The Christian Community

MOVEMENT FOR RELIGIOUS RENEWAL

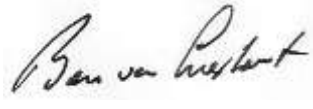
Holywood Congregation **June 2025**

To the Father God, all wielding, all blessing shall stream the devout and heart warm thanks of our soul.
The Act of Consecration at St John's Tide begins with this mighty prayer of thanks to the Father God. In our service we hear how Christ took substances of earth, bread and wine, how He looked up to his Father and gave thanks before uniting his soul with them and sharing them with his disciples.
St John's Tide is when we turn to the Father-ground and offer our thanks for all that is given to us in our life on earth.
At a time when there is so much struggle and hardship but also so much criticism and negativity in the world it is important to count our blessings and give thanks to the source of all that we are given.

We will celebrate the first St John's service on Wednesday 25 June and then on Sunday 29th June the service will be followed by the first of a series of talks about the Lord's Prayer. So between St John's and Michaelmas we will turn to the first seven sentences of this prayer that Christ Himself gave to us.

The first Michaelmas service will be celebrated on Wednesday the 1st of October and the Sunday service on 12 October will be followed by a Michaelmas talk which then also completes our deliberations on the Lord's Prayer: "The mystery of evil".

Autumn is a good time for studying. So between August and November we will have 11 sessions of Gospel study, Tuesdays at 20.00, exploring the riches of Christ's parables.

We have already made a very good start to our fundraising. Between the concert, the Easter fair and May day we have already raised more than £2800.- . And in these difficult financial times your donations and regular contributions have continued and even increased and we are very grateful to all of you who help us to balance our budget.
But fundraising remains a very important so please support our sponsored walk along the coastal path on Sunday the 7th of September. Sponsor forms will be available from Sean Byrne nearer the time.
The Advent fair at the Holywood Steiner School has become our most important fundraising event.
We need to start working towards it in good time and prepare crafts, preserves and home baking.
In our program you will find three craft group meetings on Sundays in October and November where we can inspire each other to make beautiful things together.

Finally, on Sunday 2nd of November we celebrate our annual service of remembrance for those who have died. With greetings and best wishes for the summer, yours, Ben van Lieshout.