



SAINTFIELD PARISH CHURCH

CHRISTMAS

Tree Festival

4 – 6 DECEMBER 2026

Christmas Woodland

Celebrating Community,
Creativity and Christmas

OPENING TIMES



FRIDAY
4 DECEMBER

12 NOON – 9.00 PM



SATURDAY
5 DECEMBER

12 NOON – 6.00 PM



SUNDAY
6 DECEMBER

COMMUNITY CAROLS
AT 4.00 PM



Everyone Welcome



• A FESTIVE DISPLAY OF CREATIVITY AND COMMUNITY •

SAINTFIELD PARISH CHURCH

Dear Friends

Over the past month, so much has happened in our world that at times all we can do is pray. The recent situation in Northern Ireland recently focused both Archbishops of the Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic Church to “ask all Christians, and all people of good will, on the island and beyond, to pray for peace, healing and reconciliation at this time”

They added, “*The significance of the Prayer of Saint Francis is that it asks for the grace to bring love where there is hatred, pardon where there is offence, and hope where there is despair. This prayer offers a way to pray, and a challenge to live: to let the love of God and neighbour shape our words and actions,*”

We will use this prayer on our Worship on All Saints Sunday 1 November to deepen the need for Peace as essential for Northern Ireland and our World. Pray this prayer every day and allow its words to change us that we might change the world.

Chris



On Harvest Sunday we raised

£2,065

for Nepal.

This was a fantastic response. Well done everyone . We also had lots of food for Ballynahinch Food bank. They were amazed at the generosity of Saintfield Parish, and these donations will be such a blessing.

Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is despair, hope;
and where there is sadness, joy.
Divine Master, grant that I may
not so much seek to be consoled
as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and in dying that we are born
to eternal life.

Ongoing Tower Repairs:

Well done everyone, through your donations and grants we have raised **£63k** which will cover the cost of the project.

The scaffolding is now in place and the repairs have begun. We estimate that the project will be finished by the week ending 13 November.

As you can see, the turrets are now being put back in place with the restoration of the stonework achieved.

Next, comes the lead and asphalt material to protect the Tower surface.





Sunday	1	All Saints Sunday
8.30am		Holy Communion (Trad)
10.00am		Family Communion
Sunday	8	Remembrance Sunday
8.30am		Holy Communion (Trad)
10.00am		Remembrance (Plate Collection)
RUC Benevolent Fund and Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal		
11.00am		REFRESH
Sunday	15	
8.30am		Holy Communion (Trad)
10.00am		S.P.A.C.E. (Parish Hall)



Sunday	22	Christ the King Sunday
8.30am		Holy Communion (Trad)
10.00am		Morning Worship

Diocesan Theme on Stewardship will introduce next year as part of a new 7-year Diocesan Plan

11.00am REFRESH

Sunday	29	Advent Sunday (Hope)
8.30am		Holy Communion (Trad)
10.00am		Morning Worship
11.00am		REFRESH



2nd Sunday every month the Food Bank need from us.

Food

Tinned meat, Tinned fish, Tinned vegetables, Tinned fruit,
Tinned tomatoes, Baked beans, Soup
Pasta and pasta sauce, Rice, Cereal, Long-life milk
Tea and coffee, Biscuits

Toiletries

Shampoo, Shower gel/soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste,
Toothbrushes

Household

Washing-up liquid, laundry detergent
General-purpose cleaning products, Toilet rolls

Thanks



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES: PARISH HALL / UPPER AREA



Mondays

9.30am Pitter Patter (Main Hall) Mums & Tots

10.30am Craft & Chatter (Upper Area)

6.30pm Rainbows

6.30pm Brownies (Main Hall)

Tuesdays

6.45pm Pause & Restore (Upper Area)

Bowls 7.30pm (Main Hall)

Wednesdays

8.00am - 8.30am Slimming World Weigh In

9.00am Class (Woodrow Room)

10.30am Wednesday Welcome (Upper Area)
Nov 11/25

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

6.00pm & 7.00pm Broadway Boogie Fitness
(Main Hall)

Badminton Club 8.00pm (Main Hall)

Thursdays

9.45 Happy Hatchlings. (Woodrow Room)

10.00am - 12.45pm Patricia's Sewing Class
(Upper Area) Every Week

2.00pm - 4.00pm Ladies Hen Shed
(Upper Area)

6.45pm Beaver, Cubs
8.00pm Scouts

Fridays

9.30am Boogie Bounce (Main Hall)

10.00am – 1.00pm Patricia's Sewing class.
(Upper Area)

Holy Communion in Church Wednesdays @10.00am

Sadly, we do not have access to the Church during the week so we will not be able to worship on Wednesdays until the Tower project is finished.

Women's Institute Monthly 2nd Wednesday @7.45pm 11th November

Mothers' Union (Monthly) 1st Tuesday 7.30pm 3rd November

Select Vestry Meeting 2nd Monday @7.45pm Monday 9th November (Upper Area)

Saintfield Parish Hall Bowling (come along and get stuck in) Every Tuesday 7.30pm

Saintfield Parish Hall Badminton (come along and enjoy) Every Wednesday 8.00pm

We had a super night with New Irish Arts. It will be some time before we have such a concert again and a full hall. Thank you to everyone who came, invited others to come and who helped on the night.





It's beginning to feel a lot like.. Christmas Tree Festivals!!!!

Not long to go now and we need your help.

At each Session, we need helpers for:

tea/coffee/treats;
helping people
navigate the trees;
setting up and
taking down trees;
and just being there.

Sheets are in Church and Office. Please sign up and join in.

Contact Wenda 07917230631 for more information.

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Everyone Welcome

A FESTIVE DISPLAY OF CREATIVITY AND COMMUNITY

SAINTFIELD PARISH CHURCH

Halloween

modern-day name of October 31st holiday involving trick-or-treating

VS

All Hallows' Eve

old-fashioned name of Halloween

You see ghosts, ghouls, zombies, vampires, glowing pumpkins, and bowls of candy at every establishment. You know Halloween is right around the corner, and it's time for fun scares, gentle mischief, and cavities for your dentist to worry about in a few months. But why do some people refer to this spooky holiday as All Hallows' Eve? And what is a hallow?

Occurring on October 31 every year, Halloween (pronounced "hal-uh-WEEN") is a holiday that usually includes wearing a costume, trick-or-treating, bobbing for apples, watching scary movies, and otherwise enjoying the scary merriment (scary-ment?) of the autumn season.

The origins of Halloween were far more sacred and go as far back as 2,500 years ago with the Pagan festival Samhain (pronounced "saw-win").

Samhain comes from Old Irish samain, which meant "summer's end." The festival marked the transition from the harvest season to the beginning of winter and lasted from October 31 to November 1.

On old Pagan and Celtic calendars, November 1 was the beginning of the new year and was traditionally considered a holy day. Christians eventually adopted that idea, and in the eighth century, Pope Gregory III proclaimed November 1 a day for honouring all saints and martyrs: All Saints' Day, which was also known as All Hallows' Day.



It used to be the 'Turnips' instead of 'pumpkins' back in the day.

The word Halloween was initially written as Hallow E'en or Hallow-e'en, which meant Holy Eve. In other words, it was the eve of a holy day. The -een in Halloween is a squished together form of e'en, which is a contracted form of even. Even is an old-timey shortened form of evening.

All Hallows' Eve is interchangeable with Halloween. As a noun, hallow means "saint" or "holy person." Outside of its roots in Halloween and All Hallows' Eve, hallow is a largely obsolete word (unless you're a Harry Potter fan), so it's okay if you didn't know or don't use it in your everyday conversations.

The Meaning Behind the Remembrance Poppy

More than just a flower – the poppy is a powerful symbol of sacrifice, hope and remembrance.



The Green Leaf

The green leaf represents the hope for a peaceful future and the renewal of life after the devastation of war. (11am)



The Red Petals

The red petals represent the blood of the soldiers who gave their lives in war. They also symbolise the courage, sacrifice and enduring spirit of all who served.



The Poppy as a Whole

Together, the poppy reminds us of the human cost of war, the importance of peace, and the need to never forget those who gave everything.



The Black Centre

The black centre represents the lives lost – the empty places at the heart of so many families and communities.



The Stem

The stem represents the strength and resilience of those who survived, and the support of the wider community who stood together.

We wear the poppy to remember.

LEST WE FORGET



Who has seen one of these on coats or jackets this month? It is called a poppy and they grow in the fields where battles happened long ago. It was chosen as a symbol for Remembrance Day because it

reminds us of the battle fields where soldiers died during World War I. It represents new life and hope for the future.

John 15:3 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for friends.

Laying down your life means choosing to put someone else first even when it is very difficult or costly.

Jesus showed 'greater love' by giving up his own life so that we might be forgiven and go to heaven.

Love is more powerful than evil, so the red part of the poppy is bigger than the black centre which represents loss and the evils of war.

Answers

Quiz

1. Why is Remembrance Day held on 11th November?
2. At what time is the minutes silence held on Remembrance Day?
3. In what year did World War I end?
4. What flower is commonly worn for Remembrance Day?
5. The King lays the first wreath at The Cenotaph on Remembrance Day. True or False?
6. What colour poppies are worn to honour animals who were victims of war?
7. What is another name for Remembrance Day?
8. What does Cenotaph mean?

1. It is the anniversary of the end of World War 1
2. 11am
3. 1918
4. Poppy
5. True
6. Purple
7. Armistice Day
8. Empty tomb



CONTACTS LIST

Vicar

Rev Chris Pollock
07519668747
vicar@saintfieldparish.org



Parish Church Office Office Administrator:

Sally Milligan
02897 519653
office@saintfieldparish.org



The Office will be open to the public.

Tues – Thursday
10.00am – 2.00pm
Friday to 12.30pm

Address
Church House,
45 Main Street,
Saintfield,
BT24 7AB.



Church Sexton (ON LEFT)
Ian Gordon 02897 511522
sexton@saintfieldparish.org

Graveyard Convenor
(ON RIGHT)
William Drury 07720883993



Vestry

Hon Sec Vestry: Stephen Erskine
secretary@saintfieldparish.org

Hon Treasurer: Caroline Kearney
treasurer@saintfieldparish.org

Magazine Editor: Leonard Hill
magazine@saintfieldparish.org

Material for December/January to be with Leonard by
16th November 2026. ☺

Safeguarding
Kate Beattie
02897 511671
safeguarding@saintfieldparish.org



Our new back Vestry door is in place through a very kind donation from the Drury Family (Doreen, William, Jillian)

The door has been gifted to the Church in memory of their mother, Myrtle Drury and will have a small plaque to help us remember her in this way.



Joe Morton



At the end of September, Joe informed us that he would be moving to live with the family in the north of England. This marks the end of a very long association with Saintfield Parish of over 58 years. Sadly, Alison passed away a few years ago and Joe adapted to this new phase of life. He was out to Church every Sunday whether it was in church or in the Hall and his kindness and warmth was enjoyed by all.

He will bless his new Church family and no doubt will become involved with, but we will miss him.

WITH
SINCERE
Sympathy

William Elliott.
29 September 2026

We keep

Dion, Andrew, Julian and
Gemma in our prayers.

Robert Ross (a previous organist)
We keep his wife Aileen in our prayers