

HOLYWOOD PARISH

Sunday 17th May 2026



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Dear friends

Thomas told me recently that skywriters, planes leaving trails in the sky, were quite a common occurrence when he lived in Australia. I was conscious that it is unlikely to take off here in the flight path of Belfast City Airport which seems set to become busier.



But, if I was to come across you gazing up into the sky, I would probably ask why? It is the question two angels (the obvious option for the identity of these figures in Acts 1) ask of the apostles at Jesus' ascension: "why do you stand here looking into the sky?"

In the case of the apostles the answer has a number of layers. They had just witnessed something supernatural and spectacular so they are in awe. They are wondering about what it means. And in their bewilderment they are probably thinking: what do we do now.

The angels' question and subsequent message tells them that Jesus will return and Jesus' injunction before his departure told them that they, and we, have work to do. As we mark ascentiontide and move to Pentecost- by all means let's look up for inspiration but look around us at the work to which God has called each one of us.

In closing a word about pastoral ministry and some thanks.

Please let us know if family members or friends are in hospital and would like us to call.

Thank you for all your donations towards the work of Christian Aid- it is still possible to donate to their work with Gift Aid envelopes available at services. Yours in Christ, Gareth

Just Desserts for Christian Aid

The total raised so far is over £1100?
Donations are still welcome



Choristers at Evensong– Sunday 17th

Our choristers will be contributing their voices to our
5.30pm service.



Parish Fellowship Bible Study – Mondays

The series on 2 Peter continues for another few weeks
and there is still time to come along.

Prayers for Holywood

Monday 18th – Holywood Methodist

Due to the second bank holiday this month's
Prayers for Holywood is earlier than normal.



GIGGLE – Friday 22nd May at 2.00pm

Fun, crafts, games, snacks, music for
primary school children. Book now or speak to
Emily for more details.

Welcome Lunch

The next lunch for newcomers to the parish is on Sunday 14th June at
1.00pm. If you are new to parish life and haven't been to one of these
before, please make this a priority– and the food is great. Talk to the
wardens, the clergy or the office about signing up.

PrayerLine

We have a group of intercessors which faithfully prays (in
confidence) for issues brought to them. If you would like them
to pray for you please contact the clergy or the parish office.
Updates to prayer requests are particularly welcome too.



Praying Together

Monday–Saturday 7.30am–7.45am Morning Prayer

Monday Evenings 7.00pm

Friday Mornings 8.45am



St Philip and St James
Holywood Parish Church

WELCOME LUNCH SUNDAY 14TH JUNE 1.00PM PARISH CENTRE




Contact the Parish Office 028 9042 3622
or welcome@hollywoodparishchurch.co.uk
Please let us know any food allergies or intolerances



Sunday and Midweek Services

Sunday 17th May Seventh Sunday of Easter

8.00am	Holy Communion Form 1
9.45am	Morning Worship
11.30am	Morning Prayer
5.30pm	Choristers' Service 
7.00pm	Worship Night- Knocknagoney Parish Church

Sunday 24th May Pentecost

8.00am	Holy Communion Form 1
9.45am	Morning Worship
11.30am	Morning Prayer
5.30pm	Holy Communion Form 1 with Choir
7.00pm	Holy Communion at Evening Worship

Prayer Focus

As we move towards Pentecost-give thanks for the work of the Holy Spirit among us and pray that we use his gifts wisely and well.

Midweek Communion: Wednesday Mornings at 10.30am

Service recordings on [downtoearth tv](#) [here](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

Please contact the parish office

Pre-School Praise	PSP needs helpers to support their work with toddlers and families. If you don't mind getting your hands covered in paint please speak to Bridget or Emily
Sound and Visuals	If you would like to be trained in operating the church's AV setup- please speak to Simon or visit the folks at the desk on a Sunday.
Sunday Morning Tea and Coffee	Can you help us by preparing tea and coffee or assisting with clear up afterwards. Just let us know in the office.

Thank you for your financial support to the parish. If you like to discuss financial matters- standing orders, Gift Aid etc. please contact our Honorary Treasurer, Brian Beatty, through the parish office (details below).

**holygiving
is giving wholly**

Contact Us

Hollywood Parish Office

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