

Saintfield Parish  
Saints Alive Magazine  
February 2026



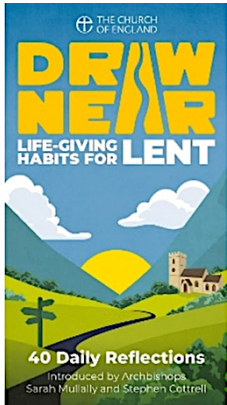


**Dear Friends,**

For Lent this year, we are going to use  
The Church of England's theme to

## **Draw Near: Life-giving habits for Lent.**

**Two books will be available in Church.**  
**one for adults                      one for children**



These resources have at their heart the theme of a 'rhythm of life' – habits and patterns which help us grow as disciples of Christ day by day, especially as we prepare to celebrate the great mystery of God's saving love at Easter.

During Lent, reflections are centred around a summary of the Christian Way (see opposite) from *Common Worship*, which identifies six activities essential to our calling as disciples. Each week a different contributor explores a different aspect of Christian discipleship –

- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. worshipping together, | <b>Why we need Church</b>    |
| 2. praying,              | <b>How we breathe prayer</b> |
| 3. exploring the Bible,  | <b>How Jesus is our more</b> |
| 4. sharing communion,    | <b>How all are united</b>    |
| 5. offering service      | <b>How to bless all</b>      |
| 6. sharing good news     | <b>Why we invite others</b>  |

Draw Near is all about teaching us how we can cultivate the habits and practices that will draw us nearer to God. And we will find that, in doing so, God will draw nearer to us, too.

Let us use these readings, prayers and actions each day during this 250<sup>th</sup> Lent of Saintfield Parish. In Holy Week this year, we have guest speakers who are going to share what 'Drawing Near' means to them through the truth of their Holy Week, Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday.

I invite everyone to draw near this Lent, that the nearness of God, will open even more, minds, doors and hearts for the way we journey with Jesus. Amen

**Books will be at back of Church  
or can be delivered.**

### **Affirmation of the Christian Way**

Use every day in Lent or begin on  
1 February especially in Church worship

Take a few moments and simply read  
and respond by asking God what more  
your walk with Jesus can be more.

As we follow the Way of Christ,  
we affirm every day the presence of God  
among us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

God calls us to share in worship.  
*Jesus said, where two or three are  
gathered in my name,  
I am there among them.*

**Me: Jesus, you are the Way:  
guide me on my journey.**

God calls us to share in prayer.  
*Jesus said, remain in me,  
and I will remain in you.*

**Me: Jesus, you are the Way:  
guide me on my journey.**

God calls us to share the Scriptures.  
*Jesus met his disciples on the road  
and opened the Scriptures to them.*

**Me: Jesus, you are the Way:  
guide me on my journey.**

God calls us to share in communion.  
*Jesus said,  
do this in remembrance of me.*

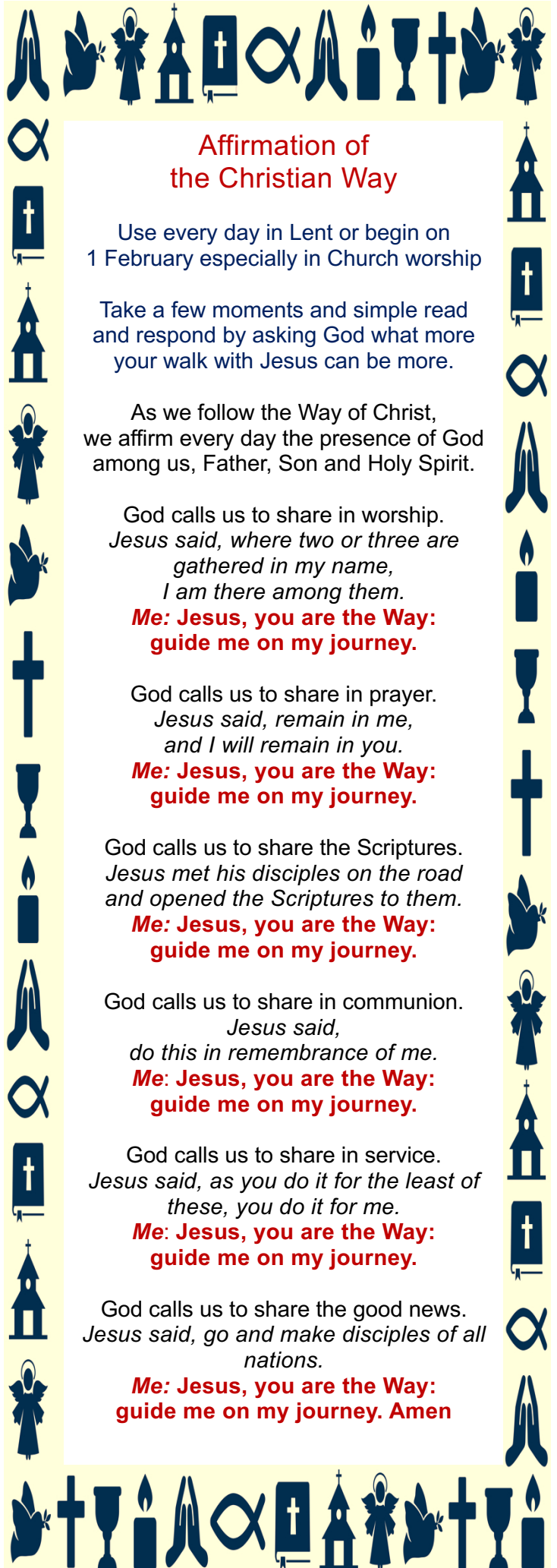
**Me: Jesus, you are the Way:  
guide me on my journey.**

God calls us to share in service.  
*Jesus said, as you do it for the least of  
these, you do it for me.*

**Me: Jesus, you are the Way:  
guide me on my journey.**

God calls us to share the good news.  
*Jesus said, go and make disciples of all  
nations.*

**Me: Jesus, you are the Way:  
guide me on my journey. Amen**



# FEBRUARY

**Sunday 1** Epiphany 4  
8.30am Holy Communion (Trad)  
10.00am Family Communion  
Ephesians 2:1-10

**Sunday 8** Epiphany 5  
8.30am Holy Communion (Trad)  
10.00am Morning Worship: Ephesians 2:11-22  
**(Foodbank Sunday)**

**11.00am REFRESH : Superheroes  
Samson**

**Sunday 15.** Epiphany 6  
8.30am Holy Communion (Trad)

**10.00am SPACE in Parish Hall  
Superheroes: Ruth**

**Ash**  
**Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion Service**

**Sunday 22** Lent 1  
8.30am Holy Communion (Trad)  
10.00am Morning Worship  
Ephesians 3:14-21

**11.00am REFRESH: Superheroes  
King David**

**Baptism of Bertie Huston**  
**Sunday Jan 4**

**Baptism of Angus Rea**  
**Sunday 25 Jan**



## February Rotas

1st **Help Needed**

8th **Help Needed**

15th **SPACE Service in Parish Hall**

22nd **Help Needed**



## Flowers Rota

1st **Marion Edwards**

8th **Jill Shaw-O'Doherty**

15th **Rosemary Armstrong & Jean Perrin**

22nd **Hilary Young**



## In sympathy

### Gibson Peak

**30 December 2025**

Gibson was a very well known Saintfield personality. His passing was very sudden and he will be deeply missed by Linda (His wife) Jonathan and Barry. Our prayers are with them all.



### Wenda & Chris Pollock and family

Both Wenda and myself want to thank you for all your support and kindness shown at this sad time through the passing of Wenda's Dad, Alex. Alex had struggled with dementia over the past 7 years and sadly after a short spell in Hospital, he passed away on January 11<sup>th</sup>. We keep Gwen (his wife) in our prayers as well as the whole family.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Sunday  
22 March**

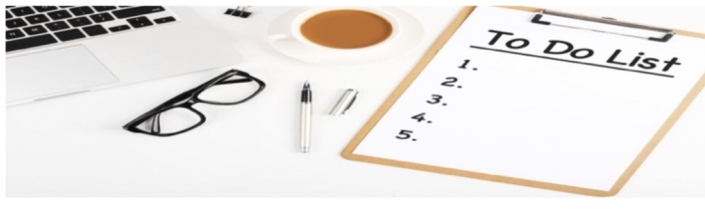
## 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Parish Lunch after Morning Worship:

We will be opening a list to compile names of all who would like to be at this lunch.

So, look out for your letter in 1<sup>st</sup> week of February.



## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES: PARISH HALL / UPPER AREA



### **Mondays**

9.30am Pitter Patter (Main Hall) Mums & Tots  
**Half Term 9 February**

- 10.30am Craft & Chatter (Upper Area)
- 6.30pm Rainbows (off Half Term 9 February) (Woodrow Room)
- 6.30pm Brownies (Main Hall)

### **Tuesdays**

6.45pm Pause & Restore (Upper Area)

- Bowls 7.30pm

### **Wednesdays**

8.00am - 8.30am Slimming World Weigh In  
9.00am Class (Woodrow Room)

1.30pm – 4.30pm Patricia's Sewing Class  
7 / 21 (Upper Area)

- 6.00pm & 7.00pm Broadway Boogie Fitness (Main Hall)
- Badminton Club 8.00pm.

### **Thursdays**

- 9.30 Happy Hatchlings
- 10.00am - 12.45pm Patricia's Sewing Class  
5/12/19/26 (Upper Area)
- 2.00pm - 4.00pm Ladies Hen Shed
- 6.45 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts (Parish Hall)

### **Fridays**

- 10.00am – 1.00pm Patricia's Sewing class.  
Back 13/27 (Upper Area)
- 5.30pm Inspire Dance Company (Main Hall)

### **Holy Communion Wednesdays**

Parish Church 10.00am

### **Women's Institute**

Wednesday 11 February @ 7.45pm (Monthly)

### **Wednesday Welcome 10.30am – 12.30pm**

February 4/18

### **Mothers' Union (Monthly)**

**Tuesday 3 February**

**1.30pm Woodrow Room**

### **Select Vestry**

10 March Tuesday @ 7.30pm  
(Woodrow Room)



### **Alan Higgins**

For just over 5 years, Alan has been sharing with us in Church Worship once a month and in the Summer. He has been leading and preaching and sadly on Jan 25, it was his last Sunday with us. We pray that Alan will be blessed as steps down and we thank God for him and Linda with us.



# Christmas Extra





# REFRESH

## Superheroes!!

What superpower would you like to have? Would you like to be able to fly, have super strength or maybe the ability to become invisible?

Would your power help yourself or other people?



A hero is someone you look up to and admire. It is someone you want to be like. Jesus had the superpower of healing people and was able to perform miracles, but his greatest power was his ability to save us so we can live with him in heaven. We should try and be like Jesus and look up to him as our hero.

### Jesus the fearless hero.

Children live in a frightening world and often feel powerless. They don't know who they should trust and the media are always telling them about the bad things that are happening in the world. Children are drawn to fearless individuals because they want to be protected. They need a fearless hero to look up to and that hero should be Jesus. When faced with Satan himself, Jesus was able to stand up to evil and temptation.



Even when faced with death he was able to triumph. When faced with a severe storm Jesus remained calm and protected the disciples. Jesus provides children with examples of triumph over evil and protection in the face of danger. Jesus is a superhero worth following!

### Jesus the superhero

Children are drawn to superstars they see on TV and social media. Football heroes and pop sensations. Sometimes these people have questionable lifestyles that make them controversial and draw attention to them. Yet these are the people our children are looking to as role models. Children see Tik Tok and other social media platforms as a ticket to fame and fortune. They want to dress like the Superstar and model their behaviour. They want to be part of the 'in group'.

Unlike these people, Jesus was humble in his public life; he didn't offer people quick fixes and easy paths to fame and fortune. Yet people did still follow him. Jesus is the superstar we want our children to follow today. He is still talked about around the world and more widely recognised than any other person over the centuries. He is worthy of our worship and time.

### Jesus the problem solver

Children are curious by nature and enjoy the challenges of problem solving. They are drawn to people who appear to have all the answers. Heroes who are problem solvers inspire children to create a better future. Jesus faced many problems in his life but never shied away because of fear or doubt. He used his skills to beat the toughest of situations. He calmed a storm, fed 5 thousand people and made water into wine saving a wedding feast!!

### Sundays

**Feb 8 REFRESH**

**SAMSON**

**Feb 15 SPACE**

**Ruth**

**Feb 22 REFRESH**

**King David**

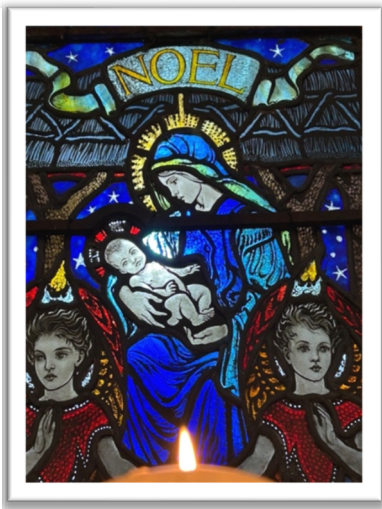




**Saturday 7 March**

**Gospel Windows  
10.30am**

County Down is fortunate to have two fine windows created by Karl Parsons who was one of the leading twentieth-century English stained glass artists associated with the Arts and Crafts movement.



The two windows date from the 1920s and are the only examples of his work on the island of Ireland, and are located a relatively short distance apart from each other in St John Baptist Church of Ireland, Helen's Bay and the Church of Saintfield.



**Dr David Caron is giving a talk on the story behind the windows, their symbolism and their uniqueness**

David Caron's PhD research at Trinity College Dublin focused on Michael Healy and the stained glass artists of An Túr Gloine.

He was one of the three original compilers of the Gazetteer of Irish stained glass in 1988, and was editor and principal author of the revised and expanded edition in 2021.

His book, Michael Healy, 1873-1941: An Túr Gloine's stained glass pioneer, was published by Four Courts Press in 2023. His most recent book, just published, is Dublin's Stained Glass – a guide to the finest twentieth-century windows. He is currently researching a book on the best of Ulster's twentieth-century stained glass.

**This is a free event and there will be light refreshments served afterwards.**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

**Saturday 7 March 10.30am**

The story of our Stained-Glass Window  
Dr. David Caron:  
Churches National Trust



**Sunday 22 March 11.00am**

**Our 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Worship**  
Preacher: Archbishop of Armagh  
The Most Reverend John McDowell  
Followed by a Celebration Parish Lunch



**Holy Week & Easter: Drawing Near**

Every Evening 7.30pm Guest Speakers who will share what Drawing Near to God means to them through struggles and joy. Monday 31 March – Good Friday. This leads to Easter Sunday.

**Saturday 13 June**

10.00am – 4.00pm  
Saintfield Parish/Community  
History Day



**September**

**Visitation from our partner church in Bolivia**

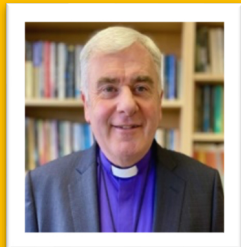


**Friday 9 October 7.30pm**

New Irish Arts Concert  
Church

**Sunday 11 October 10.00am**

250th Harvest Thanksgiving  
Bishop of Down & Dromore  
Rt. Rev. David McClay



**Sunday 8 November 10.00am**

Remembrance Sunday involving  
community poppies

**Friday 4 – Sat 5 – Sun 6 December**

Christmas Tree Festival in Church

**Sunday 20 Dec**

Christmas Carols & Worship  
Wellington Silver Band



## CONTACTS

### Vicar

Rev Chris Pollock  
07519668747  
[vicar@saintfieldparish.org](mailto:vicar@saintfieldparish.org)



### Parish Church Office



Office Administrator: Sally Milligan  
02897 519653  
[office@saintfieldparish.org](mailto:office@saintfieldparish.org)

Sally will be off from Monday 9 February to 23 February inclusive. The office will be open Tues – Thursday and we will try to answer needs as they arise.

**Tuesday - Friday**  
9.00am - 2.00pm  
(Fri @ 12.30pm)

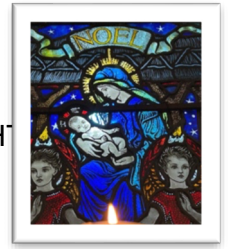
**Church House,  
45 Main Street,  
Saintfield**

**BT24 7AB**



### Church Sexton (ON LEFT)

Ian Gordon  
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[sexton@saintfieldparish.org](mailto:sexton@saintfieldparish.org)



### Graveyard Convenor (ON RIGHT)

William Drury 02897 561451



### Hon Sec Vestry

Stephen Erskine  
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### Magazine Editor

Leonard Hill  
[magazine@saintfieldparish.org](mailto:magazine@saintfieldparish.org)

**Material for March 2026 to be with Leonard  
by 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2026**



### Safeguarding Contacts

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Or Chris Pollock (Vicar)