



# WELCOME

FIRST CHURCH BALLYNAHINCH 5TH May 2024

## ABOUT US

Our vision is to be a vibrant, worshipping Christian community, growing in our love for God, love for each other and love for the world in which we live. We are glad that you have joined with us and we hope you feel comfortable to worship as the Spirit leads you.

## SERVICES:

### Month of May

- Sunday 5th “Vision of Jesus, Rev 1:9-20” Dario Leal
- Sunday 12th “Letter to the church in Ephesus, Rev2 : 1-7” Communion by DL
  - Sunday 19th “Letter to the Church in Smyrna, Rev 2 8-11” DL
  - Sunday 26th “Letter to the Church in Pergamum, Rev 2 12-17” DL

### Weekly Bulletin

- **Churches Together Foodbank donations** / Tuesday/ 9am-1pm / First Halls
- **First Steps** / Thursday/ 10.30am-12 / Halls
- **Fortify Training** begins on Zoom for those involved in Parent & Toddler group / children/youth ministry / Thursday / 7.45—9.15pm
- **First creche, First Kids, Breakfast & Bible**/ Sunday 5th May/ 11am-12noon/ Halls
- **First Youth** / Sunday 5th May / 7pm-9pm / Halls
- **Upcoming Events in May:** Christian Aid / Walking Group /Presbyterian Women’s Conference / PCI Family Festival church trip / Fortify Day training :children, youth and culture.

— More info detailed below —

### Church Programs:

**House Groups** (twice a month)

**First Steps** every Thursday 10.30-12noon

**Whatever Wednesday** - 10.30-12noon

**Creche** every Sun 11am-12noon except all age services

**First Kids** every Sun 11—12noon except all age services

**Breakfast and Bible (11+)** Most weeks 11.15-12noon

**First Youth (1st Year+)** every Sunday 7 - 9pm

**Friends First**— once a month, Monday 7.30pm-9.15om

**Bowls** every Wednesday 7.30pm

**Likewise** Tuesday, twice a month, 7.30pm-9pm

### Other Programs:

**Girl guides** Tuesday/ 7.30-9pm

**Scouts:** Thursday /6.30pm

**The Edge P7's** every Wednesday 3pm-4.30pm First Halls

### NUT ALLERGIES

- **As we have members of the congregation who have a severe allergy to nuts, please do not bring nuts or foodstuffs which contain nuts (e.g. snickers bars, hand wash / soaps containing shea butter) into our halls. Thank you.**

## PRAYER

**Sunday Morning**

10.15 - 10.45am in the Prayer room behind the pulpit, plus prayer ministry available after every Service.

**Wednesday Churches Together**

Prayer Zoom from 1-2pm  
contact Kelvin for details

02897564699

# Notices:

**Please Note: Home group** is a great place to get to know one another in Church through fellowship outings, prayer and bible studies; and usually meet twice a month. Its an easy going group that walks through life with you supporting you through the highs and lows. If you would like to know more or join a home group in Church to do life with one another, please speak to Brian Mc Kee.

**Monday - Facilitators**  
John and Elaine Orr  
meeting in the Fee's home

**Tuesday - Facilitators**  
Joanne McFadzean  
and Jennie Campbell  
meeting in the Davidson's home

**Tuesday - Facilitators** Gavin Martin and Ann Armstrong meeting in the Guy's home

**Wednesday - Facilitators** Karren smith and Tristan Bell meeting in the various homes

**Home Groups** starting February will be looking will be looking at the book of Daniel with the help of Jeff Lucas' book "Singing in Babylon" Singing in Babylon explores what it looks like to live with second choices - events and circumstances that we would not chose, some trivial, some tragic, and how we, like Daniel, can find purpose and meaning in life's second choices.

<https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/singing-in-babylon/>





**The Helpline is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. The Foodbank operates all week but through the Helpline. The number is 03330501167.**

**Food donations welcomed!**

**First Presbyterian Church Ballynahinch**



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."  
Matthew 19:14

## First Steps

First Steps parent and toddler group is on every Thursday from 10.30am - 12noon! We cant wait to welcome you with a cuppa, chat and playtime for your little ones including crafts and song time! All Welcome!



## CHRISTIAN AID

Christian Aid annual collection week is from 12 to 18 May this year. Christian Aid has had a very challenging year with situations in Ukraine, Gaza, many parts of Africa and elsewhere and depends heavily on the Annual collection to be able to provide the vital support in development activities and disaster situations. On the local front the Ballynahinch CA group collection last year was considerably down compared with past years, due partly to less house to house collectors and partly to competition within First with the SAT7 Appeal. The house to house Collection depends almost completely now on First and some of the stalwarts of past years are no longer able to do this on health grounds so we urgently need a new group of volunteers!! If you are able to walk at least 1 kilometer (fast or slow) you are a potential volunteer !! Please, please consider if you could set aside a few hours during the week (12-18 May) for this very valuable service and contact Kelvin (028 9756 4699, mobile 07940865540) or speak to me at Church before the end of April.





## First Walking Group

**First Walking Group** commences in June and will run through the summer months. Dates, time and locations are all provided! Everyone Welcome to join, please speak to Heather to join the What's app group for updated info in-case of weather, or location updates!

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
03.06.24	7.30PM	Meeting at First Church then walk around Ballynahinch, river walk, past windmill etc...
10.06.24	7.30PM	Tievenadarragh Forrest walk – Brennan's ice cream after!
17.06.24	7.30PM	Killyleagh
24.06.24	7.30PM	Delamont
08.07.24	7.30PM	Murlough beach
15.07.24	7.30PM	Glasswater Woods
22.07.24	7.30PM	Castlewellan Forrest Park
29.07.24	7.30PM	Quoile Downpatrick
05.08.24	7.30PM	Castlewellan Forrest Park
12.08.24	7.30PM	Ballynahinch (Prayer walk for MK)
19.08.24	7.30PM	Hillsborough Forest Park
26.08.24	7.30PM	Newcastle promenade

# KIDS, YOUTH AND FAMILIES ANNOUNCEMENTS

## First Church Creche



Every Sunday 11am

## Bible & Breakfast



**First Creche** and **First Kids** are running every week as per usual, except for special services. We begin in Church and then head out to our programmes within the first 15mins of the service.

**Bible & Breakfast** will be running every week until the end of June, in the youth room except for special services. Same time as above .



### First Youth

First Youth is on Sunday 5th May at the usual time of 7pm-9pm. We are studying the topic of prayer and then playing fun games in the halls alongside some good food!

We are aiming to get First Youth Hoodies ORDERED soon so anyone who hasn't already filled out a form please see Heather ASAP and we thank you all for your patience waiting on them during Heathers absence!



### Friends First

Friends First Lunch has raised a total of **£943.25** to date, however there is still a chance to donate!

**Thank you to everyone for their support and generosity"**

# Events:



### **First Church Annual Picnic**

**Date: JUNE : Date to be confirmed**

**Time: After Church Service**

**Location : TO BE CONFIRMED**

**Put it in the Diary!**

**Not to be missed games, activities, music/ crafts and good craic!**

# DOWN

Presbytery Youth



DPY IS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN  
THE DOWN AREA WHO WANT TO  
FOLLOW JESUS.



ALL  
WELCOME

DPY  
Down Presbytery Youth

## Dates for the Diary

- Saturday 29th June 2024
- Time: 7pm-9.30pm

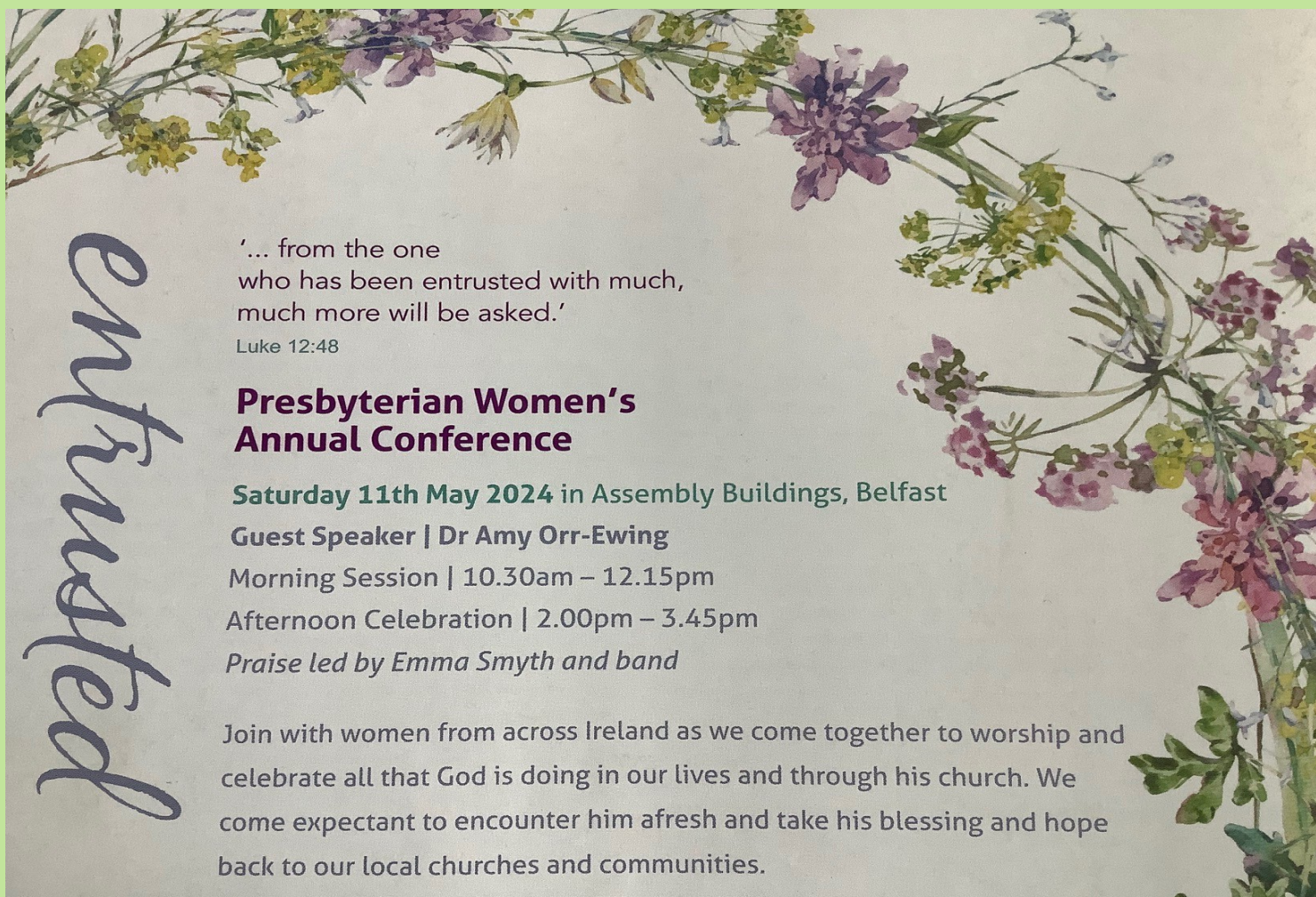
MORE INFO  
COMING SOON...

## DOWN PRESBYTERY YOUTH

Please put the dates in the diary as  
**I would love all of First Youth to  
attend** as we gather together to  
worship God, get to know one an-  
other from different churches, play  
games, eat food and hang out!

**Next Date: 29th June**

# Presbyterian Women's Annual Conference



*entrusted*

'... from the one  
who has been entrusted with much,  
much more will be asked.'  
Luke 12:48

**Presbyterian Women's  
Annual Conference**

**Saturday 11th May 2024** in Assembly Buildings, Belfast  
**Guest Speaker | Dr Amy Orr-Ewing**  
Morning Session | 10.30am – 12.15pm  
Afternoon Celebration | 2.00pm – 3.45pm  
*Praise led by Emma Smyth and band*

Join with women from across Ireland as we come together to worship and  
celebrate all that God is doing in our lives and through his church. We  
come expectant to encounter him afresh and take his blessing and hope  
back to our local churches and communities.

## PCI Family Festival 2024 - Fun at the Farm!

The 2024 Family Festival will be an afternoon of '**Fun at the Farm**' with plenty of activities to keep families and little ones entertained.

### **Activities will include:**

- Barrel Rides
- Bouncy castle
- Disco dome bouncy castle
- Rodeo bull
- Junior quads
- Reptile handling
- Animal feeding
- Crafts



**Come along with your family and invite families to join you! Bring a picnic and join with families from other churches for the afternoon's fun.**

**WHEN:** Saturday 18 May, 2.00 - 5.00 pm

**WHERE:** Spruce Meadows, Lisburn

**WHO:** Families with pre-schoolers and primary school children.

**If you and your family wish to go to this event PLEASE contact Heather Anthony on 07544638863 or email [heather@firstchurch.co.uk](mailto:heather@firstchurch.co.uk) as this is a booked event and we would love to go as a group from First Church!**

# Training opportunities

... Ladies, DO NOT MISS OUT ...



## Holding out HOPE

### (Irish Women's Convention Workshop)

Come and join us ladies for our evangelism workshop, led by **Rico Tice** from Christianity Explored Ministries. Rico will help us understand how God is sovereignly at work drawing people to himself, and yet chooses to use us as a means of reaching those who do not yet know him.

[I wish to encourage ALL FIRST LADIES serving in church as elders, home group leaders, friends first, first steps, youth, children volunteers, catering team—the list is endless— Go to this event—it teaches us the fundamentals of talking about Jesus in your circumstances and will be invaluable to everything you serve in!](#)

**Date: Sat 1 Jun 2024**

**Time: 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM BST**

**Where: Assembly Buildings Belfast**

**Cost: £18**

**Speak to Heather Anthony who can organise Tickets**

Can I encourage ALL of our Creche, First kids and Youth volunteers to attend this amazing training opportunity!

**Fortify**  
**Days**

Fortify Days are for everyone involved in kid's and youth ministry! The aim of the days is to encourage, resource and equip those who are passionate about raising the next generation to know Jesus and live for God's glory. There will be several days every year across the U.K. and Ireland that you can plan to bring your teams to, we hope that they'll be accessible for everyone and that includes making them very affordable and highly interactive.

**DATE: 18TH MAY 2024**

**TIME: 10.30AM—4.30PM**

**COST: £20**

**WHERE: First Portadown Presbyterian, 5 Watson St, Portadown, Craigavon BT63 5AQ**

The children and teens we serve are each a unique masterpiece knitted together by their loving Heavenly Father. They each have been created in their Maker's image. They carry immense dignity, value and worth. Join us as we consider how to best love this next generation. Throughout each Fortify Day we will mine the riches of God's Word for help and guidance, join together to sing the praises of our loving Creator, and unite in prayer for the children and teens entrusted to our care.



# Fortify

## Courses

### Running a Toddler Group

2 Thursday evenings, starting 2 May 2024  
7:45pm – 9:15pm, on Zoom  
£18pp or £90 per team

**GYD** [growingyoungdisciples.co.uk/fortify/courses](http://growingyoungdisciples.co.uk/fortify/courses)

### Two New Fortify Courses

Join us in the halls as we zoom into this amazing training course over four Thursday evenings beginning 2nd May!

Can I encourage all leaders/ volunteers in First Steps, First Kids and First youth to book these evenings in the diary and contact Heather to let her know your attendance!

Training paid for as a team and we will zoom in and put it on the big screen in the halls!

# Fortify

## Courses

### Culture and Children's & Youth Ministry

4 Thursday evenings, starting 2 May 2024  
7:45pm – 9:15pm, on Zoom  
£35pp or £150 per team

**GYD** [growingyoungdisciples.co.uk/fortify/courses](http://growingyoungdisciples.co.uk/fortify/courses)

## Good Reads for 2024 - The Good Book Company



### 5 THINGS TO PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH

We long for God to be working in our church fellowship, and we know we're meant to be praying for our church. But often when it comes to it, we don't quite know what to ask for. Or we feel our requests to God are shallow, repetitive and stuck in a rut.

That's where this little book is designed to help. It will equip you to pray powerful prayers for your church family—prayers that really change things, because they're based on God's word.

Each spread takes a passage of Scripture and suggests 5 things to pray for an aspect of church life. Because when we pray in line with God's priorities as found in his word, our prayers are powerful and effective (James 5 v 16)—and that's a truly thrilling prospect.



### 5 THINGS TO PRAY FOR YOUR KIDS

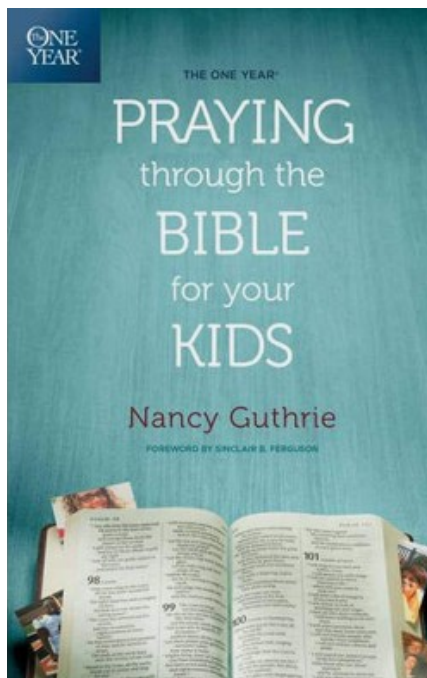
Our culture says that the most important things for children are education, good health, treats, entertainment, and material things.

Yet as Christians, we know that children's spiritual health is the most important thing. So we need to pray for them, but where do we start?

This little guide is both deep and easy to use. Melissa Kruger takes us back to the Bible to show us what God's will for children is, so we can pray in line with it.

She selects 21 key areas of spiritual growth and character development. For each one, there are five short prayer prompts drawn straight from the Bible.

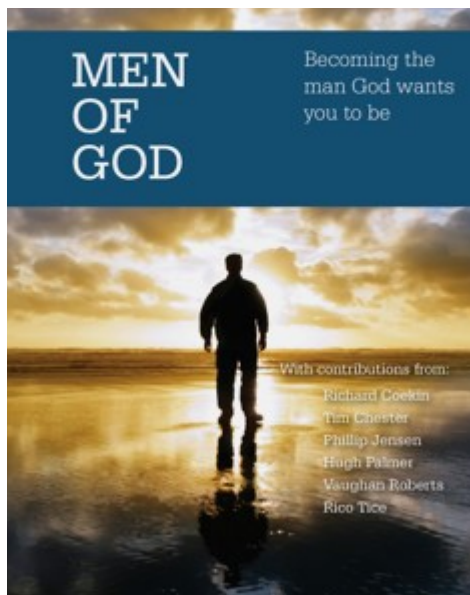
This book can be used in any number of ways: work through it as part of your daily quiet time, or pick it up whenever a particular need arises. Either way, it's worth stepping out of the busyness of daily life for five minutes to pray meaningfully for your child, grandchild, godchild, or kids in your church—from tots to teens, and every age in between.



### PRAYING through the BIBLE for your KIDS

As parents we want to protect our children; we want them to move forward in life; most importantly, we want them to take hold of and grow in Christ. And while the advice offered by parenting experts can be helpful, at some point we realize there are no simplistic formulas or sure-fire methods. We need wisdom from God's Word for this all-important task.

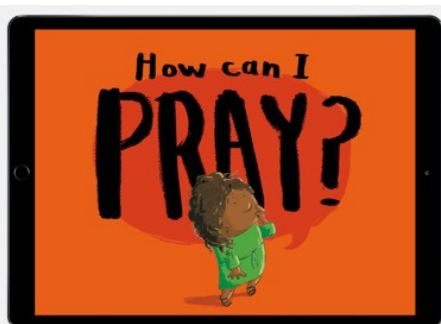
In *The One Year Praying through the Bible for Your Kids*, trusted author Nancy Guthrie weaves together wisdom and insight from each day's reading in *The One Year Bible*, providing encouragement through the triumphs and turbulence of parenting. Day by day you'll find your dreams and desires for your children are becoming shaped more by Scripture than by the culture around you. Worry less, pray more, and help yourself to a daily dose of perspective, hope, and grace as you parent



### MEN OF GOD

Has there ever been a more urgent time for Christian men to stand up and be counted? Family life is being systematically destroyed in our culture. Biblical Christianity is being undermined from within the historic denominations. The demands and insecurity of working life are increasing.

This book is designed to encourage Christian men to live for Christ: in their homes; in their workplaces; in their leisure; and in their churches. It is a resource for developing strong men's ministries in the local church which will lead to the mutual nurture, support and encouragement of men to keep going in our resolve to know Christ and to make Him known.



### How Can I Pray? storybook,

Perfect for use in groups with children aged **2-4 years old**.

An engaging retelling for toddlers of Jesus teaching his followers how to pray, including the Lord's Prayer.



### ANYTIME, ANY PLACE, ANY PRAYER

Teach **kids** how to pray with this beautifully illustrated Bible storybook



### Does prayer change things? Teens/adults

When a Christian prays, does it make any difference? Does it change anything? Though our prayers do not change God's mind, He ordains prayer as a means to accomplish His will. We can be confident that prayer does change things--including our own hearts. The *Crucial Questions* booklet series by Dr. R.C. Sproul offers succinct answers to important questions often asked by Christians and thoughtful inquirers.

For your information...

Choose a caring career...

Presbyterian



## Lawnfield House Newcastle

Caring for older people

Service  
related  
pay  
awards

# ONE-STOP RECRUITMENT DAY

## Lawnfield House

5 King Street, Newcastle, BT33 0HA

Wednesday 22 May 2024

10am–4pm

• Application form • Interview • Outcome

We have a range of roles that could suit you, with a variety of working patterns.

### Current vacancies include:

- Senior Care Assistant (nights)
- Relief Senior Care Assistant
- Care Assistant (nights)
- Relief Care Assistant
- Housekeeper
- Relief Cook

### Any queries?

Contact Karen Zeigelmeier on +44 (0)28 4372 6860 Lawnfield House, 5 King Street, Newcastle

### Benefits include:

- Discount card – entitling you to money off in various locations
- Free uniform and training
- Enhanced annual leave
- Free Access NI and NISCC registration
- Enhanced maternity pay and pension scheme
- Pay awards – service related

You are invited!



Katie Weir  
Relief Care  
Assistant

"I love working in Lawnfield House as it is extremely rewarding."

"The residents and staff are all so welcoming and friendly."

For more information about Lawnfield House vacancies and opportunities in other Homes, please visit:

[www.presbyterianireland.org/socialcarejobs](http://www.presbyterianireland.org/socialcarejobs)

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

\*Terms and conditions apply

## CONTACT US

**Tel:** Church Office 028 97564404  
Thursday 9.00am to 1.45pm

**Email:** [info@firstchurch.co.uk](mailto:info@firstchurch.co.uk)

**Web:** [www.firstchurch.co.uk](http://www.firstchurch.co.uk)

Minister: Rev Dario Leal - [info@firstchurch.co.uk](mailto:info@firstchurch.co.uk)

Youth, Family , Children's and mission worker: Mrs Heather Anthony - 07544638863 or [heather@firstchurch.co.uk](mailto:heather@firstchurch.co.uk)



Find us on Facebook @firstchurchballynahinch

**Data protection - GDPR.** During our services and other church events, sound and image recordings are often made in connection with spreading the gospel and sharing Congregational life. If you have any concerns regarding this, please speak to Rev Dario Leal, Brian McKee (Clerk of Session).

### A Living Sacrifice

**12** Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. <sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.

If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your <sup>[a]</sup> faith; <sup>7</sup> if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup> if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, <sup>[b]</sup> do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

**Romans 12 v 1-8**