

*Church of the Holy Spirit
Manse Road, Mossley*



The Dove Magazine

September / October 2020 Edition

*Parish website
www.mossley.org*

(Mossley Parish is a registered charity, NIC103262)

From the Rectory Study

As I watched the consecration of our new Bishop, Rt. Rev George Davison, which was broadcast online, the preacher at the service was Bishop Ken Clarke. He rightly suggested that we will all be looking forward to New Year's Eve this year - not just to welcome in 2021, but to make sure that 2020 concludes! There is an undoubted truth in this! The past six months have been challenging for all of us. We have become accustomed to social distancing, contact tracing, and other such restrictions and protocols. Yet we are also moving forward into 'a new normal.'

I am delighted that we have resumed 'in-church' services on Sunday mornings and from Sunday 20th September we have returned to two morning services (9.30am and 11.30am). We have also been working hard to prepare for the reopening of our Parish Centre and we look forward to seeing what the 'new normal' looks like for Mossley Parish. I would like to say a sincere thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to ensure that the Church building and Parish Centre can be reopened. I would also like to thank each one of you for your prayerful, practical, and financial support of our Parish.

There have been some extremely difficult and testing days during the past six months but, with the grace of God, we can begin a safe and steady journey forward. We have started conversations with the parish organisations to see how we can recapture the wonderful sense of community that exists at the heart of Mossley Parish, and we look forward to being able to sing again in our church services in the very near future. Things will continue to look differently for some time to come but we can make safe progress.

Through the entire lockdown period I have often thought about Psalm 121. As this Psalm begins, we can almost picture the Psalmist as a traveller on a dusty road just outside Jerusalem. He looks up and sees the hills in the distance, one of which is Mount Zion. Our traveller sees the brilliance, the wonder and the majesty of God's creation and it inspires him to think. What does he think about? He thinks about eternal things, he mulls over life's greatest questions, and he asks one of them at the end of (v1): "...where does my help come from?" It's a beautiful picture, isn't it! The Psalmist walking in the vicinity of Jerusalem thinking about God and the things of God. We know that he is thinking about God because he answers his own question. "Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth." The Psalmist declares God to be the ultimate source of help. May we continue to follow his example and turn to God in prayer, confident that He is our continued help and strength in the weeks and months ahead.

Your friend and Rector,

Peter Jones

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

28 th July	Sarah Megarrey	16 Manse Terrace
3 rd September	Norman Copeland	34 Glenkyle Park
15 th September	John Cully	11 Ballyearl Green

HOLY BAPTISM

2 nd September	Grace Lockhart	73 Fairview Road
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PARISH OFFICE

Our Parish Office is currently closed due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. It is advised that all correspondence should be forwarded to the Rector.

ONLINE SERVICES

Although we have started to meet for 'in-church worship' on Sunday mornings, we are still uploading Online Services and Bible Studies. You can find these on:

1. The Parish Facebook Page.
2. The Parish Website (www.mossley.org)
3. YouTube (www.youtube.com). On YouTube simply search for Church of the Holy Spirit Mossley and this will lead you to the videos.
4. For an audio service telephone 02893270073. Calls will be charged at a local rate but for many people will be included in your call package.

PARISH CENTRE

[Preparations for the reopening of the Parish Centre are well advanced and Parish Organisations may be able to reconvene shortly.](#)

The Rector and Rev Louise will be in touch with the leadership of the organisations to discuss specifics.

Please pray for wisdom and safety as we seek to embrace a new normal in Mossley Parish.

USEFUL CONTACTS

RECTOR

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The Rectory, 1 Woodford Manor, BT36 6FF.
028 90 832726 peterjones917@hotmail.com

ORDAINED LOCAL MINISTER

Rev Louise Bowes Tel. 07900410069

DIOCESAN READERS

Mr Tom Irwin Tel 028 90 833399
Mob. 07841478427

Mrs Valerie Murray Tel. 028 90 835761

ORGANIST

Miss Jane McCartney Tel. 028 90 848854
jane_mccartney@btinternet.com

PARISH OFFICE

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mossleyparish@btconnect.com

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Winifred Clarke 07749064808

PEOPLE'S CHURCHWARDEN

David Boyd 07484700989

RECTOR'S GLEBEWARDEN

Bob Lee 07739185034

PEOPLE'S GLEBEWARDEN

Tom Buchanan

HONORARY SECRETARY

John Nesbitt 07954150067
secretarymossleyparish@virginmedia.com

HONORARY TREASURER

David Flint 028 90 836304

FWO RECORDER

Ken Jackson 028 90 294967

SELECT VESTRY

Alan Bowes	Joan Mackey
John Caldwell	John Nesbitt
Celia Catherwood	Julie Parkinson
David Flint	Maureen Steenson
Pat Flint	Billy Williamson
George Madden	Ken Jackson



Church Services

“My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.”

(Psalm 121:2)

Dear Friends,

We reconvened for ‘in-church’ worship on Sunday 19th July at 11am and were delighted to have Bishop George Davison with us on that occasion. Since then we have met each Sunday morning and it has been encouraging to see so many of you back in the church building.

Due to the increasing numbers we have decided to put on an additional service, and this has necessitated a slight variation in service times. Our first service will be at 9.30am and our second service will begin at 11.30am. Please be assured that the church will be cleaned using our fogging machine between the services. Both services will follow the same structure and will last approximately 35 minutes. Once again, if you are planning to attend either of these services, please enter the church only through the front doors.

Due to social distancing restrictions the occupancy of our church building is still greatly reduced. These measures are in place for everyone’s health and safety and must be strictly adhered to. We, therefore, need to forward plan attendance numbers at services and kindly ask that you contact either Mrs Winifred Clarke (07749064808) or Mr John Nesbitt (07954150067) to confirm your attendance at a Sunday service. This can be done from Monday morning until Thursday evening each week.

Part of the reopening procedures encourage us to engage in contact tracing. This means that each person will be required to fill out a tracing form as proof of attendance at the service. Please bring a pen with you to the church service to enable you to fill out this form. No collection will be lifted during the service but Free Will Offering envelopes can be placed in the offering plate which will be located on the Font. Your tracing form can also be placed in a box at the front of the church.

We will continue our online services on Sunday mornings (on YouTube, Facebook, the Dial-In Facility, and our website www.mossley.org). These will be the same as the services that will be provided in the church building. We would like to thank you for your support during the lockdown period and for your cooperation with all these instructions,

Every blessing,

Rev Peter Jones 02890832726 peterjones917@hotmail.com

Rev Louise Bowes 07900410069 elbowes4x4@btinternet.com

Cabin Fever

One of the highlights of 2019 for many of us in Mossley Parish was the Holiday Bible Club. Although Covid-19 restrictions prevented us from meeting in the Parish Centre, we were still delighted to take part in the Diocesan Online Holiday Bible Club, *Cabin Fever*. Each day we joined Professor Moody and her guest professors as they shared their knowledge of all things science and



took us on a journey through the story of Noah and the great flood. It was great fun and we were pleased that a number of our young people were able to take part.

Streetreach Online

Streetreach looked hugely different this year. Last year we had over fifty young people from throughout Connor Diocese and the USA meeting each day in our Parish Centre and engaging in a range of activities. This year we were unable to meet in person so the concept of 'Streetreach Online' emerged.

We started on Wednesday 1st July and continued until Friday 3rd July. On the opening day, Church Army Evangelist Stephen Whitten shared about how the programme would lead the young people deeper in their faith. In the days that followed the young people and leaders took part in daily devotionals each morning – these were shared on the Engage Connor Youth Facebook page. We explored the themes of prayer, service, and testimony in our time together. The Rector led the devotional on the first day and this was followed by a range of ideas shared by Christina Baillie, Diocesan Youth Officer, for how individuals could respond.

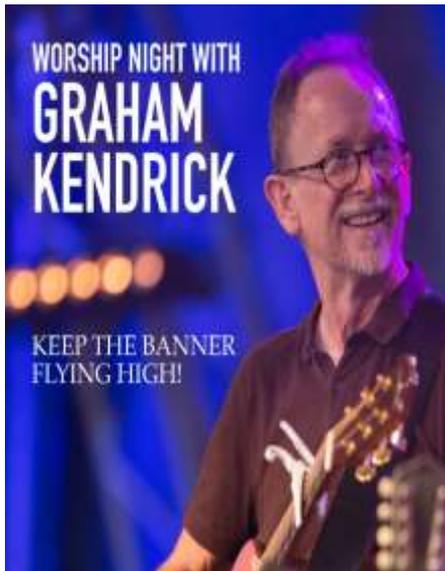


Our partnership with Streetreach will continue next year and we hope and pray that we will be able to physically meet in Mossley. We would like to thank everyone who took part in Streetreach Online – especially the young people from our own parish.

Dove Catering

When lockdown restrictions are suitably eased, we can offer catering at funerals at a cost of £5 per person. For more details contact:

Winnie Millar	028 90 840778
Barbara Boyd	028 94 433120
Ann McCutcheon	028 90 800466



Graham Kendrick Concert

It is with great sadness that we have to announce that the Graham Kendrick concert has now been cancelled. The Rector has been in communication with Graham's management team throughout the summer and, given current restrictions, it was decided that the safest and wisest course of action was to cancel this event.

We know that many of you were looking forward to this concert and we had sold over 300 tickets. However, to facilitate such a large crowd and maintain social distancing proved to be very problematic.

Full refunds are now being processed and everyone who purchased tickets will be contacted soon.

Summer Bible Studies

During the summer months we have been looking at the Book of Daniel each Tuesday evening. It has been encouraging to see so many people engage with the studies and we have had messages from people in England, and even further afield, who have journeyed with us.

We have taken fifteen weeks to look at Daniel and there has been so much for us to think about and reflect on. Our journey is now complete, and we will be taking a little break for a few weeks before we start our autumn/winter series. More details will be released soon.

We have included a picture of the Rector in full flow during one of the recordings!



Safeguarding Trust

Our Parish is committed to the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Trust policy. Should you have any concerns regarding the welfare of children in the Parish, please contact a member of the Parish Panel:

Rev Peter Jones
Clifford Holmes

028 90 832726
028 90 848025

Carolyn Caldwell
Joan Mackey

028 90 844040
028 90 775366

Coffee Time Challenges

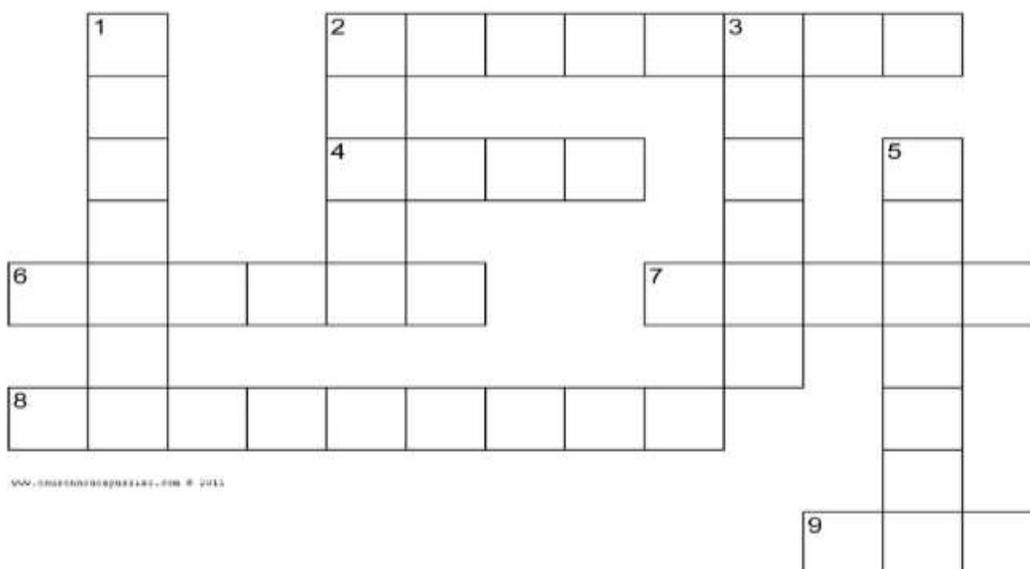
It is hard to believe that we have now released no fewer than 18 Coffee Time Challenges. These have been attempted by many parishioners as well as other people from much further afield! I enjoy hearing about everyone's experiences and, recently, the numbers of people getting full marks has increased.

As we inch towards a new normal in the life of our Parish, we will be concluding our weekly Coffee Time Challenges, but we will be starting to include one in each edition of this magazine. In this edition we are thinking about people in the Bible. The answers can be found on Page 12 of this magazine. The last 'online' Challenge will be released on Monday 28th September.



People in the Bible

1 Samuel



ACROSS

- 2 David's best friend
- 4 First king of Israel
- 6 Last judge of Israel
- 7 A man after God's own heart
- 8 Gave David the showbread to eat
- 9 Fell off his seat backwards and broke his neck

DOWN

- 1 Stood over nine feet tall
- 2 Shepherd from Bethlehem; his youngest son became king of Israel
- 3 Mother of the prophet Samuel
- 5 Brought food and supplies to David in the wilderness

Mossley Prayer Fellowship



The Prayer Fellowship has continued to meet every Wednesday evening at 7.30 pm using Zoom. Sincere thanks to everyone who has enabled this to take place. Zoom can be accessed using a smart phone, computer, or tablet.

If you would like to 'come along' for a time of prayer on Wednesday evenings, please contact the Rector or any member of the Prayer Fellowship. Each prayer time will last no more

than forty minutes. All of us have many things to pray about and we have a wonderful opportunity to be still and come before God as a Prayer Fellowship. Everyone is welcome to join with us as we seek the continued leading of God.

Bread and Cake Sale

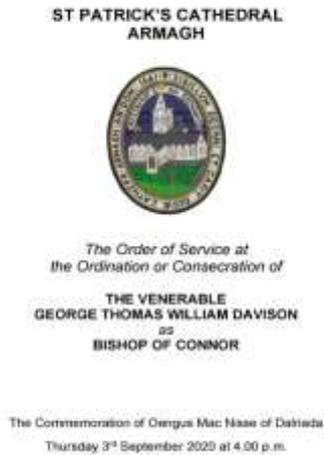


On Saturday 13th September there was considerable activity in and around 15 Glenkyle Gardens – all in adherence to governmental guidelines and restrictions. A Bread and Cake Sale was being held with the intention of raising funds for the Parish. It was wonderful to see so many people queuing up, with appropriate social distances being observed, to make a purchase at the Bread/Cake Stall. Once business was concluded a total of £1035 was raised!

Sincere thanks to the team who worked so hard in preparation for the sale, and thanks also to everyone who came along and supported the event. It was encouraging to see such a sense of community and togetherness – and the bread/cakes were delicious!



A Consecration Like No Other!



It was a Consecration Service like no other – rows of empty pews, no congregational singing, and the use of hand sanitiser before the individual laying on of hands – but at 5.30pm on Thursday the waiting was over for the Rt Rev George Davison – and Connor Diocese finally had a new Bishop!

Bishop George was consecrated on September 3 at a service in St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, conducted under strict Covid-19 restrictions. The service took place in the presence of a congregation of less than 30, when in normal circumstances several hundred would have attended.

In a video message to the diocese recorded on the eve of the Service of Consecration, Bishop George said: "This is a service that has been in planning for some time, a considerable time longer than any of us had realised."

He continued: "That delay, of course, has been caused by the same coronavirus emergency that has turned all our lives upside down over the last number of months. As individuals and as a society, we face challenges that we have never had to deal with before. It has caused real heartache for many people, and for some, the challenges they have faced make the delay of a service feel very insignificant."

The Bishop reflected: "Even as we take...tentative steps back into our church buildings again, I am very conscious that we still have challenges ahead of us," he said. "We have to be realistic about the challenges ahead, but I am convinced that they should not, and will not, define us."



Please pray for Bishop George as he offers oversight to our diocese. Please pray also for his wife Nadine.

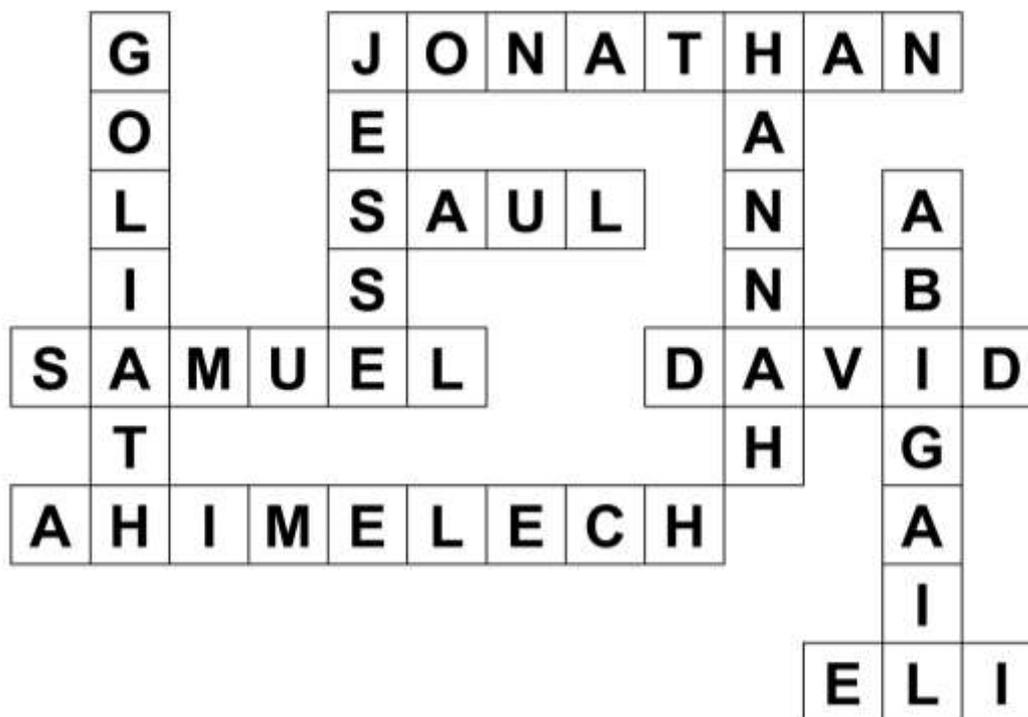
Ordination of Rev Louise Bowes



On Sunday 20th September, Rev Louise will be ordained priest/presbyter in St. Patrick's Ballymena. Due to current restrictions there will be a limited congregation at this service, but we will be remembering Louise in our prayers. We also look forward to Louise's first Celebrations of Holy Communion on Sunday 27th September at 9.30am and 11.30am.

Coffee Time Challenge Answers

We hope that you had a chance to attempt the 'People in the Bible' crossword. The answers are revealed below.



General Vestry Meeting

Our Easter General Vestry had to be postponed because of lockdown restrictions. On Thursday 10th September Connor Diocesan Council met and we have now been asked to hold our General Vestry Meeting. This has been scheduled for **Tuesday 6th October 2020 at 7pm in the Church.**

This is a triennial year and, in addition to electing Churchwardens, Glebewardens, and a Select Vestry, we will also be voting for Parochial Nominators and Diocesan Synod Representatives, as well as supplementals.

Please be assured that we are taking every available step to ensure the safety of everyone in attendance! The meeting will be kept as short as possible and unfortunately no tea will be available afterwards.

We kindly ask that if you plan to attend this meeting that you would bring your own pen and the use of facemasks will be strongly encouraged.



Mission Work Updates

During the lockdown, the Rector was in correspondence with Tansen Hospital. The following email was sent from Dr Rachel Karrach.



Dear Peter

As everywhere these days the pandemic has dominated our lives recently. Nepal was under lockdown from March 24th and this was eased on July 21st, I think because the economic effects were too great, not because things are under control. So, the past 4 months have been taken up with covid-19 preparations and care and trying to keep the hospital running for general care too during the lockdown. Nepal has reached 20,000 cases now. Most were imported by returning migrant workers. We set up a small isolation area in 3 rooms for suspected cases and started screening everyone who comes through our doors. We also did a lot of training of staff about the virus and how to put on and take off PPE correctly. We also helped with health education to the community via FM radio and the municipality website and Facebook page. We were invited to help train government health workers and advise the army about infection control for their quarantine sites. We were given the use of a yet to be opened old people home at the edge of the community 5 minutes' walk from here and established an isolation unit there. We housed a few groups of young men there who had returned from India and tested positive, as the policy at the time was to keep these people in centres rather than send them home, although they were all asymptomatic. We now have no new cases there and although our district was one of the most affected initially because of the large numbers of migrant workers returning, we now seem to be in a lull. Kathmandu and some border districts have community spread, but we have not seen evidence of this yet. In early June we had our one sick coronavirus case, and sadly he died within 24 hours and was the first and, so far, only death in our district and at the time the 10th death in Nepal.

We have carried on being busy with our normal care too and although the first few weeks were really quiet numbers picked up and now there is freer travel within the district, we are up to 80% of normal. This helps us survive as most of our income comes from patients (or the government health insurance) So we initially furloughed some staff on half pay and encouraged anyone who was interested to take leave without pay and left posts vacant. From the past 2-3 weeks we have needed everyone again. We noticed from the beginning that many seriously ill people were managing to reach us, and it felt like the clock was turned back as people were presenting late in a more serious condition. Our emergency surgery numbers are up a bit and so were deliveries.

Best wishes

Rachel

Some details of life in South America have also been forwarded from SAMS Ireland.

Paraguay has been in lock down like us since the end of March and Beryl Baker, a mission partner in Paraguay, was unable to leave the ranch in the Chaco. More recently, she was able to travel a shorter distance to Lomo Plata where she picked up medical supplies from the retired Doctor Trudy who normally helps Beryl with medical trips to the Indian villages. The villages are shut down and only the men who have motor bikes can travel to Beryl's clinic on the ranch. Beryl can see patients there and provide medicines for blood pressure, diabetes, and epilepsy. Beryl was legally able to visit Asuncion the capital because she brought with her a patient who needed to go to the hospital for treatment. Please pray for Beryl's safety as she moves from one location to another.



The news from North Argentina indicates that COVID 19 is beginning in the CHACO region. This has reminded everyone that the pandemic will have many consequences in the local Indian churches. Pray for local church leadership as they deal with these new set of challenges – especially Bishop Nick Drayson.

In Bolivia, Bishop Raphael has asked us to pray for the ever-deteriorating situation. The New York Times recently released new mortality figures which suggest that the real death toll during the Covid-19 outbreak is nearly five times the official tally, indicating Bolivia is one of the worst affected nations in the world. The current death rate is more than twice as high as that of the United States, and far higher than the levels in Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom.



About 20,000 more people have died since June than in past years, according to a Times analysis of registration data from Bolivia's Civil Registry, a vast number in a country of only about 11 million people.

A Prayer About Mission

God of love, the sea is so great, and our boat is so small. Inspire your church as we put out into deep water. Help us to be contemplative, compassionate, and courageous in your mission. Guide us by your Spirit to discover where you are working; help us to join in the building of your kingdom, and anoint us afresh to make disciples of all ages in your name, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who calls us and sends us with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen