

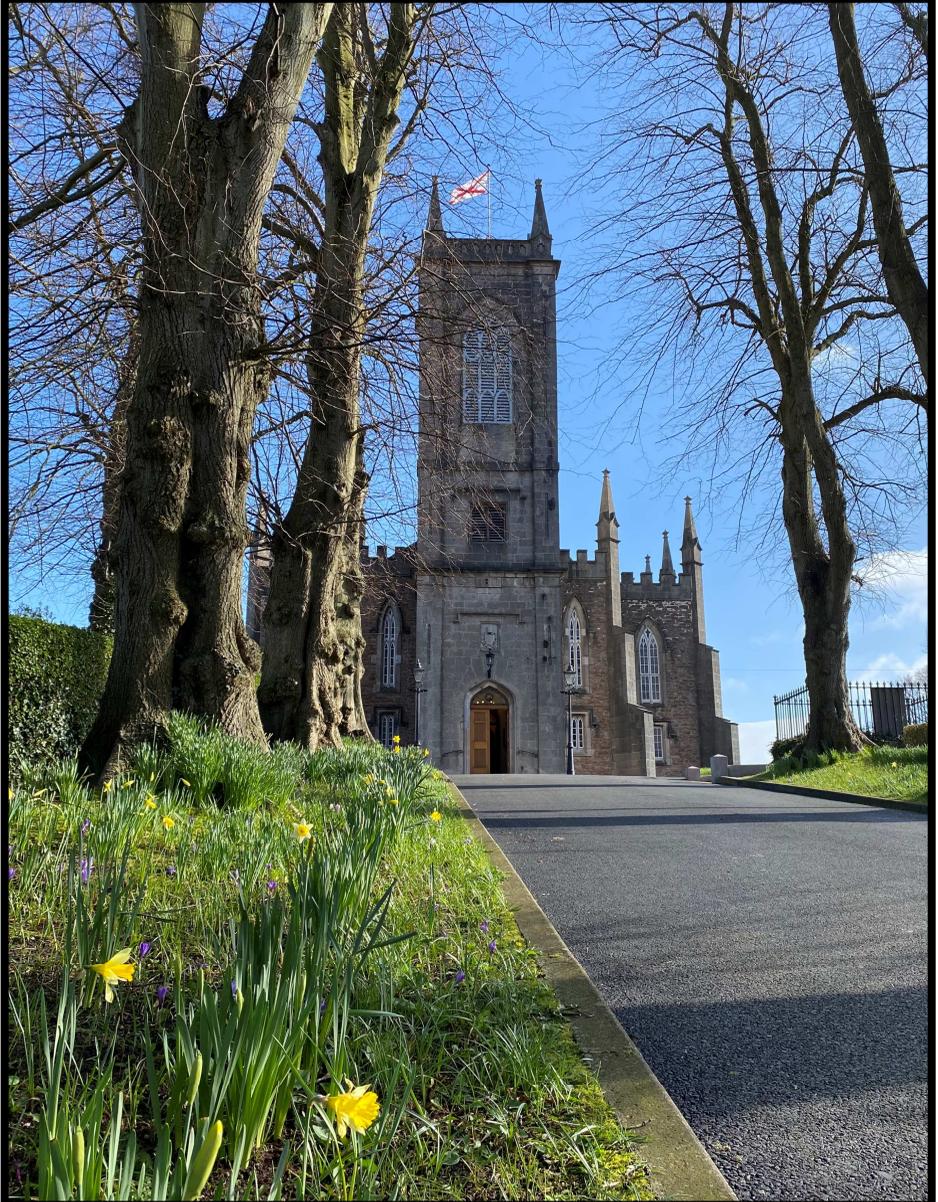
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# PINNACLES

## April 2022





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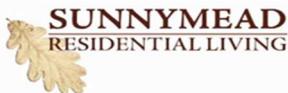
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## Rector's Letter.....

Dear Friends,

I wonder if you have taken part in the latest craze that is 'Wordle'?

If you haven't tried it yet, Wordle can be found by searching online. It offers a new 5 letter word to guess each day and is the perfect accompaniment to my bowl of porridge in the morning! With six attempts available, discovering the hidden word is deduced using insights gained from previous attempts and the consequently revealed correct and incorrect letters. As everyone is guessing the same word each day, there is a social element to this game as well!

On a journey of learning, insights combine like pieces of a jigsaw, to discover what is to be understood. However, often with hindsight, we can identify clues on that journey not recognised before. This is certainly what seemed to happen in the approach to the cross and the discovery of the empty tomb.

Despite many instances of Jesus seeking to prepare his followers for his death and resurrection, it was by looking back that the clues combined to reveal what happened and why. The events of Holy Week were no accident. Easter confirms that! And an example of the very detail of Jesus' words and actions participating in this wondrous journey is found on the cross where just before he died, we read that; *"...knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty."* (John 19v28). What happened was intended. Jesus obeyed and fulfilled.

During Holy Week and on Easter Sunday, the theme for our thoughts will be 'Journey to fulfilment'. We very much hope that as we draw from John's Gospel together we might grow in faith and love of the one whose cross and tomb speak of his grace and his glory. May we journey, learn, pray and worship together.

Yours in Christ,

*Malcolm*

## THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the online Habitat for Humanity Ukraine Appeal, as well as the Bishops' Appeal collection in church. All donations are very much appreciated.



Our Bishops' Appeal collection has now been forwarded accordingly, however, the online opportunity to donate to the Habitat for Humanity Ukraine Appeal remains and can be found by going to the 'Links' page of our Parish Website.

## PALM SUNDAY & HOLY WEEK SERVICES

On Palm Sunday (April 10th, 7pm), a special service featuring hymns, anthems and readings focused upon the Passion will take place in St Mark's. We very much look forward to this service of grateful remembrance for the Lord's sacrifice, which will feature our Parish Choir.



During Holy Week, short said services will take place in church each morning at 8am. Evening Services will take place at 8pm (excl. Maundy Thursday). On Maundy Thursday (April 14th), the evening Holy Communion Service will take place in the context of a meal in the Crozier Hall from 7pm. Everyone is invited to share with us on this very special occasion. To assist with catering, please indicate your intention to attend by telephoning the Parish Office (37523197) by Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April (1pm).

The Preachers during our Holy Week Evening Services will be our Parish Clergy. Leading our thoughts at the '3 Hours Service' (Good Friday from 12noon to 3pm) will be Rev'd Henry Blair (Rector of Tullanisken & Clonoe). Please feel free to join us at any point during the 3 Hours Service and stay for as long as you wish.

## EASTER SUNDAY

Early risers are greatly encouraged to make the short trip to The Argory for the Easter Dawn Service at 6.30am! Morning Services shall take place in church as usual at 8.30am and 10.30am (Family Holy Communion Service) with breakfast being served in the Crozier Hall from 8am to 9am. Please plan to join us as we praise and celebrate the risen Lord together.



The Easter Evening Service (7pm) will feature Hymns and Readings celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus. Everyone will be most welcome to join us for what will be a most uplifting praise service.



## MEETING NOTICE!

### GENERAL VESTRY MEETING

The annual General or Easter Vestry Meeting is planned take place in The Crozier Hall on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022 (7.30pm).

Everyone is invited to join as we reflect on the year past, elect Select Vestry Members and look forward with faith together.

### SUMMER MADNESS

Summer Madness will take place form July 1st-5th at Portglenone Monastery.

Details on how to book place are now available form the Church Website [www.stmarksarmagh.org](http://www.stmarksarmagh.org) .

All young people of secondary school age are invited to join us for a lot of fun in the great outdoors!



### BOWLING CLUB



I am appealing to past members of the Bowling Club who may have no further use for their bowls, if they would consider donating them to our Club. As you are probably aware our Club membership has declined over the past few years and being able to give access to bowls may encourage new members. If you are willing to do this, please contact Winston Montgomery or through the Church Office.

### FIRST THURSDAY CLUB

For our meeting on 7th April we have invited along our Curate, Sarah to give us a talk on her life in the Ministry, which we are looking forward to. We meet as usual in the Crozier Hall at 2.30pm and new members are always welcome. *Ann*

### MARKSMEN

Marksmen continue to meet on Wednesday mornings from 10.30am in The Venue. As always, new members are more than welcome to join in this social gathering of men who enjoy a chat over a cup of tea & a scone!



St Mark's, Armagh

# Maundy Thursday Service and Meal

14th April, 7pm  
in The Crozier Hall



**To reserve seating, please contact  
The Parish Office (37523197) by 12th April, 1pm**

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PEUGEOT

## HOME COMMUNION

Holy Communion at home is available for all parishioners who are unable to come to church for health reasons. If you, or someone you know from our parish, would like to make an arrangement for Malcolm or Sarah to visit and share in Holy Communion prior to, or just after Easter, please feel free to contact the Parish Office



## HM THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

Celebratory events are planned to commemorate HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

In our plans at present are a Barbecue on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June (7pm), an Afternoon Tea on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> (2.30pm) and a special service on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> (7pm). Please keep an eye out for further details via social media, as well as in our monthly magazine (Pinnacles) and weekly Pew News sheet, which are both available from our Parish Website.



## COVID MITIGATION MEASURES

As a Select Vestry we have agreed a steady progression out of the measures applied for Covid mitigation.

On Easter Sunday our intention is for the weekly 8.30am Holy Communion return to St Mark's. Also on Easter Sunday, Holy Communion will be offered at the 10.30am service and will reoccur monthly at 10.30am on the first Sunday. Individual communion glasses shall remain in use for the time being, with the intention to return to the common communion cup in the future.

Face coverings are optional during services, but it is desirable for them to be worn whilst unseated and during the singing of hymns. The choir are exempted from the preference to sing whilst wearing masks. Greater than 1m social distancing shall remain in the church and hall until the next review by the Select Vestry. In due course, the resumption of the hall's availability for funeral teas will accompany the removal of social distancing.

As a Select Vestry we wish to thank our parishioners for their continued observance of Covid mitigating measures. Our continued desire is for our Parish premises to places where people can attend and feel reassured. Should you have any queries concerning these procedures, please feel free to contact the Rector at any time.

**DRIVE THROUGH  
DROP OFF**

**(FOR ARMAGH FOODBANK)**



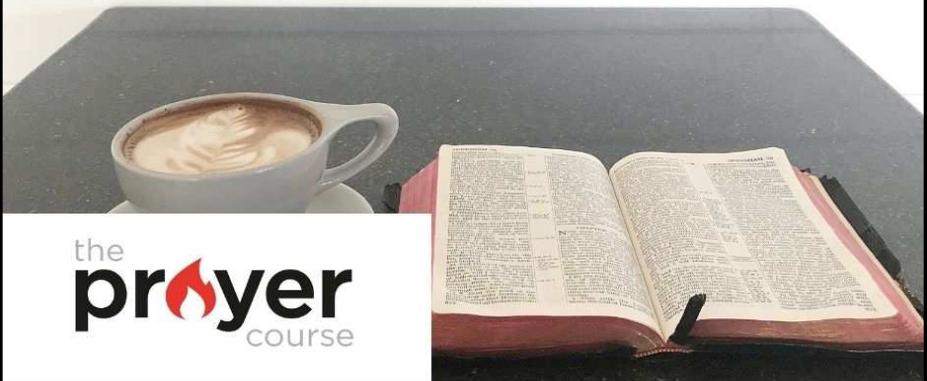
**SATURDAY 9TH APRIL  
(10AM - 12NOON)  
CROZIER HALL**

**ST MARK'S ARMAGH**

# **HOMEGROUP**

**TUESDAY 3RD MAY**

**THE VENUE @ 7:30PM**



the  
**prayer**  
course

## ALIVE UPDATE

I wonder did you ever think you'd see Hugh Grant in The Crozier Hall? Well it happened on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Sadly, we didn't see him in the flesh but when The Crozier Hall was transformed into a cinema we did witness him on the screen in the 2002 classic 'Two Weeks Notice' starring Sandra Bullock. With the popcorn flowing, Alive enjoyed a night at the movies. If you've never seen the film I can highly recommend.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 7:30pm in The Crozier Hall. We'll be meeting to have a short talk on the Biblical character of Sarah and will have some group discussion over a cuppa on what we can learn from her today.

It's hard to believe that I am now writing for the April edition of Pinnacles but as they say, 'time flies when you're having fun'. Planning ahead I'm sure many of you are thinking about your plans for summer and what that will entail (hopefully some sun!). With that said I've been doing some planning for Alive in the coming months. Usually around summer many organisations tend to take a break but I thought it might be nice to have something a little different for those of us who maybe won't be jet setting this summer. I'd like to introduce to you Alive & Active (please note the word 'active' is used very loosely!). The plan is that we would meet every other Thursday evening in July and August for a walk or a light activity followed by a cuppa in the Crozier Hall. More details will be available in the coming months but if you're about and up for it I'd love for you to attend, if you'd like any more details please get in touch.

If you've never attended Alive before please know that a warm welcome awaits you. Alive is for any woman, any age to come to be encouraged in faith and life.

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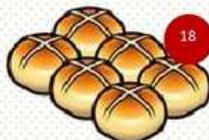
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# EASTER

Fill in the crossword and find the hidden words.



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## *Curate's Corner...*

### **'It's okay to not be okay'**

We've probably all heard this cliché as the world opens up to remove the stigma from mental health. However, when you're actually not okay it is probably the last thing you want to hear. As you may know I'm very passionate about Mental Health and the role the church has to play for those who suffer from ill mental health. Last year I wrote my dissertation entitled '*Unveiling the Mask: A GAP Analysis of Mental Health Resources for Clergy within the Church of Ireland and Beyond. A Renewed Vision for a Stigma Free Church*'. So naturally when I found out that our Lent series would be focused on mental health I was excited (sadly Pinnacles is a booklet or else I would happily write another dissertation on the topic for my Curate's corner).

As part of our Lent series I preached on depression and how it is found in the Bible and many heroes of the Christian faith have suffered with it too. We considered Elijah looking at 1Kings 19:3-15. If we look at this passage from a medical point of view and consider Elijah's symptoms he was what we would call today depressed. Depressed in the clinical sense is not just having a bad day. But the jewel in the midst of this passage is what God does for Elijah. He doesn't rebuke him, he doesn't tell him to shake it off rather he is practical in his approach and provides him with food and rest. He doesn't stop there, when Elijah is feeling better he takes him to Mount Horeb and shows him that he can still be used (despite his wounds) for God's glory.

Pre-covid it was said that 1 in 4 people suffer from a diagnosed mental illness, an astounding fact as we walk the streets of Armagh and take into account how many people are suffering. So what can you do? **Talk about it** just like we'd tell a friend when we'd broken our arm, got a terminal diagnosis or has any other physical ailment. **Provide practically** for those you know who are struggling. Continue to **check in** on people and ask the difficult question of 'how is your mental health?' It can be an awkward conversation to start but it is one we must all have. Finally, **pray**, we believe in a God who listens to our every prayer and so let's bring those in need to the feet of Jesus for restoration.

If you yourself are suffering or if like me you're passionate about the topic please feel free to come and chat. I'll always make time to chat over a cup of tea and support you in any way I can, even if it's listening to that first hurdle of telling someone you're struggling. Please know you are not alone. You may feel far away from God amidst it all but know that he is with you just as he was with Elijah, he hears your every prayer and cry for help and it is because he lives that we can face tomorrow.

Every Blessing , *Sarah*

Diocese of Armagh

# MESSY EASTER CHILDREN'S AND FAMILIES EVENT



DATE

Sat 9th April 2022,  
2pm to 4pm



LOCATION

St. Patrick's Cathedral,  
Armagh (Church of Ireland)



A fun two hour Easter event for children and families from across Armagh Diocese. Plenty of arts and crafts, worship and snacks all designed to help children celebrate the hope of Easter in the person of Jesus!

To book please visit: <https://form.123formbuilder.com/6089529/form>



## April Service Rota...

### 3rd: The 5th Sunday in Lent

8.30am : Holy Communion

10.30am : Morning Prayer

Reader : *Mervyn Adamson*

7.00pm : Evening Prayer

### 10th : Palm Sunday

8.30am : Holy Communion

10.30am : Morning Service

Reader : *Ann Williamson*

7.00pm : Hymns & Readings  
(The Passion)

### 17th : Easter Day

8.30am : Holy Communion

10.30am : Family Easter Service

7.00pm : Hymns & Readings (Easter)

### 24th : The 2nd Sunday of Easter

8.30am : Holy Communion

10.30am : Morning Prayer

Reader : *Wendy Davison*

7.00pm : Holy Communion  
(St Mark)

### Holy Week

Monday 11th - Wednesday 13th 8am & 8pm

Maundy Thursday (14th) 8pm & 7pm

Good Friday (15th) 8am, 12noon - 3pm, 8pm



EASTER

DAWN SERVICE



with Archbishop John McDowell  
and praise led by St Mark's Portadown's worship group.

Sunday 17th April | 6:30am

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## CHURCH RECORDS

### Holy Baptism

27th February : Lottie Jenna Doreen Malcolmson

20th March : Lucie Wilson

### Service of Thanksgiving for the life of

23rd February : Ian Thomas Kernaghan

18th March : Elizabeth (Lily) Jenkins

19th March : Elizabeth (Betty) Wells

25th March : Martha Eileen Nugent



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The Gate Lodge  
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### *Parish Administrator :*

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### *Contact Details*

#### **Rector : Rev'd Canon Malcolm Kingston**

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#### **Curate : Rev'd Sarah Parkinson**

The Curatage, 6 Ashley Avenue  
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#### **Hon. Senior Associate Priest :**

Very Revd Robert Townley

#### **Diocesan Reader : Mr Paul Turton**

**Pastoral Assistants :** Mrs Adele Geddis,  
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#### **Parish Readers :** Mrs Adele Geddis,

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#### **Rector's Churchwarden :**

Mrs Sarah Peilow

#### **People's Churchwarden :**

Mr Robert Johnston

## CHURCH OFFICE

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St Mark's, Armagh  
**HOLY WEEK  
& EASTER**

Palm Sunday (10th April)  
8.30am, 10.30am & 7pm

Monday - Wednesday  
8am & 8pm

Maundy Thursday  
8am & 7pm

Good Friday  
8am, 12noon - 3pm, 8pm

Easter Sunday (17th April)  
8.30am, 10.30am & 7pm

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