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# **YOUR MAGAZINE IN 2023**

The Clogher Diocesan Magazine is published monthly except January and August. It is usually available in parish churches and other selected outlets by the first Sunday of each month.

Due to increased printing costs and postage charges, we have had to increase the subscription for the magazine for 2023. The new subscription rate taking effect from the February 2023 edition is £2 or 2.50 Euros per copy or £20/25 Euros per year. Postal subscriptions will be £44/60 Euro.

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# **Next Magazine in March 2023**

Deadline for submission of material **Wednesday, 15th February 2023.** Content to be sent to dco@clogher.org

## Advertising rates are available upon request.

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# **Front Cover**

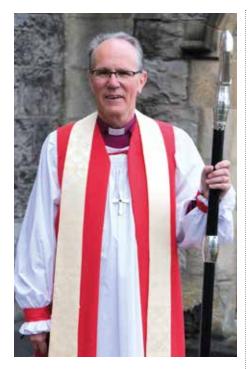
Revd Mark Gallagher tossing pancakes. He is hosting a pancake party in Trory and Killadeas Rectory on Shrove Tuesday, 21 February.

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# A NOTE FROM THE BISHOP



# A Message from the Bishop

The month of February may seem to be a quiet period but it brings to our attention some significant moments in the life and ministry of the Lord Jesus. For example, February 2nd marks the completion of forty days since the birth of Jesus, when Mary and Joseph took the child to the Temple in Jerusalem. They were fulfilling the requirements in Levitical law following the birth of a male child. However, on seeing the holy family, Simeon praised God and acclaimed the infant as 'the light to enlighten the nations and the prophet Anna gave thanks and proclaimed him her Redeemer. The image of Christ as the Light has led to the celebration of light countering darkness, and in some Christian traditions, candles often taking a central place in the observance - hence the name Candlemas.

It is the same message of hope that we proclaim in our world too with rising tensions between nations, the ongoing war in Ukraine and change and uncertainty in our community life. In our parish and personal lives too, we find reassurance that despite how things may look, particularly at this time of year with reduced daylight, God has given us the light of his Son Jesus Christ the Redeemer. Like Simeon and Anna, he is the one we trust to transform any doubts and bring us brighter and better days.

The Rt Revd Dr Ian Ellis
The See House, 152a Ballagh Road, Fivemiletown, Co. Tyrone BT75 0QP
Tel: 028 6634 7879

Email: bishop@clogher.anglican.org



The flickering light of a candle help to assure our hearts that the light of Christ is stronger than any darkness. May his light shine upon our lives to give us his everlasting hope.

### **GROWTH IN DISCIPLESHIP**

There are other signs of hope all around us at this time. As I write these notes, the snow has just melted away after a week of wintry weather. As we scan our flower beds here at the See House, already there are the green shoots of the bulbs bursting forth from the ground. They are always an amazing sign of the resilience of nature and the regularity of the cycle of the seasons pointing us to warmer days.

In church life this is a season for growth too. Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday (22nd February this year) is a period for self-discipline, learning and faith development. Parishes mark this season in a variety of ways: week-day services, bible studies, or discussion groups. I encourage you to take every opportunity either personally or together with others to use the season profitably to learn more about the faith and through a discipline of prayer and study to draw nearer to our Lord.

### LIGHT FOR GROWTH

We all know that plants need light to grow. These two themes apt for the



Green shoots of bulbs coming to life

season: moving forward in hope from darkness to light and growing in the faith. are gifts to us during Lent as we strive to become more resilient disciples. A flame before us draws our eyes to it just as Moses discovered God in the flame of the burning bush in the desert. God as a bright flame draws us onwards, illuminating and warming our hearts. Life is full of experiences - some positive and others we would rather forget. Healing of hurts, and forgiveness are possible in Christ and we can use the insights we gain to move forward and perhaps take others with us. Lent reassures us that growth and new beginnings are ever possible through the grace of God in Christ.

I have found a prayer attributed to St Columba to be strengthening in approaching the unknown of each new day. I offer it to you as a prayer you might use this Lent to nurture your growth in faith:

# O Lord,

Be a bright flame before me, a guiding star above me. Be a smooth path below me, A kindly shepherd behind me, today, tonight and for ever. Amen

### **NEW BEGINNINGS AND WELCOME**

In the next month we shall be welcoming two new clergy to the Diocese. On 16th February at 7.30pm, the Revd Canon Jennifer McWhirter will be instituted as Rector of the parishes of Cleenish and Mullaghdun. The following week on 23rd February at 7.30pm, the Revd Ian Cruickshank will be instituted as Rector of the Carrickmacross group of parishes. These two institution services mark the beginning of a new phase of ministry both for the clergy and for the parishes among whom they come. We look forward in trust and faith for God to bless these new shoots of growth and development. Please pray for both Jennifer and Ian as they prepare for the next stage of their ministry among us.

Yours in Christ's service.

+Ian Clogher

# PARISH NOTES

# Aghadrumsee, Clogh & Drumsnatt



Church Army Officer
Captain David
Hamilton

The Rectory, Drummadarainy, Stonebridge, Clones, Co. Monaghan. T: 047 20826 E: aghadrumsee@clogher.anglican.org

# Services Sunday 5th February

Drumsnatt 9.30am Holy Communion Clogh 10.45am Holy Communion Aghadrumsee 12.05pm Holy Communion Sunday 12th February

Drumsnatt 9.30am Morning Prayer Clogh 10.45am Morning Prayer Aghadrumsee 12.05pm Morning Prayer

Sunday 19th February

Drumsnatt 9.30am Morning Prayer Clogh 10.45am Morning Prayer Aghadrumsee 12.05pm Morning Prayer

Sunday 26th February

Drumsnatt 9.30am Morning Prayer Clogh 10.45am Morning Prayer Aghadrumsee 12.05pm Morning Prayer

# **Christmas Praise**

A wonderful evening of Christmas praise was held in Aghadrumsee at the



All the prizewinners at the finals of Clogh Bowling Tournament who received their prizes from one of the sponsors Rose Tierney from Roslea Enterprise Centre.

beginning of December. Sincere thanks to the organisers, Marina Elliott and Dean Raymond Ferguson, to all the artists who took part, to Ellie Annon and all who assisted her to decorate the church so beautifully and to those provided the festive refreshments.

At the time of writing we look forward welcoming Embrace Socials to our Family Fun Night in Aghadrumsee on 20th January.

# **Clogh Bowling Club**

Friday 6th January was Finals Night at Clogh Bowling Club Open Pairs Tournament, the cumulation of a week of bowls in Clogh Hall. Congratulations to Jamie Morrow and Jamie West who came out as winners in an exciting and closely fought tied end with Nathan Nixon and Roland Nixon. Thank you to all who competed during the week from near and far. All the prize winners were presented with their prizes by Rose Tierney from Rosslea Enterprise Centre, one of the sponsors. A big thank you to all sponsors; Rosslea Enterprise Centre, Deering Agri Supplies, G Scott Hardware, Abbey Garage Doors, D.L. Photography, ABP Blade Farming, K.N. Scanning, SMC Truck Parts Ltd, Clogh RBP 107 and Shankill LOL 664. A big thank you to all who participated and thanks due as well to all those who helped out in any way with the tournament and tea.

# Sympathy

In December, Aghadrumsee lost its oldest parishioner, Mrs Maisie Lovatt, just two months from her 101st birthday. We send our sincere sympathy to her daughters, Heather and Shirley, sons-in-law Tom and Allen and her grandchildren and great grandchildren.



Some of the singers and musicians who took part in our Foretaste of Christmas event in St Mark's Aghadrumsee.



Children from Aghadrumsee Sunday School at their Christmas Party with a special visitor who dropped in to see them.

We were also saddened to learn of the death of Mr William Little, a good friend and supporter of Aghadrumsee Parish. Our sympathy is extended to his wife Hazel, sons Richard, Philip and Gary, daughters Rosalind and Gillian and his grandchildren. Condolences also to the family of Mrs Dorothy Woods (nee Glass) Hillsborough whose funeral took place in Aghadrumsee.



Children from Clogh Sunday school who led the service at the Children's Carol Service at Clogh Church.



Children from Drumsnatt Church Sunday School who took part in the Children's Carol Service at Drumsnatt Church.

# Aghalurcher and Cooneen with Mullaghfad



Rector: **The Revd John McClenaghan** 

Colebrooke Rectory, 8 Owenskerry Lane, Killarbran, Fivemiletown, Co. Tyrone. BT75 OSP

T: 028 895 31822 E: colebrooke@clogher.anglican.org W: www.colebrookeparish.org

# SERVICES FEBRUARY

# Sunday 5th

9.30am Cooneen Holy Communion 11.00am Colebrooke Holy Communion

# Sunday 12th

9.30am Cooneen Morning Prayer 11.00am Colebrooke Morning Prayer

# Sunday 19th

11.00am Colebrooke RUC GC Crest Dedication

# Sunday 26th

9.30am Cooneen Morning Prayer 11.00am Colebrooke Morning Prayer

Over the Christmas period we joined together to celebrate God becoming human in Jesus that first Christmas morning, and to look forward when he will come again, this time in all his glory. Thank you to everyone who contributed to our celebrations, both during the services and in getting our churches dressed and decorated to welcome the newborn King.















Christmas at Aghalurcher Parish.

# **RUC GC Crest Dedication Service**

On Sunday 19th February 2023 at 11.00am, we will be holding a service of dedication as we lay up the station crest from Fivemiletown RUC Station in Colebrooke Parish Church. This service is open to all members of the congregation of Colebrooke and Cooneen and also a number of invited guests from local RUC families. Music will be provided by Murley Silver Band, the Bishop of Clogher, Rt Rev Ian Ellis will preach and dedicate the plaque, which be unveiled by His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Fermanagh, Viscount Brookeborough. Tea and refreshments will be provided following the service.

# **Parish Organisations**

Most of our organisations have begun to meet again. Please check with the leader in charge of each for relevant information. Their normal times of meeting are:-

### GES

# **Girls Friendly Society**

The branch meets on Monday, at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall for girls 3 years and upwards, and new members will be made very welcome, taking part in games, cookery, craft, bible study and especially having lots of fun.

# Colebrooke/Cooneen Scout Group

The Scouts meet on Tuesday from 7pm-8.15pm for boys and girls aged 4-11 years, and continues to 9.15pm Scouts, 11 – 14 years

The leaders provide a wide range of Scouting skills.

Squirrels (4 - 6 years)

Beavers (6 – 8 years)

Cubs (8 - 11 years)

Scouts (11 - 14 years)

# **Bowling Club**

The Bowling Club meet in the Parish Hall on Thursday at 7.45pm.

New members are very welcome, whether new to the sport, or an absolute beginner. If you do not have your own bowls, but would like to have a try, come along, spend some time with us, and see if you catch the bug.

# Colebrooke and Cooneen Mothers' Union

The November meeting was a special event for the branch members as it was held in memory of Mary Dunn, who had died in February. Donations in lieu of flowers were given to the MU branch. As Mary loved craft activities it was a fitting use of some of the funds to part pay for members to paint Christmas items in her memory. Dunn family members, Charlene and her daughter and Elaine with her daughters participated in the craft evening as well. The photographs display the original painting and the finished product after firing, which brought out the vibrant colour on the items. There was much fun and laughter as well as concentration involved. The finished items were able to be used over Christmas 2022.

Andrea from Polliwogs Paint Pots gave a brief outline of how she had become involved in the craft work. She holds workshops at her studio in Enniskillen as well as going out to other venues. The Branch members supported the Seniors Christmas dinner in December and plan to have their opening Holy Communion

service with Revd John McClenaghan on Wednesday 18 January.

The next meeting is planned for Wednesday 15 February at 7.30 pm when Linda Johnston will speak about 'Free from Clutter.' Everyone will be made welcome. The members of Colebrooke and Cooneen were deeply saddened by the death of their faithful member Pearl Mulligan in November. Pearl had joined the branch in 1966 and she brought much joy and happiness to the members over her many years of loyal service.

She was a talented baker and brought her talents to the catering which was undertaken by the branch. In more recent years she was a valuable helper as an expert tea maker when serving funeral teas. One memorable MU meeting involved everyone bringing some footwear and telling the story behind them. Pearl brought stunning high heels which she had worn at a wedding. One younger member was able to wear these shoes so Pearl gave them to her. They are a treasured gift. During Pearl's illness the members of Mothers' Union visited when restrictions allowed. She enjoyed all the chat and prayers. The family appreciated the support of the Mothers' Union members and donated money to the Branch, in her

# **Aghavea**



Rector: Revd Johnny McLoughlin

The Rectory, 256 Belfast Road, Lurgan, Brookeborough BT94 4DS

Tel: 028 8953 1210 Email: aghavea@clogher.anglican.org

# Parish Register BURIALS

20th December - Rachel Florence Boyd (nee McCusker) interred at Aghavea Churchyard.

### **BAPTISMS**

18th December - Thomas Robert Joe, son of Sarah and Michael Wheelhouse, Aghavea

# **Sympathy**

Our sincere sympathy and condolences are extended to all those families who have been bereaved in recent months, both in



memory.

The new organ dedicated in memory of Amanda McManus.

our own parish and in others. We continue to remember in prayers those who continue to struggle with the loss of loved ones.

# **Gifts**

We were extremely delighted to receive our new organ at the beginning of December in memory of Amanda McManus. In accordance with the family wishes, the first hymn played was How Great Thou Art, Amanda's favourite hymn. It will bring a new dimension to our worship for many, many years. We would like to thank all Amanda's family and friends for the wonderful donation that made the purchase of our new Viscount organ possible.

# **Mothers' Union**

Our Mothers' Union continue to meet on the second Tuesday of each month. We recently



had a fantastic evening of advice from Linda Johnston on decluttering our houses and lives! As a result, many wardrobes, cupboards and sheds are being cleaned out and pared down - and that was just in the rectory!

At our next Family Service in February we will be having a Mothers' Union Enrolment Service at 11am. All are welcome to join us that morning, and at any of our meetings each month.

# **Girls' Friendly Society**

We continue to welcome all young girls and ladies to our meetings on a Wednesday evening at 6.30pm and new members will always be welcome to join us for evenings of fun activities and crafts.

# St Patrick's Stew Night

We will be hosting a family stew night on Friday 17th March, to celebrate our patron saint. We won't be charging for the event, but asking for a donation towards the meal, and any profits would be donated to our parish funds. We will also be entertained on the evening too so what more could you possibly ask on a Friday evening?

# Upcoming Events in February 5th February

11am, Holy Communion, Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

# 5th February

7pm, Favourite Hymns Service

# 12th February

11am, Morning Prayer, Second Sunday before Lent

# 19th February,

11am, Family Service, Sunday before Lent, Mothers Union Enrolment

# 22nd February

8pm, Ash Wednesday Service

### 26th February

11am, Morning Prayer, First Sunday in Lent There will be regular Wednesday evening services throughout Lent, each starting at 7.30pm in Church.

# **Brookeborough Sit Out**

As rector of Aghavea Parish Church, we have enjoyed the support of the community in Brookeborough during our fundraising for our church renovations during the past few years. As a thank you, I had hoped to do something to give back to our community. I had originally intended to stand outside the Lady Brooke Memorial Hall in Brookeborough on the Friday before Christmas, but a near-death encounter with man-flu put paid to that plan! (No Johnny, it was only the ordinary flu, your life was never in danger - Kim, long-suffering wife to the rector).

It was a definite disappointment to all that I hadn't been able to raise valuable funds for the three nominated charities; The Oak Living Centre, Husky Salvation and Air Ambulance after having advertised the event through the village. I had also asked for donations of food for our local food bank. Undeterred, I decided that I would try again, this time on Epiphany, 6 January 2023. My reasoning was that on Epiphany we celebrate the Magi from the East and their gifts brought to Jesus - except this time I was from the East (Lisburn) and looking for presents for the charities!

By this time, the schools were already back, and with all the talk of the post-Christmas credit crunch, I had suitably reduced my expectations of raising much money. In preparation, I had brought over a table, chair and my laptop to spend the quieter spots of the day checking my emails and preparing service sheets for Sunday. I had set up a GoFundMe page hoping to raise £250 and hoped against hope to match it in the village. I had hoped to get a few bags of groceries to bring to the food bank not really expecting too much. It seems I had deluded myself!

On the day, I was absolutely astonished with the response from the community! I didn't even get the chance to sit down all day, let alone turn my computer on! There was a constant stream of visitors



The charity sit out led by the Rector, Revd Johnny McLoughlin.



and supporters from 9am through to 6pm! Friends and neighbours from the village, church members of our own and other denominations, strangers and visitors (including a Facebook friend who drove from Killyleagh in County Armagh to donate) all stopped to donate and chat! I cannot express how fantastic the day was, and how blessed I felt having the support and company throughout the day. I cannot thank everyone enough! I ended up with a total of almost £1700, and a haul of groceries large enough that I had to put the back seats of my car down to get them in! Well done to our wonderful little village and our local community! You're all brilliant! I'm already looking forward to next Christmas and doing it all again!!

# Ballybay, Clontibret & Muckno



Rector:
The Revd
Elaine Dunne

The Rectory, Drumcru, Castleblaney, Co. Monaghan.

E: ballybay@clogher.anglican.org



# **Ulster Carer of the Year**

On Thursday 24th November 2022, Harriet Hill (pictured above) from Castleblayney was named "Netwatch Ulster Family Carer of the Year" at a national awards ceremony held in The Westin Hotel, Dublin, hosted by broadcaster Miriam O'Callaghan.
The Netwatch Family Carer of the Year Awards seek to recognise and shine a light on the love, sacrifice and extraordinary commitment of the more than 500,000 family carers across Ireland who provide crucial care at home to loved ones with additional needs. Well done Harriet!

# **Advent Activities**

Many thanks to the Sunday School teachers from all three parishes who helped at the Advent activities for children in Clontibret



Christmas celebrated in parishes in the group.







Parish Hall on Sunday 27th November. The children made some beautiful crafts, had some snacks and then watched a film.

# **Carol Services**

A carol service took place in each of our parish churches shortly before Christmas. A Carol Service was held in St. Colman's Church on Sunday 11th December. The church was almost full as this year the children from Clontibret National School brought us the story of the birth of Our Saviour. The children were confident and spoke clearly having been well tutored by Mrs. Crawford and her staff. It was a proud occasion for parents and all present. The church was lovely having been suitably decorated. Sharon Lancashire played the organ and Reginald Dickson was the photographer. Following the service the congregation were welcomed to the church hall for refreshments. We thank God for all his goodness and pray that he will continue to bless us all in 2023. (Jennifer Leathem) On Wednesday 14th December a carol service was held in Christ Church, Ballybay. Although it was very frosty that night, a

large crowd gathered in the church for the service. We were delighted to be joined by Revd. Gerry Clinton and members of his congregation, by Fr. Kieran Danfulani and members of his congregation, as well as the Ballybay Community Choir and musicians from a silver band. The proceeds of the collection taken up during the service will be donated to Ballybay Cancer Care and will also go towards the purchase of a generator for use in a church in Ukraine.

On Thursday 22nd December a carol service was held in St. Maeldoid's Church,

service was held in St. Maeldoid's Church, Castleblayney. We were delighted to be joined by Revd. David Hagan and members of his congregation, and also by Fr. Adrian Walshe and members of his congregation. The proceeds of the collection taken up during the service will be donated to Castleblayney Cancer Care and St. Mary's Hospital.

# St. Maeldoid's Sunday School

Many thanks to the children of St. Maeldoid's Sunday School, Castleblayney, for participating in the service on Sunday 18th December. They taught us a lot





about the symbolism behind many of our Christmas decorations, including trees, ornaments, wreaths, bells, presents, bows, ribbons, holly, candles, angels and stars. Also, the children had a Christmas party in the Parish Hall on Saturday 17th December. Santa called in and gave each child a special gift.

# Thank you!

Thanks to the churchwardens and all who helped to decorate each of the churches in our group of parishes for Christmas. They all looked beautiful!



# Christmas gifts for children in Ukraine

Thank you to all those who prepared a shoebox containing Christmas gifts for children in Ukraine (pictured left). The gifts arrived safely and are very much appreciated by the children who received them.

# **Mothers' Union**

Members enjoyed the Christmas Quiz and nibbles which were hosted in Castleblayney. Mrs. Lynn Cross was the quizmaster and we were joined by our Presbyterian neighbours.

# News from Clontibret Select Vestry

A meeting of the Select Vestry was held

on Monday 28th November 2022 in the church hall. Plans for repairs to the wood in the East Window were agreed. A further meeting of the Select Vestry has been arranged for Wednesday 1st February 2023 at 8 p.m. (Jennifer Leathem)

# **Email**

If you have an email address and would like to receive emails relating to our group of parishes, please speak to the Rector.

# **Prayers**

Please remember in your prayers all those from our group of parishes who have been unwell, lonely, troubled or saddened in recent months.

# Cleenish & Mullaghdun



From 16 February:

Rector:
The Revd Canon
Jennifer McWhirter

E: cleenish@clogher.anglican.org

At the time of writing these notes, we are now 15 days into the New Year of 2023 and the parishioners of Cleenish and Mullaghdun are looking ahead to a new chapter in the life of the parishes. The following verse from Jeremiah 29:11





speaks to us — "For I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future".

# **New Rector**

The Institution of Revd Canon Jennifer



McWhirter, as Incumbent of Cleenish and Mullaghdun, will take place in Cleenish Parish on Thursday 16th February 2023 at 7.30pm.

# Christmas 2022

The annual Carol Services in both Mullaghdun and Cleenish were held on Sunday morning 18th December with the Revd Maureen Desborough officiating. In Mullaghdun, the singing of favourite Christmas hymns was led by the Choir with Elizabeth Hazlett at the organ and the readers were Andrew Humphreys, Elizabeth Hazlett, George Carson, Robert Gibson, Lisa Lindsay, Ruth Coalter, Hilary Benson and Revd Maureen Desborough. The Sunday-School presented a Christmas Story Rhyme with actions and also sang 'Away In a Manger' and the Choir sang 'See Amid the Winter Snow' and 'We three Kings of Orient are'. The parishioners of Mullaghdun are grateful to Revd Maureen for leading the Service; to Robert Watterson for organising the Readers; to Elizabeth and the Choir for leading the music and to those who used their talents to decorate the Church so tastefully. In Cleenish, the Choir and Organist, Joan Brownlee, led the singing of hymns and carols. The Choir sang "Starry Night" and the Sunday School sang "Away in a Manger". Readings were by Ossie Clements, Laura Connors, George Stephenson, Leslie Nixon, Margaret Crawford, Claire Balfour and her son Luke, Ava Connolly, Rowena Sheridan and Revd Maureen read the Gospel. Once again, the dedicated ladies of the parish, tastefully decorated the Church for Christmas.

# Holy Baptism CLEENISH PARISH

1st January 2023 - Lola Ellen Clements, The Cornmill, Bellanaleck. Lola is the daughter of David and Majella Clements and her baptism was a wonderful part of the first Holy Communion Service for the New Year, with the Revd Colin Brownsmith



The Clements family at the baptism.

officiating. The parishioners welcomed Lola, her parents and godparents.

# **Mothers' Union**

In November, members visited The Pantomime in Innishmacsaint as a group and had a very enjoyable evening. Also, some members attended the Global Day of Action and Walk in Colebrooke. This was a most interesting and informative event and Caroline Watterson made a presentation on behalf of our Branch to Women's Aid. In December the Branch held a very successful Christmas Party for the Parishes. The members relived their youth while the younger folk joined in new games! On 17th January we will have a members' evening in Mullaghdun and then we look forward to welcoming our new Rector in February.

### **Bellanaleck Community Group**

As we are now into a New Year, the Group wishes to thank the local Church



Caroline Watterson making a presentation to Women's Aid

for taking over running the Childrens' Party before Christmas. This was due to having extra help on the ground, and they had volunteers willing to take on this task. It is pleasing to have the large defect near the top Waterhen Lane repaired, as it was repeatedly going into a large water hole. A drainage pipe was found to have a fracture, therefore leaking water during wet periods.

Thanks are due to the volunteers who kept the hanging baskets watered during the summer period, and to FODC for once again supplying the necessary materials.

Just a reminder the defibrillators are still in place at The Moorings Restaurant and outside the Parish Hall.

Should any Parishioner in Cleenish or Mullaghdun, require further details contact Owen Wilson, Secretary Tel. 02866349602, or Bellanaleck on Facebook.



Mothers' Union members on the walk in Colebrooke.



Photo shows the position of the defect in the foreground, with Waterhen Lane travelling down towards the River Erne.

# Clogher Cathedral Group



Rector:
The Revd Olivia
Downey

During the Rector's absence, the **Revd Alison Irvine**, Diocesan Curate, is looking after the Group of Parishes.

Diocesan Pastoral Assistant: **Miss Isobel Stewart** 

# **Clogher Cathedral**

# **Cancer Focus Community Carol Service**

This was held on Thursday, 1st December, when the Cathedral was pleased to host the Community Carol service in aid to the local Augher and Clogher Cancer Focus Group. It has become an annual event and was very well attended by the whole community. This was the first service since 2019 because of the Covid pandemic, but the tenth since it was first suggested by Canon Noel Regan when he was Rector. Everyone was delighted when Canon Noel and his wife Joan accepted the invitation from the group to attend and take part in the event. The ladies from the group provided refreshments before the commencement of the service.

# George Cross Carol Service

This took place on 4 December, when the Cathedral was pleased to host the RUC George Cross Western District Carol Service. Revd Johnny McLoughlin conducted the service and members of Roughan Silver Band provided the music. The members of the Ladies Police choir sang a number of pieces. After the service, tea was provided by the Mothers' Union members in the Cathedral Hall.

# **Model Cathedral**

On Wednesday 14 a group of ladies from Fivemiletown Methodist Women's Association came to view the model Cathedral. Mr Jack Johnston was also present and gave a very interesting talk on the history of the previous cathedrals on or near the site of the present building.

## **Sunday School Party**

The Sunday School party was held on Friday, 16 December in the Cathedral Hall



Receiving presents from Santa in Augher.

when there was a great turn out of parents and children. Hot food was provided by the local butcher and of course, Santa made an appearance.

# **Carol Service**

Our own Carol Service was held on Sunday, 18 December at the usual morning service time. Again it was a wonderful service conducted by Revd. Alison Irvine and very well attended. Thank you to all our willing readers. Tea/coffee and mince pies were served after the service. A big thank to Corick House Hotel for providing the very much enjoyed mince pies.

# **Christmas Day**

Our Christmas Day service was at 10.00a.m. a joint service for the four churches in the group. We were pleased to have Bishop Ian Ellis and the Revd. Alison Irvine, conduct the Holy Communion Service.

# Knit, Stitch and Natter

The group returned after the summer break when they have been busy knitting hats and scarves. At the end of November they had created about 60 hats and 40 scarves and these were attached to a metal frame to represent a Christmas tree and were on display over the Christmas period in the Cathedral. These are being donated to charity in the New Year.

# **A**ugher

### **Party**

Parents, grandparents and children came together on Friday 16th December in the Carmichael Memorial Hall, Augher, for their Christmas party. The children enjoyed playing games before supper. After Grace was said, everyone tucked into a meal of sausages, goujons and chips, followed

by tray bakes and juice. There was great excitement when the children heard Santa's bell ringing outside. All children received a gift from him. Everyone had a good time of food and fellowship and very tired children to take home.

# **Carol Service**

There was a good attendance at the annual Carol Service on Sunday 18 December when Mr. Charles Crawford, Diocesan Reader conducted the service.

After the first Carol, Lexi lit the fourth candle on the advent wreath. Readings were by; Carol Egerton, Grace Wylie, Rachel Montgomery, Nicola and Lexi Wylie, Sophie Egerton, Zara Wright and Charles read the Gospel.

The Sunday school read poems and led the congregation in the Carol, "Away in a Manger" accompanied by Sophie Egerton on her flute. Mrs. Sylvia McClung was the organist.

Everyone was invited to the Carmichael Memorial Hall for refreshments. There was a good attendance at the service of Holy Communion on Christmas Eve.

# St Mary's Errigal Portclare Family Service and Nativity

On Sunday 11 December 2022, St Mary's Parish Church, Errigal Portclare held a Family Service and Nativity. The nativity was directed by Revd Johnny McLoughlin and the children participated in the telling of the story of Jesus' Birth. Everyone was impressed with the enthusiasm of the children and the encouragement by the Revd. Johnny. Caroline Gervis provided the music. She was accompanied by Ellie Donaldson to play 'O Come all ye Faithful' and 'Jingle Bells' as a duet. At the end of the service a special quest arrived, 'Santa' who presented gifts to all the children. To end the afternoon, tea was served and everyone enjoyed the fellowship.

### **Carol Service**

The annual carol service was held in St Mary's, Errigal Portclare on Sunday 18 December 2022 at which there was a good attendance. The service was conducted by Revd. Alison Irvine. The organist was Caroline Gervis and Christine Robinson, Christine being accompanied with the flute. All joined to sing well known Carols. The scripture lessons were read by Yolande Johnston, Doreen Millar, Heather Gervis, Kate Millar, Melanie Sheenan, Bobby Donaldson and Revd. Alison Irvine. The offering was collected by Brian Johnson and Gladys Gervis. Rev Alison Irvine thanked all who took part in the service.



St. Mary's Portclare Christmas Service.

# Clones, Killeevan, Currin and Newbliss



Rector: The Revd Roy Taylor

The Rectory, Scotshouse, Clones, Co.Monaghan.

E; clones@clogher.anglican.org T: 089 2239646

# Services 5 February

Clones 10.00am: Holy Communion Newbliss 11.30am: Holy Communion

12 February

Currin 10.00am: Holy Communion Killeevan 11.30am: Holy Communion

19 February

Clones 10.00am: Morning Prayer Newbliss 11.30am: Morning Prayer NB. Services on 19 February will be led by Dean Ferguson since the Rector will be away.

# 26 February

Currin 10.00am: Morning Prayer Killeevan 11.30am: Morning Prayer NB. Services on 26 February will be led by Mr. Keith Browne since the Rector will be away.



5 March

Clones 10.00am: Holy Communion Newbliss (Hall) 11.30am: Holy Communion

# Congratulations

Our warm congratulations go to Glenda and Ivan Hall on the birth of their daughter, Lily, on 13th January. Lily has two older sisters, Isabella and Emily, and we are thrilled for them all.

# Clones St. Tighernach`s Fundraising – Thank You

Thank you to all who organised and supported St. Tighernach's Christmas Fayre on 10 December. It was a hugely enjoyable event after its enforced absence over the past couple of years, and as ever it offered all kinds of fabulous Christmas treats as well as raising €4,590 for church funds. Well done!

# Joint Sunday School Fun and Games

Children and their parents from across our Group came together on 10 December



Preparing for the Christmas Fayre.

2022 for a fabulous evening of Christmas fun and games. Our thanks go to all who made the Christmas Party so successful and here is a copy of a lovely message left on our Group WhatsApp forum by one of our Sunday School teachers after the event. It sums things up nicely: I would like to thank all the families and children who attended the Sunday school party last night – we had a ball! Thank you Naomi and Andrew for the games hosting ... going around the chair proved difficult for some, I belly laughed at it all ... great night to get people together ... thank you to all who provided food and refreshments.... and of course Santa! Thank you also to Killeevan for hosting us in their hall. Moment of the night: Revd Roy running up in his 'beige trousers' lol! Memories were made for the little people in our church group.

# Carol Services

As we approached Christmas this year we had the joy of holding three very different Carol Services across our Group.



Carols at Killeevan.

We began in Scotshouse, where Angela Graham joined our resident organist, Audrey Doogan, to play some beautiful Christmas carols on her accordion – and where we had a collection of nonperishable food items for "The Pantry" foodbank in Lisnaskea, as well as some delicious refreshments of our own after the service.

Next came Killeevan, where our organist, lvy Ritchie, had arranged for us to sing carols to the accompaniment of the Maguiresbridge Silver Band – and also to enjoy the accomplished singing of soloist Paul Irwin. The service finished with a fine tea in the church hall, which was much appreciated by musicians and congregation alike.

Finally, Clones and Newbliss combined together for a Joint Carol Service. The guest organist was Audrey Doogan from Scotshouse, Roy Crowe sang a moving solo rendition of 'O Holy Night', and the whole service was accompanied by the powerful singing of the combined Clones/



Mothers' Union Hampers.

Newbliss Joint Choir. At the end of the service we also made a presentation to May Leech, our much-loved organist who has just retired after 34 years of devoted service.

All in all, it was a magnificent start to our Christmas season.

# **Mothers' Union**

Several members of our Mothers' Union took part in the 'Walk Together Against Domestic Violence' on Saturday, 26 November 2022 at Colebrooke Estate. Our members also donated toiletries and money to the Tearmann Domestic Abuse Service – 'Tearmann' being an Irish word meaning 'Sanctuary' – which went to provide hampers for delivery to women in need before Christmas.

Our MU members are now looking forward to their first meeting of 2023, which will take place on Thursday 26 January in Killeevan Church Hall at 8.00pm. At the meeting, Sallyann Mackarel from the Cavan-Monaghan



The Rector making a presentation to May Leech who has retired as organist.

Mental Health Service will give some practical tips around safe lifting and CPR and, as ever, new members are very welcome.

# Could you be our new organist in Clones???

Following the retirement of May Leech, the singing at our Sunday worship in Clones has been led by our amazing small choir, spearheaded by Roy Crowe and at times swelled by the ranks of the Newbliss singers. However, Clones has a cathedral quality Walker organ, a dedicated adult choir and quite a range of children across the Group who love to sing. If you play the organ and feel you would like to explore your ministry of music here with us in Clones on a twice monthly basis, please contact the Rector to discuss the opportunity further. We pay a small honorarium - but we offer a big welcome, and pray for the right person to come forward.

# Colaghty



Rector:
The Revd Canon
Alan Irwin

The Rectory, Main Street, Lack, Co. Fermanagh. BT93 0DN

T: 028 686 31689 E: colaghty@clogher.anglican.org

# Services FEBRUARY

5th - Holy Communion 11.30am

12th - Family Service 11.30am

**19th -** Morning Prayer 11.30am

**22nd -** Ash Wednesday 8.00pm

**26th -** Morning Prayer 11.30am **MARCH** 

**5th -** Holy Communion 11.30am

12th - Family Service 11.30am

**19th - Morning Prayer 11.30am** 

26th - Morning Prayer 11.30am

# Christian Burial

10th December 2022

Robert Francis Durand, Crevenish Road, Kesh

15th December 2022

Isabella Jane Woods, Tirmacspird Road

Writing notes in January for the February magazine gives us cause to look back over the last days of 2022 and into the New Year, 2023. Much of the activities centre around Christmas, and while it takes place each year, there seems to be an endless scurrying around to fit all in. What does that say about society, about us for that matter? The same things take place each year, we may add to them or suggest ways of doing them differently, but nothing really changes in what we do over Advent and Christmas. The greater risk, or temptation is to allow the greatest gift, Jesus Christ, to be pushed to one side, if not neglected, or forgotten entirely. The birth of Christ came without fanfare, minus everything that the festivities over Christmas has become, but with Him





The Carol Service at Colaghty.

The family service at Colaghty.



came hope for all who would believe in His name and would be saved. Notwithstanding, Christmas activities took place, with the Young at Heart holding their Christmas dinner in the afternoon in Mahon's Hotel. This was a very welcome event with everyone enjoying a wonderful meal, and fellowship at the close of the meetings for 2022. The bowling club held their inhouse get together with the normal festive treats on the final night of matches before Christmas. Bible Fellowship enjoyed similar fellowship as they finished until the New Year.

# The Women's Fellowship

The December meeting was on Christmas cakes and bakes in preparation for that little something sweet after dinner, or with a cuppa. Roberta Stewart enticed the taste buds of all present with her delightful bakes and equally encouraging many to try their hand at the same.

# **Family Service**

This year we were back in the hall for the family Christmas Service with the children putting on a short sketch entitled, 'Hats of for Christ this Christmas'. A reminder of how much of what we do at Christmas squeezes out the true meaning of why we recall the Saviour's birth. The service concluded with some refreshments provided by the Sunday School leaders. We are indebted to all they do in encouraging and teaching the children and young people each week during term

time and for CE and Youth Group.

# **Carol Service**

The beautifully decorated church added to the ambience of the night, and with the music and singing, it was an enriching and uplifting service of nine lessons and carols. Our sincere thanks to all who volunteered to read, led and assisted with the music, IT, flowers/decorations, and served the tea, mince pies, and shortbread afterwards. The rector in his comments reminded us that whatever Christmas has become for us, or might even mean now, let it be that Christmas is for Christ. Even among the lights and presents, and festive treats etc.

# New Year's Eve

It was great to meet for our New Year's Eve night with tasty nibbles and savoury



The New Year's Eve service in the parish hall.













delights to begin with, followed by a time of worship and praise. The rector, give a very suitable address reminding us that we need not fear, basing it on Romans 8: 31 – 39. Some games etc were included before the New Year was welcomed in with a mini pipe band and a rendition of 'Auld Lang Syne'. Sincerest thanks to all who help in the preparation for this night, the members of the Select Vestry who cover the costs, those who ensure we have the eats, and prepare them for

everyone. To Marcus who led the praise, Jason on IT and everyone who helped in anyway.

# Junior CE - Sunday School

The party was filled with games, quiz and crafts. The children enjoyed decorating snowmen, each very different from the other, with the rector speaking on how we are all made in the image of God, each one of us is His unique creation. The Youth Group held their own end of year

activity in the usual manner.

### Sexton

The end of 2022 saw our sexton Mervyn, Barbara and family step down from the role that has spanned the generations from 1908. The way in which they looked after the church and grounds was greatly appreciated and admired by many through the years. A role of service that sought to bring God the glory, one that became a labour of love, often going beyond what was expected. On behalf of the church family, we extend our deepest, sincere, and heartfelt thanks for all that they have done, the true measure of which is known only to God.

# Dates for the Diary 2023

- 29th April Parish Auction
- 19th May Concert with the Police Male Voice Choir with all proceeds to Air Ambulance NI
- 22nd July Parish Sizzlers/Burgers

# Derryvullen North and Castle Archdale



Rector:
The Revd Canon
Paul Thompson

The Rectory, Enniskillen Road, Irvinestown BT94 1BD.

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# Services Sunday 12th February

10.30am Derryvullen North (informal Morning Prayer)

11.45am Castle Archdale (informal Morning Prayer)

# **Sunday 19th February**

10.15am Castle Archdale (Morning Prayer) 11.30am Derryvullen North (Morning Prayer)

# Sunday 26th February (Lent 1)

10.15am Castle Archdale (Morning Prayer) 11.30am Derryvullen North (Morning Prayer)



The Mothers' Union members meeting about the work of Christian Aid.

# Sunday 5th March (Lent 2)

10.15am Castle Archdale (Holy Communion) 11.30am Derryvullen North (Holy Communion)

# The Shoppers' Service

This will be held on Wednesday 8
February in the Parish Centre, Derryvullen
North. We usually have about 20 – 25
people attending this celebration of
Holy Communion and it good for us to
be able to share in a cuppa and good
conversation afterwards too.

# **Women's Group**

The Group enjoyed a very successful and enjoyable dinner on Thursday evening at the Tullana, Lisnarick. The meal was wonderful and thank you to Karen and her

team. Thank you also to the organisers of the Women's Group; Caroline Hughes (Chair), Elaine Hetherington (Secretary) and Joy Loane (Treasurer) for arranging the evening.

At the time of writing the January meeting is arranged for Wednesday 18 January and folk will be meeting at "Hidden Beauty at Coolaness" for a visit to Janice's lovely premises for some pamper time.

# **Mothers' Union**

Back on 23rd November the Mothers'
Union met in Derryvullen North Parish
Centre and had a very interesting
presentation from Kaye Steele of Christian
Aid. She spoke of how Christian Aid
works with local partners to ensure
that money donated gets to where it is
needed, of responding to times of crises,





Above left: Enrolment for BB and above right: Junior BB.

of combating gender inequality and violence and of how climate change is impacting on areas of the world in which people are already suffering. There was a time for chat and questions over supper and also some items of business to round off the evening.

"Christian Aid exists to create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty."

At the time of writing the next meeting is planned for Wednesday 25th January when the members will meet for their Auction Evening.

# **Boys' Brigade**

Sunday 20th November was the Boys' Brigade Enrolment and presentation of the Queen's Awards in Irvinestown. It was wonderful to see so many Boys along with family and friends and also to have many of the Boys take part in leading the Service. Thank you also to Captain Joe and all the Leaders for all their commitment to the organisation and to the well being of the Boys.

For the final session before Christmas the BB Junior Section enjoyed a great

evening of Bowling to finish off this part of the season as they go into the Christmas break.

On Thursday 8th December the BB Anchor Boys had a very enjoyable final session before Christmas - a fun and creative evening with Jonathan Graham and his fantastic Lego. On an earlier evening they also were very busy making a lovely selection of Christmas cards. The BB Junior Section got busy their first night back in 2023 as well as the regular BB activities. The leaders always think of new things as well. Here are some photos of them making key rings and learning about the Lord's Prayer too.

# Confirmation 2023

On Sunday 11th June 2023, Bishop lan will kindly be administering the Rite of Confirmation, followed by the First Communion of the Candidates. This will take place in St Tighernach's Church, Derryvullen North. This is for young people of Castle Archdale and Derryvullen North who are currently in year 9 or year 10. Parents are asked to contact the Rector to register candidates and for details of the preparation classes. It is a little bit away yet, but on the day of the Confirmation Service there will be Morning Prayer in Castle Archdale at the earlier time of 9.00am.

# Operation Candlelight, Christmas Eve 2022

Brenda Phair (Irvinestown) supports an organisation called Project 71, a group that works with WW2 Veterans and was founded in southern England. In 2022 the organisation, with the support of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, launched Operation Candlelight timed for Christmas. The objective was to remember the Fallen at Christmas and





and Castle Archdale.











not just on Armistice Day. To achieve this, they asked people to place a small battery-operated tea light (these were lifted again on Boxing Day) on a war grave on Christmas Eve. These normally stay alight for at least 48 hours showing that somebody has remembered them and the sacrifice they made. Brenda was joined by Hazel to place the lights on the Irvinestown War Graves in both the grounds of Derryvullen North Church of Ireland and of the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church. http://www.project71. co.uk/operation-candle-light.html

# **Carol Services and Christmas**

Castle Archdale - thank you to Irene and the team of decorators, the readers, organist Billy McBride, Brass Ensemble led by Stephen Magee, Sunday School Children and Leaders and to everyone who brought items for the Food Bank (Arc Centre)

**Derryvullen North** - thank you to all the decorators, the readers, the Choir and organist Florence Barrett, music group led by Rachel Giles and David McDowell, Sunday School Children and Leaders and to everyone who brought items for the Food Bank (Arc Centre).

It was unfortunate that Dr Margaret was unable to join us for either of the Carol Services but she had kindly agreed to be recorded in advance and so we were able to include her reading the Christmas Gospel. It was good to have her still included in the worship.

# Wreath making

A group of talented folk gathered in Derryvullen North Hall for the making of the Christmas Wreaths. There was great activity, hard work, chat and fun. Well done everyone

# **Christmas Fair**

Thank you to everyone from the Parishes and whole Community of Irvinestown who prepared, supported and assisted at the Derryvullen North Christmas Fair that was held on Saturday 26th November. So far we have raised about £3,550 which is a wonderful amount. It was great to see the hall so full of chat and conversation. It was also wonderful to have so many people in the town for the switch on of the Christmas lights, of which our fair was a part. Santa made his way to the Church Hall once he made his appearance at the turning on of the Irvinestown lights in the main street and he was assisted there by the Lady of the Lake and members of the Girls' Brigade, Scouts and Boys' Brigade. The children of both Irvinestown Primary School and St Paul's Primary School



An aerial view of Castle Archdale church.

formed a joint choir for the switching on of the town lights. The whole event was a great Community occasion!

# **Aerial photo**

During the period of heavy frost in the lead up to Christmas, there were some lovely aerial photographs taken from a drone by Stevie Lawn (Coolisk Digital Video) and one was used in our online Christmas photos. One is also included with these notes – thank you Stevie for this.

# **Mission Sunday**

Worship in our parishes was a little different on 11th December when we observed Mission Sunday. We looked at St John the Baptist as someone who stood out by his appearance and habits and so brought God's word and challenge to the people around him. We looked at how we can stand out by our acts of kindness and by our words and so be a means of sharing God's love with those around us. In each Church we also shared in a congregational dramatic reading of scripture about John the Baptist and in Derryvullen North a duet was sung by Sharon Duncan and David McDowell. Collections were received at each Service for the Diocesan Board of Mission.

# Craft Group

The newly started Craft Group has been a wonderful success since it started in September. Yes, it is about crafts, sharing ideas and skills but it is also about friendship, having a chat and enjoying a cuppa. The group took a break over Christmas but the members are now back in action again! The group is held Thursdays 7-9pm and people are free to drop in as suits them best.

# **Dean of Canterbury**

It was wonderful for many to see via online video the Service of Installation, held last Saturday, of the Very Rev Dr David Monteith (originally from Irvinestown) as Dean of Canterbury Cathedral. Congratulations to David and it was great to hear one of the Scripture lessons read by Sam Johnston. Canterbury Cathedral in Canterbury, Kent, is one of the oldest and most famous Christian structures in England. It forms part of a World Heritage Site. It is the cathedral of the Archbishop of Canterbury, currently Justin Welby, leader of the Church of England and symbolic leader of the worldwide Anglican Communion. Its formal title is the Cathedral and Metropolitical Church of Christ at Canterbury. The video of the Service can still be viewed on the Cathedral's YouTube channel.

# Theme for Lent and Holy Week: the Messiah Mystery

 Ash Wednesday 22nd Feb, 7.30pm (Derryvullen North)

The Messiah Mystery: a trail of clues to follow in the Bible Luke 24:13-27

• Wednesday 1st March, 7.30pm (Derryvullen North)

The Messiah Mystery: clues in the garden Genesis 3:8-15

 Wednesday 8th March, 7.30pm (Derryvullen North)

The Messiah Mystery: clues on the mountain Genesis 22:1-14

 Wednesday 15th March, 7.30pm (Derryvullen North)

The Messiah Mystery: clues in the desert Exodus 12:12-13

• Wednesday 22nd March, 7.30pm (Derryvullen North)

The Messiah Mystery: clues in the house John 8:12, John 6:35, 1 Timothy 2:5  Wednesday 29th March, 7.30pm (Derryvullen North)

The Messigh Mystery: clues in the second control of the

The Messiah Mystery: clues in the scrolls Isaiah 7:14, 9:6, 53:5 & 53:7

- Palm Sunday 2nd April, with the blessing and distribution of the Palm Crosses
- Wednesday in Holy Week 5th April, 7.30pm (Derryvullen North)
   The Messiah Mystery: clues in the vineyard Matthew 21:33-42
- Maundy Thursday 6th April Holy Communion of the Last Supper 7.30pm (Castle Archdale)
- The Good Friday Liturgy 7th April, 7.30pm (Derryvullen North)
- Easter Sunday 9th April, Holy Communion

# From the registers: HOLY BAPTISM:

- Lottie Nicola Knox, 20th November 2022 (Derryvullen North)
- Harry Phair, 12th January 2023 (Derryvullen North) Father, we thank you that these children

has now been born again of water and the Holy Spirit, and have become your own children by adoption, and members of your Church. Grant that they may grow in the faith in which they have been baptized;

Grant that they may confess it when they come to be confirmed;

Grant that they may bear witness to it by a life of service to others;

and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in them;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (From the Book of Common Prayer)

### **CHRISTIAN BURIAL**

■ GLADYS THOMPSON, 19th December 2022 (Castle Archdale)

May God in his infinite love and mercy bring the whole Church living and departed in the Lord Jesus, to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom. Amen. (From the Book of Common Prayer)



The Knox family at the baptism service.

# Derryvullen South and Garvary

Vacant

The Revd John Woods, Acting Rural Dean is in charge and is providing emergency pastoral cover along with Dean Raymond Ferguson.

# **Services**

## Sunday, 5 February

10.30am Morning Prayer, Garvary 12 Noon Morning Prayer, Derryvullen South **Sunday, 12 February** 

10.30am Morning Prayer, Derryvullen South

12 Noon Morning Prayer, Garvary

# Sunday, 19 February

10.30am Morning Prayer, Garvary

12 Noon Morning Prayer, Derryvullen South

# Sunday, 26 February

10.30am Morning Prayer, Derryvullen South12 Noon Morning Prayer, Garvary

# **Derryvullen South**

The Sunday School children performed at the parish Carol Service. Anna and Sam Little played the brass, Jacob and Isaac Little played the piano to accompany carols and Emily Black sang the solo for Once in Royal David's city. The children sang Away in a Manger.

The Sunday School children decorated a giving tree for Fermanagh Fun Farm



Children performing at Derryvullen South Christmas service.

'Festival of Trees'. They filled small bags with toiletries to be donated after Christmas to charitable organisations. The Sunday School had their Christmas trip to Share Ice Rink and enjoyed a fun evening together.

# Garvary Sympathy

Two of our parishioners have been bereaved recently. Brian Forde and Philip



McCullough each lost a sister. We extend our sincere sympathy to both and also their families at this difficult time.

# Christmas services

Revd Maureen Desborough was the preacher at our services on Christmas Eve







One of the windows in Garvary church decorated.

Children from Derryvullen South at the ice rink at Christmas.

and on Christmas Day. We wish to express our thanks to Ann Rowley for decorating the church for these services and thank also to the Phair family for providing the Christmas tree for the church.

# Mothers' Union

Coffee and cookies - Members Iris and Anne demonstrated making various cookies.

Members brought some home to cook. All enjoyed exchanging baking tips and cookies samples were served with coffee.

### December

On a very frosty December night members gathered in Derryvullen South Parish Hall to make these cheeky little snowmen from coffee jars and festive fabric.

There were lots of Christmas memories exchanged and all enjoyed festive fellowship.

### January

The opening service on Monday 16th

January was conducted by Diocesan Reader, Mrs. Joan Nelson followed by the annual meeting. Thanks to Mrs. Nelson.

# **February**

The monthly meeting will be held on Monday 20th February at 8.00pm in Derryvullan South Parish Hall.

# Young People and Children

Each young person/child in the parish received a sweet treat and card appropriate to their age. It is hoped for a positive response to these.

### **Auction**

The Select Vestry plans to hold an auction in aid of church funds on Saturday, 25 March 2023 so please keep the date in mind. Donations of bric-a-brac and firewood would be appreciated.

### **Prayers**

Please remember in your prayers those of our parishioners who are ill in hospital, at home, in nursing homes or those who are receiving treatment.



# **Devenish & Boho**



Diocesan Curate: The Revd Sampson Ajuka

The Rectory, 10 Castletown Road, Monea, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh. BT74 8GG

T: 028 66 341672 E: devenish@clogher.anglican.org

# Services for February 2023 Sunday 5th February 2023

10.00am Holy Communion, Boho Parish Church

11.30am Holy Communion Devenish Parish Church

# Sunday 12th February 2023

10.00 am Morning Prayer Boho Parish Church

11.30an Morning Prayer Devenish Parish Church

# Sunday 19th February 2023

10.00 am Morning Prayer Boho Parish Church

11.30am Morning Devenish Parish Church

# Sunday 26th February 2023

10.00 am Family Service Boho Parish Church

11.30 am Family Service Devenish Parish Church

# **Burial**

8th January 2023, William Maguire "Billy" McCullagh, late of the Graan Abbey Care Home, Enniskillen and formerly of Brackagh Springfield, Enniskillen. The Service in Devenish Parish Church was conducted by Revd Sampson Ajuka and the Eulogy was given by Billy's daughter, Nicola. Burial was in the adjoining graveyard.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Billy's family; Tony, Ruth, David, Nicola and the wider family circle.

# **Baptism**

Saturday 17th December 2022 - Freya, daughter of Pauric Beacom and Kerri Patrick. We extend our congratulations and God's, blessing to Freya's parents and Godparents.





# **Christmas Services**

Boho Carol Service had to be postponed due to poor weather conditions but was held on the morning of 18th December. Devenish Carol Service was held on Sunday 18th December. The readers were Alan Gault, Nicola McCullagh-Daley, Dorothea Kells, Hazel McIlveen, Pearl Bell, Kenny Ferguson, Stuart Brooker, Joan Cathcart and Revd Sampson Ajuka. The choir sang a number of pieces including 'Mary 'Little Boy Child', Mary's Lullaby, and O holy Night. Special thanks to the organist Mrs Gill Spence and the choir. Devenish Sunday School Service On Sunday 18th December, it was great to see the Sunday School taking the service again. They performed the drama 'Ready, Steady Christmas'. All 32 children were given a part and portrayed the message of Christmas to the congregation very competently. They also sang 'Little donkey' and 'Away in a manger'. Thanks also to Adam Ferguson and Sarah Kernaghan for playing the clavinova at the beginning of the service. At the end of the service every child in the parish was given the gift of the book 'Our faithful Queen'. Thanks to our leaders, Mandy, Norma, Kay, Hannah and Dorothy for all their hard work.

# **Holy Communion Services**

These were held on Christmas Eve in Devenish and in Boho and Devenish on Christmas Day.

# **Sunday School Party**

This was held on Monday 19th December at 7.00pm in the Reade Hall. Thirty-eight children of all ages enjoyed a great party. Thanks to all who helped and especially Santa who arrived with his bag of presents.

# **Mothers' Union**

There was a good attendance at our



Christmas party on Wednesday 7th December when we enjoyed some festive food and fellowship. Pearl, Branch Leader, welcomed everyone and led us in prayer, remembering those who were ill and unable to join us on this occasion and those who had recently been bereaved, especially Maud Ferguson and Eileen Little who had both lost a brother.

Our first meeting of 2023 was held on Wednesday 11th January. After welcoming those present, Pearl, Branch Leader, led us in prayer. Georgina read a passage of scripture from 1st Corinthians Chapter 12 "one body many parts". Pearl then introduced our speaker Emma Cathcart, Podiatrist. Emma thanked Pearl for giving her the opportunity to speak on her role as a Podiatrist and the importance of looking after our feet. She explained that our feet are complex structures with many bones, tendons and ligaments that must work together perfectly to keep us moving and therefore play a very important role in our overall health. A Podiatrist can diagnose and treat foot problems and give advice on how to prevent problems and take care of our feet. Emma's top seven tips to help keep our feet healthy are: - clean feet regularly: dry feet thoroughly: moisturise feet frequently: cut toenails carefully: wear well fitted supportive footwear: visually

check both feet daily and avoid walking bare foot in communal areas. A vote of thanks was proposed by Dorothea. We look forward to our annual dinner on Wednesday 8th February at 7.30 pm in the Westville Hotel. Please contact Carole if you wish to attend.

# **Dedication Service**

This is the dedication of a of plaque detailing Rectors of Devenish and donated in memory of The Lucy Family. Sunday 23rd April 2023 at 11.30 am in Devenish Parish Church. Preacher - The Bishop, Rt Revd. Dr Ian Ellis.



# **Donacavey** and **Barr**



Rector: The Revd John Woods

The Rectory, 247 Tattyreagh Road, Fintona, Co. Tyrone, BT78 2DA

T: 028 828 40863 T: 07436886769 E: johnjameswoods@yahoo.co.uk

### **Services**

Sunday, 5th February Barr: 10.00am Holy Communion Donacavey: 11:30am Holy Communion

Sunday, 12th February

Barr: 10.00am Morning Prayer. Donacavey: 11:30am Morning Prayer

Sunday, 19th February

Barr: 10.00am Morning Prayer. Donacavey: 11:30am Morning Prayer

**Sunday, 26th February**Barr: 10.00am Morning Prayer.
Donacavey: 11:30am Morning Prayer.

# Collect of the Word for 5th February

Faithful God,

you have appointed us, your witnesses, to be a light that shines in the world: let us not hide the bright hope you have given us,

but tell everyone of your love, revealed in Jesus Christ the Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

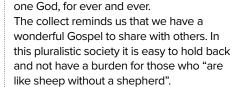


The Kerr family at the baptism service.



At the Sunday School party.





# **Baptism**

We welcomed Odrhan Kerr into the church family at a service in Donacavey on New Year's Day. His parents, Paul and Grace were married in Donacavey 18 months ago and are now living in Glasgow. They brought many of their friends and family over to the service. Paul and Grace made promises on Odhran's behalf to ensure he is taught the Christian faith and we pray that they will be strengthened and supported by the wider church as they endeavour to carry out their promises



We held our Christmas dinner on 2 December. We again thank the Moore's for providing a wonderful Christmas meal with all the trimmings. These occasions are a wonderful opportunity for the church to get together for fellowship and enjoy a wonderful meal. Violet and Paddy entertained us with a melody of hymns, Psalms and some lovely ballads.



Sylvia Blaney and Kathleen Rainey at the cheque presentation.

### Indoor bowls

We are continuing to meet on a Thursday night and are always looking for new members. This is always a fun evening and a great way to catch up with friends. A cup of tea is served and this is always very welcome. Come along and give it a go.

# Sunday school party

Our Sunday school party was again a big hit for the children and parents. Without the willingness of the teachers to prepare and teach the children each Sunday this vital work would not happen. Our teachers go the extra mile, as can be seen in the photographs, to make sure the children enjoy themselves. Thanks also to those



The Silvertones singing in Donacavey.

who catered at the party and made the day such fun.

# Silvertones captivate in **Donacavey**

We were delighted to welcome the Silvertones to Donacavey on 4 of December. This event was organised to make people aware of tremendous work carried out by Marie Curie. Sylvia Blaney gave a short and impassioned portrayal of the work carried out by Marie Curie. This is a vital and extremely important work that assists families when help is most needed. A collection of £640 was raised and presented to Kathleen Rainey by Sylvia. This amount has been matched by the government and means that Marie Curie receives £1280.

# **Congratulations**

Congratulations to 2nd Lieutenant Susan





Sylvia Blaney speaking on the work of Marie Curie.

Surphlis who completed her training at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst on the 26 November 2022. This is a tremendous achievement for Susan (pictured above)

whose dedication and hard word has brought her the recognition she thoroughly deserves. We wish her all the very best for her future.

# **Donagh & Tyholland with Errigal Truagh**



Bishop's Curate: Revd Tim Irvine

The Rectory, Caledon Road, Glaslough, Co. Monaghan H18 DN40

E: revdtimi@gmail.com

# **Services**

# Sunday 5th February The Presentation of **Christ in the Temple**

10.30am St Salvator's, Glaslough - HC

12noon St Sillian's, Tyholland – HC (Order 1) Sunday 12th February The Second Sunday before Lent

10.30am St Salvator's, Glaslough - MP (Order 1)

12noon St Muadain's, Errigal Truagh - HC (Order 1)

# Sunday 19th February The Sunday Next before Lent

10.30am St Salvator's, Glaslough - MP (Order 2)

12noon St Sillian's, Tyholland – MP (Order 1)



At the Roberts grave on Remembrance Sunday.

# Wednesday 22nd February Ash Wednesday

8pm St Salvator's, Glaslough - Evening Prayer (Order 3) with hymns and reflection. Sunday 26th February The First Sunday

10.30 am St Salvator's, Glaslough - All Age Family Service of MP (Order 3) led by The Revd Tim with the help of children from our Sunday School

12noon St Muadain's, Errigal Truagh - MP (Order 1)

The early deadline Double Christmas issue always makes the February notes seem like a report from a barely remembered past, so it is perhaps appropriate that we begin our record back in November.

# Remembrance Sunday

Acts of Remembrance for those who died in the First World War and in subsequent conflict were conducted in in the church grounds following Divine Service in both St Salvator's, Glaslough and St Muadain's with the wreaths being laid by Mr Walter Dudgeon and Mr Michael Roberts. The names of all those from our parishes who died during the two world wars were remembered by name, those who died in the Troubles were remembered and we prayed for the strengthening of peace in our own country and for peace in Ukraine.

# **Mothers' Union**

Unfortunately I missed the fun that the MU had at its Christmas wreath making night (pictured below) as the clergy were enjoying each other's company at Arnold's, Dunfanaghy at the Clergy Conference.









Christmas services in the Donagh group.

However, I had a cub reporter on hand to fill me in. Mrs Roberta Irvine (a.k.a. mum) was on kennel duty at the rectory and was invited along as a veteran of the MU by the ladies of Donagh MU and chauffeured to the meeting by Mrs Diane Wright-Kendrick. The photos tell their own story, but this from Mrs Irvine captures the general mood of the evening: "I haven't laughed so much in ages, the sandwiches...and who made that cream sponge!?" Thank you to Mrs Dorothy Keith and all the members for making my mum so welcome...a welcome that they will extend to any visitor or new member. Our MU are a fantastic bunch and the meetings are always great craic and the catering leaves absolutely nothing to be desired! New members are always welcome as we operate by the principle, "the more the merrier".

# **Carol Services etc**

The first of our Carol Services was held in St Sillian's, Tyholland on Sunday 4th December at 3pm. We were joined by family, friends and neighbours. Mrs Ethne McCord was musical director for the afternoon and was joined by her wonderful Donagh Community Choir who accompanied us on all carols and sang "O Holy Night" and "In the bleak Midwinter". Lessons were read by Miss Lucy Garland, Miss Amelia Garland, Miss Halle Traynor, Mrs Ethne McCord, Miss Lily Stewart, Mrs Doris Wilson, Mrs Geraldine Evans and Miss Jenny Hall. Our Carol Services are made special by the presence of so many of our good friends and neighbours and we were delighted to have our great friend Canon Paddy McGinn present with us to read the Gospel of the Incarnation. Our Carol Service also coincided with the wonderful news of the appointment of another great friend (and one-time neighbour) of our parish, Bishop Noel Treanor's appointment as Papal Nuncio and we send him our every blessing for his new post and we look forward to welcoming him back to St Sillian's at some time in the not too distant future. Santa Claus had made a flying visit and Santa's little helper, Mrs Elizabeth Garland, had

selection boxes for all the children (including teenagers and those attending college). A wonderful evening was topped off with a beautiful supper at the local community centre. Thank you to everyone who decorated, baked and made sandwiches, prepared the hall, practised the carols and to everyone who made our Carol Service such a joyous occasion.

such a joyous occasion. Next up in our festive festivities was the Nativity Service with Sunday School Nativity Play on Sunday 11th December at 10.30am. A great deal of rehearsing and costume management was involved and negotiations entered into with the shepherds as to which of them would agree to be sheep for the purpose of visual balance. In due course a weary Mary and an anxious Joseph arrived at a booked out inn, took up residence in the stable out back, a baby was born, angels appeared, shepherds were amazed, shepherds left their flocks (a lone sheep as the Shepherds Union was unyielding on its membership's rights to be Shepherds), a star arose in the east, some wise men left behind their libraries and threw their leg over their camel and headed out on a journey to an unknown destination, shepherds and Magi arrived at the stable behind the inn, homage was paid on bended knees, gifts were given and the baby lying in the manger was known as God with us, the Christ Child. Great fun was had by all. Thank you to Marina, Robert, Deborah, Olivia, Lynda and all the other Sunday School helpers and the mums and dads who made the Glaslough Nativity Production 2022 such a success. The 11th was a busy day for festive festivities in the parish as we had our second Carol Service in St Muadain's, Errigal Truagh. We were in the middle of the big freeze of December 2022 and the ground was indeed "as hard as iron", however, that didn't stop Mrs Ethne McCord's wonderful band or roving minstrels, the Donagh Community Choir from being present to lead our Carolling. We were delighted to be joined by so many friends and neighbours on such a bitterly cold day. Donagh Community Choir sang, "What Child is

this?" and "When a child is born". Lessons were read by Mrs Diane Wright Kendrick, Mr Willie Singleton, Miss Helen Irwin, Mrs Ethne McCord, Mrs Arlene Stewart, Miss Sarah Taylor, Mrs Maggie Stewart and Revd Tim. We were delighted to have our great friend and ecumenical colleague, Fr John Flanagan, read the Gospel of the Incarnation for us. We gingerly made our way out into the cold and, with our blood sugar raised by the tins of Celebrations and Roses at the door of the church, we headed to the Blackwater Community Centre for a greatly appreciated warm cup of tea. Thank you to everyone who decorated, baked and made sandwiches, prepared the hall, practiced the carols and to everyone who made our Carol Service such a joyous occasion

The third and final Carol Service was a rather unusual one as we were recording for broadcast on Northern Sound Radio on Christmas Day. St Salvator's Carol Service being at 10.30am on Sunday 18th December, our Junior and Senior Choirs were flying solo (with the help of three of our friends from Donagh Community Choir, Siobhan, Helen and George). Mr Kenneth Atkinson and George Wallace provided an instrumental introduction to the Carol Service and Mrs Ethne McCord was at the organ. The Junior and Senior Choir (with soloists from the choir) sang "What Child is this" and "In the bleak midwinter". The Junior Choir sang "Away in a manger" with a wonderful solo from Miss Rebecca Coulter (I don't think there was a dry eye in the house!). Lessons were read by Mrs Diane Wright Kendrick, Miss Halle Treanor, Miss Jessica Coulter, Mrs Gwen Stevenson, Mrs Eileen Fielding, Mrs Annabel Magee, Mr Harvey Keith, Mr Michael Hall and Mrs Marina Waller. Our only regret is that our great friend Fr Hubert Martin had a Mass at the same time as our Carol Service and was unable to join us for the recording, however, he sent us his Christmas blessings and, if you read on, we got to wish him a merry Christmas in person a little later on. The recording complete, the choir let down its hair and sang "We Wish you

a Merry Christmas" and "Santa Claus is coming to town" before the Junior Choir ran to the church door to offer everyone Roses and Heroes. Back in the Rectory that afternoon I was delighted with how well the recording sounded, it's amazing what a well positioned €70 microphone from Amazon attached to an iPad with fantastic organist, choir, readers and parishioners will do. We aren't quite finished with our reportage from our Carol Services just yet as we had the Glaslough Community Carol Service in The Coach Garden (beside the Olde Bar and Coach Inn, Glaslough) at 4pm. Mrs Diane Wright Kendrick and Ron Kendrick, proprietors of the Coach Inn (and belovéd parishioners of St Salvator's) had a team of elves busying themselves decorating the Coach Garden with fairy lights, a full size sleigh and a stage and marquee for the Donagh Community Choir who were on hand to lead the singing. The Lessons were read by Revd Tim Irvine, Miss Helen Irwin and Fr Hubert Martin, representing respectively, St Salvator's, Glennan Presbyterian and St Mary's. Mrs Ethne McCord and her trusty keyboard were on hand to accompany the choir and villager in the singing of some favorite carols. Ms Stephanie Jebb sang a beautiful rendition of Silent Night and the choir sang "In the bleak midwinter" before bells were heard in the distance and Mrs Diane Wright Kendrick (our community carol service compere) sensed the presence of Fr Christmas and led us all in the singing of Santa Claus is coming to town before Santa arrived, not on his Sleigh (which remember, was already parked in the Coach Garden) but astride a gleaming Fire Engine. Mr Claus really is the most delightful of men and had a cheery word and gift for every child, little or big, present. It was a busy time for Santa, so we appreciated that he couldn't stay too long but went on his way with a glass of mulled wine and pockets stuffed with mince pies. Of course there was hot mulled



Revd Tim with gifts for charity.

courtesy of Diane and Ron. A big thank you to the Wright-Kendricks and their staff at the Coach Inn for organising such a fun and friendly event that speaks volumes about what a warm and welcoming place Glaslough is.

# Congratulations

Congratulations to all the prizewinners and performers at the Monaghan Collegiate Prize Day held in Monaghan First Presbyterian Church on Friday 9th December. A special mention must be made of Miss Sophie Breakey who won six (I think it was six, I was starting to lose count and was feeling a little dizzy watching Sophie run in circles around the church to be on time to receive her next award!). Well done Sophie.

# **Cross Border Christmas Tree Festival Contribution**

Our Sunday School was busy in the run up to Christmas preparing its entry for St John's, Caledon's Christmas Tree Festival. The design of our tree took its inspiration from the carol "Silent Night". Thank you to all the children and Sunday School teachers who put so much work into decorating the tree which then made a return to St Salvator's to greet all those attending The Winter's Tale and all of our Christmastide Services.

# **Billis National School Nativity**

Billis National School held its Christmas Concert on Thursday 15th December. Staff and Board members had been salting the grounds to make the extended car park safe for all the visitors and there was a wonderful welcome for all the mums and dads and grannies and grandas who were present for an utterly gorgeous Musical Nativity. Congratulations to Mrs Ruth Williamson, our fantastic Principal, her super staff and our wonderful pupils for their beautiful musical retelling of the story of the first Christmas Day. As with all such occasions the sight of one of the sheep practising the pee-pee dance during two of the musical numbers before being whisked off to the wings for a much-needed comfort break will linger long in the memory; simply precious!

# Condolences

Christmas can be a difficult time for many of us who remember love ones whom we see no longer. We extend our condolences to Mrs Eileen Coulter and her family on the death of her sister-in-law, Pearl; to Ms Annie Warnock on the death of her sister, Jean; and, to Mrs Joan Singleton and her family on the death of her cousin. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.



The Sunday School Christmas tree.

# A Winter's Tale: Monday 19th December, 2022

It was wonderful to be back in the beautiful parish church of St Salvator's, Glaslough, nestled among the trees at the Castle Leslie Estate for what many people consider to be "when the Christmas season really begins.". Walking along the avenue from the Castle to St Salvator's sets the mood beautifully. As we walk past the old cast iron Victorian street lamps, we find ourselves unable to suppress that strangely magical sensation of somehow having stepped through the old furs at the back of the wardrobe and stumbling into the magical world of Narnia. Coming through the gates of the churchyard trimmed with candles flickering along the edges of the path does nothing to dispel the illusion of having stepped into another world, what with a noble stone lion astride a stone pillar resembling Aslan, solemnly guarding the way to the church nestled among a crown of trees. Inside St Salvator's the warmth, expectation and buzz of excitement instantly enervated the chilled concert goers and drew rosy cheeks upon all who had gathered for the evening's festive entertainment. The church is a delightful venue for a Christmas concert as it exudes a physical warmth and, with the visual cue of its beautiful gothic sanctuary, the audience feels once more a sense of being transported to somewhere beyond one's immediate surroundings, a medieval cathedral or maybe to a younger eye, Hogwarts. Violinists Ken Atkinson and George Watson ramped up the atmosphere as they limbered us all up with some jolly and jaunty Christmas tunes while everyone took to their seats.

The concert began with the beautiful soprano voice of Geraldine Casey singing the opening verse of "Once in Royal David's City" before all those gathered joined in, both warming themselves and stepping deeper into the festive spirit. A number of special guests were in attendance for

the opening night and they were warmly welcomed by The Revd Tim Irvine, the Bishop's Curate of the Donagh Group of Parishes and compère for the evening. The Bishop of Clogher The Right Revd Dr Ian Ellis and Mrs Heather Ellis were guests of honour along with Minister Heather Humphreys TD, Revd Tim's parents Ron and Roberta Irvine and representing Castle Leslie, Sammy Leslie.

After welcoming all in attendance, Revd Tim introduced the evening's proceedings by reminding us of the reason why we were all gathered this evening, namely "to celebrate that moment when God stepped into this world in flesh like ours to remind us of God's deepest longing for each of us; to remind us of who we truly are made in the image and likeness of God, called to live God's gift of life in all its fullness: lives of love, joy, hope, peace, mercy, forgiveness and charity." Revd Tim concluded his introduction by saying, "what we do tonight in our carols, songs and poetry is to join in a two millennia old tradition: on the very night of Christ's birth the world's first Christmas carol was sung by a chorus of angels sharing the message with shepherds outside a small city in Palestine. Our carols, songs and poems of our Winter's Tale continues the celebration and sharing of that message: in them may be found the story, the love and the joy of Christmas."

The Donagh Community Choir directed by the tirelessly energetic and enthusiastic, Ethne McCord, sang the lovely "Winter's Tale" and "Long ago on a Christmas Morning". Cantari Donagh are a separate chamber choir drawn from the Community Choir and are led by Geraldine Casey whose gorgeous voice began the evening's proceedings. Cantari sang a version of that great Advent and Christmas carol "O come to us Emmanuel" based upon the "O" anthems sung in monasteries before the canticle Magnificat each evening on the days before Christmas.

A third choir was on show at the concert, namely St Salvator's Junior Choir who sang the sweet song "Presents" by David Heath-Whyte before joining the choir for "How quietly, how quietly" with verses of "Away in a manger" weaving its way through the piece. Jessica Coulter, a member of the Junior Choir read the charming poem, "Christmas Star" by that most prolific of all authors, A. Nonymous. Next up was the well-known and much loved local businesswoman and land lady of Monaghan's Pub of the Year, The Olde Bar and Coach Inn, Diane Wright-Kendrick, who read Sarah Teasdale's "Christmas Carol" before returning to her place in the choir for a joyous rendition of John Rutter's beautiful "The Angel's Carol".

A perennial Christmas favourite was given an unusual twist next by Cantari Donagh as they gave a delectably different and comfortingly familiar rendition of Adolphe Adam's "O Holy Night" arranged by Mac Huff that allowed us to hear this Christmas classic afresh. No celebration of Christmas in Monaghan would be quite complete without the opportunity to hear Patrick Kavanagh's lyric recollection of "A Christmas Childhood" which was read by the lovely Michael Fisher whose chocolatey tones are familiar to many of us from his many years as a reporter for both RTE and BBC. If we weren't already beginning to have our noses tickled by the memory of turf smoke and John Jameson, "The Wexford Carol" by the Traditional Music Group certainly would have had the memories of Christmases past flooding back to all those in the audience. Featuring Noreen Boyle on accordion and George Watson on violin whose use of the drone in his accompaniment of Noreen's melody instrument was soul stirring in that special way that our traditional music has of sending tingles down the spine and making the hair on our arms stand on end. The Choir whisked us from the turf smoke and the caramel vanilla scent of Irish whisky, to the swinging speakeasies of the Southside of Chicago with the Jazzy "Tell the News!" before carrying us away to the white beaches of Antilles with the sunny syncopated Calypso rhythms of "All on a Bethlehem Night". Next the congregation were transported to a small alpine church for the singing of "Silent Night," that most endearing and charming of Austrian folk carols.

Bells had been heard earlier in the evening and we all wondered if Santa might be joining us this year but was struggling to find a parking space. Just as a young concert goer was pointing out the obvious to her mother, "but mummy, Santa always parks on the roof!", the man in question appeared in a flying visit from the North Pole where he said things are getting fairly hectic, but he was able to reassure Revd Tim that Santa's Logistic and Shipping Elves are confident that all Christmas lists will be fulfilled before dawn on Christmas Day. We were greatly relieved, although not entirely surprised, to hear from Santa that our guests of honour, Bishop Ellis and Minister Humphreys had been, respectively, a very good boy and a very good girl this year. Santa had to dash off as he had to get back to help Mrs Claus and the Elves pack the sleigh but he was delighted to receive his favourite send off with everyone singing "Jingle Bells" to wish him well on his way. Once Santa had coaxed Donner and Blitzen et al into the skies over Glaslough it was time for Glaslough's own Kenny Rodgers

and Dolly Parton, Diane and Gareth to sing their much requested duet of "Silver Bells". With Sammy Leslie reminding us that she had the Sweetmince Pies in the oven and the Mulled Wine on simmer up at the castle, the choir concluded with a medley of "Walking in the Air", "Winter Wonderland" and "God Bless us Every One". It was during the instrumental bars of music in the aforementioned "Walking in the Air" that I realised something that had been bubbling under the surface of my consciousness all evening, namely the exceptional quality of the piano accompaniment that the choirs had been receiving from the hands of the extremely talented Gerard Toal and his son, Peter whose subtle brush playing on the snare drum added an additional delicate flavour to the evening's performances. The Winter's Tale concluded with the audience standing to sing "Hark! the herald angels sing" before Revd Tim asked Sammy Leslie to lead us all along the candlelit path to her beautiful home where the warm and welcoming staff had Mulled Wine and mince pies waiting for us all. The Procession was met by Piper Mr Wilson Jebb who piped us up to the doors of the Castle. The Castle was abuzz with excitement about the wonderful concert which we had all just had the privilege to attend. Many people spoke of the power of music to lift us out of the ordinary, to give us time to reflect, to lift our spirits and to warm the heart. The Winter's Tale is a very special concert and we congratulate all those involved in offering such a magical musical and spiritual experience to all of us fortunate enough to be part of it.

## Grant

Community Choir leader, Ethne McCord, has expressed her appreciation to the Department of Education and Skills, through Cavan and Monaghan ETB Community Education Service, for their grant of £339.27 towards printing and photocopying costs. This grant will be used towards the purchase of ink cartridges to assist the choir with their significant printing costs. We are pleased to say that 34 choir members and six musicians have participated in our Harvest and Christmas programmes and we wish to thank both choir leaders, the musicians and singers who all give their time voluntarily and greatly enhance our worship and community activities throughout the year. It has now been proven by scientists that singing benefits our health and mental wellbeing by lowering cortisol and relieving stress and tension. Studies have shown that when people sing, endorphin and oxytocin are released by the brain which in turn lowers stress and anxiety levels.

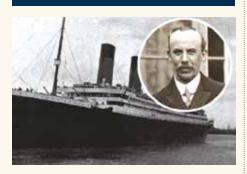
# **Dromore**



Rector: The Revd Andrew Quill

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# Rev. John Harper – Faithful to the end!

It was the night of April 14, 1912. The RMS Titanic sailed swiftly on the bitterly cold ocean waters heading unknowingly into the pages of history. On board the ship that night was Rev. John Harper and his much-beloved six-year-old daughter Nana. According to documented reports, as soon as it was apparent that the ship was going to sink, John immediately took his daughter to a lifeboat. It is reasonable to assume that this widowed preacher could have easily gotten on board this boat to safety; however, it never seems to have crossed his mind. He bent down and kissed his precious little girl; looking into her eyes he told her that she would see him again someday. The flares going off in the dark sky above reflected the tears on his face as he turned and headed towards the crowd of desperate humanity on the sinking ocean liner.

That night 1528 people went into the icy waters including John. He was seen swimming frantically to people in the water leading them to Jesus before the hypothermia became fatal. He swam up to one young man who had climbed up on a piece of debris. John asked him between breaths, "Are you saved?" The young man replied that he was not.

Rev. Harper then tried to lead him to Christ only to have the young man who was near shock, reply 'No!' John then took off his life jacket and threw it to the

man and said, "Here then, you need this more than I do..." and swam away to other people. A few minutes later he swam back to the young man and succeeded in leading him to salvation. Of the 1528 people that went into the water that night, six were rescued by the lifeboats. One of them was this young man on the debris. Four years later, at a survivors meeting, this young man stood up and in tears recounted how Rev. John Harper had led him to Christ. John had tried to swim back to help other people, yet because of the intense cold, he had grown too weak to swim. His last words before going under in the icy waters were "Believe on the Name of the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." ("The Titanic's Last Hero" by Moody Press 1997)

### Services

# 5th February to 5th March 5th February

11.00am – Family Service, 'Time well spent?', Mark 1:29-39

7.30pm - Praise & Ministry Service

## 12th February

11.00am – Holy Communion Service, 'Priority of the Gospel', Phil 1:27-30

### 19th February

11.00am – Morning Service, 'Pattern of Christ', Phil 2:1-30

### 26th February

11.00am – Morning Service, 'Pressing on', Phil 3:1-16

# 5th March

11.00am – Family Service, 'Listen to him!', Matthew 17:1-9

7.30pm - Praise & Ministry Service

# **Lenten Services (Wednesdays)**

Over the period of Lent, we will be looking at individuals who met Jesus (as recorded in John's Gospel) and whose lives were changed as a result. The Lenten Services

- will be informal and will last between 35 40 minutes.
- Wednesday 22nd February at 8pm Nathanael (John 1:43 51)
- Wednesday 1st March at 8pm Nicodemus (John 3:1 21)
- Wednesday 8th March at 8pm Woman at the well (John 4:1 29)
- Wed 15th Mar No Lenten Service (MU Meeting)
- Wednesday 22nd March at 8pm Man Born Blind (John 9:1 - 38)
- Wednesday 29th March at 8pm Martha (John 11:1-6, 17-27, 38-44)
- Wednesday 5th April at 8pm ~ Peter (John 21:1 23)

Many people over Lent give up chocolate or some other luxury as a sacrificial act. The writer of Hebrews talks about us offering to God 'a sacrifice of praise' as well as a sharing with others who are in need. Come along to these services and offer to God 'a sacrifice of praise' in addition to the Sunday Services and bring an offering towards Barnabas Aid's 'food. gives' initiative (helping hungry believers around the world). For more information on this go to: http://www.food.gives

# Confirmation and Dedication of Seat and Surrounds

Eleven Candidates were confirmed on Sunday 11th December 2022. Bishop lan spoke to the candidates and the congregation about what it means to be



Confirmation at Dromore with Bishop Ian Ellis.

a follower of Jesus. During the service a seat in the graveyard and the surrounds were dedicated by the Bishop in memory of Wilma Armstrong. After the service Bishop lan went with members of the Armstrong family to say a prayer at the seat, which has these words inscribed on it:

'Although this seat looks empty, it's filled with all the love of those that can't be with

us and are watching from above.'

# Keeping up to date

There are several ways that you can keep up to date with everything that is going on in the parish:

- Like our page 'Holy Trinity Dromore' on Facebook
- Watch our Live Streamed Services https://www.facebook.com/

holytrinitydromore/live/

- Subscribe to our YouTube Channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/ UCwj585CXlqOq6W6h7\_2AiYg/
- Watch uploaded Services on YouTube on a smart TV, uploaded usually on within 48 hours
- Get a recording of the service on CD every week.

# Drumkeeran, Muckross and Templecarne



Vacant; Non-Stipendiary Minister, Revd Charles Eames

T: 07922 293 504 E: drumkeeran@clogher.anglican.org

As we begin another year we hope as we do for better times ahead while appreciating all that God has done for us in the year just past. As I begin my thoughts I want to share something that I said in church during January.

As we begin another year we do need to take a step back and consider all that God has done for us and if we truly appreciate that then we should as the psalmist says ascribe to God the honour due to his name and we should worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

I talked a little bit last week about New Year's Resolutions and I would suggest that if we want to make a slightly belated New Year's Resolution we could do a lot worse that using these words as our resolution - ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Can you begin to imagine how the world would be transformed if more people made these words their own and lived them out in their lives.

Can you imagine what might happen if everyone who attended churches across this land made these words their own? We can of course live in hope. We had the normal run of services through Advent and Christmas and they all brought something different to our

worship and I hope that everyone who attended them felt blessed.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way to these services. Our thanks to those who decorated the churches, those who helped prepare the Sunday School for the services in Tubrid and Templecarne, for those who played the music over the Christmas season (and indeed throughout the year), to those who read lessons at our Carol Services and to all who contributed in any way.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all who work in different ways in the three parishes to help sustain the life of the church.

# **Women Together**

Our ladies group Women Together continue to meet and by the time you read these notes we will have enjoyed our annual meal out which this year will be held in Tullana on the Green. My thanks to the ladies who arrange the speakers and the events throughout the year.
We also had a service on Sunday 15
January which had been postponed from 11 December. This was the annual service in the Orange Hall which was a Service of Lessons and Carols so we travelled back in time a little bit.

Gillian Stevenson spoke about her work with Kindfund in Kenya and I believe that everyone who was there learned exactly what this work entails and the challenges, joy and heartbreak that is part of Gillian's everyday life as a result of this work. A collection was taken up and £700 given to Gillian to support her in her wonderful work.

# Parish Register

Sadly we have lost three parishioners recently.

Sarah (Sadie) Ogle passed quietly away at home after a period of illness on 7 December and her funeral took place on 9 December at Tubrid. Our deepest sympathies are extended to her sons Marshall and Jim, to their families and to Sadie's siblings and extended family circle.



suddenly on 20 December and his funeral took place in Templecarne Parish Church, Pettigo on 24 December followed by burial at Muckross. Our deepest sympathies to his children, Rachel, Amanda, George and Karen, to his surviving brother and sisters, their families and to the wider family circle. Philip White passed away in hospital on 10 January following an extended period of illness. While we had hoped that Phillip would recover it was not to be and his funeral service was held on Saturday 14 January followed by cremation at Cavan. Our deepest sympathies to his wife Margaret, her daughters Joanne, Nicola and Victoria and their families as well as to his late son Stephen's family and to the

# Diary

# Sunday 5 February

wider family circle.

Morning Prayer 10.00 Templecarne, Morning Prayer 11.30 Tubrid

# Sunday 5 February

Dernasesk 7pm

### Sunday 12 February

Holy Communion 10.00 Muckross, Holy Communion 11.30 Tubrid

# Sunday 19 February

Holy Communion 10.00 Templecarne, Morning Prayer 11.30 Tubrid

# Wednesday 22 February

Service for Ash Wednesday 8pm Tubrid

## Sunday 26 February

Morning Prayer 10.00 Muckross, Morning Prayer 11.30 Tubrid

# Ematris with Rockcorry, Aghabog, Aughnamullen and Drum

Service and Pastoral Cover: Revd Margaret Pringle NSM and Mr. Walter Pringle, DPA and Diocesan Reader.

Revd Tim Irvine is in charge.

# **Dartrey and Rockcorry** Winter Sale

Following a lapse of three years, due to the Covid epidemic, the return of the annual Rockcorry / Dartrey Winter Sale proved to be a big attraction for parishioners, the wider community and friends. Stalls, teas, sale of firewood and car wash were the order of the day. The staff and pupils of Rockcorry School played a pivotal role on the day with their stalls, a visit from Santa and a very popular Santa's grotto. A welcome €4000 was raised for parish funds. Grateful thanks to one and all.

# Christmas

Christmas is usually a busy time in the parish and this year proved to be no exception. The Carol Service In Dartrey in a beautifully decorated Church with the Rockcorry School children and followed by refreshments and the parish Christmas party in Aghabog all added to the celebrations of the Christmas season.

# Select a Vestry

The Vestry meeting in the Sexton's house was chaired by Revd. Tim Irvine. The purpose of the meeting was to revise the list of registered Vestry members. A number of domestic matters were also discussed.

# **Church Magazines**

Magazine subscriptions are now due and should be paid directly to Carol.



The Mothers' Union at Rockcorry.

### Personal

The winter season with its plethora of seasonal illnesses has affected a number of parishioners and some have suffered bereavement. We remember them all in our prayers.

# **Rockcorry School Enrolment**

Parents interested in enrolling their child in our school for September 2023 are invited to contact the Principal, Mrs Julie Coalter, by email to, rockcorryns@gmail.com or on the school telephone number 042 9742554.

We will be having an Open afternoon in the school on Wednesday 15 February from 12.30 – 3p.m. Parents and children are both welcome to come along on the day.

# Aughnamullen

Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances our Annual Carol Service had to be cancelled this year and instead there was a morning service with carols. Our thanks to those who decorated the church for the service so tastefully for the occasion and to Walter Pringle for conducting the service.

Our thanks to Revd Margaret Pringle for conducting our Christmas Day Communion service which was well supported.

Our condolence with those who have been bereaved and we remember also those who have been in hospital and those who have been unwell and wish them a speedy recovery.

# Crossduff

Our Annual Carol service was held on Sunday 4th December at 3pm and was very well supported as this was the first time we were able to meet up again since 2019. We were delighted to welcome our Bishop, the Right Revd. Dr. Ian Ellis as our preacher along with his wife Heather to Crossduff Church. Also to have Ballybay Country Gospel Group along with Mrs Wendy Sloan organist who provided the music. Our thanks to Walter Pringle for conducting the service and to Revd. David Hagan, Presbyterian minister and to the readers who took part in the service. A delightful tea was provided after the service and thanks to the ladies who provided and served it finishing off in a lovely way the start of the Christmas Season.

# Aghabog

# **Baptism**

Harry Norris, infant son of Matthew and Jackie Norris on 16th October 2022.





The children's choir at the Carol Service.



The Norris family with Revd Margaret and godparents at the baptism service

### **Carol Service**

Our Annual Carol Service was held on Sunday 18th December at 9.45 am. This service was very well attended and conducted by Walter Pringle. A big thank you to all the Sunday School teachers who organised all the readers and to all the children who sang four beautiful pieces. A lot of work was put into this and we thank you all very much. Also to those who decorated the church and to those who brought refreshments and served in the hall afterwards.

A big thank you to the Revd Margaret Pringle who conducted our Christmas Day morning service of Holy Communion at 11am.

### **Bereavements**

We extend our condolence to Ruth and Noel Wilkin and Family on the death of Ruth's mother, Mrs Edith Niblock, Ballybay; to Sadie and John Boyle on the death of Sadie's sister Mrs Hannah Hislop, Cavan and to Violet Norris and family on the death of her brother-in-law Benny Finnegan, USA and to anyone else unknown to us who have bereaved.

# Mothers' Union

Drum/Ematris Mothers' union held their monthly meeting in the Sexton's house, Rockcorry on Tuesday, 22nd November. The Branch Leader, Maureen opened the

meeting in prayer and a warm welcome to our members and friends and a bible reading read by Shirley. We were delighted to welcome Angela Graham who gave a demonstration on how to make Christmas wreaths and we thank her for all her knowledge on flowers and plants. A big thank you to Ematris ladies for the lovely supper served and the meeting was closed in prayer by Revd. Margaret Pringle. Our next meeting due to be held in Aghabog in December had to be postponed due to weather conditions. This to be rearranged to take place January 19th.

# Children's party

The Children's Christmas party for the group held in Aghabog Parish Hall on Saturday 10th December was very well attended. A big thank you to Walter and his helpers for organising the games and to all who prepared the supper and of course Santa arrived with gifts for the children. Thank you to all who came and helped in any way.

### Unwell

We wish all those who have been unwell recently either at home or in hospital and wish them a speedy recovery.

### Drum

A Night of Carols was held on a frosty night of 9 December. We welcomed members of Lisnaskea Silver Band who provided the beautiful music for the Carol singing, and guest choir Cantari Donagh who sang three pieces. The service was conducted by Walter Pringle, lessons and prayers were led by past and present Sunday school pupils. The night concluded with mulled punch, tea and festive refreshments. Sincere thanks to everybody that attended and contributed in every way to the service.

# Get well

We wish a speedy recovery to Emma and Zoe, both who have received fractured foot bones recently in totally unrelated incidents!!

# **Prayers**

As one year ends and the new one begins, we think of those who are ill and those who have been bereaved over the holiday season, may God grant them strength and courage in the days and weeks to come.



The children at their Christmas party in Aghabog.

# **Enniskillen Cathedral**



Rector: The Dean, The Very **Revd Canon** Kenneth Hall St Macartin's Deanery, 13 Church Street, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh BT74 7DW

T: 028 66 322465 E: dean@clogher.anglican.org



**Curate Assistant: Revd Chris West** 

T: 028 6625 1256 E: cwest@clogher.anglican.org

Cathedral Office Secretary: Mrs Beth Rennick T: 028 66 322917

E: enniskillen@clogher.anglican.org W: www.enniskillencathedral.org

# Services in December

Thursday 2nd February

11.00am - Holy Communion

# Sunday 5th February: The Third Sunday before Lent

9.00am - Holy Communion

11.00am - Holy Communion

Thursday 9th February

11.00am - Holy Communion

# Sunday 12th February: The Second **Sunday before Lent**

9.00am - Holy Communion

11.00am - Morning Prayer

Thursday 16th February

11.00am - Holy Communion

# Sunday 19th February: The Sunday before Lent

9.00am - Holy Communion

11.00am - Holy Communion

# Wednesday 22nd February: Ash Wednesday

7.30pm – Penitential Service with Holy Communion

# Thursday 23rd February

11.00am – Holy Communion

# Sunday 26th February: The First Sunday in Lent

9.00am - Holy Communion

11.00am - Morning Prayer (Family Service and Presentation to Water Drops)



Pictured along with the Dean are Claudie and Marina's three children, Joan, Austen and Jenny and Churchwarden Alanna Williamson and acting Churchwarden Jenifer Johnson.



# **Holy Baptism**

- 4th December Harry Adrian William Allan
- 17th December Rose Olivia Edwards
- 2nd January Evie Grace Carson-Lindsay

# **Christian Burial**

- 19th November Cecil Carson MBE, 17 Benaughlin Park, Enniskillen.
- 6th December Sharon Fleming, Main Street Brookeborough.
- 13th December Lucy Jane Johnston, The Tilery Nursing Home, formerly Ferne Valley, Enniskillen.
- 18th December Hazel Marina Lendrum, 32 Algeo Drive, Enniskillen.
- 8th January Derek Ronald Masterson, 32 Friars Way, Enniskillen.

# **Dedication of Chapter Room Furniture**

On Sunday 6th November a new Chapter Room Table and Chapter Room Chair were dedicated in memory of Claudie and Marina Stinson. We sincerely thank the Stinson Family for this very kind donation.

# **Thanks for December Events**

As a Parish we are deeply indebted to

many people, too numerous to mention, for all the hard work and endless hours they spent in organising events including, The 60+ Party, The Nativity Play, Messy Church, Family Fun Day, The Carol Services, The Christmas Day Services and those who decorated the Cathedral and Cathedral Hall and cleared away afterwards. Your contribution to the parish is very much appreciated.

## The Dean's 'Sit Out'

The Dean would like to say a sincere thank you to all who supported his pre-Christmas 'Sit Out', especially the members of the Select Vestry, Air Ambulance Volunteers and the choir who sang periodically throughout the day and into the final hour amidst the cold and mist! Thanks to all who carried food and hot drinks (of all strengths) and to all who gave so generously raising a total of £18,327.90. A presentation was made to George and Myrtle Irvine from NI Air Ambulance at the Family Service on Sunday 22nd January.

A presentation will also be made to Ronnie and Maggie Briggs who run the Water Drops Partnership in Kenya on Sunday 26th February at the 11.00am

Family Service. Water Drops aims to help people living in remote parts of Kajiado Diocese to have access to clean and fresh drinking water. Kajiado is described as a semi-desert area with very little rain in any given year. Last year, 2022, there has been a very serious drought across the whole area. People raise cattle, sheep and goats as their livelihood and to see them dying in large numbers is not only heart breaking but also brings them to the brink of starvation and famine. Water Drops works alongside the Bishop of Kajiado, Rt Rev Gaddiel Lenini to identify those communities that are struggling to find access to clean water. Everybody needs water, we can't live without it, and the Maasai people across Kajiado will take any water they can get because very often they have no choice - even though it may not be fresh and almost certainly contaminated.

We use the minimum amount of technology for our water solutions so that on-going maintenance is easier and the project is sustainable into the future. Fundraising is the key. We assure everybody that 100% of all funds raised for projects goes towards the implementation of the chosen project. Any excess funding



Supporting the Dean in his sit-out.





Bells of the Cathedral.

from any given project is transferred on to the next project.

# The Cathedral Bells

Bells can play an important part in the life of a church. Their primary purpose is to summon people to worship. They have also been rung over the years to indicate deaths, funerals, important events, weddings and other celebrations. They can also be used to welcome important visitors to the town or as a warning of some impending danger.

### **Limited Use**

The use of the bells in the Cathedral is currently limited to the number of volunteer bell ringers who are available when required. Currently, there are five very loyal bell ringers who make themselves available when at all possible, but the numbers are not sufficient for the bells to be used to their full potential. The possibility of having the bells automated so that they would ring at the press of a button is being explored. It may be possible that a variety of ringing programmes could be available to suit different occasions. Preliminary discussions have taken place with John Taylor and Company about the possibility of automating the chiming of the bells and the tower clock. They have indicated that this is possible and that this would not preclude the ability to ring the bells manually as at present. Messrs Taylors have been invited to visit the cathedral,



prepare a specification for an automatic chiming system and give the cost of carrying out the work. A way forward will then be decided by the Select Vestry.

### **History of the Cathedral Bells**

There has been a bell in the church tower from the time the church was first built. There are now 10 bells in the cathedral tower, some of them of particular historical significance. In 1716, two bells were cast from cannons taken at the Battle of the Boyne. These were given to the Enniskilleners by King William for their service to the King. Not surprisingly, these bells were given the names, 'William' and 'Mary'. These bells were recast in 1828 into one large bell which bears the inscription: This bell was given by Government AD 1716 and recast at the expense of the Parish of Enniskillen. The large bell on which the hours are struck was presented by William Willoughby, Earl of Enniskillen to his friends, the Inniskilling men, 1841.

Other bells were given by the Earl of Enniskillen, the Earl of Belmore, and Misses Hall of Inishmore Hall. In 1935, Mrs A. F. Maude, Belgard Castle, County Dublin, presented a bell in memory of her husband, the late Captain A. F. Maude (a grandson of a former rector of Enniskillen). Mr John S. Dane of Kildare Terrace, London, also presented a bell in 1935 in memory of the late Mr James Whiteside Dane, who took a prominent part in advancing the parish church to the status

of a cathedral.

## Major Works Required

In 1934 a report indicated that major work was required on the bells when the oak bell frame had deteriorated. The firm of Messrs Taylor and Company was engaged, at a cost of £566, to fit a cast iron bell frame, to provide and recast two extra bells and also to fit an Ellacombe chime. This brought the number of bells to 10.

### **Possibilities**

It is therefore appropriate that John Taylor and Company should be invited to explore the possibility of automating the bells so that they can ring out across the town to bring people to worship or to celebrate happy events like weddings or, perhaps, to indicate a person's final journey to their place of worship. The cost of automating the bells is not yet known but an early estimate is in the region of £18,000. A fund has been opened and some donations have already being made.

# Cathedral Day of Prayer – Saturday 11th February from 9am until 9pm

People have been praying on the site of the Cathedral for over 400 years. Prayers of: thanks and praise; repentance and forgiveness; petition (for ourselves) and intercession (for others) Prayers for: peace and protection; health and healing; wisdom and truth Prayers during times of: war and famine; prosperity and plenty; despair and conflict Prayers of joy, and prayers of sadness. Prayer helped to build this church and the faith filled prayers of tens of thousands of parishioners have helped to sustain this parish and this town for more than four centuries; and now that responsibility has been passed to us.

As we celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the church on this site, we have organised a day of prayer on Saturday 11th February. It is right to give our thanks and praise for



The current bell ringers Left to right; Jim Lucy, Sandra Richmond, Emma Semple and Stephen Richmond. Missing from the photo is Derek Allen. Emma travels from Omagh every Sunday to assist with the bell ringing.



One of the many Christmas events in the hall.

all that has taken place, but it is equally important for us to seek God's will and to pray for the present and the future; not just for the parish, but also for ourselves, our family, friends and community. The renowned theologian Karl Barth said: "To clasp the hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world." Like many before us, we are living in challenging times and if we want to correct the many ills of the world, then our starting point should be prayer. When we fail to pray "your Kingdom come your will be done", then man's will is done on earth.

Scripture tells us that our prayers rise like incense to God and Jesus promises: "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you" we can ask whatever we wish, and it will be done. God is waiting expectantly to hear our prayers, but if we fail to ask then they will remain unanswered.

So please join us and add your prayers to those already prayed.

We have organised the day to reflect the many different ways people pray, and we are sure you will find something which suits you (and your family).

**9:00-9:30** - A Service of Morning Prayer **9:30-13:30** - Prayer Spaces for children and parents in the side chapel.

+ private prayer in the main body of the church.

**13:30-17:30** - Prayer Spaces in the side chapel for: the church, our community, Air Ambulance, Water Drops and the world. + private prayer in the main body of the church.

**17:30-18:00** - A Service of Evening Prayer **18:30-19:30** - Join us for an hour of music and prayer.

**20:30-21:00** - A Service of Compline Throughout history God has answered the prayers of His people; imagine what He could do if we fixed our eyes on Jesus, got down on our knees and prayed.

# **Messy Church**

Messy Church is open to all children of Primary School age or younger and their parents and guardians. Even if you aren't a member of the Cathedral, you are very welcome to join us at any of the sessions. A warm welcome awaits you! Participants must complete a registration form, which is available from the Cathedral Office. The next Messy Church will be held on Thursday 16th February from 4.00-6.00pm.

# Sunday Lights and Café

Sunday Lights is open to anyone in P1-4, and Sunday Café welcomes children in P5-Year 8. We use interactive and creative forms of learning to help the children



learn about the Christian faith (telling Bible stories, songs, discussion, games, and crafts). We are grateful to the leaders who make Sunday Lights and Café not only possible, but so enjoyable for our children! The children leave during the 11.00am service after the singing of a family hymn for their own activities and attend and take part in monthly Family Services. Each Sunday parents or guardians attend church with their children at 11.00am. The children will leave church at 11.20am for approximately 30/40 minutes. A parent or guardian needs to remain in church during this time.

The next dates for Sunday Lights and Café are as follows:

**5th February:** Sunday Lights and Café - children leave during the 11.00am service for their own activities:

**12th February:** Sunday Lights and Café - children leave during the 11.00am service for their own activities;

**19th February:** Sunday Lights and Café - children leave during the 11.00am service for their own activities.

**26th February:** Family Service 11.00am Special preacher Ronnie Briggs from Water Drops Project, working with families in Kadiajo Diocese, Kenya.

# **Confirmation Class**

This year 24 confirmation candidates have begun their preparation to take a big step forward in their Christian journey in 2023. We meet as a class on Monday's from 6.30 – 7.30 pm in the Upper Room, Cathedral Hall.

# **Ash Wednesday and Lent**

Each year, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and is always 46 days before Easter Sunday. Lent is a 40 day season (not counting Sundays) marked by repentance, fasting, reflection, and ultimately celebration. The 40 day period represents Christ's time of temptation in the wilderness, where he fasted and where Satan tempted him. Lent asks believers to set aside a time each year for similar fasting, marking an intentional season of focus on Christ's life, ministry, sacrifice, and resurrection.

Ash Wednesday starts Lent by focusing the Christian's heart on repentance and prayer, usually through personal and communal confession.

# Ash Wednesday 22nd February

7.30pm – Penitential Service with Holy Communion

### **Lenten Services**

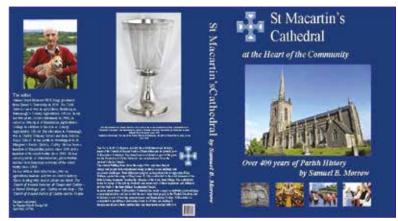
- Thursday 23rd February 11.00am Holy Communion
- Wednesday 1st March 7.30pm Compline
- Thursday 2nd March 11.00am Holy Communion
- Wednesday 8th March 7.30pm -Compline
- Thursday 9th March 11.00am Holy Communion
- Wednesday 15th March 7.30pm Compline
- Thursday 16th March 11.00am Holy Communion
- Wednesday 22nd March 7.30pm Compline
- Thursday 25th March 11.00am Holy Communion
- Wednesday 29th March7.30pm Compline
- Thursday 30th March11.00am Holy Communion

# Lenten Project – Mission Focus - Mothers' Union Overseas Fund

One of the aims of Mothers' Union is 'to help those whose family life has met with adversity'. The Mothers' Union Relief Fund is founded upon this principle. It enables grassroots Mothers' Union members to be a source of hope in their local communities when emergencies strike, wherever they find themselves in the world. When an emergency situation suddenly destabilises family life - either natural disaster or man-made conflict local Mothers' Union groups can receive a grant from the Relief Fund which helps them provide support to meet the most urgent needs facing communities. In many area the Mothers' Union act as the health service, the social service and as the education service have trained project workers in many spheres! This Lenten Season we as the Parish of Enniskillen are going to support this vital

Lenten Boxes and Gift Aid Envelopes are available in the Cathedral porch. These should be returned during Holy Week. 'Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.' 2nd Corinthians 9:7)





400th Anniversary Invitation.

# **Mothers' Union**

Theme for 2023 ~ Transformation - Now! Our January meeting was a service of Holy Communion followed by our AGM. There were no changes to our existing positions. We extend sincere sympathy to our Secretary, Sally, on the death of her husband, Derek. Thoughts and prayers are with Sally at this very sad time. The Lenten project this year will go towards MU Worldwide Fund. Our next meeting is 13th February when our Diocesan President, Mrs Heather Ellis will be speaking. Everyone is most welcome.

# **Tuesday Club**

Tuesday Club met on 29th November for an afternoon with Norma Ferguson from The Chest Heart and Stroke Association. Norma gave a talk on nutrition and the group played fruit and vegetable fun bingo before the meeting closed with a cuppa. The next meetings are on 31st January, when Mrs Olive Brownsmith is the guest speaker, and 28th February. Both meetings are in the Hilliard Room at 2.00pm.

# **Bowling Club**

On Wednesday 14 December the morning bowls club held a 'Round Robin Tournament' in the Cathedral Hall in aid of Leukemia. A very enjoyable morning of bowls was had by all and the amount raised was £125 which was donated to Leukemia.

When play finished, we all enjoyed some refreshments and prizes were distributed to the winners.

The Evening bowls continue each Wednesday Evening and we have played some league matches at home and away. Bowling Club continue to meet on Wednesday's Morning 10.30 am and Evenings 7.30 pm.

New members are always welcome for fun and friendship.

# **Quadricentennial Service**

The past year was a landmark year in the history of the Parish of Enniskillen when we celebrated our quadricentennial year. The journey of life takes many twists and turns for all of us and at times we all need something of stability upon which we can rely. The parish of Enniskillen was formed in 1622 and St Macartin's Cathedral (formerly St Anne's Church) has stood for almost 400 years at one of the highest spots in Enniskillen and has been a spiritual beacon and home for many generations of Christians. Today St Macartin's is still committed to providing a welcoming home to all who are seeking to deepen and develop their spiritual lives and their relationship with God.

We want to acknowledge and give thanks for these 400 years at a special thanksgiving service to mark the formation of this Parish on St Macartin's Day, Friday 24th March at 7.30pm. Please make a note of this date and invite family, friends, neighbours and more especially anyone who has had previous connections with the Parish. Due to Covid restrictions at the time of our reopening (after our major renovations in 2021) we were greatly restricted in numbers able to attend. Now

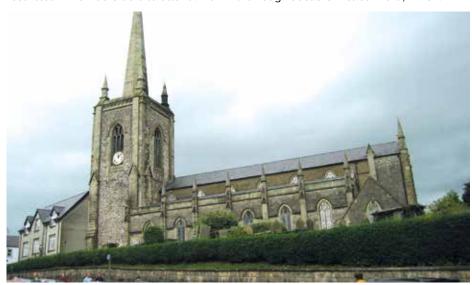
everyone has the opportunity to come along, give thanks and see our newly renovated magnificent building!

# 400th Anniversary Year - Cathedral History Book

A number of St Macartin's 400 Years of Parish History by Samuel B Morrow are still available at the launch price of £20. These would make ideal gifts for family members and friends, especially those who were baptised, confirmed or married in the Cathedral, and for those who have had relatives buried from the cathedral. Copies are available from the Parish Office the Deanery or from the Churchwardens. We want to sell as many a possible during this coming year.

### A New Year Praver

Loving God, inspire us with courage and hope as we embark on this New Year. May our lives throughout the coming months be an example of your love in our relationships with family, with friends and with those we meet in the community. Bless us with fruitful opportunities this year, grant us the wisdom to grasp them and the resources to realise them, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.



# Fivemiletown (including Kiltermon)





Rector: Revd Precentor Kyle Hanlon

Associate Minister: The Revd Canon Dennis Robinson

The Rectory, 160 Ballagh Road, Fivemiletown, Co. Tyrone. BT75 0QP T: 028 895 21030

Parish Office 10.00am-3pm Wednesday and Friday. Secretary: Judith Anderson

T: 028 895 22422

E: fivemiletown@clogher.anglican.org

# **Sunday Services**

9.30am Church meets at Kiltermon 11am Church meets at St John's Sunday School meets fortnightly, and other dates as announced 7pm Breathe, a quieter time of worship and prayer: 1st Sunday of month.

# **Bleak or Full?**

Today is undoubtedly mid-winter. Six weeks in and about six weeks to go. Spring is only a promise ahead. Snow in the village is inches deep, but I gather it runs only to Clogher, and then it's a dusting of icing sugar. But in the rectory lane and beyond it was wellington boots at the ready, and a time to wrap up well. The office hours today seemed to run on with a lunch time blizzard making the walk home foolish indeed; but when it stopped, the sun reappeared. I walked briskly because reheated leftovers beckoned, and other mouths would want to be fed. The birds are quickly making their way through seed, suet and fat balls, as well as wire hangers of peanuts. But not so quickly





Isabel and Anderson Sanchez from Peru in Fivemiletown parish.

that there isn't time to wonder at the four Robins, with their bright orange and grey plumage, who will tolerate each other in the yard, in the hope of a meal. Once the large-hooded crows have eaten, and the occasional magpie has gone, the flashes of blue and yellow, as well as pale pink and barley brown appear.

There isn't time or road courage today for travelling into Enniskillen. Flowers wrapped in cellophane, most probably force grown in Holland or Israel, and left outside to freeze, will have to wait for another day. Instead, the post-Christmas gaps will have to be filled with the spoils of a walk in the lane. Rust coloured Witches Hazel and bright orange or yellow willow stems fit the bill. There are the first signs of Spring bulbs pushing their tips out of the decaying Autumn leaf fall, and clumps of Christmas Roses, the creamy white hellebores, have established their place in the January snow.

January has been neither bleak nor empty. The parish diary has been interesting and quite full. School assemblies and children's talks gave the opportunity to think about the times after the Nativity scene. Although the flight to Egypt was caused by Herod's disturbing insecurity on the throne, the faithfulness of Joseph and Mary are worth pondering. As is their subsequent return journey, before finally settling in Nazareth. January also holds the annual parish bowling competition, when pairs from across local counties compete over several evenings. This year again was very successful and well attended. And an added bonus, was that on the Friday evening two adult members hosted the young people from Connect Youth Group. I was amazed at how encompassing the bowling mats were, whether the players were young or older. It seems to be a great leveler, and gave young people with a range sporting and academic abilities the opportunity to settle into the rhythm of the game. Equally, the reflection and testimony given over

supper from one of the Bowling Club captured our attention.

As I write, nine young people and four leaders plan to travel to Castlewellan for the Parish Youth Weekend. My eldest son and new daughter-in-law have been invited to be the guest speakers. The programme is a mix of water sports (yes, in January temperatures), worship, teaching, group competitions, and visits to Newcastle and the cinema. This annual trip is generously and heavily subsidised by the Select Vestry and allows us to make this available to parish families at half the going rate. The parish youth leaders are very appreciative of this support.

# **Overseas visitors**

And, as organisations begin to reopen part way through this month, we also have had an opportunity to host visitors from overseas. Isabel and Anderson Sanchez hosted our young adults in 2016 when a team of them visited Lima in Peru. Isabel is the Principal of a small school, in a deeply impoverished district in the city. And her husband Anderson is an Anglican pastor in the diocese.

I continue to be amazed at God's planning, and His ability to dovetail events in our lives. It was only late in the planning for the 2016 visit that I realized how Isabel's father and mother were led to faith in Christ by the same missionary family, Ray and Beth Mills, who subsequently settled in my home parish in Portadown. And that her father Julio went on to establish the congregation we went to serve.

The Sanchez's visit included their daughter and son, and the four travelled between Waringstown Parish, Fivemiletown Parish and Strabane Parish. We were really appreciative that Muriel Henry catered for 25 parishioners who gathered for a tea, and to join in the evening. And we say thank you to Andy Little who in particular has kept in contact with this mission since our visit.



Some of the fine cloth from Peru.

It was a great evening when we were encouraged by the faithful commitment of our brothers and sisters overseas. I heard enough on the evening to realise how traumatized they have been by the effect of Covid on their community, and also remember the grinding poverty which surrounds them on every side. Yet, in it all they spoke about the ministry and the mission of the school and church, and it was clear to see their diligence as they carry on in their calling.

Thank you also to the visitors who gifted the parish some lovely South American cloth. With a bright red background, the traditionally inspired oyio cloth depicts the fielfs or seas near to where the design was woven.

We can use the cloths in some way during the seasons ahead when red becomes the colour of the liturgical season.

Thus far, January has been a full and busy month. It has included pastoral visiting to those in hospital, and those recently bereaved, as well as families with a newly born, and those preparing for Holy Baptism. It has been a month with lots of planning as well completing rotas for the season ahead as we look towards Lent and Easter. But especially it has been a season to notice again in what could otherwise be a bleak season, that Winter is a time of great possibility and perhaps unexpected beauty. I include a lovely poem by Anglican Welsh poet Gerard Manley Hopkins, for your Winter enjoyment.

May God bless you as you journey on in this season with Him.

In Christ, Kyle Hanlon.

# Pied Beauty by GM Hopkins

Glory be to God for dappled things – For skies of couple-colour as a brinded cow; For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;

Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings; Landscape plotted and pieced – fold, fallow, and plough;



Shoeboxes for the Christmas appeal.

And áll trádes, their gear and tackle and trim.

All things counter, original, spare, strange; Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)

With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim; He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:

Praise Him.

# Pastoral Care and Hospital Visiting

Pastoral visiting to hospitals is now permitted in most situations with some planning ahead. If you or a family member are in hospital and would like a pastoral visit, please contact the Rector: 8952 1030 or email fivemiletownparish2@gmail.com Please note that the Chaplaincy system in the South-West Hospital is not functioning as one might hope: there are no referrals being made to the parish, and therefore we are unaware if you or your relative is in that hospital unless we are phoned/ emailed by you.

# **Church Lad's Brigade**

This meets from 6.45pm -8pm each Tuesday fortnight.

Dear Parishioners,

CLB held their first fundraiser in over four years, an Antique and Craft Fair on 10 December 2022 and we would like to thank you all for making it such a success! Thank you to the ladies who made the refreshments, waitressed and baked. Thanks also to parents and friends for car parking and ensuring the paths were safe and frost free. Thanks for supplying crafts for our stall and thank you for your support and attendance on the day. So far we have raised £1610.94. "Fight the Good Fight." From CLB Leaders and Boys

# **Autumn Visits**

# **Leprosy Mission**

'Thank you all for your support for The Leprosy Mission over the years. Hearing Joanne Briggs on Sunday saying that as little as £24 cured leprosy, with the help of trained teams that work in the hospitals and that how little we give is appreciated. May we all be as Jesus was to share our love to help them.' Sheila Burke, Church Representative

# The Royal British Legion

Congregations at both Kiltermon and St John's were again pleased that representatives of the Royal British Legion and serving members of His Majesty's forces were in attendance at Remembrance services in the parish.

The Rector, Churchwardens and our uniformed organisations also represented the parish at the act of remembrance at the Memorial Stone.

# **Girls' Friendly Society**

GFS reopened on the 21st September and we were delighted to have 33 girls in the hall, all excited to start a new year with us. We have now 37 girls on the roll. We enjoy fellowship, friendship, and fun with the girls. This year all girls are studying the Bible Syllabus set by All-Ireland: Baby Moses and the older girls are also studying Psalm 139. We are working for our Arts & Craft Badge within the branch, and we enjoy the extra activities which include cookery, drama and games.

We took part in the Clogher Valley RFC Scarecrow competition at end of October. Some of the girls enjoyed making the scarecrows, others thought it was a smelly job!

On Remembrance Sunday, we took part once again in the Act of Remembrance at the Royal British Legion, where Jessica Bennett laid the wreath on behalf of our branch, and of course the girls were delighted to get parading around the town and this year we were able to attend the service.

We meet every Wednesday evening from 6.30pm to 8pm in the Parish Hall. All primary and secondary school girls are welcome to come along and join us. *Pearl Smyton* 

## Successful Sunday School Christmas Project '22

Sunday School continues to go from strength to strength. This year there are 86 children and young people registered with at 60+ attending each time. There is a great group of supportive leaders and helpers and we appreciate their willingness to prepare for and provide a Sunday School for parish families. There is a varied and interesting programme of teaching by craft, quizzes, memory verses and Bible talks. At Harvest we launched a project to gather. fill and fund shoe boxes as part of the Samaritan's Purse project. This year 53 boxes were generously filled by parish families, and £290 was collected to pay for their transport to the Ukraine. Irene Boyd of Ardess Parish visited the parish in late November to collect the boxes. Thank you everyone who has been involved with this. Precentor

#### Connect

Our Connect youth group for secondary aged young people reopened again in Autumn for another year of fun and fellowship. This year, we are focusing on the concept of "Growth" as we meet together and take time every night to explore a Bible passage that helps to show how each young person can develop and grow in their faith. *Timothy McClure* 

#### **Mothers' Union**

After the summer break our first meeting was held a week later due to the death of Queen Elizabeth II. Our speaker for September was Linda Johnston who spoke on Free from Clutter. Linda talked about the reasons we struggle to declutter and how to declutter can simplify your life. It was an evening of fun filled conversation. Two new members were welcomed at the meeting. Ten members attended a service in St Annes' Cathedral, Belfast on Friday evening 23 September as part of the Annual

Conference weekend of Mothers' Union.
Right Revd. Andrew Forster, Bishop of Derry & Raphoe, spoke on how he remembered as a child his mother attending Mothers' Union meeting once a month, concluding that Mothers' Union was the mainstay of the Church of Ireland.

The fundraising Coffee Morning and Cake Sale replaced our October meeting on Saturday 8 October 2022. This was very successful raising up on £1,100 divided between Mothers' Union and Worldwide Funds.

On Sunday 6 November in St Marcartans' Cathedral, Enniskillen at morning service, Heather Ellis was commissioned as Clogher Diocesan President and Debbie Davidson as Armagh President. At our November meeting we prepared 41 Christmas Hampers for senior members of our parish and 6 Gift Bags for senior members of the parish who reside in Nursing Homes. Evelyn Irwin, Secretary.

#### **Parish Safeguarding Panel**

Florence Brunt, Julie Stronge, Alwyn Barton and Precentor Hanlon are the parish's Safeguarding Panel. They have devolved responsibility from the Select Vestry whose responsibility it is to ensure the Parish complies with the Church Of Ireland safeguarding policy. Their responsibilities include interviewing new volunteers, and applying for their Access NI check, an annual appraisal with those who volunteer for the parish's children's and youth ministries, conveying any safeguarding concerns to the relevant authorities, and overseeing the implementation of a growing list of policies and guidelines. At present we are very busy as we prepare five new volunteer leaders, refresh training for almost 50 leaders, and prepare for the first parish safeguarding audit in the new year.

#### **Marriage Preparation**

Christian Guidelines will be with us on 11th

March 2023, for a one-day course based at Kiltermon Church for all couples preparing for marriage. Available to the parish, diocese and other churches. Booking directly - Christian Guidelines: 9146 8846

#### Midweek Intercession and Prayer For Healing

A group of 13 people receive the requests for prayer each week and are committed to praying at least each Wednesday. And each second month we gather with others for a service of Holy Communion when all the names prayed for since we last met are prayed for again. Leave a name for prayer with the office or with Precentor Hanlon or William Morrow.

## Breathe is a quieter time in the parish

Meeting from 7pm on the first Sunday across eight months of the year, Breathe is a time set aside to gather around a piece of scripture, to pray and reflect supported by music and silence. Join us next from 7pm on Sunday 5th February

in the Parish Hall.

We continue to pray for;

- The Parish and all its people
- The recently bereaved, the unwell, any waiting for surgery
- All who have asked for prayer through Wednesday intercession
- Kate Doherty and Operation Rescue in Ethiopia
- Isabel and Anderson Sanchez working in Lima, Peru
- Stephen McElhinny and the work of SAMS
- The Leprosy Mission, parish link Sheila Burke: NI Director, J Briggs
- The Church's Ministry Of Healing and Rev'd Dr Pat Mollen
- The Fellowship Of Contemplative Prayer and Canon Fox





Representatives of the Royal British Legion at one of the services.

#### Galloon, Sallaghy and Drummully



Rector:
The Revd
Lorraine Capper

The Rectory, 23 Drumcru Road, Newtownbutler BT92 8JD

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## Desiring Spiritual Intimacy this Lent

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." (Psalm 91:1-2).

The "secret place" speaks of a place in Christ, but it also speaks of intimacy. To be "under the shadow of the Almighty" is to be close to Him. The Lord's blessings are not just for an elite few. If a blessing is from our Lord, everyone has access to it. The young and the old, the strong and the weak, the rich and the poor—all have access by faith to His blessings that are freely given.

Let me tell you where the secret place of the Most High is. The secret place of the Most High is a place where you are in Christ. Wouldn't you agree that being in Christ is to be in the safest hiding place? How did you get to be in Christ? By receiving the Lord Jesus as your personal Saviour into your heart.

There was a time when I travelled to Israel and the sun was scorching hot. When we are outdoors, whether it is on the Mount of Beatitudes or in Capernaum, we always look forward to being under the shadow of a tree. The difference in temperature when we are under the protective shelter of a tree is like night and day. Out in the open, we wouldn't last long under the scorching heat of the sun. But under the shadow of a tree, we can sit for hours, enjoying a time of refreshing as we discuss the Word of God.

Beloved, being under the shadow of the Almighty speaks of closeness, intimacy, and protection. It speaks of a place of refreshing, coolness, and rest. When Psalm 91 talks about dwelling



The Moore family at the baptism service in Drummully.

in the "secret place" of the Most High, that secret place is not a geographical location, but spiritual intimacy with our Lord Jesus. In the same way, the prayer of protection is not an incantation or some kind of magic chant that grants you protection. It is you valuing your position in Christ and your close relationship with Him, and being found in that secret place with Him. The Lord does not want you to simply claim His promises of protection. He wants you to come close to Him. Running to Him and coming under His feathers speak of closeness. It's not about how many times you have recited Psalm 91; it's about having an intimate relationship with Him. So this Lent decide to spend time with Him in the secret place.

#### Services in February

## Sunday 5th February 2023 - The Third Sunday Before Lent

9am: Drummully Parish Church: Holy Communion

10.30am: Sallaghy Parish Church: Holy Communion

12.00 noon: Galloon Parish Church: Holy Communion

## Sunday 12th February 2023 - The Second Sunday Before Lent

9am: Drummully Parish Church: Morning Prayer

10.30am: Sallaghy Parish Church:

Morning Prayer

12.00 noon: Galloon Parish Church:

Morning Prayer

### Sunday 19th February 2023 - The Sunday Before Lent

9am: Drummully Parish Church: Family Service

10.30am: Sallaghy Parish Church: Family Service

12.00 noon: Galloon Parish Church: Family Service

#### 22nd February - Ash Wednesday

Service of Reflection at 8pm in Galloon Parish

## Sunday 26th February 2023 - The First Sunday in Lent

9am: Drummully Parish Church: Morning Praver

10.30am: Sallaghy Parish Church:

Morning Prayer

12.00 noon: Galloon Parish Church:

Morning Prayer

#### **Nativity Plays and Santa**

On 18th December both Sallaghy and Galloon had their Sunday School members take part in two wonderful Nativity Plays.



The Mothers' Union members at their Christmas meeting.



Galloon's play was written by Mrs Dawn Hutchinson entitled: "It's a Census, Get Me Out of Here!!!" We had our very own Ant and Dec namely Esther Hutchinson and Zara Rickey and they were assisted by all the children from the Sunday School- a great team effort. The children sang verse one of "Away in a Manager" and also led us in "Come and Join the Celebration". Santa made a visit giving to each child a little gift.

Sallaghy although we have few children and they are very young each child made a tremendous effort. Little Emily Crawford led us in a solo verse of "Away in a Manager". All the Sunday School children sing: "Mary, this is special news". Each child introduced the Scripture readings. The children were delighted that Santa visited and gave them all a gift. Drummully had Santa visit after their Carol Service on 11th December. The Parishioners also hosted a beautiful afternoon tea. Christmas Day was a historical day for Drummully! It was the first time that they had a Christmas day Service in over 20 years. This service was well supported by both members from



Sallaghy and Galloon as we once again celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ.

#### **Mothers' Union**

Sallaghy Mothers Union joined in the Christmas Celebrations with Drummully and Galloon. The Christmas Party was hosted in Gallon Parish Hall. We were delighted to welcome Mrs Ellie Annon who gave us a very enjoyable evening making our own snowman. The evening finished with a scrumptious supper before we all braved the freezing conditions outside!

Sallaghy Mothers' Union had a wonderful evening with guest speaker Mrs Irene Boyd who shared the wider picture of Mothers' Union. She spoke on the mission and worldwide aspect of the Mothers' Union.

#### From the Registers **BAPTISM**

Drummully: 8th January 2023, Zoey May Moore, daughter of Tara and Dean and sister of Casey.

Sallaghy: 22nd January 2023, Maddison Moira Ann Stewart, daughter of Hollie and

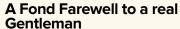


Reece and sister of Poppy.

#### BURIAL

Mr William Jospeh Henry Little (Galloon Parish) passed away peacefully on Sunday 18th December 2022.

Our sympathy and prayers are with all who have been recently bereaved. We offer our sympathy to the Little family on the passing of William; to Robin Bradshaw on the passing of his brother, Charlie; to Elizabeth Johnston on the passing of her cousin, Donald; to Heather Kettyle on the passing of her cousin, Malcolm; and to John and Heather Fleming on the passing of a dear sister-in-law and Aunt Eveline. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. They are blessed indeed says the Spirit, for they rest from their labours." Revelation 14:13



To a very full church Revd Lorraine said: "It is very hard to sum up in any word or words the person of William Little. He was caring, loving, witty, honest, gentle, kind, compassionate, a man with a good heart and a big heart, he was generous, he was pleasant, he was a peacemaker, a leader. He believed in living life and letting others live. Your life was enriched when you met William. John 1:47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile! This is how I would sum up William he



Christmas in the Galloon Group of parishes.

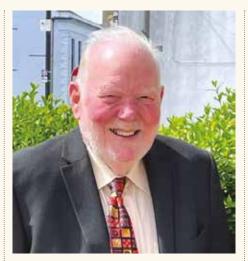






had no guile. Guile means he was a man of complete integrity, he had no deceit, a man who is sincere, there is nothing false in him!"

"In this Parish: first he was a faithful attender at worship -you knew William was either on holidays or ill if he was not at church. He was member of the bowls and later became Chairman, organising a lot of matches behind the scenes. To say he loved the Church Auction is an understatement - again working so hard to raise funds for our parish. He was Secretary to the Select Vestry-a job which he carried out in great detail. In the Community he was a teacher and then became the Principal in Newtownbutler Primary School. He was very much a person of education. He loved to pass on his skills in crafts to the children. Teachers are important because they not only provide instruction



Mr. William Little.

to children in one or more academic areas, but they also stand as an additional source of encouragement in the life of a child. He was a great encourager. He

was well known and very much respected in the community. People would seek William out for his wisdom and advice. William continued to be concerned and to ask after past pupils. May we be thankful for the time we had with William, the impact he had on our lives and the lessons, the memories and that of a William which we carry with us this day forward. Now is a time to give thanks for William, all that he did for us and how he touched and blessed our lives, making us who we are today. William made his own indelible mark on his school, his family and friends, his community and made his own unique contribution to who we are."

#### **Car-boot Sales in Drummully**

We plan to have car boot sales in Drummully on the first Saturday of May (6th), June (3rd), July (1st), and August (5th). Gates will be open from 8am.

### Garrison, Slavin, Belleek and Kiltyclogher



Rector:
Revd Rebecca
Guildea

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## Church Services Diary FEBRUARY

#### Sunday 5 February

Garrison 10am, Slavin 11.30am, both HC **Sunday 12 February** 

Kiltyclogher 10am, Belleek 11.30am, both HC

#### Sunday 19 February

Garrison 10am, Slavin 11.30am, both MP and FS

#### Sunday 26 February

Kiltyclogher 10am Belleek 11.30am, both MP

#### **MARCH**

#### Sunday 5 March

Garrison 10am, Slavin 11.30am, both HC



Joy Graham and Heather Ellis, Diocesan President, Mothers' Union cut the anniversary cake (right).

#### **Weekly Diary**

- Wednesdays Parish Prayer, 9.30am Belleek Church
- Thursdays Youth Group, 6pm, at the Rectory, for kids aged 8-13

#### **Contemporary Worship**

Revd Rebecca has met with parishioners from all four churches who can contribute musically to our worship. It is intended that at Family/All Age and Group services we will have new modern hymns and accompaniment while still having traditional hymns at HC services. If you can, or would like to contribute in any way, whether you are young or old you will be so welcome. Please speak to Revd Rebecca for details how we can welcome you to help.

#### **Mothers' Union**

Thank you to Pauline, Maureen and Sadie for representing our MU Branch at the Diocesan MU event at Colebrooke to support the Global Day of Action against Gender Based Violence.



## MU 60th Anniversary Celebration

in Melvin Country House Garrison on 7
December to celebrate 60 years since
the formation of the Branch. Bishop
lan Ellis and his wife Heather, who is
MU Diocesan President attended the
celebration, along with Revd. Rebecca
and her husband, Brendan.
Joy Graham made and decorated
a beautiful cake for the occasion.
Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal
prepared and served by Francis, Martin
and family, followed by mince pies
and cake. it was a lovely evening of
fellowship and we appreciate all the work

Our Mothers' Union Branch held a dinner

## Christmas Afternoon Tea and Holy Communion

the event.

by Dot, our Branch Leader in organising

Dot Barlow (MU Branch Leader) and Revd. Rebecca hosted a beautiful afternoon tea in the Rectory on Friday 9th December for the ladies who were



Tea at the rectory.

unable to attend the 60th Anniversary Meal. They had a lovely time of fellowship and the afternoon ended with Holy Communion. Thank you to Dot for organising and arranging transport and to Revd. Rebecca for providing a cosy venue.

#### **Christmas Nativity**

Our Nativity Service directed by Lorraine Boyd and assisted by Jenny Willis, was held in Slavin Church on 11th December. The Narrator was Robin Boyd, who also accompanied the Sunday School on guitar, singing, 'Away in a Manger'. Darren Acheson was the Angel Gabriel. The messenger angel was Robyn Earls. Scott Brock was the innkeeper. The part of Joseph was played by Noah Guildea and Alfie Gregg. Jessica Willis was a shepherd and the Wise men were Chloe Willis and Issac Guildea. Charlotte Elliott and Hollie Gregg played the part of Mary. Robyn, Charlotte, Hollie and Darren sang solo parts. The service was well attended; thank you to all who travelled dangerous roads and some taking detours.

Thank you to those who made the church grounds safe to walk on and helped us across the paths on such a frosty morning.

#### **Carol Service**

Kiltyclogher Church was beautifully decorated by Pauline Carson and Jenny



The Community Choir at one of the Christmas services.

Willlis for a Service of nine lessons and carols on Sunday 18th December. The Choir conducted by Louise Leonard and accompanied by Joy Graham, sang five carols. The readers represented the four parishes in the group. The Gospel was read by Revd. Rebecca. We were entertained to mulled wine, delicious mince pies and other goodies after the service. Thank you to all who put so much work into the service which was greatly enjoyed by everyone.

#### **Christmas Eve**

Christmas Eve was a Service of Holy Communion in Belleek conducted by Revd. Rebecca. The Church was filled to capacity. It was beautifully decorated by Rachel, Helen and Donna. A special thanks to William Pye for decorating the front window. Audrey Ovens and Marina Hassard sang a duet, 'Meekness and Majesty', accompanied by Marina on guitar.

#### **Christmas Day**

A large number attended the Family Service with Holy Communion on Christmas Morning in Garrison to enjoy the traditional hymns and carol singing. Cherith Smith read the first lesson and Charlotte Elliott sang a beautiful solo entitled "Born in a Barn".

Revd Rebecca interviewed Helen Gunner who along with her husband Phillip have moved to Garrison this year from Winchester and we are delighted they have joined the Garrison congregation. Helen has royal connections and we were delighted to hear of her "famous" relatives. Wonderful fellowship was shared as we celebrated the birth of our Saviour Christ.

#### Slavin Christmas Sale

Thank you to all who helped and supported Slavin's Christmas Sale. The total to date is £400.

## From Rev. Rebecca: Notes from the Rectory

I had the experience of what a friend of mine calls 'the wanties' towards the end of last year. Your heart arrives on something it really, really wants, and your mind and emotions become totally fixated on getting it. In my case it was a cottage - old, beautiful, begging to be rescued. I couldn't get it out of my mind. Could we get a mortgage to do it up? How much would that cost? I drew up a budget, spoke to builders, redrew the budget...came seconds away from putting in an offer, and yet it clearly wasn't going to work. With a full-time job and three small kids, this was NOT A GOOD IDEA. I emailed the estate agent, the builder, the planner, said it wasn't for us, and pushed it out of my mind. I used one of my favourite phrases from YouTube's 'the Minimal Mom': 'You can like something and leave it in the shop.'



Revd Rebecca with Helen Gunner.



Arriving for one of the Christmas services.



Bishop Ian with Dot Barlow at the Mothers' Union anniversary dinner.



Audrey Ovens and Marina Hassard who sang on Christmas Eve in Belleek.



The children taking part in the Nativity.

And, mercifully, I forgot about it. Christmas services and the run of duties that go alongside meant that I really didn't have any space to think about this cottage. A month later, I can't believe I got so attached to it, can't believe the headspace I gave to it. It wasn't even on my horizon anymore.

But it did get me thinking about desire. Humans seem almost hardwired to 'want', to fixate on things and pursue them to the detriment of everything that stands in the way. Hence the destruction of the planet, sweat shops, Black Friday shopping-centre brawls. But desire isn't intrinsically a bad thing. In fact, we are created for desire. As C.S. Lewis puts it: 'It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."

In John 3, Jesus turns and asks Andrew and his friend 'what are you looking for?' I imagine Jesus asking me that question, imagine what answer I might give. A house? Surely not. A new pair of shoes? A holiday? So many of the things which I spend my time pursuing aren't really what I want at all. What I want is to walk with Jesus, to spend time with him, to get to know him better. But sometimes that seems too difficult, too time-consuming, so I go off and buy the new shoes instead.

Andrew replies to Jesus 'Rabbi, where are you staying?'



Revd Maureen Desborough with her husband Mark at the MU dinner.



Rachel Love with Philip and Helen Gunner.

'Come and see' says Jesus. I imagine Jesus inviting me, this new year, to come and see – to stop focussing on the distractions, to go deeper, to spend time with him. Maybe he's saying the same to you.

### CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND ECUMENICAL CAROLS

It was such an encouragement to see so many parishioners and visitors attending the Christmas services across our parish group. Much hard work went into decorating the churches and preparing the music for our services. Particular thanks to Lorraine and Jenny for putting together our nativity play, to Pauline for baking hundreds of mince pies for our carol service, and as always to our wonderful organists Doreen, Joy and Ethne. A particular highlight was our ecumenical carol service.

#### **CONFIRMATIONS**

January 22nd will see the confirmation of eight members of our congregation by Bishop Ian. Ryan Graham, Cara Brock, Aaron and Calum Gregg, Jessica and Matthew Johnston, and Amanda Heslop will all reaffirm the baptismal vows made on their behalf by their parents and receive prayer for the infilling of the Holy Spirit. We wish them our congratulations and ask parishioners to hold them in prayer as they take this step of faith.

#### KILTYCLOGHER BUILDING GRANT

We are delighted to announce that Kiltyclogher Church has received two grants from the Government of Ireland. One is the Community Centres Investment Fund grant of a total of €25,000 to renovate our disused church stable, while the other is from Leitrim County Council towards the development



Attending one of the Christmas services.



Revd Rebecca with William.

of a project and vision to turn the stable into a community space, a total of €8000. We wish to thank minister Heather Humphreys, Councillor Sean McDermott, and all in Leitrim County Council who have helped us to get this funding. We look forward to seeing the project come together.

#### Rev Rebecca

#### Thanks to Stephen

Garrison Parish express their appreciation to Stephen Irwin for repairing the hall fascia board, assisted by his brother Stuart and erecting the handrail in the graveyard. He also gave the church hall a festive look over Christmas with fairy lights.

#### **Holy Baptism**

On 19th November in Slavin Church, Revd. Rebecca held a Family Service with the theme, 'Christ the King' to mark Diocesan Mission Sunday. Her children's talk involved interaction with the children and visual aids, comparing Jesus with an earthly King. The order of service produced by the Diocesan Board of Mission was used. It was also a service of Holy Baptism for Hollie and Alfie Gregg, the children of Sandra and Graeme. Hollie and Alfie were welcomed into the church congregation.

#### Holy Matrimony

Jennifer Gregg, daughter of Raymond and Loretta returned from Australia and celebrated her marriage with Mark Curran on 10th December in St Anne's Parish Church, Ballyshannon. Wishing them health and happiness as they return to make their home in Australia.

#### **Prayers**

Our thoughts and prayers are with anyone our group of parishes who have been unwell in hospital or at home in recent weeks.

We remember Gladys Graham who has been in hospital before Christmas, also Julie Johnston who has been in hospital and is improving.

We record our sympathy and prayers to Sadie Acheson, Garrison and her

husband Austin and extended family on the passing of Sadie's mother, Ruby Stinson. She passed away peacefully at her home in Grahamstown, Ballintra. Her funeral service took place in Drumholm Parish Church on Sunday 8th January. Sympathy also is extended to Ruth Johnston, Belleek on the death of her aunt.

#### **Thanks**

The Rectory Family are very grateful to parishioners who have provided turf and sticks for their new multifuel burner.

#### **Diocesan Magazines**

Understandably with ever rising costs of printing the cost of our monthly magazine has gone up for 2023 to £2 per month/£20 for the year.

Please give your 2023 subscription to your magazine Rep asap.

#### **Photos in This Magazine**

Many people have commented on the large and varied selection of pictures from our group of parishes in this magazine. We must record our thanks to Doreen Earls for her dedication and skill in taking superb pictures around all our churches. Thank you Doreen!

#### **Parish Visiting**

Should you, or anyone you know like a visit, please contact Revd. Rebecca.

#### **Social Media**

#### Parish website:

We have a new website! Visit it and give us your feedback

#### garrisongroup.org.uk

Follow us on Facebook using the name Garrison Group of Parishes. Simply 'Like' our page to receive updates on events.



Baptism for the Gregg family.

#### **Inishmacsaint**



Part-time Stipendiary Minister: The Revd Stephanie Woods

T: 07759949932 E: inishmacsaint@clogher.anglican.org

Many thanks to Rachel Elliott, Emma Kettyles and Dale Gunn for their continuing excellent work leading our Sunday School. Here are some photographs of their Christmas Party! The choir, led by our talented Musical Director Gillian Rutherford, led the Carols by Candlelight service in an inspired and enchanting way. Many thanks to all who worked so hard for this and other services over the festive period.

Richard Harkness gave members of the Friends of Enniskillen a tour of Inishmacsaint Church and grounds along with a very interesting talk. This was greatly enjoyed by all.

#### **Holy Burial**

#### 3rd December 2022

- Florence (Florrie) Gunn, Bog Road, Florencecourt.
- John Fredrick Winston (Eric) Ferguson, Erne Terrace, Derrygonnelly.









Christmas events at In Inishmacsaint.



### Kilskeery and Trillick



Rector: Revd Philip Bryson

The Rectory, 130 Kilskeery Road, Trillick, Co. Tyrone BT78 3RJ T. 028 8956 1201 E. kilskeery@clogher.anglican.org

#### Faith makes all the difference

If the last few years have taught us anything it might be that we just don't know what lies ahead as we stand at the beginning of each new year... a pandemic, a European war, a cost-of-living crisis. So, what could our strategy be? Paul writes to the Philippians, "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, thankful for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now." The letter to the Philippians is believed to have been written by Paul when he was in prison. How can a man who finds himself unjustly imprisoned for his faith, who doesn't know how long he'll be inside for nor what the outcome of his trial will be, how can he write something so positive? Paul in the words above seems to find gratitude from somewhere, not for his current circumstances but despite them. For Paul there appears to be something of great value that still matters, that still counts, that he can be grateful for, even without being free. This is the difference Paul's faith makes, even in challenging times. Could it possibly be true for us too that our relationship with Father God can make all the difference in our outlook if or when difficult times come? Is it possible that we can find joy and hope and gratitude despite our circumstances, because we have faith and God in our





lives? For Paul, that was more than a possibility it was a reality. So... if fresh surprises and further unexpected events arise this year as has been known to happen, make sure that your faith is secure and grounded and built upon the Lord God, for, according to Paul, that makes all the difference!

#### A busy December

January allows us to gather ourself together after a busy December. It was great to see so many people around at the various activities and get togethers throughout December despite what was for so many a month of illness and not feeling at your best. Both our parishes enjoyed special Advent and Christmas services which were great opportunities to celebrate the real reason for the season. A mention must be made of our special Advent Service that took place on Friday 9th December in Christ Church Parish, Trillick, which was the exact date that 150 years ago the church opened its doors for its first service. Many thanks and words of gratitude are offered to all who made all of our events and services a success whether by directly taking part, serving behind the scenes or by way of attendance.



#### Family Messy Christmas Party (with Santa) and the Switching on of the Kilskeery Christmas Lights

On 17th December we held our Family Messy Christmas Party which saw a special visit from Santa Claus who took time out of his busy Christmas preparations to hand out Christmas gifts to the children and a few embarrassed other children. On the same afternoon our community gathered together for the Switching on the of the Kilskeery Christmas lights and carols were played by Kilskeery Silver Band.

#### **Weekly Schedule**

- Monday: Girls' Brigade at 6.30pm Mothers' Union at 8.00pm (3rd Monday of the month)
- Tuesday: Senior Citizen's Club at 2.00pm Wednesday:Midweek Fellowship at 8.00pm
- Thursday: Prayer Meeting at 9.00am
- Friday: Bowling Club at 8.00pm
- Saturday: Messy Kids (as and when arranged)
- Sunday: Christ Church Parish, Trillick at 10.30am

Kilskeery Parish Church at 11.45am (Sunday Schools take place during the services)



Christmas in Kilskeery and Trillick.





## Lisbellaw with Coolbuck



Rector: The Revd William Jeffrey

The Rectory, Faughard, Lisbellaw BT94 5ES T. 028 6625 1273

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#### **Mothers' Union**

Congratulations to the Lisbellaw Parish Branch of Mothers' Union who celebrated their 70th Anniversary with a morning service on Christ the King – 20 November 2022. The occasion was made even more special by having Mrs Heather Ellis, Clogher Diocesan President of MU contribute and be present at the service and afterwards during refreshments in the Parish Centre. We wish Lisbellaw MU God's continued blessing for the next 70 years!

#### **Christian Burials**

The following five Christian Burials have taken place and we remember in our prayers the bereaved and those mourning the loss of a loved one.

- Malcolm Richardson on 21 November 2022:
- Dennis McGuckin on 7 December 2022; June Elizabeth Sharpe on 8 December 2022:
- Caroline Mary Jordan ("Carrie") on 6 January 2023;
- Mervyn George Warrington on 7 January 2023.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.



The Mothers' Union branch celebrating the 70th anniversary.

#### **Holy Baptism**

The new Church year and Advent Sunday which fell on 27 November got off to the perfect start with the Holy Baptism of Daniel Robert Acheson. We wish baby Daniel Robert, his mum and dad, Rachel and William along with big sister and brother, Sophie and William God's richest blessings.

#### **Advent and Christmas Seasons**

We enjoyed a packed and busy programme of activities in both Lisbellaw and Coolbuck during the wonderful seasons of Advent and Christmas. Thanks are extended to all who contributed in any way to our worship and outreach - be it through attendance and participation at our various services; contributing to the foodbank appeal; supporting the Christmas gift appeal for children and teenagers; the shoe box appeal; gifts distributed to the elderly within the Parish and community; and a section of our choir sharing their talents and gifts through carol singing in a local care home. All of this helped us to capture and live the true meaning of Christmas - to the glory of God.

Amongst many moments of joy at our various services stood out the Nativity Service with Sunday School and Bridge in Lisbellaw on 18 December complete with a real live donkey courtesy of our

good friends at Fermanagh Fun Farm; and midnight Holy Communion on Christmas Eve at Coolbuck when our worship was enhanced by a wonderful ensemble of talented musicians from Ballyreagh Silver Band under the baton of Lynsey Orr for the occasion.

It was great to have with us in both Lisbellaw and Coolbuck family members and friends who had travelled from England and Scotland to spend this Holy Season in Fermanagh. This added to the sense of occasion, and we wish all a peaceful and joyful 2023.

#### Looking Ahead

We are holding an auction on Saturday 11 February 2023 in Lisbellaw Parish Centre at 1pm. Items for sale include sticks, coal, hay, straw, round bale silage, homemade cakes etc., good household items.

Refreshments will be available, and all are heartily welcome. We look forward to seeing you there!

Every Blessing, Revd William Jeffrey

#### Services

Wednesday 1 February

1030am Holy Communion Lisbellaw

#### Sunday 5 February

11am Holy Communion Lisbellaw 3pm Holy Communion Coolbuck

#### Wednesday 8 February

1030am Holy Communion Lisbellaw



The Acheson family at the baptism with Revd William Jeffrey.



Revd William with some of the donations of food items.



Mrs Heather Ellis, Clogher Diocesan President, Mothers' Union helping to cut the 70th anniversary



Christmas in Lisbellaw and Coolbuck.

#### Sunday 12 February

11am Morning Prayer Lisbellaw 3pm Evening Prayer Coolbuck

#### Wednesday 15 February

1030am Holy Communion Lisbellaw (\*After today the midweek service will be at 8pm in Lisbellaw during the season of Lent. Midweek Holy Communion at 1030am will recommence after the season of Lent – on a date TBC.)

#### Sunday 19 February

945am Holy Communion Lisbellaw 11am SOTW/Family Service Lisbellaw 3pm Evening Prayer Coolbuck

#### Ash Wednesday 22 February

8pm Ash Wednesday Service Lisbellaw

#### Sunday 26 February

11am Morning Prayer Lisbellaw 3pm Thinking Day Service Lisbellaw (\*No Service in Coolbuck today, however, Coolbuck Parishioners are invited to either or both services in Lisbellaw.)





#### Lisnaskea



Rector: The Revd Alan Capper

The Rectory, 3 Castlebalfour Road, Castlebalfour Demesne, Lisnaskea, Co. Fermanagh. BT92 0LT

#### T: 028 677 22413

E: lisnaskea@clogher.anglican.org Parish Office T: 028 677 23977 E: lisnaskeaparishchurch@hotmail.co.uk

## Services for February Sunday 5th

10.30am Holy Communion Children's Church 11.45am - 12.30pm

#### Wednesday 8th

3.00pm Holy Communion in Trinity Hall

for Seniors

#### Sunday 12th

10.30am Morning Prayer

#### Sunday 19th

10.30am Morning Prayer Children's Church 11.45am - 12.30pm

#### Ash Wednesday 22nd

The Church will be open for prayer from: 10.00am - 12.00pm; 2.00pm - 4.00pm 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Rector will be in attendance and will share the readings of the day also.

#### Sunday 26th

10.30am Morning Prayer (Collection for sponsored children)

#### **Burials**

- Sunday 20th November Robert Wilson Hogg, Drumcrin, Lisnaskea.
- Monday 12th December June Wallace, Ballindarragh, Lisnaskea.
- Wednesday 4th January Keith Morrison, Attybarn, Lisnaskea.
- Sunday 8th January
  Dorothy Christina (Dora) Douglas,
  Farnaconaghy, Lisnaskea.

Our sincere condolences go to all families recently bereaved.

#### Why do we do what we do?

Do you ever STOP and ask yourself any questions? This one, I believe, is profound: "Why do we do what we do?"

On first reflection it sounds a bit like a "Tongue Twister" and even as I say that I can imagine many of you re-saying it over and over again in your mind, or perhaps even "Out Loud".

But "Why do we DO what we DO"?
For many it may be a case of Habit or
Routine; "I've always done this", or "I've
always done this like that, in that way".
When we come to God, do we follow a
Routine or Habit? Or do we approach Him
by way of relationship? For some we may
actually do both.

Our routine way of approaching God may be by way of Sunday services and following the Liturgy of the Book of Common Prayer. By design it is familiar and consistent, yet with the openness to the leading of the Holy Spirit the Liturgy can come alive in helping us to approach God and see Him and hear Him clearly.

Our Tradition and form of worship can help us to draw close to Him, on a Sunday by Sunday basis when we meet together with





other people to worship God. Then when we are on our own we can approach Him on a personal, intimate level as our loving Heavenly Father.

Thankfully our God is not distant as He is a friend closer than a brother and has promised to never leave us nor forsake us. The Lord Jesus Himself instructed His Disciples to address God as "Our Father" when they prayed. Prayer at its base level is conversation with God and so we talk with Him, our Father and He talks to us in return. We are able to do this, not only since Jesus said that we could but because we are enabled by the Holy Spirit who indwells us. So we follow the leading of Jesus (the Son) to pray to and talk with our Father (God in heaven) by means of the Holy Spirit (God within). Growing in God day by day through relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

#### **Church Concert**

Thank you to everyone who came along to support this event back in November and especially our artists Roy Dreaning, Garth Peel and Lynda Lindsay who made the night a success. It was great to see members of neighbouring churches there also and we appreciate their attendance.

#### **Mothers' Union**

In November we had a joint Christmas dinner with the Friendship Club in The Trinity Hall. The food was provided by The Cherry Tree Bakery and we thank Ashley and his staff for a very well presented, hot and tasty meal. Thanks also to the members who helped set up the tables and make everything look so festive. We all enjoyed the food and the entertainment and as usual a chance to catch up with everyone. Also in November some of our members attended Visitor Nights with Derrylin, Sallaghy and Colebrook branches and also with Lisbellaw Presbyterian Women. The ladies enjoyed all of these nights and we thank everyone for their kind invitations. We continue to attend and supply refreshments for the monthly Senior Communion services. These services, although the numbers are small, are very meaningful and we would encourage more

of our members and the congregation to attend. Our next branch meeting will be on Thursday, 2nd February in the Trinity Hall at 3.00pm. Sandra McMullen has kindly agreed to come along to show us some of her holiday slides. Anyone wishing to join us at this meeting will be most welcome.

#### **Christmas Services**

Our Christmas services this year were well attended with a Family Service on 11th December at which the Sunday School took part with readings and singing.

Also a Service of Lessons and Carols by candlelight was held on 18th.

Thank you to our organists Wendy and Letty and members of Lisnaskea Silver Band who participated and to all the ladies who decorated the church so beautifully and served Christmas refreshments after the evening service.

Our Sunday School continue to meet the first and third Sunday of each month and we very much appreciate the work of the parents who continue to make this happen.

### Magheracross



Rector: **Archdeacon Brian Harper** 

The Rectory, 27 Craghan Road, Ballinamallard, Co. Fermanagh. BT94 2BT

T: 028 66 388238 or 07989743545 E: magheracross@clogher.anglican.org



On New Year's Day, we celebrated the baptism of Thea Mary Cashel, daughter of Denver and Suki Cashel along with her grandparents and godparents.

#### Thank You

First of all, can I say thank-you to my colleagues and parishioners for the sympathy and encouragement that my family has received over the Christmas period on the death of my mother, Alice Harper, at the age of 96.

#### **Christmas events**

In December, many of the parish groups held their various Christmas parties and events. As a parish, we were pleased to reinstate our Parish Fair in conjunction with the turning on of the Village Christmas Lights. It was a calm and mild evening and a huge crowd turned out for the event and then made their way to the Archdale Hall to rustle through the many stalls, overwhelm Santa in his grotto (the elves had to dash off to get more gifts) and to spend time in chat over mulled wine, cups of tea etc.

#### **Charity sit-out**

The other fundraising event was the annual sit-out. The Revd John Beacom and myself set up our table at the church gate at 8am at -10C and by midday, the temperature had risen to 1C but quickly fell again and reached -7C by 8pm. Nevertheless, friends stopped by with food and donations and we were able to support Tearfund NI and their work with Ukrainian refugees and Water Drops, building storage tanks in Kajiado Diocese,



One of two water reservoirs almost completed and funded partly by our sit-out and the Dean's sit-out in Enniskillen.

Kenya where the expected annual rains have failed again.

#### Confirmation

In February, our confirmation classes begin with nine candidates this year – the confirmation service will be on March 26th at 11am. On February 12th we will be holding our Family Service on a Valentine's theme and our guest on that day will be the Revd Gareth Watson, currently curate in the parish of Speke, Liverpool (and my son-in-law).

#### **Mothers' Union**

Thursday 8th December members and friends of our Mothers' Union Branch gathered together in the Tap House where we all enjoyed a delicious Christmas meal.

Norma Scott, Branch Leader welcomed everyone present. We had a visit from Santa Claus who gave everyone a gift. We then received a copy of the programme for our branch for 2023. The evening finished with the singing of some Christmas Carols and songs. On 5th January, Harry Scott told us about his visit to London for the state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II. Harry gave a wonderful presentation, showing us pictures from the open-air service and party to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee celebration in Ballinamallard in June last year. We then relived the Queen's funeral as he showed us the sights that he, his mum and dad experienced first-hand on their visit to London.

Sympathy was expressed to the Rector and his family on the recent death of his mother and also get well wishes sent to Joyce Kerr.

At our next meeting on 2nd February we will welcome Linda Johnston who will give us some advice on 'Decluttering'

#### Magheraculmoney



During the Rector's absence, **Revd Abraham Storey** (pictured left) is providing service and pastoral cover and the Rural Dean, Canon Alan Irwin, is in charge.

E: astorey@clogher.anglican.org

Parish Administrator: Sonia Evans Tel: 07824 368 661

Parish Office, The Fountain Centre, Kesh E: office@ardess.org Website: www.ardess.org

#### The First Disciples of Jesus

<sup>35</sup>The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' <sup>37</sup> The

two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' <sup>39</sup> He said to them, 'Come and see.' (*John 1:35-39a N.R.S.V.A*).

On January the 6th. We entered into the season of 'The Epiphany'.

The word 'Epiphany' means "manifestation" or "showing forth." The Gospels record several occasions in Christ's early ministry that have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John the Baptist in the 'River Jordan, and his first miracle at the wedding in Cana.

Epiphany means the joy of Christmas is never over regardless of what time of the year it is. When we as believers in the Christ Child born in a manger in Bethlehem keep open hearts and have expectant outlooks, we can have epiphany moments any day at any time. In our communities, across these islands

indeed across Europe, many people are searching for something, and they do not know what it is they are searching for. In the lives of many people there is an emptiness, a void more than that, there is a vortex in the lives of many people in the world today. (We all know what a Vortex is; we see when we pull the plug in the bath it's that swirling empty hole that forms as the water drains down the plug-hole and the only way to stop it is to replace the plug).

Many people try to plug this vortex in life by gaining wealth and power, others turn to alcohol, drugs, promiscuous sexual activity, plus many other unsatisfying efforts in an effort to erase this deep sense of searching from their lives. Deep down we are all looking for a sense of vocation. The two disciples of John the Baptist referred to in this passage found (John 1:29-42) are no different they too are searching for something. As Jesus pass' by them John the Baptist sees him and proclaims loudly - "Look, the Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world!"





Taking part in the Children's Service.

These two disciples of 'John the Baptist' seem to realize that their mission with him is coming to its conclusion— soon John will tell them in (John 3:30) "He must become greater; I must become less." Is this what they are searching for - "the Lamb of God!"

Well, they may not realise it at this point - but yes, it is - in fact Jesus Christ - the "the Lamb of God!" is what all people are searching for, whether they realise or not—nothing else can fill the emptiness, or the void found in people's lives—nothing else can plug the vortex that they find in their lives, but the love of God found in Jesus Christ!

In 2023, Jesus still offers us this simple but a very significant invitation, "come and see."

#### Abraham

#### Christmas 2022

Ardess Parish Church had an amazing Christmas in 2022 with a host of events to join in from young to old: Kids Christmas



Maurice Lee and Revd. Abraham Storey with the Peace Light.

Party at The Fountain Centre, Friends in the Afternoon Communion, Children's Church Christmas Party, Children's Church Service, Kesh Primary School's Carol Service, Community Carol Service, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Christmas Day Service and our Christmas Day Dinner.

We were delighted to receive the 'Peace Light' which started its journey from the flame that burns in the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus. The flame was brought by Scouts from Bethlehem to Ardess (Bethlehem, Austria, Switzerland, France, Calais, Canterbury, England, Liverpool, Holyhead, Dublin, Enniskillen and then Ardess). Maurice Lee presented the light to Revd Abraham to light the Advent Candle and read the 'Peace Light Prayer' at the start of the Children's Church Service on 18th December 2022.

It was great to see our young children taking the Children's Church Service on 18th December 2022 (photos). We give thanks to our Children church leaders who work tirelessly to teach our children to know and love our Lord Jesus Christ: Diane Booth, Lauren Booth, Glenda Ginn, Helen Graham, Fiona Harvey, Glenn Johnston, Susan Knox, Christopher Spence, Gemma Spence, Amanda Robinson and Nia Robinson. We had 24 people joining us for our Christmas Day Dinner with a few lastminute cancellations and six dinners were sent out on the day. We also delivered 11 dinners on Christmas Eve. Many thanks to all those who helped out on the day Glenn and Valerie Johnston and their family, Paddy and Violet O'Riordan, Ken and Pam Dobbins and Revd Abraham and Gertie Storey who together made a great team preparing and serving the dinners, welcoming, chatting and of course

washing the dishes!





Taking part in the nativity are some of the children with narrator.

thanks to each and everyone who use their gifts to help us work as a church body.

## Regular Events SUNDAYS

- Worship Gathering: 11.00am (every Sunday)
- Children's Church (age 4+): off 19th February and 19th March.

#### **MONDAYS**

■ Magheraculmoney Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers at The Fountain Centre

#### **TUESDAYS**

■ Friends in the Afternoon 2.00pm at Ardess Parish Centre: 14th February; Baking Station; 14th March; Irish Afternoon.

#### **WEDNESDAYS**

Wednesday Prayer (weekly): 10.00am 11.00am at Ardess Parish Centre
 Magheraculmoney Beavers, Cubs and
 Scouts at The Fountain Centre

#### **THURSDAYS**

- Ardess In-Stitches 8.00pm at Ardess Parish Centre; 2nd, 9th and 23rd February; 2nd, 9th, 23rd and 30th March.
- Mothers' Union at 8.00pm at Ardess



Kesh Primary School's Christmas Carol Service at Ardess on 16th December 2022.

Parish Centre (third Thursday of the month): 16th February and 16th March.

#### **FRIDAYS**

■ Fountain Youth Club (ages 11-14) every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month: 3rd and 17th February; 3rd and 17th March.

#### **OTHER EVENTS**

- Life Groups weekly/fortnightly please speak to David Morrow or Hilda Thompson to join one.
- 20 February 2023 Ardess Historical Society; Frankie Roofe - Reivers in Fermanagh (funded by FODC Ulster

Scots).

■ 22 February 2023 - Ash Wednesday Service 8.00pm at Ardess Parish Church.

#### **Funerals**

- 27th November 2022 Maureen Evelyn Loane of Narrabeen, Crevenish Road, Kesh (90 years old).
- 16th December 2022 Jennifer Caroline Jamieson Howes of The Willows, Crevenish Road, Kesh (81 years old) (cremation).

## Maguiresbridge and Derrybrusk



Rector: The Revd Lindsey Farrell

The Rectory, 15 Drumgoon Road, Maguiresbridge, Co. Fermanagh BT94 4PB

T: 028 6772 9593 E: maguiresbridge@clogher.anglican.org

'The warder paid no attention to anything under Joseph's care, because the Lord was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did'. (Gen. 39:23)
Joseph is known for the success he had in building up the people of Egypt so that they were strong enough to endure the seven years of famine that lay ahead for them. Pharoah had been impressed by Joseph when he interpreted the dream he had which foretold the famine, so Joseph had been promoted to Pharoah's second in command, becoming the

most prominent man in Egypt after Pharoah. Joseph trusted God, and he is remembered as a great leader. But prior to his success Joseph was sold into slavery in Egypt by his own family. He spent years in prison for a crime he didn't commit. He was let down by those he helped. And even when he was released and promoted to a place of honour, it took many years before he saw his family again and was able to be reunited with them. Joseph knew that God had a plan for him. He knew that God was with him, but he had to keep trusting, even when he found himself in the bleakest of circumstances for long periods of time. We too are called to trust God, even when we find ourselves in the bleakest of circumstances. We too are called to trust, even when it takes a long time for things to improve and it can feel as it God has abandoned us. We too are called to trust that, even when it appears that the worst has happened. God has a plan. But trusting also requires patience, and waiting, because God's timescales don't usually match our own. So, when darkness descends and fog gathers, put your trust in God. Put your trust in his plan. Put your life in his hands. And wait patiently, like Joseph did, for that great plan to come to fruition, and like Joseph, you won't be disappointed.





The Mothers' Union members at their craft night.







Getting ready for the auction.

#### **Mothers' Union**

Christmas crafts and supper took place in early December. Crafts were led by Mrs Irvine and Mrs Fawcett and all made Christmas brooches. This was followed by a delicious supper. The evening was well attended by both branches, and was enjoyed by all. On 9th January 2023, we began the New Year with a service of Holy Communion in Derrybrusk, followed by refreshments. We all shared segments of a chocolate orange, and thought about what it means to share the love of God. Looking forward to our meal in the Valley hotel, Fivemiletown on Monday 6th February 2023, meeting at 7pm for food at 7.30pm.

#### **Parish Auction**

We had our Maguiresbridge parish auction in Christ Church hall on Saturday 10th December 2022. Sincere word of thanks to all who worked so hard on the day, to those who gave so much time in preparing for the event, to those who baked and those who cut sticks, to all who donated, and to all who supported

the event and gave so generously. We are deeply grateful. A great success, and wonderful team work to boot!

## Christmas Communion in the Hall

We had a great turn out for our Christmas Communion in the hall, despite the fog and frost. We all enjoyed seasonal refreshments after the service along with some carol singing. Thanks to those who baked and prepared the food, to Hazel for the music, and to Joe for helping with Communion. A wonderful time of Christmas fellowship.

#### **Christmas Nativity**

The Sunday school brought us the nativity on Sunday 18th December 2022. It was great to see so many taking part, and to see so many parents supporting our young people. Thanks to our wonderful Sunday school teachers for their time and commitment, and to Hazel for the music. The service was followed by refreshments in the hall, and a special visitor. In Derrybrusk we had a carol service with all

of the Sunday School taking part. Again, we thank parents and grandparents for their support – it makes such a difference all. We also enjoyed refreshments after the service, with the children receiving Christmas gifts. Thanks again to all who helped in any way.

#### Looking ahead

- Sunday 22nd January 2023 Baptism in Maguiresbridge.
- Sunday 5th February 2023 Baptism in Maguiresbridge.
- Ash Wednesday Service on 22nd February 2023 at 7.30pm in Derrybrusk. Please join us as we begin our Lenten journey together.
- Maguiresbridge Parish Dance on Friday 24th February 2023 at 9pm. Tickets available from members of Select Vestry. Music by Curtis Magee. Great to see this event back after such a long break. Everyone very welcome!

#### From the Registers

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mrs Gretta Wilson took place in Derrybrusk on Monday 21st November 2022.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Harold Pennell took place in Derrybrusk on Friday 23rd December 2022.

There have also been a number of bereavements in the community over the last few months. We continue to uphold each family in prayer and ask God to comfort and sustain all who mourn.



Christmas events in the parishes.







#### Monaghan, Tydavnet and Kilmore



Rector: The Revd Chancellor Ian Berry

The Rectory, Clones Road, Monaghan, Co. Monaghan. T: 047 81136

E: monaghan@clogher.anglican.org Diocesan Pastoral Assistant: Mr Walter Pringle

#### **Services**

**5th February Third Sunday before Lent** 10:30am St Patrick's (and on Facebook live) 12:15pm Kilmore

**12th February Second Sunday before Lent** 10:30am St Patrick's (and on Facebook live) 12:15pm Ballinode

**19th February Sunday before Lent** 10:30am St Patrick's (and on Facebook live) 12:15pm Kilmore

**26th February First Sunday in Lent** 10:30am St Patrick's (and on Facebook live) 12:15pm Ballinode

**5th February Second Sunday in Lent** 10:30am St Patrick's (and on Facebook live) 12:15pm Kilmore

#### **Faith Mission Bus**

Working with Monaghan Methodist, First Monaghan and Ballyalbany Presbyterian churches we hosted the Faith Mission Gospel Truck during the first weekend in December. The truck hosted three days of outreach, lots of tea and coffee, a bookshop, visits from the Model School pupils for a Christmas assembly, a family

event on Saturday afternoon with Reality Music and the drive in carol service on the Sunday. The Faith Mission Gospel truck is a ministry headed up by Andrew and Carolyn Maybin. You can find out more about it at https://faithmission.org/gospeltruck

Our thanks to Barry Aughey for allowing us to park the Truck at the retail park and to the Town Council for permission to use the shopping centre carpark for the carol service.

#### **Carol Services**

December was a busy month in the group of parishes. This was the first year since 2019 that we were able to hold carol services. The first carol service was held in partnership with Monaghan Methodist, First Monaghan and Ballyalbany Presbyterian churches as a drive-in service in the shopping centre carpark using the Faith Mission Truck.

The Ladies' Group held their Interdenominational Carol Service with a full church on Tuesday 13th December with guest choirs Serenata, U3A, Coláiste Oiriall Choir and Monaghan Hospital Choir along with Monaghan Brass Band.

Ballinode held their carol service on Sunday 18th December with members from the U3A choir taking part and helping to lead our singing.

In a new venture (first time in at least 30 years), Kilmore held a candle-lit carol service on Friday 23rd with members of the Breakey family as the guest singers. Our thanks to all who helped to organise the services and especially to the readers and singers.

We also were pleased to host the Model School Christmas assembly with all the classes reading and singing and the Collegiate School Carol Service.

#### **Christmas Services**

The Group Services on Christmas Day were in St. Patrick's. A traditional

communion Service was held at 9.30am followed at 10.30am by an All-Age Communion Service.

There was a large attendance of members and their families at both services.

## Mothers' Union and Ladies Group

The groups joined together for their annual Christmas dinner in Andy's Restaurant on 8th December.

The Mothers' Union held their AGM and start of year Holy Communion service in St Patrick's church on Tuesday 10th January. The following were elected to office. Branch Leader: Mrs. Dorothy Adams Asst. Branch Leader: Mrs. Muriel Treacy Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Hilary Workman Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Frances Ebbs The next meeting will be held on 7th February.

The Ladies' Group met on Tuesday 17th January for a talk by Raymond Wilkinson on his recent trip to Alaska.

#### **Holy Matrimony**

Congratulations and every blessing to Lydia McGowan and Lyall Cardiff who were married in Donegal Parish Church on 3rd December and to Victoria Hazlett and Ciarán Duffy who were married on 10th December in St Patrick's Church.

#### **Condolences**

We were saddened to learn of the death of Mrs Eileen Corbett whose funeral took place in St Patrick's on 21st December and extend our prayerful condolences to Alison, Dougie and Keith and the wider family circle.

We offer prayerful sympathy to Sadie and Winnie Jordon and families on the death of their sister-in-law.

#### Illness

Prayer is requested for all those from our group who are ill at home or in hospital and those in residential care and their families.







#### Rossorry



Rector: Revd Stephen McWhirter

Rossorry Rectory, Kinarla, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh. BT74 5PX

T: 028 66 458024 E: rossorry@clogher.anglican.org

Parish Office: T: 028 66 329889

Diocesan Pastoral Assistant: Mrs Joan Nelson

#### Services for February 2023

**Sunday 5th February** 

9.00am – Holy Communion. The Third Sunday before Lent 10.30am – Holy Communion

**Sunday 12th February** 

9.00am – Holy Communion The Second Sunday before Lent 10.30am - Morning Prayer with Holy Baptism.

Sunday 19th February

9.00am – Holy Communion The Sunday before Lent 10.30am- Morning Prayer

Wednesday 22nd February

10.30am - Ash Wednesday Holy Communion

Ash Wednesday

8.00pm Ash Wednesday Service

**Sunday 26th February** 

9.00am – Holy Communion The First Sunday in Lent 10.30am – Family Service with Praise Band.

It's hard to believe that a wet and windy January is already behind us. In parish



Rossorry Choir at one of the services over the Christmas period.

life we enjoyed the business of a full programme from the beginning of Advent with our Advent Carol Service and through the usual Christmas services finishing for us with our Epiphany Carol Service. A huge thank you to our Musical Director, Catherine Irwin and the choir for all their hard work in preparation for the season. They excelled in their contribution to worship in all these services which was much appreciated by all who attended.

**Sunday School Carol Service** 

On 18th December, The Sunday School held their Carol Service in Church.

The Sunday School and the congregation were invited to wear something

'Christmassy' and they duly obliged! The Church was a riot of colour and fun with prizes awarded to the best dressed couple, the oldest and youngest best jumper and so on

During the Service, the Sunday School children formed a choir and sang some appropriate young hymns.

It was a lovely, colourful and happy service to raise the spirits before Christmas, whilst telling the Nativity story.

**Epiphany Lecture** 

Our first Epiphany Lecture was given on Friday 6th January by Mr Clive Scoular,

historian and author. A good crowd gathered to hear of Ireland's perspective of the Boer War, a hugely interesting subject which demonstrated how influential and impacting the Boer War was on Europe and in particular Ireland. Following the lecture there was time for the audience to meet with Clive for questions and an opportunity to purchase some of his many titles.

#### **Baptisms**

Over Advent and Christmas we were able to celebrate in two baptism's. The Rector's first baptism as incumbent was for Alice Elaine Kennedy, a great baby who didn't cry at all and who as our youngest member of the congregation was able to meet with the oldest, Mr. Jim Elliott.

On New Year's Day we celebrated the baptism of Elsie Violet Warke, from New



Winners of the matching Christmas jumpers prize.



The Rector giving a Christmas story to children



The children perform during their Christmas service.



The Bowles family and friends at the Baptism Service with Rector, Revd. Stephen McWhirter and Archdeacon Cecil Pringle.

South Wales in Australia, and grand-daughter of Derek and Yvonne Bowles. We were delighted that Archdeacon Cecil Pringle was present to assist in the baptism and who baptised Elsie's uncle Gary as his first baby of his incumbency in 1980.

#### Confirmation

Since the beginning of January, a large group of young people have been preparing for Confirmation in March. It's a busy time for them following three strands of preparation;

- Attending and taking part in Sunday Worship.
- Formal classes in the Rectory round a campfire.
- Keeping of a Confirmation Journal which allows for more creative activities and expressions of faith and understanding.
   We look forward to seeing more of them in church and to see how they're getting on with their preparations.

#### **Lent and Easter**

Following a busy Advent and Christmas we are already preparing for a full programme of services over Lent and Easter. This begins

on Ash Wednesday with two services. Firstly a service of Holy Communion in the morning at 10.30am and in the evening a service for Ash Wednesday at 8.00pm. This pattern will continue through Lent on each Wednesday. I would encourage you to consider committing to either of these services over the period in preparation for the journey towards the cross during Holy Week and the glory of Easter Day. Further services will be advertised in our March edition of the magazine.

#### **PARISH ORGANISATIONS**

#### **Rossorry Mothers' Union**

The end of the Mothers' Union year and the start of a new year was marked with a Service of Holy Communion in Rossorry Parish Church on Thursday 19th January 2023, followed by the Annual General Meeting.

#### **Cub Scouts**

Cubs started back to meet at the Hall on Wednesday (11th January) and we made pizzas as part of the cookery badge. Lots of mess and fun!



Scouts at one of their meetings.



Mr. Violet Walker celebrating a big birthday.



The Kennedy family at the baptism.

#### **Scouts**

The Scouts have been busy with their activities, as usual!

On 6th December the Scouts were in the Hall preparing for Christmas. They had a fun time making both a Yule log decoration and a snowman at Scouts that night, plenty of drilling and hammering by all. In particular, a big thanks to Gareth for all the preparation. A rather chilly but lovely walk around town on 13th December as part of their Christmas jumper walk.

Scouts restarted, after Christmas, on 17th January 2023 in the Hall at 7pm.

#### Rossorry Guides

Discussions are currently under way to re-establish the Rossorry Guides which was curtailed during Covid. Registration took place in December – still time to join!

#### **Rossorry Wednesday Club**

The Wednesday Club were out for



The Wednesday Club at their Christmas meal.

their Christmas dinner at the Moorings Restaurant in Bellanaleck on 6th December 2022. A big turnout and time for fun and Fellowship. A Special day for one of our members when we celebrated Mrs Violet Walker's 90th Birthday. We continue to meet each month and have a full programme and always enjoy a time of chat and fellowship. New members are always encouraged and welcomed.

Rossorry Wednesday Club is back in the Parish Hall. Next meetings; Wed 1st February at 10.30am - Speaker is Sarah Maguire on "What is Faith"? Wed 1st March at 10.30am - Speaker is Raymond Farrell on "Mental Health issues".

#### **Rossorry Bowling Club**

The Bowling Club have started their new season from Monday 19th September 2022 at 8pm. They would love to have some new members. You need not have any level of proficiency, as training will be provided. Why not come along and give it a try?

#### Freewill Offerings

The Parish Delivery Team are busy distributing the envelopes for 2023. The

envelopes for this year are pale blue and should be with you by now. Any issues, ring the Office and they will be sorted, If you wish, you may set up a Standing Order with your Bank or Building Society to deal with this matter. If you have online banking, you can do this without even visiting your Bank. Contact the Office for details.

#### The Parish Office

The Office is still working, (9am-1pm, Monday to Friday) keeping the day to day, machinery moving.

Gerry will be delighted to chat on the phone, take emails or a note or envelopes through the door or in the post, etc—if there is anything I can do to help.

Tel:- 02866 329889

Email: - rossorryoffice@btinternet.com

## Parish Register BAPTISMS

- KENNEDY, Alice Lily Elaine, infant daughter of Geoffrey and Elaine who was baptised at Rossorry Parish Church on Sunday 20th November 2022. Service conducted by Revd Stephen McWhirter.
- WYKES, Elsie Violet, baby daughter of



Have a go at bowling.

Stephen and Lisa (nee Bowles), home for Christmas from Australia, who was baptised at Rossorry Parish Church on Sunday 1st January 2023. Service conducted by Revd. Stephen McWhirter.

#### Contact Us...

Website: rossorryparish.com Facebook: Rossorry Parish Church We update regularly events in the church as well as weddings and christenings. E-mail at rossorryoffice@btinternet.com Telephone at 02866 329889.

## Tempo and Clabby



Rector:
The Revd Canon
Maurice Armstrong

403 Inver, Tempo Road, Tempo BT94 3GQ

Tel 028 89541232

E: clabby@clogher.anglican.org W: www.parishesoftempoandclabby.com

#### **Baptism**

18 December 2022 - Sarah Annie Ruth Young, daughter of Andrew and Lauren Young, Ballyreagh Road, Tempo. May God bless Sarah as she grows up to grow into the love of Christ and one day come to know him as her Lord and Saviour. May God guide her parents to help them carry out their Baptism promises.

#### **Funeral**

12 January 2023 - William George (Billy)

Beatty, Tullyreagh Road, Bohulkin, Tempo. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Billy's wife, Shirley and all the family circle after an illness borne with courage. We shall miss his presence at Church which until his recent illness was each Sunday.

#### **Carol Services**

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Carol Services, the readers, organists and choirs, to those who provided refreshments. In Tempo, Miss Janet Woods read a poem The Meaning of Christmas, Mark McDonald played Mary's Boy Child on the Flute and the choir sang When God from Heaven to earth came down.

#### Women's Aid Appeal

Thank You to those who provided toys and gifts to this annual Christmas appeal. This has been much appreciated by the organisation. Thank you to Mr George White for delivering them.

#### **February Diary Dates**

- Thursday 9th February Tempo Table Quiz 8pm in Tempo Church Hall. Everyone Welcome.
- Tuesday 14th February Mothers' Union 8 p.m. Tempo Church Hall. Overseas Sale and Valentine's Supper.
- Sunday 19th February Trevor Watson, our Link Missionary is coming to speak at our morning services. Collection towards

our support of his work in Sweden.

■ Wednesday 22nd February- Ash
Wednesday 8pm in Clabby Church. The

lent services will then be held on alternate weeks in March. Tempo on 1, 15 and 29 March and Clabby on 8 and 22 March.

#### Who is Jesus?

Historian Philip Schaff has said "Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander the Great Caesar, Mohammed and Napoleon, without Science and learning he shed more light on things human and divine than all the philosophers and Scholars combined, without the eloquence of the school, he spoke words of life such as were never spoken before nor since and produced effects that lie beyond the reach of orator or poet, without writing a single line, he has set more pens in motion and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, works of art, learned volumes and sweet songs of praise than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times".

Jesus is the bread of life comes to us in our hunger (John 8: 33-35) the source of living water comes to us in our thirst (John 4: 13-14), the life giver comes to us in our perishing (John 10:28) the Lord of Forgiveness comes to us in our sin (John 14:6) the God of connection comes to us in our exile (John 10:9).

#### Trory and Killadeas



Rector: Revd Mark Gallagher

The Rectory, 138 Killadeas Road, Rossfad, Ballinamallard.
Tel 028 66388477
E: trory@clogher.anglican.org

#### A packed Christmas 2022

We had a great Advent and Christmas in our parishes including the Diocesan Advent Carol Service in Killadeas, our Christingle and Procession of Lights with the switch on of the Christmas Lights in Trory, Carols by Candlelight in Killadeas, our All-Age 'Christmas Cracker' services which included our Sunday School nativity play and treasure hunt in both parishes, Midnight Holy Communion on Christmas Eve in Killadeas, and All Age Christmas Day in Trory. A few photos of our Christmas events have been included. It was a source of great joy to see both our parishes back to their usual fill capacity at Christmas time. It was also brilliant to see so many of our young people out and enjoying church at all services, whether modern or traditional. Please encourage our young people to continue to come out with regular frequency throughout the rest of the year. Whether you are a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, or sit in a nearby pew, or live on the same street, all of you have a role in encouraging them to come along and take their part as members of the whole church family.

#### Looking forward to 2023

We are continuing with Choral Evensong on the fourth Sunday in the month but moving the time to 6pm. Weekly and monthly organisations remain unchanged this year, including Mothers' Union, Choirs, Holy Strollers, Sunday Schools and Baby and Tots. Bowls is on a short pause while building works continue on Ballycassidy Hall and will restart as soon as these works are finished.

As with 2022 we are going to be holding a series of special one-off events on an almost monthly basis for fun and creating real community cohesion within our parishes. In February we will have our parish pancake party. March will be a Saint





Children's Nativity play and Treasure Hunt with All Age Service.







Christmas Lights Switch on with Christingle and Passing of the Light Service.

Patrick's Stew and Fun Night. Various special events will happen in April for Holy Week and Easter. In May we will have a rectory garden/street party for the coronation of King Charles III. In June, July and August we look forward to working with the brethren of our Orange and Royal Black Preceptory lodges as well as the bands attached to the lodges for their services and festivities. September will see the annual Harvest Festival in Killadeas and in October our Harvest celebrations move to Trory. And this pretty much brings us up to Advent and the run up to Christmas. Finally we are hoping to field teams in the local inter-church football tournaments as a group of parishes for the first time. More details will follow, but if you can kick a ball get practising your keepie-uppies. We have the skill and interest to be able to field both a youth and an adult team.



#### Save the dates in 2023

These are only the dates known so far. Please keep adding to your calendar as and when more dates and activities are known.

- 18th February Men's Work Party in the Rectory grounds
- 21st February Parish Pancake Party in the Rectory
- 22nd February Ash Wednesday service in Killadeas
- ■17th March St Patrick's Stew and Fun Night in Ballycassidy Hall (\*venue subject to building works completion.)
- 3rd-9th April Holy Week and Easter Sunday
- 29th April Men's Work Party in the Rectory grounds
- 6th May Garden and Street Party at the Rectory for the Coronation of King Charles III

- 22nd September Killadeas Friday Night Traditional Choral Harvest with Supper
- 24th of September Killadeas Sunday All-Age harvest
- 6th October Trory Friday Night Traditional Harvest with Supper
- 8th of October Trory Sunday All-Age Harvest
- 12th November Remembrance Sunday
- 2nd of December Trory Christmas light switch on with carol singing in the community

## Ballycassidy Hall Kitchen Renovation

While the kitchen is being renovated the Ballycassidy Hall is out of action. Calling it a kitchen renovation doesn't really do the project justice. Asbestos in the leaking ceiling has been removed, the old steel frame of the kitchen has been replaced with a new one, a new roof is being put on, as well the internal work on the kitchen. While the Ballycassidy hall is closed, all activities which normally take place in it are on hiatus and this includes the bowls club and the informal youth service on the second Sunday evening of the month. These activities will resume as soon as the builders have left and the building is safe to be used again, as well as a variety of other activities. There are plans to run a few courses including the Level 3 basic food hygiene certificate, and fitness classes for various abilities. We will also have a few special one-off events to mark the opening of the newly renovated kitchen. Details of these will be given out at the appropriate times.

#### **Parish Pancake Party**

We had a fantastic parish pancake party last year and this year we're going to do something similar. It will be held in the rectory again this year but instead of being an all-day event it will be in the evening only. Shrove (pancake) Tuesday is on 21st February, and the rectory will be open from 5-9pm. If you come from 5-7pm you can have a savoury crepe main course and a sweet pancake for dessert, and from 7-9pm we will be serving pancakes as dessert for the dinner we are assuming you have already eaten. This was a great event



Baptism of Isla.

last year, and we served over 75 plates of pancakes over the day. Please support it with as much vigour and enthusiasm this year. The suggested donation for the 2-course meal is £10/meal and for dessert pancakes only a suggested donation of £5/ plate.

#### Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday, Lent and Holy Week are swapping places this year. The united service for our group on Ash Wednesday on 22nd February will be in Killadeas at 7pm, as will the subsequent lent midweek services. Holy Week will be held in Troy. This also means that Ash Wednesday and Lent will not be livestreamed.

#### **Lent Midweek Services**

All Lent Midweek Services will be on Wednesdays at 7pm in Killadeas. Our midweek services as with any other service fluctuate in attendance but are normally well attended by midweek standards, and usually have between 10 and 20 people in the congregation as well as the online viewers. With no streaming potential in Priory we are encouraging everyone to start coming out to church for midweek services instead of watching online, and maybe even increasing these numbers in person, as well as adding to the sense of community cohesion in coming back together again instead of communicating on ever increasing digital platforms.



The Conway family at the baptism.

Men's Work Parties at the Rectory The grounds of the rectory are quite extensive, and are used for our bigger parish events, so a call is going out for a team of men to help with giving the grounds a quick spruce up on 18th February and 29th April at 10am. (Those are the Saturdays preceding the Parish Pancake Party and the Coronation Garden and Street Party.) This will be a case of pruning trees, edging where grass and concrete meet, trimming hedges, power washing the concrete, etc. If you have your own tools, please bring them along. The more people turn up, the faster the jobs will be finished, and the more craic you will have together as you do them. And I'm sure there'll be a bacon bap and a coffee in it for you as well.

## From the registers HOLY BAPTISM

- 23rd December 2022, Isla Olivia Beacom in Priory Church, Killadeas
- ■1st January 2023, Lily Conway in St. Michael's, Trory
- 22nd January 2023 Ronnie Joseph Ian Humphrey in St. Michael's, Trory

#### CHRISTIAN BURIAL

- 8th December 2022 William Robert 'Bobby' Lee, St Michael's, Trory
- 9th January 2023 Anne Ellen Lee, St. Michael's, Trory



A full house at the Ballycassidy Hall quiz and fun night.



Try a Bowl night.

## **MOTHERS' UNION**



# GOOD TURNOUT FOR 'WALK AND TALK' EVENT

Clogher Diocese Mothers' Union were joined by over a 130 people from across the community for their 'Walk Together Against Domestic Violence' event.

The two-mile 'Walk and Talk' event was held in the grounds of Colebrooke Estate, Lady Brookeborough opened the event and sent the 130 walkers on their way.

The event was attended by PSNI Inspector Joni Beatty; Garda Margaret Oliphant, form Monaghan Garda Station; Mary McCann and Fionnuala Donegan of Fermanagh Women's Aid; representatives of Women's Aid Omagh and Tearmann Domestic Abuse Service in Monaghan; and Sharon Fitzpatrick, representing the Aisling Centre, Enniskillen.





## **MOTHERS' UNION**







Above left and left: Enjoying a welcome hot tea or coffee after the walk at Colebrooke Park.

Above: Clogher Diocesan Mothers' Union supporting Tearmann with toiletry hampers. The items were donated by Mothers' Union members at the 'Walk Together Against Domestic Violence'.

# 60th anniversary of MU branch

The Garrison, Slavin, Belleek & Kiltyclogher Branch of Mothers' Union has celebrated 60 years since its formation.

The event was celebrated with a meal in Melvin Country House, Garrison, hosted by Francis and Martin McGorty and family where they welcomed MU Diocesan President Mrs. Heather Ellis and her husband Bishop lan.

A special cake was made and decorated by Joy Graham and the evening was organised by Branch Leader Dot Barlow.

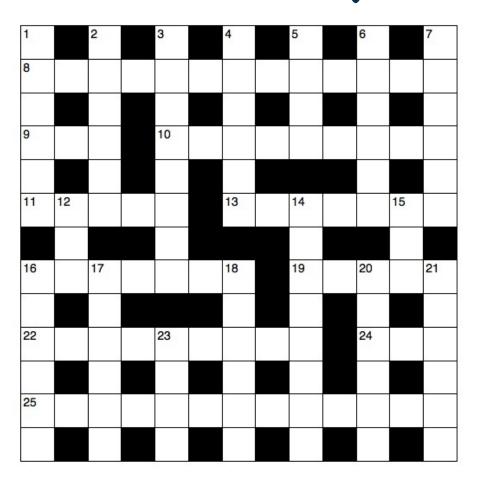
Garrison, Slavin, & Belleek Branch was formed in 1962 by Revd. Canon A.J.A. McQuaide and his wife Mrs. A.C. McQuaide was the first Enrolling Member. The first Secretary was Mrs. Scott and the Treasurer was Mrs. Kathleen Graham. There were 12 members enrolled at this time. The Branch banner was designed and made by Mrs. Gordon of the Ulster Bullion Embroidery Company, Annalong in 1990. Kiltyclogher Parish joined the Group in 2001.





Revd Rebecca Guildea and her husband, Brendan enjoying the Garrison Group Mothers' Union 60th anniversary meal.

## PUZZLE PAGES for Adults



#### **ACROSS**

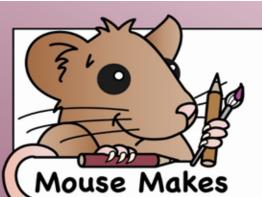
- 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)
- 9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)
- 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)
- 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)
- 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)
- 16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)
- 19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)
- 22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)
- 24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1) 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

#### **DOWN**

- 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)
- 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)
- 3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)
- 4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)
- 5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)
- 6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)
- God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings:
   salt to your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)
- 12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)
- 14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)
- 15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)
- 16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)
- 17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)
- 18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)
- 20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)
- 21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to (Genesis 8:5) (6)
- 23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)

■ Crossword Puzzle answers on page 71

## CHILDREN'S SECTION



What was the special meal Jesus was preparing to eat?

Matthew 26:18



What did Jesus take, bless and break?

Matthew 26:26

What did Jesus say this represented?

His \_\_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ Matthew 26:26

Source Mark

What did Jesus give thanks for and share?

Matthew 26:27

What did Jesus say this represented?

His \_\_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ *Matthew 26:27-28*  Jesus instructed his disciples to continue to break bread and share the cup "in





SUPPER LAMB • LORD DISCIPLES TOGETHER **EVENING** ROOM • JAR WATER • TWELVE JESUS • CHRIST NIGHT • TOOK **THANKS** BLESSING **BROKE • GIVEN** COVENANT DRINK • EAT **FORGIVENESS** SINS • HOLY COMMUNION



Find the words from the questions too!

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**EUCHARIST** 

## 3100

It can be read in the Bible in Matthew chapter 18 verses 21-35

## A short story from the Bible

Jewish teachers used to say you only had to forgive people three times before before getting revenge, so Peterasked Jesus...



You must never stop forgiving.



And Jesus told them a story...



Bring me the man who owes me the most money.



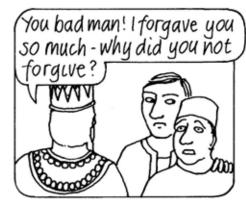




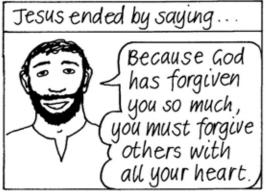












## **DIOCESAN NEWS**



Attending the presentation were (from left); Revd Charles Eames, Chairman of the Clogher Diocesan Board for Social Theology in Action; Conor McCafferty, speaker; Bishop Ian Ellis; Captain David Hamilton and Canon Alan Irwin, members of the Board.



Some of the parish representatives at the meeting.

## Life After Lockdown; the lessons

There is a way forward for churches and church followers following the long period of lockdown and restrictions resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, says psychotherapist, Conor McCafferty, who has been working on the issue, "Life After Lockdown."

Conor was speaking to clergy and Diocesan Pastoral Assistants in Clogher Diocese at an event organised by the Clogher Diocesan Board of Social Theology in Action supported by MindMatters and Benefact Trust. He said the crisis had revealed some of the best of humanity and communities around the world are displaying an incredible capacity for sacrificial love, courage and kindness.

Medics, food-industry workers, care staff, clergy are going the extra mile, and, through street-level initiatives, millions of people are exploring what it means to love their neighbours.

He said everyone's interconnectedness and need for one another has never been clearer and globally, the rapid spread of the virus has also demonstrated how the health and well-being of just one of them had implications for all.

"We are deeply connected with one another and with the whole of creation," he said. "Many are beginning to realise that we have a chance to reshape our lives to a more compassionate and caring one, more people are joining this conversation and there is an appetite for real change." He said it was important that church congregations returned to their biblical roots. He called on people to be and feel connected. Out of this crisis, there are opportunities, he said.

The loss of freedom through restrictions has been tough for people and resulted in people changing how they did things. More tragically, some people have had to cope with the death of someone close to them, compounded by not being able to be with the person who you love when they died

He said that with the easing of lockdown, the unmet needs of the experience of loss will be a significant requirement of the Churches i.e.facilitating of the mourning and grieving process.

The effect of all these changes on clergy has been revealed in a survey of clergy carried out by Lighthouse Ireland. The following are some of the findings;

- Physical and psychological effects
- Uncertainty
- Unpreparedness
- $\bullet \ \ \text{How to re-group, re-establish} \\$
- Easier moving into lockdown than moving out of it
- Increase in workload
- Back problems (sitting long)
- Demanding
- Stressful
- Emotionally draining
- Lack of support
- · A lot of judgement re: visibility
- Missing family and friends
- Exhaustion
- Own griefs
- Burnout
- Unknown future: do we go back or move on and HOW?
- More work

The effect on community was highlighted in the survey as follows;

Social problems increasing as a result

- Relationship breakdowns
- Financial
- Employment
- Grief issues
- · General poor mental health
- · Ongoing 'fear' of 'outside'
- Poor mental health leading to suicidal ideation/behaviours

Conor said that even his own profession had not been unaffected. More than half of British Association of Counsellors and Psychotherapists, believed they'll continue to see the impact of the pandemic on people's mental health for up to five years, with a further third believing the impact could last even longer.

Around 93% of members have perceived an increased mental strain in the general population with anxiety, stress and social isolation also high with members also reporting people presenting with mental health issues for the first time in their lives. As a result, therapists facing an increase in demand for their work was resulting in more of them feeling stressed and overwhelmed. Conor went on to explore the spiritual implications with physical suffering often only part of the difficulty that a person faced during a traumatic event or life-threatening illness. There can also be emotional and mental anguish and spiritual distress or struggle.

"Clergy often see people who have, during all of the suffering experienced by themselves and others, found the peace that comes from spiritual grounding in the face of tragedy," he added.

Conor McCafferty is CEO of Zest: Healing the Hurt Ltd, a self harm and suicide counselling service based in Londonderry.

#### REMINDER OF SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Those in parishes who are volunteering roles with Safeguarding Trust are reminded about online training.

The Volunteer Safeguarding Trust training will be taking place online on Monday 20 February at 7.30pm.

Those wishing to attend must pre-register for the event, by contacting the Safeguarding Officer, Michael Skuce by email; safeguarding@ clogher.anglican.org. A link will then be sent to participants following registration.



## TWO NEW RECTORS TO BE INSTITUTED TO PARISHES

Two new rectors will fill vacancies in parishes in Clogher Diocese this month. The Revd Canon Jennifer McWhirter will be instituted as the new Rector of Cleenish and Mullaghdun parishes on Thursday, 16 February at 7.30pm in Cleenish Parish Church. She has been the Rector of the Aughaval Group of Parishes in the Diocese of Tuam.

Then on Thursday, 23 February at 7.30pm, a Service of Institution of the Revd. Ian Cruickshank will take place in St. Finbarr's Church, Carrickmacross for the parishes of Carrickmacross, Magheracloone and Ardagh.

On learning of her appointment, Revd Canon McWhirter said; "I am delighted, and indeed honoured, to have been appointed as the Rector of Cleenish and Mullaghdun and I would like to thank the Bishop and nominators for their confidence in me. It has been such an answer to prayer."

Her husband, Revd Stephen McWhirter

was instituted Rector of Rossorry Parish in November. They have a daughter, Kizzy, who is a pupil at Jones Memorial Primary School.

A native of Co. Antrim, Revd Canon McWhirter was ordained as a Deacon in 2004 and a year later as priest. She served as Curate Assistant in St. Anne's Cathedral, Belfast and assistant priest in St. Nicholas Parish, Belfast before being appointed Rector of the United Parishes of Templepatrick and Donegore.

In 2013, Revd. Canon McWhirter took on the role of Church of Ireland Co-ordinator of CME at the Church of Ireland Theological Institute in Dublin as well as Co-ordinator of Internship Pastoral Studies.

Since going to the west of Ireland, Revd Canon McWhirter has been involved in many spheres of ministry and diocesan life, including being a member of the Diocesan Council, Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator as well as various committees and in recent years was appointed the Safeguarding Trust trainer for the diocese and Editor of the diocesan magazine, "Tidings." She has also represented the diocese on central church bodies in Dublin. In September this year, Revd Canon McWhirter was appointed a Chapter Canon of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. She was installed as Canon at a service in St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, 15 January. The Revd Ian Cruickshank has been Rector of Killanne and Killegney Union in the diocese of Ferns.

Revd Cruickshank, originally from Aberdeen, North-east Scotland said; "I am especially thankful for all the amazing people I have met over the years and look forward to trying to be of benefit to the parishioners of Carrickmacross, Magheracloone and Ardragh, the diocese and wider community, hopefully bringing different experiences to enhance and develop the lives of many." He worked in a number of jobs including the oil rigs and the North Sea fishing fleets before training in theology at Belfast Bible College and Church of Ireland Theological College, Dublin.

For the past five years he has been involved in ministry in the rural parishes of Killanne and Killegney Union, and over the past three years has also taken on responsibility for the neighbouring Union of New Ross and Fertagh.



## Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity held in Enniskillen

A Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity took place in the Cathedral Church of St. Macartin, Enniskillen on Wednesday, 18 January.

Among those taking part was the Bishop of Clogher, the Right Revd. Dr. Ian Ellis; the Dean of Clogher, the Very Revd. Canon Kenneth Hall; Monsignor Peter O'Reilly of St, Michael's Roman Catholic Church and the Revd. Lorna Dreaning of Enniskillen Methodist Church.

Also taking part were members of Fermanagh Churches Forum, which represents the main churches in the county. The preacher was the Right Revd Trevor Williams, former Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe, who, in his address, said he admired the work of the churches in Enniskillen for Christian unity so clearly demonstrated by the symbolism of Her Majesty The Queen's visit to the town in 2012.

He said they needed those symbolic aspects because of the world of division with people hearing daily of the differences of race, culture, politics and those of educational social backgrounds.

These, he said, often became hostile barriers resulting in violence and bloodshed.



The Right Revd Trevor Williams preaching at the Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in St. Macartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen last month.

He reminded the congregation that the service was written by the churches of Minneapolis in the US. In May 2020, George Floyd was murdered by a police officer in the US city because of personal and also of institutional racism against Afro Americans. The churches of Minneapolis contributed

to the service content "to explore how the work of Christian unity can contribute to the promotion of racial justice across all levels of society."

One of the readings selected for the service was well known, the parable of the Good Samaritan in St. Luke's Gospel set on the road from Jerusalem to Jericho.

He said everyone should treat each other as Christians and learn from each other. This is one of the world's greatest needs. Everyone will learn from those who are different. He went on to discuss how to promote unity between different people. Visiting was one way of promoting unity and hospitality another.

"Always think; who is not in the room. The work of Christian unity is not an event or a destination, it is a way of living," said Bishop Williams

He appealed to people to find ways in their lives to work for Christian unity and that by doing so they were not only loving their neighbours as themselves but witnessing to a broken, divided and difficult world of a new way, offering a new possibility, a new hope and a new peace. People need to hear that.

Prayers were offered by representatives of Enniskillen post primary schools under the themes of community relations, victims of violence, the sick, families, economic uncertainty, refugees and endangered people and endangered planet.

The service ended with the singing of "Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart."

## Thank You' to everyone who donated shoeboxes

The organiser of the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal in Co. Fermanagh has issued a message of thanks to everyone who donated to the appeal in 2022.

Irene Boyd (pictured right), the coordinator of the appeal, said she wished to thank all the people and representatives of churches who contributed to the appeal. Many donated actual boxes while others donated gifts to be used as fillers or money and she is aware of a number of people who made up their boxes and paid for them online. She revealed that a total of 24,260 boxes left Northern Ireland with 2231 of them coming from this area.



## Former Monaghan church featured in RCB's Archive of the Month

Part of the rich tapestry of the Church of Ireland's heritage and legacy is the subject of church buildings that have closed. Closures can happen for a multitude of contributing factors, including population change and administrative reorganization. The Representative Church Body Library's Archive of the Month for January 2023 provides a commemoration of Church of Ireland church buildings that are either no longer in existence or no longer function as churches. One of those featured is Broomfield Church, Co. Monaghan. Drawing on the rich resources of the Church of Ireland Gazette digital archive and other materials in the Library, the piece is written by local historian Sylvia Turner, who has contributed fascinating articles to the Archive of the Month series in the past.

Sylvia briefly charts the history of churches within the Church of Ireland, noting that by 1832 'there were almost 1,300 Church of Ireland churches, administered within the diocesan structures of some 32 dioceses. Today, the extent of the Church has



The gates to the former church at Broomfield in Co. Monaghan.

reduced to 11 diocesan centres, reflecting the significant reduction in Church of Ireland membership'.

The article focuses on 11 specific examples throughout the dioceses on the island of Ireland, highlighting reports in the Church of Ireland Gazette, as well as some beautiful architectural drawings where relevant. The 11 churches featured are:
St Luke's, Meigh, Co. Armagh;
Broomfield Church, Co. Monaghan;
Cushendun Old Church, Co. Antrim;
St Peter's; Derry Dockyard;
Old Kilmore Church, Crossgar, Co. Down;
St Paul's, Kiltoom, Co. Roscommon;

Kilcornan Church, Castletown, Co. Limerick;

Kilmessan Church, Co. Meath;
St Mary's, Dublin, the 'Black Church';
Affane Church, Co. Waterford;
St Mary's Church, Cobh, Co. Cork.
As Sylvia notes, this small survey of 11 churches 'identifies five churches still standing in various states of disrepair, four repurposed churches and two churches that have been demolished. Their congregations, always the minority of the population, were decimated by waves of famine and emigration, with the break-up of the Anglo-Irish estates reducing them further'.

This Archive of the Month is a testament to those churches, and the congregations who worshipped there. Useful background work by the Library's Assistant Librarian Bryan Whelan provides links from the text to all the parish collections that document each of the featured buildings in the Library's custody.

The presentation can be viewed at www. ireland.anglican.org/library/archive

## Charity sit-outs raise over £25,000

Charities at home and overseas are to benefit from clergy sit-outs over the Christmas period. In Ballinamallard, Archdeacon Brian Harper, Rector of Maghercross Parish who along with Rev. John Beacom, from Ballinamallard Methodist Church took part in their annual 12-hour sit-out on 14 December, raised more than £5,140 for Tearfund NI and their work with Ukrainian refugees and Water Drops, to build storage tanks in Kajiado Diocese, Kenya. In contrast to the normal weather of Kenya, the sit-out was held in sub-zero temperatures starting at -10C at 8am and rising to a height of 1C in the middle of the day. In Enniskillen, Dean Kenneth Hall took part in his pre-Christmas Sit-Out supported by members of the Select Vestry. The substantial proceeds of £18,327 raised were divided between Air Ambulance NI, Water Drops project in Kenya and Cathedral outreach programmes.

The third member of the clergy in Clogher Diocese to hold a charity sit-out, Revd. Johnny McLoughlin, held his event outside the Lady Brooke Memorial Hall in Brookeborough on 6 January to raise funds for The Oak Healthy Living Centre, Husky Salvation and Air Ambulance NI. A total of almost £1700 was raised. Revd McLoughlin thanked all those who supported him.

Full details are contained in the parish notes for Aghavea, Enniskillen and Magheracross.

### Preparing for the beginning of Lent

In a few weeks we will be enjoying pancakes and beginning Lent with Ash Wednesday services.

Ash Wednesday falls this year on 22 February with Lent continuing until midnight on Easter Saturday, 8 February. Shrove Tuesday was traditionally a day of repentance, but many Christians now use it to indulge in foods that they plan on fasting from over the next few weeks.

During the Middle Ages for example, families tried to use up all their rich foods, like milk, fats, eggs and sugar ahead of the Lent period, hence the practice of eating pancakes. In France, the day became known as 'Mardi Gras', or 'Fat Tuesday', partly due to the consumption of these fatty foods. The season of Lent is symbolic of the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness, resisting the Devil's temptations and preparing for his ministry. You will notice that

there are more than 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Holy Saturday – 46 to be precise. This is because the six Sundays represent a kind of 'mini—Easter', and are considered a feast day to celebrate the resurrection.

During Lent many Christians choose to fast from indulgences such as sweets, chocolate, coffee, alcohol, or maybe Netflix or social media! Others chose to adopt practices rather than give something up but either way, it's a marvellous opportunity to simplify our

lives and spend more time examining

them before God.

If you haven't already done so, think about observing the fast and how you might re—structure your day on Ash Wednesday to set aside more time for personal prayer, reading and reflection. On the front cover of this month's magazine, Revd Mark Gallagher, Rector of Trory and Killadeas parishes gets a headstart to pancake making. He is organising a parish pancake party at

the Rectory on Shrove Tuesday, 21 February. Full details in Trory and Killadeas notes.

## **CHURCH OF IRELAND NEWS**

## IRISH COUNCIL OF CHURCHES CELEBRATES CENTENARY

The Irish Council of Churches, one of the world's oldest national representative church bodies has celebrated its centenary with a special service of worship at St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast.

The service, with the theme 'Celebrating our Reconciling Vision of Hope' took place on the eve of the Council's first meeting 100 years on 23 January 1923 at the height of the Civil War in Ireland. Present were representatives from 16 all—Ireland member denominations.

Addresses were given by the Most Rev Eamon Martin, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland and the Rev Dr Harold Good, former President of the Methodist Church.

The service was led by the Dean of Belfast, the Very Rev Stephen Forde. Secretary of State Chris Heaton-Harris and Irish Enterprise Minister, Simon Coveney were among guests at the service. The service also celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Ballymascanlon Talks, which led to the establishment of the Irish Inter-Church Meeting. The IICM is co-chaired by the President of the ICC, currently the Rt Rev Andrew Forster, Church of Ireland Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, and a representative of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, currently the Most Rev Brendan Leahy, Bishop of Limerick, who also took part in the service.

Reflecting on this point in history,



Revd Dr Harold Good, former President of the Methodist Church giving one of the addresses at the service.

Archbishop Martin said, "Peace, reconciliation and forgiveness on this island will only be progressed by bringing to light the truths that remain hidden and festering about our troubled past, and by engaging in respectful conversations across our communities about what we mean by a shared future."

Dr Good spoke of the Christian Churches bringing humility and hope to realising a vision of reconciliation. He said, "Let us not under–estimate the impact of the words of the late Queen Elizabeth during her historic visit to Dublin, when in humility she spoke of things which could have been done differently, or not at all. Just imagine if following this service, each of us was resolved to acknowledge the hurt which collectively – if not individually – we have inflicted upon each other and for which we now seek to be reconciled."



# Cathedral Canon in St. Patrick's Cathedral

Revd Canon Jennifer McWhirter, soon to be Rector of the parishes of Cleenish and Mullaghdun in Clogher Diocese, was installed as a Canon in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin recently.

Canon McWhirter was translated from the Prebendary of Kilmactawlway (diocesan stall) to the Prebendary of Taney (a chapter stall).

Pictured left: Revd Canon McWhirter (centre) with fellow clergy at the service in January.

## **Educational underfunding in NI** highlighted by school representatives

The Transferors Representatives' Council has joined with six other organisations representing the interests of schools, teachers and pupils in Northern Ireland to write to the Secretary of State to raise their shared concerns about the underfunding of education and the consequences for our

The open letter is being published as Parliament prepares to consider the Northern Ireland Budget Bill. The full text of the letter is below:

To/

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Rt Hon Chris Heaton-Harris MP Erskine House 20-32 Chichester Street Belfast BT14GF 19 January 2023

Dear Secretary of State,

We would be failing the children and young people of Northern Ireland (NI) if we did not share our significant concerns about the impact of the current crisis in education funding. Without question, reduction in funding and ongoing under investment will negatively impact the quality of education of every child and young person living in NI. This is inequitable, as the funding for our children and young people is already significantly lower than that received by those in other regions.

The Institute for Fiscal Studies has clearly highlighted this stark systemic underfunding of our education system. Their analysis evidences that since 2009-10, spending per pupil has been consistently highest in Scotland and generally lowest in NI. In 2021-22, spending per pupil is estimated to be £7,600 per pupil in Scotland but only £6,400 in NI. Spending per pupil in England is expected to be £6,700 with the equivalent figure being £6,600 in Wales. We question the lack of parity. Why is the education of a young person in NI valued less than those in England, Scotland and Wales?

In Autumn 2022, the Chancellor announced £2.3 billion of additional funding for schools in England in each of the 2023-24 and 2024-25 years, enabling continued investment in high quality teaching and importantly restoring per pupil funding to 2010 levels in real terms. Schools in NI have not started from a position of equal funding with their counterparts. Even considering the allocation of funding through Barnett consequentials, NI schools



will not be able to restore 2010 levels of pupil funding comparable with proposals for England. Why is there such a lack of equality between the important funding commitments given to English pupils and our children and young people?

The current generation of children have already been adversely affected as a result of the pandemic. Schools face additional challenges as they support mental wellbeing and recovery of learning. These challenges will be compounded by a lack of educational funding, more money needs invested to support learning, yet we are looking at further cuts. Our schools are telling us that unless this under investment is addressed, it will be impossible to continue to provide our children and young people with an education that ensures they have the best start in life.

There is now a need for an urgent meeting involving everyone with a concern for the future of our children and young people. The focus must be on the restoration of education funding to levels that can fully support the needs of schools and ensure children have the best start in life. Failure to address this problem will have a negative impact for many generations to come. Education is essential to the creation of a sustainable economy for all. It is therefore imperative that we act now to ensure that our children and young people have and contribute to a positive future.

Gerry Campbell Chief Executive, Council for Catholic Maintained Schools Maria Thomasson Príomhfheidhmeannach Gníomhach/Acting Chief Executive Officer, Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta Mark Baker

Yours sincerely,

Chief Executive, Controlled Schools' Support Council Fintan Murphy

Chief Executive, Catholic Schools' Trustee Service Nuala O'Neill Chief Executive, Governing Bodies

Association (NI)

Roisin Marshall

Chief Executive Officer, Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education Dr Andrew Brown

Chairperson, Transferor Representatives' Council

### **Archbishop** John McDowell in conversation for Holocaust **Memorial Day**

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) was marked this year on Friday, 27th January 2023.

The Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, the Most Revd John McDowell took part in a videorecorded message of support for the day, and for our Jewish brothers and sisters and for others who have suffered because of acts of genocide. The video includes an interesting conversation between Archbishop John and Mrs Shirley Lennon, Northern Ireland Support Worker for the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust. The Trust encouraged people to put a candle in their window at 4.00pm on 27 January in memory.

More information on its work can be found on its website at www.hmd.org.

The video can be played on the Church of Ireland website.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

#### February 2023

- Thursday 9th February Tempo Table Quiz in the Parish Hall at 8pm.
- Saturday 11th February **Cathedral Day of Prayer** from 9am until 9pm at St Macartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen, to help celebrate the 400th anniversary of the church on its present site.
- Saturday 11th February **Lisbellaw Parish Auction** in Lisbellaw Parish Centre at 1pm. Items for sale include sticks, coal, hay, straw, round bale silage, homemade cakes etc., good household items. Refreshments will be available, and all are heartily welcome.
- Thursday 16th February Service of Institution of Revd Canon Jennifer McWhirter as Rector of Cleenish and Mullaghdun parishes in Cleenish Parish Church at 7.30pm.
- Sunday 19th February Service of Dedication and laying up of Fivemiletown RUC Station's RUC GC Crest in Colebrooke Parish Church at 11am. This service is open to all members of the congregation of Colebrooke and Cooneen, and also a number of invited guests from local RUC families. Music will be provided by Murley Silver Band. The Bishop of Clogher, Right Revd Dr. Ian Ellis will preach and dedicate the plaque, which be unveiled by His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Fermanagh, Viscount Brookeborough. Tea and refreshments will be provided following the service.
- Monday 20th February **Talk at Ardess Historical Society** in Ardess Parish Hall with speaker, Frankie Roofe on'Reivers in Fermanagh' funded by FODC Ulster Scots.
- Monday 20th February **Volunteer Safeguarding Trust training** in Clogher Diocese will take place online at 7.30pm. Those wishing to attend must pre-register for the event with the Safeguarding Officer at the following email address; safeguarding@clogher.anglican.org.
- Tuesday 21st February Trory and Killadeas Parish Pancake Party in the Rectory organised by Revd. Mark Gallagher.
- Thursday 23rd February **Service of Institution of Revd lan Cruickshank** as Rector of Carrickmacross Group at 7.30pm in St. Finbarr's Church, Carrickmacross.
- Friday 24th February **Maguiresbridge Parish Dance** in Christ Church Parochial Hall at 9pm with music by Curtis Magee. Tickets available from members of Select Vestry. Great to see this event back after such a long break. Everyone very welcome!
- Friday 24th February **Annual Parish Dance** returns in Maguiresbridge Parish Hall. Music by Curtis Magee.

#### **March 2023**

- Friday 17th March **St. Patrick's Day Stew and Fun Night** in Ballycassidy Hall subject to building works completion for Trory and Killadeas parishes.
- Friday 24th March 400th Anniversary Thanksgiving

**Service** in St. Macartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen at 7.30pm to acknowledge and give thanks for 400 years of worship. An invitation to family, friends, neighbours and anyone who has had previous connections with the Parish.

• Saturday 25th March – **Garvary Parish Auction** in aid of church funds at parish hall. Donations of bric-a-brac and firewood welcome.

#### **April 2023**

- Sunday 23rd April **Dedication Service of Plaque detailing Rectors of Devenish** and donated in memory of The Lucy Family at 11.30 am in Devenish Parish Church. The Preacher is the Bishop of Clogher, the Right Revd. Dr Ian Ellis.
- Saturday 29th April **Colaghty Parish Auction** in the Parish Hall. Full details later.

#### May 2023

- Saturday 6th May **Car boot sale in Drummully Parish** with gates open from 8am.
- Saturday 6th May Garden and Street Party for the Coronation of King Charles III in the grounds of Trory and Killadeas Rectory.
- Friday 12th Saturday 13th May 2023 **General Synod** of the Church of Ireland takes place in person at White's Hotel, Wexford, a change of venue from the earlier listing of Croke Park Events Centre which is not now available. A third day's business will be conducted remotely on the evening of Tuesday 16th May and the evening of Thursday 18th May (if required).
- Friday 19th May **Colaghty Parish Auction** featuring the Police Male Voice Choir in the Parish Hall with all proceeds to Air Ambulance NI.
- Friday 26th Monday 29th May 2023 Flower Festival in St. Macartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen with the theme, "Signs and Sayings in John's Gospel." More details later.

#### **June 2023**

- Saturday 3rd June **Car boot sale in Drummully Parish** with gates open from 8am.
- Friday 23rd June **KEEP FREE Mullaghdun Parish Barbecue** Please mark this date on your calendar!

#### **July 2023**

• Saturday 1st July – **Car boot sale in Drummully Parish** with gates open from 8am.

#### August 2023

• Saturday 5th August – Car boot sale in Drummully Parish with gates open from 8am.

#### May 2024

• Friday 10th - Saturday 11th May 2024 – **2024 General Synod** will be held in Armagh with the third day's business to be conducted remotely on the evening of Tuesday 14th May and the evening of Thursday 16th May (if required).

## Cathedral to mark 400 years of worship on site

Enniskillen's St. Macartin's Cathedral will mark its Quadricentennial (400 years) this year with a special commemoration service on Friday, 24 March at 7.30pm.



The parish of Enniskillen

was formed in 1622 and St Macartin's Cathedral (formerly St Anne's Church) has stood for almost 400 years at one of the highest spots in Enniskillen and has been a spiritual beacon and home for many generations of Christians.

Everyone is welcome to attend, family members, friends, neighbours and anyone who has had previous connections with the parish.

#### **CROSSWORD ANSWERS** from page 61

**ACROSS:** 8, Cross-examined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Sci-fi. 13, Typical. 16, Visited. 19, Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord.

**DOWN:** 1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI. 14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Daub it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede. 23, Cure.



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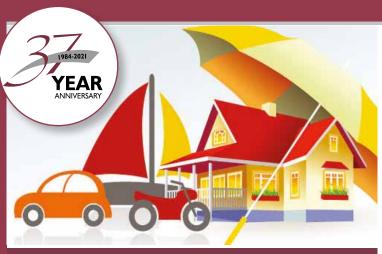
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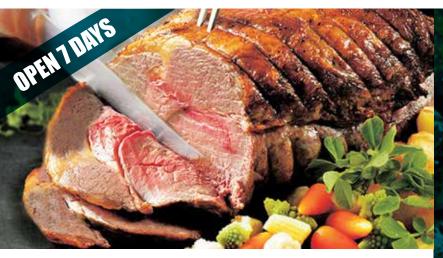
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