascanlan), Muriel Grills (Bush), Debbie Donaldson (Creggan), Trevor Patterson (Dundalk), and Alvin Coyle (Heynestown). If you experience, or are aware of, any form of child abuse through involvement in parish activities, please contact a member of the panel. Contact details are posted in all churches.

### Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I was observing a combine harvester in action in a field just lately. It was baling hay for animal use later. It is a common sight at this time of year as we move into the harvest season. We give many thanks to those involved with the harvest each year whether it be on the land or at sea. The harvest reminds us of a heart of thankfulness that we all should have for food on the table each day and thankfulness for other aspects of our welfare, such as, clothes on our bodies and warmth and shelter. Without each of these essentials we could not survive for very long.

We may not be able to celebrate the season of harvest as we normally do this year in church due to restrictions but our hearts of thankfulness should always be evident no matter what may unfold. As I watched the combine harvester I was reminded of the crops that grow wild in a field until they are brought together at harvest. In the case of the hay, the crop is taken from the open field and usually micro-managed into a rectangular bale. Jesus said, 'Let both grow together (wheat and weeds) until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn' (Matthew 13:30 NIV). There is a sense that we are all crop in the open field until harvest. This is a picture of the world and that one day we will have to give an account of our relationship with Christ as to whether we are harvested to eternal life or left as the chaff of the field that simply blows away or is discarded. This is the spiritual harvest of the soul that remains far from God until it is brought into the Kingdom of Heaven, until we become part of the harvested bale, if you will. The Matthean text is a sobering directive of the harvest of the soul and the separation of those still left in the field (world) with no salvation, from those who will enter the glory of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Without Jesus there is no salvation and we give thanks again at this harvest time for God's Son who has provided the way out of the world and escape from a lost eternity, through the cross. The harvest of our souls is the most important harvest of all. Are our souls firmly in Christ's hand? Through trust in Him are we secure in that 'bale' of salvation, rescued from the world and assured of a journey to heaven? Let's not be chaff that is separated from the crop and therefore has no eternal security but harvested crop that has been fully invested in Christ through faith.

*God bless you all.*

**Geoffrey**

## Rector's Reflections

*'Meeting around the scriptures'  
will be available online each  
Wednesday morning at 11am.*

## Online & Services - OCTOBER

### Week commencing 4th

Craggen -	9.30am MP2
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am MP2
Bush -	12noon MP2
Heynestown -	10.00am <b>Harvest - MP2</b>
Dundalk -	11.00am <b>Harvest - MP2</b>
Dundalk - ONLINE	7.30pm <b>Harvest - MP2</b>

### Week commencing 11th

Craggen -	9.30am <b>Harvest Family Service</b>
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am <b>Harvest - MP2</b>
Bush -	12noon NO SERVICE
Heynestown -	10.00am MP2
Dundalk -	11.00am MP2
Dundalk - ONLINE	7.30pm MP2

### Week commencing 18th

Craggen -	9.30am MP2
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am MP2
Bush -	12noon MP2
Heynestown -	10.00am MP1
Dundalk -	11.00am Family Service
Dundalk - ONLINE	7.30pm All-Age Service

### Week commencing 25th

Craggen -	9.30am MP2
Ballymascanlan -	10.45am MP2
Bush -	12noon MP2
Heynestown -	10.00am MP2
Dundalk -	11.00am MP2
Dundalk - ONLINE	7.30pm MP2

**The Service from Dundalk will be recorded for our online service at 7.30pm via the Green Church website or Dundalk Group of Parishes Facebook page.**

<https://stnicholas-greenchurchdundalk.com/recorded-service-at-11am>

<https://www.facebook.com/dundalkgroupogparishes/>

## HARVEST SERVICES 2020

<b>SUNDAY 4th October 10AM</b> ST PAULS, HEYNESTOWN. MP2 WITH HARVEST THEME	<b>SUNDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 11AM</b> ST NICHOLAS, DUNDALK. MP2 WITH HARVEST THEME
<b>SUNDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 9.30AM</b> CREGGAN PARISH CHURCH. FAMILY SERVICE WITH HARVEST THEME	<b>SUNDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 10.45AM</b> ST MARYS, BALLYMASCANLAN. MP2 WITH HARVEST THEME

# HARVEST SERVICES

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT HARVEST SERVICES:

DUE TO THE CURRENT CLIMATE AND RESTRICTIONS THERE WILL BE NO SPECIAL HARVEST SERVICES THIS YEAR. HOWEVER, EACH CHURCH WILL RECOGNISE THE GIVING THANKS FOR THE HARVEST AT THE USUAL TIME FOR EACH CHURCH AND ON THE RESPECTIVE SUNDAYS EAR MARKED ON THE NEWSLETTER. THIS IS TO MINIMISE ANY TRANSFERENCE OF PEOPLE ATTENDING DIFFERENT PLACES OF WORSHIP AS MAY BE COMMON AT HARVESTIDE AND THEREFORE TO CURB THE UNWANTED PRACTICE OF HAVING TO TURN ANYONE AWAY DUE TO RESTRICTED NUMBERS AND SEATING WITHIN CHURCH BUILDINGS AT PRESENT.



IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE IF THERE IS A MINIMUM OF ITEMS DISPLAYED IN THE CHURCHES IN KEEPING WITH COVID-19 REGULATIONS AND THOSE WHO MAY BE DISPLAYING, PLEASE TAKE THE ITEMS HOME WITH YOU AGAIN. THERE IS TO BE NO DISPERSAL OF ANY ITEMS TO OTHERS. THERE WILL BE NO TEA/REFRESHMENTS SERVED AT ANY OF THE HARVEST SERVICES.



IN THE CASE OF ST ANDREWS, BUSH, IT IS NOTED THAT THERE IS **NO SERVICE IN THE CHURCH ON SUNDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER.**

AS HARVEST SERVICES ARE VERY WELL ATTENDED AT ST ANDREWS EACH YEAR, IT HAS UNFORTUNATELY, FOR ST ANDREWS, BECOME NECES-

SARY TO TRANSFER THE SERVICE TO ST MARYS, BALLYMASCANLAN THAT DAY. RESTRICTED SEATING ALREADY IN PLACE IN ST ANDREWS WILL NOT ALLOW THE NORMAL ATTENDANCE AT HARVEST TO OCCUR AS THERE DEFINITELY WILL BE PEOPLE HAVING TO BE TURNED AWAY.

**MANY APOLOGIES FOR THIS.**



To update our Sunday schools and youth group on possible return in meeting, we have no further protocol at the moment. Sadly, we cannot reopen these ministries at present due to restrictions but we await further direction from the Church of Ireland and we will keep you posted on any developments. Children, young people and their families are very welcome to attend family services in the meantime with the usual measures in place within church.



## FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

- Give thanks to God for the harvest and all that is provided for us
- Bishop Isesomo and the diocese of North Kivu, D R Congo. Also, Bishop Suheil and the diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East
- Pray for our governments and wisdom in decisions during the ongoing pandemic
- Those suffering with Covid-19 and other illnesses and conditions at this time
- Those in hospital, those cared for at home and those in nursing care
- The unemployed, furloughed and the economy
- The homeless and destitute
- Our children, young people and all who staff educational establishments
- Those who grieve and are bereaved

## FROM THE REGISTER:

- ♦ Mrs Martha Dawson was buried in Newtownhamilton Presbyterian church on 18<sup>th</sup> September.

## How to access all online services:

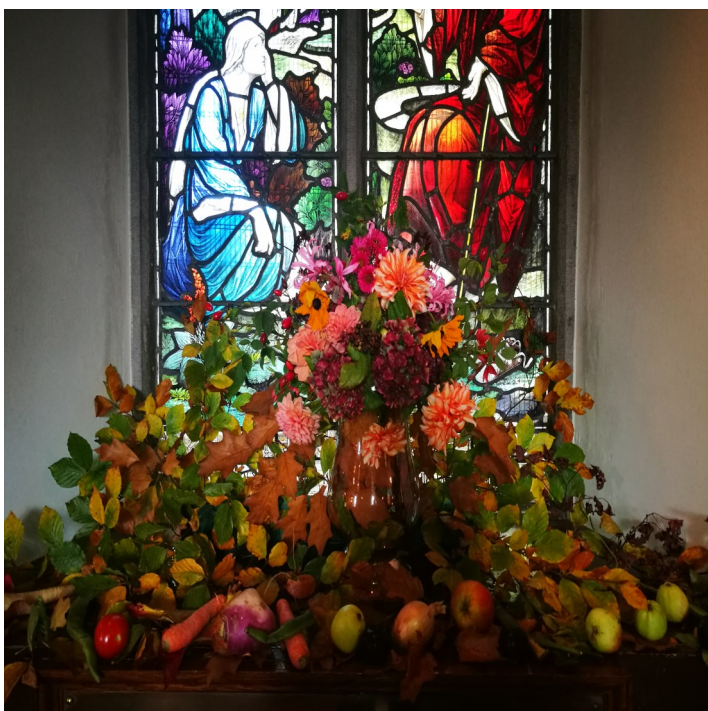
(copy & paste the below links)

- ⇒ Pass on the newsletter email address to join our mailing list. [dundalkcoinews-letter@gmail.com](mailto:dundalkcoinews-letter@gmail.com)
- ⇒ Visit the St. Nicholas' Parish Church website <https://stnicholas-greenchurchdundalk.com/recorded-service-at-11am>
- ⇒ **SUBSCRIBE** to our **youtube** channel <https://youtu.be/03WmMqrCfgo>
- ⇒ Find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/dundalkgroupogparishes/>





# HARVEST SERVICES through the Years in all our Churches





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