

14th December 2025

Rev Dr Cecil Grant Office: 028 9336 1480 office@firstcarrickpres.co.uk NI Charity Reg: NIC105433





Welcome to our Church!

Rev Danny Rankin is leading our service this Sunday morning











The whole congregation is warmly invited to join in with the celebration of our nativity next week. We'd love you to bring along something simple for yourselves such as tinsel, a crown, tea towel and tie, a scarf, just something to resemble a Shepherd, Angel, Wise Man or Traveller.

Please join in and support our young children!

Our nativity 'The Greatest Gift' will take place on

Sunday 21st December at 11am. Everyone welcome.





Sat 13 th	9am	Saturda	y Prayer	Meeting			
	11am	Junior I	Band Cor	ncert 'Chr	istmas Mu	ısic'	
	5.30pm	Christm	nas Choir	Practice			
	7pm	Saturda	y Night L	ive! Chri	stmas Pai	rty	
Sun 14 th	11am	Morning	g Service	, Kids Cre	ew, Creche	е	
Mon 15 th	7pm	Session	n Prayer I	Meeting			
	8pm	Badmin	ton Club				
Tues 16th	9.45am	Tots &	Co Christ	mas Part	y		
Fri 19 th	6-9.15pm	GB					
Sat 20th	9am	Saturda	y Prayer	Meeting			
	5.30pm	Christm	nas Choir	Practice			
Sun 21st	11am	Nativity	Service				
	7pm	Carols	by Cande	light			
Christmas Day Service at 10.30am in Joymount							
Sat 27th	9am	Saturda	y Prayer	Meeting			
Sun 28th	11am	Morning	g Service				
Sat 3rd	9am	Saturda	y Prayer	Meeting			
Sun 4 th	11am	Commu	ınion Ser	vice			



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We welcome Mr Martin Delaney as our pastoral visitor.

Please contact Terry Hogg 07974 449906 if you require the services of a minister.

Thank you for raising £3117.00 for our Tearfund Harvest Special Collection.





SNL Christmas Party
Saturday 13th December at 7pm
Have your Christmas jumpers and
hats at the ready!

Christmas Choir Practices 13th & 20th December 5.30 - 6.30pm in the Upper Room







This year, the special collection at our Carols by Candlelight will go to NI Chest

Heart & Stroke.

Please come prepared to support this important cause.





Thursday Fellowship meets again on Thursday 8th January from 2 until 3.30pm. You'd be made very welcome!

Saturday Morning Prayer
Saturdays 9-10am Coffee Bar

Join us for this special time to pray for our church and for others.



The church office will be open only Monday 15th December next week.

Bible Study with Lindsay Davison recommences
Wednesday 14th January 8-9pm
'The Book of Matthew'. Everyone very welcome!



Christmas Greetings!

By now, for most of us, the Christmas preparations are well under way! Presents bought and wrapped, turkey ordered, and tree sparkling in the living room. In our case, however, Christmas this year has a very different feel. The course of the last few months has brought Emma and me on a journey to the manger in Bethlehem that has given us a new appreciation of the meaning of Emmanuel – "God with us."

"God with us" is not some abstract phrase but it is a personal commitment from God to us that provides an unwavering source of comfort and strength. The knowledge that God is with us wraps us in the assurance that no matter what difficulty or trouble we face, we are never alone, nor do we meet that challenge in our own ability or lack of it. Instead, the strength and comfort of an Almighty God is with us and we are never alone.

In the same way, "God with us" is a promise filled with hope. God has come to us to show us that the future we have before us is one that we will share with him. God is not just with us for a season, but for ever. And the future he opens up is one that is shaped and determined by the life he wants us to have with him.

So as the carols are sung and the mince pies are eaten, may you too have a new appreciation of what Emmanuel offers to you this Christmas!

With sincere love and good wishes,

Cecil

WELCOME TEAM JANUARY

GEORGE & SHIRLEY MCMAW,

LAURA ELLIOTT, RHONDA CHERRY



AFTER 8 TEAM JANUARY

NIGEL SKILLEN (L), EMILY HOGG

IAN & CHERYL BAXTER,

PATRICIA HAGAN, SHIRLEY GILLESPIE



Any outstanding money / money boxes for The Leprosy Mission, please could you give to Mrs Elva Ritchie as soon as possible. Thank you very much.

Herald £20 and Inspire £10 subscriptions are due for 2026. Envelopes are attached to December's issue. Please return by 28th December as we must inform Church House of numbers before the new year. New subscribers welcome! - just contact the church office.

Our financial books will close on Sunday 28th December. Offerings in 2025 envelopes received after this date will be allocated to 2026.

End of Year Accounts 2025

Leaders of Organisations must submit end-of-year accounts by Friday 16th January 2026. Please deliver your accounts to the church office 9am-12pm. Thank you

End-of-Year Focus on Freewill Offering & United Appeal

In the remaining weeks of 2025, everyone is asked to consider their giving to Freewill Offering and United Appeal.

Freewill Offering supports the running costs of our church. We are all aware of the rising cost of living. You are asked to remember that your church faces the same challenge.

It is also important to look outwards from ourselves. United Appeal supports mission work at home and overseas, and also enables us to support local causes in Carrickfergus.

Thank you, Neil Anderson, Treasurer 07308 170990 / Email: mrneilanderson@outlook.com

Q4: What is God? God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in His being wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth.

