

## WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

Today we are delighted to welcome Baby Alfie as he becomes a member of his church family through baptism. We pray for Alfie, his parents, godparents, and wider family. *Creator God*,

Thank you for the gift of the life of this child, Alfie, who is to be baptised today.

May your blessing of peace and joy be with him and protect him all his days.

We make this prayer in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

#### THOUGHT FOR TODAY



The term "God's house" is sometimes used to describe the church building.

But does God really need a house? Is the whole universe not his "house"? Thankfully, the readings in our service today give us some guidance as we explore the pros and cons of this concept.

# NEXT SUNDAY 11am – Daybreak Service

Please book a place with Elaine on 07860809598 or mention it to the wardens today. Online services continue on the St Canice's YouTube channel. An audio CD is also available – just ask the Rector. Please send your photos for the "Virtual Parish" by Thursday to alanmcelreavey@btinternet.com

#### PASTORAL CARE

The Rector is now back from holiday. Clergy are permitted to do calls outside, if there is a particular situation needing urgent pastoral help, and to conduct services in nursing homes. Clergy still cannot normally visit in hospital but would appreciate being informed when anyone becomes a patient.

## **PRAYER CHAIN**

If you would like confidential prayer for anyone (including yourself), please call/text Ann 07547202649.

## BUILDING FUND

Thanks to those who have already responded positively to the launch of our Building Fund. If you were not able to get along to our Gift Evening, we encourage you to return your Response Form over the next few weeks. And remember...



#### PERSONAL DETAILS

Over the summer, we plan to update our church records. If you have recently joined the parish or have a new address, phone number, or email address, please let the Parish Administrator, Willie Robb, know. He can be contacted by phone 07719516879 or email wjr.robb@gmail.com Your personal details will be kept confidential in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

### FREEWILL OFFERING ENVELOPES

We recently gave some unused envelopes to parishioners which have numbers starting at 90. Some people are placing their gifts in the envelope but are not writing either their name or FWO number on it. Please let Elaine know if you are using these envelopes so that she can make sure your donations are properly recorded against your name. Thank you.

# **NEW BEGINNINGS THRIFT SHOP**

We are closing the Main Street shop by the end of July and are in the process of clearing it out. If anyone could help, including those with cars and trailers, please let Elaine know -07860809598 or <u>elaine.way25@gmail.com</u>. JAM

Our live interactive Sunday School session continues through the summer. Email Claire eglinton.youthworker@gmail.com

## N: VISION

The summer edition has been received in the parish and will be distributed over the next week. Lots of interesting articles, including one by Eva Wright, and one by the Rector. Something to look forward to!

#### SUMMER STRETCH

The Children's Ministry Network has put together an interactive Compassion Challenge. There are 5 challenges for families to take part in over the summer. For more information and to see the challenges click here.

**STATEMENT ON LEGACY ISSUES** The Most Revd John McDowell, Archbishop of Armagh, has issued a statement on the UK Government's planned approach to the Legacy of the Troubles. To read the statement in full, please visit <u>www.derryandraphoe.org</u> Please ask the Rector if you would like a printed copy.

# A PRAYER FOR FLOOD VICTIMS

It is almost 4 years since we suffered devastating flooding in our village. The impact on our church and the wider community was huge. Our prayers are with those in Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands who have suffered such deadly flooding over the past couple of days.

"Father God, we pray for all the areas impacted by these devastating floods. We remember particularly the families who are bereaved, and those missing or injured. Please be with them and surround them with your comfort and strength. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen."

### The Collect and Readings

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# 2 SAMUEL 7: 1-14 (edited)

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.' But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar? Now therefore you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from following sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went. I will appoint a place so that my people Israel may live in their own place and disturbed more. Moreover, be no the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

## MARK 10: 13-16

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

## A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY



New Horizon will be holding an online conference, "People of Peace" between 9 – 13 August. Details at <u>www.newhorizon.org.uk</u>

#### THIS WEEK'S BIBLE VERSE

You are the living stones that are being built into God's house, called to offer spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable through Jesus Christ. (I Peter 2:5)

## OCCASIONS

Please let us know of your special life events.

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