

LAMP

Advent Magazine



Advent 2022

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From the Rector

I love the season of Advent as we prepare to celebrate Christmas!

For many years as a family we have lit a little Advent candle to count down the days and I also enjoy reading an Advent devotional guide (of which there are many) to help keep me focused on preparing to celebrate the coming of Jesus into our world.

In this booklet we have information about the various events; Carol Services; and other Christmas Celebrations taking place across our churches in December. Alongside this we have included some paragraphs describing the many things that take place in LAMP throughout the year.

As a ministry team we met a couple of times in the past few months and whilst reviewing what was happening found ourselves amazed to discover how much is actually going on across LAMP. We wanted to share this so everyone could see the benefit of working in partnership and be encouraged too.

Wishing you every blessing for this coming season.

Henry

Advent Collect

Almighty God,
Give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness,
and put upon us the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which thy Son Jesus Christ
came to visit us in great humility;
that in the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty
to judge both the quick and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who liveth and reigneth with thee
and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. Amen.

27TH Nov: ADVENT SUNDAY		
11am		
Ballyculter AREA SERVICE		
3.30pm		
ADVENT CAROLS		
<i>in Down Cathedral</i>		
<i>Join us for lessons and carols to begin the season of Advent</i>		
6pm		
Tyrella	LEO	SC

4TH DEC: ADVENT 2		
9.30am		
Down	HC	AD
10am		
Saul	HC	HH
Bright	MP	BF
H'mount	HC	JS
Kilclief	MP	SC
11am		
Ardglass	HC	GS
Seaforde	HC	AD
11.30am		
Cath	MP	HH
Ballee	MP	SC
R'mullan	HC	JS

11TH DEC: ADVENT 3		
9.30am		
Down	MP	AD
10am		
Saul	BAPT	HH
Bright	HC	SC/BF
H'mount	MP	LQ
11am		
Seaforde	Family Carols	
11.30am		
B'culter	BAPT	SC/HH
Cath	HC	RD
Ballee	HC	JS
R'mullan	MP	LQ
3pm		
Tyrella	Community Carols	
4pm		
Ardglass	Marina Carols	
5.30pm		
Down	Remembering our loved ones	

Evening Prayer at Down Cathedral

Evening Prayer takes place every weekday evening at 5pm in the Cathedral. Everyone is welcome to join us for this service either in person or online through the webcam which you can access on the Cathedral Website (www.downcathedral.org). Most of the year, we use a short form of Evening Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer. Each service usually involves reading a Psalm and one or two canticles, as well as a bible reading. We have a Cathedral Cycle of Prayer, which means we pray for all churches, parishes and those who lead them throughout the Diocese each month, along with each of the other Dioceses in the Church of Ireland and their bishops. We also follow the Anglican Cycle of prayer which means we pray for other Anglican Dioceses throughout the world each day. Down Cathedral has a close relationship with Holy Cross Abbey in Rostrevor so we remember all the brothers in our prayers each Thursday. The Cathedral has many visitors and each of those who have visited is remembered. Furthermore, we have a prayer board and those who wish to be prayed for are welcome to place their name on the board and their name is lifted up before the Lord. We also pray for needs across the LAMP congregations. A short time to come together for stillness and prayer at the end of the day is, in fact, a very special thing. We encourage you to join us if you're able.

Pepper Johns Ladies' Group

We are a group of ladies from across the LAMP churches and beyond who get together every Wednesday morning in Pepper Johns (beside the Down Recorder) from 10.30am-12.30pm. During those 2 hours our time is filled doing all sorts of activities: knitting, crocheting, sewing, glass painting, bingo, quizzes storytelling and generally having a bit of craic and of course a cuppa. Our ladies give a lot back to the community like knitting trauma Bears for the PSNI /Social workers when attending incidents involving young children and blankets & hats for premature babies. We have also hosted several Macmillan coffee mornings.

With all that going on, it's only fair that the ladies have a treat every now and again. Last year we went to Dundonald Nurseries for a walk around and enjoyed a lovely lunch. We have been to Newry to visit Rev Scott McDonald's Church and do a bit of shopping! We popped into St Patrick's Choral Society rehearsals of Moana where the juniors had their 1st live audience. Next month we are going by bus to support Kilhorne Parish Church in Annalong at their Christmas tree festival. Then lunch, of course!

If you would like to join our Wednesday morning group, come along, you will be very welcome!

Ladies' Events in LAMP

Our recent Ladies' Breakfast, held in French's Clough, went extremely well. On the morning 55 ladies enjoyed a very hearty breakfast and as much tea and coffee as required. Thank you to Rev Sabrina who came and shared with us.

Our next date in the Calendar is Tuesday 6th December at 6.45pm for our Festive Ladies Evening. On this occasion, we will meet in Down Parish Hall. A night of fun, food, fellowship and a few surprises. All donations on the night will go to the continuing work in Pepper Johns. Don't Delay - Book in soon with Gerry 07817039914; Lynda 07784272387; Alison 07791720080; Lorraine 07751411324

Ladies' Afternoon Fellowship

The Afternoon Ladies' Fellowship meets each month on the First Thursday, at 1.30pm in Tyrella Hall. You will be given a warm welcome, as we hear from a wide variety of speakers and share a cup of tea together. Contact June Murphy if you would like more information.

Youth Work

Sunday Nights at 7.30pm: Down Parish Halls

Our Sunday Night Youth Fellowship kicked off at the end of September with lots of games, fun and, of course, food! This year we are exploring the fundamentals of the Christian faith and what it means to be a Christian through the Youth Alpha resource. Our hope is that YF becomes a community of young people who encounter Jesus, become equipped in their faith and empowered to live it out in their everyday lives.

We have various great events on the horizon including our Christmas dinner, the Diocesan Youth Weekend away and some trips to various events.

I would encourage any young person in secondary school to come along and try it out for a few weeks. We promise belly laughs, insightful learning and good grub each night. Please contact me (Billy) for more information.

Killough Outreach

Wednesdays in Killough Hall

P1-P4: 7-8pm

P5-P7: 8.15-9.15pm

We are excited to have relaunched our Killough outreach programmes on Wednesday nights. With over 50 children registered and a regular attendance of over 40 young people per week, it has been so encouraging to see the children engage in worship, prayer and the Bible.

Over the past few months we have been exploring what it means to let your light shine in the darkness as well as topics such as anti-bullying and teamwork. Our annual Family Christmas Carol Service will take place on Wednesday 14th December in Killough Hall at 7pm. This is a great opportunity for us to come together as a community to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas and remember that Jesus is the real reason for the season.

*Unfortunately we have not been able to get our secondary school programme up and running due to a lack of volunteers. **We are keen to seek out as many volunteers who are willing to help whenever possible whether that is weekly, biweekly or monthly.** The outreach in Killough is a vital work in the community which is expressed by children and parents each week. Please pray for us as we continue to share the Good News of the Gospel.*

If you are interested in volunteering or would like to support in any way, please contact Billy

Sunday School

Bright: 3rd & 4th Sunday at 10am

Ballyculter: 4th Sunday at 11.30am

Hollymount: Sundays at 10am (except All Age)

Our Sunday Schools are starting to return after Harvest with our volunteers working hard to deliver a great programme for our children. Our Sunday School programme will be jam-packed with songs, stories, crafts and games for all ages to enjoy so be sure to send your child along!

On Saturday 17th December 2022 from 5.30-7pm, we are excited to be having our Bright Sunday School Party in Tyrella Parish Halls. It'll be an evening of festive fun with crafts, music, games and nibbles for the children to enjoy, and you are also very welcome to join with us at our **Christingle Service for all children and families across LAMP** in Down Parish church on Thursday 22nd December at 5.30pm. Make sure you put both these dates in your diary!

If you would like any more information on Sunday School, please contact Billy

Pop-ups

Once a term across LAMP

A big highlight of the past few months have been our Kids Pop-up events in Strangford and Bright. Our fun-filled interactive programme has seen many children come along to enjoy an evening of songs, games, craft, snacks and stories.

We encourage all our families to come along to our pop-ups and holiday clubs as it is a great opportunity for children to sing songs and learn the stories of the Bible that we have cherished over the years. Each event provides space for children to make new friends, get creative and have fun learning and singing together.

Pastoral Care in LAMP

Although LAMP is made up of small parishes, it is a large group of Churches. The ministry team works hard to deliver pastoral ministry as effectively as possible but we need your help. Do please let us know if you, or one of your family members, is ill at home or in hospital. Hospital visiting is proving more feasible as COVID restrictions have eased, but hospitals are one of the few places where some restrictions remain. If you would like to arrange a visit in your home, please get in touch.

Dean Henry Hull:	02844613101	Revd Adrian Dorrian:	07789289724
Revd Sabrina Cooke:	07951844387	Revd Graham Savidge:	02844842308
Lynda Quinn:	07784272387	Billy Fyffe:	07710622180
Alison Carson (Pepper Johns):	07791720080	Down Cathedral Office:	02844614922

Evergreens

Evergreens resumed on Monday 10th October 2022 after a considerable break when we met together at 1pm in Rathmullan Hall. After enjoying a beautiful lunch together our guest on this occasion was Rev Sabrina Cooke. Evergreens meets on the second Monday of each month, and its venue moves around. Please let Lynda know if transport is required. This group is open to all who wish to attend. For the time being, Evergreens alternates between Hollymount and Rathmullan Halls. Thanks to June and Maureen for always having the halls comfortable for our arrival. Contact Lynda for any additional details on 07784272387.

Seaforde Toddler Group

Seaforde Parent and Toddler Group is well and truly up and running in the Millennium (NSP) Hall, Clough. We meet each Tuesday morning during term-time from 9.30am – 11am. After some free play both parents and children enjoy a healthy snack followed by an activity such as painting hedgehogs (no real ones!!), soft and sticky dough creations, Rhythm and Rhymes. Our morning concludes with song time with actions and a prayer of Blessing. We are also glad that we have such support from the Non-subscribing Presbyterian congregation in Clough as they make their halls available. The cost is £1.50 per adult per week and a warm welcome is assured by our marvellous volunteers. Lynda would be happy to chat to you with further details.

Men's Curry Night

It's hard to believe that it's four years since our last Men's Curry Night. **This is why we're really looking forward to Tuesday 29th November, when we will gather for curry and craic in Strangofrd Hall at 7.30pm.** Our new Youth and Community Pastor Billy Fyffe will share some of his story and some songs – it promises to be a brilliant evening. Please let Billy, Henry or Adrian know if you plan to attend.



PIC•COLLAGE



PIC•COLLAGE



Some Advent Prayers

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory.

O Emmanuel, our King and our lawgiver,
the hope of the nations and their Saviour:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.

Child Aid Support

Earlier this year, between direct personal donations and cash gifts through our churches, LAMP Parishioners raised around £1000 for the Child Aid emergency appeal in response to the war in Ukraine. As you know, 5 of us from LAMP visited the House of Light in Kamianske, Ukraine in 2019.

Child Aid continues to support its partners in Ukraine where possible, with small donations to allow the purchase of essential supplies. They have also been supporting major work with another of their partners in neighbouring Moldova, as that partner responds to the needs of many refugees who have crossed the border.

Thank you for your support for this important work.



Some pictures from the 2019 visit

Cathedral Welcome Ministry

For lots of people “the Cathedral” is simply the big building in English Street where a congregation meets on Sundays at 11.30am, but the ministry of Down Cathedral extends far beyond this.

As we know the Hill of Down is the traditional burial place of St Patrick and we have thousands of visitors who come to this holy site. The Cathedral is open Mon - Sat from 9.30am to 4pm, welcoming visitors from all over the world. Sometimes there are organised coach tours but more often there are individuals or families who simply call in to look inside the building having come to visit St Patrick’s Grave. A team of staff and volunteers are there to welcome and to share the story of the Cathedral and of St Patrick.

Many visitors stay to pray, have conversations about faith or leave requests for prayer. Before Covid we welcomed over 60,000 people each year and we are encouraged that this year it is back to between 35 - 40,000. Alongside this valuable work in the past year we have also hosted a number of large Diocesan events, concerts and in December school carol services. If anyone would like to join our welcome team, please contact Sharon at the Cathedral office.

Healing Service at Down Cathedral

On the first Friday of each month at 1pm, the Cathedral holds a service of Prayer for Healing. We often welcome guest preachers from the Cathedral Chapter and other local parishes, who are organised by the Revd Dr Pat Mollan and the Church’s Ministry of Healing. This service is open to anyone. Some people come because it’s a peaceful space to spend half an hour on a Friday lunchtime. Some people come to pray for people in their lives who are ill. Some come to receive prayer themselves. We can assure you that, whatever your reason for coming along, you will be welcomed warmly and your prayer requests (if you make any) will be treated with the utmost respect and confidentiality.

Ecumenical Prayer at Saul

For the past sixteen years a group of Christians drawn from all the denominations in our Community has met every Monday night at Saul, (we even continued on Zoom through lockdown).

We use a short form of evening prayer and pray for one another’s churches; the needs of your community; world issues; and individuals who have requested prayer. From time to time the group has hosted Quiet days of Prayer and Reflection. Anyone is welcome to join us any Monday evening at 8.00pm in Saul Hall.

Pepper Johns Community Work

Some of you may not be aware of what happens in Pepper Johns apart from the Ladies' Group, so here is a wee insight. I work in Pepper Johns 20 hours per week, this is funded by grants from several sources including the Parish Church.

Our centre is used by:

- Local residents' committee meetings
- Suicide down to Zero
- Voices of Young People in Care
- Music Therapy for children with Autism
- BRIGHTMINDS.... Mindfulness and meditation for children
- Macmillan Cancer fundraising committee
- Family Mediation NI

We are very nearly ready to open our Men's Shed. We have the tools and equipment ready for action. The building next door needs a bit of work but is still usable. We would like any men interested in joining our Shed or feel they could help in any way to please contact me. Meetings would be held in Pepper Johns to begin with so an action plan can be made. All admin will be done by me so don't feel under pressure, just come along and enjoy the banter.

Pepper Johns is also very closely linked to Suicide Down to Zero. This is a campaigning group who train and advise schools, youth groups, sports clubs etc in suicide awareness. I am a member of SDZ and have been SAFEtalk and Assist trained, which has allowed me to deliver training in schools and in Hydebank Wood Young Offenders where unfortunately suicide risk is very high.

For this reason, I am starting a Support Group for family members bereaved by suicide so they can speak with others trying to cope with this devastation. If you know someone who might benefit from this group, please let them know about us or give them my number.

Alison Carson

Dates for Advent and Christmas

These are the dates for special services –

you will find a fuller calendar for Sunday Services elsewhere in the booklet.

Evening Prayer (Mon – Fri at 5pm), Healing Prayer (1pm on Friday 2nd December) and Holy Communion on Thursdays at 10am will continue through Advent.

SUNDAY 27TH NOVEMBER: ADVENT SUNDAY

11am	Ballyculter	Advent Area Service
3.30pm	Cathedral	Advent Carol Service
<i>Join us for Lessons and Carols to begin the Season of Advent</i>		
6pm	Tyrella	Late Evening Office

TUESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

7.30pm	Strangford Hall	Men's Curry Night
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FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER

7pm	Hollymount	Christmas Tree Lighting
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TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER

6.45pm	Down Parish Hall	Ladies' Festive Evening
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FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER

7.30pm	Lakeside Inn	Carols by the Lake
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Join us at the Lakeside for some Christmas cheer as we hear the Nativity Story and sing carols together.

SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER

10.30am –	Cathedral	Christmas Creations
12.30pm	<i>A festive morning with seasonal snacks, creative crafts & marvellous music</i>	

SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER: ADVENT 3

11am	Seaforde	Family Carols
3pm	Tyrella	Community Carols
4pm	Ardglass Marina	Community Carols
5.30pm	Down Parish	Remembering our loved ones at Christmas

Find quiet and space to remember those we love who are no longer with us. This service will include carols, readings and an opportunity to pray silently for oneself and, if you wish, to light a candle or leave a personally written prayer at the cross.

MONDAY 12TH DECEMBER

1pm	French's Clough	Evergreens Christmas Dinner
7pm	St Joseph's Killough	United Carol Service

TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER

9.30-11am	Millenium Hall, Clough	Toddler Group Christmas Party
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WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER

7pm	Killough Hall	Family Christmas Carol Service
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SATURDAY 17TH DECEMBER

5.30-7pm	Tyrella Parish Halls	Bright Sunday School Christmas Party
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SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER: ADVENT 4

10am	Saul Bright Kilclief	Carol Service All Age Christmas Holy Communion
11am	Ardglass	Morning Prayer
11.30am	Cathedral Ballee Rathmullan	Morning Prayer Carol Service Carol Service
4pm	Hollymount Ballyculter	Carols by Candlelight Carol Service
5.30pm	Down Parish	Carol Service
7pm	Seaforde	United Carols

MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER

2pm and 8pm	Cathedral	Down High Carols
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WEDNESDAY 21ST DECEMBER

11am	Cathedral	Downpatrick Primary School Carols
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THURSDAY 22ND DECEMBER

5.30pm	Down Parish	Christingle
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We look forward to welcoming people of all ages as we light our Christingles together. Come along – on your own or with others and whether young or young at heart!

SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS EVE

7.30pm	Cathedral	Lessons and Carols for the whole community
11.30pm	Cathedral	First Eucharist of Christmas
	Down Parish	First Eucharist of Christmas
	Seaforde	First Eucharist of Christmas
	Ballee	First Eucharist of Christmas

SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS DAY

8.30am	Old Court	Holy Communion
9.30am	Rathmullan	Holy Communion
	Killough	Holy Communion
	Saul	Holy Communion
	Hollymount	All Age Christmas
10am	Ardglass	Holy Communion
11am	Cathedral	Holy Communion
	Ballyculter	Holy Communion
	Bright	Holy Communion

SUNDAY 1ST JANUARY: THE NAMING AND CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS

9.30am	Cathedral	Holy Communion
11am	Kilclief	Service of the Word
	Killough	Service of the Word

Contemporary Worship in LAMP

We are very excited to be starting a new service in LAMP in January. We've had positive feedback over the years when we've delivered contemporary worship – for example our Service with Bishop David on Palm Sunday earlier this year. **Our new monthly contemporary service will launch in Down Parish on Sunday 8th January at 7pm.** It will continue monthly thereafter on the first Sunday of each month.

Advent Bible Readings

This series of readings is intended to help you read your Bible during Advent.

Advent Sunday

Monday 28th

Tuesday 29th

Wednesday 20th (St Andrew)

Thursday 1st

Friday 2nd

Saturday 3rd

Romans 13 : 11 – 14

Isaiah 2 : 1 – 5

Isaiah 11 : 1 - 10

Matthew 4 : 18 – 22

Matthew 7 : 24 – 26

Matthew 9 : 27 - 31

Matthew 9 : 35 – 38

2nd Sunday of Advent

Monday 5th

Tuesday 6th (St Nicholas)

Wednesday 7th

Thursday 8th

Friday 9th

Saturday 10th

Isaiah 11 : 6 – 9

Matthew 5 : 17 – 26

Mark 10 : 13 – 16

Matthew 11: 28 – end

Luke 1 : 26 – 38

Psalm 1

Matthew 17 : 10 – 13

3rd Sunday of Advent

Monday 12th

Tuesday 13th (St Lucy)

Wednesday 14th

Thursday 15th

Friday 16th

Saturday 17th

James 5 : 7 – 10

Matthew 21 : 23 – 27

Luke 11 ; 33 – 36

Luke 7 : 18 – 23

Isaiah 54 : 1 – 3

Isaiah 56 : 6 – 8

Psalm 72 : 1 – 3

4th Sunday of Advent

Monday 19th

Tuesday 20th

Wednesday 21st

Thursday 22nd

Friday 23th

Christmas Eve

Isaiah 7 : 10 – 16

Luke 1 : 5 – 25

Luke 1 : 26 – 38

Luke 1 : 39 – 45

Luke 1 : 46 – 56

Luke 1 : 57 – 66

Luke 1 : 67 – 79