

St Canice's News

21 April 2024



Easter 4

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP



News reports sometimes refer to "those who witnessed the scene of the crime." None of us would want to be that kind of witness. But "being witnesses" is the theme of our readings today. Naturally, we may ask: Witnesses of what, and how might we witness?

NEXT SUNDAY 28 April

10am: JAM

11am: Morning Prayer

EASTER GENERAL VESTRY

At last week's EGV, the following were appointed by the Rector: Elaine Way as Rector's Churchwarden, and Derek Thompson, Rector's Glebewarden. Elected to serve as Vestry members were Wendy Deacon and Ernest Moore as People's Churchwarden and People's Glebewarden respectively, Olga Cathers, Maeve Curry, Charlie Donnell, Becky Driver, Willie Driver, Valerie Faith, Tracy Jennings, Melonie Montgomery, Daphne Pentland, and Roberta Sinclair. Our Annual Accounts for year ending 31 Dec 2023 will be placed on the NI Charity Commissioner's website shortly.

CLARIFICATION

At last week's EGV, Willie Robb asked if the income recorded of £690 for graves fully reflected the money received during the year. This was reviewed immediately after the meeting, and the figure confirmed as correct. The analysis was shared with Willie, who accepts the clarification.

YOUTH

SENIOR FUEL youth club on 12th May 6:30-8:00pm in the Presbyterian Hall. All of secondary school age very welcome.

ALPHA COURSE

The Alpha course resumes on Wednesday, 24th April at the Faughanvale Day Centre (beside the Vale Centre), Greysteel at 7.30pm. It's not too late to join us – we're getting new attendees every week. The sessions are a most enjoyable exploration of Christianity.

PRAYER CHAIN

For confidential prayer for anyone (including yourself), please call/text Ann 07547202649.

FUNDRAISING GROUP

The Rector was delighted to announce last week that we will start work on the new Parish Centre soon. He has his first planning meeting with the builder and architect on 30th April. Canon Paul also explained that he is keen to set up a group specifically to raise money to close the gap in our financial plan. Might you consider joining this group? Please let the Rector know if you are interested. Thanks.

CONCERT

Many thanks to all who supported our "Beauty for Brokenness" concert last week, both the artists and the audience. Feedback is overwhelmingly positive. Thanks also to those who provided tray bakes and served the supper. After expenses the church has received £500 in proceeds.

SMARTIES

In total we collected £558.66 from the tubes of Smarties, which has been added to our Building Fund. Thanks to Jacqueline McCready and Pamela Harvey.

GOOD NEWS

We have been notified by the Representative Church Body, Dublin, that they are giving us a further grant of £15,000 towards our new Parish Centre. It is unusual for the RCB to give more than one grant to a parish, and we are grateful to them for their confidence in us.

FUNERAL

Today at 2.30pm, a funeral service will be held for Mr Trevor Lewers, who sadly died on Friday past. Our prayers and sympathies are offered to his partner, Breidge, and his children, Joanne, Jill, and John.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

CONFIRMATION

Given that the Rector plans to stay a bit longer before retirement, there may be opportunity to prepare another group for Confirmation if there are sufficient numbers. Please email Canon Paul at stcaniceschurch@gmail.com this week to indicate interest and we will take it from there.

FAMILY FUN DAY

for Children with additional needs and their families - Saturday 27th April in Gortin Glen Forest Park at 10:30am. For more information see the Rector.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



OCCASIONS

Happy birthday this week to Jean Robinson and Julie Baldrick. Please let the Rector know of your special occasions.

The Collect and Readings

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: Give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Acts 3: 12-19

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer, at three in the afternoon. Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going in. When he saw Peter and John, he asked them for money. Peter looked straight at him, and said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." He jumped to his feet and went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. Then all the people were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. The next day the rulers and the teachers of the law had Peter and John brought before them: "By what power or what name did you do this?" they asked. Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said, "It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to us by which we must be saved." Then the rulers commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, "We cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

Luke 24: 36b-48

While they were talking Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.* They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

(Please note we swapped the readings for last Sunday and this week's)

RECTOR

Canon Paul's day off this week is Thursday.

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